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WC Mission: *The NAEA Women's Caucus exists to eradicate gender discrimination in all areas of art education, to support women art educators in their professional endeavors and to educate the general public about the contributions of women in the arts.*

As we prepare for the 2016 NAEA conference, we are mindful of the theme "*Lead! Share Your Vision for Art Education*" as it challenges us to effectively model and facilitate leadership in ways that are inclusive, inspiring and empowering. The subject of voice is an important one for art educators and we lead through many voices that include our physical, theoretical, pedagogical and artistic voices. The power of our physical voice cannot be underestimated. How we *sound* impacts how we are *heard*, received, perceived, and acknowledged in the world.

Recent research discusses vocal speech patterns such as, 'vocal fry' and 'uptalk' that can undermine perceptions as having authority, being trustworthy and even competent (Wolf, 2016). Voices that are too high, monotone, or even soft may also be perceived in similar ways.

Leadership requires both vision and voice. The challenges for those who lead and seek to lead are to speak, write, create, and express openly with authority, clarity, integrity and authenticity. Authentic leadership requires the development and expression of a confident, strong, and authentic voice that is aligned with vision, head, and heart.

Feminist leadership is a participative and whole systems approach to leadership practice that supports authenticity and collective action taking that embraces the ideas, talent, energy and expertise of others. From this perspective, leadership is not attached to positions, but rather it can emerge from any individual.

In response to Wolf's (2015) analysis of voice, and a concern for and among women to develop confident and authentic voices, WC offers opportunities for its members to articulate and express their authentic voices through sharing ideas on the WC blog, exhibiting in the WC sponsored exhibitions, presenting research at the NAEA conference. The WC blog offers opportunities for generating dialogue to positively impact others. We invite and encourage all WC members to submit artwork for inclusion in the upcoming online exhibits: *iArt*) and the WC annual juried exhibit associated with the National Art Education Association Conference. Finally, we encourage the expression of members' voices at the NAEA Women's Caucus sponsored sessions, business meetings and Lobby Activism sessions. We look forward to the next 2016 Lobby Activism session that will be focused on developing and exploring the wide range of approaches to feminist leadership in art education. We look forward to inspiring WC sessions at NAEA that explore leadership and how art educators are transforming their schools, communities and other sites of practice.

Women's Caucus Award Deadlines

The NAEA Women's Caucus invites nominations for the annual awards for 2016. Please think about outstanding colleagues who you can nominate. Please go to the WC awards page <http://naeawc.net/awards/html> for details and to review the criteria.

DEADLINE: The deadline for submitting 2016 awards application materials to Award Chairs is **NOV 15, 2015**.

Send the complete nomination packet in digital form preferably as a single PDF to the respective Award Chair on or before the deadline.

Mary J. Rouse Award--Lisa Kay lisakay@temple.edu

June King Mc Fee Award--Karen Keifer-Boyd kk-b@psu.edu

Maryl Fletcher De Jong Award--Cynthia Bickley-Green bickleygreenc@ecu.edu

Carrie Nordlund Award--Stephanie Wirt Stephanie.wirt@gmail.com

Kathy Connors Award--Linda Hoeptner-Poling lhoeptne@kent.edu

Exhibit Opportunities

NAEA Juried Exhibition

The NAEA Women's Caucus is continuing its rich tradition of exhibiting artwork at the 2016 NAEA National Convention. This year, Women's Caucus and its affiliate Caucus members are invited to submit works of art relevant to the conference theme of *Leading by Visual Voice*. **UPLOAD DEADLINE: November 1, 2015**
Direct questions to: Catherine Chen at uaavcecatherine@gmail.com or Elizabeth Garber at elizabethjessiegarber@gmail.com

See <http://naeawc.net> for details and to download the call and for specific directions.

iArt Online Exhibit

How are you using mobile devices such as *iPhones*, *iPads*, or *Androids* to create images and photographs and/or to conduct visual research? What apps are you using? With the wide number of apps available for creating digital photos, drawings, and paintings, this online exhibit is devoted to iArt and the possibilities of combining art+design+culture+social issues+autobiography+technology.

Submitted works will be posted on the Women's Caucus blog <https://naeawcvoices.wordpress.com/>
Images must address the theme with a minimum image resolution (72 dpi) for online posting.
This is a non-juried exhibit and is open to any current WC member.

UPLOAD DEADLINE: November 1, 2015

Direct questions to: Jennifer Motter at jennifer.motter@gmail.com

See <http://naeawc.net> for call details and specific submission directions.

Online Presence

WC Blog: <http://naeawcvoices.wordpress.com/>

WC Website: <http://naeawc.net/index.html>

WC Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/177480239379/>

WC Zotero: https://www.zotero.org/groups/naea_womens_caucus

Reference

Wolf, N. (2015). Young women, give up the vocal fry and reclaim your strong female voice. *The Guardian*.

Retrieved from http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/jul/24/vocal-fry-strong-female-voice?CMP=share_btn_link