

vaea

Virginia **art** Education Association

WINTER  
2018

REFLECTION



*Mi'Destiny, Gr. 12, Hermitage HS, Henrico Co. Art Educator: Allison Boyd*

## Calendar of Events

### 2018

February 3 BRVAEA - Art Show Opening  
\*See pg.10 for dates and locations of this traveling show and other Blue Ridge Region events

March SWVAEA YAM Art Show  
Jefferson Center

March 2 Art Across Virginia Day

March 22-24 NAEA - Seattle, Washington

Oct. 25-27 VAEA Conference  
Midlothian - Central Region

### 2019

March 14-16 NAEA - Boston, Massachusetts

### 2020

March 26-28 NAEA - Minneapolis, Minnesota

### 2021

March 4-6 NAEA - Chicago, Illinois

### 2022

March 3-6 NAEA - New York, New York

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## The VAEA News Magazine

is a publication of the Virginia Art Education Association, and is distributed to members three 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

is welcome and may be submitted directly to Kathy Barclay, News Magazine Editor, at: kbarclayart@yahoo.com

## Vendors

wishing to advertise should contact Peggy Wood, Executive Secretary, at 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 September publication

## Mission Statement:

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



Leonie, Gr. 12, Hermitage HS, Henrico Co. Art Educator: Allison Boyd

# President's Message

Linda Conti



The theme for this winter VAEA newsmagazine is "Reflection", and I am looking forward to reading about this subject from many different points of view. For me it is a relevant topic as I look back on my first term as President and prepare for my final two years. Hopefully this has been a period of growth for our members. There has been a great increase in participation in advocacy for our profession.



Dr. David Burton's workshop was fun and challenging!

The recent conference in Northern Virginia showed what the power of many good people working together can accomplish. There were so many times that we had extra helping hands for events, sharing projectors, and cleaning up. Cheryl Miehle and the conference committee worked diligently with VP Sarah Warner to make an excellent event for us. It was really rewarding to work with all of you!

Keynote speaker Kate McClanahan explained how Americans for the Arts is working for us in Washington, DC, but she also called on us to speak up to legislators at the local, state, and national level to express our support for arts funding. Our voices lend the proof that we want to see that art education is available for all the students in Virginia, and taught with quality. In support of this call to advocacy, we are excited to launch our first "ART ACROSS VIRGINIA DAY," on March 2<sup>nd</sup> of 2018. On this day, we will document the art we are creating with our students and share it through social media. This snapshot of a single day of art education in Virginia will illustrate the enormous range of what we do every day throughout the year. Hopefully all levels will participate: elementary, middle, secondary, higher education, research, supervision, and museums.

Finally, I'd like to reflect on how VAEA makes connections between us. Conference was a time to see longtime friends in art, but also to make new ones from different regions. I was fortunate to re-meet an old friend from my very first VAEA conference! Talking together about how we teach (and why we teach) reminded me why we became friends in the first place. Thank you, Robert Oppeker, for making me feel welcome so long ago when I was a conference rookie.



Policy guru, Barbara Laws (right) was the lucky winner of Peggy Wood's beautifully hand altered book at the silent auction.

Conference is a time to feel inspired, but also to inspire others. It is such a joy to celebrate our colleagues' awards for their service in the profession. We can do better about keeping those contacts throughout the year. If we rely on each other, perhaps we will not feel that we are working in isolation. VAEA will be setting up some new ways for teachers to reach out when you need

help. We hope to have our retired educators serve as a resource for new teachers, but also for long-time teachers who may need some support. VAEA is an amazing organization, filled with qualified, thoughtful educators who know how to teach and support each other. VAEA truly makes connections.

*Conference is a time to feel inspired, but also to inspire others.*

# Fall Conference

**Sarah Warner**  
VAEA Vice-President

Did your "Imagination Take Flight" attending our annual VAEA Conference this past November in Reston? I know mine sure did! Reflecting back on my time at our conference, I am thinking about the inspiring presentations, the organized events, and listening to our keynote speaker. From the conference, I was able to bring back ideas to implement with my students and become more informed on areas which directly impact my classroom.

I am reflecting on how grateful I am to live in a state where art education is so valued. Professional development reimbursement and leave are very tight these days. I know many of our attendees must pay their own ways to attend, and due to travel, accommodations, and the cost to put on a conference, it is not cheap. The commitment of our members to attend, present, and volunteer at our conference is heartwarming. We are a community that believes in art education for the betterment of our students, and it shows by the commitment to attend the best art education professional development in our state, the VAEA conference.

I am also reflecting on the dedication of the Northern Virginia region under the leadership of NVAEA President, **Cheryl Miehle**. What an excellent job the NVAEA did to help make the conference a success. From altered books, table decorations, an electronic gallery, a Creativity Carnival (was that fun or what?), to photographing the event, the NVAEA conference committee was there to make it happen.

Special thanks also go to our President, **Linda Conti**, and to our Executive Secretary, **Peggy Wood**, without whom I could not chair our conference. Their guidance and expertise are invaluable. I also want to thank our onsite registration committee, which consisted this year of **Meghan Hamm, Tiffany Floyd, Naomi Swyers, and Beth Allums**.

Please know that we value your input. From the answered survey questions, we compile data to ensure that we are addressing your thoughts and concerns. Our conference is developed by members for our members, and we want to make sure we continue to offer the best possible conference for everyone.

Planning has already begun for our 2018 conference in Central Region! Please save the dates for October 25-27, 2018 in Midlothian, Virginia. We look forward to working with Central Virginia's regional President, **Meghan Hamm** and her local regional conference committee.



*Tiffany Floyd, Tina Bland, Meghan Hamm, and Naomi Swyers held down the fort at the Registration Table.*



*Enjoying the Brush Painting workshop*



*You never know WHO Michael Gettings will be next! "Bob Ross" with David Taylor of Davis Publications.*

## Fall Conference 2018

October 25-27, 2018

Doubletree by Hilton

...in Midlothian, Central Region

Mark your calendars...It's never too early to start making plans!



*President Linda Conti with Sarah and her family*

# Awards

## Presenting... Sarah Matthews Our 2018 Virginia Art Educator Award Winner

**Naomi Swyers, Awards Chair**

I have known Sarah Matthews for many years and can't say enough about the enthusiasm and passion she brings to teaching. Sarah has been a member of the NAEA since 1987. The Awards she has received over the years are numerous. In 1993 Sarah received the Golden Apple Award for Teaching Excellence from WRIC Channel 8, and in 1993 and 1996 was teacher of the year at J.A. Chalkley Elementary School, Chesterfield County. Sarah was again awarded Teacher of the Year in 1999 and 2017 at J. B. Watkins Elementary School, Chesterfield County. In 2001 Sarah Matthews was the Central Virginia Elementary Art Educator of the Year and the VAEA Elementary Art Educator of the Year.

On a National level she was a participant in "The Box Project: Teachers as Artists" in 2004, and in 2011 she was a member for the Design Team "I Can Think Like an Artist," A Visual Arts Self-Assessment Model for Elementary Students. As a VAEA member Sarah has been a VAEA Conference Vendor Hostess, presenter of twenty-five different workshops, chair of the Friday night event in 2000 and 2001, as well as Chair of the Saturday Awards Breakfast. From 2012 - 2014 Sarah served on the VAEA Board as Elementary Division Chairperson.

Sarah has been a mentor for 10 new teachers in the "Teachers Need Teachers" program in Chesterfield County, in addition to working with 20 elementary practicum students and supervising 23 student teachers.

Sarah promotes her students' artwork throughout Chesterfield County, and at the Virginia State Fair, the Central VA Youth Art Month Exhibit, the VCU Metro Art Exhibit, local businesses, churches, and restaurants, just to name a few. Her Artsonia page contains more than 9,000 pieces of artwork and has more than 1,800 fans.

In addition, she is also an accomplished artist. She has produced large scale painted murals in public and private schools, restaurants, hospitals, businesses and in over 100 private residences in Virginia, North Carolina and Florida. She also

illustrated the book 'Reflections of a Purple Zebra', by Nancy Beasley.

With all that in mind most of you know her as the teacher that presents amazing lesson ideas for the Elementary Classroom along with her colleagues. Her workshops are hard to get into but she is always willing to share all her information at any moment. You can see her stopped in the halls of the conference venue individually sharing amazing ideas, lugging with her many supplies and giving out an aura of energy. At the evening functions you can see her dressed for the occasions in one unique outfit after another.

### Excerpts from 2017 Winner Ginna Cullen's Presentation Speech

"Sarah exemplifies the best of what we, as art educators, aspire to become. She is an exceptional leader, teacher, colleague, and mentor. I could spend the rest of the morning listing all of Sarah Matthews' accomplishments that have led her to this point in her career, but instead, I would like to share the following remarks:

Lauren Kern, a colleague whose daughters were students in Sarah's class, says that "students who are taught by Mrs. Matthews learn to challenge themselves, take risks and try again, building confidence and grit, eager to discover with each passing week." "Mrs. Matthews has an impactful influence on her school, her community, her colleagues and most importantly her students."

Jimi Herd, one of her former student teachers, says, "I personally credit Mrs. Matthews with my decision to enter elementary art education." Jimmy was the VAEA 2013 Elementary Art Educator of the Year.

And, Steve Kokorelis, one of Sarah's former elementary art students, who is currently a dental student, just recently wrote "I remember the pure joy and excitement I had in your classroom and the time I spent learning there. Ms. Matthews, I want to thank you for inspiring me and guiding me down a path of passion and love for art."

**Thank you Sarah Matthews for your hard work, professionalism, and obvious love of teaching those we come to serve.**

*Ginna Cullen, Sarah Matthews, and Linda Conti*





**Honorees at the Award Nominees Reception:** *Back Row - Kathy Schwartz, Bill Wightman, Sharon Russell, Melissa Mandak, Eric Manwiller, Sean Murphy, Christena Smith.*  
*Front Row: Sarah Matthews, Melissa Combs, Marissa Pappas, Cindy Redmon, Alyssa Tice, Robin Goble*

## The VAEA 2017 Awards

### Naomi Swyers, Award Chair

On November 4<sup>th</sup> at the VAEA Awards Breakfast in Reston, Virginia, we recognized the following VAEA 2016 State Award recipients that have been put forward to represent Virginia at the NAEA Southeastern Region Award Adjudication.

### The Southeastern Candidates are:

**Rachel Burgett** from Central Region, Elementary  
**Kirstie Hein Sadler** from Central Region, Middle School  
**Cindy Redman** from Blue Ridge Region, Secondary  
**Ginna Cullen** from Central Region, VAEA Art Teacher of the Year

Also recognized were the VAEA 2015 State Award recipients that have been put forward to represent Virginia in the NAEA National Award Adjudication.

### The National Candidates are:

**Marisa Pappas** from Blue Ridge Region, Middle School  
**Pamela Lawton** from Central Region, Higher Education  
**Katherine Schwartz** from Blue Ridge Region, VAEA Art Teacher of the Year

The VAEA has an award rubric upon which all candidates are scored. Each region submitted candidate's to be adjudicated. I would like to thank my hard working adjudicators for completing the process of reading and scoring all the packets sent in from the nominees.

### This year's Secondary State Adjudicators:

**Helena Agnew**, Secondary Division Chair from Central Region  
**Cindy Redman** from Blue Ridge Region  
**Susan Hubble** from Southwest Region

### This year's Elementary State Adjudicators:

**Tiffany Floyd**, Elementary Division Chair from Central Region  
**Jessica Beach** from Blue Ridge Region  
**Jean Marie Galing** from Northern Region

I would like to explain the award process, since you will be filling out a vita for YOUR nomination one day. Elementary, Middle and Secondary Awards are first vetted in their regions - Central, Blue Ridge, Southwest, Northern and Tidewater Region. Regional nominees are adjudicated by the Regional Presidents; I would like to thank them for their hard work vetting the candidates. The winners of each of the regional divisions are then sent forward for state adjudication.

Each candidate was scored utilizing a rubric that focused on a variety of areas. The areas included National and Southeastern Activities, VAEA Activities, Contributions to the Field of Art Education, Related Art Teaching Experiences, Contributions to the Art Community and Contributions to other Associations and Organizations.

## VAEA Art Educator of the Year Awards

### Elementary Division

### Regional Winners:

**Eric Manwiller** from Central Region  
**Melissa Combs** from Blue Ridge Region  
**Sean Murphy** from Northern VA Region.



*Sean Murphy, with Elementary Division Chair, Tiffany Floyd*

### State Winner: Sean Murphy

Sean is an engaging instructor as well as a skilled artist. He is a leader at his school, chairing committees and writing curriculum. Sean has developed and presented numerous times at both the National and State Art Education Association Conferences. He works closely with the National Gallery of Art developing programs and teaching. He is a leader in his profession and willingly shares his knowledge with his colleagues and students.



We are taking a moment to recognize Elementary Art Educator, **Robin Goble** from the Blue Ridge Region for her passion and dedication to her Special Needs Students and recognize **Sharon Russell** from Central Region for her tenacity in teaching Middle School Art.

### Secondary Division

### Regional Winners:

**Susan Silva** from Northern Region  
**Christena Smith** from Blue Ridge Region  
**Luke Meeken** from Central Region

### State Winner: Susan Silva



*Susan Silva and family.*

Susan's commitment, energy and professionalism as a teacher, mentor and colleague are incredible. She has National Board Certification along with a Masters of Education. In addition to being involved with the Virginia State Art Association she was NAEA President-Elect for the State of Nevada (2000). Susan is a Curriculum Fellow for a collaborative project between Harvard's Project Zero and the Professional Development Collaborative at Washington International School as well as an Emerging Visions Liaison with the Greater Reston Arts Center. Her personal art work is exhibited as well as the work of her students. She is constantly sharing her knowledge through webinars, publications and as a workshop presenter to both teachers and students. She has presented at both State Art Association and National Art Association conferences, here and in Nevada, numerous times. As a teacher she mentors others, works on curriculum and shares her passion with all that know her.

**Distinguished Service within the Profession: Bill Wightman** (See photo on page 18) Bill has had 30 years of Art Education experience and is currently a Professor of Art Education at James Madison University. He has had numerous leadership roles on the State and National Levels, has been an author in the field of Art Education, served on many committees and presented countless workshops at both State and National Conferences. Bill's research is on a variety of topics including conceptual art. He provokes thought in his presentations and class sessions engaging students through his unique teaching style. He has received the Distinguished Service Award from the College of Visual and Performing Arts at James Madison University and the VAEA Higher Education Art Educator of the Year Award in 2007.

### Virginia Art Educator of the Year: Sarah L. Matthews

The Virginia Art Educator of the Year is the only commendation that is generated from and voted on by the VAEA Elected Officers and Advisory Board. It acknowledges an exceptional history in VAEA and in Art Education. (Please see the individual article on Sarah, page 5)

The NAEA has many more Award Categories. Please go to the NAEA website [arteducators.org](http://arteducators.org) and download the Awards booklet – you may be surprised at the variety of Awards that are listed and which ones you may qualify for as a candidate. This guide provides information concerning the required paperwork and adjudication rubrics that will assist you in remembering all the efforts and events in your career that you need to list in your vita.

I would like to thank **Patsy Parker** who hood-winked me into this position, although I have to say it has been an honor to read all the amazing accomplishments of each candidate. I am so proud to be in this profession and see the amount of passion that is put into our work.

Now it is time for your homework assignment. Go to [vaea.org](http://vaea.org) and print the NAEA vita and awards rubric as a worksheet and get your VITA started.

As a professional art educator you really need to keep good records of all your accomplishments. You may just need it when you are nominated next year. We need to be ready to shout what we do from the roof tops. Budgets are getting tighter and tighter and we need our administration to know what we do, why we do it and the changes we can bring about in academic achievement, social and emotional development, and community or civic engagement. Just think when you get nominated...and you will.....the nomination process will be easy as pie.

## Art Advocacy Reflections

Lee Darter

When I became the art advocacy chair two years ago, I never imagined how much I would learn about the subject or about myself. My first thought was that I did not feel like I knew all that much about art advocacy. I always assumed that others more powerful and much more educated, handled all the art advocacy issues. Then I figured if I did not feel I knew very much about art advocacy, there might be many others out there feeling the same way. As I reflected on the subject, I realized that everything I was already doing in my classroom was, in fact, art advocacy. All art teachers are advocating for art, whether you realize it or not. From the enthusiasm we bring to the subject, to the artwork we hang in the halls, to the art shows we put together, to the parents with which we communicate, and the board meetings we attend... we are all being art advocates. We instill the love of art into every child we teach every day, with the hope and expectation that they will take that love with them as they continue through school and to their future careers.

At our recent VAEA 2017 conference, we were honored to have **Kate McClanahan** from Americans for the Arts as our keynote speaker. Kate asked us, "What can we do?" When it comes to art advocacy... what can each of us do to raise awareness? You may think that you are just one person and that you alone cannot change anything. However, what you do each and every day in your classrooms makes a powerful difference. Each of

**What you do each and every day in your classrooms makes a powerful difference.**

you are changing the lives of your students. If we all take just a moment to share our love of art with another person, we are making a difference. If you take two moments to share art with your students' parents, administrators, and board members, you are making a difference. Now think... if you take just three more moments to share what you are doing in your classroom with policymakers and legislators in your area, you will begin to make an enormous difference. Take the time to talk with, write, send student work to and simply engage with the people who are making decisions in our government about art education. What a powerful impact each of you can have on art advocacy. Now imagine if we all took just a few moments to reach out. Your voice alone could be the one that reaches someone today. A group of voices talking about art advocacy can change the way lawmakers see what we as artists and educators already know.

## Art Education creates Innovative Thinkers

Art is a valuable and important subject. There are many careers in art, and most importantly, art education creates innovative thinkers. Remind your policymakers we need innovative thinkers for future careers. Do not sit and wait for someone to do your art advocacy work for you. You have a very powerful voice all on your own; use it.



### ART ACROSS VIRGINIA DAY

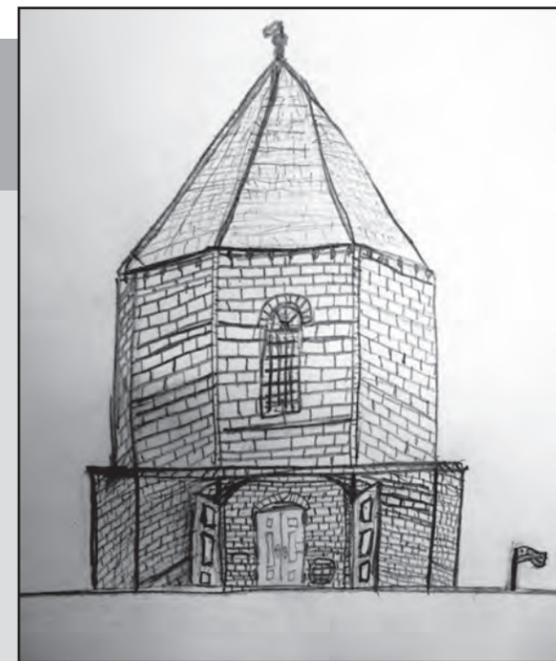
Friday, March 2, 2018

The Virginia Art Education Association presents **Art Across Virginia Day**. Celebrated on the first Friday in March each year, the day is a chance for artists and educators to come together and show the world how important we believe art is here in Virginia. No matter what your medium or subject, on the first Friday in March, take a photo of what you are working on, or what you are teaching in your classrooms. Share it with the world at **#artacrossvirginiaday2018**. Include your medium of choice and the art career field in which you work. Show off your art and your art career, celebrate your student's work, let the policy makers see art's impact on our students. Art Across Virginia is a wonderful way to kick-off your **Youth Art Month** program each year. Get others involved as well. All you must do is post a photo of the art you are creating on Friday, March 2, 2018. The purpose of Art Across Virginia Day is to have one day where we are all working in unison to be a group voice for art advocacy.

#### Art Across Virginia Day - One Day, One Voice, One Art...

Let's all work together on that Friday to show our legislators, policymakers and the rest of the world that art is an important part of education in Virginia!

If you have any questions about **Art Across Virginia Day**, or would like to share your Art Across Virginia Day upcoming event on the VAEA website, please email [michael\\_gettings@verizon.net](mailto:michael_gettings@verizon.net).



*Andrew, Gr. 7, Hill School, Middleburg.  
Art Educator: Linda Conti*

## Youth Art Month

Jess Beach

Hard to believe I have been serving as your Youth Art Month (YAM) Chair for 4 years... well I am just going to start by telling you, this is my last year serving as the YAM chair. I will be passing the ball to **Jauan Brooks** and **Kelley Shradley-Horst** of Harrisonburg City Public Schools. These two ladies are going to be fabulous leaders for YAM and I look forward to seeing what new things they bring to the table.

I can remember 4 years ago when Jimmy asked me if I would take over as YAM Chair. I was nervous... what could I possibly do to help the board?!?! Well, I can tell you honestly that stepping up to the board was a wonderful experience! I met so many new friends and colleagues that I could share ideas with. I was able to communicate with art teachers across the state. I saw what a powerful group we really are when we unite.

One last time, as your YAM chair, I would like to encourage you to participate in Youth Art Month this March so you too can feel how wonderful it is when we all unite together! When March rolls around, take a moment to post on social media (**#VAEAyam**)! This year we are utilizing the power of the cell phone! We may not be close enough to drive to each other's classrooms but we can share with the touch of our fingers!

*Reed, Gr. 12, Clover Hill HS, Chesterfield Co.  
Art Educator: Vicki Kirtley*

I am excited to announce the winners of our 2017 YAM Portfolio Competition! (These winners were presented with their awards at the VAEA Breakfast and Regional Meetings during the 2017 Conference.)

### Congratulations to the following Award Winners:

#### Virginia State Winners:

- Henrico County** - Virginia Grand Award
- Harrisonburg City** - Virginia Award of Merit
- Augusta County** - Virginia Award of Merit

#### Regional Winners:

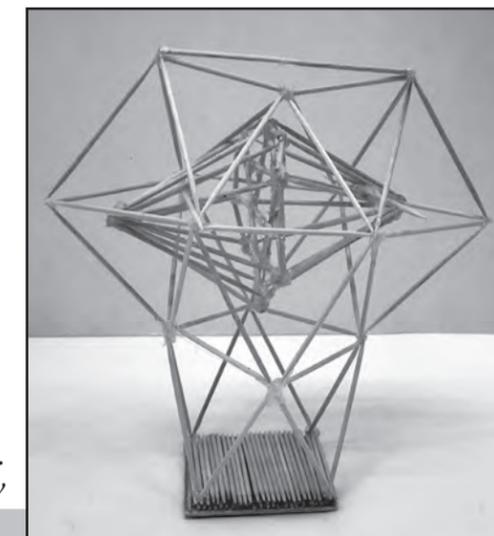
Each region is judged separately and county/districts are awarded titles for the regions.

- Norfolk City** - Tidewater Grand Award
- Henrico County** - Central Region Grand Award
- Harrisonburg City** - Blue Ridge Grand Award
- Augusta County** - Blue Ridge Award of Excellence
- Nelson County** - Award of Merit
- Fauquier County** - Honorable Mention.

#### National Winner:

I am very pleased to announce that we, the state of Virginia, have placed in the National YAM Competition. We received the National Award of Excellence (2<sup>nd</sup> place)!

Thank you so much for your efforts this year in participating in YAM. It is really all about sharing that passion we all have for art! Also, I would like to send a special thank you out to the YAM Committee (**Lee Darter**- Northern Region, **Angie Salerno**- Tidewater Region, **Jauan Brooks**-Blue Ridge Region, **Kelly Bisogno**- Central Region and **Cristi Miller**- Southwest Region). If you need any help in getting started with YAM in your district please find our emails on the YAM page at VAEA.org.



# Regional News

## Southwest

Richard Moon

### Reflections

SWVAEA held a successful, full clay slab-building workshop taught by **Becky Carr** of the Blue Ridge Potter's guild this fall. **Suzanne Sellars** hosted the workshop in her art classroom at Read Mountain Middle School.

Looking to the spring, we will be holding our annual YAM art show at the Jefferson Center for the month of March and our teacher show at AURORA studios in Roanoke for the month of May.

SWVAEA now has two Raku kilns that have been constructed by officers **Jennifer Fowler** and **Ingrid Chase**. They will be testing the kilns and setting up an initial workshop before offering the kilns to loan out to members.

We had robust attendance at our SW regional meeting at conference and agreed on the theme of "Create Joy" for our Youth Art Month theme.

SW members are encouraged to start thinking now about nominations for VAEA awards – nominate your fellow members who are going the extra mile to make their art programs great!

## Blue Ridge

Andrea Stuart

### Reflections of an artist and art teacher and BRVAEA President

Looking back on our VAEA State Professional Development Conference, my first thought is that it feeds the soul. It makes me reflect on my teaching practices and my teaching style. Having taught twenty-four years, I can still get inspired and excited about what I do and what I can share with my colleagues and my students. Good teaching practices feed the souls of our students too, especially when they can take ownership of their work and feel a sense of pride and accomplishment. I believe it gives them confidence and a greater sense of self-esteem.

As an art teacher, I am part of the luckiest group of teachers in the world. I seek to inspire my students to create new worlds and see their ideas become real. I believe that is why my attendance rate is high. It is important to remember that our students are just children and it is never, never too late to reach them and change their lives. Young lives can be inspired and transformed through the arts. It is what the arts are best at, and why they belong at the core of a good education. Art making is good for the young and the old. It is what helps make us the very best we can be.

The BRVAEA region is gearing up for our holiday art show in Front Royal, VA, followed by the Shenandoah Valley Art Center Exhibition. February 3 is the SVAC opening and reception, 5-7pm with dinner afterwards. March 16 is the Lord Fairfax Community College, Middletown VA, reception from 5-7pm, also followed by dinner. The show culminates in the spring at the MLK Center for the Arts in Charlottesville. Other important dates to meet up and get inspiration and camaraderie are:

- **April 28, 2018** - Saturday at SVAC PD - Acrylic Painting Techniques
- **May 18-24** - Orkney Springs Retreat
- **June 27** - VMFA Trip - Museum, Lunch & Gardens
- **June 29** - Wet Work at Windtuck Pottery
- **July 12-13** - Glaze, Fire, & Party
- Regional board and member meeting for lunch on the 12<sup>th</sup> and nominations for Art teacher of the Year.

We are so honored in our region to have such tremendously talented educators. These educators were selected by their peers to represent us in the region, district, and state for their service, dedication, and excellence. We had many nominees and award winners this fall. Regional Awards included: **Robin Goble** for the Special Needs Art Educator of the Year, **Melissa Combs** for the Elementary Art Educator of the Year, and **Christena Smith** for the Secondary Art Educator of the year. On the state level, **William Wightman** was Awarded the VAEA Distinguished Service Award. **Marisa Pappas** was awarded the NAEA Southeastern Middle Art Educator of the Year, and will move on to the National Competition. **Cindy Redmon** will move on to the Southeastern Secondary Art Educator of the Year Competition, and last, but not least, Harrisonburg Schools received the Youth Art Month Award for the second year in a row. **Congratulations to all our great art educators!**

## Northern Virginia

Cheryl Miehl

### Reflections from Northern Virginia...

I cannot believe that my first year serving as the President of the Northern Region is almost complete. It has been a whirl-wind to say the least and I look forward to the coming year as well!

I am thrilled to say, "Our conference planning committee rocked!" These ladies were dedicated to helping ensure that everyone had a wonderful experience and worked as a team, lending a hand anywhere necessary. I am going to take this moment to once again share my gratitude with each of them. Our Northern Virginia Conference Planning Committee included: **Sarah Philip, Elizabeth Chodrow, Melissa Mandak, Julie Galvin, Julie Cacciola, Lee Darter, Linda Hess, Julia Schickel, Sarah Pender, Carla Jaranson, Andrea Wilkey, Deb FitzGerald, Libya Doman, and Vicky Eichler**. It was also a pleasure to work with **Sarah Warner, Linda Conti, and Peggy Wood** so closely! A truly remarkable group of women who give so much to VAEA!

Our silent auction books were a huge hit - just ask me - I came home with five of them because I just couldn't choose one or two. The Friday night Creativity Carnival was exactly what we hoped it would be when we dreamed up a fun evening where we could play, experiment, craft and create. There was loads of laughter, friendly competition and a comradery that is unlike most other experiences, especially once the tulle came out and everyone started dolling up their outfits! Thank you to those who took a moment to share your experiences, it truly means a great deal to those of us who put our hearts into this conference experience.

Looking to the new year we will be reaching out to members to schedule a variety of workshops in our region. If you have an idea for one you would like to see presented or if you have something special you would like to share with everyone in the region, please reach out to me (cherylmiehl@gmail.com) and we will try and make it happen! Best wishes for a happy holiday season and the coming year!

## Central

Meghan Hamm

### Reflection: How to Attend to Attending at VAEA Featuring Guest Writer, Julie Crowder, Co- VP

I have been reflecting on the various ways I have decided to spend my time at conference. *Attending* to your attending can be daunting. There are so many options, and you can't always tell from the write up how much you will get out of a presentation. You could focus on presenting, freak out beforehand, spend the hour after presenting recovering from your own nerves, and then fill in the rest of your time based on what is available, or seems the most like therapy. You could go to all the presentations that are done by your friends and colleagues to try and support them as they push through the nerves that come along with public speaking. You could attend only presentations focused on making. You could attend only presentations that are lecture based. There are lots of combinations and ways to decide.

Lately, I have been looking at conference as a time to fill in my gaps, do you know what I mean? To try and improve the areas of my practice that could use some attention, by going to at least one presentation on an area where I feel I fall short. Then I go to at least one session that looks like it will bring

*continued next page...*

## Tidewater

Jodie Linkous

WOW! What an EXCITING year it has been for TVAEA. We had an awesome Winter Workshop, increased presence in social media, a summer STEAM workshop at the Chrysler museum, and a great time at conference. At conference we learned our "Art teacher Names". Mine was Red McMarkerson. I think we also had a Crafty Weaverton. We also showed off how amazing it is to walk in our shoes, as we created our own "Art shoes" and paraded them throughout conference to show how we can teach art in so many ways. In December, we put art and giving together in creating original art for the Veteran's Hospital.

As art teachers we have one of the most inspiring and important jobs in education. It is so important that we remember that the form of communication we provide for our students makes a lasting impression on them for life. Exploring ways to learn, communicate, express, and relate through art are imperative to a student's overall success in learning. We are also looking forward to a very productive 2018. Check out our Facebook and twitter pages for our Art teacher New Year's Resolutions. Winter Workshop will be held in February for some exciting new ideas. In March we are planning a virtual art show of student work. In April we will be having an Art Egg Hunt through social media for museum memberships as prizes. We are planning for another summer workshop before the end of school as well. It is truly going to be exciting to walk in our shoes this year.

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me a ridiculous amount of joy, as a sort of bribe for myself...a spoon full of sugar, if you will, for the improvement session I go to. Finally, I make sure to attend the Regional Meeting.

The gap area in my practice this year is Special Education. My last true class on Special Education was as an undergrad which was 15 years ago, so I know that there is more that I can learn on the subject. At my school we have a class of 7 special needs students, and I often feel like I am just guessing how best to teach them. They spend some time in their classroom, and some time in inclusion. I see them during inclusion and do my best, and I also take them as a class to try and do some more experiential and experimental things with them. The presentation that I went to, *Understanding the Art Students and Artists with Autism Spectrum Disorder* by **Sean Collins**, was mostly the conclusions of a case study he did on an autistic student. I found the connections that he made between drawing and the non-verbal state very interesting. Of course, one presentation cannot take the place of a whole class on the subject, but it's good to keep up with the current research.

After I spent time taking notes and focusing on learning, I let myself do Gelli printing for an hour with **Beth Allums**. I could take her class every day. You can see from the way she teaches it how great she is in the classroom, and I get just as much out of her strategies for teaching Gelli printing as I do from spending an hour making prints. I don't need to go to this session, I have been before, I have Gelli plates, I know how to print...but I love spending an hour as Beth puts it "playing" with the paint and the stencils, and stealing her catch phrases.

Now I do like to go to the regional meeting, and it isn't just because I must be there as a board member, which I am, and it also isn't just because there are awesome door prizes, which there are. I love the regional meeting because this is the one time we really get to celebrate our peers' success in their teaching. We get to watch people we went to school with or have had classes with or been on committees with get their picture taken as winners of teacher of the year, and be celebrated by people who actually know how hard it is to do what they do (and not just the people who think "teaching art must be so much fun").

I hope that you got a lot out of your own conference experience this year, and were fed in a variety of ways. If you typically don't go to the Regional Meeting, you should definitely go next year. Maybe you will win a VMFA donated door prize, or find that you are a TOY winner. Whatever you choose to do at conference, whatever your reasons for going, I hope to see you there next year in Richmond.

We would like to congratulate this year's regional Art Teacher of the Year awardees: Elementary Art Teacher of the Year: **Eric Manwiller** from Henrico County, Middle Art Teacher of the Year: **Sharon Russell** from Richmond City, and Secondary Art Teacher of the Year: **Luke Meeken** from Hanover County. We also congratulate VAEA Art Teacher of the Year from Chesterfield County, **Sarah Matthews!** We are so proud to honor these amazing art educators from Central Region this year.

Please look for our regional emails for leadership and retreat opportunities this year. Central Region will be hosting the VAEA conference in 2018 and we will need your help to make conference in Richmond a success for our members.

### R.E.B. Awards for Teaching Excellence

The R.E.B. foundation and The Community Foundation award approximately 15 outstanding teachers in the Richmond area each year with cash grants to support professional development. These teachers are considered among the best in their fields with a passion for teaching and continued learning.

One of the **2017 R.E.B.** awardees is **Helena Agnew** from Chesterfield County. She will study Native American crafts at the Taos Art School in New Mexico, taking classes taught by Hopi, Navajo and Acoma artists. **Tiffany Floyd** of Richmond City Schools won in 2016 and visited Finland to see the northern lights in 2017. There are many past awardees and finalists over the years and we congratulate all the winners of this distinguished award.



To be eligible, you must be a full-time classroom teacher in Richmond City, the counties of Chesterfield, Henrico, Hanover, or the Department of Juvenile Justice. You may not nominate yourself, but your students, parents of students, or coworkers can nominate you. This year's deadline is February 27<sup>th</sup>. For more information, visit the R.E.B site <http://www.tcfichmond.org/Grantseekers/Awards/REB-Awards-for-Teaching-Excellence>.



### Tidewater continued...

When reflecting on my first term as TVAEA President, I am so happy for all the people I have met and friends I have made that have the same heart for art education. It is so easy to get bogged down and burned out in education. It is so important to remember that we work with some of the best inspiration givers out there. When you feel your creativity and inspiration at a low point, that is the time when it is most important to reach out to a colleague or fellow VAEA member. You could check out a Facebook page or the blog of a presenter you met at conference. Although it cannot be conference time year-round, it is important that we expand and thrive on the relationships we have with fellow art teachers. This will help to reignite our EXCITEMENT for this amazing profession of which we are the most important part.

Reflections also bring some sad news, such as the stepping down of our amazing treasurer and former president **Elizabeth Tumilty**. Elizabeth has given so much of her time, creativity, and inspiring ideas to TVAEA over



David, Gr. 12, Hermitage HS, Henrico Co.  
Art Educator: Allison Boyd

Payton, Gr. 7, Hill School, Middleburg.  
Art Educator: Linda Conti

the years. Although we will miss her as our treasurer, we look forward to being able to nominate her for the awards she truly deserves in the fall. Thank you for all you have given and done for TVAEA. We appreciate you.

We are happy to welcome our new treasurer **Rebecca Davidson** of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Virginia Beach. We are ecstatic to have her join the TVAEA board. Exciting things are sure to come.

Please feel free to contact me or any other board member anytime with ideas, suggestions, or questions. You can email [lvtteachingart@gmail.com](mailto:lvtteachingart@gmail.com). We are excited to hear your ideas! We invite and welcome all VAEA members to our events. **TVAEA is truly EXCITED about Art Education!**



Angel, Gr. 8, Albert Hill MS, Richmond City.  
Art Educator: Sharon Russell



Ava, Burton Center for Arts & Technology, Roanoke Co. Art Educator: Teresa Worth



Sophia, Gr. 8, Albert Hill MS. Art Educator: Sharon Russell



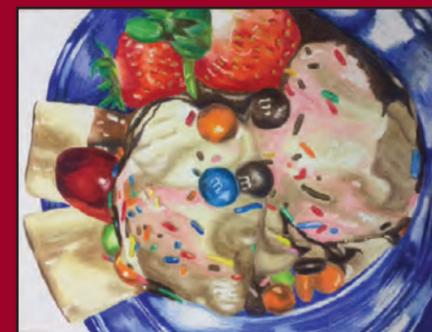
Hannah, Gr. 11, Clover Hill HS. Art Educator: Vicki Kirtley



Yousif, Gr. 3, Bailey's Upper ES Art Educator: Julia Schickel



Emma, Brentsville District HS. Art Educator: Cheryl Miehl



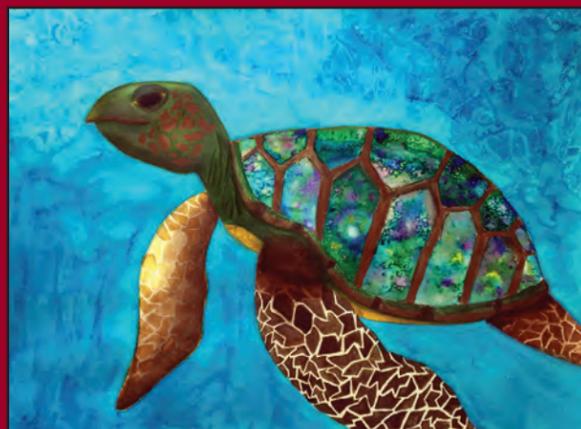
Cameryn, Burton Center for Arts & Tech. Roanoke Co. Art Educator: Teresa Worth



Fabiola & Natalie, Gr. 8, Hill School. Art Educator: Linda Conti



Caroline, Gr. 11, Clover Hill HS. Art Educator: Vicki Kirtley



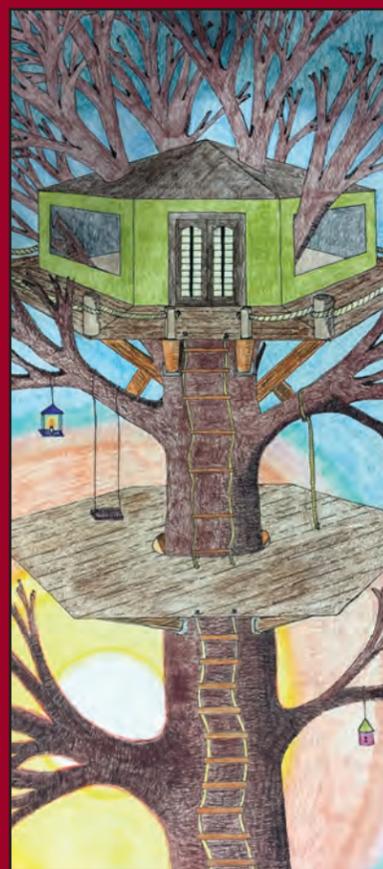
Michelle, Gr. 8, Elizabeth Davis MS. Chesterfield Co. Art Educator: Lindsey Bruce



Willow, Burton Center / A&T Art Educator: Teresa Worth



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



Lauren, Gr. 8, Elizabeth Davis MS. Art Educator: Lindsey Bruce



Abigail, Brentsville District HS. Art Educator: Cheryl Miehl



Sarah Gr. 11, Hermitage HS. Art Educator: Allison Boyd



Micaela, Gr. 10, Hermitage HS, Henrico Co. Art Educator: Allison Boyd



Zoe, Gr. 8, Elizabeth Davis MS. Chesterfield Co. Art Educator: Lindsey Bruce



Javier, Gr. 3, Bailey's Upper ES/A&S Fairfax Co. Art Educator: Julia Schickel



Emma & Maddie, Gr. 8, Hill School. Art Educator: Linda Conti

# Elementary

Tiffany Floyd

## Reflections

Greetings! As I reflect on my term as your Elementary Division rep, I am overjoyed with memories from the 2017 VAEA conference. The finished and in-progress works of art coming out of the sessions were absolutely incredible! In addition to viewing those works, I was able to stare at beautiful handmade, altered books for Saturday's auction. As a bonus, I watched a master book artist at work (Ginna Cullen) as she worked with CVAEA president Meghan Hamm. The Carnival was fun, festive, and full of crafts, activities and contests. I enjoyed viewing the well-thought-out outfits and devouring sweet, tasty treats. I hope you also made it to the Artisans' Gallery where many of our very own members showed off their handmade crafts and gifts.

I was impressed by the number of sessions presented by elementary art educators! Let's keep the momentum going by thinking of lessons and topics of expertise to share with our colleagues for next year's conference in Richmond, VA! Please join me in sending cheers to all who were nominated for and those who received awards this year. Our division has many extraordinary people! It was also an honor to introduce **Sean Murphy**, our new VAEA Elementary Art Teacher of the Year! After the breakfast, our division showed support for one another by revealing tried and true practices and techniques which addressed our concerns from the previous division meeting. Please refer to the emailed list of top concerns and the document noting the awesome things happening in our division. Please continue the dialogue by connecting with each other and becoming part of art-related professional learning communities. Following the VAEA Facebook group is a good start.

Thank you for allowing me to represent and disseminate information to you! I have learned a lot along the way. Please submit high resolution images of your students' work to **Kathy Barclay** to be considered for the VAEA News Magazine. Have an amazing start to your second semester and I look forward to seeing pictures of what you do for Youth Art Month.



*First Grade "Dot Day" Celebration: Breon, Alphonse, Nathaniel, and Brianna  
Art Educator: April Barlett  
Greenwood ES, Henrico Co.*



*Clare & Lauren, Gr. 8, Hill School, Middleburg.  
Art Educator: Linda Conti*

# Middle

Sandee Darden

Winter Greetings from the Middle Division! The conference meeting was fast-paced and informative. We talked about the use of cell phones within the middle school setting. It was surprising to me that about half of our school systems allowed electronic devices. The use policies were very wide-ranging, however. In the end, everyone decided that a concrete set of procedures was needed within the art room for it to be successful. Do you find students with earbuds are distracted or more focused? Allowing music on personal devices was very divided, but as a tool for visual references was a winner!

Upon reflection, my term as the middle division director has been a rewarding, fun-filled learning experience. This appointed position means you serve on the VAEA board for two years, but the duties are surprisingly light. There are three Board meetings per year, a couple of emails, only three small news articles per year and you host the middle division meeting at the conference. You also have a role in the regional Educators of the Year judging. The most rewarding aspects of this position were that I felt like I was contributing to the perpetuation of my profession and I kept up with best practices so I could pass on that information to members. I kept more current with teaching politics...and it wasn't boring or hard, like I thought it would be! Through this position, my life and career has been enriched because I have met so many creative, like-minded souls. I think I am better at my job as a result of my time so far with VAEA. So volunteer for the VAEA or your region...get involved in small ways in the beginning...it is so worth it!

# Secondary

Helena Agnew

This is my final article as your Secondary Division representative, and I hope it finds you happy and healthy! My position will go to an awesome high school teacher who will represent you well. Still feeling energized from our Fall conference, I am eager to try the new things I learned from some of your workshops. The conference is always the best part of my year! At the Saturday morning Awards breakfast, I was thrilled to congratulate **Susan Silva** as the winner of our State's Secondary



*Chelsea, Gr. 12, Hermitage HS.  
Art Educator: Allison Boyd*

Art Educator of the year award! Susan truly is a phenomenal teacher. It is important to also honor the other nominees, **Luke Meeken** and **Christina Smith**, who are incredible in their own rights. I am so honored to be in the ranks with these dedicated educators and I know we will see great things from all of them in the years to come. As I reflect on their many accolades, I think also about each of you that I have come to know during my time on the board. I reflect upon the moments when you shared your ideas, came to my presentations, and showed up at the division meetings. I reflect on how inspired I am by many of you. I can't wait to see you all again at conference next year, which is in Richmond. Together, we will share new experiences, fresh ideas and a desire to learn from each other. It is what makes my job so terrific!

I have one more thing that I would like to reflect upon. Do you know the popular song on the radio that is about us art educators? I think it was written for me and for EACH OF YOU! Here is a line from the song by The Dirty Heads: "Ey, ey, ey, I'm on vacation every single day cuz I love my occupation." Finish the rest of this year strong. Make it your best teaching yet, because you LOVE your occupation! I hope at the end of each day, as you reflect upon your students' achievements, this song will be stuck in your head! It has been a pleasure to serve you all.

# Division News

## Higher Education

Roger D. Tomhave, Ph.D.

### Conference Reflections

The Fall Conference of the VAEA held November 2-4 in Reston, Virginia has come and gone. It was a time to learn something new, reconnect with old friends, meet new colleagues, present new research, collaborate on advocacy efforts for art education, and recharge batteries for the remainder of this academic year. It is always a time of high energy, and I always seem to come away from conference with a renewed sense of hopefulness for excellent art education research and practices finding their way to the lives of all students as a part of a well-rounded education, especially in Virginia. This conference was no different, but I thought I would focus on some instances of observed growth and stability in the individuals that I encountered this particular conference who inspire me.

First, **Hannah Sions** is a Double Duke, receiving both her Art Education undergraduate licensure and then her Master's Degree from James Madison University. This conference she presented strategies for encouraging creativity in students as a part of her Doctoral Studies at Virginia Commonwealth University. Her poise, self-confidence as a presenter, and deep research were shining examples of her ongoing commitment to art education and the expertise of her mentors at both JMU and VCU.



*Hannah Sions Presenting her Doctoral Research*

As a member of the VAEA Board I was pleased to see the election of the new officers bringing both new

direction and stability to the State organization with **Linda Conti** elected as President, **Sarah Warner** as Vice President, **Meredith Ose** as Treasurer, and the newly elected Secretary **Libya Doman**. The continuance of Virginia's strength as a

*continued next page...*

Dr. Bill Wightman,  
Distinguished Service within the Profession



leader in the National Art Education Association is dependent on both the ongoing knowledge of the past and new visions for the future. The VAEA as a whole recognizes this strength in providing distinguished and long-term leadership on its Board, as well as the infusion of each new generation's ideas and energy. It is an ongoing formula that works!



VAEA Board 2018: *Libya Doman, Secretary; Linda Conti, President; Sarah Warner, Vice President; Meredith Ose, Treasurer; and Scott Russell, Past President.*

On behalf of the Distinguished Fellows, **Bettyann Plishker** was announced by Distinguished Fellow Barbara Laws as the newest recipient of the honor. Bettyann has been an outstanding art supervisor, art teacher, and mentor for inservice and new teachers in her Virginia career, but also adjunct professor for both JMU and GMU, among others, training and mentoring prospective teachers. The VAEA honors the commitments of those who have dedicated their lives to advancing art education locally, regionally, statewide, and across the country.

Welcome, Bettyann!  
(See pg. 25 for more info on Bettyann...)



Distinguished Fellow **Bettyann Plishker**, with **Barbara Laws**, and **Linda Conti**

And speaking of honoring distinguished service within the profession, **Dr. Bill Wightman** was given this singular recognition at this conference. A Professor of Art Education at James Madison University, Bill has consistently presented at state and national conferences, serving on the Board as the Higher Education Division Representative, and modeling what ongoing service to the profession looks like.

On Saturday morning after the awards banquet, a very important annual event took place bringing together Virginia's Supervision/Administration Division with the Higher Education Division and Student Chapters connecting art teacher employers with the newest crop of teacher candidates. Supervisors began the first half of the two-hour session by presenting information about their respective school systems, the application process, and interviewing strategies. Next, teacher candidates had the opportunity to ask specific questions of the supervisors. Then in the last hour, teacher candidates from the four universities represented were able to share a lesson strategy one-on-one with supervisors as they made their way around the room candidate to candidate tables.



Teacher Candidate **Gina Aiken (VCU)** with Specialist **Georgeanna Fellio, Norfolk**



Teacher Candidates **Casey Plonski and Lindsey Ferrar (VCU)** share lessons with **Michael Gettings, Chesterfield**



**Roanoke Art Coordinator Richard Moon** gives advice to **Maddie Clark and Mackenzie Crizer (JMU)**

# Division News



**Henrico Supervisor Michael Kalafatis**, meets with **Teacher Candidate Sarah Phillips (JMU)**

The VAEA does a great job in shrinking the world of art education across the state by ensuring the connections among all of its divisions, and thereby ensuring the health of the organization and art education in K-12 schools and our teacher licensure programs. And the Supervision/Administration Division inspires me! Thanks for all your efforts with our new teachers!



**Violet, future Art Educator**

Finally, here is our future art educator, Violet, daughter of Double Duke Sarah Brown Clark. Through the work of the VAEA, we know that her K-12 schools will give her a solid art education, that she will have many choices as to where she will train as a teacher, and also pursue her Master's Degree and Doctorate in Art Education. And there will always be an art teaching position available for her in a state that values art education and its importance for all of its citizenry.



**Joanna Pottle and Erin Rasmussen (JMU)** present lessons to **Mary Del Popolo (GMU)** and **Jasmine Hawkins, Prince William**

## Supervision & Administration

Michael Gettings

It has been a tremendous year in the Supervision/Administration Division. We have met several times over the year and expanded our contacts with each other. Together we have addressed Performance Based Assessments, and worked with the Virginia Coalition for Fine Arts Education and Department of Education to identify and talk about a wide variety of issues, including ways to implement the Career Investigation course requirement.

As a group we have been proactive. During the meetings we worked as a collaborative team. This team is a forward-thinking group of administrators. Together we are much stronger to represent and address the importance of visual arts education.

At the conference, 13 supervisors were in attendance during the division meeting! Robust discussion was held, and ideas were exchanged. It was really good to hear from such a wide variety of people from diverse divisions. Likewise, during the student teacher meet and greet the supervisors panel represented all

manner of divisions, large to small. The student teachers and pre-service teachers learned a lot!

A large shout out to those that presented at the conference - **John Rasky** (Williamsburg/ James City County, "Creating Valid Performance Based Assessments" and "Inner-Rater Reliability Testing of Performance Based Assessments," **Mike Kalafatis** (Henrico), "Urban Renewal: Teaching in Metropolitan Areas," **Jean-Marie Galing, Aaron Stratten, and Carol Trost** (Fairfax) together and separately presented multiple times "Smithsonian Learning Lab as an Art Resource," "One Course, One Project," "From Basic to Brilliant," "Soar to New Heights by Finding the "WHY?," **Andrew Watson** (Alexandria), "STEAM: Innovation Through Imagination" (by the way, thank Andrew the next time you see him - he is the Conference Chair for the Seattle convention!). I presented with **Barbara Laws, Roger Tomhave**, "Measuring Up: Assessment Effective Practice Update." And to round it all off, **Richard Moon** (Roanoke) is the Southwest Region President!

Congratulations to all for really stepping up this year and making the Administration & Supervision Division group so strong. Here's to a new year with new challenges, sharing of ideas and collegiality.

## Museum Education

Truly Matthews

This year my colleague Rebecca Davidson and I presented *Let's Talk About Art: Interpretation and Analysis in the Classroom*. We wanted to speak to other educators about creating meaningful conversations about works of art with students. As museum educators we rely on inquiry-based methodologies to create student-led dialogues about art. But these things take time, which is a big challenge for all educators especially in a traditional classroom setting.

The average museum visitor spends 17 seconds looking at a work of art. We can quickly identify an image in less time than that, but do we genuinely comprehend it? We are a visual culture where images are our primary form of communication. The importance of visual literacy reaches beyond fine art to media, advertising, Internet, computer interface, film, TV, design, and more.

The *Toledo Museum of Art* are big advocates for visual literacy and have developed a process called *The Art of Seeing* which encourages close looking and can be an important aid to unlocking the meaning of images. The process of looking is broken down into 6 steps: Look, Observe, See, Describe, Analyze, and Interpret. You can find more information at <http://www.vislit.org/the-art-of-seeing-art/> they define each step in detail and provide some great resources.



Zoraz, Gr. 11, Clover Hill HS.  
Art Educator: Vicki Kirtley

As an educator, I believe that it's important to spend time with the work of art that I plan on discussing with students and other museum

visitors. I find it helpful to practice *The Art of Seeing* on my own. I go through each step and speak aloud to myself, verbalizing what I am seeing. Then I like to create a concept map to organize my thoughts and observations and to identify possible points for discussion. Spending time with the art prepares me to facilitate the conversation and helps to identify what questions and strategies to use.



Hanna, Gr. 12, Warren Co. HS.  
Art Educator: Andrea Stuart

In our session, we discussed ways to create your own questioning strategies as well as other inquiry-based methods such as Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) ([vtshome.org](http://vtshome.org)) and Artful Thinking Strategies ([pzartfulthinking.org](http://pzartfulthinking.org)). These strategies provide great framework for discussion in the classroom or gallery. A few of the presentations I attended at the conference also focused on the importance of conversation and referenced these approaches. I was excited to see these methods discussed at the conference this year. Facilitating conversation can be a bit of a balancing act and it takes time and practice. I am looking forward to learning more from my colleagues. I believe that by mastering visual literacy we are not only better equipped to navigate and interpret our visual culture, but we can also become better educators, artists, and observers.



David, Gr. 12, Hermitage HS, Henrico Co.  
Art Educator: Allison Boyd

## Division News

## Retired Art Educators

Carla Jaranson

Hello VAEA Retired Art Educators! The Reston conference the first weekend of November was great fun for many who attended.

*Imagination Takes Flight* was all around us. Retirees who were Presenters this year were **Martha Biggar**, **Carla Jaranson**, **Barbara Laws**, **Bettyann Plishker** and **Peggy Wood**.

We have some new retirees who are quite enthusiastic about continuing a connection with VAEA educators. We met on Saturday morning with our president Linda Conti to discuss ways in which the retired educators might help our colleagues in the elementary and secondary schools.

In addition, please be reminded about the RAEA Mentorship Program, a joint effort for the RAEA and the NAEA Pre-service Division. RAEA members are available upon request to mentor university student chapters as well as individual students. Members from both groups are encouraged to reach out to each other as well as submit articles for the NAEA Pre-service and RAEA E-Bulletins. RAEA members can encourage chapters to apply for the Outstanding Student Chapter Award. The Outstanding Student Chapter application form and rubric are distributed via Pre-service, Higher Education, and RAEA E-Bulletins and Listservs. For more information about your RAEA Interest Group, go to [arteducators.org](http://arteducators.org) and search RAEA.

Hope that your holidays were creative and fun for you. A challenge that I took on was to paint every day during the month of November (including Thanksgiving) and post an image each day on the Internet. I missed a couple of days, but enjoyed the push to create each day. Many of you already work

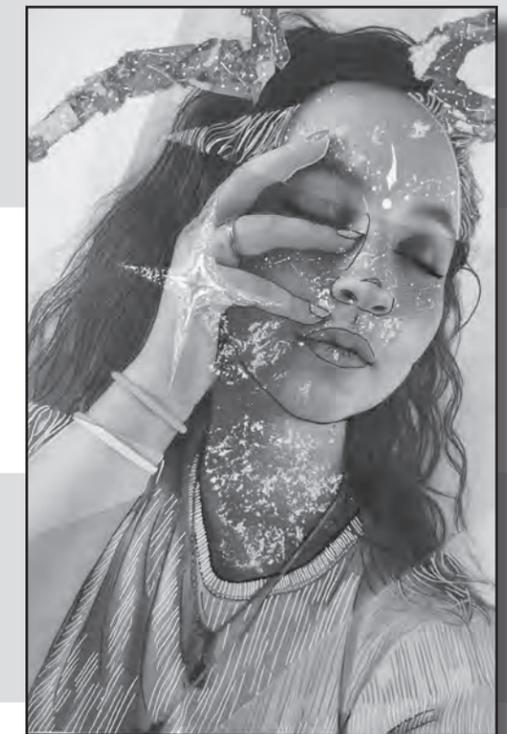


Cade, Gr. 7, Hill School, Middleburg.  
Art Educator: Linda Conti

on your art each day without prompting so my experience might seem unnecessary for you. The important thing is to continue creating, growing and sharing your art. The art works of several of our Virginia RAEA members have been highlighted in the E-Bulletins. Check out the publication for information concerning submitting your portfolio. Learning new things and taking on new challenges keeps our minds sharp and brings joy to life.

Reflecting on my last four years as your Retired Art Educator Representative, I have enjoyed hearing of your adventures both inside and outside of the classroom. Some of us are still teaching in schools, but on a part time basis. Others teach workshops, classes and student teachers. We are all still educators in the arts. Many of us now have more time to create the things that we are passionate about. **Ginna Cullen** was adamant about each one of us bearing the proud label of ARTIST first and foremost when we describe ourselves. That has always been hard for me, but I am finally coming to accept ARTIST as my role in life.

Wishing you all joy as you continue to create and share your talents with those around you.



Kat, Gr. 11, Hermitage HS, Henrico Co.  
Art Educator: Allison Boyd

## Research & Curriculum

Pam Lawton

### English Learners in Virginia's Secondary Art Classrooms

by guest writer: Alex Mamatas

I was raised in a large and diverse metropolitan area that is home to an equally large and diverse public school system. Following high school, I earned my undergraduate teaching degree, completed all preservice teacher requirements, and found myself teaching secondary art at the high school where I once was a student. As the first week unfolded, I was caught off guard by one element; I quickly realized I was not equipped to verbally communicate with over fifty percent of the students in my classes who were non-English speakers. My methods and teaching techniques in visual art classrooms required an adjustment to accommodate the needs of my diverse student population. This insight occurred four years ago and has remained a relevant point of interest since and has guided me to pursue a deeper, critical approach to language, communication, and community in the art classroom.

Based on 2014 records, there were more than 840,000 immigrant students in the United States, and over 4.6 million English learners (ELs) (USED, 2014). In anticipation for future generations, the U.S. Census Bureau compiled population estimates and projection reports. It is suggested that between the years 2014 and 2060, the U.S. population will increase from 319 million residents to 417 million. Additionally, the report states "...by 2060, nearly one in five of the nation's total population is projected to be foreign born" (Colby & Ortman, 2014). This projection further indicates that one in three students will most likely be classified as an English learner around 2040 (Crawford & Krashen, 2007). As the United States transitions into a more diverse "majority/minority" nation, educators need be equipped with resources in order to provide compassion and equity to all our students.

In my thesis study, I investigated the following research questions: (1) What is the percentage of Virginia's EL student population in art classrooms when compared to the percentage of EL students enrolled in the entire school and school system? (2) What strategies do art educators report as effective for their EL students? My inquiry led me to pursue a qualitative and quantitative research methodology in which I conducted a survey disseminated to secondary art educators in Virginia through the Virginia Art Education Association and engaged in follow-up interviews with willing survey participants.

*Mi'Destiny,  
Gr. 12,  
Hermitage HS,  
Henrico Co.  
Art Educator:  
Allison Boyd*



In the findings for question one, the survey data revealed that the percentage of EL students in secondary visual arts classes were no greater than overall percentages of ELs within the participants' specific school or school system. In my own experiences, my secondary art classes had approximately 50% or more EL students enrolled. This suggests that the higher than average percentage of EL students I taught was a unique phenomenon different from what survey participants expressed. Question two investigated effective strategies collected from participants. The responses are listed in order of the top five most commonly used practices when working with EL students in the secondary visual art classroom.

**Translation.** Translation tools are ranked at the top choice among respondents in this survey. Applications like Google Translate, are used to communicate verbally with Level 1 and 2 EL students. In effort to differentiate, teachers also translate hand-outs to connect with the student through writing. Furthermore, the facilitation of a bilingual buddy is noted several times by respondents. Peer-to-peer interactions, scaffolding, and negotiating for meaning are all positive strategies that authentically assist EL students (Lightbown & Spada, 2013). "Bilingual peers who collaborated with adolescent emergent bilinguals on academic tasks served to bolster their developing academic English skills..." (Carhill-Poza, 2015, p. 692). Level 1 and 2 EL students are not only provided with informal instruction from their more English-proficient peers, they are also offered the opportunity to develop social networks that will enrich their linguistic skills. Utilizing the students' native language while connecting key words to vocabulary in English signifies that their native language is a positive tool, a bridge to literacy and academic language skills in English (Bauer, Manyak, & Cook, 2010).

## Affiliates

**Visuals.** The second strategy teachers reported in this study was providing visuals. "One reason visual aids are popular among ELL teachers is that they support second-language (L2) vocabulary development. Graphics provide this support, serving as a visual dictionary..." (Wright, Eslami, McTigue, & Reynolds, 2015, p. 43). As educators, it is vital to provide clear and applicable images that support the content. In visual art, it is imperative to gather images to support the lesson theme, the artist, art historical content, contemporary art and visual culture examples, art vocabulary, stages of the lesson project, demonstration phases, final examples, and any other aspect of a lesson plan where a visual explanation will support student objectives. When utilizing text as a visual, research reinforces that sans serif typefaces are designed for digital screens, and therefore, are more legible for students with eyesight accommodations (Hojjati & Muniandy, 2014).

**Time.** The third most recorded strategy presented by respondents was accommodating students with time extensions. This adaptation to instruction and the curriculum can be implemented at almost any stage of the lesson plan. Research indicates that there is a significant relationship between student performance and time. As time is increased, students have a greater opportunity to gain success (Crotts, 2013).

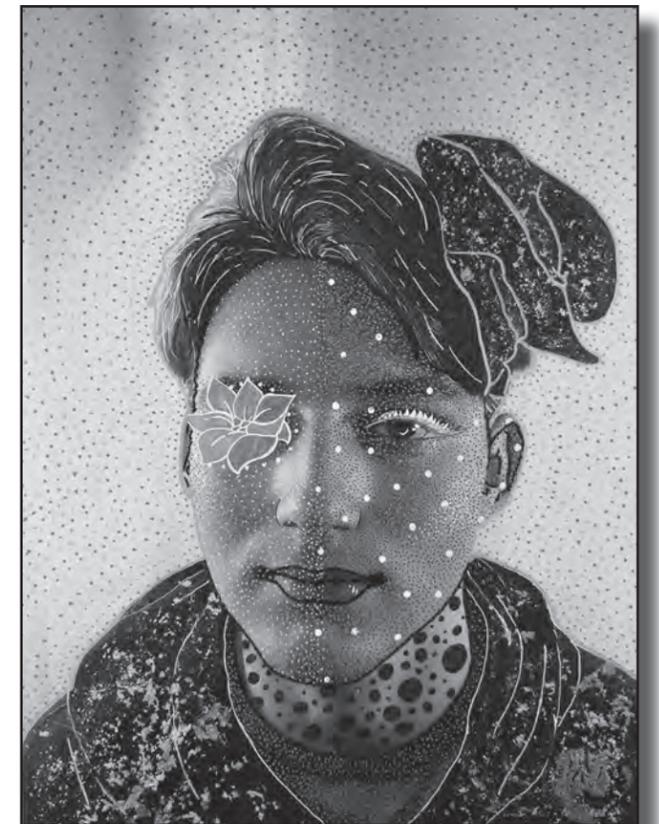
**Small Group Instruction.** Participants expressed small group instruction and one-on-one instruction works well for several of the qualitative questions posed in this study's survey. In small group settings, involvement and participation from the students is maximized. A key goal when facilitating small group instruction begins by engaging students in the lesson by making them comfortable enough to participate and work with others, and leads to encouraging them to use their new language in front of you, the teacher, and their peers (Bauer et al., 2010). In order to successfully implement small group instruction, teachers are encouraged to promote group work and collaborative projects.

**Modeling.** Through demonstrations, using purposeful gestures, and modeling tasks, students are able to visualize the assignment clearly without having to speak fluent English. This strategy supports the EL population in numerous ways; students can record instruction through a combination of ocular observation and auditory explanations, as opposed to primarily auditory or written modes of instruction. By practicing modeling techniques in the classroom, students not only see the skill demonstrated correctly, but are able to visualize themselves executing the skill without error (Ortiz, Burlingame, Onuegbulem, Yoshikawa, & Rojas, 2012).

In summary, it seems that the first step in enacting change in a classroom begins with recognizing the need for adapted practices that better suit the changing nature of our students. While they are learning English, adaptive strategies are necessary to ensure that all student can learn in the visual arts, no matter their place along the English language acquisition continuum. I believe future research can build upon the data captured and analyzed in this inquiry.

Although there was low participation on this study's survey, responses collected paralleled the demographics of our state, and art teachers across Virginia shared meaningful content which offer starting points for art educators to continue this conversation about the best ways that we can assist our English language learners in our classrooms. Our future is clear. We need to be poised and ready to seek and provide appropriate differentiation, support culturally diverse student needs, and integrate effective strategies for ELs into their curriculum.

(See References on page 24)



*Sherry, Gr. 12, Hermitage HS, Henrico Co.  
Art Educator: Allison Boyd*

## Membership

Patsy Parker

### Are You Getting Your Money's Worth?

There may be a gap in communication between NAEA, VAEA and you...and we need your help to solve this. The best email to keep you informed is your personal one. NAEA sends your information to VAEA filled in by you on your membership application. When you only provide your work email, your school system's spam filter protects you from our "unsolicited emails." Case in point: There is a snag with your conference registration or payment and you do not discover this until you appear at preregistration for your packet. Oh, fun!

I get it that you don't want to be bombarded with "stuff" on your personal email...but you are not getting your money's worth. Electronic communication versus "snail mail" makes it easier for VAEA to alert you concerning regional workshops and events so you may participate and remind / advise you about pertinent or critical information concerning the state of art education in Virginia. For art educators who may not be "encouraged" to attend the annual state conference, a weekend workshop provides much need collegiality and a source for required recertification points. Please remember, you may attend workshops from *any* of the five regions! You can keep up on what's happening around you by going to vaea.org and checking out the other regional newsletters. VAEA is divided into the 5 regions for ease of participation and communication. The lines that separate them are dotted, not solid, double lines.

Please send me a message (p2artkrt@gmail.com) using your personal email so I may add it to my records to keep the information flowing. Please help us to serve you better.

Many thanks to the following NAEA / VAEA membership mentors for bringing new faces to the only professional association that speaks to the amazing world of art education: Sally Henderson, Michael Gettings, Imagine Mallory, Sue Uhlig, Sonja Mix, Kelly Nelson, Bill Wightman, Melissa Combs, Mark Bravante, Jessica Beach, Sarah Matthews, Sarah Clark, Kate Sternberg, Mrs. Clark, JMU, GMU and VCU Student Chapters!

**Naomi Swyers!** Thank you for accepting the position of VAEA Awards Chair. Thank you for your diligence and integrity bringing the awards program to the next level! What a splendid job! You make me so proud! As I shouted at the end of the awards breakfast, "YOU GO, NAOMI!"



*Kyla, Gr. 11, Hermitage HS, Henrico Co.  
Art Educator: Allison Boyd*

### English Learners in Virginia's Secondary Art Classrooms

#### References

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### Reflections of a Past President by Scott Russell

Hues on a color wheel, months of the year, Apostles, Zodiac signs, labors of Hercules, days of Christmas, pairs of ribs, people who've walked on the moon, inches in a foot, face cards in a deck, Knights of the Round table, steps in recovery, Drummers Drumming, Angry men... and number of years I've served as an elected officer on the VAEA board: **12**.

If 12 years ago you had told me I could be involved in the VAEA in this capacity, I wouldn't have believed you. I would have said any number of excuses like, "I'm too new to the profession" or "no one knows who I am" or "what could I possibly contribute." In fact, when first asked to be put on the ballot for treasurer my question was "Who in their right mind elects a 26-year-old to be in charge of state finances!" But you did, and I am forever grateful for the trust and support you have given me. From the work with the National Standards, to the work on legislative issues facing VA, to opportunities and continued leadership opportunities within NAEA, I have learned more than I thought possible. Also from hearing about the success and concerns the celebrations and troubles in your classrooms, museums, and counties I've come to appreciate the amazing resilience we have as art educators.

One of the things we have worked so hard with is leadership succession, finding the next leaders of VAEA and even in NAEA. There is a point where you have to find and build and support those who will replace you, or put in a different way, help continue to move the work of the association forward. The person who will help move VAEA forward the most is you, you have much to give and VAEA is waiting for your leadership.

### If I had 12 lessons I have learned as a VAEA leader:

- 12 - Mentors are key - thank you **Pat Franklin** and **Barbara Laws**.
- 11 - It is great to give back through presenting what you love to do, and we all have different things at which we excel.
- 10 - Knowing what is going on in legislation is a critical part to make you an effective art educator and advocate.
- 9 - Some friendships are simply artful, thank you **Maripat Hyatt**.
- 8 - There is an amazingly supportive group in the VAEA.
- 7 - If you don't like how something's going - speak up - Thanks **Linda Conti**.
- 6 - Sometimes you have to look into the past and take it all in - Thanks **Pam Taylor**.
- 5 - Art opens doors to many opportunities.
- 4 - You have to find the time to be thankful and celebrate your successes, no matter how big or small.
- 3 - Research does happen when you least expect it.
- 2 - Art educators are the best people in the world.
- 1 - **ART GROWS POTENTIAL!** In us, in our students, in our communities, in the world!

**Thank you VAEA - for helping me grow my potential!**

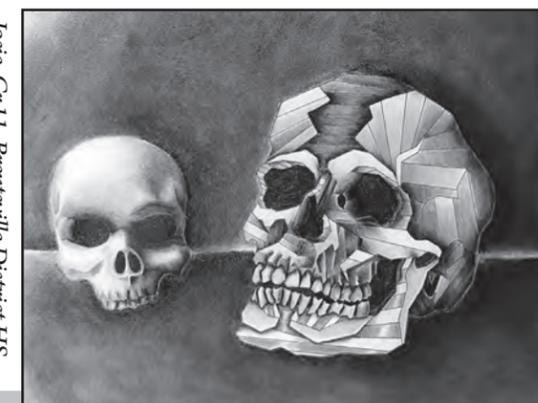
### 2017 VAEA Distinguished Fellows

Distinguished Fellows of the Virginia Art Education Association are members of the VAEA who are recognized for their long and distinguished leadership and service to the Association and to the art education profession. This year, the VAEA Distinguished Fellows Class of 2017 member is **Bettyanne Plishker**. (photo pg.18)

Currently an Adjunct Professor for several universities and a consultant for art education, Bettyanne served Fairfax County Public Schools as an art teacher, an Area Art Resource Teacher, and as the Art Specialist overseeing more than three hundred art teachers for nine years. Under her supervision, Fairfax County art education program was recognized by NAEA and by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities for its exemplary art curriculum and arts advocacy initiatives. Bettyanne also developed the Great Beginnings Program for first-year teachers and has also served on the VAEA Board as Supervision and Administration Division Chair. Bettyanne's nominator mentions her many presentations she has given at VAEA and NAEA as an example of her desire to give back to a profession that she feels has given so much to her. Congratulations, Bettyanne.

The Distinguished Fellows also meet each year during the VAEA Conference, review the year and discuss any additional projects to be taken on. Currently, **Dr. David Burton** is spearheading a Fellows project, **Legends and Legacies**, which he and **Sam Banks** initiated several years ago. David, with the assistance of some of his VCU students, has been interviewing folks who have held VAEA and Virginia art education leadership roles over the years. These interviews will be compiled and shared, eventually becoming a part of the VAEA archives. Given that the Fellows recognition was established in 2012, in an effort to recognize leaders who have gone before us and are no longer active members, the Fellows are beginning to compile biographies which will be added to the Legends and Legacies archives and will be publishing brief thumbnail sketches in the newsletter.

*Josie, Gr.11, Brentsville District HS,  
Art Educator: Cheryl Mitchell*



# Policy Update...

## ... and Reflections... by Barbara Laws

As has been previously reported in this column, the VA Coalition for Fine Arts Education has been working to ameliorate the impact of the stand-alone Career Investigations course which with its original requirements would have significantly disrupted elective opportunities, particularly sequential instrumental courses, at the middle school level. An outgrowth of discussions with folks at the Department of Education, appearances before the VA Board of Education, and your support, options for implementation which include during home rooms or related courses, as fully outlined in Superintendent's Memo #187-17, are now acceptable forms of content delivery.

And, while reflecting on 2017 policy changes and whether or not we were effective in influencing them is important, looking ahead into 2018 is critical. Following are changes that you might want to be aware of and which could have an impact on arts education policy opportunities. As you receive this issue, the General Assembly will have begun their long session in mid-January. We have been tracking legislation as it has been pre-filed and, as of now in early December, there are no bills which would directly impact us but most assuredly there will be as we move into the session. Post-election, the composition of this GA is significantly different than the last several and so we will need to see how that plays out.

Dr. Stephen Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction, retires January 1<sup>st</sup>. Members of the Coalition had developed an effective working relationship with him and he is supportive of the arts and has given us wise counsel on many occasions. We will certainly miss him and will be looking forward to meeting and working with the new Superintendent. Daniel Gecker has succeeded Dr. Billy Cannaday as President of the VA BOE and there are several members who were new to the Board this year. On November 16, the BOE voted on several changes to the Standards of Accreditation. More discussion of the particulars and their impact will be forthcoming.

Many of you have participated actively in educating our decision makers, contacting them prior to needing their support. The positive changes that we saw this past year would not have been possible without your participation. Communication with BOE members, legislators, and others is critical. Use (and develop) opportunities to educate them and if you have a new legislator, you may want to develop a connection now. (*Remember to use your personal email.*) The YAM celebration is a great time to develop relationships positively, especially on the first Saturday of March this year, when the VAEA is piloting Arts Across Virginia during which we celebrate the importance of the arts in schools. More information about YAM, AAV, and any policy education opportunities will be forthcoming. Stay tuned!

### Cardboard Assemblage Relief by 3-D Design Students Clover Hill HS, Chesterfield Co. Art Educator: Vicki Kirtley (on back cover)

Savannah, Sage, Jordan, Kat, Andrew, Quiara, Shelbi, Kiyerrah, Reilly, Paul, Madeline, Rhakaya, Elijah, Sophie, Trinity, Edward, Hunter, Jonathan, Rebecca, Chris, Daisha, Jocelyn, Josh, Morgan, Cameron, Maira, Madison, Jadarria, Elia, Alexis, Zhanequa, Briona, Julian, Davon, Christian, Carmen.

## NAEA/VAEA Membership Application

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

### Membership Categories:

**Active Professional:** For individuals professionally engaged in the field of visual arts and/or who facilitate programs of, or related to, art education. Active Professional membership provides all of the privileges of membership including the right to vote and hold national office.

**Associate:** For individuals interested in, supporting, or involved with pursuits closely related to the field of art education. Associate membership provides of the privileges of Active Professional membership except the right to vote and hold national office.

**Emeritus:** For individuals who are retired and no longer professionally employed in the field of art education and have been a member of the Association for a minimum of five (5) years. Emeritus membership provides all of the privileges of Active Professional membership.

**First Year Professional:** For educators entering their first year in the field of art education. Membership is granted for one year only, on a one-time basis. First Year Professional membership provides all of the privileges of Active Professional membership.

**Preservice:** For undergraduate students and full-time graduate students. Preservice membership provides all the privileges of Active Professional membership including the right to vote and hold national office.

**Institutional:** For colleges/universities/libraries/institutions directly or indirectly involved in art education. Institutional membership provides all the privileges of Active Professional membership except the right to vote or hold national office.

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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  
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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.

# vaea

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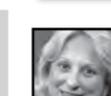
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Executive Secretary: Peggy Wood



Send photos & student art to: kbarclayart@yahoo.com  
News Magazine Editor: Kathy Barclay



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# News Magazine Deadline: March 15, 2018

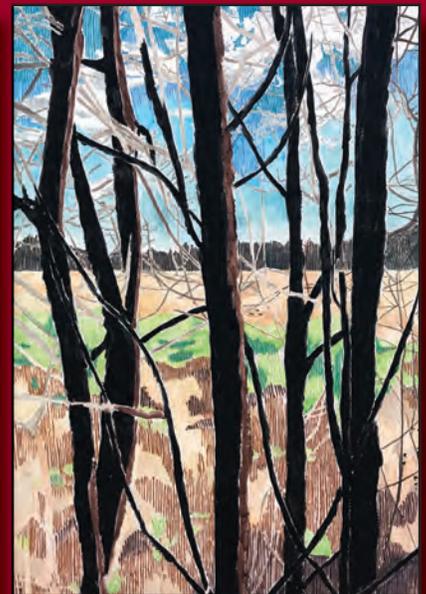
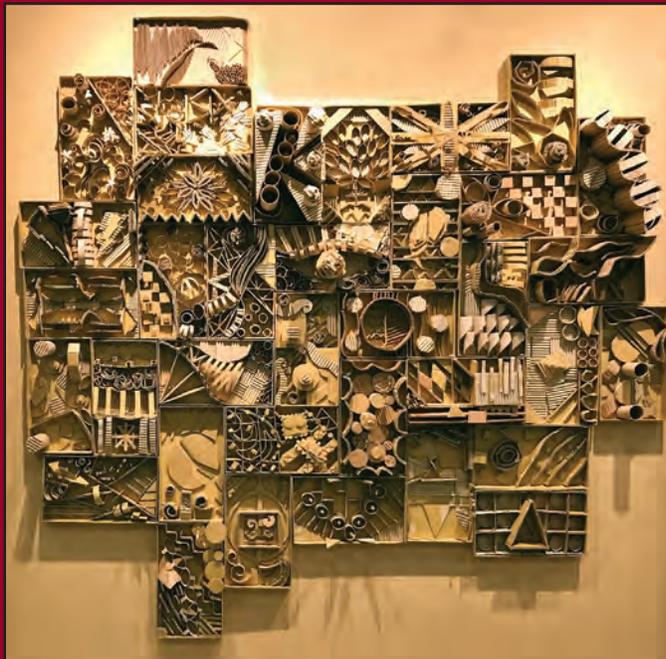
kathy barclay, editor,  
7379 lee davis rd.,  
mechanicsville, va 23111

# WINTER 2018

# REFLECTION



3-D Design Students, Clover Hill HS. Art Educator: Vicki Kirtley  
See pg. 26  
for students' names



Megan, Brentsville District HS.  
Art Educator: Cheryl Miehl



Grace, Gr. 12, Hermitage HS, Henrico Co. Art Educator: Allison Boyd