

vaea

Virginia **art** Education Association

WINTER
2016

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Hyatt

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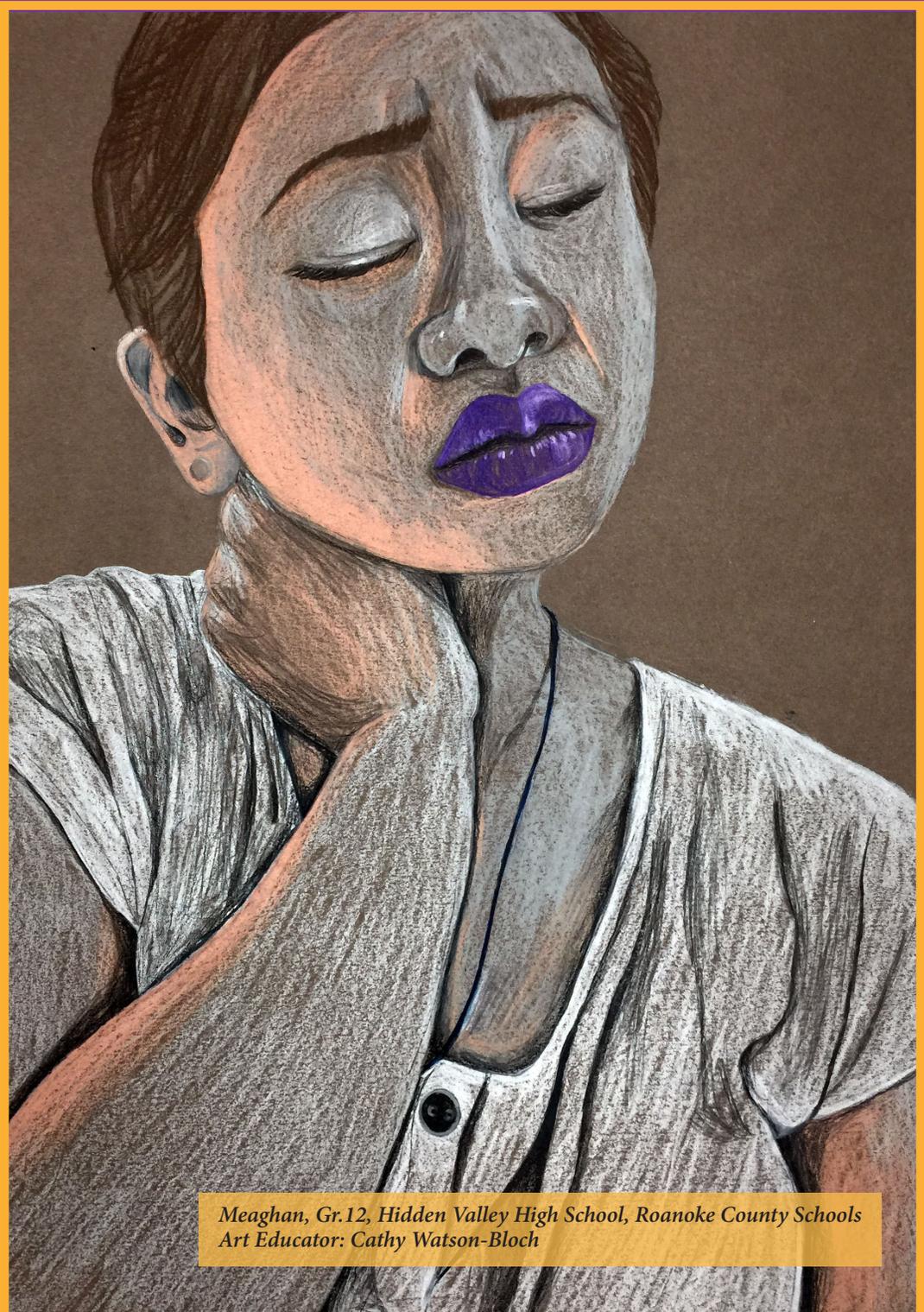
ESSA

Assistance for
Arts Education

New VAEA
Officers

Join NAEA/VAEA!

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Meaghan, Gr.12, Hidden Valley High School, Roanoke County Schools
Art Educator: Cathy Watson-Bloch

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.

Calendar of Events

2015

- October 9-10 Drop off art work for TVAEA Fall Art Educator Exhibition
- October 16 BRRVAEA Professional Development Day @ Blue Ridge Art Council
- October 20-24 Theatre Production in conjunction with TVAEA Fall Art Educator Exhibit
- November 12-14 VAEA Fall Professional Development Conference Roanoke, VA

2016

- March 17-19 NAEA Convention Chicago, IL

2017

- NAEA Convention New York, NY

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Serious discussion with Adele Quimby, VAEA Conference, 1989



Maripat with her YAM display in a Henrico mall



Who's serious?



Friends were asked to wear "tie dye" to her 50th Birthday party

More photos on page 26...

President's Message

Linda Conti,
President Elect



In our profession, we teach daily, yet we also have opportunities to learn. We learn from our students. They remind us of what it is to be children, open and excited about the world opening up before them. Art is a window on culture, an expression of our values, and connection to the soul. We share the wonder of discovery with our students, letting them see why we started teaching art, why it is fulfilling to us, and how they may welcome the world of art into their lives.

We learn from each other, sharing new ideas at conference and spending time together spreading the knowledge of what we have been exposed to over the year. We share resources, both material and intellectual, increasing our students' access to the possibilities of art.

Editor's Note: I just want to take this opportunity to tout and thank Linda Conti for stepping in and shouldering the responsibilities of the VAEA President along with those of her job as Vice-President. She never complains, but has gracefully and effectively led this organization in Maripat's absence.

Over the past few years, I have learned about the depth of the VAEA community. We are a group of educators from many different aspects of art education: elementary, middle, secondary, higher education, museums, pre-service, retired educators, supervisors, advocates, and more. It is through this network of art educators that we keep our organization strong. Every time that VAEA needs someone to step up and help out, it happens. Our community consistently shows its strength by working together to increase the effectiveness of our organization. I appreciate each and every member of the VAEA Board for volunteering to make life better for us by their efforts. It is an honor to serve with these worthy people.

Salute to Maripat Hyatt: *Thanks, Maripat! We love you!*

Kathy Barclay

Due to her battle with ALS, Maripat was unable to be with us at the last conference, the first one she's missed since she joined the VAEA in 1988. But you can still visit her; she'll be glad to see you, and *you'll* be rewarded with a big bear hug, including a wonderful back scratching in the process. As always, she still has that wonderful smile on her face!

I've known Maripat since 1986 when she did her student teaching with me at John Rolfe MS. She was an amazing teacher even then, and came at a fortuitous time as I was suffering with all day morning sickness. Afterwards, she went off to get married and have her honeymoon, but came back in June, just in time for my maternity leave, the final week of school. What a Godsend!

Maripat graduated from VCU and began her teaching career with Henrico Co. in 1988. She is among the first to earn National Board Certification. Besides being an amazing teacher in her own classroom, Maripat has continually shared her



expertise in numerous workshops for the VAEA, CRVAEA, Henrico Co., the Richmond Visual Arts Center, and even a retirement home in Hanover Co. She has taught classes in polymer clay, tile murals, coiled basketry, mask making, tie dye (shibori), silk painting... Her philosophy:

"I think it is important to share what I have learned with others; I wouldn't have become the teacher I am without the teachers who went before me, who shared what they learned."

Maripat is a consummate organizer. The first field trip my students ever took was arranged by Maripat. As CRVAEA Vice President, she organized several of our wonderful retreats at Camp Piankatank. As VAEA Vice-President she was in charge of some of the best state conferences we've ever had. In addition, she recently organized a trip to China that included other content art teachers and administrators; as soon as she returned, she began planning a trip to Europe. I was fortunate to be along on that trip this past summer.

She's attended numerous NAEA Conventions and Southeast Region NAEA summer meetings as our representative. She has served us well over the last 30 years and deserves our thanks and praise.

Most of all, Maripat is a true friend, loving and giving, and those of us lucky enough to know her love her very much.



Some of the many birds from Silent Auction

VAEA Conference in Roanoke

Linda Conti

It was a treat to hold our annual VAEA conference in beautiful Roanoke, nestled at the base of the mountains. We had more attendees than we have ever had at a Roanoke conference: 447 members, not counting vendors. (The last time we were in Roanoke we had 310 attendees.) Of the 447, we had 14 retired members, 18 guests, and 60 students registered. It was wonderful to spend time together sharing ideas for the classroom, strategies for student management, and exploring the big ideas of art education.

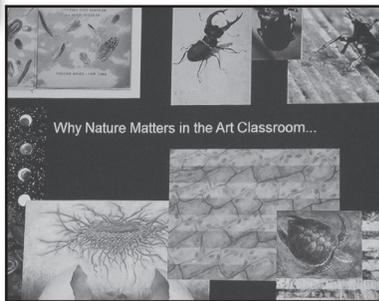
Thank you to everyone who made a creation for the silent auction, as well as the purchasers! The proceeds from the silent auction add to the donations for reduced student conference fees. We want to foster our future colleagues and help them gather together with us into our community of art educators.



Suzanne Stryk

drawings and mixed-media paintings gave a new expression of the diverse ecosystems of Virginia. It was valuable to hear how she grew into her art from an early age.

We know we have students like her in our classes, even now. One day they may be the artist sharing their joy of art with others, perhaps even crediting their teacher with inspiring them!



The Taubman Museum's "Birds of Prey" Audubon exhibit was enjoyed by all. Who knew that book was so big? The original paintings are in New York City at the New York Historical Society. Perhaps some of us will make a field trip there this year. Thank you to the Taubman for opening their doors to us and allowing us to experience the rooftop reception.



On the Taubman rooftop with "Lightman"

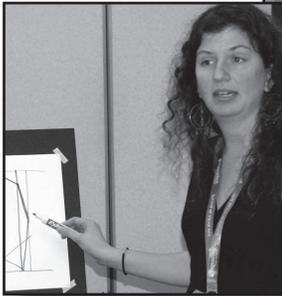
Some of the many Presenters...



Conference 2015

Finally, a huge note of appreciation to the volunteers of the two regions hosting the 2015 conference: Blue Ridge and Southwest. Conference Chairs **Andrea Stuart** and **Richard Moon** marshalled the troops to decorate, display student art, sell merchandise, register members, run the Artisans' Gallery, and many other behind the scenes activities that made it all appear seamless.

and Volunteers...



Thank you to all of the 150 presenters who donated their time and energy to share their passion for art education with all of us. We are fortunate as an organization to have so many qualified members willing to step up and volunteer. Think of how many times an idea is born in one teacher's mind, grows as it is presented to other teachers, and finally reaches many diverse students across the Commonwealth of Virginia, enriching their lives.

Join us next year in Norfolk,
and plan to present *your* next best idea!

Why are these Conference attendees smiling?



Pearl Quick



Lynn Hilton Conyers

VAEA *Distinguished Fellows*

Barbara Laws

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. At the VAEA Conference, we recognized the two members of the VAEA Distinguished Fellows Class of 2015.

Lynn Hilton Conyers is the consummate art educator – a teacher, artist, and leader. As a teacher she was - and is - wholly engaged with her students and while ensuring they had deep and meaningful instruction in the classroom she also looked to the community to provide them with rich and wonderful opportunities through community partnerships, travel, exposure to working artists, and special learning experiences. Looking at her resume, one can see her ongoing deep practice as an exhibiting artist and how her teaching and creating art are woven together and have provided the foundation for her leadership roles at the local, regional and state levels.

Pearl Quick's contributions have supported individuals and the association. She has worn many hats over the course of her distinguished career – as art teacher, technology teacher, art administrator, elementary school administrator, and clinical faculty she has taught and mentored many. As a VAEA leader, Pearl researched and compiled history related to the NAEA Southeast Region and the VAEA. As Vice President, she introduced changes in conference format and structure which benefit attendees even today. During her tenure as VAEA President – 1995-97 - a time when internet technology was in relative infancy - the VAEA developed its first website.

We, as a profession, have benefited from the dedication and leadership of these two art educators and extend our gratitude for their contributions and service.

Conference 2015

Kathy Schwartz *Virginia Art Educator of the Year 2015*



meetings. On a National level, she was States Assembly Delegate, NAEA Board of Director Vice-President for the Pacific Region, and served on the strategic Planning Committee. At national conventions she has presented more than 30 times. Her gift to teach and advocate for art is reflected in her community involvement. She has served as Faculty Coordinator for *Very special Arts* in Harrisonburg and Rockingham Co. Schools, served as President of the Arts Council of the Valley, directed the JMU *Summer Art for Youth* program, served on the Grant Review Panel for the Virginia Commission on the Arts, served as contact for the Va. Alliance for Art Education for the John F. Kennedy Center, and has supervised hundreds of art education practicum students in valley schools. Her many accomplishments are mirrored in the numerous honors that she has received: NAEA Outstanding Service Award, Pacific Region Art Educator of the Year, Southeastern Region Higher Education Art Educator of the Year, VAEA Higher Education Art Educator of the Year, Alaska Art Educator of the Year, Alaska Higher Education Art Educator of the Year, and Research Fellow, James Madison University. She proudly serves as Professor of Art Education, Director and Founder of the JMU Art Education Center. Please congratulate the 2015 Virginia Art Educator of the Year, **Kathy Schwartz**.

Lynn Hilton Conyers

The art educator that I am privileged to talk about is the ultimate talented, creative thinker, who is willing to share her wisdom. She was described to me by Jennifer Vaughan, one of her students in the Masters of Arts and Art Education program, as someone who always looks for innovative techniques to teach. She described her as the teacher that works *with* you, mentoring, discussing, sharing ideas, creating an environment of collaboration, allowing you to build an inner confidence and the power to discover. Besides her skillful teaching, she has accomplished much in the field of art education. She has taught from Hampton, Virginia to remote villages in the Arctic Circle of Alaska. She has contributed to art education through service in its organizations. She has served on boards for the Alaska Art Education Association as President and Convention Coordinator, and the Virginia Art Education Association Board as Higher Ed. Chair, Advocacy Chair, and Curriculum and Research Chair. Regionally she served the NAEA in the Pacific Region as vice-president and the Southeastern Region by attending Higher Ed. Division



Students, faculty, and alumnae of JMU gathered for a photo op.



*Come to a
CONFERENCE
and find out!*

Membership & Awards

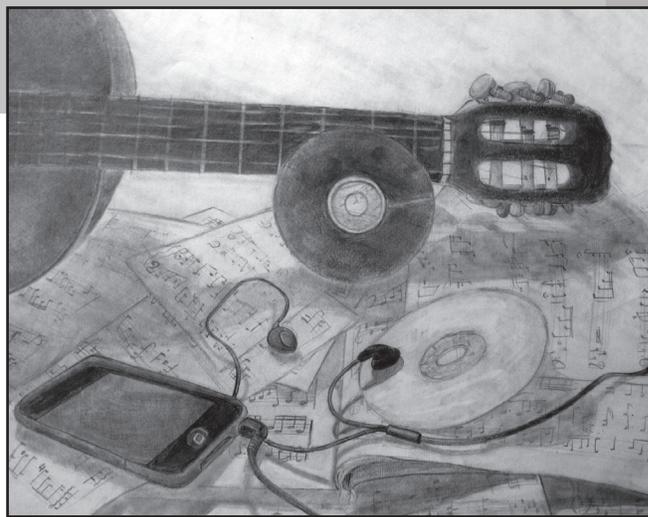
Patsy Parker

One of my more fun job descriptions as Membership and Awards Chair...is to facilitate the NAEA Awards Program in Virginia.

NAEA Southeastern Region Nominees & Awards

During the Annual Awards Breakfast, we recognized the following VAEA 2014 State Award recipients who were nominated to represent Virginia in the 2015 NAEA Southeastern Region Award Adjudication.

- **Jessica Beach** from the Blue Ridge Region was our Elementary Division Nominee.
- **Holly Bess Kincaid** from the Blue Ridge Region was our Middle School Division Nominee.
- **Barbara Gautcher** from the Blue Ridge Region was our Secondary Division Nominee.
- **Jean-Marie Galing** from the Northern VA was our Administration / Supervision Division Nominee.
- **Pamela G. Taylor** from the Central Region was our Higher Education Division Nominee.
- **Lynn Hilton Conyers** from the Blue Ridge Region was our Art Educator of the Year Nominee.



Le, Lake Braddock HS.

Art Educator: Deborah Fitzgerald

- **LeAnne Poindexter** from Northern VA Region is the 2015 Honorable Mention Recipient for her masterful wizardry... creatively maintaining the VAEA Website.



Samantha, Smithfield HS, Isle of Wight.
Art Educator: Jessica Packer

- **Margaret Miller** from Blue Ridge Region is the 2015 VSA *Peter J. Geisser Special Needs Art Educator of the Year.*
- **Kimberly Turner Towne** from Central Region is the 2015 National Middle School Division Art Educator of the Year.
- **Melanie Buffington** from Central Region is the 2015 National Higher Education Division Art Educator of the Year.

We congratulated **James Herd** from Central Region for having been awarded the NAEA Southeastern Region Elementary Art Educator of the Year 2015.

NAEA National Awards

We congratulated the following Virginia 2014 Southeast Region Award recipients who have been awarded 2015 NAEA National Awards...YES, NATIONAL AWARDS!

The "Mechanics" of the Award Process

The VAEA utilizes an award rubric formulated to score candidates on a variety of areas. There are 7 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. Each candidate is scored according to the information provided in the required vita and letters of support.

The Elementary, Middle School and Secondary School Divisions were first vetted in their regions. The winners of each division were then sent forward to state adjudication.

Adjudicators

The Adjudicators for the 2015 awards were:

- The Elementary Division: **Richelle Hodge** from Tidewater and our Elementary Division Chair and last year's Elementary Division Award recipient, **Jessica Beach** from Blue Ridge .
- The Middle School Division: **Brent Tharp** from Central and our Middle School Division Chair, **Karen Girouard** from Blue Ridge and our VAEA Secretary, **Holly Beth Kincaid** from Blue Ridge and last year's Middle School Division Award recipient and **Michelle McGrath** from Central and another former Middle School Division Award recipient.

continued on page 13...

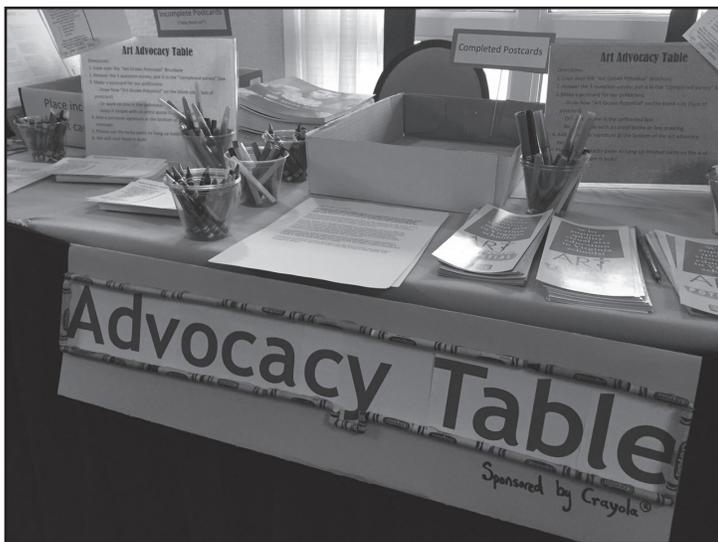
Advocacy: Speaking From the Heart

Cyndi Wells

The annual VAEA conference is one of the best ways to advocate for the arts because you spend three days immersed in a community of enthusiastic, inspiring, and hard-working artists. Upon returning to our schools, I know we all spoke from our hearts about the ways that the arts connect and unite us – by building confidence, empathy, and curiosity.

As the outgoing Advocacy Chair, I'm pleased to share the way others took the lead in advocacy at this year's conference:

- Thanks to **Molly Foster** and **Liz Jones** from Albemarle County who took the lead on a session called, "Advocacy Made Easy" Sharing Student Work.
- Thanks to the collaborative efforts of the VAEA Board members and the sponsorship of **Crayola**, we had an Advocacy Table where we invited teachers to decorate postcards to send to our legislators.
- Thanks to all the teachers who took time to share their talents on the postcards (I hope to have a link to share here prior to publication).
- Last, but certainly not least, thanks to **Julia Travers**, writer and former art teacher, who is the guest writer for this month's advocacy column. She suggests many ways you can confidently advocate for your program.



Care and Advocate for Your Students and Your Subject

Julia Travers

Art is often seen as a means to supplement and teach other subjects (which it naturally does) but it is valid in itself. Stand up for what is important for you as an Art teacher. Art must be championed by the lovers of Art, and that will be a key role for you as you find your footing in a school community. The natural wonders of Art are not immediately obvious to all. Also (as some may tell you) many adults had a traumatic experience with an Art class growing up. It is our role to strive not to produce any more Art damaged souls and to be a positive voice for those who may have experienced suffocation as young artists.

Knowing that you are an awesome teacher who is doing your best and who loves your students is important and something you can share with the community. Whether you are an extrovert or not, if you can stand in front of a group of children and engage with them about Art, you can make a newsletter, display, or have student ambassadors talk about what Art means to them. Student feedback, captured in text or video, is very powerful when shared at gatherings with parents, school board, or the school community. Student run blogs or apps are also lively ways to keep the Art department familiar to the community. Get student work into the community. You can find out who handles press releases in your district and let the media do some of the marketing work for you.

While you will likely have Art standards and other subject matter you are encouraged to teach, incorporate parts of the Art world that mean the most to you in order to give your classroom a spark. With a variety of curriculum maps and policies in place this can be a challenge for any teacher, but don't give up. Learn what your students love and make that a priority.

Learn about their skills and styles, encourage them to experiment and challenge themselves, and show them to the world as they are (they will be encouraged to conform and be more adult soon enough). You are in a unique position to honor children's reality and self-expression, even above the expectations and pre-conceptions of adults.

Take time to talk to and hear the students. It is paramount to stay involved with them so that you can feel the true benefits of working with young people. You could set aside time to visit with each student to hear how they are doing in Art class and in general.

Regional News

Southwest

Richard Moon

The Southwest region was well-represented at the VAEA fall professional conference in Roanoke on Nov. 12-14. Our regional meeting was “standing room only” on Friday morning. Thank you so much to all of you who attended the conference and helped with making it a success. Art teachers from both the Blue Ridge and Southwest regions pitched in to volunteer their time during empty slots in their schedule, to take care of vendors, help at the merchandise table, and various other duties. It helped to make for a smooth running conference.

Centerpieces created by Southwest and Blue Ridge members were a big hit at the conference, and each piece made money for art education student conference fees through a silent auction.

Southwest members have a couple of events to look forward to in the 2016 year:

We will have our Youth Art Month (YAM) show at the Jefferson Center in Roanoke for the month of March, with a reception in the middle of the month for students, parents, teachers, and the public. The theme for the student work will be “Wild About Art”. This may serve as an extension of the conference theme, “The Nature of Art”, for some.

We will have our annual teacher art show in the fall at the Taubman Museum of Art. Each SWVAEA member will be encouraged to submit up to three pieces of their own artwork.

Blue Ridge Andrea Stuart

I want to first send out a big thank you to all regional members who stepped up to make this year's state conference one of the best ever. Thank you for your time and service to our great organization. A big thank you also goes out to all our student member volunteers who also gave their time to volunteer. As the New Year is now here, see how you can step up to become more involved in your region, the state and the nation.

Our next event is the teacher art show, first at the Shenandoah Valley Art Center, opening **February 1, 2016**. I will be taking teacher artwork to Lynn; she will need work from this part of the region to shuttle to Waynesboro by **January 29th**. Please arrange to meet her for pick up. Call or email (540) 771-4837 work (540) 635-4144 extension 44119 andbs@comcast.net or astuart@wcps.k12.va.us

The opening will be February 6, 2016. The show will come down on Feb 27th. From March 2nd – April 13th, the BRRVAEA show will hang at Lord Fairfax Community College. For this year's teacher Art show, I would like to create a show catalog. I will need digital copies sent to me of all work that will be hung so that you can all get published for guaranteed recertification points.

April 22, 2016 from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM is set for our Waynesboro Professional Development Day. We are looking for member ideas for this professional development day! Directions for our Shenandoah Valley Art Center Spring workshop: Please email me your first choice of the following: Oil pastels, Printmaking, Gel printing, Collage, Textile arts, Encaustic painting, Mayco glaze lessons under-glazing and printing on clay, Molds, Differentiation, Ann Harris – Watercolors artist, Mezzotint, Loom weaving, TAB art, Clay games, Working with special needs students, Sculpture, Screen printing.

May 13th -15th 2015 Orkney Springs Retreat

Another option: Laura Wathall's Rental River cottage. These are the ideas proposed for Orkney or our alternative venue, Bends Lodge on the Shenandoah River. The lodge will cost considerably less and our Vice President, **Laurie Davis** has volunteered to cook and plan our meals if we choose this new place. The consensus as of now is to try this alternative venue. These are the ideas proposed for this special retreat. I would like you all to contact me by email and cast your vote. The top choice will be pursued for our weekend retreat:

Encaustic painting, Gel printing, Jewelry, Fibers, Watercolors, Painting any medium
Ann Harris – Watercolors artist, Clay, Naked Raku, Printmaking and Book Making/Altered books.

RAKU at Windtuck Pottery

July 8th - Wet Work RAKU

July 14th - GLAZING

July 15th - RAKU firing and Pot Luck P-ART-y to follow in the evening.

Northern Virginia

Sarah E. Philip



I enjoyed seeing old friends and meeting new ones at the fall conference in Roanoke. Our region had a great turnout, both in presenters and participants. Hopefully, you were able to snag one of the beautiful shrink-film dragonfly pins, created at Steuart Weller Elementary School in October by **Julie Galvin, Melissa Mandak, Cheryl Miehl, Kate Sternberg, Lois Petersen, Scott Russell,** and me. Our regional meeting featured the creation of Artist Trading Cards with Sharpies and rubbing alcohol on acetate. Members created two cards, one to keep and one to trade with someone they had never met. We also honored **Hope Hanes** as the Northern Region Elementary Art Educator of the Year.



Hope Hanes and Sarah Philip

The board of the Northern Region has been developing an exciting lineup of workshops for 2016. We return to Steuart Weller Elementary with **Julie Galvin** for an image transfer workshop in January. Julie's process combines painting with personal and found images. **Linda Conti** shares her love of silk scarf painting in February. Use your sleuthing skills to solve a "Murder Mystery at the National Gallery" - tickets are \$23.50 (NVAEA will give a \$5 discount) on March 6, 2016. **Hope Hanes** will teach "Fuzzy Faces" a wool felt making workshop in April.

Please consider what you can bring to NVAEA, regional elections take place this summer; forms are available on the VAEA website or e-mail me at nvaeanews@yahoo.com.

Central

Meghan Hamm

It was wonderful to see so many Central Region members at the conference in Roanoke this year. Thank you all for joining us at the regional meeting where we awarded our regional art educators. Congratulations to **Julz Suder**, our CRVAEA Elementary Teacher of the Year and State Elementary Teacher of the Year, **Amber Kuper**, our CRVAEA Middle School Teacher of the Year, and **Allison Boyd**, our CRVAEA Elementary Teacher of the Year and State Secondary Teacher of the Year. These three women have championed art education in their schools and communities in a variety of ways. We are honored to have two state winners from our region this year!

Looking ahead for the coming year...

- Please join us for our Professional Development **Conference** on February 20th at VCU's Art Education Building on Franklin St. Our theme is "Empowerment" with a variety of sessions focused on this theme. We will have a regional meeting to kick off the day with door prizes for participants. We hope to see you there!
- In March, we will be celebrating Youth Art Month at the Suntrust gallery in downtown Richmond. The opening reception date will be decided soon. Please consider nominating an art advocate for the event.

We will keep you up to date through email and the CRVAEA Face Book page for event information in the coming months.

Tidewater

Elizabeth Tumilty

Happy New Year!

We have scheduled our Winter Workshop on February 20th at ODU's Art Education Building. Lunch is provided and we will have a regional meeting to wrap up the workshop with door prizes for participants. We hope to see you there!

We will be announcing a call to artists for our spring show later in February.

In March, we will be celebrating Youth Art Month and will be requesting photo's and stories from our region's educators.

We are coordinating an encaustic workshop in June to end the school year on a fun note and are looking for space to host an educators show in the fall. We look forward to seeing you all at these events!

It was wonderful to see so many Tidewater Region members at the Regional Meeting during our conference in Roanoke this year. We awarded two of our region's art educators as Regional Teachers of the Year. Congratulations go to **Lisa Beckman**, our TVAEA Middle School Teacher of the Year and **Georgeanne Felio**, our TVAEA Secondary Teacher of the Year. These women have championed art education in their schools and communities in a variety of ways. We are honored to have them!

continued next page...

Northern VA Region continued...



Northern VA Region: Altered Book Workshop

Editor's Note: my apologies to the Northern VA Region. These photos were inadvertently left out of the fall issue.

Youth Art Month (YAM) Book Winners Announced

Jess Beach

I am proud to announce that **WE**, the state of Virginia, have received the **Award of Excellence** for the **National 2015 YAM Book Competition**. We will receive an award and be recognized at the National Art Education Association (NAEA) Convention in Chicago, IL.

The State YAM Book Competition happens annually. Each county/district in Virginia is invited to submit a book that documents their YAM celebrations in March! Books are judged by the Virginia YAM Committee and announced at the Virginia Art Education Association (VAEA) Conference.

Overall State Winners:

All state winners were announced at the 2015 VAEA Awards Breakfast on Saturday, November 14th in Roanoke.

Congratulations to **Henrico County** for receiving the Virginia YAM Book Grand Award! Congratulations to **Augusta County** for receiving the Virginia Award of Excellence! Also, congratulations to **Fauquier County** for receiving the Virginia Award of Merit! Special Awards were presented to **Nelson County** for Outstanding Media Coverage and to **Harrisonburg City** for Digital Submission.



Mike Kalafatis accepts GRAND AWARD for Henrico County



Augusta County, Award of Excellence



Nelson County, Outstanding Media Coverage



Fauquier County, Award of Merit

Photo credit: Tisha Burke and Lynn Hilton Conyers



YAM

Regional Winners:

Each region is judged separately and county/districts are awarded titles for their regions. Awards were presented at the VAEA Regional Meetings on Friday, November 13th.

- ◆ In the Tidewater Region, congratulations to **Norfolk City** for receiving the Tidewater Region Grand Award!
- ◆ In the Central Region, congratulations to **Henrico County** for receiving the Central Region Grand Award and **Chesterfield County** for receiving the Central Region Award of Excellence!
- ◆ In the Blue Ridge Region, we had several entries, making it a tough competition! Congratulations to **Augusta County** for receiving the Blue Ridge Region Grand Award! Congratulations to **Fauquier County** for receiving the Blue Ridge Region Award of Excellence! Congratulations to **Harrisonburg City** for receiving the Blue Ridge Region Award of Merit! Special commendation to **Nelson County** and **Warren County** for receiving Honorable Mentions in their region.



Jauan Brooks bestows Award of Excellence crown on Augusta County YAM winner

I am able to share some special moments with you because these teachers recognized them in their county's YAM books.

Moments like:

- Students dressing as their favorite artists at Robious Middle School
- Warrenton Middle School students teaching pre-schoolers art lessons
- Warren County Art Teachers meeting with Front Royal's Mayor
- Student work being hung at the Norfolk International Airport
- Students at Byrd Middle School turning their teacher's car into an

art car (Mrs. Jones you are so brave!)

- Henrico County Students collaborating across 9 different schools on a community mural
- Greenville Elementary Students being on Channel 7's "Good Morning Washington" to shout March is Youth Art Month!
- Caleigh, from Kettle Run High School, accepting her grand award for the YAM Flag (Stayed tuned because the 2016 YAM Flag winners will be announced this March.)

Without documenting, I would never have been able to celebrate what these magnificent teachers are doing with their kids! Please consider participating in the 2016 YAM Book competition and sharing the wonderful things you do with your students! Information can be found on the VAEA website > Resources > Youth Art Month.

Special thanks to the members of the YAM Committee for their efforts! Northern Region- **Lee Darter**, Tidewater Region- **Angie Salerno**, Blue Ridge Region- **Jauan Brooks**, South Western Region- **Cristi Miller**, Central Region- **Kelly Bisogno**
If you have any questions please contact one of the above members or myself (our emails are on the YAM webpage). We are here to help!

Membership & Awards continued...

- The Secondary Division: **Kelly Shradley-Horst** from Blue Ridge and our Secondary Division Chair, **Barbara Gauthier** from Blue Ridge and last year's Secondary Division Award recipient, and two previous Secondary Division Award Recipients...**Andrew Watson** from Northern VA and **Meredith Snyder** from Central.
- The Supervision / Administration, Museum and Higher Education Divisions are somewhat smaller in numbers. Those candidates come directly to the state level. The Adjudicators for this year's Higher Education Division were **Roger Tomhave** and **Karin Tollifson-Hall**.

We changed things up this year and expanded the number of participants in our awards program. Each of the VAEA Division Chairs presented the candidates and announced our winners. The Virginia Art Educator of the Year is the only award that is generated from and voted on by the VAEA Elected Officers and Extended Board. **Lynn Hilton Conyers**, our previous Art Educator of the Year, introduced this year's recipient.

Jessica Beach, our VAEA Youth Art Month Chair shared about the state of YAM in Virginia, announced the regional finalists and the state YAM Winner. Please go to their newsletter articles and columns for information concerning the candidates and award recipients. The VAEA is tremendously proud of each and every candidate.

We find our emerging leadership from you, our dedicated art educators. Please go to vaea.org and utilize the NAEA format and VAEA Awards rubric guidelines to craft your vita. As a professional art educator, please keep your vita updated.

Formation of a Speakers Bureau!

To have a Speakers Bureau, it is crucial that the membership have input as to the credibility of the participants. If you have a session / workshop presenter you would recommend, please email me at p2artkrt@gmail.com for further discussion and endorsement.

Student Gallery



Farrah, Gr.2, Springfield Park ES, Henrico Co.
Art Educator: Ashley Cogbill



Bethany, Clover Hill HS
Art Educator: Victoria Kirtley



Kasey, Bassett HS, Henry Co.
Art Educator: Jessica Alexander



Gr.12, Burton Center for Arts and Technology,
Roanoke County. Art Educator: Natalie Strum



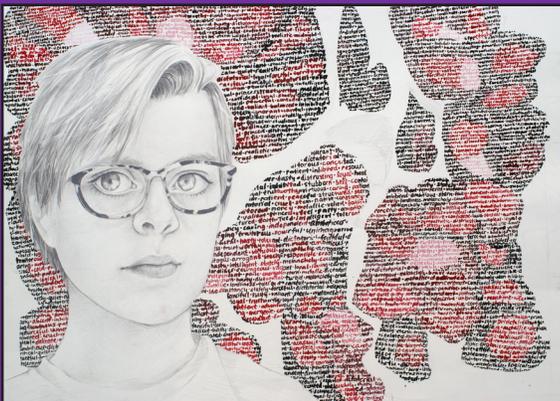
Emilie, Gr.12, Burton Center for Arts and Technology, Roanoke County.
Art Educator: Natalie Strum



Claire, Clover Hill HS
Art Educator: Victoria Kirtley



Casey, Bassett HS, Henry Co. Art Educator: Jessica Alexander



Sarah, Clover Hill HS. Art Educator: Meredith Snyder



Charly, Clover Hill HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Victoria Kirtley



Levone, Armstrong HS, Richmond City.
Art Educator: Meredith Ose



Abby, Gr.12, Burton Center for Arts and Technology, Roanoke County. Art Educator: Natalie Strum



Jasmine, Bassett HS, Henry Co. Art Educator: Jessica Alexander



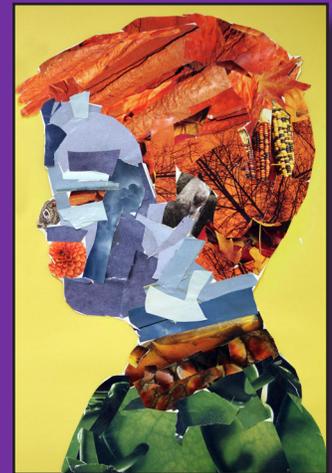
Gr.12, Burton Center for Arts and Technology, Roanoke County. Art Educator: Natalie Strum



Thomas, Gr.3, Springfield Park ES, Henrico Co. Art Educator: Ashley Cogbill



Marquee, Clover Hill HS, Art Educator: Meredith Snyder



Nathan, Gr.4, Springfield Park ES, Henrico Co. Art Educator: Ashley Cogbill



Halie, Bassett HS, Henry Co. Art Educator: Jessica Alexander



Alyssa, Smithfield HS, Isle of Wight. Art Educator: Jessica Packer

Elementary

Richelle Hodge

I hope you had a chance to go to our conference in Roanoke. It was an exciting time to learn and fellowship with art educators from all regions of VA. There were also plenty of great classes offered to those lucky enough to attend. Workshops covered a wide spectrum, from state standards to ceramics. Be sure not to miss this event next year.

Hope Hanes and **Julz Suder** are excellent educators who were nominated for the VAEA Elementary Educator of the Year for 2015. Both nominees exhibited a well-rounded array of attributes that made them both worthy of the award. Julz Suder was our winner for this year!

Julz Suder is a national board certified elementary teacher at Carver Elementary School in Henrico County. This year she was also awarded Henrico Elementary Teacher of the Year. Julz currently serves as the Central Region of VAEA Co-Vice president and has presented at VAEA and CRVAEA conferences. Among her many accomplishments, Mrs. Suder connected with community partners to display art in neighborhood businesses and workplaces. Students, families and educators were asked by Mrs. Suder to contribute to make a mural of VanGoghs' Starry Night using bottle caps. The mural is on display at the district office. Julz Suder continues to share her passion for Art with her students and community.



Julz Suder, State Winner - Elementary Art Educator of the Year



Our division meeting took place after the awards breakfast. I want to thank everyone who attended! Everyone was given our newly revised Standards of Learning for K-5. Scott Russell talked about the new Virginia standards and his role as a National Board member.



We then participated in a hands-on activity involving the creation of collage landscapes. An added benefit was that we had a chance to informally discuss positive things going on in our classrooms and share ideas.

As an art educator, it is important to broaden our minds by talking to others and sharing the wonderful things that we do! We are the ones who begin to bring out a love for the arts in our students. Continue to stay positive and think about the lives we touch every day!

Middle

Brent Tharp

Spring time is closer than you may imagine and the days have finally started to grow in length. I always find this an appropriate time to look back and see what has been happening both personally and professionally. We had a great conference that I know many were looking forward to in Roanoke. The Keynote speaker, **Suzanne Stryk**, not only spoke to the artist in me but also the scientist at heart. I loved her approach to understanding the world around her, not only aesthetically, but empirically. My school's science department has quoted my stance on the importance of science and art together. "Science is how we understand; art is how we speak to an audience." Suzanne's work is the beautiful culmination of that complete thought.

It was my honor to be able to speak about the many fantastic, engaging, and (with their dedicated practice) humbling art teachers we have in the middle division. The common characteristics that you share make you the ideal that society should aim toward. Across the state we have power house teachers making a difference. It's strange to write that sentence as I sit in a Starbucks, greeted, and instantly recognized, by a student I taught six years ago. Even though we all know we make that difference, it is the rare treasured moment you get to hear it years down the road.

Division News



Brent Tharp and Linda Conti congratulate Marisa Pappas, State Winner - Middle School Art Teacher of the Year

Marisa Pappas, Laura Thompson, Lisa Beckman, and Amber Kuper were all nominated for the Middle Division VAEA teacher of the year at this last conference. They all embody the characteristics of great teachers, and I am sure have, will, and do make a difference everyday they walk into a room.

It was my pleasure to announce Blue Ridge Region's **Marisa Pappas** as the VAEA Middle division teacher of the year.

I look forward to sharing more of these moments with you as we grow together as people and educators in the coming years. Enjoy your Spring.

Secondary

Kelley Shradley-Horst

At our annual professional development conference I introduced the secondary nominees for teacher of the year. I am pleased to once again introduce and honor these ladies as our secondary teachers of the year representatives.

The first candidate was **Allison Boyd** from Central Region, Hermitage High School. She earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts and Art Education in 2007 from VCU, and is currently pursuing her masters. She has been a member of VAEA since 2003 and has been involved with many different workshops, projects, and contests. Ms. Boyd was also recognized in her school division as the High School Art Teacher of the year in 2015 and the Golden Apple Award for going above and beyond in 2009 and 2012. She has also started her school's first National Art Honor Society and worked on such activities as the Memory Project, Musical sets and graphics, Senior Shows, and ARTS fest. She teaches an early bird art class with levels 2- AP and a computer



Allison Boyd, State Winner - Secondary Art Educator of the Year with Kelley Shradley-Horst

art class with levels 1-4 on lap tops. One parent notes that “an outstanding teacher will take your child under her wing to help your child navigate her way through high school, discover her talents, and guide her toward the path she was meant to follow. Ms. Boyd exceeded all of those expectations.” She is described by her supervisor as “one of the most tenacious, hard-working teachers I have ever seen.”

Our Second Candidate was **Kelly Tuma** from the Blue Ridge Region, Warren County High School. She graduated with a Bachelors of Arts Degree in studio art in 2002 and received her Masters of Art Education in 2006. She served the VAEA as Blue Ridge Region President for two terms. During her service as president she lead and helped organize many different workshop and professional development opportunities. She also helped host the VAEA conference in 2010 with the Southwest Region. She provides leadership in her school by working with the Curriculum and Instruction Committee, Professional Development committee, Safe and Orderly Committee, and the Teachers Mentoring Program. Her principal states, “She quickly became known as the teacher who could successfully work with all students.” Ms. Tuma is also the Student Government Advisor and helped plan multiple charity events, homecoming, pep rallies, prom, and graduation. A co-worker notes “I witnessed her manage a workload that often extended long beyond regular school hours to assist her Student Governments kids with their after school fundraising opportunities, while helping to coordinate arts opportunities for our fine arts students in and outside our school.”

Our third candidate was **Georgeanna Fellio** from the Tidewater Region, Norview High School. Ms. Fellio earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts in 2008, K-12 art education license in 2012, MFA in 2012 and is currently working on her Masters in Supervision and Administration. Ms. Fellio is praised for her persistence, self- reflection and desire to grow. Her leadership with art education started in 2008 and 2009 when she was the president of the student chapter of the NAEA at ODU. She also provides leadership in the TVAEA

with publicity and presenting workshops in the past several years. Along with teaching and providing mentorship at her school she also is the softball coach. Her fine arts department chair notes that “Not only is she able to create cross-circular substantial art experiences, Ms.Fellio also displays student work both in and out of school: expanding both the visibility and availability to non-art students

Secondary continued...

and residents.” Ms. Fellio also is a very active artist, creating, displaying, and publishing her personal artwork in many different venues including: Ellen and Gordon Gallery, Suffolk Museum, and Court House Gallery in Portsmouth, Virginia.

All three of these ladies exemplify a devotion to art education and support of the VAEA, however, there can only be one winner. This year’s winner of the VAEA Secondary Art Educator of the Year goes to **Allison Boyd** from Central Region. If you know any of these teachers please congratulate them on their wonderful achievements. If you know another great educator please consider nominating them next year for a teacher of the year award. So many of our colleges deserve to be recognized for the work they do for art education in their schools and communities.

Higher Education

Roger D. Tomhave, Ph.D



*Dr. Ryan Patton, State Winner
Higher Education Division
Art Educator of the Year*

Dr. Patton has presented seven times internationally, sixteen times for the NAEA, and five times at VAEA conferences. He has published six articles in peer-reviewed journals, with several more in press. As a result of his research, he also developed **CurrentLab**, an ongoing professional development workshop for teachers to develop their digital media expertise and their technology-related instructional skills. CurrentLab has been supported by \$100,000 in grants and has, to date, served art teachers in fifteen Virginia school Districts.

Dr. Ryan M. Patton came to Virginia in 2011 as an Assistant Professor of Art Education at Virginia Commonwealth University. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Art History & History from The University of Iowa, and his Master’s and Doctorate in Art Education from Penn State University. His areas of specialization are in game theory and digital technology.

Dr. Patton has presented seven times internationally, sixteen times for the NAEA, and five

Metal Jewelry by students from, Monticello HS, Albemarle County. Art Educator: Helen Lockwood



Sierra, Gr.12



Jackson, Gr.10



Genevieve, Gr.12



Genevieve, Gr.12

Nominator **Dr. Melanie Buffington** states that Dr. Patton, “has been an incredibly active member of the Art Education community both in the Richmond region and throughout the state. He actively contributes to the annual VAEA conference, often presenting with current or former students.”

Dr. Pam Taylor says of her colleague, “Dr. Patton is a genuine delight to know, work with, and just be around. His wit, his intelligence, kind-hearted spirit, and seemingly endless energy are wonderfully contagious throughout our faculty and students. Everyone wants to be on Ryan’s committees, in his office, or just go have a cup of coffee with him and smile. He is an emerging and relevant voice to the fields of art and art education.”

Colleague, **Dr. David Burton**, has this to say about Dr. Patton. “He is a thoughtful, conscientious teacher who is dedicated to the finest education and well-being of his students. He consistently receives very high ratings from his students, and they speak very highly of him. He is lively and enthusiastic in his personality, drawing everyone around him into his orbit.”

Congratulations to **Dr. Ryan Patton** on being named the VAEA 2015 Higher Education Division Art Educator of the Year!

Supervision @ Administration

Mike Kalafatis

Mike and Mike: An Interview with 'Lightman'

I want to open 2016 with an interview with my esteemed colleague, friend, and mentor, **Mike Gettings**. Many of you know him as the Instructional Specialist for the Visual Arts in Chesterfield and former VAEA Art Educator of the Year. However, he now has an alter ego known as **RVA Lightman**. He makes appearances around Richmond at First Fridays, InLight and at our annual VAEA Conference.

1. *Mike, who is RVA Lightman?*

Lightman is, in the simplest terms, "walking, talking, sculpture". He's a character based performance piece that uses lighting technologies and a larger than life appearance to awe and bring a level of joy to viewers.

I used some of the theories of **Nicolas Bourriaud** --- and what he calls relational art_ I particularly latched on the ideas of diminishing the distance between the work of art, the artist and audience. With Lightman 1 & 2/2.5 the distance was narrowed to a fine degree. By that I mean people could experience the work visually, talk to the artist and interact with the work through posing with pictures, asking questions, etc. Lightman 3.0 has narrowed the distance even further by adding a camera and video live feed. Folks now literally become part of the work of art by interacting a feedback loop with the camera and projected self-images. This could be considered a reflection of our selfie culture. Also a very postmodern sense, the video



Lightman with fans



Lightman suit

documentation captures the audience mugging for the camera. Video manipulation, live streaming and other as of yet unthought-of of ideas are potential uses.

2. *Where did you get this idea?*

I taught a high school computer arts class in the early 2000s. Some of my students helped me build a computer and showed me ways to trick out the case with eWire. Ever since, I had been thinking of using the then new portable lighting systems in some sort of art project for years. I hit on the idea of wearing them but wasn't sure of the direction. In 2011 I saw a display of Nick Cave's Sound Suits and performances in Seattle. The light bulb went off and I thought I would construct a sound and light suit!

3. *What's been the evolution of the costume from when you started to now?*

The first version was based on the ideas above with the mystery of the character without a facial or vocal personality. Lightman 1.0's costume was a shimmering gown and head piece with lights. Off of the headpiece were lights and dreadlock-like bamboo strands. The face was hidden inside the headpiece and was obscured. For the first two appearances, Lightman 1.0 did not say anything. However, this behavior was off putting to many people. So, I decided to talk to make the character more accessible.

Lightman 2.0 added the 7" heeled boots, black shoulder pads, etc. This was designed to be larger than life, yet more approachable. At some point I added the walking stick. With



Lightman in public

2.5 I added sound via a lighted Bluetooth speaker connected to a specific playlist on my phone. 3.0 has mirrored tiles on the shoulder pads, more lights and the go pro style camera with live video displayed on the tablet. As a side note, the use of these technologies is intentional – off

the shelf, fairly cheap technologies – a concept inspired by NASA missions with similar stated goals.

4. How long does it take to get in to your costume?

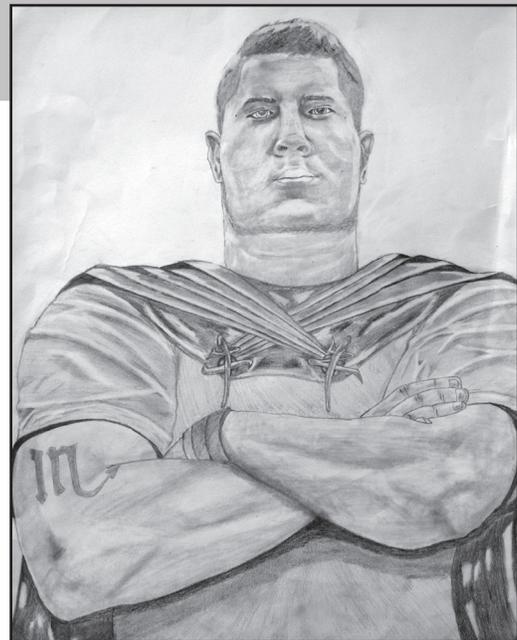
About 20 minutes

5. How do people react to you out in public?

It's funny- some people walk by like there is not a lit up, music spewing seven foot tall man passing them on the sidewalk. But more people stop, stare and many ask if they can take a picture. Many people ask, "What are you supposed to be?" Kids are either enthralled or scared to death. I never, ever push myself into their space. I get a lot of "Did you see that!?" and I pass too. Almost every interaction is positive.

6. Any words of encouragement for fellow artists or aspiring superheroes?

Well, for super heroes, I can't really help much. I'm a 58 year old man teetering on 7" heels and in reality would be of no help in a super hero situation. Maybe if I practiced walking in the shoes more...



*Nick, Clover Hill HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Meredith Snyder*

For artists – be fearless, go for it, and be as creative as you want to be. People will have mostly a hard time understanding what a performance art piece is, so be prepared for that. If you are going to be in the public like Lightman, be very conscious that you are in public and the feedback you receive can be based on how you present yourself to people. If you smile, people will smile back. If you don't the mood can change pretty quickly.

7. What's your best story so far from this experience?

As a rule, people have been very nice and accepting. However, one time I was out at First Fridays as Lightman 1.0. I walked past a coffee shop and looked in the window. There were a couple of young ladies chatting at a table. One was facing the window. I caught her eye and did a little wave to her. She scowled at me, then mouthed, "****you" and gave me the finger! It was one of the funniest things that ever happened till that time or since.

[1] Nicolas Bourriaud and what he calls relational art. According to Bourriaud, relational art encompasses "a set of artistic practices which take as their theoretical and practical point of departure the whole of human relations and their social context, rather than an independent and private space."



*Frank, Clover Hill HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Meredith Snyder*

Museum Education

Hillary Hardison

Refilling the Well

Where do our creative ideas come from? As art educators we are often telling our students to draw from their personal experiences for project inspiration. What about our own inspiration? To be inspiring one must first be inspired! The teachers that made the best impression on me projected a level of excitement and wonder that made learning fun.

Lately I have been thinking about the importance of filling my own creative well so I can always have something new and fresh to teach. It is different for everyone, of course. Just because we are art teachers does not mean that only art can replenish our creative juices. Sometimes a long walk or a trip to the mountains will do it, other times it happens through visits to other museums, making personal art in my studio, or browsing an art supply store. The VAEA fall conference is one of my favorites; nothing beats sharing ideas with like-minded souls. There are as many ways to refill the well as there are to empty it.

As museum educators we are uniquely challenged to develop new programs and curriculum to connect with traveling exhibits that often change every 3 – 6 months. I think this schedule actually helps me keep the well from drying out because there is always a new exhibit to help stimulate new ideas.

How do we find the time? With all of our demands at work and home, personal creative time is often the first thing to go; I know it has been for me at times. There is no easy answer, we simply must schedule this time and give it equal priority to some of the other things that take precedence. I am convinced that it and we are worth it so I hope you will join me in setting a goal to make some time each day or at least each week; even 5 minutes counts.

If you are looking for “well refill” ideas, look no further than these upcoming exhibits at a museum near you! May your new year be filled to the brim with inspiration, creativity, and quiet moments of insight!

VMFA

Rodin: Evolution of a Genius

November 21, 2015 – March 13, 2016

Organized by the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and the Musée Rodin in Paris, this exhibition features nearly 200 works by the greatest sculptor of the 19th and early 20th centuries: Auguste

Rodin. Revealing the evolving output of this genius of sculpture, the exhibition examines his techniques, materials, models and assistants, and explores the extraordinary working process behind some of his best known works.

Auguste Rodin completely revitalized the very language of sculpture with his passion for the creative act. Fragile plasters as well as patinated bronzes, marble figures, astonishing ceramics and never-before-exhibited photographs all attest to this creative intensity, with much of the work presented in North America for the first time.

Read more at <http://vmfa.museum/exhibitions/exhibitions/auguste-rodin/#WGLjOmzATLRsjPs7.99>

MOCA

Courtney Mattison: Sea Change

January 30 - April 17, 2016

courtneymattison.com/



Artist and ocean advocate Courtney Mattison creates large scale ceramic installations and sculptures inspired by science and marine biology. Her intricate hand-crafted porcelain works celebrate the fragile beauty of endangered coral reef ecosystems and promote awareness to conserve and protect our natural world.

- See more at: <http://virginiamoca.org/courtney-mattison-sea-change#sthash.BENH7ni9.dpuf>

Taubman Museum of Art

American Chronicles: The Art of Norman Rockwell

Sunday, March 20, 2016 - Sunday, June 12, 2016



The Taubman Museum of Art is pleased to present a major exhibition exploring the legendary American illustrator and artist Norman Rockwell and his unparalleled role as an icon-maker and storyteller. American Chronicles: The Art of Norman Rockwell has been organized by the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Massachusetts and features original works drawn from its permanent collection. Norman Rockwell (American, 1894-1978) painted the best of America, creating indelible images of the lives, hopes, and dreams of Americans in the 20th century. The exhibition includes such beloved and well known images as Triple Self-Portrait (1960), Girl at Mirror (1954), Going and Coming (1947), and Art Critic (1955) as well as preliminary sketches, Saturday Evening Post covers, photographs, color studies, and detailed drawings. The rare exhibition chronicles Rockwell's career during 65 years of painting and highlights his unique artistic legacy that profoundly influenced American perceptions and ideals.

Retired Art Educators

Carla Jaranson

The 2015 VAEA Conference in Roanoke was wonderful!! Many of the workshops were solidly booked, but there were always some openings elsewhere. Seeing so many new faces was great. The energy is always electric when artists gather to create and share ideas. There were at least 18 of our “retired” members involved with the conference – presenting, working behind the scenes and encouraging the younger teachers. Presenters included **Martha Biggar** (Art & Science of Botany), **GINNA CULLEN** (Contemporary Book Arts), **Gail Geer** (Create Your Own Sculpture), **Carla Jaranson** (Asian Brush Painting), **Audrey Moeller** (Let’s Talk TAB), **Bettyann Plishker** (Pre-assessment: A Student Centered Approach) and **Leanne Poindexter** representing Crayola (English and Math Literacy Draws Upon Art).

In the Retiree meeting on Saturday morning of conference we discussed ways to help new art educators. Some ideas shared were ways to offer tried and true lesson plans, work as artists in the schools, use computers to give on line assistance, mentoring new and/or struggling teachers. With the internet now connecting people in remote areas, we can expand our reach. The question is how to organize a program and how to spread the word to those who need it.



*Nicholas, Gr.11, Art IV Honors, Clover Hill HS, Chesterfield Co.
Art Educator: Meredith Snyder*



*Gr.12, Burton
Center for Arts
and Technology,
Roanoke Coun-
ty. Art Educator:
Natalie Strum*

My apologies to Sandra Barkley whose wonderful story came too late last summer to be included in the Fall newsletter. **Sandra Trice Barkley** continues to enjoy giving back to her Goochland community where she was raised and spent her last 18 years of a successful career teaching elementary art. Last summer she taught a class in “Creative Lettering” at the public library. She volunteers in the local schools by mentoring children involved in student generated projects incorporating the visual arts. Travels in 2015 included a trip to Asheville, NC with a tour of the Biltmore, Grove Park Inn, and the River Arts District. The greatest moment was when her husband persevered and they found the original site of Black Mountain College. Sandra was first introduced to this experimental institution in art education during her undergraduate work at Longwood College and again at VCU grad school. It is located around Lake Eden with many of the artist and student constructed buildings still standing. Black Mountain College existed from 1933-56. Faculty members included Josef Albers, Wilhem de Kooning, Buckminster Fuller, Robert Motherwell, and Jacob Lawrence. Among their students were Kenneth Noland, Robert Rauschenberg, and Cy Twombly. At its height, it must have been wonderful to participate in performance art and Sandra felt like she was standing on hallowed ground. The property is now used as a church camp and one can attend art festivals around the lake. During a recent trip to Durham, NC, she was introduced to 21c Museum/Hotel filled with contemporary art. Sandra was delighted to attend her 40th college reunion at Longwood University in September 2015, and is proud to keep her teaching licensure renewed for the next five years.

Please share your thoughts with me at carlajean8@gmail.com so that I can publish them here. You all have a wealth of experience that can be so helpful to others. I look forward to hearing from you.

Research & Curriculum

Pamela G. Taylor

While the jury is still out on the newly signed “Every Student Succeeds Act,” one can only be hopeful that the high stakes and threatening tactics of the “No Child Left Behind Act” are just a bitter memory. Positive reactions have come from the National Association of Music Merchants: “More school-aged children nationwide will have access to music and the arts, thanks to Congress’ inclusion of both subject areas as part of a well-rounded education in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)” . . . [the new act] protects time devoted to music and arts as well as provides new opportunities through funding grants (Bodmer, 2015, para. 1-2). Of particular interest to art educators is the bill’s emphasis on classroom time. Put another way, students should no longer be pulled out of art class for remedial work in other courses. *Education Week* (2015) offers an excellent explanation of key highlights of the bill that purportedly scales back the U.S. Department of Education’s hands-on role in accountability and allows significant flexibility for states.

Although states still have to submit accountability plans, they can choose their own goals. States will be required to include proficiency on state tests, English-language proficiency, plus one additional indicator that might include: student engagement, educator engagement, access to and completion of advanced coursework, postsecondary readiness, school climate/safety, or whatever else the state thinks makes sense. Participation rate is a stand-alone factor, not a separate indicator on its own. Graduation rates will be included in high school plans.

States will have to identify (every 3 years) and intervene in low-performing schools (bottom 5%). States will require that districts monitor and work with teachers and school staff to come up with an evidence-based plan for the bottom 5 percent of schools and for high schools with high dropout rates. They will be required to formulate their own plan (along with allowing school choice) if nothing changed over 4 years. Plans for assisting subgroups who are falling behind will also be required.

States will still have to test students in reading and math in grades 3 through 8 and once in high school, and break out the data for whole schools, plus different “subgroups” of students (English-learners, students in special education, racial minorities, those in poverty). The ESSA will maintain the federal requirement for 95 percent participation in tests. They will be required to adopt “challenging” academic standards. A new, evidence-based research and innovation program will be created, described by some as similar to the Obama administration’s Investing in Innovation program.

Other highlights include a standalone program for parent engagement, along with reservations for arts education, gifted and talented education, and Ready-to-Learn television. Teacher evaluations based on student outcomes will no longer be required. The Teacher and School Leader Innovation Program (formerly the Teacher Incentive Fund) will provide grants to districts that want to try out performance pay and other teacher-quality improvement measures.



Gr.12, Burton Center for Arts and Technology, Roanoke County. Art Educator: Natalie Strum

As stated earlier, we have much left to learn and understand regarding this new bill. We can be hopefully optimistic while remaining vigilant.

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Bodmer, L. (2015). NAMM applauds congress for passage of “Every student succeeds act.” *National Association of Music Merchants*. Retrieved from: <https://www.namm.org/news/press-releases/namm-applauds-congress-passage-%E2%80%9Cevery-student%20%E2%80%9C>

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Policy Update

Barbara Laws

Since the last VAEA newsletter, there have been interesting policy movements and opportunities at the state and local levels.

On October 8, 2015, VCFAE (Virginia Coalition for Fine Arts Education) representatives and DOE representatives, including Dr. **Stephen R. Staples**, Virginia Superintendent of Public Instruction, met to discuss a variety of topics related to the support of arts instruction in schools. Among the list of topics which were favorably received were support for funding of arts teachers, STEM to STEAM, middle school and high school scheduling, and proposed DOE professional development for arts teachers. Dr. Staples and the other DOE folks present offered suggestions for how to move forward on these issues. In addition, we provided copies of the VCFAE remediation and revised physical education legislation policy statements.

As part of the effort to move forward on some of these policy initiatives, several VCFAE representatives will be speaking to the Virginia Board of Education meeting on January 28, 2016, about general information related to music and the arts; the newly adopted STEM to STEAM Position Statement; and Standards of Quality: Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13.2. Support for full funding.

Following are some highlights of the arts-supportive provisions in the federal Every Student Succeeds Act or ESSA S.117 reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act) which was signed into law by President Obama on Thursday, December 10, 2015:

- The arts and music are specifically named as a part of “well-rounded education,” language which has been substituted for the previous NCLB (No Child Left Behind) “core academic subjects,” of which the arts were a part.
- The new ESSA “Assistance for Arts Education” program provides continuing authorization for an arts education grants program and is a substitute for the previous “Arts in Education” fund.
- The integration of arts and design education into STEM is encouraged and supported by “Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants” which also support arts and music education.
- Arts programming eligibility appears to have been retained in Title I funding.

Additional information may be accessed through the National Art Education Association and Americans for the Arts websites.

Implications are clear that support is there for arts education. On the other hand there is greater flexibility for implementation at the local and state levels and efforts to ensure equal access and funding must be ongoing. As we progress through the legislative season and policy monitoring,

we will be communicating with you and perhaps requesting your support. The VCFAE met in September, meets again in January to keep abreast of state policy issues and influencing opportunities, and posts updates and policy statements to the VCFAE webpages on the VAEA website. Please be on the lookout for more information from the VAEA – and on the VAEA website – throughout the winter.

K-8 Visual Arts Strategies & Correlations Project

This summer, Cherry Gardner of the Virginia Department of Education, gathered together a group of art educators to work

on teaching strategies to correlate the new Visual Arts Standards of Learning with those of the core subjects. This is an ongoing project at this time, but I wanted to recognize those teachers involved.



*Cherry Gardner
Project Director*



*Taylor Mooney
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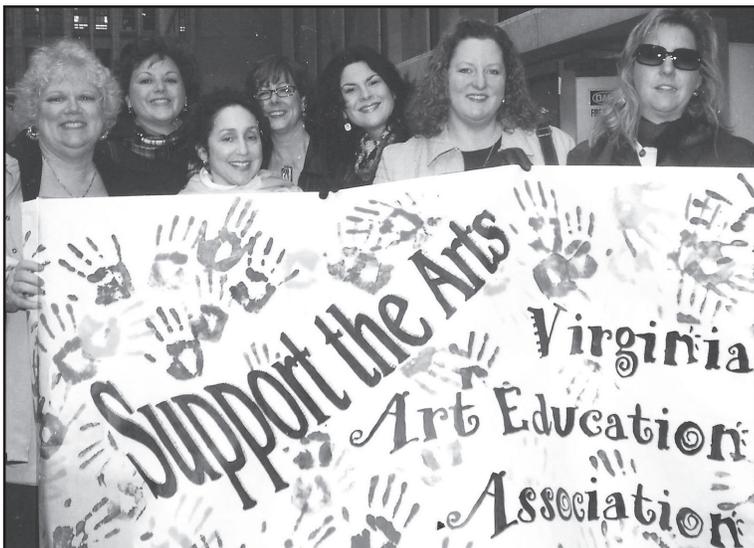
Linda Conti - President, Sarah Mays - Vice-President, Holly Bess Kincaid - Secretary, Brent Tharp - Treasurer

Salute to Maripat ... continued from page 3



*June 2015
Maripat and her daughter, Emily at a Picasso workshop in Barcelona, Spain*

*2008
VAEA at NAEA in New York... outside the Today Show.
Kathy Barclay, Maripat Hyatt, Naomi Swyers, Dawn Schwartz, Beth Allums, Karen Siler, and Helena Agnew*



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News Magazine Deadline: March 15, 2016

Winter 2016

kathy barclay, editor,
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mechanicsville, va



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Art Educator: Jessica Alexander



Tree decorations, Lewis Ginter,
by Kaechele ES, Henrico Co.
Art Educator: April Barlette



Mykayla, Bassett HS, Henry Co.
Art Educator: Jessica Alexander



Reilly, Grade 12, Clover Hill HS
Art Educator: Victoria Kirtley



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