the women's caucus report



Spring 2001

Issue No. 63

National Art Education Association Affiliate

The Women's Caucus Report
wants to function as a reader's forum
and welcomes articles, letters, book
and exhibition reviews, news items
and syllabi from courses involving
women in art and education.

Deadline for next issue is July 1, 2001.

Please send your contributions to: Peg Speirs, *Report* Editor Dept. of Art Education and Crafts Kutztown University P.O. Box 730 Kutztown, PA 19530 Phone: (610) 683-4513 Fax: (610) 683-4502

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Special insert for WC presentations at NAEA



Artist Theodora Skipitares will be featured speaker at Women's Caucus Breakfast at 2001 NAEA Conference in NYC.



Photo by Tom Brazil

A Harlot's Progress, 1998, The Performing Garage, New York. This performance by Theodora Skipitares is a chamber opera for puppets based on William Hogarth's engraving series of the same name. It included thirteen performers and 60 puppets with a libretto and score by Barry Greenhut.

Details of the artist and WC breakfast on page 2.

Women's Caucus Conference Breakfast March 17, 2001 7:00-9:00 AM Conference Hotel

Theodora Skipitares, our featured artist and Conference Breakfast speaker, is a feminist performance artist who began making objects that were extensions of her own body in the late 1970s. She made dresses and skirts of unusual materials like 3,000 walnut shells, 90 pounds of glass and dozens of fresh fish, that became an integral part of her autobiographical performances. After awhile, she says, she felt alone on-stage and began to create small likenesses of herself to take on supporting roles--her first puppets. Soon there were so many "little Theodoras" that she gave up performing and became the director. Her work expanded from autobiography to large-scale subjects like the history of American invention, genetics, food and famine, and medicine. She believed that the puppets have an innocence and purity that made them especially effective in illuminating social and political issues. Those qualities, in addition to their ability to express and transmit to audiences deeply felt emotions, have led her to incorporate, over the past 20 years, a wide variety of puppets in her works. Reprinted from WC President Kathleen Desmond's column in NAEAnews, February 2001.

Registration for the WC Breakfast is included with the NAEA conference registration materials. The cost of the breakfast is \$27.00 which includes service charge and tax.

Menu:

Fresh sliced fruit, fruit yogurt, bread (croissant, nut bread, muffin), decaf and regular coffee and selected teas.

Start your day with good company, interesting conversation, a healthy breakfast, and art.

Please join us!

from the editor

Dear WC Members,

Happy New Year! I will keep this brief so that I can make room for our members who have written. I appreciate the steady flow of contributions members have sent for our newsletter and look forward to hearing from YOU in future issues. Special thanks go out to Maryl Fletcher De Jong, Carole Woodlock, and Debbie Smith-Shank for their photos from the L.A. conference in our last issue.

I would like to begin the new millennium by correcting a mistake of my past (my past as editor of the *Report*, that is). It was called to my attention that the minutes published in the Fall 2000 issue of the *Report* were from the 1999 Washington, D.C. conference, not the 2000 L.A. conference as the heading reported. The minutes from the L.A. conference will be published in the Fall 2001 issue of the *Report* after they have been approved at the 2001 WC business meeting in NYC. My apologies for any confusion concerning this matter. Also we will publish the acceptance speeches for the McFee, Rouse, and Connors Awards in the Fall 2001 issue. Please send the speech as a hard copy AND as an email attachment by July 1, 2001. If you do not use email, please mail your speech on a disk formatted for Mac.

Best wishes for happiness and good health.
Peg

News Notes

Cynthia Colbert writes, "Congratulations on the newsletter. I received it today and enjoyed reading it (especially seeing the photos of WC in L.A.). I have an item you might be interested in for the next newsletter. I am seeking mystery readers among our membership who could suggest authors whose work has substantial arts content (music, visual arts, performing arts, dance, set design, arts consultant, arts funding, . . . just about anything). I am presenting a paper, "The Mysterious Art of Mystery in Margaret Maron's Sigrid Herald Series," at the American Popular Culture Association's Conference this year. I am serving as consulting editor for a new text that will be a collection of essays by authors who write mysteries and have arts content, along with comments and criticism from editors. It sounds like a nice change and fun to work with two colleagues here in English and International Studies. Anyway, if there is room for a brief request for information with my email address, that would be lovely." Cynthia can be reached at colbertc@gwm.sc.edu.

Call for Slides

NAEA Women's ArtWorks 2001

Slide submissions are being sought for an accepted presentation titled, "Women's Artwork: Slide Talk" at the 2001 NAEA Conference in NYC. The presentation will be facilitated by Billi R.S. Rothove and will be a part of the Women's Caucus program. Submitted slides will be added to the Women's Caucus visual archives. Artists submitting slides must be members of the Women's Caucus to be included in the slide talk. Artists are encouraged to attend the presentation and discuss their artwork. Please submit up to five (5) slides with a slide listing, a brief artist's statement and a resume before February 14, 2001 to:

Billi R.S. Rothove Design Studio 410 Fenway Drive Pigeon Forge, TN 37863 billi@post.com

For membership information contact: Carrie Nordlund, 4640 North Topping Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64117-1541. A membership form is included on the last page of this issue.

New Book

Exploring the Legends: Guideposts to the Future, editor: Sylvia Corwin, publisher: NAEA.

This book features the achievements of Rudolph Arnheim, Victor D'Amico, Victor Lowenfeld, and Edwin Zeigfeld. It also includes a concluding essay entitled, "Epilogue: Legends in Context."

The Epilogue, by **Elizabeth Saccá**, includes the achievements of women during the same period. The argument is that these men's achievements should be viewed in the context of the work of women who were their colleagues and collaborators and whose innovations are impressive. Discussion includes the nature of these women's achievements and reasons they have been omitted from many accounts of the history of the field.

HR 3249

The following information is from WC member Joan Bonagura:

For the first time in 31 years, legislation has been introduced to correct the tax inequity that <u>benefits</u> <u>everyone except artists.</u>

All artists should contact their elected representatives and urge them to support and sponsor the "Artists' Contribution to American Heritage Act of 1999" (HR 3249). A similar bill will be introduced in the Senate shortly.

Prior to 1969, all artists who donated work to libraries, museums, and other non-profit institutions could receive a tax deduction equal to the appraised fair market value of the donated work.

In 1969, the government eliminated this deduction (allegedly, some artists inflated the value of donated works for a tax deduction). The result was that an artist could only deduct the value of the cost of materials (such as paint or canvas) for work donated to charities.

As a result of the legislation passed in 1969, archives and institutions of regional and national importance felt the loss of donations deeply. Educational sectors suffered as well.

The most unfair aspect of the 1969 change is that if an artist sells his or her original material to a third party, who then donates it to a charity, that middle person may deduct the appraised market value of the work from his/her taxable income for that year.

We have a good chance of getting HR 3249 passed to overturn this tax inequity. There is bi-partisan support for it. To insure that your legislators vote for it, you should contact them. They must hear from enough of us on its behalf.

Mail your letters to:

The Honorable (your Senator's name)
The Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable (your Representative's name)
The House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

Women Art Educators V

CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

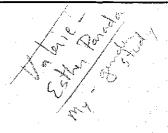
Women Art Educators V, to be edited by Kit Grauer, Rita Irwin, and Enid Zimmerman, is fifth in a series dedicated to a forum for exchange of ideas about women's issues in art education. Focus is on contributions that are rigorous and at the same time embody alternative forms of representation. The editors request submissions that might take the form of research studies, artworks, critiques, interviews, and autobiographies relevant to women's issues in art education. Previous issues of Women Art Educators have included themes such as art teachers' stories, collaborative writing projects, photo-documentaries, arts-based research studies, and historical accounts of women's lives in a variety of text and image formats.

Submissions should be sent by September 1, 2001 to:

Dr. Enid Zimmerman School of Education 3131 Art Education Program 201 North Rose Avenue Bloomington, IN 47405-1006 zimmerm@indiana.edu fax: (812) 856-8116

Publication is expected in Spring 2001.





The Journal of Gender Issues in Art and Education

CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

Supported by the Women's Caucus membership and an annual grant from the Elizabeth Warren Graves Art Fund (Department of Art, University of Maine), *The Journal of Gender Issues in Art and Education* is published annually to encourage and promote an understanding of how gender and gender-related situations affect art, art knowledge and the learning process. The journal is distributed to all members of the Women's Caucus and is available for purchase by libraries and

others interested in issues of gender.

To be considered, manuscripts should be between 3,500-6,000 words in length (approximately 16-24 double-spaced, typed pages) and prepared according to the APA Style Manual (4th ed.). Authors must include a short abstract and a separate title page. The title page should include 1) the title of the manuscript being submitted; 2) each author's full name, institutional affiliation, address, phone number and e-mail address when possible; and 3) a running head. The first page of the manuscript should include the title, with successive pages indicating only page numbers and running head. As all manuscripts are blind reviewed, the author's name should be included only on the title page. Submit four clear copies (single-sided) of each manuscript along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope for the return of all copies following the review process.

Submissions are reviewed by three members of the journal's review board. Due to the time needed for this review process final decisions on the manuscripts may take from three to five months. Accepted manuscripts will be published as soon as possible following acceptance. Final submissions of accepted manuscripts must include both printed (hard copy) and disk copies. Disk copies must be on a 3.5" high density disk

(Mac, DOS, or Windows).

The Journal of Gender Issues in Art and Education will consider for publication manuscripts which address issues in the context of visual arts education theory and practice. Manuscripts should be sent to:

The Journal of Gender Issues in Art and Education

Laurie Hicks, Editor
Department of Art
University of Maine
5712 Carnegie Hall
Orono, ME 04469-5712

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Kathy Connors Teaching Award Debbie Smith-Shank Northern Illinois University Art Department DeKalb, Illinois 60115-2854 email: u21dls1@wpo.cso.niu.edu

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Graduate Student Representative Vacant*

Undergraduate Student Representative Vacant*

*We are asking for volunteers to fill these positions. Please contact Kathleen Desmond.

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the women's caucus report III

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