

# vaea

virginia **art** education association

**WINTER  
2012**

**NEW:**



Remembering  
*Sandi  
D'Alessandro*

**Recap & Photos  
Fall Professional  
Development  
Conference in  
Roanoke**

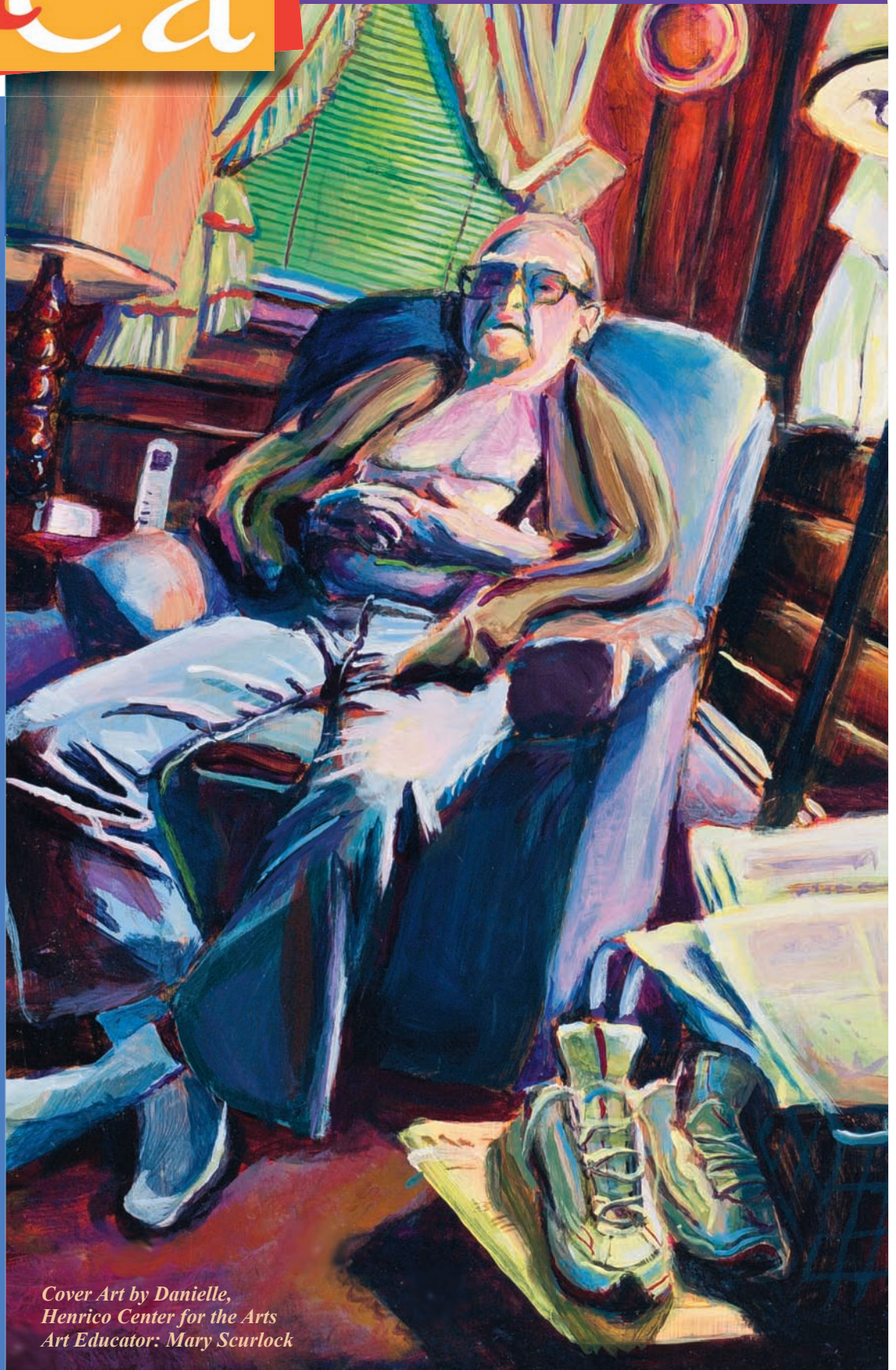
**New State  
Guidelines for  
Evaluating  
Teachers/  
Impact on Art  
Educators**

**NAEA 65th Year!**

**VAEA 50th Year!**

*Join NAEA/VAEA!*

**vaea.  
org**



*Cover Art by Danielle,  
Henrico Center for the Arts  
Art Educator: Mary Scurlock*

## The VAEA Newsletter

is a publication of the Virginia Art Education Association, and is distributed to members 3 times a year. In addition, the Conference Issue published in the fall, is mailed to every school in the state.

### Articles

are submitted by the Executive Board and Extended Board members. Contact your Regional President, Division Representative, or appropriate Affiliate Liaison to offer news or photographs for inclusion with their reports.

### Contact Information

for the extended board is found on the inside back page.

### Student Art

work is welcome and may be submitted directly to

**Kathy Barclay,**  
Newsletter Editor, at  
[kbarclayart@yahoo.com](mailto:kbarclayart@yahoo.com)

### Vendors

wishing to advertise should contact **Peggy Wood,** Executive Secretary, at [wood.vaea@gmail.com](mailto:wood.vaea@gmail.com)

### Submission

#### Deadlines:

##### Winter Issue

Nov. 15 for January publication

##### Spring/Summer Issue

March 15 for May publication

##### Fall/Conference Issue

July 15 for Sept. publication

### Mission Statement:

To promote, support and advance visual arts education through leadership, professional development, research and service.

## Calendar of Events

February 2, 2012	Blue Ridge Region Teacher Showcase Waynesboro
Feb. 11, 2012	Tidewater Region Winter Workshop
Feb. 25, 2012	Central Region Regional Conference VCU Art Ed. Dep't.
March 1-4, 2012	NAEA Convention, New York, NY
March, 2012	Southwest Region YAM Show Jefferson Center
March 6, 2012	Central Region YAM Exhibit Suntrust Bank, Richmond
April 2012	Tidewater Region Saturday Workshop
May, 2012	Blue Ridge Region JMU Day Orkney Springs Retreat
Nov. 1-3, 2012	VAEA Conference, Norfolk Sheraton Waterside

## Contents:

Calendar	2
President	3
Policy Update	4
NAEA News	5
YAM	5
Awards	6-7
Conference 2011	8-9
Regions	10-12
Minds Wide Open	13
Remembrance	13
Student Gallery	14-15
Divisions	16-22
Affiliates	22-25
Membership Form	26
VAEA Board	27



*Courtney, Godwin HS. Art Educator: Laurie Hoen*

# President's Message

Greetings VAEA!

by Scott Russell

What an incredible conference! Congratulations and thanks once again to **Maripat Hyatt** and conference chairs, **Ingrid Moldenhauer Chase** and **Kelly Tuma** and the many Southwest and Blue Ridge art educators who gave us a wonderfully rejuvenating and inspiring professional development conference. Did you get a portfolio? Did you enjoy the great photo ops created by our VAEA student chapters? What new tips, techniques or resources did you take away from the vendors? Did you find that perfect gift or treat at the Artisan's gallery? With how many sessions did you fill your 3 days? Did you enjoy the Taubman? Were you an art zombie? Wasn't

**Dennis Hwang** inspiring? If you didn't have the opportunity to hear him, you missed an incredible art education success story, and an even more humble, thankful individual. From speaking with him, he is truly in awe of art teachers and thankful to give back ".0001 %" (his words) to the people that gave him so much. I assured him many times that he represented to us the many students that do so much with their art education and may not be back in touch with their art teachers.



*Dennis Hwang gets surprise phone call from his former art teacher after keynote speech.*

One thing that resonated to me in Dennis' talk "***A letter to my art teacher***" message was how art grew his potential, a wonderful connection to our theme. See what you think, from VAEA's twitter feed during the keynote:

- ***I owe everything to my art teachers.***
- ***Stan Hillard made a tremendous impact with his encouragement of learning art history.***
- ***Mr. Massey taught me how freeing art can be!***
- ***Mr. Ashworth taught me how to use digital tools. It's just another tool, but the foundation using natural media is critical.***
- ***Jimmy Grashow taught me how to feel space.***
- ***Flowerree Galetovic pushed me to have the best portfolio I could have which opened many doors for college.***
- ***Over the years I've hired over 100 people I can tell who have had art education.***



**Returning and newly elected VAEA Executive Board members: Pat Franklin, Past-President; Linda Conti, Secretary; Trish Harris, Treasurer; Maripat Hyatt, Vice-President; Scott Russell, President.**

- *Skills developed through art remain relevant even as tools change.*
- *Art education prepares you to be creative under pressure...sometimes the corporate pressure isn't as hard as art class!*
- *Art introduces diverse methods of communication.*
- *Art critiques in the classroom helped me in so many ways; I was able to learn confidence to speak in public. My art teachers taught me to bounce back after failure. (Art was) A shelter where it was ok to make mistakes and take risks.*

How many of those things do we say to our students (and their parents, and our administration and colleagues) each day? Now we can say – it's not just us who think it – so does the Google Doodler! I challenge you to find someone who can't make the connection to the value of Google in our present day society and then share how one of the people involved in its start up sings the praises of art education.

Congratulations also to our amazing VAEA award nominees and winners – look for information on them in this issue. Consider next year nominating a deserving colleague, show that that they are appreciated and that their hard work is recognized.

I also must take a brief moment to thank you members for re-electing me as your president and providing me with another incredible board to work with. On a personal note, representing you and getting to speak with many of you at conference, hearing your successes and struggles, what VAEA means to you, does for you, needs to do for you is VERY important to me. I am humbled and excited to be able to continue to represent you for another 2 years. One of my goals from the past 2 years was to provide you, the membership, with needed information. During the next 2 years I plan to continue that and I hope to increase what

## *President's Message* continued...

VAEA does for you, and help you see how vital you are to VAEA and how your voice and leadership is essential to our continued growth. **Maripat Hyatt, Linda Conti, Trish Harris, Pat Franklin** and I look forward to working with you and on your behalf for the benefit of art education in Virginia.

Thank you to **Kim Turner Towne** and **Kathie Tharp** for their service to the VAEA Board. Also thank you to the members of the extended board, some are writing their last articles in this newsletter, for their service these past 2 years. I asked them to do much, and it is difficult when we only meet face to face 4 times a year. I stretched them by using more digital tools and methods to 'meet' and will continue to do so, and they met my challenges and deadlines and forced me to see goals and products from many angles. Look for some new board members in the next issue as VAEA continues to grow and evolve by from new voices and new leaders in the association.

As I write this message I am unwinding from the conference while gearing up for the work group with the Virginia Coalition on teacher evaluation. By the time this issue is published I hope you will have seen some of the results of that work. For political reasons (aren't politics great) we won't be able to write an evaluation process, but the hope is that a resource can be made to help educate others what to look for to recognize student achievement in the arts.

As art educators we are able to grow and evolve and we build on the knowledge we gain. We learned a lot last year, and we saw how we can make a difference. We will continue to do that, we will continue to share how important the visual arts are to our students, all students, how they gain so much from the experiences they have in the art classroom, how it prepares them in ways we cannot even predict. We will continue all this – for the sake of the Dennis Hwangs – who take their art lessons and make a career out of them, and for those students who take their art lessons and are able to succeed more in their non-art field because we taught them to communicate, to bounce back from failure, to prepare them to take risks; why will we do this?

**Because WE owe this to OUR art teachers!**



*Michelle, Henrico Center for the Arts. Art Educator: Genevieve Dowdy*

## **Policy Update – December 2011**

by **Barbara Laws**

### **Current Issue: Teacher Evaluation**

The Virginia Coalition for Fine Arts Education (VCFAE), a working group of fine arts education associations, including the VAEA, and other interested stakeholders, continues to meet to develop common language across constituents regarding issues which could impact the quality of arts education in the Commonwealth.

For example, the April, 2011, adoption of the *Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Teachers* includes **Performance Standard 7: Student Academic Progress** The work of the teacher results in acceptable, measurable, and appropriate student academic progress.

Representatives from the various constituencies met in Richmond on December 3 and had a conversation about the most critical points that needed to be addressed regarding the implementation of this standard for arts teachers. From the discussion information, the VCFAE is currently working on a position statement which will define our beliefs and make recommendations regarding the use of student progress measures to evaluate teachers. The goal is to have the document completed in order to be vetted by the arts organization boards during their regularly scheduled January meetings. Once that is complete, the position statement will be available on the VAEA website for your use locally and statewide

### **We Need Your Help**

The Regular Session of the Virginia General Assembly begins on January 11, 2012, and since it is an even year, extends for 60 days. Last year, with your assistance, we were able to inform legislators of our positions both through VCFAE, our organizations and, with your help, as individual constituents, on a number of topics. We hope that you are ready to assist this year also. Please check the VAEA website frequently for information from our organization and from the VCFAE which is housed on our website. As needed, Peggy Wood, VAEA Executive Secretary, and Scott Russell, VAEA President will also be contacting you regarding issues that need to be responded to – and resources to assist you.

**NOW is the time to organize for that response...**

# NAEA News

## NAEA will be 65 years old in 2012! from *Retiree News* by Dennis Winston

There is a plan to recognize members who have attended 20 or more NAEA Conventions at the Convention in New York. I have been requested to poll the membership to determine if there are those that are in that category in Virginia that have attended NAEA Conventions either consecutively or cumulatively for twenty or more years and to submit their names. I know that there are persons in our state that meet that requirement and have been actively involved with NAEA for probably more than 20 years. If you are one of those persons, please email me your name and number of years that you have attended NAEA so that you and Virginia will be recognized for your years of support to our professional organization.

The RAEA Awards Reception and Annual Business meeting at the New York convention will be held March 3, 2012 in the afternoon. There will be an election for a RAEA secretary at the Business meeting. RAEA has put out the premier issue of the RAEA E-Bulletin. RAEA President **Robert Curtis** has indicated that there is a need for membership feedback and assistance in developing material for future issues of the E-Bulletin. The intent of the E-Bulletin is to address issues of concern and interest to our membership as retired educators. Many of our members are involved in exciting activities and can share their involvements and successes as retired art educators. By sharing your creative activities, your involvement and service to your communities and your service to the profession, you can be an inspiration and a positive stimulus to other retirees and younger professionals. The RAEA E-Bulletin will be published in January, March, May, July, September and November. Please share your news, concerns and ideas so that all can benefit. (*Retiree News continues on page 23.*)

## Youth Art Month 2012 is almost here!



# YAM

As March approaches and we prepare for our annual Youth Art Month exhibits and activities keep your camera close at hand. Documentation as always is an essential part of everything we do. What better way to share the triumph of art education in your school than to send a video or slideshow to your colleagues and parents, giving them an outlet into your program? The more we educate our local communities about the power of art in our schools, the more relevant it will become in the minds of all.

**YAM Co-chairs  
Jimi Herd and Scott Collins**

Speaking of documentation, at our annual professional development conference this year in Roanoke, several school divisions were recognized during the awards breakfast for their outstanding YAM books, documenting how Youth Art Month has increased support for the arts in their areas. This year's winners are:

**Harrisonburg City Public Schools, Overall Winner**  
**Henrico County Public Schools, Second Place**  
**Bedford County Public Schools, Third Place**  
**Charlotte County Public Schools, First Submission Award**

Thank you to all who submitted books on behalf of their district! Our State YAM book, which is a compilation of all information submitted this year, will be presented the **Award of Excellence** at this year's NAEA conference in New York. This is the highest level of national recognition a YAM book can receive. This award belongs to us all as it reflects the quality of your art programs across our state.



**This year, remember to document everything you do and complete your YAM report and book in order to spotlight your program in our next state book. You can find all information you need to get started on the VAEA website under "YAM".**

# Awards

## VAEA Annual Conference Awards Presentation, Roanoke

by Patsy Parker, Awards Chair



*Award nominees were honored at a reception given by the VAEA Board during the 2011 Conference in Roanoke.*

**Congratulations** to all the candidates upon their nominations from the five regions of the VAEA. Their integrity, credentials and accomplishments paint a vivid portrait of the strength of the art educators in our Commonwealth. Thank you for all your long hours, patience and courage. You might never know the impact you have had on your students from the example you lead. This may be the hardest job...you've ever loved.

The VAEA has an award rubric upon which all candidates are scored. There are 7 sections that follow the NAEA Standard Vita Form. Candidates were rated according to the information provided in the vita form and letters of support. The scoring sheets were gathered and tabulated giving each candidate a final score.

The following dedicated VAEA former state division winners graciously expedited the adjudication process: **Sean Collins, Carla Jaranson, Helena Agnew, Naomi Swyers, and Connie Russell.**

The expertise and passions of this year's candidates is as amazing and as vast as previous years. They are enthusiastic, passionate art educators and mentors who write and develop curricula, win and facilitate grants. They orchestrate student art exhibits in-building, community and city wide. In addition to exhibiting professionally and being award winning artists, they publish in professional journals and magazines.

The 2011 VAEA candidates for the Elementary Division Art Educators of the Year Awards were: **Allison Cusato** from Blue Ridge, **Sarah Mays** from Central, **LeAnne Poindexter** from Northern VA, and **Linda Daumen** from Southwest.

**Sara Mays** is this year's outstanding Elementary Division Award Winner! Sara is the creator and administrator of the NAEA's SummerVision D.C. Face Book Page. She holds an elected office and has chaired many committees in her region. Her professionalism has earned an educational scholarship to travel. She leads her students by example when it comes to creating and exhibiting art and she shares her expertise with peers, colleagues, pre-service teachers and the museum community. Sarah is described as, "passionate about her students, her professional association and the creative process of art making. The theme that runs through her letters of support for her nomination is her phenomenal skill of organization, her enthusiasm and her dedication to art education."



*Sarah Mays*

The 2011 VAEA candidates for the Middle School Art Educators of the Year Awards are: **Sharon Russell** from Central and **Lisa Gardner** from Tidewater



*Lisa Gardner*

**Lisa Gardner** is this year's outstanding Middle School Division Award Winner! Lisa holds an elected office, chaired many committees and has earned the title of "Workshop Diva" in her region. She is credited with single handedly rescuing and refocusing the school year book

as well as orchestrating an after school program geared to involve students that are not able to have art scheduled into their school day. Lisa is described by her principal as, “a commensurate professional who seeks to maximize her student’s creative and artistic potential.” It seems that she expects no less from her students and peers than she demands of herself.

The 2011 VAEA candidates for the Secondary Division Art Educators of the Year Awards are: **Cynthia Shank** from Blue Ridge, **Genevieve Dowdy** from Central, **Deborah Fitzgerald** from Northern VA, **Jennifer Fowler** and **Susan Cubberley** from Southwest, and **Jennifer McDuffie** from Tidewater

This year’s outstanding Secondary Division Award Winner is **Jennifer McDuffie**. Jennifer has presented workshops and sessions at the regional, state and national level. This grant recipient has student mural projects installed in Virginia Beach, Norfolk Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court and several elementary schools. In addition, she authored an article entitled, *What do we Teach?* for the United Jewish Federation which helped her students make deep and significant connections to the world around them through exploration of universal human ideas and themes. This was exemplified by their successful participation in the Elie Wiesel Visual Arts Competition where they visually explore concepts such as tolerance, trust and betrayal. The best description of Jennifer comes from her colleagues in her art department, as they put it, “She is...the best of us.”

The last award presented at this year’s Annual Award Breakfast was the coveted Art Educator of the Year. It is an award that is generated from the VAEA Elected and Appointed Board Members and encompasses all regions, levels and divisions of Virginia’s art educators.

As VAEA tradition dictates, the previous recipient introduces the new award winner and many thanks to **Dr. Pamela Taylor**, bestows a tiara! A gracious **Michael Gettings** from the Central Region officiated at this year’s crowning of the 2011 Art Educator of the Year Award recipient...reluctantly relinquishing the crown.



**Kathie Tharp (center) with husband Phil, children Whitney and Brent, and Visual Arts Instructional Specialist for Chesterfield Co. Schools, Lin Ferrell (left).**



**Jennifer McDuffie**

From Mike’s hand and heart: “It is my honor and pleasure to introduce the VAEA Art Educator of the Year... This person has dedicated her life to bring art to our children. She has taught at virtually every level, elementary, middle and secondary schools, including in Australia. She has been very active with her service to the arts by presenting on the local, state and national levels. She has been on the VAEA extended board as YAM Coordinator. She won two National Awards of Excellence and the highest award possible – the Claire Flannigan Grand Memorial Award. She currently serves on the VAEA Executive Board as Secretary. This outstanding educator has also been recognized as the Virginia and Southeastern Region NAEA Secondary Art Teacher of the Year. Her dedication and accomplishments for art education really knows no bounds. In fact she is so dedicated to arts education, she gave birth to two art teachers (Brent and Whitney)! She knows that art is a transformative experience for the creator, viewer and environment and brings value to all. The 2011 Virginia Art Education Associations Teacher of the Year is Central Region’s...**Kathy Tharp!**”

### **Now - About Your Homework Assignment...**

Reading the vitas submitted describing the enthusiasm, energy and passion of the candidates made me so proud of the members of my art education association. Somewhere, on your jump drive (or wherever) **you** need to start keeping a vita. Your documentation for VA DOE recertification is a good place to start and use the NAEA Standardized Vita Form for an outline (because it covers a wide range of experiences.) Why should you do this? Because...when you least expect it...someone is going to nominate you for acknowledgement of your participation in life. You are one of the people that are making things happen. Your colleagues want / need you to be recognized by your peers. It will happen...when you have the least time or energy to pull it together...and they won’t listen to your reasons as to why they should ask someone else. So get started! Now!

# Conference always brings out the Smiles!



Angela Tudor and Jean Martin team up with Dennis Hwang to spell "Google" ... er, Goole?



Electronic Gallery Artists: Andrea Stuart, Lynn Hilton Conyers, Allison Cusato, Cheryl Miehle, Lisa Lezell Levine, Robert Hunter (see their work at [www.vaea.org/](http://www.vaea.org/)!)



# Conference 2011

## VAEA Conference

by Maripat Hyatt

It's over. A year's worth of planning and scheduling, meetings and email correspondence is over. The end result was a fantastic 2011 conference held at the Roanoke Sheraton. Kudos must be given to **Ingrid Chase** of Southwest and **Kelly Tuma** of Blue Ridge regions. They pulled together a fabulous team of art educators to work on various conference committees. Without the regional presidents and their teams' organization and enthusiasm the conference would not have been such a success.

I am very thankful for our wonderful Executive Secretary, **Peggy Wood**, and **Mary Powell** of Conventions Plus. They do an enormous amount of work during the planning of the conference. Without Peggy's vast experience with all the nuts and bolts of conference construction and Mary's knowledge of hotel lingo I would have lost my mind!

Once again our vendors did a fabulous job bringing the latest and greatest to the vendor hall. There were plenty of hands on experiences to try and samples to pick up. Our vendors were extremely generous with their donations of products for our drawing on Friday. I saw many a happy face walking out with a box, some books or a bag of goodies to bring back to their classroom and students.

**Dennis Hwang**, of Google Doodle fame, presented a fantastic Keynote address. His theme of "A Letter to my Art Teachers" hit home with everyone in the packed ballroom on Friday afternoon. Before getting up to speak, he humbly said to me that he really felt that he didn't belong up front speaking to art teachers because he had so much more to learn. After he gave his address, I had to correct him. He validated everything each of us does every day in our classrooms. He shared how his experiences with different art teachers prepared him for his career at Google. Working hard creating quality work and learning to accept rejections and use criticism to improve his work were lessons he learned in art class. His session on Saturday continued the theme and gave specific ways that art teachers can continue to prepare students for jobs in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He is exactly the type of person art teachers need to hear from!

The Friday evening event held in downtown Roanoke and specifically the Taubman Museum was fabulous. The Radford Drum Ensemble, Richard Bay and dancers performing in Nick Cave's Sound Suits all did a fabulous job. I especially want to thank **Cindy Perterson**, of the Taubman, for arranging the wonderful private reception for the art educators of Virginia.

I want to say a HUGE thank you to all of the presenters. You are the core of what a great conference is all about. You give us opportunities to think about materials and concepts in a new way, explore our creativity, and bring great new ideas back to our classrooms and refresh our teaching. Be thinking of great new things for next year.

## Conference 2012 to be 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VAEA!

As I look ahead to another year of planning, meetings and email correspondence I am excited to be planning our 50<sup>th</sup> annual professional development conference. We will be in Norfolk at the Sheraton Waterside (as we were in 2010) on November 1-3, 2012. I would ask each of you to be thinking of ways you want to celebrate 50 years of excellence in Art Education. Share these with your regional president so we can begin brainstorming at our leadership retreat in January. If you saw something missing at this year's conference you may want to make a proposal for next year. Our workshop proposal form will be up around March of 2012 so make sure to visit the VAEA website to get that link.

Finally I want to thank everyone for giving me an opportunity to plan the next two conferences. Being elected Vice President for a second term was a great honor and I hope to live up to your expectations as I plan the 50<sup>th</sup> conference. I know it will be quite a party!



*Portfolio designed for Silent Auction to raise money to offset Student Registration fees for Conferences.*

# Regional News

## Southwest

by Ingrid Moldenhouer Chase

It was so great to see so many of you at the conference this past year! I was especially excited to see so many people dressed up as zombie artists at the Friday night event. I wanted to thank everyone who volunteered your free time and energy to make it such a success!! I especially wanted to thank **Beth Campbell, Pat Carr, Linda Daumen, and Jennifer Fowler** for picking up my slack during the conference since I was, unfortunately, quite sick. It wouldn't have happened without such a wonderful group of volunteers!

Congratulations to this year's Southwest Regional Art teachers of the year: Elementary- **Linda Daumen**, and Secondary- **Sara Cubberley** and **Jennifer Fowler**. Please keep your eyes and ears open and consider whom you would like to nominate this year!

I hope that you all had a chance to see the annual SW teacher's art show this past November at the Jefferson. Make sure to spend some time this New Year making art so we can make the show bigger and better in 2012! Please also mark your calendars and plan to participate in the upcoming Youth Art Month Show at the Jefferson Center this March. This year's theme is "Mapping the Unknown."

Finally, be sure to check your email as we are in the process of planning some workshops and gatherings. Email me at [swvaea@gmail.com](mailto:swvaea@gmail.com) with any suggestions or ideas for workshops that you would like! Have a wonderful, art-filled year!

## Blue Ridge

by Kelly Tuma

Our *Art Grows Potential* conference this year was awesome, from the keynote speaker Dennis Hwang to the Zombie Artist Night at the Taubam Museum. I hope everyone returned from the conference renewed and recharged. I've always had such a fun and enjoyable experience at conferences; reconnecting with fellow art teachers and making new friends.

Congratulations to Blue Ridge members who earned recognition at this year's conference:

**Allison Cusato** - BRRVAEA Elementary Teacher of the Year  
**Cynthia Shanks** - BRRVAEA Secondary Teacher of the Year  
**Allison Cusato, Andrea Stuart, and Lynn Hilton-Conyers** for being juried into the VAEA electronic gallery

I would like to thank everyone who helped at the conference including our co-hosting region, Southwest, and my Blue Ridge region committee chairs: **Andrea Stuart** for Photography, **Karen Giouard** for Merchandise, **Cynthia Shanks** for Pre-registration, and **Lynn Hilton-Conyers** for the Silent Auction. Also, thank you to those who helped at the tables and taking photos: **Allison Cusato, Jennie Swab, Kathleen Garcia, Petra Huffman, Jauan Brooks, Kathy Schwartz, Angela Winters, Barb Gautcher, Allison Church, and Kelley Shradley.**

Blue Ridge will have lots of activities coming up after the holidays, first with a Blue Ridge VAEA Teacher Showcase at the Shenandoah Art Council in Waynesboro, VA with an opening on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. In April, we will be having our spring mini-conference at the Shenandoah Art Council in Waynesboro, VA. Then, coming up in May, we will be having our JMU day; followed by our spring weekend retreat to Orkney Springs, VA. This year a representative will be coming with us from SAX; she will be letting us play with lots of the new art materials on the market. If you have any questions or are interested in participating with any of our events please email me at [ktuma@wcps.k12.va.us](mailto:ktuma@wcps.k12.va.us).

## Central

by Sarah Mays

Can you believe it's already winter? I hope everyone had a safe and happy winter break. As we look to the New Year, let's continue to be strong advocates for art education. Please remember, VAEA is finishing up some printed advocacy literature that we will be able to utilize soon. Our voices matter and should be heard.

This past October, CRVAEA hosted a Welcome Back to School event at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. Thank you **VMFA** and **Twyla Kitts** for allowing us to continue this fantastic event. If you did not attend, think about attending next year. It was super fun and allowed our members to share their amazing knowledge of art through docent lead tours.

Thank you for those who attended and participated in the 2011 VAEA Conference. It rocked! Thank you **Maripat Hyatt** and our host regions

and thank you to **Paul Guider** for creating our regional pins. From the workshops to the vendors, our awesome slogan, "Art Grows Potential," the Friday night zombie event, and to Dennis Wang the "doodle Googler", there was something for everyone! I know I got a lot of my holiday shopping completed from our very talented artisan gallery members.

Now for the drum roll...CRVAEA members were nominated, awarded and elected this past fall. Our nominees for regional Art Educators of the Year included: Secondary - **Genevieve Dowdy** (Henrico), **Melinda Carson** (Chesterfield); Middle - **Sharon Russell** (Richmond); and Elementary - **Winifred Grantham** (Henrico), **Wendi Hobbie** (Chesterfield), **Tiffany Floyd** (Richmond) and **Sarah Mays** (Richmond). And the winners were: Secondary - **Genevieve Dowdy** (Henrico); Middle - **Sharon Russell** (Richmond); Elementary - **Sarah Mays** (Richmond), who went on to be awarded the Elementary Division Art Educator of the Year on the state level. **Kathie Tharp** (Chesterfield), was awarded the 2011 Art Educator of the Year. **Kathy Barclay**, as editor of the VAEA newsletter was awarded NAEA's Newsletter Award for Excellence. The YAM Award of Merit was presented to **Sean Collins** (Chesterfield) and **Jimi Herd** (Chesterfield), our YAM chairs. **Maripat Hyatt** (Henrico) was re-elected as vice-president of VAEA. **Trish Harris** (Henrico) was newly elected as treasurer of the VAEA. Thank you to **Kathie Tharp**, VAEA's out-going secretary and **Kim Turner Towne** (Richmond), VAEA's out-going treasurer for their dedicated time of service to our organization. It's great to see our members shine!

As we look upon the New Year, Central Region will be getting ready for our regional conference. This year's **Regional Conference** will be Saturday, **February 25, 2012**. VCU's Art Education Department is graciously allowing us to again use their space in the Franklin Terrace building.

Our **YAM Sun Trust Exhibition** will be held Wednesday, **March 6, 2012** at 6:15. Please be aware if one chooses to park in the Sun Trust garage there will be a fee of \$4 per car. The time is set for 6:15 due to parking concerns, as there is no parking on the street near the Sun Trust building until after 6:00. This is always a popular event with families, educators and students so let's continue to support it.

The Central Region continues to amaze and inspire me with its wealth of talented art educators. Thank you for your continued help and support. This is your organization and it could not function without you. Happy New Year CRVAEA!

## Northern Virginia

by Carla Jaranson

We had a great time in Roanoke! It was good to see so many teachers from our area. Thank you to **LeAnne Poindexter** for hosting our pin making party in September. The Share Fest was well attended. Thank you to the teachers who participated - **Linda**

**Conti, Phyllis Coleman-Lacy, Carla Jaranson, Mary-Jo Lorfano, Cheryl Miehl, Sarah Philip, Kate Sternberg and Deb Wilson.** Many of our members presented other workshops and if you missed the conference I hope that you will plan to attend next November in Norfolk when VAEA will celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Congratulations to our past president **Linda Conti** for being elected to the VAEA Board as Secretary. Congratulations also to our Elementary Art Teacher of the Year - **LeAnne Poindexter** from Loudoun County and Middle School Art Teacher of the Year - **Deborah Fitzgerald** from Fairfax County. Please start looking around as you go to inservice meetings this winter and spring toward nominating some of your wonderful colleagues for awards next year. We would like nominations at high school, middle school and elementary levels.

The VAEA newsletter is always looking for student artwork. **Libya Doman** has volunteered to be our representative collecting student work. There will be more contact information in our local newsletter. Remember to get a signed release form from the parents. The pdf form is on the VAEA website under newsletter. We want our region well represented by our wonderful student artists.

*continued next page ...*

## Tidewater

by Sandee Darden

Tidewater has great news to share. This Fall has been very busy for us. Our "Free to Members" Shibori dyeing workshop in October was a sold out success. **Maggie Bowen** and her graduate students from Christopher Newport University donated their time to create a fabulous four hour class. We dyed silk scarves in the traditional Arashi method, and created textile journals. Look for our next "Free to Members" workshop in the Spring. Coming soon, the Winter Workshop is on Saturday February 11, 2012 at Old Dominion University, be sure to sign up early to get the workshops you want.

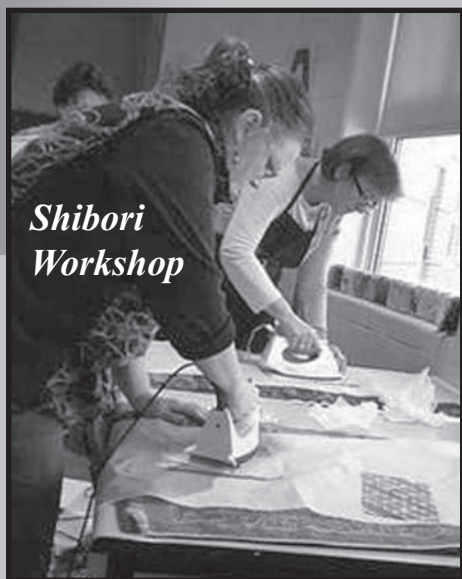
*continued next page ... with photos!*

## Northern Virginia *continued...*

Your local board works hard to keep you informed about art teacher events in our area. If you do not receive email from me, please send your email to [carlajan8@gmail.com](mailto:carlajan8@gmail.com). I attended several VCU MIS master's thesis exhibitions this summer and fall. Congratulations to **Cheryl Miehl** and **Debbie Fitzgerald** for their independent shows. There was also a group show at NVCC in August with seven teachers' artworks on display. Keep up the good work artist teachers!

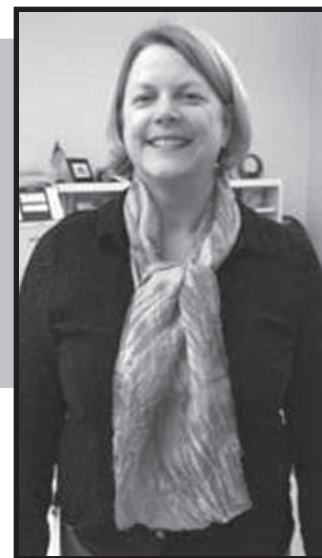
Speaking of artists and artwork, your board suggested workshops in December (Sock Monkey Saturday at AVAM in Baltimore) and visiting the Lorton Workhouse Open House on the Second Saturday evening. In January we plan to gather to explore Artist Trading Cards. Future workshop requests include Technology exploration and a visit to George Mason University. I have been in contact with the NAEA Student Chapter at GMU and they are interested in hosting a workshop for NVAEA teachers. We exist to serve you, but we cannot help you without your input. I look forward to hearing from you.

## Tidewater *continued...*



*Spray-dyeing the wrapped silk on PVC pipe.*

*Maripat Hyatt and Michele Barnes work on their journals.*



*Marcel Fincher shows off a finished scarf.*

Congratulations to **Lisa Gardner** for attaining VAEA's high honor of State Art Educator of the Year for Middle level AND **Jennifer McDuffie** for State Art Educator of the Year for Secondary level. They are shining examples of giving back and improving our profession. Tidewater art teachers couldn't be more proud that we have two fine role models.



*Lisa Gardner, Sandee Darden, and Jennifer McDuffie.*



*Zombie Artists outside the Taubman Museum.*

The artist/zombies had a great time at the Fall Conference. We can't wait to find out what great things we will do for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary VAEA 2012 conference! **Keep Current!**

## MINDS WIDE OPEN: Virginia Celebrates Children and the Arts

### What Is It?

A statewide collaboration of artists, arts organizations, museums, and libraries to present thousands of performances, exhibitions, festivals, film screenings, and readings by, for, or about children and the arts.

*Sarah,  
Godwin HS  
Art Educator:  
Laurie Hoen*



### When Is It?

March 1, 2012 - June 30, 2012

### Goals

- To raise public visibility of the size and scope of the arts and cultural industry of Virginia
- To build more collaborations among arts and cultural organizations
- To showcase the work of Virginia cultural organizations in encouraging learning by children
- To shine a spotlight on creativity in children

### Key Points

- Participation is open to all artists, arts organizations, museums, and libraries in Virginia.
- Arts and cultural organizations present their Children and the Arts programs as part of their regular seasons, thereby incurring no additional costs for participating.
- MINDS WIDE OPEN is a collaboration, not a separate organization.
- Virginians for the Arts is the fiscal agent for the initiative.
- All ten living First Ladies of Virginia are serving as Honorary chairs.

### For More Information

visit the website:

[www.ArtsVA.org](http://www.ArtsVA.org) or contact the Statewide Coordinator,

**Katie Shubert** 757-627-9545  
[ArtsVA2012@gmail.com](mailto:ArtsVA2012@gmail.com)



## Remembering a Friend, Artist, Art Educator, and Role Model:

*Sandi  
D'Alessandro*

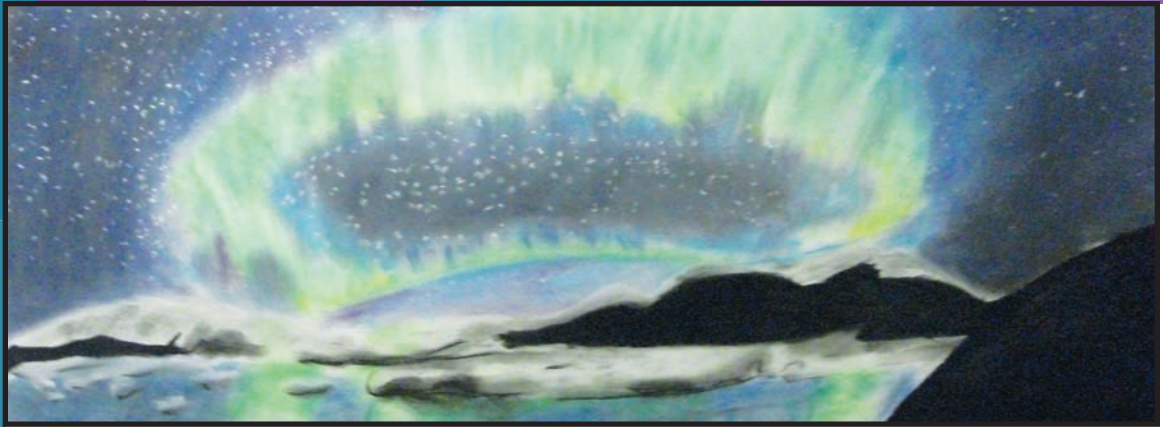
by Pat Carr

Sandi D'Alessandro's two-year battle with ALS ended on Friday, November 11, 2011. Sandi received her BA degree from Longwood University and her Master's from Hollins University. She taught secondary art at Cave Spring High School, Hidden Valley High School and the Center for Visual Arts in Roanoke County; the Studio School in Roanoke City; and led painting workshops throughout the US.

Most of her students would say Sandi was the epitome of the perfect art teacher. In her white shirt, silver jewelry and cowboy boots, Sandi was a strong woman, self-confident and self-assured and that helped make her a magnificent role model for her students – young and old. She made her students know they were valued, that they were important. Sandi will be remembered as an art teacher that practiced what she preached on both personal and professional levels. Art was the core of her life – teaching, creating, sharing, learning, showing, competing, and selling. Numerous awards from AWS, BWS, NWS, SWS, and VWS are evidence of her national importance in the art world. And the Signature 9 Gallery in Roanoke City will sorely miss their co-founder.

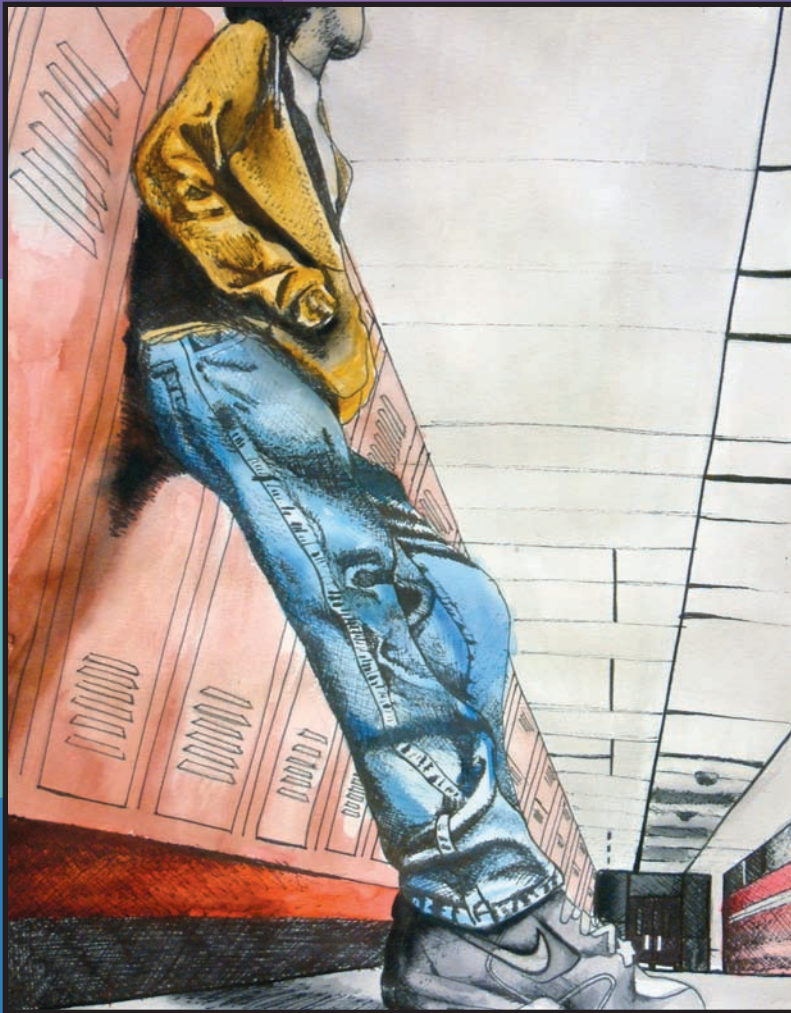
The Reverend James Armentrout spoke about the life of artist Sandi D'Alessandro. "With great care an artist gives life to an empty canvas. Brushing on layer by layer, color by color, she mixes and dabs, scrapes and blends as she gives expression to her imagination. With each stroke, the image comes closer to completion. Taking a step back and reviewing the details, she meticulously gives form to the image. The colors seem to be engaged in a dance with the brush. It is not yet complete, but it is already beautiful."

Sandi's life, like the creation of one of her paintings and her love of art and teaching, will forever inspire her friends and family – incomplete, but oh so beautiful.



*Mary, Grade 9, JR Tucker HS Art Educator: Katie Wilson*

*DeAnna, Godwin HS Art Educator: Laurie Hoen*



*Monica, Grade 5, Laburnum ES Art Educator: Julz Suder*



*Ed, Godwin HS Art Educator: Laurie Hoen*

# Student Art Gallery



*Elana, Grade 9, JR Tucker HS  
Art Educator: Katie Wilson*



*Courtney,  
JR Tucker HS  
Art Educator:  
Katie Wilson*



*Christina, JR Tucker HS Art Educator: Katie Wilson*



*Sarah, Godwin HS Art Educator: Laurie Hoen*

## Elementary

by Sarah Matthews

Happy New Year to all my elementary friends. I hope the holidays provided you peace and time to reconnect with friends and family. I am writing this letter just after our fabulous fall conference in Roanoke. The beautiful glowing colors of fall could be seen inside and outside. Masks, sculptures, mandalas, and more were floating through the hotel halls. Zombietized artists such as Picasso, Dali, Nevelson, Frida and Diego were eyed gawking at the incredible Soundsuits of Nick Cave at the Taubman Museum. It was great to get together with old friends and learn new things. It was also a time to reflect on the past year's highlights and look ahead and prepare for new challenges.

The conference highlight for me, and most of those who attended, had to be the guest speaker **Dennis Hwang**, the wonderful, humble, inspiring original Google Doodler. He spoke from the heart about how important his art teachers were in making him such a successful creative individual. He praised his art teachers for teaching him color theory, composition, forcing him to work in a wide variety of media, and for insisting he learn about different cultures and study the great masters. (His fiancé was really impressed during their last museum visit with his vast knowledge.) The wealth of skills and knowledge he learned using traditional materials allowed him to use digital tools like a master. He emphasized that a masterpiece is not made by a computer or a paint brush but by the artist who holds the tool. He made us all feel validated and important. Tears of joy trickled down the cheeks of many.



The joy many of us felt turned to frustration and fear when we began discussing the new Department of Education Teacher Evaluation Program that will go into effect July 2012. The process was developed with classroom teachers in mind but will definitely effect how and what we teach as art educators. The document is open for interpretation by school divisions, localities and even individual principals. Our VAEA president and elementary teacher, Scott Russell will be sitting on a committee to assist in forming guidelines to help our superiors understand, appreciate, and evaluate what we do. Be proactive on your own behalf. Read the document on the DOE site. Contact Scott Russell with your ideas and concerns. If you are currently piloting this new program please get involved when asked for input.

Your input is also needed for the newly created "IRG" — the Instructional Resource Gallery developed by the NAEA. The IRG offers superior lesson plans that have been approved by committees of art education experts. Anyone can submit a plan as an individual or as a group. Once approved your plan becomes part of a published national document. These lessons will be connected to visual resources on the internet. It will grow

Jose, Grade 2, Laburnum ES  
Art Educator : Julz Suder

into a phenomenal resource site. Help it grow and earn some kudos for yourself by sharing some of your best lessons with the nation! Go to the NAEA site to get connected.

As the year progresses pay close attention and act on anything that comes to us from the Virginia Coalition for Fine Arts Education. This coalition speaks on our behalf at the capitol and other political venues. They need to hear from us! There is strength in numbers! Several of the battles we fought last year are returning such as mandated PE everyday. We were able to defeat it last year and we can do it again.

Finally, I would like to thank you and the VAEA Board for letting me serve you as the Elementary Division Director for the past two years. I will pass the torch to a very enthusiastic **Allison Cusato**. She is a JMU graduate who has worked in Front Royal for the past seven years and was awarded Elementary Art Educator of the Year for the Blue Ridge Region this past fall. She recently returned to JMU to work toward an MA in Art Education. In her spare time she enjoys acrylic painting and designing jewelry using precious metal clay. Allison is thrilled with the opportunity to be the eyes, ears and voice of the Elementary Art Division in Virginia.

Please welcome Allison Cusato with open arms. Help her support you by staying connected and involved in the VAEA. Encourage others to join the VAEA whether a veteran teacher or someone just starting out. We need to support each other on our colorful journey into the future of art education. **Remember art grows potential! We plant the seeds at the elementary level! Keep nourishing those young creative minds!**



## Middle

by Helena Agnew

I hope this article finds you well and warm! I saw many of you at the VAEA conference in Roanoke in November. As usual, it was terrific to exchange ideas with colleagues in an environment where art education is the only concern. One of the major issues that many folks were discussing was Teacher Evaluation as a means to determine salary scale or bonus pay. I heard from a number of you present in the Middle Level Division Meeting on this topic. Many counties in Virginia are already piloting some sort of program where either teacher performance or student achievement is being monitored. In some cases, the data is being collected as a determinant for next year's salary. In other cases, the data is simply being collected in specific formats or teacher portfolios for later evaluation. Many of you are concerned that these evaluation programs will not have room for interpretation for art, music, drama, and other non-core teachers.

calls to your lawmakers. I know you've heard this a million times, but many voices get results, and we will need many voices on this issue! Scott usually attaches talking points or sample statements that you may use. Also, if you are being asked to collect data in your schools, do so, and do it well! Be professional and compliant! The message that you send to your administrators is so very important now, more than ever.

It's not hard to show student progress in our area. Your students leave at the end of your class knowing more than they did in the beginning. Art Education is a perfect place to show student growth on a daily basis! You need to develop instruments to measure this growth if your school system isn't providing them. Think outside the box! It doesn't have to be a standardized test, although that IS what THEY seem to be looking for. You could photograph projects before and after working critiques to

show how the student made improvements, especially in their skills and techniques. You could use assessment tools such as rubrics that are highly art specific. File a few students' assessments from each class throughout the year. Think about creating a standard "Art Quiz" on the Elements and Principles of Design that you give



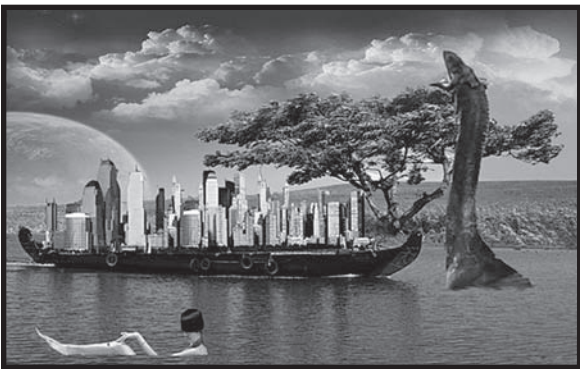
Malcolm, Godwin HS Art Educator: Laurie Hoen

periodically during the semester or year to track student understanding. I know it sounds like a lot of extra work, and perhaps it's even against what you believe Art should be about, but once it becomes part of your routine, it will pay off.

Remember, the hands-on nature of your discipline means your students really get it! They truly show growth and understanding with each new project that you present. You are excellent at helping young people learn new skills and communicate ideas through art—THE ONLY TRUE UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE. Make sure you know how to document this and show what is happening in your program! We as Art Educators have an opportunity to really shine with the latest wave of Teacher/Student performance based evaluation programs that are coming our way. Let's make sure we don't miss the boat!

This is my last newsletter article. My successor, **Brent Tharp**, will step into my position for the next

*continued next page*



Christina, JR Tucker HS. Art Educator: Katie Wilson

Leaders in our field are currently working to make sure that the wording of any state mandated documents will include considerations for Fine and Performing Arts Programs. Meanwhile—what can you do? Act upon any request from VAEA president, Scott Russell to send emails or phone

## Middle *continued*

two years. Some of you may already know Brent, who comes from a family of art educators! I have the pleasure of working with his mother, **Kathie Tharp**, VAEA Educator of the Year for 2011. Brent is well equipped to lead the Middle Level for our state, and his youthful exuberance and fresh approaches will be a welcome addition to the VAEA Board. Please join me in welcoming Brent. I continue looking forward to seeing you all at future conferences. Have a safe winter and a refreshing spring!

## Secondary

by Anne Pfeiffer

I have enjoyed my three plus years of working with you, during challenging times of frequent changes in our classrooms. Lately it seems difficult to hit a stride because of the new demands and adjustments. A wonderful thing about being part of VAEA is that having met many of you, even having visited some of you in your classrooms, I find comfort in picturing you going through the same challenges I am, knowing that one of you has come up with a better solution than I have. You might be a brand-new teacher, or one with thirty years of experience. I encourage you to keep in touch with each other, use each other as resources, and share your solutions at our conferences. We need your ideas.

One of the challenges is the set of new state guidelines for evaluating teachers that, in an attempt to fit all, doesn't necessarily fit art teachers. Your administration will be interpreting and implementing



*Michelle, Henrico Center for the Arts. Art Educator: Mary Scurlock*

the guidelines and letting you know what they expect as documentation. Scott Russell has asked several VAEA members to be part of a committee to make recommended revisions to the state guidelines so that the evaluation methods and expectations for art educators are effective and realistic. By the time you read this, they will have developed a written recommendation or platform statement about the guidelines. **Kathie Tharp** is our secondary representative on this committee and during our secondary meeting at the fall Conference, she listened to the challenges that those in the pilot groups are facing this year, which she then shared with the committee. I will encourage the next Director of Secondary to ask all of you at next year's Conference to share your insights and solutions on the same topic.

The new documents for teacher evaluation are on the DOE website. The general evaluation procedures are in the *"Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Teachers."* Perhaps the most important information for you is *"2011 Virginia Standards for the Professional Practice of Teachers : Part 9: Standards for the Professional Practice of Teachers in Specific Disciplines and Specialized Areas: Teachers of the Fine Arts"*, which I plan on printing out and putting in a binder

where I store documentation. There are six Standards and up to eight Key Elements under each standard and, in my opinion, are all reasonable and attainable... unless my classes get any larger than they are

now, my budget is cut even more, and I'm asked to spend more time filling out paperwork.

One thing that seems clear is that we need to start now devising an efficient method for saving **documentation** of meeting all those Key Elements in and out of our classrooms. For example, perhaps asking students for more frequent reflective writing will help balance the not very enlightening student evaluations of teachers. When a student tells you she never liked history until she learned about some of the anecdotes of the lives of the Egyptian queens in one of your art history lessons, instead of saying, "Great... could you write that down?" maybe we should ask all our students to reflect on what they enjoyed learning about the topic in their visual journals. This would then be evidence of addressing several Key Elements. Photograph a broader range of the spectrum of student achievement, not just the display-worthy projects. Photograph pages of students' visual journals. Keep an extra record of every art show you have your work in, every place you display student artwork in the community, every time you stay after to allow a student to catch up, every art club and NAHS meeting, and every VAEA conference you attend. Keep a record of every time you and your students

## DOCUMENT

help another faculty or staff member with a poster or logo design, as well as someone in the community. **Write it down, print it out, save it.**

**Dennis Hwang**, the lead designer at Google, and our keynote speaker at the fall conference, was a joy. He was so sincere in sharing how art education prepared him for real life. He told us that the big technology companies in Silicon Valley are battling over the best employment candidates that are not the best engineers, but the most creative problem-solvers. Art class prepares you to be creative under pressure. Core art skills are relevant even as the tools quickly change. A better web designer is one who had to experiment with color relationships in a painting class even though she works on a computer now. Art education introduces diverse methods of communication, so important in this age of novelty. And my favorite one, which he so humorously illustrated with his Google Doodle rejections and Cease and Desist Orders: art education teaches you to cope with failure and successes. Now I use him for an example when one of my high achievers is dejected over the realization that he needs to just start the project over, and it usually brings a smile. Failure should not be felt as a blow to our egos, but an exciting (or at least humorous) opportunity to find something better. We might as well face the fact that Failure is not going to leave us alone just because we became adults. How you react when things don't go exactly the way you envisioned says a lot about your character and outlook for future successes, and shows whether or not you are willing to settle for a dull, safe, mediocrity. Remember this the first year you go through the new process for teacher evaluation. Have patience with your administrators as they also fumble through this.

## Higher Education

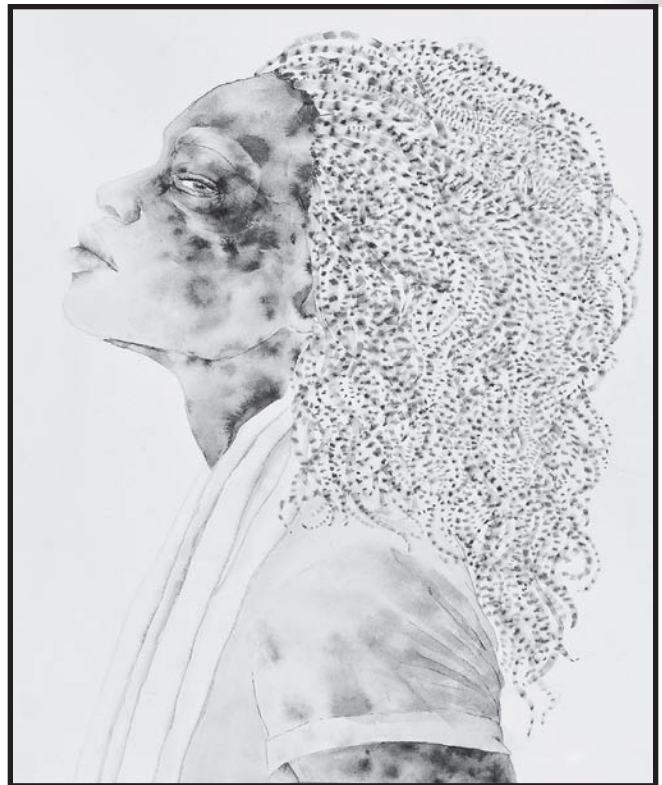
by Karin Tollefson-Hall

### Reflecting on Professional Engagement

*Art Grows Potential*, the fall VAEA conference in Roanoke was a phenomenal experience beginning with interesting sessions and connecting to the outstanding performances in the Taubman Museum of Art. Student members attended and presented at the conference in record numbers from institutions including Radford, JMU, VCU, GMU, CNU and ODU. I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to the student chapter members and their advisers for creating and working at the photo station displays in the lobby to raise money for student scholarships. Please continue to encourage student members to be active in the organization and support their efforts as presenters at future conferences.

Conference season was in full swing as NAEA members chaired and presented research at the 67<sup>th</sup> **Southeastern College Art Conference (SECAC)**. The conference was held November 9-12 in Savannah, Georgia and was hosted by the Savannah College of Art and Design. SECAC is a conference for higher education that includes studio art, art

history and art education. The Art Education Policy, Administration and Accreditation session was chaired by Thomas Brewer and Bryna Bobick. NAEA members who presented included: **Rachael Delaney, Karin Tollefson-Hall, Susan Slavik, Thomas Brewer and Bryna Bobick**. The Art Education Research, Instruction and Best Practice session was chaired by **Mary Lou Hightower and Linda Neely**. NAEA members who presented included: **Larry Bunch, Jennifer Gonzales, Anne Gray, Paula McNeill, Timarie Fisk, Harrigan McMahon Bow-**



*Catharine, Henrico Center for the Arts.  
Art Educator: Mary Scurlock*

man, **Linda Neely** and **Mary Lou Hightower**. The 2012 SECAC convention will be hosted by Meredith College in Durham, North Carolina on October 18-20.

The **VCU Department of Art Education** is thrilled to welcome **Dr. Ryan Patton** to their faculty! He arrived in August and has hit the ground running, presenting at VAEA and setting up a gaming research lab at our partner middle school. Dr. Patton earned his Ph.D. and M.S. at The Pennsylvania State University and his B.A. at The University of Iowa. He taught high school art in the South Bronx and over the past ten years, taught animation and game design with the Smithsonian Summer Associates. While pursuing his Ph.D., Dr. Patton co-created an augmented reality game called CitySneak that explores disrupting conventions of public space and surveillance with smart phone devices. He also designed and produced a set of modular electronic switches intended for youth to design video game controllers. These projects led Dr. Patton to be involved with Studio Lab, a collaborative space at Penn State merging laboratory experiments and data analysis in the social science tradition with computer gaming and aesthetic design in the fine arts context.

The **Art Education Center at JMU** is accepting applications to the Art Education Graduate Program with classes beginning in May 2012. Please see the Graduate School website for more information. Educational resources for art teachers are now available on the JMU Sawhill Gallery website. JMU gallery interns and art education students work under the supervision of art education faculty to create comprehensive art lessons plans for teachers and community members based on themes within

the work exhibited. See lessons for elementary, middle and high school connected to exhibitions by Viktor Ekpuk and Alex Bay at [www.sawhill-gallery.com/edumat.html](http://www.sawhill-gallery.com/edumat.html).

To have announcements from your institution included in the VAEA newsletter please send them to [tollefl@jmu.edu](mailto:tollefl@jmu.edu).

## Supervision & Administration

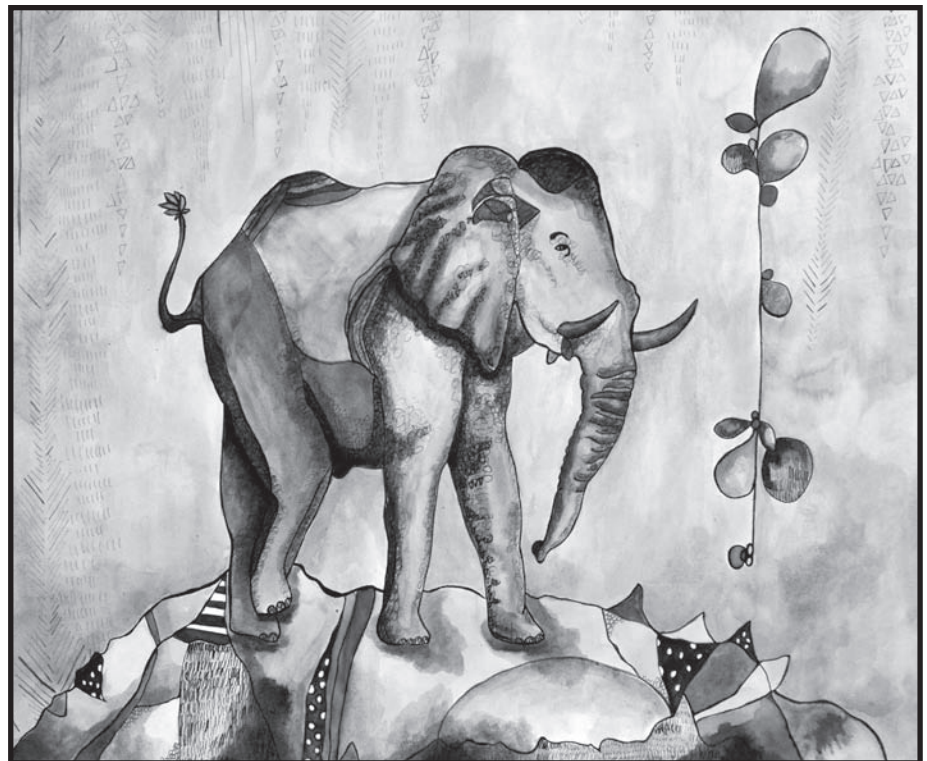
by **Deborah Barnard**

### “I’m Finished, What Do I Do Now: Assessment in Art Class”

“I’m finished, what do I do now?” How many times does an art teacher hear this question? In the data-driven climate that permeates education today, this is one of those ideal teaching

moments. When a student feels their work is finished is a wonderful opportunity for assessment of student learning. Assessment was the main topic of discussion among the art supervisors in Virginia at our meeting in Roanoke during the VAEA Conference. All teachers are asked to provide data that identifies measurable growth in student learning in their discipline. Standardized tests are the current source for assessing and reporting this data in the four core. For art educators, what strategies do we provide to assess student learning and growth in art class?

Assessment in art class is a sensitive and often controversial topic. Art is about creativity and expression, there are many correct solutions that solve the problem. If a student’s project reflects the rubric criteria for that assignment, does this truly identify everything that student has learned through the process? Is the summative assessment of a finished project



*Kate, Godwin HS. Art Educator: Laurie Hoen*

the best way for the student to demonstrate their mastery of art content and studio skills?

## **Research indicates that students have different learning styles and should therefore be assessed in multiple ways.**

Formative assessments throughout the art lesson are powerful strategies that allow students to focus on the concepts and skills they are learning and to inform the teacher on their progress. Having students write a carefully crafted artist statement to accompany their artwork can provide data that reflects student growth in art. The delivery of instruction has *traditionally* been teacher directed. The classroom was the theatre where the teacher was on stage front and center and students were the audience. Lesson plans were designed with activities where the teacher is actively presenting information, but what are the students doing? Are they catching the information being presented, what is their level of understanding? Implementing formative assessment strategies requires planning where roles are reversed and students become active participants in the delivery of instruction. The teacher displays an art print and students work in small groups to respond to that work of art. Students discuss and present details about the subject, colors, what they think the artist's intent was and how they feel about the work. As the teacher models the printmaking process, students are working with a partner to create a flow map that demonstrates each step and illustrates the appropriate art terminology. Critique becomes an ongoing assessment tool that engages students in talking about their work and the work of others. Students use art vocabulary to explain and defend their artistic choices.

At that moment when a student announces the completion of their work, have that student revisit the learning

experiences and formative assessments that were part of the project and reflect. Before any project is complete, time should be dedicated to reflection. Reflect on the process, what happened in the beginning and how things came out in the end? What problems did you encounter along the way and how did you solve those problems? Did you challenge your skills and take a risk? What was successful in your finished work and what changes would you make if you could repeat this art lesson? When the creative process includes formative assessments, students have data from their learning experiences as a resource in writing an artist statement that highlights their learning along the way. *"My painting tells the story of my summer experiences using organic shapes and natural patterns I observed while in the mountains of West Virginia. The monochromatic color scheme of muted blue tints and shades helped to capture the somber mood of our days hiking along the trails. As people look at my work, I hope they will enjoy the soft textures of the pine needles that brushed my face and hear the bubbling waters of the creek flowing over the rocks."* Such a statement identifies the students understanding of how art elements such as value, color, and texture can be used to tell a story with visual imagery and share personal reflections from a special experience. "I'm finished, what do I do now?" is the time for assessment; formative assessments, through small group work, partner critiques, and thinking map, along with carefully crafted artist statements, are strategies that art teachers can implement when students have finished their art work. The critical assessment of student learning and measurable growth begins with solid, meaningful assessments in the classroom.

## *Museum Education*

by Jennifer Schero



### **Virginia Museum of Fine Arts**

#### ***Winter/Spring 2012 Teacher Workshops at VMFA!***

VMFA on-site teacher workshops provide dynamic and innovative ideas for interdisciplinary learning—and resource packets with background information, lesson plan suggestions, and CDs of images. A boxed lunch or dinner is also provided. Pre-registration is required. (Suitable for recertification points.)

**To register**, phone the VMFA Ticket Desk at **804.340.1405** Sat–Wed: 10 am–5 pm; Thurs + Fri: 10 am–9 pm. Fee: \$20 each; \$18 for Members. **Questions?** Call 804.204.2662 or e-mail [Twyla.Kitts@vmfa.museum](mailto:Twyla.Kitts@vmfa.museum).

#### ***The Mourners: Valor, Passion, and Skullduggery in Medieval France***

Thursday, February 9, 2012 / 4:30–7 pm

#### ***Native Universe: Language and Lands of the First American Peoples***

Thursday, February 23, 4:30–7 pm

#### ***Shopper's Delight: American Domestic Objects from the Colonial Era to 1900***

Thursday, March 1, 2012, 4:30–7 pm

#### ***American Art and Music: Can You Hear the Picture?***

Thursday, March 15, 2012, 4:30–7 pm

*continued next page ...*

***African American Art at VMFA: Art as Primary Source***

Thursday, April 19, 2012, 4:30-7 pm

***Saturday Workshop: Rome in 3-D!***

Saturday, April 14, 2012, 10 am – 3 pm (Fee: \$30 each;  
\$27 for Members)

*Learn how new research and digital imagery are shedding light on these objects. The workshop includes an interactive gallery experience.*

Find out more or buy tickets on-line at: [www.vmfa.state.va.us/Learn/Educators/Teacher\\_Workshops/Teacher\\_Workshops\\_at\\_VMFA.aspx](http://www.vmfa.state.va.us/Learn/Educators/Teacher_Workshops/Teacher_Workshops_at_VMFA.aspx)



**Chrysler Museum  
of Art**

**Special Exhibitions:**

***Diamond Dust: An Installation by Judith Braun***

Opening February 11, 2012

New York-based artist Judith Braun innovative technique involves drawing directly on the wall with her fingers dipped in charcoal dust. This natural medium has been used by artists for centuries but Braun reinvigorates this tradition by using her own body as a drawing tool.

***30 Americans***

Opening March 15, 2012

From Robert Colescott and Jean-Michel Basquiat to Kehinde Wiley and Nina Chanel Abney, 30 Americans surveys the most significant artistic contributions of the past three decades. Drawn from the Rubell Family Collection in Miami, this exciting exhibition brings together 75 works by 31 emerging and established African-American artists, who work within a variety of mediums, from painting and sculpture to photography, video and installation.

***Save the Date:  
Teachers' Night***

Wednesday, March 21, 2012 from 5pm to 7pm

Join us for a **free** networking event designed exclusively for the special exhibition 30 Americans! Enjoy light refreshments, tours, live performance, and plenty of resources for your classroom.



Kehinde Wiley  
*Equestrian Portrait of the Count  
Duke Olivares*, 2005

Oil on canvas  
108 x 108 in. (274.3 x 274.3 cm)  
Rubell Family Collection, Miami

This fall the conference at Roanoke centered on the theme “Art Grows Potential.” As art educators, we know the many ways in which art instruction helps our students grow as critical thinkers, creative problem solvers, and valued members of collaborative groups. Part of our mission is to show others in the community how art grows potential, so that they may come to value art education as an essential component of quality schools. Several sessions at the conference shared a variety of ways to reach beyond the classroom to educate others about the way art adds value to education and to life skills. **Mike Gettings** and **Meredith Snyder** held a roundtable discussion on showing student art in the community and establishing partnerships between schools and community organizations and businesses. **Lindsey Perrault**, **Kathy Schwartz**, and **Kayla Koslow** shared how JMU partnered with VSA to organize a community art festival celebrating the work of special needs students. Kathy also presented a session on how art skills can help leaders (not just education leaders) develop a vision, communicate, and problem-solve. **Jimi Herd** and **Sean Collins** held a YAM workshop which shared methods for increasing art program visibility in the local community and in the state. Finally, **Scott Russell** and **Pat Franklin** sought to engage VAEA members in a conversation about how they might consider becoming leaders for our organization and take a more active role in advocating for arts education in Virginia. Kudos to all of them for taking art beyond the classroom, and for advocating by educating others in the community.

I am continuing to draft an advocacy brochure that can be used to inform education stakeholders about the way that art education promotes 21<sup>st</sup> century skills that will empower today’s students to be tomorrow’s productive citizens. We are working with a graphic designer to make sure the visual message supports the text. Our goal is to have it ready for the 2012 session of the Virginia Legislature. Once it is finalized, it will be published on the VAEA website so that members can use it as a resource with their local education stakeholders when advocating for art education.

## Retirees

by Dennis Winston

Congratulations to all the award winners from the Fall Conference in Roanoke. I was unable to attend the conference but I want to thank **Montgomery Epps** for leading the Fall Retired meeting in my absence. He indicated that there were some good suggestions put forth by those in attendance that could facilitate our communication and stimulate more interest for conference attendance and involvement by our retired membership.

Talking points included communication, advocacy issues and support, and retiree involvement and participation at conferences. Some members suggested ideas for career support as artists, the utilization of skill sets and experience, and ways to identify and connect with retirees of various school districts.

Please keep your emails current and up-to-date so that you can get legislative updates and we can communicate. Your input is important to help with future newsletter articles, to assist VAEA in defining new goals and strategies, and to make sure your concerns are addressed. We need you to share.

\* See page 5 for more **Retiree News** under **NAEA News**.

## Need Art Supplies? Join Art Room Aid!



# ART ROOM AID

Making your art projects a reality is what Art Room Aid is all about. Now it's even quicker and easier to get the supplies you need. If you already participate, welcome back! If you're new to Art Room Aid, we look forward to helping your classroom, school or art program continue creating art!

Create a list at  
[www.ArtRoomAid.com](http://www.ArtRoomAid.com)

scan code with mobile device  
to learn more

Create a  
project list  
and ask others  
to contribute!



“ What's really great about Art Room Aid is that anyone can participate ... you simply ask for what you need and people can contribute to your art project. ”

— Amanda Rider  
Elementary School Teacher  
Alameda, CA

View Miss Rider's story and other success stories  
at: [www.ArtRoomAid.com](http://www.ArtRoomAid.com)



# BLICK®

800•447•8192 [dickblick.com](http://dickblick.com)

by Sara Wilson McKay

Guest columnist: Dr. Sarah Bainter Cunningham

Greetings VAEA colleagues! In August 2011, I officially joined the Virginia arts education community after serving at the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) as the Director of Arts Education and Team-Lead for Arts Education and Literature. I am proud to be able to work with the wonderful VCU Art Education faculty, teaching arts education policy and serving as the Executive Director of Research at VCU's School of the Arts. Thank you to members of the VAEA community who have already made me feel very welcome in a new city!

## Pursue your goals. Live your life.

Messiah College graduate programs make it possible.



## Master's in Art Education

With a program and faculty reflecting Messiah's commitment to and reputation for academic excellence, Messiah College's M.A. in art education is designed to enhance your abilities as an artist educator in grades K-12.

- **Two specialized thesis options: Studio or Research**
- Courses are instantly applicable to your everyday work.
- A deferred tuition option is available.

New online class sessions every fall, spring and summer.

[messiah.edu/arteducation](http://messiah.edu/arteducation) 717.796.5061

Online | Flexible | Affordable



MESSIAH  
COLLEGE

see anew



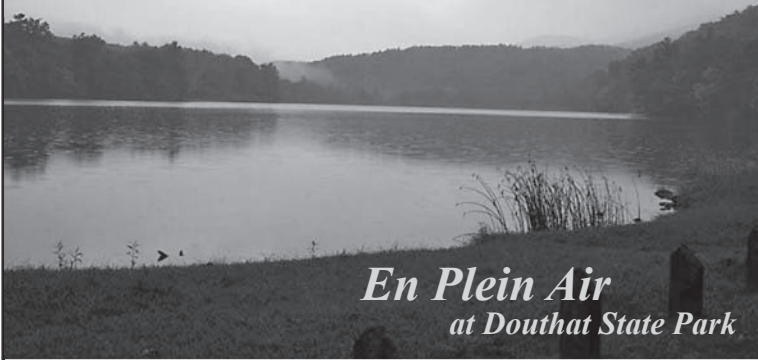
In case you missed it, a few new research documents have popped up out of Washington in the last year. To those of us working on behalf of art education policy, these documents contribute to our research base as we make the case for the arts in education. So, here's a federal round-up of 2011.

In February 2011, the NEA released a report *Art Education in America: What the Declines Mean for Arts Participation*. The study revealed that all 18-24 yr olds, no matter their economic status, were receiving less arts education than their peers in 1982. Our African-American children experienced the greatest decline (49%), while Hispanic children experienced a 40% decline. Against popular belief, the decline in arts education began before No Child Left Behind was passed in Congress. As we build our programs, we might pay heed to the quantity and quality of arts education that all our children are receiving. Of course, these results ignited much concern in Washington policy circles as educators and arts activists reflected on how to recover from such declines.

In May, the President's Committee on Arts and Humanities (PCAH) released the report *Reinvesting in Arts Education: Winning America's Future Through Creative Schools*. While PCAH committee has incredible star-power, perhaps most notably this is the first research report PCAH has released on arts education since its founding in 1982. Many arts educators were not surprised at the recommendations: build collaborations, develop



*Paint This Summer...*



*En Plein Air  
at Douthat State Park*

**Art Teachers:** The **Dabney S. Lancaster Community College** and the **Clifton Forge School of the Arts** will be offering a credit course for teachers again in 2012. This Summer Institute is designed especially for art teachers! We will be painting En Plein Air at Douthat State Park - one of America's 10 Best State Parks - right here in Clifton Forge VA. This course will last over several days and will include lodging at the park. Check with the DSLCC website when planning your summer activities or contact CFSOTA at (549) 862-7275 with questions.

arts integration, expand teaching artist opportunities, work with federal and state education policy, and continue to improve research in arts education. The report kept arts education on the radar of Obama administration officials who are busy with domestic affairs. In July 2011, the White House adopted a phrase from arts educators, "Champions of Change," and conducted a broad series of web interviews with arts educators and other types of champions. Check out [whitehouse.gov/champions/arts-education/](http://whitehouse.gov/champions/arts-education/) for more information.

Meanwhile, the Institute of Education Sciences released a First-Look of data from the Fast Response Survey System (FRSS) data on arts education. While FRSS surveys take place more regularly for other subjects, information on the arts has been collected only twice in our history: in 1999-2000, and then in 2009-2010. This is a three-page 30-minute survey sent to principals. The survey reported visual arts specialists had an average of 22 students per class, and spent 22 hours teaching 24 visual arts classes. High school faculty are teaching 7 classes on average, with 22 students per class. Data revealed 97% of classroom teachers use visual arts for instruction in other subject areas. However, this is still "First Look" data and we should receive more reports about what is happening in schools around the country from a full report in 2012. This might help us decide how VA art education compares to national trends to help us strut our stuff or identify areas for development.

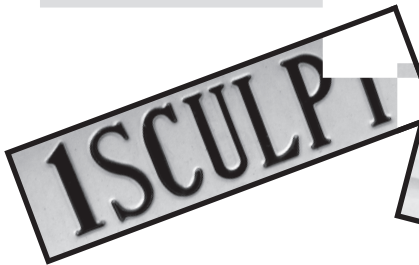
Finally, the government-backed Arts Education Partnership produced *What School Leaders Can Do To Increase Arts Education* to help principals consider cost-effective ways to support the arts. A visually compelling document, this flyer encourages principals to establish school-wide commitments to arts learning, create arts-rich learning environments, and rethink use of resources and time. The authors provide specific recommendations in each of these areas drawing advice from principals nationwide. This action-oriented flyer is meant to be shared widely with school leaders. You can find this publication on [www.aep-arts.org](http://www.aep-arts.org).

These reports can be used in our classrooms and communities to provide strong arguments on behalf of arts education, to understand how our classrooms match up to national trends, and to give us new ideas for linking to our communities. In the very least, art educators should feel that many leaders are working on your behalf to support strong policy and make more funding available to art education in the future.



*Clarie, Henrico Center for the Arts. Art Educator: Mary Scurlock*

# Seen in the Parking Lot at the 2011 VAEA Conference...



## NAEA/VAEA Membership Application

Mail to: Member Services Team, NAEA  
PO Box 1444  
Merrifield, VA 22116-1444

### Membership Categories:

**Active:** Art teachers, directors of art education programs, or those engaged in pursuits closely related to the field. Provides all the benefits of membership.

**First Year Professional:** Recent graduates entering their first year of teaching. Valid for one year. Provides all the benefits of membership, except the right to hold national office.

**Student:** Undergraduates and full-time graduate students. Provides all the benefits of membership, except the right to hold national office.

**Retired:** Retired educator who has been an active NAEA member for a minimum of five years. Includes all the privileges of membership.

**Associate:** School personnel not actively engaged in teaching art and other individuals with a general interest in art education. Provides the basic publication and discount benefits of membership. Members in this category will not receive membership bonuses and do not have the right to hold national office.

**Institutional:** Institutions or departments involved with art education. Provides the basic publication and discount benefits of membership, as well as a subscription to the quarterly Studies in Art Education, eligibility for Art Honor Society sponsorship and one registration to the NAEA.

### Please print all information below:

New  Renewal I.D.Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip + 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Geographic Region in VIRGINIA \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership

#### Categories:

<input type="checkbox"/> Institutional	265.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Active	90.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate	90.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Retired	60.00
<input type="checkbox"/> First Year Professional	65.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Full-Time Student	40.00

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sub total:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### Subscription Option:

Studies in Art Education \$20.00

**Please check ONE professional level below where you spend over 50% of your professional time:**

Elementary  Middle  Secondary  Museum  
 College/University  Supervision/Administration

#### Payment Information

Check Enclosed  Please Charge  
 American Express  VISA  MasterCard

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**CHARGE BY PHONE - 1-800-299-8321**

Membership dues include \$25 for a member subscription to Art Education and \$15 for a member subscription to NAEA News. A separate rate is established for non-member subscriptions.

*We're ART  
Educators, and  
PROUD of it!*

## Executive Board



*President*  
Scott Russell  
[president.vaea@gmail.com](mailto:president.vaea@gmail.com)



*Vice President*  
Maripat Hyatt  
[mghyatt@henrico.k12.va.us](mailto:mghyatt@henrico.k12.va.us)



*Secretary*  
Kathie Tharp  
[Kathie\\_Tharp@ccpsnet.net](mailto:Kathie_Tharp@ccpsnet.net)



*Treasurer*  
Kimberly Turner Towne  
[kturner@richmond.k12.va.us](mailto:kturner@richmond.k12.va.us)



*Past President*  
Pat Franklin  
[pat.franklin@nn.k12.va.us](mailto:pat.franklin@nn.k12.va.us)



*Executive Secretary*  
Peggy Wood  
[wood.vaea@gmail.com](mailto:wood.vaea@gmail.com)



**Regional Presidents**  
*Blue Ridge*  
Kelly Tuma  
[kindlykelly@gmail.com](mailto:kindlykelly@gmail.com)



*Central*  
Sarah Mays  
[mayshouse@comcast.net](mailto:mayshouse@comcast.net)



*Northern Virginia*  
Carla Jaranson  
[carlajean8@gmail.com](mailto:carlajean8@gmail.com)



*Southwest*  
Ingrid Moldenhauer Chase  
[ishipmold@gmail.com](mailto:ishipmold@gmail.com)



*Tidewater*  
Sandee Darden  
[sandarden@spsk12.net](mailto:sandarden@spsk12.net)



**Division Reps**  
*Elementary*  
Sarah Matthews  
[sarah\\_matthews@ccpsnet.net](mailto:sarah_matthews@ccpsnet.net)



*Middle School*  
Helena Agnew  
[helena\\_agnew@ccpsnet.net](mailto:helena_agnew@ccpsnet.net)



*Secondary*  
Anne Pfeiffer  
[annepfeiffer@verizon.net](mailto:annepfeiffer@verizon.net)



*Higher Education*  
Karin Tollefson-Hall  
[tollefkl@jmu.edu](mailto:tollefkl@jmu.edu)



*Supervision & Administration*  
Deborah Barnard  
[BARNARDD@pwcs.edu](mailto:BARNARDD@pwcs.edu)



*Museum Education*  
Jennifer Schero  
[jschero@chrysler.org](mailto:jschero@chrysler.org)

## Standing Committee Chairs and Affiliates



*Advocacy*  
Jean-Marie Galing  
[jmgaling@fcps.edu](mailto:jmgaling@fcps.edu)



*Archivist*  
Angela Winters  
[akwinter@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:akwinter@nps.k12.va.us)



*Membership*  
Patsy Parker  
[paparker@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:paparker@nps.k12.va.us)



*Newsletter*  
Kathy Barclay  
[kbarclayart@yahoo.com](mailto:kbarclayart@yahoo.com)



*Policy*  
Barbara Laws  
[blaws@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:blaws@nps.k12.va.us)



*Research / Curriculum*  
Sara Wilson McKay, VCU  
[swilsonmckay@vcu.edu](mailto:swilsonmckay@vcu.edu)



*Retired Educators*  
Dennis Winston  
[dennisrwinston@aol.com](mailto:dennisrwinston@aol.com)



*Webmaster / Technology*  
LeAnne Poindexter  
[leanne.poindexter@loudoun.k12.va.us](mailto:leanne.poindexter@loudoun.k12.va.us)



*Youth Art Month Co-Chairs:*  
Sean Collins  
[michael\\_collins@ccpsnet.net](mailto:michael_collins@ccpsnet.net)  
Jimi Herd  
[james\\_herd@ccpsnet.net](mailto:james_herd@ccpsnet.net)



## Exofficio Members



*VA Dept. of Education*  
Cherry Gardner  
[Cherry.Gardner@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Cherry.Gardner@doe.virginia.gov)

★ Send reports and articles to: [wood.vaea@gmail.com](mailto:wood.vaea@gmail.com)  
**Executive Secretary Peggy Wood**

★ Send photos & student art to: [kbarclayart@yahoo.com](mailto:kbarclayart@yahoo.com)  
**Newsletter Editor Kathy Barclay**

★ Send address changes to: [paparker@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:paparker@nps.k12.va.us)  
**Membership Chair Patsy Parker**

# Newsletter Deadline: March 15, 2012

vaea

virginia art education association

kathy barclay, editor, 7379 lee davis rd., mechanicsville, va 23111

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
RICHMOND, VA  
PERMIT NO. 495



Winter 2012

