



The mission of the Women's Caucus for Art is to expand opportunities and recognition for women in the arts.

- Education about the contributions of women artists
- Opportunities for the exhibition of women's work
- Publication of women's writing about art
- Inclusion of women in the history of art
- Professional equity for all
- Respect for all individuals without discrimination
- Supporting legislation relevant to our goals

The Chicago Chapter Newsletter

Winter 2009

WCA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
Page 1

WCA/CAA NATIONAL CONFERENCE, LA
Page 2

NEWS/WCA EVENTS
Page 2

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS and Calls for Art...
Page 3

MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
Page 4

CWCA DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS
Page 4

Women's Caucus for Art Annual Lifetime Achievement Awards

The Women's Caucus for Art (WCA) is proud to announce the recipients for the 30th Annual Lifetime Achievement Awards: Maren Hassinger, Ester Hernandez, Joyce Kozloff, Margo Machida, and Ruth Weisberg. The WCA will honor the recipients during their annual conference, held in conjunction with the College Art Association conference in February 2009. The awards ceremony and dinner honoring the recipients will take place at the Wilshire Grand Hotel, 930 Wilshire Boulevard in Los Angeles, California, on Saturday, February 28, 2009. LAA dinner is at 6:30-7:30 and the ceremony is at 7:30-9:00pm. The ceremony and dinner are open to the public.

The Lifetime Achievement Awards were first presented in 1979 in President Jimmy Carter's Oval Office to Isabel Bishop, Selma Burke, Alice Neel, Louise Nevelson, and Georgia O'Keeffe. Past honorees have represented a full range of distinguished achievement in the visual arts from artists to art historians to museum professionals. This year's awardees are no exception; they represent a wide range of involvement and activism in the arts.

The 2009 President's Awards will be given to Susan Fisher Sterling, Director of the National Museum of Women in the Arts, and Catherine



Clockwise from top-left: Margo Machida, Ester Hernandez (center), Joyce Kozloff, Maren Hassinger and Ruth Weisberg.

Opie, well-known artist and Professor of Photography at the University of California, Los Angeles.

The Lifetime Achievement awards dinner is scheduled for 6:30 - 7:30pm and the ceremony from 7:30-9:30pm. Dinner tickets include a reserved seat for the awards ceremony, are \$105 beginning January 1, 2009. Event and table sponsorship opportunities are also available. Contact

Marilyn Hayes, WCA's National President, for more information about sponsorships, advertisements, or notices at president@nationalwca.org. Tickets for the dinner can be purchased at WCA's website, www.nationalwca.org. Separate reserved-seating for the awards ceremony (\$10) can also be purchased from the website. General audience seating for the awards ceremony is free; interested attendees should arrive early.

The Women's Caucus for Art is a national non-profit organization committed to expanding opportunities and recognition for women in the arts. Please check www.nationalwca.org for more details about planned events during WCA's Conference in 2009.

Ticket Information:
www.nationalwca.org/awards/ticketinfo.html

Please check <http://www.nationalwca.org/conference/currentconfer.html> for more details about planned events.

LA 2009 CONFAB, LOS ANGELES, CA, February 25 – March 2, 2009. If you are planning to attend the WCA LA 2009 Confab please give us a heads-up so we can be prepared for you. E-mail Sandra Mueller at sandramueller@scwca.org to provide her with your arrival and departure dates. (see pg. 2)

WCA'S 2009 CONFAB IN LOS ANGELES

ART AND ACTIVISM - SHARE YOUR PASSION!

February 25 – March 2, 2009

Come early for the College Art Association conference & stay through the Women's Caucus for Art Confab, Art and Activism – Share Your Passion!

From February 25 through March 2, 2009, we'll be meeting, thinking, pondering and playing together. So, make your plans now to enjoy a winter break in sunny, art filled Southern California. In a dynamic change from prior Los Angeles conferences, WCA 2009 will follow a "CONFAB" style that features networking, tours, inspiring awards, exciting exhibitions and many participatory events that complement the rich feast of feminist presentations offered by the College Art Association (CAA). The Feminist Art Project panels on Saturday, February 28, 2009, featuring leading scholars and artists will also be rewarding. WCA events also include opportunities for chapter networking and information sharing at the early morning Chapters' Council meetings on Saturday, February 28 and Sunday, March 1. The National Board meets on Monday, March 2, and all WCA members are invited.

WCA plans to offer an all-inclusive conference package price that includes the Lifetime Achievement Awards dinner and ceremony and all events. More information and tickets now available at www.nationalwca.com.

National and Local News

The death of the American artist **Andrew Wyeth** sparked a wide outpouring of appreciation and remembrances. The Philadelphia Inquirer sums up the diverse reaction in many quarters to Wyeth: "The public loved his work, but many critics and scholars considered him an illustrator like his father, N.C. Wyeth, rather than a major artist." **President-elect Barack Obama** on Saturday retraced part of the train route taken by his political hero Abraham Lincoln to his inauguration in 1861 from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Washington, where Obama will be sworn in on Tuesday as the nation's 44th president. Millions of Americans are expected to honor **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** this Monday, January 19th. More than 11,400 service projects are taking place across the country, more than double last year. Americans will make it "**a day on, not a day off**" by delivering meals, refurbishing schools, reading to children, signing up mentors, and much, much more. **The Chicago Art Deco Society**, a revitalized non-profit, has embarked on the first complete survey of Art Deco in the city. The style had its heyday during the 1920s and 1930s and is most visible in such landmarks as the Chicago Board of Trade Building. The survey, designed to locate hidden gems, will be carried out on

foot, by bicycle, by car and on public transit. Sponsored by the **Richard H. Driehaus Foundation of Chicago**, the exercise will provide content for a still-to-be-published book on Chicago Art Deco. **Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act** passes US House handing labor an early victory in the new Congress. The bill is synonymous with Lilly Ledbetter, an Alabama woman whose case against Goodyear was thrown out by the Supreme Court last year. The bill would overturn the Supreme Court ruling and let workers challenge each paycheck as a separate act of discrimination.

Censorship Watch, contributed by *Arlene Rakoncaj*

Reported by The National Coalition Against Censorship Newsletter: A sculpture of the Kokopelli, a Native American fertility god and healer, was moved from the front of Edge of the Cedars State Park Museum in Blanding, Utah after a local group calling itself the "Values Committee" threatened a protest because the sculpture has a penis.

Reported by the Chicago Reader: an installation by Jenny Ramos for the "Department (Store)" show at the School of the Art Institute was asked to remove any prescription medication in her installation. The installation has more than a 100 locked glass display cases, with a different artists' installation in each. Her installation "Pills" displayed about 2,500 tablets and capsules, including some that were prescribed for her. She wanted the installation to convey "the commercialization of medicine in America." She had to pull 236 pills of which only 36 were narcotics. The school claimed they were enforcing safety and security guidelines for the exhibition. Ramos denied she was told about the guidelines and the removal compromised the integrity of her work.

Executive Exits by *Katherine Raz, A/C, gapersblock.com*

Is the volatile arts climate is having its effect on Chicago theater administrations? Last week Court Theatre executive director Dawn Helsing announced her resignation. On Tuesday Redmoon Theater's executive and artistic directors, Jim Lasko and Christopher Schram, announced theirs.

While it may be easy to blame the recent moves on today's shaky financial scene, it should be noted that under Helsing's direction Court increased its annual budget from \$2.5 to \$3.2 million and saw its biggest hit to date in Caroline, or Change (which was on seemingly everyone's top 10 list last year). Redmoon may not be sitting as pretty -- the company announced it is contracting in size and will produce fewer shows on their home stage this year -- but its current production, Winter Pageant Redux, recently extended.

It's no picnic to lead an arts organization through an economic downturn, especially for administrators who'd rather focus on making

plays for audiences than making spreadsheets for board members. (As Lasko's open resignation letter states, "I relish the opportunity to focus more purely on my artistic practice. Organizational leadership, like parenting, is a heavy load.") So it seems likely that this recent trilogy of arts administrators won't be the only ones to get shaken out of the trees, nor will their successors be the only fresh faces on the Chicago theater scene once this crisis is behind us.

Women's Caucus for Art Programs/ Events

The Art of Saving the Earth's Water: discussion January 31, 2009, 10 am–noon. *Topic: How would you save the earth's water?* Focusing the WCA vision on Women & Water Rights through the Rivers of Regeneration exhibit to create new ways to conceptualize the global water crisis. Co-sponsored by WILPF, the Women's Caucus for Art, and the U of M in 2010. For information on events and opportunities to create work addressing this issue contact Liz Dodson at: 612-333-8150, lizartist@me.com.

CWCA invites you to a private art tour on Sunday, January 25, 2:00 p.m. Diane and Alan Johnson invite you to view their private art collection. The work consists of "art from exotic places from our travels and also imagist art where the imagination or dream is brought to life". Several paintings by **James Mesple** recall ancient myths, consider human frailty, pride, humility, love and hate. A piece by **Eleanor Spies-Ferris** depicts of the fragility of the environment; several pieces from **Karena Karass** are dream-like and surrealistic in spirit, painted in the style of Hieronymus Bosch. The collection is mainly an anthology of works from local Chicago artists with the inclusion of a few exotics from the Big Island of Hawaii, Tahiti, Haiti and Bali. This is a free member event; a \$5 donation from non-members to be paid at the door. R.S.V.P. at 847.674-0321, arlenarakoncaj@aol.com to receive directions. Donations of snacks are appreciated.

More events of interest on our blog:
<http://chicagowca.wordpress.com> and
website: <http://www.chicagowca.com>.

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bren Sibilsky recently entered the Manhattan Arts juried show titled "Celebrate The Healing Power of Art 2008". Bren received 8th place in the world for the Winners of the Top 10 Awards. The show has 100 winners. The top 10 consists of artwork that received the highest total scores by the jurors Jane St. Lifer, Edward Rubin, and Renee Phillips.

This show is international with entries from around the globe.
<http://www.manhattanarts.com/Gallery/Healing2008/index.htm>

Clairan Ferrono's piece "Last Conversation: was juried into the 2009 exhibit form not function: Quilt Art at the Carnegie, Carnegie Center for Art and History, New Albany, IN, through March 7, 2009.

Shelley Gilchrist has a floor installation in the exhibit "Collaborative Visions: The Poetic Dialogue Project", which opens at the Chicago Cultural Center on Jan. 30. Reception is 6-8 PM. Collaborative Vision: The Poetic Dialogue Project is an exhibition of 31 works of art created by collaborative teams of visual artists and poets from across the United States. This exhibition, featuring works in all media, including paintings, photographs, sculptures, artist-made books, and various mixed media art installations, was curated by Chicago area visual artist Beth Shadur. Ms. Gilchrist also has work at Morpho Gallery, 5216 N. Damen in Chicago.

Ellen Roth Deutsch has curated a 14 artist exhibit entitled "Crossing Threads/ Crossing Boundaries" for the Altgeld Galleries at the Northern Illinois University Museum in DeKalb, Illinois. The exhibiting artists are Renie Breskin Adams, Mary Bero, Ilse Bolle, Judith Brotman, Sun Choi, Cat Chow, Susan Etcoff Fraerman, Christine LoFaso, Danny Mansmith, Darrel Morris, Lindsay Obermeyer, Yvette Kaiser Smith, Sharon Wright, and Betsy Youngquist. January 20 - March 6, 2009
 Receptions: Thursday, February 5, 4:30 - 7PM. Informal Gallery Talk with Curator: Saturday, February 7, 1-3pm. Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10-5, Sat 12-4pm and by appointment. For more information, Call Diana at 815-753-1936, www.niu.edu/artmuseum

Roberta Miles will be exhibiting her solo show, Alchemy Series, at Saint Xavier University, SXU Gallery. The opening reception is Wednesday, January 21, 2009 at 3:30. The show will be hanging in the SXU Gallery, 3700 W 103rd St., Chicago, IL, from January 12 through February 3, 2009. The opening reception is free and open to the public. There will be a jazz performance by Roberta Miles followed by a discussion and Q&A.

Judith Roth, Past-President of CWCA, wishes a Happy, Healthy New Year to All.

"Thank you to all who attended the CWCA Holiday Party at my studio and home on December 21st! We had a lovely time -- a very congenial group of members, spouses, friends and neighbors dropped by for steaming mugs of hot "Glogg," good food and conversation, exchange of our traditional grab-bag gifts, and the warmth of a goodly fire in the fireplace struggling to compete with the cold and snow outside! Folks came from as far away (considering the icy snowy driving weather that weekend) as Arlington Heights, Crystal Lake, and Morton Grove! It was great to see you all and we missed those of you who could not attend. Special thanks to all who brought generous donations of canned and other non-perishable foods for the needy. It was gratefully received last week by the Lakeview Pantry on North Broadway. Welcome to Sandra Holubow and Nancy Charak who have just joined CWCA! We look forward to seeing you all at the next CWCA program."

Post your member events, announcements and news on our blog at <http://chicagowca.wordpress.com/>

Calls for Art

Deadline: January 31, 2009
 Cliff Dweller's Club on Michigan Avenue is seeking art to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth. Submit a Lincoln portrait on canvas. All portraits will be hung. Canvas does not have to be framed. Drop off at the Frame Warehouse in Oak Park or Evanston before January 31. Pick-up on March 1 at these same locations. Details: Paul Hamer, paul@fwchicago.com.

LATE Deadline: January 23, 2009
 Amdur Productions, 26th summer art festivals, seeking artists for various art fairs throughout the summer. Artists can apply online at: www.amdurproductions.com. Click "Apply Now" and follow the prompts to submit work electronically, 4 images of work and one image of their booth. Artists can also submit slides and use a paper application for a small conversion fee.

Deadline: February 11, 2009
 3rd Ward: 2009 Spring Solo Show Open Call One artist will be awarded fame, fortune, and an incredible Solo Show! The Spring Solo Show is a nationwide open call for work and a hunt for an artist with a groundbreaking voice and a hunger for exposure. We are looking for work from all media -- sculpture, photography, painting, printmaking, illustration, installation, graphic design, video, and more! The selected artist will be announced in the 3rd Ward Publication with two-page spread and will receive: \$1,000 cash grant, 1-month residency at 3rd Ward with FULL facility access

A solo exhibition in 3rd Ward's gallery, complete with a massive opening reception City-wide exposure. Submissions will be evaluated by a judging panel: Janet Ozzard, Editor at New York Magazine, Liz Dimmitt, Curator of Gawker Artists, and Jarrett Gregory, Curator at the New Museum.

CLEVELAND, OHIO ARTIST REGISTRY
 Cleveland Public Art is seeking artists' portfolios to be considered for public art projects throughout Cleveland, OH. Cleveland Public Art, 1951 W. 26th Street, #101, Cleveland, OH 44113-3440, 216-621-5330, <http://www.clevelandpublicart.org>.

ARTISTS WHO TEACH

Open to artists worldwide who teach and have taught in the past are eligible. Free listing at www.artistswhoteach.org. Artist must have a web site. No fee to join. Contact Leighann Foster for portfolio review and acceptance: foster3@gvvc.com.

SPACELAB in Cleveland, Ohio
 Two SPACELab projects are exhibited for three weeks. Site-specific work is encouraged. Artists will receive a small honorarium for their exhibition. Print an application form at www.SpacesGallery.org/labform.html, and mail along with a one-page proposal and at least 10 images or a video, to: SPACELab Committee, SPACES, 2220 Superior Viaduct, Cleveland, OH, 44113.

MINNESOTA PERCENT FOR ART ARTIST REGISTRY

Open to all professional visual artists 18+. Resource for selecting artists for state building projects. Information is sometimes shared with architects, designers, and public or private organizations at their request for use in identifying and locating artists to create works of art. Create an artist profile at <http://www.percentforart.us/>.

Skokie's (IL) Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) is seeking art in a wide variety of media and styles. All sculptures must be durable and suitable for outdoor placement. Only professional sculptors and artists who have worked on large scale format should apply. Details: www.skokie.org and complete an artist application form.

International Museum of Surgical Science is seeking submissions in any media with medical themes for quarterly exhibitions. Fee: \$25. Submit proposal, statement, 10 - 15 images, resume, SASE to: Anatomy in the Gallery, International Museum of Surgical Science, 1524 N. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, IL 60610.

CWCA MEMBERSHIP AND BENEFITS

The new membership cycle starts October 1 and ends December 31 of the following year. Renew your membership or join as a new member with the National WCA PayPal account. Don't forget to check the box for Chicago, IL Chapter (ILC) membership. Renew online or download the application at: www.chicagowca.com/membership.html

MEMBER BENEFITS

When you become a member of the national Women's Caucus you are helping to support an organization that has worked to support women in the arts since 1972. By joining your local chapter, you gain access to unique opportunities to connect with fellow artists and participate directly in your local arts community.

Your membership includes benefits such as: Access to the

National Membership Directory and arts opportunities listed in the MATRIX database. As a member you can also submit your website listing to the National Members' Gallery page as well as submit work for the Featured Artist section of the National WCA homepage.

All this and *more* (visit the national site for the full list), plus the knowledge that you are engaged in a vital, artistic community.

BLOG THIS!

Join the CWCA Member community and share your exhibits and news with fellow artists. Our member blog features the latest Calls for Entry, member events and exhibitions, and news. Post your own exhibitions and art news and connect with members! It's easy. Just E-mail us at: chicagowca@gmail.com

While traversing the blog-osphere, don't forget to visit *and join* the National WCA Blog, at www.nationalwca.org. Login with your member ID and password.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

We need your participation to continue our work.

IMMEDIATE VOLUNTEER NEEDS

- **Lifetime Achievement Awards, Event Chair & Committee**
- **Volunteers for the 2010 Conference Committee**
- **Chicago WCA chapter desperately needs Officers and Directors:** Broaden your existing skills or explore new interest areas, develop leadership skills, and take on new challenges. Volunteer to generate programs and exhibitions that reflect the Chicago arts community you are a part of.
- **Volunteer your skills:** News Editor, Exhibitions Committee Members, Program Committee Members, Web Administrator and more. Opportunity to grow and make connections.

Contact **Arlene** for information about current volunteer opportunities at: 847.674.0321, arlenarakoncay@aol.com

Funding for CWCA programs and events provided by The Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs City Arts Grant.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dale Osterle - President
 (vacant) - Vice President
 Margaret Lutze - Treasurer
 Pamela Preciado - Membership Director
 Arlene Rakoncay - Programming Chair
 Judith Roth - Programming Co-Chair
 (vacant) - Exhibitions Chair

CONTACT US

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