

vaea

virginia art education association

Winter
2014

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Professional
Development
Conference
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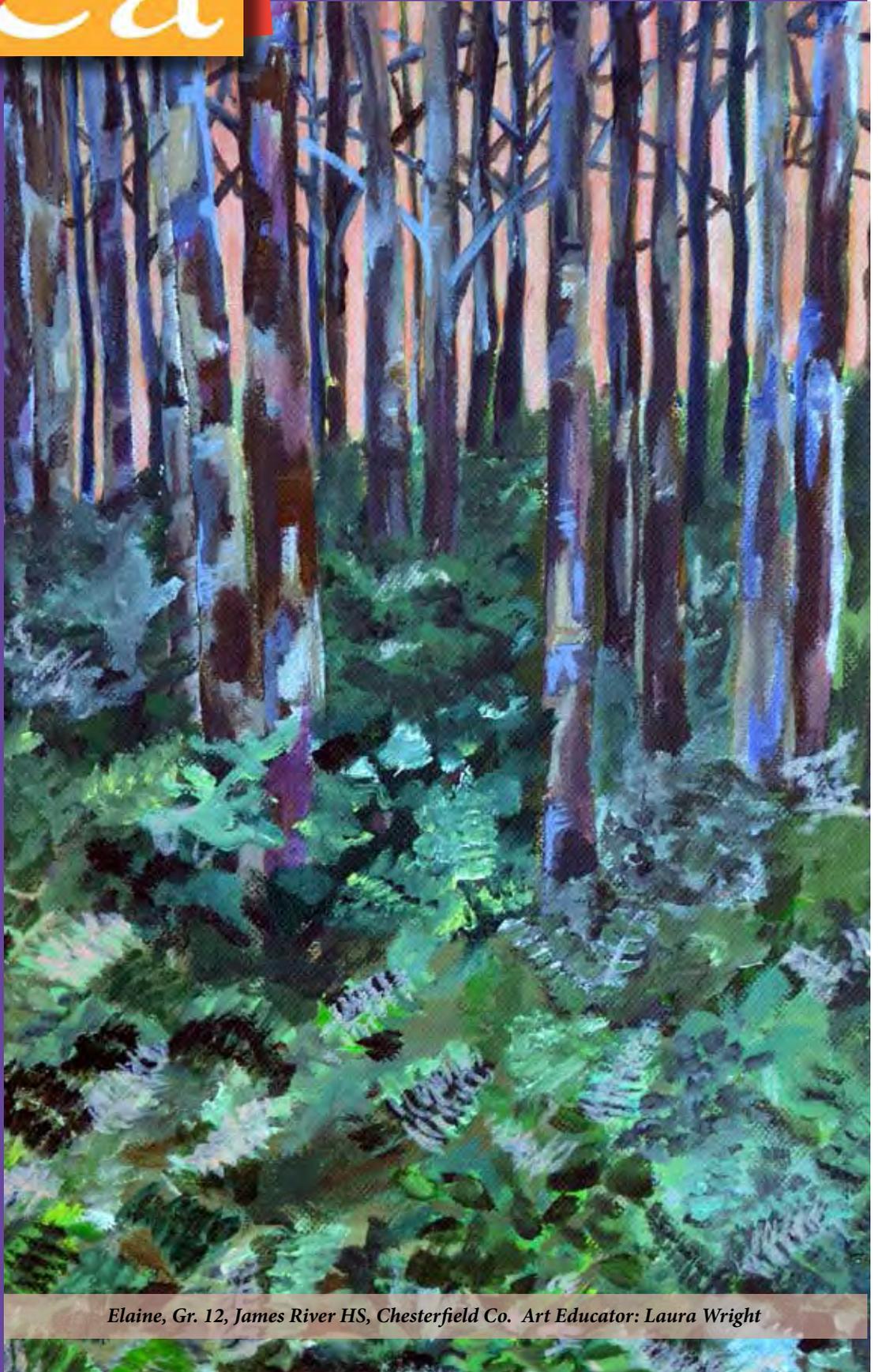
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Youth Art Month
is Coming!

Join NAEA/VAEA!

vaea
.org



Elaine, Gr. 12, James River HS, Chesterfield Co. Art Educator: Laura Wright

Calendar of Events

The VAEA Newsletter

is a publication of the Virginia Art Education Association, and is distributed to members 3 times a year: January, May, and September.

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 newsletter@vaea.org

Vendors

wishing to advertise should contact Peggy Wood, Executive Secretary, at peggy_wood@vaea.org

Submission Deadlines:

Winter Issue
 Nov. 15 for January publication
 Spring/Summer Issue
 March 15 for May publication
 Fall/Conference Issue
 July 15 for September publication

Mission Statement:

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

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| February 1, 6-8 pm | Blue Ridge Showcase 2014 Opening Reception Shenandoah Valley Art Center Waynesboro |
| March 8, 12-2 pm | Opening Reception Art Forum, Lord Fairfax Community College, Middleton |
| February 22 | Central Regional Conference VCU Art Education Dep't. |
| February | Tidewater Winter Workshop |
| Month of March | Southwest YAM Exhibit Jefferson Center |
| | Central Region YAM Exhibit Suntrust Bank |
| Mar. 29-31, 2014 | NAEA Convention San Diego, California |
| April 25, 9 am-3 pm | Blue Ridge Mini-Conference Shenandoah Art Center |
| May 16-18 | Blue Ridge Region Retreat Orkney Springs |
| May 16, 6-9 pm | Central Region Art Opening Art Educator as Artist Exhibit Crossroads Art Center |

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*Maribel, Warren Co. HS,
 Front Royal.
 Art Educator: Allison Cusato*



President's Message

Scott Russell



Passing the torch, no - maybe passing the paintbrush...

It is with a heavy heart that I write this article; my last to you the members of VAEA as your president. As I reflect on my time in VAEA leadership, I'm in awe of what we have done together.

VAEA is an amazing association. It has been an extreme honor and privilege to meet you, to speak with you, to hear what is happening in your classrooms, museums - how you make visual art come to life and impact the lives of your students. I have been humbled to hear your stories of hardship but also your successes, in each I see the passion the members of VAEA have for the visual arts.

It has been an incredibly rewarding opportunity to serve the VAEA for the past 8 years. Many emerging leaders have stepped forward and I am excited to see where they lead the VAEA. **One message that I need to say: if you have interest in the VAEA - get involved.** If someone had told me that I would be elected to the VAEA board my 5th year teaching, I wouldn't have believed them, in fact I was so surprised at the call to place my name on the ballot I told Past-President **Ron Fabin**, that my opponent would be happy with the win, that no one knew who I was. You, the members, surprised me then, and have continued to surprise me with your helpfulness and trust. I am forever grateful to Ron for that phone call, I am equally grateful to **Pat Franklin**, **Sid Ames** and **Anita Missal** who I first served with for their trust and mentorship as I learned my role in VAEA. Also I've shared before how Pat and **Barbara Laws** have been amazingly supportive and helpful mentors and friends throughout my leadership journey; something I feel is vital for any leader. Also for the last 4 years I've been fortunate to have **Maripat Hyatt** as my Vice President, who I am so pleased is able to serve you as the next VAEA President.

Right now, many of you reading this newsletter are beginning your journey as the next VAEA leaders. You may have been teaching for several years or you may have just graduated, or maybe are just beginning your art education program. But in the coming years, there will be new leaders, you, making

your mark on the VAEA and on art education in Virginia. That is what makes this association so great - people with a passion for the arts step forward and share that passion. If I can be of any assistance to help you take those steps- please don't hesitate to ask.

This conference really showed me many examples of leaders. I met many incredible people, but 3 stand out: **Edna Love**, **Nicholaus Creasey** and **Dan Green**.



Kathy Schwartz and Edna Love.

Edna Love recently celebrated her 90th birthday. She first served VAEA in 1962 as the Pulaski County representative, later on serving as the Secondary division representative from 1975-77, as the 1st Southwestern region representative (when we first had regions) in 1980-83, as VAEA Treasurer from 1986-87 and later received the Museum Educator award in 1993; that's 30 years of leadership right there! She received a thunderous, standing ovation from those gathered at the awards breakfast. However it continued when after hearing her recognized, **Kathy Schwartz**, newly inducted VAEA Distinguished Fellow, was able to reconnect with Ms. Love. Forty years prior Ms. Love was Kathy's cooperating teacher, this reconnection was a surprise to both distinguished ladies.

Kathy herself says that, **"Every day, Edna Love demonstrated her joy for teaching, learning, and the artistic process. Students loved her because they knew she cared about them. While there are many good reasons for me to remain active in VAEA/NAEA, connections like this are at the top of the list."** What a legacy; leadership that continues to impact. Thank you, Ms. Edna Love.

Nicholaus Creasey I met during the last hour of the conference. I heard from him a desire to start a student chapter of NAEA at his college, even though this is his last year - very similar to how I became involved in NAEA. I'm excited to help and see that come to life, but it was Nicholaus' comment that this was something he knew they needed and that it could benefit those coming after him. That shows true leadership, seeing beyond what benefits you to what can support the needs of others. Thank you Nicholaus.

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President's Message continued...

Finally, **Dan Green**, who arrived for the VAEA Conference after the breakfast, for the last 3 hours. Circumstances had prevented more attendance but after meeting him, excited and upbeat, the comment that he had to come for whatever time he could to help his professional development...that shows a drive and a passion to learn what we can, whenever we can.

Thank you Dan.

I am thankful to these and numerous other people for the lessons I learned during my time as your president. I look forward to the next chapter, for myself and for the VAEA. I challenge each of you to take a step into leadership however big or small. Being President of the VAEA is truly being a leader of leaders, my life and own education has been so greatly enriched by this experience and by each of those I came in contact with. I thank you the members for this and so many other opportunities that have occurred thanks to serving this association. It has been a wonderful privilege.

4 years in Quick Review

So what has been accomplished these past 4 years? As I reflect I am pleasantly surprised! We have become a more legislatively aware association; you the members are hearing about legislation that impacts the arts and are informed when you need to make your voices heard. We have seen the results of your actions through comments from legislators. This awareness has been facilitated by the reinstatement of the VCFAE, Virginia Coalition for Fine Arts Education. The combined efforts of the visual arts, music, theatre and dance associations along with other stakeholders like the PTA and Young Audiences has made a strong impact and unified the arts in Virginia.

The VAEA election process has moved into the 21st century with the change from mailed to electronic ballots; this election showed a 120% growth in returned ballots. Our membership has maintained through program fluxes across the state, we have seen consistency where other states saw reductions. **NAEA lists us as one of a handful of states that has grown in membership.**

The VAEA board has clarified its policies and procedures, we now have a handbook that will carry our history and guide future boards. We published our first advocacy brochure to use to spread the importance and value of art education. We have seen the institution of a VAEA Distinguished Fellows program and now have recognized 9 members for their contributions to the VAEA. Our conferences continue to grow, in both attendance and presenters, this great news makes it increasingly more difficult for us to find venues to hold our conferences – a wonderful difficulty to have! In the past four years we have heard from **Duane Sabiston, Debi West, Dennis Hwang, Noah Scalin, Deborah Reeve and Rebecca Kamen** - some incredible keynotes and guest speakers!

So what do I hope is next for the VAEA? I want to see our membership continue to grow. I want to see continued growth of benefits to our members. I want to see the next generation of members and leaders take part in their association.



*Ashley, Kecoughtan HS, Hampton.
Art Educator: Emily Marshall*

*Kate Sternberg shows
off the free sketch-
books provided by
Sketch for Schools
and Conference Logo
attire for sale at the
conference.*



Vice-President's Message

by Maripat Hyatt



Conference 2013

The recent conference was awesome! **Sarah Philip** and her team from the northern region did a wonderful job. The photos alone of the party on Friday night should say it all. The mariachi band was awesome. The people who transformed their faces with *Day of the Dead* makeup created unique and personal art. The costumes were pretty wild and creative, too. The sessions that the team put together included fantastic ideas that we can use in our classrooms. The collection of the food offerings and the art supplies was amazing. These items will be appreciated by those who receive them. Thank you if you participated in those two collections.

The feed back I have received so far has been positive about the sessions as well as our keynote speaker, **Rebecca Kamen**. Most people were interested in the connections she made between art and science. Rebecca said she had a wonderful time being surrounded by all the art teachers and she hoped that the keynote answered some questions and made people think about the combination of art and science.



the conference. I have really enjoyed working with **Peggy Wood**, our Executive Secretary. She makes planning a conference very organized. I call her my VAEA *Angel* and she is a very important part of planning the conference. Please join me in thanking her for her support over the last four years.

I look forward to working with **Linda Conti**, our new Vice President, **Karen Girard**, our new secretary, and **Jennifer Schero**, our new treasurer. I have selected the new people for several of the director spots on the board. We will be meeting for a board retreat in Richmond at the end of January. Be looking for a survey that will come out post-retreat. We will want to have input from the membership on several items.

I appreciate your confidence in me. I will work hard for the membership as I take on the duties of President. I will be attending the conference in San Diego in March. If you have any concerns that you would like me to take to NAEA Delegates Assembly please contact me through the website. Thank you for your vote.

The company **Sketch for Schools** was very helpful by providing the sketchbooks for our conference. They didn't charge us anything for them and they were a wonderful benefit for our membership. If you have a chance to check out their website for purchasing sketchbooks for your students you will find excellent products and very low prices.

This was my last conference to plan. I had a great time getting the proposals as well as seeing so many smiling faces at



Awards

VAEA's Annual Award Candidates and Recipients

by Patsy Parker
Awards, Membership Chair

The VAEA utilizes an award rubric formulated to score candidates on a variety of specific areas. There are now eight sections for adjudication: NAEA Activities, NAEA / SE Regional Activities, VAEA Activities, Contributions to the Field of Art Education, Related Art Teaching Experiences, Contributions to the Art Community and Contributions to other Associations / Organizations. The candidates are scored according to the information provided in the required vita and letters of support.

I am grateful to the following dedicated VAEA former state division winners who graciously participated in the grueling three page final adjudication rubric for the state award candidates: Elementary Division - **Sarah Matthews** and **Trish Mitchell Harris**, Middle School Division - **Naomi Sywers** and **Angela Winters**. Secondary Division - **Susan Hubble** and **Kathie Tharp** and Supervision / Administration Division - **Michael Gettings**.

It is no secret that I read all the candidates' vitas. By doing this, I am able to glimpse information that family and peers know but not necessarily their region or the state membership. Instead of just naming the candidates, I would like to share some endearing information I discovered about them.

The 2013 VAEA candidates for the Elementary Division Art Educator of the Year Awards:

Laurie Davis from the Blue Ridge Region utilizes "Artsonia" for a virtual art exhibit where each student Kindergarten through fifth grade at Rockfish River Elementary has their own art exhibition page.

Jimi Herd from the Central Region, aside from serving the VAEA Board as the Youth Art Month Chair, is the coordinator of an art and writing exchange between students from the United States and Guatemala.



Jimi Herd, VAEA Elementary Division Art Educator of the Year

This year's recipient is Central Region's **James W. Herd**. In his nomination letter, Michael Gettings, Art Supervisor writes: "Jimi is perhaps one of the most dynamic art teachers I have ever met. He is involved in the implementation of STEAM fairs in his school and in ideas for the overall county initiative. He is an integral part of the Chesterfield County elementary assessment model, 'I can think like an artist.'"

The 2013 VAEA candidates for the Middle School Art Educators of the Year Awards:

Karen Girouard from the Blue Ridge Region is not the least sedentary. She has just been elected to the VAEA Executive Board as State Secretary. Her curriculum is under her constant scrutiny to challenge herself and her students. Her inclusion students work during lunch time and after school. Her workshop participation, at this point seems limited to the East Coast...but time will tell!

Michelle McGrath from the Central Region is commended by her former cooperating teacher and her former principal for her leadership in expanding the art department from two to four teachers. She has been awarded the Henrico Middle School Art Educator for 2007 and 2013.

Silvia Souza from the Northern VA Region wears many hats. As National Junior Art Honor Society Advisor she has led many students on art tours to New York City. She is the go-to-woman on the local committee for our accurate celebration of Mexico's Day of the Dead. As a practicing artist, she gathers other art educators into a community of art works creators. And probably the most energetic of all...our Silvia is a renowned soccer coach.

Pamela Rose from the Southwestern Region has held many positions in numerous local committees in the VAEA conference machinery for the last 16 years. This department chair, grant recipient, practicing, award winning artist teaches a variety of media to a wide range of life long learning artists. Most notable is her craft class with Kenyan children in Nairobi.



Pamela Rose, VAEA Middle Division Art Educator of the Year

This year's recipient is Southwest Region's **Pamela G. Rose**. Richard Moon, Art Coordinator of Roanoke County writes: "Whenever I see Pam in action teaching, at a meeting, or working with colleagues, I always have the impression she was born to be an art teacher!"

We have an additional award this year for a middle school art educator...more specifically **Special Needs Art Educator.**

Margaret H. V. Miller, from the Blue Ridge Region, is a National Junior Art Honor Society Sponsor, pre-service mentor, practicing artist who discovered special needs students became highly motivated with hands-on art activities. In her letter of nomination, Kathy Schwartz writes: "Her research devoted to best practices for special needs represents a significant contribution to art education, and one that could have only been completed by an experienced art teacher. Margaret Miller demonstrates what it means to have an 'Inclusive Art Classroom,' where all students are challenged to the best of their abilities."



Margaret Miller, VAEA Special Needs Art Educator of the Year

The 2013 VAEA candidates for the Secondary Division Art Educators of the Year Awards:

Patricia M. Fairley from the Central Region has a strong history of mentoring: National Art Honor Society Sponsor, pre-service teachers and extensive community art enrichment. She facilitated an introspective Assembly by Jones Morgan (the last living Buffalo Soldier), the art work and historical climate of the post-Civil War west.

Andrew D. Watson from the Northern Virginia Region is the man...to follow or get out of his way. His history in the last several years is mind boggling: STEM TO STEAM, NAEA and VAEA presentations, exhibiting artist, National Art Honor Society Sponsor and mentor to numerous student award winners. It is VAEA members like Andrew whose conference participation and drive is the force that makes each and every state conference so successful.

Andrea L. Stuart from the Blue Ridge Region has served on their board since 1996, nine years as BRR newsletter editor, elected to one term as Secretary and is now serving her second term as Vice President. She organizes retreats, mini-conferences and professional development day for Blue Ridge members to paint outdoors together. She has faithfully captured this and other conferences through her wonderful photography skills.

This year's recipient is Blue Ridge Region's **Andrea L. Stuart**. In her letter of nomination, Kelly Tuma writes: "Andrea is an advocate for art and for the VAEA as well, art teachers from our school district are NAEA members because of Andrea's influence, including myself." Andrea leads by example and we thank her for it.

This year's recipient of the 2013 VAEA Supervisor / Administrator of the Year is **Richard D. Moon** (*not pictured*) from the Southwest Region. Sara Cubberly writes in her letter of nomination that Richard is a fearless leader with a background teaching elementary, secondary, university students and the gifted. His art teachers in Roanoke County attest to his dedication, love of art, passion to teach art to younger generations, and his ambition to open the world's eyes to the power of art. He organizes and promotes exhibits, attends the shows, finds ways to fund projects and get necessary supplies and provide excellent professional development opportunities. With his tie thrown over his shoulder...cleaning out sink drain traps is a typical example of his support and dedication to his faculty and art education.

This year's recipient of the Higher Education Art Educator of the Year is **Dr. Nancy Lampert** (*not pictured*) from Virginia Commonwealth University from Central Region. Last year, Dr. Lampert was selected to receive the award for Distinguished Service Within the Profession for her unwavering support of the VAEA. This year we honor Dr. Lampert for her passion for art education, her extensive history in community outreach, mentoring and research integration. She is an invited reviewer for the NAEA Journal of Art Education and facilitator for the NAEA Special Needs Issues Group Website. She has an extensive list of publications in the field of art education. If you are not a VCU graduate or familiar with Dr. Lampert's work... please see the article beginning on page 6 of the November 2013

issue of the Journal of the National Art Education Association entitled: "Inquiry and Critical Thinking in an Elementary Art Program".

In Dr. Pamela Taylor's nomination she notes that "Dr. Lampert is one of VCU student's most favorite professors. Her kindness and compassion indeed makes this world a better place." Dr. Lampert's dedication to art education makes it a better place for NAEA and VAEA art educators!



Andrea Stuart, VAEA Secondary Division Art Educator of the Year

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Awards continued...

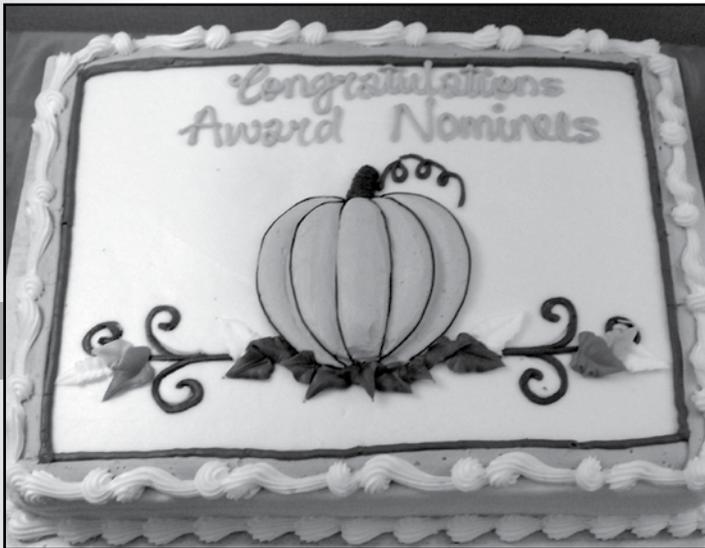
The recipient of this year's **2013 Retired Art Educator of the Year** is Blue Ridge Region's **Lynn Hilton Conyers**.

Lynn has served on the VAEA Board as Membership Chair, Retired Division Chair and Archivist. She has served as Regional President, Vice President and Secretary and for the last 6 years as Treasurer. She holds adjunct positions with Blue Ridge Community, Mary Baldwin, VCU and JMU. Lynn, a recipient of numerous grants, has an extensive history as an arts advocate and an exhaustive list of art exhibits. There is an "energizer bunny" of the Blue Ridge Region...and it is Lynn Hilton Conyers.

In her letter of nomination, Andrea Stuart writes, "Lynn's credentials since retirement are almost as lengthy as her accomplishments during her teaching career. She enriched the lives of other art educators through her dedication, service, and willingness to serve and share her expertise."



**Lynn Hilton Conyers,
VAEA Retired Art
Educator of the Year**



This year's candidates are dedicated to their profession, association and art education. You know someone who qualifies as a candidate for next year's award process. Please go to vaea.org/resources and familiarize yourself with the award categories and required documents.

Do it now...what are you waiting for?

Award Nominees Reception



2013 VAEA Art Educator

Presenting the 2013 VAEA Art Educator: Twyla Kitts!

Maggie Bowen from Christopher Newport University in Newport News was our 2012 VAEA Art Educator and announced this year's winner with the following speech at the VAEA Conference Awards Breakfast on Saturday, November 2, 2013:

It is my honor to enlighten you as to the qualifications of the VAEA Art Educator of the Year. In reading the letters of nomination and recommendation as well as her Vita, I found her to be an excellent example of an EDUCATOR, FACILITATOR, MOTIVATOR and CONTRIBUTOR.



As a CONTRIBUTOR she appears to help everyone. She received recognition just yesterday (Friday, Nov. 1, 2013) for her contribution as a member of the Visual Arts S.O.L. 2013 Revision Writing Team. Michael Gettings wrote, "what strikes me the most is her incredible positive outlook and (her) intelligence."

Barbara Laws commented in her letter of nomination for our award recipient, "Her contributions to the quality of art education across the state are many and varied and exemplify what ONE PERSON with a broad liberal arts education, a deep and abiding curiosity for learning and the arts, and a drive to

engage others in her journey...can do for learners of all ages and more specifically for visual arts education."

I have asked Barbara Laws, the nominator, to accept the Award for 2013 VAEA Art Educator Twyla Kitts. Please show your appreciation with enough noise that she will hear us in Roanoke!



As her career began, she showed merit by achieving a Magna Cum Laude in History from UVA, but soon balanced that slightly askew direction with courses at VCU in their Art Foundations Program. As an EDUCATOR she is employed by the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts as the Teacher Programs Educator. She curates exhibits, writes education didactics for exhibits, presents summer institutes, open houses and museum orientation sessions directly serving approximately 2000 teachers each year just in on-site programs.



As a FACILITATOR she arranged to have meeting spaces available and made sure that everything needed was in place. This included meeting spaces for teachers' back-to-school events and other programs in Central Region, VAEA Administrative Supervision meetings, YAM meetings and VAEA Board meetings.

As a MOTIVATOR she has been a presenter at Central Region as well as VAEA conferences. Then she made those important connections to other curriculums represented by the Foreign Language Association of Virginia, the Virginia Association of Teachers of English, the Virginia Institute of Archaeology Education, the Association of Science and Technology Centers, and the Virginia Association of Science Teachers. In fact, the Social Studies folks grabbed her this weekend for their conference in Roanoke.



Palalvi Gr. 3, Congressional Schools of VA, Falls Church. Art Educator: Sarah Philip

Regional News

Blue Ridge

by Kelly Tuma

Southwest

by Melissa E. Humphrey

It's hard to believe that the first semester of the 2013-2014 school year has come to a close. I look forward to the new semester with excitement. This school year has gone by in a flash but there are so many things to look forward to. I know we have all struggled at times with constricting testing schedules and students pulled from our classes for remediation. Although it has been and will continue to be a challenge, I know what we do as art educators is just as important. We make it work!

I feel with each new school year I learn something new. It may be new technology, an exciting lesson plan, connecting with students, or a new technique. This year's VAEA conference was no exception. I met so many new VAEA friends and felt that there was a real sense of "Connecting Creative Communities". I look forward to hearing your comments or concerns as we push through this next semester!

The spring will be busy for all of us! YAM will be held in March at the Jefferson Center. The theme of this year's YAM is "Textology." As always, we are seeking more VAEA members! Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions or questions at Mhumphrey@rcps.info.

A special thank you to all of the VAEA members and board members!

Happy 2014!

I really have the best job, and going to conference is on top of the reasons why my job rocks! I had so much fun at conference this year; it is truly the highlight of every school year. It was very exciting at the awards breakfast for our region; please let me congratulate a couple of ladies again: **Laurie Davis**, for receiving the Blue Ridge Elementary Educator of the Year, and **Karen Girouard**, for receiving the Blue Ridge Middle School Educator of the Year. An extra big congratulation goes out to our three state winners: **Andrea Stuart** for winning regional Secondary Educator of the Year as well as the state title, **Lynn Hilton Conyers** for being awarded the title of VAEA Retired Art Educator of the Year, and **Margaret Miller**, for being awarded the VAEA Special Needs Art Educator of the Year. Awesome job ladies! You are an inspiration to us all.

Our region has some great events coming up this new year, starting with the **Blue Ridge Region VAEA Art Showcase 2014** at the Shenandoah Valley Art Center in Waynesboro. The opening reception will be **Saturday, February 1** from 6 – 8 pm. The showcase then travels up to the Art Forum at Lord Fairfax Community College in Middleton. That opening reception will be on **Saturday, March 8** from 12 – 2 pm. These are very exciting venues to showcase our very talented regional member artists.

Please also put on your calendars, our annual **Blue Ridge Region Mini-Conference** at the Shenandoah Art Center in Waynesboro on **Friday, April 25** from 9 am – 3 pm. The cost is \$5 or free if you bring a lesson to share. Our next event will be our annual **Blue Ridge Region Retreat and Workshop** in Orkney Springs from **Friday, May 16 until Sunday, May 18**, with a Native American Indian beading workshop with **Nellie Atkins**.

I hope to see everyone at our events; we work very hard planning them for you all, I hope some of you take advantage of these opportunities. If you have an interest in attending or for more information, please e-mail me, Kelly Tuma, at br.president@vaea.org.

Northern Virginia

by Sarah E. Phillip

I am feeling knee-deep in the school year right now, renewed from our Fall Conference and dealing with the perennial challenges of assessing students, communicating with parents, and keeping up with paper work. How do art teachers keep track of student needs, keep administrators happy, prepare lessons, and continue to be creative in one's own studio? I have yet to balance everything, but staying connected to other art teachers around the region and state help to remind me that I am not alone in wanting the best for my students.

Part of continuing to develop as a teacher is seeking out knowledge from new resources. Approximately two-thirds of the Northern region teachers were able to come to the VAEA Conference in Falls Church. I heard stories of teachers who were given notice last minute that they would get time off from school, some teachers used personal days, and some were not allowed to go because of limited substitutes and funding.

This year's conference was fantastic. Many teachers in our region and statewide took time during the summer to decorate drawing mannequins for the awards breakfast centerpieces. All of the mannequins were sold in a silent auction, raising over

\$1,600.00 to help support the cost of college students coming to the conference. Thank you to everyone who created and bid. (*see photos next page*)

Art teachers are notoriously giving and helpful. Many people volunteered time to sell merchandise, hand out registration packets, plan and set up for events and make everyone feel welcome. Our Friday night event, with a Dia de los Muertos theme featured a Mariachi band, offrendas (altars) to dead Mexican artists, numerous art activities, as well as a canned food drive supporting the hotel's donation to The Children's Inn in Bethesda, MD (associated with the National Institutes of Health). A large box, decorated by Falls Church High Schools Art Honor Society, was filled to overflowing with donations of art supplies for local youth, as well.

Even if you were not able to attend the conference, you can still participate in the regional workshops offered for free or at a low cost throughout the year. Emails advertising these events come from me at nvaeanews@yahoo.com. If you have not been receiving emails from me, please check your spam folder or send me your home email address.

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Central

by Sarah Mays

Thank you to all CRVAEA members who presented, volunteered and attended the 2013 VAEA Conference hosted by the Northern VA region in Falls Church. Next November, the 2014 VAEA Conference will be hosted by our very own Central region at the newly renovated Double Tree Hilton at 1021 Koger Center Boulevard. This hotel has ample free parking and a free shuttle within a 5 mile radius. With volunteer help from our members, we know next year's VAEA conference will be a great success! Please be on the lookout for future communication.

Please be sure to see the article by Patsy Parker regarding our VAEA Division Teachers of the Year. Central Region is especially proud of our own **Twyla Kitts** for receiving the honored Virginia Art Educator award.

Speaking of communication, please remember that the Central region communicates via e - News. If you are a new member or have a new non - school e-mail, please sign up on at the bottom of the Central region page on the VAEA website. We also communicate through our CRVAEA Facebook page. It is a closed group, so please click the "ask to join" link. We will approve you promptly. It is a closed group for your privacy and security.

We currently have 84 CRVAEA Facebook members. We will continue to post quarterly Facebook contests on our page. Members who participate in our Facebook contests will have an opportunity to win a Michael's \$25 gift card. **Dawn Vass** was the winner of our first Facebook contest.

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Tidewater

by Jennifer McDuffie

The VAEA conference was lots of fun this year and as usual we had many Tidewater members who presented and attended. The focus of our regional meeting was the need to draw in new volunteers to become part of the planning and implementation of Professional Development activities and events. Sadly, we did not receive any nominations for the VAEA Division Art Teacher awards and we don't want this to happen again. Your regional board is ready to work with novice participants to help build their profession vita and learn the ropes in service work. As President I plan to do a better job of staying in touch with our members and encouraging our membership to become more active.

The Tidewater Region is gearing up for our winter activities. The Board hosted a Holiday Party that was opened to all members. Our secretary, Peggy Ratliff, hosted the event in Chesapeake.

Our Winter Workshop will be held in February. We hope to equal the success of this event from last year so please send us your proposals for workshops. We would love to see some new faces this year; it is an excellent opportunity to build your professional portfolio and give back to other teachers. This activity makes a great dry run for the state conference. Proposals and suggestions for upcoming events may be sent to TVAEA2012@gmail.com.

We will be having the long awaited encaustic workshop this spring so keep your eyes open for details. We have also

continued next page...

Northern VA continued...

Some of the suggestions for winter and spring are: clay- hand building, clay- wheel throwing, building with cardboard, leather work, mosaics, glass fusing and wire jewelry. What would you like to see? What could you share? We have teachers who are willing to host workshops in their classrooms, if finding a space is an issue.

As we move into 2014, remember that there is knowledge and expertise in VAEA to help with ideas, guidance, and moral support. Feel free to reach out to me at nvaeanews@yahoo.com and join the VAEA Facebook page.

Central continued...

Mark your calendars as many events are coming our way! The regional conference will be held at VCU in the Art Education Department, Saturday February 22nd. Our co - Vice Presidents, **Anne - Marie Slinkman** and **Tiffany Floyd** are working hard to provide you with an excellent experience. Our annual Youth Art Month Exhibition at the SunTrust Bank will be held during the month of March with an opening TBA. This will also be our second year of having the **Educator as Artist Exhibition** at Crossroads Art Center. The opening is scheduled for Friday, May 16th.

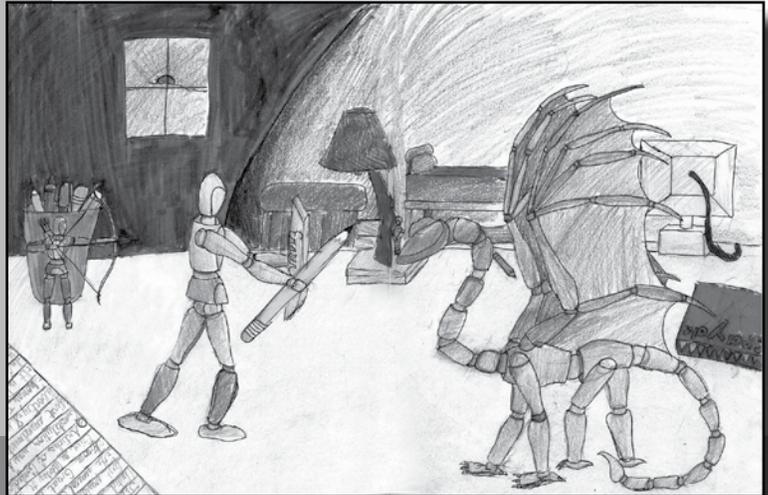
Continue to have an amazing school year of fabulous art with your students! This is your organization so please do not hesitate to contact one of the CRVAEA board members with ideas or suggestions. We love hearing from you.

Tidewater continued...

been offered a spot for a spring member art show that we can run with if the desire to participate is high. Dust off those canvases and make some art!

Don't forget about our Facebook Page: Tidewater Virginia Art Education Association. This is a great place to post photos from the conference or any school art shows or art related activities that you wish to share.

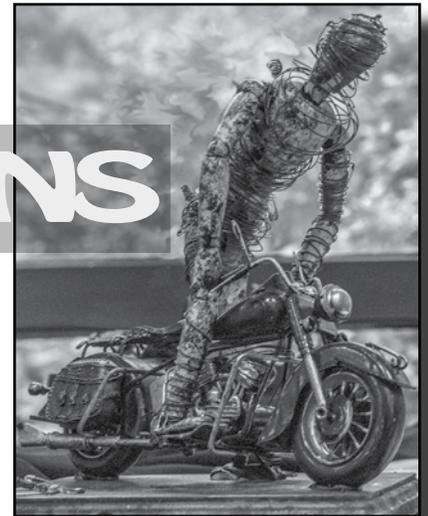
MANIKINS



*William, Gr. 6, Congressional Schools of VA.
Art Educator: Cheryl Miehle*

MANIKINS

Manikins on display in the lobby and at the Awards Breakfast were decorated by VAEA members and sold in a Silent Auction to make money to enable students to attend conferences at a reduced rate.



NAEA/VAEA Policy

Policy Update Winter 2013-14

by Barbara Laws

From the National Level...

The National Coalition for Core Arts Standards (NCCAS) writing team is continuing to work on the next generation of standards in dance, theater, music, media arts, and visual arts. A first-tier review of the grade 8 band occurred in the spring and subsequent invitations to vet PreK-grade 8 and high school standards were extended to the field. An additional public review of the PreK-12 standards and accompanying draft model cornerstone assessments will take place in January 2014. Be on the lookout for NAEA notifications of the review. For more information go to <http://NCCAS.wikispaces.com>.

The NAEA has appointed a Task Force on Leadership Development, chaired by NAEA President-Elect and VAEA past president, **Pat Franklin**. The work includes conducting a needs assessment, examining leadership development models and reviewing past NAEA leadership development efforts and making comprehensive recommendations for developing and sustaining a comprehensive leadership program.

From the State Level...

A VAEA working group comprised of Executive Board and Advisory Council members conducted a review of the VAEA policy handbook. As part of that process, the guiding principle documents for elementary, middle and high school programs were updated and will be available on the VAEA website.

During the September 2013 meeting of the Virginia Coalition for Fine Arts Education, a brochure addressing scheduling guidelines and a *Position Statement on Scheduling of Remediation and Its Impact on Fine Arts Instruction* were approved for final edits and distribution. An additional document which lists specific scheduling examples is in the works. The home site for VCFAE is on the VAEA website and accessible from our main page. These documents should be available shortly.

Be Alert...

We now know the results of the state level election – but not what impact it will have on education across the state. Last year, we saw significant changes taking place to graduation requirements as well as other significant educational initiatives and there is no reason to expect the scenario to be drastically different this year. Please be on the alert for information posted on the VAEA website, the VCFAE page and VAEA Constant Contact alerts when action is needed. Art policy wonks who are interested in tracking bills as they are introduced and progress through the legislature, www.richmondsunlight.com is a helpful site. Thank you for your efforts!



George, Warren Co. HS, Front Royal.
Art Educator: Allison Cusato

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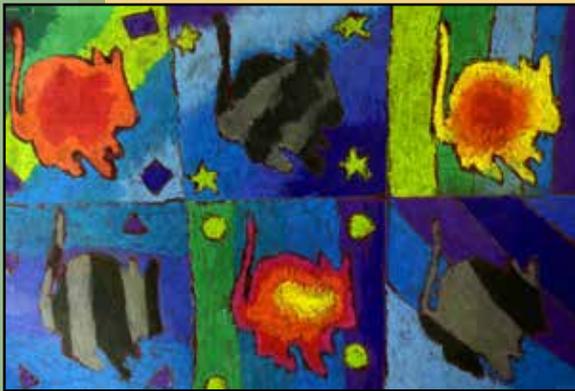
*Sam, James River HS,
Chesterfield Co. Art
Educator:
Laura Wright*



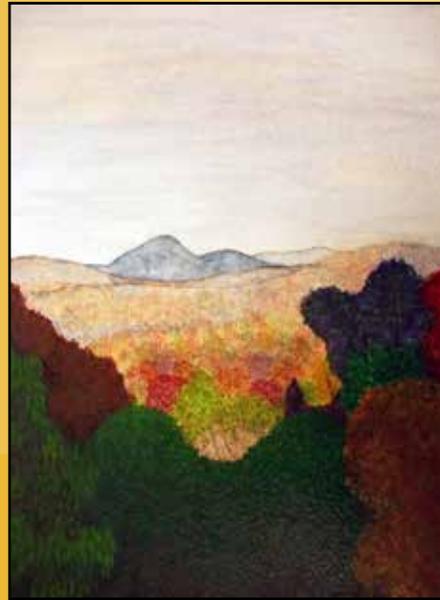
*Arun, Congressional Schools of VA.
Art Educator: Cheryl Miehl*



*Jena, James River HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Laura Wright*



*Ashley, Gr. 3, Congressional Schools of VA.
Art Educator: Sarah Philip*



*Courtney, Warren Co. HS, Front Royal.
Art Educator: Allison Cusato*



*Amanda, Warren Co. HS,
Art Educator: Allison Cusato*



*Kayla, Kecoughtan HS, Hampton.
Art Educator: Emily Marshall*



*Anika, Gr. 2,
Congressional Schools of VA.
Art Educator: Sarah Philip*



*Umamma,
James River HS,
Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Laura Wright*

Student Art Gallery



Leighton, James River HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Laura Wright.



Devon, James River HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Laura Wright

Lakeya, James Monroe ES, Norfolk.
Art Educator: Angela Winters

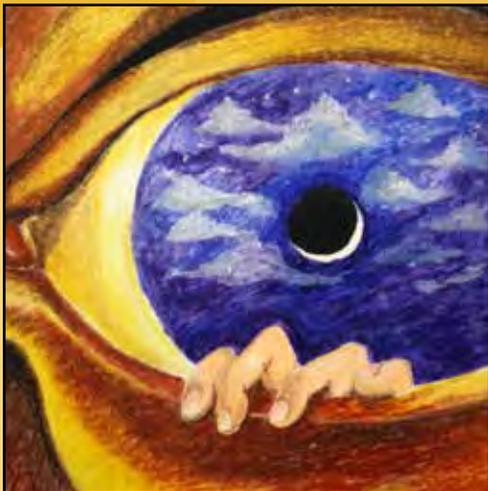


Mask from Wm. Fleming HS.
Art Educator: Melissa Humphrey



James , Gr.2, Longan ES,
Henrico Co.
Art Educator: Ruby Texler

Christopher, Gr. 3, Congressional
Schools of VA. Art Educator: Sarah Philip



Allyson, Kecoughtan HS, Hampton.
Art Educator: Emily Marshall

Ibram, Gr.8, Brookland MS.
Art Educator: Ashley Fullerton



Lois, James River HS, Chesterfield
Co. Art Educator: Laura Wright

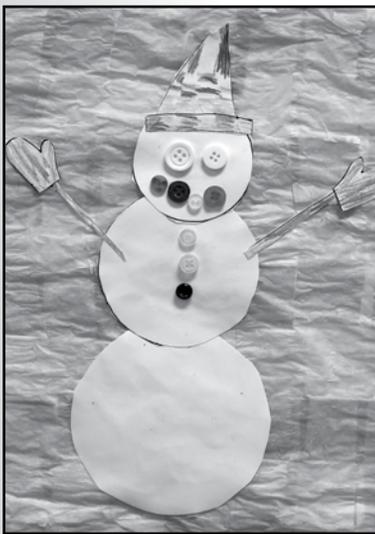
Elementary

by Angela Winters

“Our Mission is to promote, support and advance Visual Arts Education through professional development, leadership, research and service.”

Just a few reminders for the months ahead of us:

- NAEA's Elementary Division has a Pinterest Page for research!! The site will allow ready access to materials for advocacy and sharing research information.
 - http://www.pinterest.com/nancy_welkup/national-art-education-elementary-division/
- NAEA Elementary Division has several ways to connect through social media. Please sign up for these contact venues and invite other art teachers from our state to do the same.
 - <http://www.arteducators.org/news/listserv>
 - <https://www.facebook.com/NAEAElementaryDivision>
 - <http://naeaelementarydivision.ning.com/>
- Parents Advocating for the Arts—documents available under Virginia Coalition for Fine Arts Education (VCFAE) The Coalition is a collaborative group of leaders from Art, Music, Theatre and Dance education organizations as well as PTA, VCA and Virginians for the Arts who attend meetings to stay current with legislation affecting the fine and performing arts education in the commonwealth. Check it out!



Victor, Kindergarten,
Congressional Schools of VA, Falls Church.
Art Educator: Sarah Philip



Rainah , Gr.2,
Longan ES,
Henrico Co.
Art Educator:
Ruby Texler

with permission forms), Youth Art Month, Awards, NAEA Grant Link... take a few minutes to browse.

We hope to see you at the NAEA Conference March 29-31, 2014 in San Diego CA. Remember that we are all experts at something. Share your knowledge by submitting a presentation proposal for Fall VAEA Conference 2014 in Richmond!



Middle

by Brent Tharp

It was great to get a chance to spend some time with many of you at our Conference in Falls Church, VA. I would like to congratulate all our award winners from the Middle School Division and guide you guys to Patsy Parker's article to see all the names. In our Middle School meeting we discussed the issues and challenges that come with teaching and more specifically Middle School art. We do a challenging job that is growing more rigorous every moment but instead of focusing on the challenges, we guided our discussion to tools and ideas that will make things easier for us all. Programs and websites that were brought up were *pixlr.com, *paint.net (getpaint.net), *watchknowlearn.org, and the Ted talks Series: The artist is in.

*Pixlr.com is a free site that is very similar to a Photoshop lite style of program. Another option is *paint.net. You need to search for that one under getpaint.net, I'm not exactly sure why this is. This one is also a Photoshop style of program. If you would like to get a Photoshop style program for your program this may be a great place to start your research.

*Watchknowlearn.org is a source for over 2000 videos that have to do with art and then many more that deal with other subjects. In addition, the series, *Ted talks: The artist is in, received praise from individuals and is a great way to recharge and get ideas.

If budget concerns are an issue members suggested that *Donnorschoose.org may be the tool for you. It was brought up that Scholastic Art has really updated and put out a better product and is worth looking into. They have a page you can

Division News

view at [*art.scholastic.com](http://art.scholastic.com) and their feature of the 'Debate page' was given a good deal of praise as a way to really get students involved in the dialogue and discussion of art in the classroom.

I am a big fan of the google programs and use the forms as a pretest data collection tool. If writing spreadsheet codes is not your thing I recommend trying out [*flubaroo.com](http://flubaroo.com) to grade, sort, and make your life easier. I also would recommend using [*translate.google.com](http://translate.google.com) as a tool for speaking with students who are not native English speakers. You can cut, paste directions, quizzes, information, et cetera. Many of the more commonly spoken languages will have an audio button where it will read the translation aloud. There is a pull down tab that shows many languages. Although it may not be flawless, it's translation into Spanish, French, Japanese, Turkish, and so on is better than I am capable of, so play with it and see if it helps you.

If I did not get a chance to speak with you at conference I hope to do so at the next conference in Richmond and I hope that you will be able to share your great ideas and resources with us all. Thanks again to you who were able to come and share the ideas and tools that are presented here in this article. I hope this brief synopsis of our meeting reminds you of some great sources and gives you a spring board to finding your new favorite tool.



Noelle, James River HS, Chesterfield Co. Art Educator: Laura Wright

Secondary

by Sara Cubberley

One of my worries as an art educator is that my lessons will become old news. I spend a lot of time looking up current trends in both art and education for this reason. I have a few websites that I go to regularly, a few newsletters that I receive by email, and of course I stay connected to other art educators through the VAEA. One day I was on Facebook and saw a notification that said "you have been invited to the group Art Teachers," so I checked it out. It turns out to be the most exciting thing I've encountered in a while. There are art educators from all over asking questions and posting ideas and photos. The best part for me is that it automatically pops up in my news feed and I read bits and pieces of informative posts and I don't even realize I'm doing it.

After a few weeks of watching these posts and marveling over how awesome the Art Teachers group is, I started wondering what other resources people use to stay current with the art world and the classroom. So I posed a question to the Art Teachers group: "how do you stay current?"

Here are some of the responses:

- [e-flux](#) and [art agenda](#) – both are websites for information on some of the world's most important contemporary art exhibitions, publications and symposia. You can also subscribe to email newsletters and announcements.
- [Art Education 2.0 Ning Network](#) – an online professional learning community of art educators where you can participate in forums, groups, blogging, photo and video sharing.
- [Artsy](#) – a website whose mission is to make the world's art accessible to anyone with an Internet connection.
- [The New York Times Art Section](#)
[Two Coats of Paint](#) – an art blog where the creator shares reviews, commentary, news, and background information about painting and related subjects. There is also a related Vimeo channel.
- [Hyperallergic](#) – a website that delivers playful, serious, and radical perspectives on art and culture to art enthusiasts.
- [ArtsJournal](#) – a website that features links to stories culled from more than 200 English-language newspapers, magazines and publications featuring writing about arts and culture.

Secondary *continued...*

- Tumblr – a social networking site designed for users to follow other users' blogs. The person who suggested this said to follow art museums and other popular art blogs.
- The Art of Education – an online catalog of online classes for art teachers. Also has an online magazine and daily articles, tips, tricks, and videos.
- NAEA conferences (or state equivalents)

While I cannot speak to the quality of all of the resources listed above (with the exception of NAEA and VAEA conferences!), I feel confident that art educators would not lead other art educators astray. Some of the choices may fit your taste and others may not; however, websites, social media and apps seem to be ever expanding. I am sure there is something useful out there for everyone. If this list seems overwhelming, start small. Pick one website that you can check every now and then or get email notifications from. If it seems useful, try adding another to the mix—and if not, unsubscribe and find something more suited to you!



Aaron Stratten, Art Supervisor for Fairfax County Public Schools giving feedback to the lesson plan shared by Julia Kron of JMU.

David Burton, VCU Professor giving feedback to JMU student, Stephanie Carney



JMU students Leslie Polish and Sarah Florjancic meet and greet to hear of position opportunities in Newport News Public Schools from Art Supervisor and NAEA President Elect, Pat Franklin.

Higher Education

by Roger Tomhave, Guest Writer

Twenty student chapter members of the National Art Education Association from George Mason University, James Madison University, and Virginia Commonwealth University presented their lesson plans as first time participants in a state conference.



Sarah Carney, current JMU art education student teacher presents her lesson plan

The title of the conference, “Connecting Creative Communities,” was exemplified through an anomaly of the schedule. **Roger Tomhave** (JMU), **David Burton** (VCU), and **Mary Del Popolo** (GMU), joined forces to showcase students and student’s lesson plans from their respective universities.

At the same scheduled time, **Michael Gettings** and the Art Supervisors of Virginia were holding a session to describe their respective school systems and application protocols to prospective teacher candidates. Unfortunately, most of the participating teacher candidates from across Virginia art teacher preparation programs were at the lesson sharing session. While Roger and Mary managed the student presentations, David invited the Supervisors to join our session. In an impromptu reorganization, the Supervisors were given the opportunity at the lesson share session to introduce themselves and their school systems, meet in round-robin question and answer sessions with teacher candidates, and observe and comment on the lessons that the students had to share. As a result, the creative communities of university professors, their prospective teacher candidates, and school system art supervisors looking to hire these candidates were brought together in unprecedented ways in the midst of the conference. The event was seen as successful to the extent that a joint proposal between the Higher Education Division and Supervision/Administration Division will be proposed for next year’s conference deliberately joining these simultaneously occurring sessions.

Division News



*Distinguished Fellow
Kathy Schwartz
with nominator,
Renee Sandell of
George Mason
University*

*New Distinguished Fellow
Roger Tomhave*



Dr. Kathy Schwartz and Dr. Roger Tomhave were named as Distinguished Fellows of the Virginia Art Education Association.

The Higher Education Division was well represented at the conference with presentations from **Zeina Azzam**, Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University; **Melanie Buffington**, VCU; **David Burton**, VCU; **Mary Del Popolo**, GMU; **Patti Edwards**, ODU; **Rebecca Graham**, VCU; **Sandi Hammonds**, JMU; **Nancy Lampert**, VCU; **Kelly Nelson**, Longwood University; **Richard Nickel**, ODU; **Ryan Patton**, VCU; **Linda Pond**, ODU; **Renee Sandell**, GMU; **Katherine Schwartz**, JMU; and **Roger Tomhave**, JMU; who between them offered 25 presentations.



VCU Student Teachers Luke Meekin and Jill Palumbo present their lesson plans. Jill also gave a presentation on assessment and she and Luke joined with another VCU graduate student to give a presentation on VOKE.

In other Higher Education Division news:

Mary Del Popolo reports that this summer '14, the GMU MAT students will have numerous opportunities to gain valuable experience teaching in the fine arts. They will be employed as art teachers at the Lorton Workhouse Art Center's Visual Arts Explorers Camp, as well as at the GMU School of Art's newly instituted SoA Youth Summer Art Program. Our 2nd year in-service students will teach original lessons for students ages 6-16 with 1st year students as teaching assistants.

Kelly Nelson's Longwood University art ed. students are wrapping up teaching literature-based units for Buckingham Preschool students. They also finished working with the Longwood Center of the Visual Arts on a professional teacher workshop involving clay that included writing lesson plans, helping prepare for the workshop and attending the workshop.

Christopher Newport University's Fine Art and Art History Department opened the "Fiber of Life" exhibit at the Falk Gallery in the Ferguson Center for the Arts on Saturday, November 9, 2013. The exhibit featured the fiber work of Adjunct Instructor, **Maggie Bowen**, and a selection of artwork

by recent graduates of the MAT program who are currently teaching in public schools in Virginia and West Virginia. The opening was well attended on Homecoming Weekend and each graduate was given the opportunity to speak about their teaching position and give a tribute to their mentor, Prof. Bowen.

Richard Nickel of Old Dominion University reports that they will be starting a Summer Teaching Institute this coming summer. They will be meeting with the local Supervisor/Administration Division representatives to see what will work for them and get their advice. Stay tuned to the ODU website for more information.

Special Thanks to **Dr. Pam Taylor** for her nomination of me as a Distinguished Fellow of the VAEA. I am also glad to be coming back on the Board!



*Quilt by Maggie Bowen in CNU's
"Fiber of Life" exhibit.*

Division News

Supervision & Administration

by Michael Gettings

Excerpt from a talk I gave to a group of students being inducted into the NAHS about what it means to be an artist.

“...I decided to talk a bit more about what it means to be an artist. The reality of being an artist is this: You must be prepared to work hard, very hard at your craft, skills and ideas. You must be prepared – at least initially – to sacrifice a lot of material gain. You must treat it like a job and work every day at it.

My favorite scene out of the movie Pollack was the montage that showed him waking up early, putting on his paint stained work shoes, grabbing his coffee, while Lee Krasner helps him into his coat. He then goes out to the cold studio and works on his craft.

Eventually he finds his voice and the rest is of course, history. It’s hard work and you will face obstacles every inch of the way.

That leads to an essential question – If it’s so much work, why create art in the first place?

First answer – because it feels good. The very act of creating something makes us feel good inside. Art can give us worth. By creating we help to give meaning to our world.

As artists, we feel we have something to say to the world – Art is our vehicle to express our ideas and vision. In doing so, it somehow transforms us and can be rewarding socially, emotionally and spiritually.

Second answer – Art adds something to our environment. The arts can take a drab place and make it alive with beauty, meaning and ideas. That’s why I love to see art up in schools. Schools are mostly industrial style buildings. Art transforms the hallways adding life, meaning and relevance for the students.

Third answer – Art is a form of entertainment. An art audience is engaged, reflective, wondering, thinking, making new connections to the art, ideas, artist and world. This engagement and entertainment value transforms the viewer by the very nature of the interactive quality.

Finally, our nation is based on an educated populace. The arts are an essential part of that education, teaching us new ways to see, express, create and experience the world. They make us literate in verbal, visual, and sensory expression; making us not just producers but better consumers of the barrage of images we see every day. The arts can give us the ability to reflect, self-assess, refine and present like no other subject. As an artist you are open to the honest critiquing of your work and ideas by others.

I also believe the arts are an integral part of our national cultural heritage. The arts are our historical legacy.

Each of you is embarking on a glorious journey. In being inducted into the NAHS, you have shown a commitment to excellence in the arts. You are the creators of our nation’s cultural legacy. As agents of change you have the ability to transform the world into a better and more beautiful place.”

Wild and woolly!

Upcycled "Wild Thing" Mittens

Maurice Sendak's "Where the Wild Things Are" inspires students to pour their "wild side" emotions into making a pair of creative costume mittens. The project also encourages "upcycling" by showing them how to turn clothing they no longer wear into something fun and fanciful!

www.dickblick.com/lesson-plans/upcycled-wild-thing-mittens

COMING SOON!

FREE lesson plans & videos!

BLICK

800-447-8192 DickBlick.com

Affiliates



There's plenty to see and do at museums and galleries near you – here are few to get you started:

Powerful Objects: Renee Stout and Odinga Tyehimba
Greater Reston Art Center (Reston, VA)

From Picasso to Magritte: European Masters from the
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
Taubman Museum of Art (Roanoke, VA)

Vik Muniz: Poetics of Perception
Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art
(Virginia Beach, VA)

Signs of Protest: Photographs from the Civil Rights Era
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (Richmond, VA)

Museum Education

by Jennifer Schero

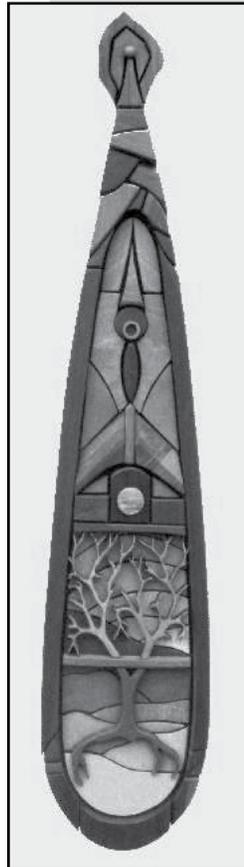
One of two highlights of my VAEA year was meeting with all of the museum representatives at the conference. The group was made up of museum professionals from western Virginia, Northern Virginia, and the Hampton Roads area. Topics ranged from exciting happenings across Virginia, to building summer programs for teachers. It is on this high note that I will take my leave, moving to a new role within VAEA. Shifting into the Treasurer position, I am proudly passing the torch to a new Museum Division advisory board member, **Hillary Hardison** of the **Taubman Museum of Art**. I look forward to the next steps for the museum division, while also anticipating the opportunity to continue supporting the connection between museums and classrooms.

The second highpoint was co-presenting with **Rebecca Davidson** of the **Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art**. Titled *Cool and Contemporary*, the session was an excellent opportunity (if I do say so...) to explore the work of artists creating today. After viewing examples of their work, participants were grouped and given "mystery boxes" themed around each of the artists. A physical open-ended question, the boxes allowed groups to explore, create, and reflect independently or together. The session ended by viewing the various approaches and outcomes of the activity. With art and plenty of free classroom resources in hand, it was smiles all the way around! Thank you to all those who helped to create a professional, dynamic, and fun conference this year – I look forward to the next.

As always, be on the lookout for professional development programs hosted by museums and galleries in your area. Bookmark, follow, or friend your local cultural institutions, and sign up for any email or mail updates.

Retired Art Educators

by Linda Hollett



"Heavenly Reach,"
wood carving by
Gary DiVecchia

It seems that you cannot separate the art from the art teacher. No matter how long we are away from it, we're never far away from it—the teaching or the art.

Gary DiVecchia is enjoying his 23 years of retirement from Prince William County Schools. He is still creating wood collage sculpture and selling from his web page gallery, www.divecchiasgallery.com. In addition to his art he has written four family books. His most recent book, *My Brother Fred and Me*, recalls the hilarious childhood pranks they created while growing up in an apartment above a grocery store. He is now writing the final chapter for his next book, *The Golden Years of Retirement, Fact or Fiction*.

In addition to his art and writing, he and his wife continue to spend the winters in Sarasota, Florida, and much of the summer camping and boating on Lake Anna. His most recent boating guests this summer were retirees **Gail and Baylor Nichols** and **Flavius Hall**. When he is not

continued next page...

Retired Art Educators *continued...*

creating art, writing, and boating, Gary manages to play racquetball two or three mornings a week with friends while at home and in Florida.

Kathy Barclay recently enjoyed two trips: North Myrtle Beach and Florida. Seeing the ocean, breathing the sea air and walking in warm sand was a wonderful retreat. In St. Petersburg, she visited the new Dali Museum, saw the permanent Chilhuly Collection and visited the Hot Shop for a glass blowing demonstration, as well as viewing and purchasing art work by many Florida artisans at several shops.



Felted Sketchbook cover begun in conference workshop by Kathy Barclay

She participated in several outdoor craft venues, including the Rassawek Spring Heritage Festival (organized by **Nancy Cozart**) and the ACCA Shriner Temple's "Red, White, and Brew" Celebration in fall, sharing a tent with **Maripat Hyatt**. Kathy took her silk creations to the Artisan's Gallery at the VAEA Conference, and now has them in her space at the Crossroads Art Center in Richmond.

She writes, "For the first 'handicap free' summer in years, I enjoyed spending many hours in my yard, undoing the ravages of several years of neglect. I am thoroughly enjoying spending time with my granddaughter while anxiously awaiting a new grandson due in February." Kathy continues to work with student teachers from VCU and JMU, and will again teach in Henrico County's *After School Winter Workshops*. In addition to everything else, she is into her 14th year as editor of this VAEA News Magazine.

Dennis Winston is having lots of shows— LOTS of shows. In the past few months he has had work in the small work show at Gallery Flux, Ashland and small works invitational at ARTSPACE (ThinkSmall 7). He was in an art show at Delta Gallery in Winston-Salem, showed with the One Off Printmakers show in Lynchburg, was guest speaker for the Tuckahoe Artist Association, and participated in the Childsavers Fundraiser in Richmond. Dennis had a show at Hampton University with NCAHBCU group, and had two pieces selected to be published in Kendall Hunt publications. He will have a show of his work in January-February at Stewart Gallery in Richmond.

Currently, Dennis is acting chair of Chester Regional Local Human Rights Group.

Lin Ferrell is in keeping busy, as usual. She continues to teach a course in the School of the Arts at VCU, and supervises VCU art student teachers. In March she will present a workshop at the NAEA conference.

One evening a week she is helping a friend with her retail business.

Lin continues to make art. She still finds time to go to all her nephew's football games at the University of Richmond (linebacker Seth Fisher), and spends a lot of time with her family.

Lin is looking forward to having opportunities to travel with art educators and retirees.

"It seems like retirement is busier than I expected, but less stress. It's all good!"

As for myself, **Linda Hollett**, I have painted more and worked in art education less. In September I traveled to Monastir, Tunisia, as part of a group of about 100 artists from around the world. I was the only artist from the USA (there was one other American woman, but she was not an artist). We visited many of the local sites, camped in the desert, and painted our experiences. We each left two paintings behind, to become part of the future International Museum of Modern Art in Monastir. We travelled, we ate, we sweated, we painted, and we learned to communicate when no spoken language was shared. I found that we all share the same problems, concerns, and goals as artists. Before and after that 12-day trip, I stayed in Rome (Italy), to relax and decompress. In both cities I was able to do some plein air painting, but not as much as I expected. Details of my trip can be seen on my website: www.lindahollett.net. This trip is expressed in paintings in several area galleries.

Another major accomplishment (a silly description, but very accurate) was to start using Facebook. This may not seem like a big deal, but it became my main source of communication while traveling. Even with wi-fi, I often had problems with receiving and sending email, but I ALWAYS had Facebook. Towards the end of my trip, I realized that Facebook would have enabled me to get help if I had needed it during my trip, and this was very important, because I was traveling alone for almost 3 weeks.



Recent work by Linda Hollett shown at the Glave Kocen Gallery

Since returning to Richmond, I have spoken to groups about what it means to be a woman traveling alone overseas, especially as an artist.

I still have not left art education behind. I have been working with the Henrico County Art Department to develop a description/timeline of the how the art program in Henrico has developed over the years. It has been exciting, and a bit nostalgic. There will be more about this in the next newsletter.

Affiliates

Research & Curriculum

by Pamela G. Taylor

Do your art students work in a sketchbook and/or journal? Are they involved in critique, discussion, exhibition, and studying works of art? Are your students ever engaged in the exploration of materials, construction, meaning, experimenting with perspective devices, or proportion, nature and gesture studies?

I would venture to say that you are similarly and delightfully caught up in these activities and more, both as an artist and an educator. In essence, you and your students are actively engaged in research. **You are researchers.**

Labeling art teachers as researchers is certainly nothing new, but recognizing and indeed naming *our students* as such can be very empowering. Some art teachers involve their students in frequent and perhaps more typical and identifiable research activities than those listed at the beginning of this column. Students may be challenged to explore additional works of art by an artist they are studying in class. Linking the topic and idea of an art unit with other classes they are taking could be a journal entry or a critique prompt. Students may interview someone outside of the class about a specific topic, idea or work of art and bring that information into the class discussion. Perhaps too, students may complete a provenance of a class collaborative piece that includes artist histories as well as the particular time and place of the work's creation and ownership. Student written or oral reports could include associations among theories of art, criticism, current world, local and school events. Obviously a trip to the library would involve research, but what about an exploration of the art room trash bin?

Why is this important? Research is a crucial part of our lives as human beings. Research provides information so that problems can be noted, considered and hopefully solved. Research affects everything we do from what we buy at the grocery to the air we breathe and indeed, the art we value and make. What other types of research practice go on in your art classes? Do you think research should be an important part of what you and your students do? Are you interested in learning more about using research in your teaching? I would be very interested to hear and to share your research ideas with educators across Virginia, as we cultivate a culture of research and in our everyday school art practices. Please share your ideas by emailing me at pgtaylor@vcu.edu.



Heather, Monticello HS,
Charlottesville.
Art Educator:
Helen Lockwood

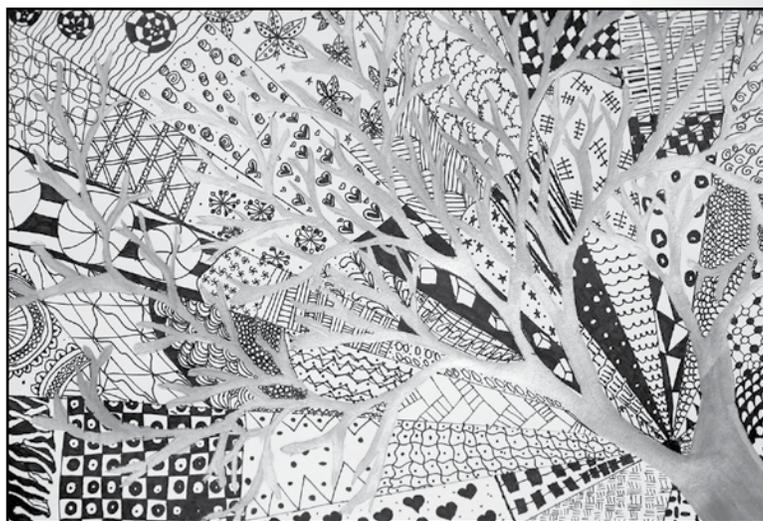
Advocacy

by Jean-Marie Galing

At the recent VAEA Annual Fall Professional Development Conference, many presenters shared wonderful ways that they advocate for art education.

- **Exhibits and festivals** connect schools with the community and show the value of what is learned in art.
- **Art blogs** were presented as another tool to advocate for your program with family members, administrators, colleagues, and the community.
- **Vertical articulation and cross-curricular collaboration** strengthen relationships and show how strong art programs span K-12 and connect to other disciplines in meaningful ways.
- Even the **Teacher Assessment Portfolio process** was presented as a way to advocate for your professionalism, knowledge, instructional competency and leadership to administrators.

continued next page...



Megna, Gr. 4, Congressional Schools of VA. Art Educator: Sarah Philip

Another way to build or sustain art programs is to **advocate directly to students** at the middle and high school levels. Considering all the high school graduation requirements that impact a student's schedule, we need to show them (and their parents) why electing to take art is worth considering, even if they do not envision a career in art. Our district is rolling out a "Student Learning Plan" to help students in grades 7 - 12 explore interests, strengths, careers and college opportunities early on, so they can take courses and build a resume of activities that will help them reach their goals.

With that in mind, my colleague **Carol Trost** wrote a career investigation lesson to assist secondary art teachers in advocating for art classes by linking skills learned in art to skills needed for success in various careers.

Teachers guide collaborative student groups through a thinking skills reflection, which prompts students to identify the types of thinking skills required for idea development, planning, art production, and post-production (critique, evaluation via rubric, artist statement, etc.). Then students explore a list of career skills to identify ones that connect with the art thinking skills. Students reflect on these skills and how they benefit them in other parts of their lives.

Next, students do online research about preferred career clusters. As students focus on a particular cluster, they are challenged to sketch and write ideas that represent skills needed for career choices. Students are prompted to set a personal goal through the following questions: "What skills would you like to improve on that will help prepare you for a future career? How can you address this in the art classroom?"

The final challenge, of course, is to create art based on their findings. Students collaborate to create a persuasive artwork about the thinking skills in art that connect to and prepare someone for a future career. These artworks can later be displayed in the school to advocate for the power of art to prepare students for life after high school. When you think about it, at the secondary school level, student and parent influence should not be underestimated. If larger groups of kids want to sign up for studio art, photography, digital art, ceramics, etc., that can translate into more art positions at a school.

Two helpful websites for exploring career clusters are Career Zone Pennsylvania at <http://www.pacareerzone.org/> and Virginia Education Wizard at <https://www.vawizard.org/vccs/Main.action>. If you would like a copy of Carol's career investigation lesson, email me at jmgaling@fcps.edu.

It has been a privilege and pleasure to serve as VAEA Advocacy Chair for the past four years. Although my tenure in this capacity has come to an end, I will continue to advocate for strong art education in Virginia, and look forward to ongoing involvement with a great organization!



*Yao, Monticello HS, Charlottesville.
Art Educator: Helen Lockwood*



*Erin, Monticello HS, Charlottesville.
Art Educator: Helen Lockwood*



Sandee Darden of Suffolk City and Mike Gettings of Chesterfield Co. accepted awards for their YAM Books.



Marisa Pappas, Tisha Bailey Burke, and Jess Beach from Fauquier Co. accepted Grand Award for their YAM Book.



Please feel free to contact her with any questions using the board contacts page on the VAEA site. I know she is very excited to serve and will be an important asset to our new board!

Thank you and see you soon!

by Jimi Herd

Youth Art Month is fast approaching.....

This past November during our Fall Conference, three counties were recognized as State winners in our Youth Art Month Book Contest. Our Grand Award winner this year was **Fauquier County**. Our Award of Excellence went to **Chesterfield County** and our Award of Merit went to **Suffolk City**. Congratulations to our winners and all who summited a book this year as our combined efforts earned Virginia the **2013 National Award of Excellence!** Your support in providing quality programs and advocating for the arts to local and state lawmakers makes Virginia stand out as one of the best places for art education in our country!

I'd like to say that it has truly been an honor to serve on the board and support Youth Art Month. As I leave our board for other endeavors I look forward to continuing to support our organization in other ways. Our new Youth Art Month Committee Chair will be **Jessica Beach** from the Blue Ridge Region. Jessica comes to you after leading many successful Youth Art Month campaigns in Fauquier County, recently earning her Statewide recognition.



*Andrew, Monticello HS, Charlottesville.
Art Educator: Helen Lockwood*



*Yao, Monticello HS, Charlottesville.
Art Educator: Helen Lockwood*



Snapshots: Conference Workshops



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

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Executive Secretary: Peggy Wood



Send photos & student art to: newsletter@vaea.org
Newsletter Editor: Kathy Barclay



Send address changes to: membership@vaea.org
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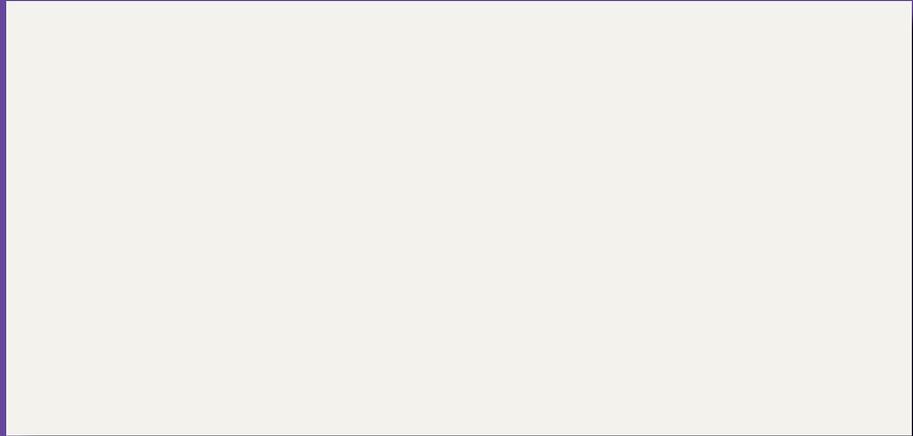
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