



Sheri R. Klein and Jennifer Motter, Co-Presidents

Contact: Kleinsheri353@gmail.com

Jennifer.motter@gmail.com

Since the mid-1980s, the Guerilla Girls, an anonymous collective, have been committed to public performance, exhibitions, and inspiring social action to address inequities in the art world. They are making their way to the Twin Cities (Minneapolis/St Paul) beginning January 2016, through a series of planned exhibits, teen workshops, performances, and debates that will be scheduled at the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis Institute of Art, the Minneapolis College of Art and Design, and in other venues. These events invite us to participate as well as reflect upon our commitments to eradicating discrimination and working towards equity, justice and the empowerment of self, and others.

One of the hallmarks of the Guerrilla Girls is their use of humor. They write, "We use humor to convey information, provoke discussion, and show that feminists can be funny." In the spirit of the Guerrilla Girls, how might we re-vision the world through humor? How can humor be used to address issues of equity and justice within art education?

2016 Conference

We look forward to many engaging WC affiliated sessions, board meetings and events that will focus on leadership. Two WC board meetings (*Lead, Act Transform I*, and *Lead, Act, Transform II*) will be panel discussions led by members and leaders. These sessions will address the relevance of feminist leadership and its impact in the classroom, workplace, and community.

Another conference highlight will be a cross-divisional session with four NAEA Interest group leaders representing the *Design, Social Theory, Women's Caucus, and Technology* caucuses. The interactive discussion will center on shared issues and interests relative to our missions and ideas for collaborative research. WC members are encouraged to attend this session to plan and think across divisional lines.

Recognition

Stay tuned for announcements of the WC awardees for 2016. Our yearly Women's Caucus awards acknowledge outstanding art educators who are making a significant impact through their practice. We look forward to honoring these individuals and their achievements at the scheduled WC Awards Ceremony in Chicago.

It is also important to recognize many members who contribute to the success of the Women's Caucus and its conference events. These members include the Board of elected and appointed leaders who give their time and energy. A special thanks to the award committee chairs and members, proposal reviewers, the conference coordinator (**Michelle Bae**), the exhibition and exhibition catalog coordinator (**Elizabeth Garber**), and convention presenters who play a huge role in shaping the Women's Caucus and our conference sessions. Thank you to all who make a successful conference possible.

A welcome to our new board members: **Christine Liao** will be updating the WC website. **Cynthia Bickley-Green** will develop professional development resources.

WC Retreat

Thanks to **Karen Keifer-Boyd** for hosting WC members at her lakefront home in Ohio in August for an informal retreat to bring together members for dialogue. Participants reflected that the retreat was full of

“great conversation and sharing of time together in powerful ways” and a “powerful and an inspiring way to walk into a new teaching year.”

---Insert image about here---

Caption: Bonfire at Lake Erie at the WC retreat, summer 2015

Some of the highlights were telling apron stories around the bonfire and returning to the academic gown. The academic gown, along with an apron, were brought to the Lobby Session in San Diego in 2014 to explore as symbols of power. Participants of the 2014 Lobby Session responded by writing a phrase or quote onto a piece of fabric that they attached to the apron, or gown. Responses were read aloud and were amplified by the group. At the retreat, we again read aloud each response and kept the fabric pieces as artifacts. It is likely that a discussion of the apron and gown will resurface in the upcoming **Women’s Caucus Lobby Activism Book** edited by **Karen Keifer-Boyd, Linda Hoeptner-Poling, Sheri Klein, and Adetty Pérez de Miles.**

Online Resources

A great online resource for women artists and art educators is *Moore Women Artists* (moorewomenartists.org). Here you can find articles and resources about women’s art and other related topics. WC member, **Cynthia Bickley-Green’s** recent article “Reflections on the 1972 Conference for Women in the Visual Arts at the Corcoran” provides a concise historical overview of this first and important national conference.

Women’s Caucus Blog

The WC blog will be highlighting members. Check out the blog for this new feature. Also, by the time this column is printed, the WC iArt Exhibit submissions should be posted on the WC blog. Check out the art by our members @ <https://naeawcvoices.wordpress.com/>

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

References

Bickley-Green, C. (2014). *Reflections on the 1972 Conference for Women in the Visual Arts*. <http://moorewomenartists.org/reflections-on-the-1972-conference-for-women-in-the-visual-arts-at-the-corcoran/>

Guerrilla Girls. (n.d). *Frequently asked questions*. <http://www.guerrillagirls.com/interview/faq.shtml>