American University Museum Annual Report for the Fiscal Year May 1, 2015 - April 30, 2016

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Letter from the Director and Curator

This Annual Report, compiled by Assistant Director Kristi-Anne Caisse with the assistance of the museum's staff, demonstrates that the American University Museum continued in its eleventh year to excel in every relevant category:

- Quality and critical acclaim of its exhibitions and collections
- Excellence of its programs and publications
- Service to the University, the neighborhood, and the greater public
- Support from its donors and invaluable assistance from its volunteers

Our continued success is due to the great efforts of our undersized staff with an overabundance of dedication and talent, our amazing cadre of volunteers from the neighborhood and beyond, our friends who have generously contributed financial and other support for our efforts, and the enlightened leadership of the University's College of Arts and Sciences.

We began the year with two celebrations. Though the Watkins Gallery and Collection were founded seventy years ago, this year we celebrated the tenth anniversary of the construction and opening of the American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center. We also celebrated the birth of the Alper Initiative for Washington Art. By the end of the fiscal year, the Alper Initiative proved to be an immediate success filling a great need in the Washington community, and plans for the future of the American University Museum's exhibitions and collections foretell a coming-of-age for an institution experiencing a growth spurt in achievement, recognition, and promise.

Thanks to all who have helped the American University Museum find its own way and flourish in a city of great museums and plentiful non-artistic distractions!

Jack Rasmussen

The 10th Anniversary

The Museum turned 10 in the fall of 2015! The Museum celebrated by looking back at the artists and exhibitions that shaped our history and by sharing stories about the first 10 years. We also took a look back according to the numbers. In our first decade, the Museum featured 2,311 artists in 260 provocative exhibitions that fueled hundreds more programs and events.

LOOKING BACK

The following milestones solidified our status as the most important venue for Bay Area Art, Politically and Socially Involved Art, Contemporary International Art, and Washington Art.

Grand Openings

Oct 25 - Dec 17, 2005

Opened five exhibitions coinciding with the opening celebration of the Katzen Arts Center, including major Bay Area artists William Allan and Bruce Conner, whose retrospective opened at the Museum of Modern Art in New York the following summer and traveled to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art in the fall. These exhibitions established the AU Museum's reputation as a unique East Coast venue for **Bay Area Art**.

The Art of Engagement: Visual Politics in California and Beyond

April 19 - July 30, 2006

A major exhibition of political art curated by Peter Selz established the Museum's reputation as a major venue for **Politically and Socially Involved Art** and cemented our status as a venue for **Bay Area Art**.

Claiming Space: Some American Feminist Originators Dark Metropolis: Irving Norman's Social Surrealism

Botero: Abu Ghraib Nov 6 – Jan 27, 2007

Three powerful exhibitions consolidated the Museum's reputation for **Politically and Socially Involved Art.**

Australian Indigenous Art Triennial: Culture Warriors

Sept 8 - Dec 8, 2009

Convergence: New Art From Lebanon

April 6 - May 16, 2010

Norse Soul: The Legacy of Edward Munch, Social Democracy, Old Myths, Anarchy and Death Longings

June 12 - Oct 17, 2010

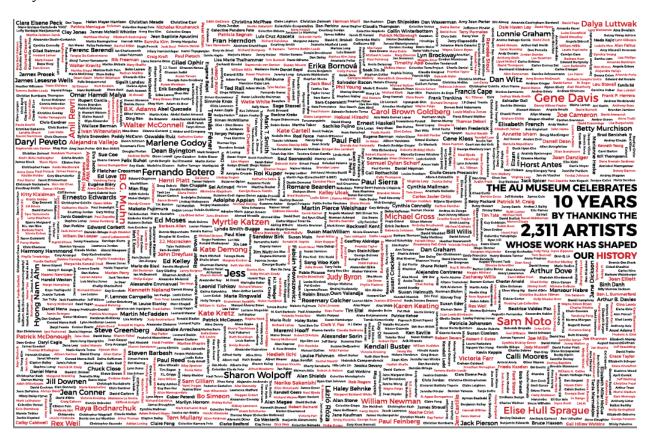
Three large-scale exhibitions established the Museum's reputation as THE Washington venue for **Contemporary International Art**.

Alper Initiative for Washington Art

Opened January 2016, leaving no doubt the museum is the most important center for **Washington Art**.

KREEGER LOBBY DISPLAY

To thank all of the artists that have contributed to our success, the museum developed a wall display listing every artist that has ever exhibited at the museum. We also created a giant comment wall for our visitors to recount their greatest memories at the museum and a slideshow reviewing 10 years of exhibitions.





10th ANNIVERSARY GRAPHIC



Museum staff worked with the CAS Marketing & Communications Office and University Communications to design a $10^{\rm th}$ anniversary graphic used to mark the occasion. The graphic appeared in museum publications and on the website and social media platforms. It was also used to create a window vinyl that was visible from Ward Circle, as well as stickers that were given to museum visitors.



SELECT QUOTES FROM OUR PATRONS

Local Artists

"The Katzen Arts Center has been a godsend to the Washington Metropolitan area and the East Coast, the entire country. The Katzen shows contemporary art from everywhere, from around the

country and the world. No other museum in Washington even makes an effort! The Corcoran used to be a place where contemporary art was highlighted and regional art was shown, they even, on occasion, showed Washington artists, even highlighted them. The last decade has been the death of the Corcoran. The Katzen has grown stronger with Jack Rasmussen and his wonderful, dedicated and talented staff! They have the best galleries, the best space, the finest shows and the best people to work with. More Washington artists, past and present have shown at the Katzen in the past 10 years, than have shown it any other Washington museum ever! This is attributed to the Katzen and the people supporting!"

-Bill Newman

"Thank you Katzen Family for affording me the singular experience of a one-man show in your outdoor space. When a gift is both a learning experience and arduous undertaking, one has no choice but to grow."

-Alan Binstock

"Duchamp said 'All in all, the creative act is not performed by the artist alone; the spectator brings the work in contact with the external world by deciphering and interpreting its inner qualifications and thus adds his contribution to the creative act.' That means that our work as artists and curators is 'completed' by viewers. I had exactly this feeling during my show *Identity* at the American University Museum."

-Silvia Levenson



Museum Comment Book

"I never leave without being moved."

"All of the exhibitions were exceedingly interesting. I loved the Phyllis Plattner icon type paintings & Dean Byington's the most!"

"Yoga is wonderful and so is the art!"

"So happy to have discovered this marvelous resource near my home." -Sandra

"Great Show---Chinese Shandong stone carvings---amazing!"

"This was a very moving show, very important for us to see. We're very happy to have had the opportunity to view the Hiroshima Panels." -Robyne Pomroy, Charlotte, NC

The Alper Initiative for Washington Art

Countdown to the Opening

2014

- The museum met with the American University and Katzen Facilities Management teams to begin planning for the construction of the space.
- Architect Salo Levinas was selected for the project and kicked off meetings to conceptualize the space. Philanthropist and Alper Initiative visionary Carolyn Alper was present every step of the way!

Salo Levinas is an internationally-recognized architect known for his distinguished contemporary designs. His projects include AIA award-winning designs for facilities at the Chicago Botanical Gardens and educational and religious facilities in the Washington, DC and Baltimore metropolitan regions.

2015

Ianuary

Selection of Marion Construction and Whitlock Audio Visual

August

Museum was closed for the construction of the new space

September

- Howard Burstock of American Office guided the team in the selection of the furniture for the community space
- * Reveal of the space during the Early Fall Opening Reception
- Work began on the first Alper publication, one of a series that will document the regional exhibitions presented

December

- Final walk-through of the space
- Installation of the Alper Initiative for Washington Art signage

2016

January

- ❖ Launch of the website and Alper Facebook and Twitter accounts
- Exhibition Installation began
 - Museum staff initiated the weeks-long process of installing the first exhibition, Circle of Friends
- Special Preview
 - The Alper opened with an evening of music, art and celebration for museum members, artists in the inaugural exhibition, and friends of the Alper
- Grand Opening
 - Circle of Friends was revealed to the public during the winter exhibitions opening reception

February

- The furniture arrived!
- ❖ The first of many salon-style conversations at the Alper
 - Artist Renée Stout and curator Leslie King-Hammond discussed female artists and the importance of their support groups. A very entertaining start to the salon-series!

March

- ❖ Alper got hip with an Instagram account
- Due to the generous donation of Patricia Alper-Cohn, the Alper is able to offer free coffee in the community space

April

❖ The second Alper exhibition, *Twisted Teenage Plot*, opened

The design and construction of the Alper Initiative for Washington Art would not have been successful without the help of our university partners in the AU and Katzen Facilities Departments, Energy Management, Public Safety, and the Dean's Office namely: Lisa Ager, Van Dewitt, William Flint, Ethan Hicks, George Merchant, Becca Menzer, Jim Merrifield, Erin Nixon, Holly Mussatti, Doug Pierce, Anna-Maria Vincent, and Gamze Zeytinci.

Alper Initiative for Washington Art Exhibitions

Circle of Friends

January 23 through March 13, 2016

In conjunction with *Renée Stout: Tales of the Conjure Woman*, the inaugural exhibition of the Alper Initiative for Washington Art features 16 women artists from the Baltimore/Washington region who formed Stout's artistic cohort. These artists influenced Stout, were influenced by her, or provided support to Stout since she arrived in DC in 1985. The exhibition demonstrates how artists rely on each other's support for their work to flourish. It also provides an interesting perspective on the workings of the Washington art world over the last 30 years.

Catalogue Stats: 36 Pages

Twisted Teenage Plot

April 2 through May 29, 2016

Coinciding with a retrospective of Kevin MacDonald's work, the Alper Initiative for Washington Art presents the second exhibition in its space: *Twisted Teenage Plot*.

Besides being an excellent artist, MacDonald also played in bands, most notably Twisted Teenage Plot. The Alper Initiative exhibition showcased visual artists who played in bands in Washington in the late 70s and early 80s, including Robin Rose, Joe White, Dick Bangham, Clark Fox (aka Michael Clark), Michael Barron, Judith Watkins Tartt, J.W. Mahoney, Steve Ludlum, Root Boy Slim, Michael McCall, and Michael Reidy.

In addition to the artist's visual work, the exhibition included sound recordings, posters, videos, and memorabilia from the bands these artists were a part of: **Urban Verbs, Root Boy Slim, Tiny Desk Unit, The Examiners, Twisted Teenage Plot, (the) Razz,** and **The Slickee Boys.**

Catalogue Stats: 48 Pages

Salon Series

FREE PARKING is a new series of salon-style, early evening conversations in the Alper Initiative for Washington Art space. The format of these events ensures an intimate evening of lively discussion. The salon is open to anyone interested in discussing the art and artists of the Washington Metropolitan area.

FREE PARKING: Circle of Friends was held on February 16 and featured a discussion between artist Renée Stout and curator Leslie King-Hammond on female artists and their support groups.

FREE PARKING: Twisted Teenage plot was held on May 5 and featured a conversation with Bill Warrell and Michael Olshonsky, reviewing the life and art of musicians in the 70s and 80s DC Punk and New Wave music scenes.

Advisory Council

- Carolyn Alper
- Patricia Alper-Cohn
- **❖** Lenny Campello
- Leatrice Eagle
- ❖ Barbara Kerne
- ❖ Vivienne Lassman
- Sharon Wolpoff



Philanthropist and Alper Initiative Visionary Carolyn Alper

Exhibitions

Summer 2015

June 13 - July 26

Visvaldis Ziedinš Travels in the Imagination

Working quietly and in near obscurity during the dark days of the Latvian Soviet period, artist Visvaldis Ziedinš amassed a remarkable body of over 3,000 works. This survey brings his witty assemblages, sculptures, collages and paintings to American audiences for the first time. These works reveal a vivid imagination unfettered by material and political pressures and bear comparison to contemporaneous explorations by such better known avant-gardists as Pablo Picasso, John Cage, Joseph Cornell, Robert Rauschenberg, Antoni Tàpies and Arman. This exhibition is part of the Latvian Presidency of the Council of the European Union public diplomacy and culture program. Special thanks to the Embassy of the Republic of Latvia and the Latvian Institute for Contemporary Arts for their support.

Stone, Silence and Speech: Sculptures by Sy Gresser

Over more than six decades, Sy Gresser (1926-2014) wrestled with issues and ideas that define humanity. Beginning as a poet, he metamorphosed into a sculptor of stone and wood. If nothing is more silent than a stone, Gresser's chisel, harnessed to his voracious mind, yielded a distinct vocabulary that interwove abstraction with figuration and produced a continuous, broadly focused and eloquent commentary on the world.

Realism Transformed: John Winslow's Wild New World

In the early to mid-1980s, masterful Washington realist John Winslow engineered a series of stunning changes in his work: precisely defined spaces became ambiguous, right angles became swooping curves, and once-static figures left gravity behind to dance gracefully and crazily through the air. By radically recasting his art, Winslow set the stage for the surprising, vibrant and equally masterful body of work that is the focus of this exhibition.

Outliers: Kurt Godwin and Betsy Packard

Curated by J.W. Mahoney, *Outliers* is a dialogue between two Washington-area artists who have been working outside the boundaries of mainstream contemporary art for over three decades. Kurt Godwin (1956-2014) and Betsy Packard have effectively transformed ordinary objects, found images, and simple matter into fundamentally new conditions of meaning. Such expansions of art's real possibilities are what outliers do.

Michael Gross: Abstraction

Michael Gross, painter and printmaker, offers expressive and emotion-filled works using a kaleidoscope of color. Gross creates art as "a means of grappling with the impulses and struggles that make up the way I see my place in the world." Through his visual lexicon, which is devoid of ideological reference, Michael seeks to create order from chaos. His lyrical compositions of concatenated lines, textured surfaces and rich hues invoke Abstract Expressionism and pay homage to the artists who inspire his work: Willem De Kooning, Richard Diebenkorn and Jackson Pollock.

Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Exhibition

In commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the attacks, this powerful show includes 20 artifacts collected from the debris of the 1945 atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as well as 6

large folding screens that depict the horrors of the event. 1995 Nobel Peace Prize nominees, Iri and Toshi Maruki, created a total of 15 screens over 32 years, from 1950. This exhibition, made possible by the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum, is meant to deepen an understanding of the damage wrought by nuclear weapons and inspire peace in the 21st century. This exhibition was organized in collaboration with Professor Peter Kuznick, Director of the Nuclear Studies Institute at American University.

Early Fall 2015

September 12 – October 18

Pulse of the Future

Contemporary Chinese Art captured the world's attention in the 1980s. Now the next generation is coming of age and staking its own claim for artistic precedence. The exhibition was organized in collaboration with the Beijing Youth International Culture and Arts Association.

Walter McConnell: Itinerant Edens

A series of male figures derived from familial models are central to Walter McConnell's installation, *Of Fable and Facsimile*. Rendered in moist, unfired clay and sealed in terrarium-like plastic enclosures, McConnell's earthen bodies appear fragile, apparitional — sustained momentarily in their fictional landscapes — positing impermanence as the inevitable condition of natural systems. The figures in the installations are digitally scanned and prototyped from live models, including the artist, his 83-year-old father, and his nephew, representing three generations of male family members. A full body scanner, housed in the School of Human Ecology at Cornell University, produced the files; prototyped models were CNC milled or 3D printed, plaster molds were made. The figures appearing in the installation are terracotta clays, cast and pulled from these molds. Walter McConnell is best known for his moist clay installations housed in plastic enclosures that address the relationship between nature and culture. His work has been widely exhibited internationally and in venues across the US, including the Denver Art Museum, MassMoca, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Mary Shaffer: Reflections and Contradictions

Influential sculptor Mary Shaffer creates a site-specific glass and metal "tool-wall" installation for her solo-exhibition, to feature her fascination with discarded tools. "I take lovingly crafted, handforged tools — the epitome of American inventiveness — to preserve and pay tribute to activities and methods of working that have disappeared from our modern lives," she says. In addition, select glass work from the past five decades of Shaffer's active career will be shown, including her Light-Catcher series, which explores the way light and shadow create three dimensional form. Mary Shaffer was an important influence in the early glass movement. She "brought art to glass and glass to art" as art critic John Perrault writes. Doug Heller, a New York art dealer, says that the glass world was never the same after Shaffer burst upon the scene in the early 1970s. Shaffer invented a whole new way to work with and think about glass—a process she named "mid-air slumping." Shaffer has shown her work in 60 museums worldwide. The artist has been a professor at New York University and Wellesley College, and her work is in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, as well as the Museum of Modern Art in Kyoto, Japan, among many others.

Gerhardt Knodel: Let the Games Begin!

In Gerhardt Knodel's latest work, gaming-based strategies provide both a visual and a conceptual point of entry. Like game playing, involvement often yields unexpected consequences. Approached as pure entertainment, games can evolve into unexpected experiences with both a lighter and a

darker side, subtle shifts in expectation relative to outcome. Likewise with art. His work poses questions about art and life in the 21st century. Can the act and associations of playing a game be visually communicated? Can the rush of excitement that comes with winning be found in objects that are physically quiet and experienced at a distance? Can the frustration of playing games that cannot be won become a link in understanding the goals of art in which there are no right or wrong answers? His work centers on four groups of work — conceptual games with historic textiles; visual games; dexterity games; and gaming with ideas about art. Each of the groups leads the viewer to art experiences inspired by thoughts about competition, accumulation and loss, human relationships, mind manipulation, the endless repetition of the patterns of life, and the tension between informed authority and self-discovered knowledge. Knodel intends the work to provoke consideration of links to the world of textiles in unexpected and provocative ways.

Late Fall 2015

November 7 – December 13

Beverly Ress: The World is a Narrow Bridge

Over the past several years Beverly Ress has focused on drawing objects collected by natural history and medical museums, then manipulating the paper on which they're drawn. Her closely observed renderings of objects combine with the abstract paper manipulations to create a contemporary form of *memento mori*.

Titus Kaphar: The Vesper Project

This installation is a massive sculptural statement which weaves the artist's own work into the walls of a 19th-century American house. Kaphar's most ambitious expression to date, *The Vesper Project* is a culmination of an intense five-year engagement with the lost storylines of the Vesper family. In the artist's musings, the members of the Vesper family and their histories are intertwined with Kaphar's autobiographical details and layered with widely accepted cultural triggers of identity. Period architecture, gilt frames, a vintage typewriter, a neglected wardrobe and old photographs act as seemingly recognizable elements, but by employing every tool of his trade, Kaphar insinuates doubt and transports the viewer into a disrupted mental state. As the house fractures, so does the viewer's experience. This exhibition is presented as part of the AU Department of Art's Visiting Artists Program and is sponsored by the Burger Collection.

Joseph White: Post-It

A retrospective of DC artist Joseph White shows the diversity of his work from the 1980s to the present. The exhibition includes large-scale representational paintings, works on paper and his latest paintings based on Post-It drawings.

Susanne Kessler: Jerusalem

Tracing the lines of the city map of Jerusalem with pencil or wire, again and again, like a mantra or prayer, allows Susanne Kessler to feel close to Jerusalem—the city of mankind. A city where three monotheistic religions come together, Jerusalem is a geographic gateway between the East and the West, a place where conflicts have influence on the world. Kessler's exhibition speaks to its architecture, to bring forth the ideas of transparency, continuity, difference and conflict in a passage-like environment.

Micheline Klagsbrun: Free Fall Flow

DC based artist Micheline Klagsbrun's latest work ranges from ink and pencil drawings on vellum to large canvases and three-dimensional wall hangings and sculptural forms. Created by a dynamic

interplay of lines, colors and textures, and imbued with light, Klagsbrun's new works appear weightless and ephemeral. The title *Free Fall Flow* is the riff off lyrics from the Doors' 1968 song, *Yes, The River Knows*, alluding to the fluid and liminal states of transformation in which multiple forms, natural and human, animate and inanimate, are co-present. This exhibition was curated by Vesela Sretenović.



John Winslow, Realism Transformed

Documenting America: Facing Change and The FSA

As a partner of FotoWeek DC, the museum will present a group photography show in the Kreeger Lobby, directly outside of the museum front doors. *Facing Change* is a unique photography collective engaged in a long-term project to document America. The groups' ten members were inspired by FSA photographers of the 1930s and '40s. A deeply held belief in the power of photography to inform and affect change brings the photographers from the two eras together.

Art and Design: Two Designers and Their Art

Michael Graham and Marc Pekala both trained in graphic design programs and went on to careers in teaching and commercial design. Their design educations provided a foundation and language for their visual exploration. Pekala grew up in Baltimore seeing the poster art of the pop music culture and developed a love for using typographic forms to solve visual problems while studying at AU. Graham studied in Rome and became enamored with Classical art and inscriptional letterforms.

Francis Cape & Harmony Hammond: Angle of Repose

The engineering term "angle of repose" refers to the steepest angle material can be piled without collapsing. The collaborative installation of the works of sculptor Francis Cape and painter Harmony Hammond reflect on the precariousness—financial, political, social and emotional—of our lives. Both present absent bodies and question the significance of objects and the vulnerability of our dreams. The exhibition features Cape's *Foreclosure*, a scatter of evicted hand-crafted

furniture coalescing around a depleted bed, and Hammond's large near-monochrome Flesh Fold paintings with their skin pulled back to reveal a rawness underneath, and two smaller mixed-media works suggesting a rupture in the domestic environment.

Winter 2016

January 23 – March 13

Renée Stout - Tales of the Conjure Woman

The exhibition features recent work by DC-based Renée Stout, who is best known for her exploration of vestigial retentions of African cultural traditions as manifested in contemporary America. For many years, the artist has used the alter ego Fatima Mayfield, a fictitious herbalist/fortuneteller, as a vehicle to role-play and confront issues such as romantic relationships, social ills, or financial woes in a way that is open, creative, and humorous. The exhibition focuses on the artist's assumed role through an array of works in various media. As Stout explains, "the common thread running through bodies of my work of the past several years is the continuing need for self-discovery and the need to understand and make sense of human motives and the way we relate and respond to each other."

Maggie Michael: A Phrase Hung in Midair As If Frozen

This mid-career survey features the work of Washington, DC-based artist Maggie Michael from 2002 to the present day. Her paintings—at once intuitive and conceptual—are a direct response to the world around her. Michael's work serves as a platform for exploring physicality, the workings of language, literature, and the vagaries of emotion and information. Beginning with her series of *Clones* in 2002, in which she created pairs of improbably identical pours of paint, Michael has pursued an approach based as much in chance and the felicity inherent in her medium as in control. Michael describes her work as "pausing the flow of time," embodying a record of a particular experience as well as forming an experience in itself.

Impact! The Legacy of the Women's Caucus for Art

Impact! The Legacy of the Women's Caucus for Art (WCA) celebrates the impact of the WCA Lifetime Achievement Awards, presented annually to artists, art historians, and curators since they were first presented at the White House in 1979. The WCA awards ceremony takes place during the annual conferences of the College Art Association (CAA) and its affiliate WCA. The exhibition, curated by awardee and former CAA president, Leslie King-Hammond, focuses on the impact of and connections among the awardees themselves.

Circle of Friends

*Description under Alper Initiative for Washington Art

Spring 2016

April 2 – May 29

Southern Constellations

Southern Constellations is the third exhibition in Transformer's four-part Do You Know Where Your Art Comes From? Series, presented over two years in the AU Museum. Curated by Victoria Reis, Executive & Artistic Director of Transformer, in collaboration with Tim Doud, Associate Professor of Art and coordinator of the Visiting Artist Program at AU, this exhibition highlights the work of Elsewhere, a living museum and residency program set in a three-story former thrift store

in Greensboro, NC. It profiles the work of six artists and highlights their curatorial initiative to extend experimental practices and creative networks in the South.

William Dunlap: Look At It - Think About It

Look at It — Think About It is a survey exhibition of select works, dating from the 1970s to the present. Paintings, constructions, and works on paper, found and fashioned objects, all reflect the artist's interest in the narrative tradition in the visual arts and modernism's concerns with remote association and conceptualism. Dunlap invites the viewers to willingly suspend their disbelief. In the appropriately titled exhibition, the artist seeks to present a simple lesson about his work and art in general—to look at it and think about it. Dunlap emphasizes the contemplative, meditative effect of standing before an object, letting it affect its viewer as it may.

Kevin MacDonald: The Tension of a Suspended Moment

An empty booth at a diner. The façade of a suburban cottage. Factory chimneys outlined against a gray sky. These are just a few of the images rendered in colored pencil, pastel, or oil paint by the artist, Kevin MacDonald. For more than 30 years, MacDonald's artwork found critical praise and popular acclaim in the Washington region and beyond. When MacDonald died of kidney cancer in 2006, he was at the height of his powers. Ten years after his passing, we are proud to be able to present the first major museum exhibition of his work.

Twisted Teenage Plot

*Description under Alper Initiative for Washington Art

196K: Master of Fine Art First Year

April 2-April 20, 2016

196K features the work of Mills Brown, Aaron Eckstein, Yaroslav Koporulin, Sarah Ellen Norman, Sarah O'Donoghue, Jen Noone, and Zarina Zuparkhodjaeva.

Ten: Master of Fine Art Thesis Exhibitions

April 30-May 29, 2016

American University's Studio Art Program presents the thesis work of Master of Fine Arts candidates: Sara Caporaletti, Sarah Dale, Carey Francis, Jihee Kang, Jean Kim, Zack McGhin, Calli Moore, Joumana Moukarim, Samantha Sethi, and Katelyn Wood. Ten: MFA Thesis Exhibition showcases a diverse range of themes and extended explorations into a variety of media used by these emerging artists. Through research, experimentation, and reflection each artist displays an individual practice.

Events & Programs

RECURRING PROGRAMS

YOGA IN THE GALLERIES

Certified Kripalu yoga instructor Eva Blutinger teaches a rejuvenating class in the peaceful surroundings of art every Wednesday at 10 am in the museum. Cost is \$10 per class and free for members.

WEEKLY TOURS

Each Friday at 11:30 am, the museum's volunteer docents give tours of the current exhibitions and cover a new subject every week. It's free and open to the public.

KIDS@KATZEN

The Kids@Katzen Family Day program offers children from ages 5-12 and their parents a unique opportunity to engage with current exhibitions and each create their own works of art in a handson experience. These bi-monthly art classes are held at 1 pm on Sundays.

DO THE LOOP

Each fall season, nine galleries and three museums in NW Washington/Upper Georgetown open their doors for daylong free tours with a shuttle provided between venues: *American University Museum, The Kreeger Museum, Dumbarton Oaks Museum, Addison Ripley Fine Art, Robert Brown Gallery, Neptune Fine Art, Maurine Littleton Gallery, Susan Calloway Fine Arts, Artist's Proof, Cross MacKenzie, All We Art, and Washington Printmakers*

MUSIC IN THE MUSEUM

We partnered with the new music collective INTERFERENCE Intermedia to bring new music and new media to Washington, DC. Formed in 2015 by composer Steven Antosca and AU faculty members William Brent and Nancy Jo Snider, INTERFERENCE is the Ensemble-in-Residence for the Connected series, focusing on the use of technology in composition and performance. Concerts are presented in partnership with the Cultural Services of the Embassy of France. Programs this year included: elements: five transfigurations for cello and computer for solo cello and computer by composer Steve Antosca (featuring Steve Antosca, William Brent, and Tobias Werner); A French American Collaboration in collaboration with the Cultural Services of the Embassy of France and Jupiter for solo flute and computer (featuring Philippe Manoury, William Brent, and Lisa Cella,); The Music of Morton Subotnick (including: Axolotl, Lina Bahn,; Falling Leaves, Jenny Lin, and Trembling, Lina Bahn and Jenny Lin); and From Silver Apples of the Moon to A Sky of Cloudless Sulphur: VII, (featuring Morton Subotnick and Lillevan; and Solos & Ensemble (featuring Steve Antosca, Fernando Benadon, William Brent, Frederick Weck, and others.)

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

LATE SPRING

Gallery Talk: Stone, Silence and Speech

Curator Ori Z. Soltes discussed the life and work of Sy Gresser surrounded by Sy's work in the sculpture garden.



All Souls Church Unitarian Choir in front of the Maruki panels during the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb exhibition

Viewing Reception for Cultural Treasures from the Shandong Province

The stone carving artworks in China's Shandong province play an important role in preserving the country's ancient culture. For two weeks, the AU Museum displayed a collection of rubbings that exhibit the fine calligraphy, folk inscriptions, and imagery of these carvings. This reception offered patrons the rare chance to mingle with Chinese dignitaries while viewing these artifacts up close.

Curator's Circle Dinner at the Irish Inn (Membership Event)

Intimate dinner for Curator's Circle Level members at the Irish Inn

Summer Members' Opening (Membership Event)

An evening reception and exhibition preview with remarks by the Latvian Ambassador, Andris Razāns

Summer Artists' Reception

This reception celebrated the opening of five new exhibitions with the artists and curators of the summer shows.

Gallery Talk: Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Exhibition

Curators discussed the importance of carrying on the memory of the victims of the atomic bomb. The talk featured remarks by Mr. Kenji Shiga, Director of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, and the testimony of Mr. Sadao Yamamoto, a survivor of the Atomic bomb.

Panel Discussion: To Remember and Reflect

In conjunction with the *Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Exhibition*, this panel brought together several artists who have addressed war-related suffering in their own work. Panelists included Kristine Yuki Aono, Kitty Klaidman, Miriam Morsel Nathan, and Aida Sehovic.

Symposium: Decision to Drop the Atomic Bomb

This film screening and symposium brought together a panel of prominent historians to reflect on the decision to drop the atomic bombs and its implications.

Gallery Talk with John Winslow

John Winslow discussed the evolution of his practice through the years, ending with the recent work featured in his solo exhibition *Realism Transformed: John Winslow's Wild New World.*

Gallery Talk: *Outliers*

Curator J.W. Mahoney reviewed three decades of work by Kurt Godwin and Betsy Packard, two Washington-area artists whose unexpected and visually narrative pieces in *Outliers* happily strayed away from the conventional.

Gallery Talk with Michael Gross

Michael Gross encouraged patrons to explore his paintings and monoprints in *Abstraction*. *Michael Gross: Abstraction II* was also on view at Gallery B in Bethesda, July 8–30.

Young Professionals' Happy Hour (Membership Event)

A locally themed happy hour at the American University Museum for DC's culturally engaged young professionals

Poetry Reading in the Museum

In conjunction with the *Outliers* exhibition, curator J.W. Mahoney invited patrons to a poetry reading with poet Fred Pollack. We encouraged patrons to make afternoon of it and come at 12:30 for a docent led tour prior to the reading.

Commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the Atomic Bombings

In commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the Atomic Bombings at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, this evening included testimony by two Hibakushi (survivors of the atomic bombings) and a piano and choral performance by the children of Little Friends of Peace.

EARLY FALL

Early Fall Members' Opening (Membership Event)

Director Jack Rasmussen invited members and their guests to view the Early Fall exhibitions, including a tour and lecture on the contemporary Chinese art in *Pulse of the Future*.

Early Fall Artists' Reception

Patrons and friends mixed and mingled with artists and curators at the Early Fall Reception

Gallery Talk with Gerhardt Knodel

Talk with Gerhardt Knodel about his interactive, thought provoking work in Let The Games Begin!

Gallery Talk with Mary Shaffer

Mary Schaffer discussed her site-specific glass installation in *Reflections and Contradictions: five decades*

Gallery Talk with Walter McConnell

Walter McConnell explained the unique process behind his large-scale moist clay installations in *Itinerant Edens: Of Fable and Facsimile*

Gallery Talk with Susanne Kessler

Susanne Kessler discussed the inspiration for her installation *Jerusalem*

LATE FALL

Late Fall Members' Opening (Membership Event)

Director Jack Rasmussen invited members and their guests to a special Members' event in celebration of the museum's 10-Year Anniversary to honor the artists, curators and museum supporters. After the toast, artists Francis Cape and Harmony Hammond discussed their work in *Angle of Repose*.

Artists' Opening

Artists, curators and museum patrons mingled at the Late Fall Reception.

Gallery Talk with Micheline Klagsbrun

Artist Micheline Klagsbrun and curator Vesela Stretenovi toured the body of work shown in *Free Fall Flow*.

Gallery Talk with Beverly Ress

A conversation between curator Aneta Georgievska-Shine and artist Beverly Ress on her latest work featured in *The World is a Narrow Bridge*.

Gallery Talk with Joe White

Artist Joe White shared stories about his prolific career and what led him to the Post-It drawings.

Holiday Brunch in the Museum (Membership Event)

Volunteers and Director's Level Members were invited to dine in the galleries surrounded by *The Vesper Project* created by artist Titus Kaphar.

Panel Discussion by the Cultural Center at the Inter-American Development Bank Cuba

A special discussion in conjunction with an exhibition of contemporary Cuban art that was on display in the Cultural Center at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). The exhibition Q&A advanced the idea that creative and cultural industries provide an opportunity for development in both North and South America.

WINTER

Winter Artists' Reception & Opening of the Alper Initiative for Washington Art

Museum patrons and community members were invited to view the museum's winter exhibitions and explore the fully renovated space, on the first floor of the Museum, dedicated to the Alper Initiative for Washington Art.

Renée Stout Gallery Talk

Patrons met artist Renée Stout and her alter ego Fatima Mayfield, a fictitious herbalist/fortuneteller that serves as the inspiration behind *Tales of a Conjure Woman*.

Women's Caucus for Art Reception and Panel Discussion

Curator Leslie King-Hammond and select awardees from *Impact!* discussed this profound exhibition commemorating over 37 years of WCA Lifetime Achievement Awards to artists, art historians, and curators.

Free Parking (Alper Event)

*Description under Alper Initiative for Washington Art

Gallery Talk with Maggie Michael

Artist Maggie Michael and curator Sarah Newman engaged in an open conversation about *A Phrase Hung in Midair as if Frozen*, a mid-career survey of Michael's work.

Pushing Boundaries by Ellouise Schoettler

Local cable host, producer, and nationally known storyteller, Ellouise Schoettler, performed in the long gallery surrounded by the Winter (all-female) exhibitions. Her stories took audiences into the 1970s Second Wave Women's Movement with eyewitness tales of grassroots political history.

Twilight Member's Closing (Membership Event)

Members explored the winter exhibitions during this private after-hours event while mingling with Carolyn Alper in the new space dedicated to the Alper Initiative for Washington Art.

SPRING

Members' Opening (Membership Event)

Members previewed the Spring exhibitions and artist William Dunlap discussed his exhibition *Look At It – Think About It.*

Spring Opening Reception

Opening reception for the spring exhibitions.

Twisted Teenage Plot Gallery Talk

A discussion with featured artists on their identities as both artists and musicians and Washington's underground art scene in the late 70s and early 80s.

60-60-60

Presented by AU's Studio Art Program, 60 one-minute videos made by AU students within the last 3 years were screened and attendees voted for their favorite.

Bill Dunlap Book Reading

Dunlap's exhibition, *Look At It - Think About It*, coincided with the release of "Short Mean Fiction - Words and Pictures" (Nautilus Publishing), a collection of stories and drawings gleaned from decades of sketchbooks and journals recently uncovered by the artist. Bill read stories and signed books.

Southern Constellations Gallery Talk

George Scheer, Executive Director of Elsewhere, Victoria Reis, Executive & Artistic Director of Transformer and Tim Doud, Associate Professor of Art at AU discussed the curatorial initiative to extend experimental practices and creative networks in the South.

Southern Constellations Convergence: Exploring Experimental Practice and Resources in Southern Cities

Transformer & Elsewhere organized a symposium with national arts leaders mapping art spaces, artist led projects, and the resources that support them in a range of Southern cities.

MFA Gallery Talk & Exhibition OpeningEach MFA student presented a short gallery talk. The evening included performance and social engagement art.



Music in the museum

Recent Acquisitions

2014-2015 Acquisitions

Robert D'Arista, paper in a sketchbook, 112 misc. works on paper in a sketchbook, 2014.22.1

Henri Matisse, Exhibition Poster, The Thousand and One Nights (Juin '50), lithograph, 2014.1.1

Dan Kunhe, *Untitled*, acrylic on canvas, 2014.10.1

Ed Kelley, *Poverty is Underrated*, color photograph, 2014.11.1

Jon Eaton, *Homage to Picasso Tom and Spring*, monoprint on paper, 2014.12.1

Joe Shannon,

DegasVariation/Montgomery County, oil on board, 2014.13.1

Deborah Kahn, *Untitled*, graphite on paper, 2012.14.1

Pat Segnan, *Terra Infirma or you mean its really flat?*, collage, 2014.15

Peter Charles, *Three Hearts for Steve*, steel sculpture, 2014.16

W.D. Hamilton, *Colonel John Gordon Battelle, 1845-1918,* oil on canvas, 2014.17

Helene Herzbrun, *Unititled*, acrylic on board, 2014.18.1

Helene Herzbrun, *Untitled*, acrylic on board, 2014.18.2

Helene Herzbrun, *Untitled*, acrylic on board, 2014.18.3

Patrick McDonough, 092310 Axe Throwing (First Place), fabric paint, thread on canvas on canvas, 2014.19.1

Alan Stone, *Untitled*, charcoal and watercolor on Paper, 2014.19.2

Tracy Hambley, *Heroes*, Archive World War II photographs and bullets on Board, 2014.2.1

John Winslow, *Study for In the Studio*, watercolor on paper, 2014.20.2

Robert W. Gates, Portfolio book, 2014.21.1

William Newman, *Solar Eclipse on Yellowstone*, oil on canvas on mounted wood, 2014.24.1

Jeanne Gentry Keck, *Time/Mercy of Eternity*, oil and mixed materials on canvas, 2014.25.1

Leonard Maurer, *Susannah*, print, 2014.26.1

Unknown, *Orchestra Stand*, mixed media, 2014.27.1

Elliott Thompson, *Yellow Color Field Painting Twenty Eight*, acrylic on canvas, 2014.28.1

Frank Wright, *An Olive Tree*, ink drawing, 2014.29

Carol Grigg, *Painted Ponies*, watercolor on paper, 2014.3

Unknown, *Unknown Painting of a Church/Mission*, oil on canvas, 2014.3

M. Faroukh, Copy of Lions Courtyard-Alhambra Palace, Granda, Spain, 2014.31

M. Webb, *Dvan Wyk*, 2014.32

Unknown, *Copy of the Portrait of Beatrice Cenci by Guido Reni*, print on canvas and board, 2014.33

Charles Ritchie, *Blue Twilight*, dark manner aquatint, 2014.34

Michael Clark, *Windows*, acrylic on canvas, 2014.35.1

William Willis, *Falling Tree*. handpainted black and white lithograph, 2014.35.2

Colby Caldwell, *Wheatfield No. 1*, iris print on paper, 2014.35.3

Rockne Krebs, *A Rainbow Tree*, lithograph, 2014.35.4

Lois Mailou Jones, *A Shady Nook--Le Jardin du Luxembourg*, serigraph on paper, 2014.35.5

Keith Morrison, *Newborn Child on a Tropical Bier*, oil on canvas, 2014.35.6

Nan Montgomery, *Yellow Square with Circle and Triangle*, oil on wood, 2014.35.7

William Calfee, *Untitled*, oil on paperboard, 2014.36

Don Kimes, *Trasimeno 1*, 2014.37.1

Don Kimes, *Trasimeno II*, 2014.37.2

Sally Gall, *Fiji*, archival pigment print, 2014.38.1

Sally Gall, *Martha's Vineyard*, archival pigment print, 2014.38.2

Sally Gall, *Ayutthaya*, *Thailand*, archival pigment print, 2014.38.3

Sally Gall, *Galveston*, archival pigment print, 2014.38.4

Eric Rudd, *Abstraction*, oil on canvas, 2014.39.1

Betty Zeiger, *Levels*, oil on canvas, 2014.39.2

Claudia Vess, *Abstraction*, acrylic on paper, 2014.39.3

Gail Hillow Watkins, *Fieldstone*, mixed media on canvas board, 2014.39.4

Wayne Paige, *Pickle Lily's Rampage*, mixed media, 2014.4.1

J Feiffer, *Obama! Our Obama!*, print, 2014.4

Ron Haynie, *Three Young Boys Playiing in Surf*, Watercolor on Paper, 2014.5.1

Noche Crist, *Succubus*, mixed media, 2014.6.1

Betsy Packard, *Listening Woman*, plaster, terra cotta, fabric, 2014.7.1

Janos Enyedi, *Anvil Song*, steel, 2014.8.1

Sidney Lawrence, *Self Portrait with a Swelled Head*, oil on canvas and wood, 2014.9.1

Elizabeth Peak, *Q Street*, monoprint, 2014.23.1

William Woodward, *Kimono*, oil on canvas, 2015.10.1

Willem de Looper, *Untitled*, watercolor on paper, 2015.10.1

Willem de Looper, *Untitled*, watercolor on paper, 2015.10.2

William Woodward, *Brittany Landscape*, watercolor on paper with frame, 2015.10.3

Willem de Looper, *Untitled*, watercolor on paper, 2015.10.4

Boehm Black, *Capped Chickadee*, 2015.7.1

Boehm, Canada Geese, 2015.7.10

Boehm, Baby Robin, 2015.7.11

Boehm, Meadow Lark, 2015.7.12

Helene Herzbrun, *Untitled*, 2015.4

Unknown, *Image of Acrobatics and Dancers*, 2015.4.1

Prentiss Taylor, *Print Club of Albany*, 2015.5.1

Prentiss Taylor, *Preludes to Finland*, 2015.5.10

Prentiss Taylor, *Cliff and Ruin: Canyon de Chellry*, 2015.5.11

Prentiss Taylor, Self Reflections at the Metropolitian Museum of Art, 2015.5.13

Prentiss Taylor, *Church of Tromfos*, 2015.5.15

Prentiss Taylor, Early Music, 2015.5.2

Prentiss Taylor, *Julliard Playing Webern*, 2015.5.3

Prentiss Taylor, *Watermelon Wagon*, 2015.5.4

Prentiss Taylor, Uprooted Stalk, 2015.5.5

Prentiss Taylor, *Sculptor's Family*, 2015.5.6

Prentiss Taylor, *Roxbury Foundry*, 2015.5.7

Prentiss Taylor, *Xochimilco: Cinco de Mayo*, 2015.5.8

Prentiss Taylor, *Connecticut Night*, 2015.5.9

Boehm, *Hedgling Magpie*, 2015.7.13

Boehm, Young American Bald Eagle, 2015.7.14

Boehm, Ring Necked Pheasant, 2015.7.15

Boehm, Tree Sparrow, 2015.7.16

Boehm, Canada Geese, 2015.7.17

Boehm Ring, *Necked Pheasants*, 2015.7.18

Boehm, Lesser Prarie Chicken, 2015.7.19

Boehm, Nuthatch, 2015.7.2

Boehm, *Downey Woodpeckers*, 2015.7.20

Boehm, Morning Doves, 2015.7.21

Stellula Calluope, *Paphipedilum*, 2015.7.22

Boehm, Mallard, 2015.7.23

Boehm, Calf, ceramic, 2015.7.24

Boehm, *Hunter*, ceramic, 2015.7.3

Boehm, Adios, ceramic, 2015.7.4

Boehm, *Golden Crowned Kinglets*, ceramic, 2015.7.5

Boehm, Blue Grosbeak, ceramic, 2015.7.6

Boehm, *Lesser Prairie Chicken*, ceramic, 2015.7.7

Boehm, *Untitled*, ceramic, 2015.7.8

31 World War I and II prints, 2015.8.1-2015.8.33

Fellowships, Internships, Student Employment & Exchanges

FELLOWSHIPS

Aileen Beringer

First Year, M.A. Arts Management

Alper Initiative for Washington Art: social media strategy and execution, webpage management

Alyssa Montchal

First Year, M.A. Arts Management

Museum Volunteer Program: coordination of museum tours, oversight and development of volunteer newsletter

Holland Gormley

Second Year, M.A. Arts Management

Office of Assistant Director: assist Assistant Director with loan agreement organization, gallery attendant management, and grant writing. (Holland's interest in grant writing resulted in the development of a free Kids@Katzen program for 60 students at Horace Mann Elementary School.)

Zhen Liu

First Year, M.A. Arts Management

Museum Visitor Services: Campus outreach and museum retail management

INTERNSHIPS

Henry Duong

Junior, School of Communications

Museum Marketing: social media strategy and execution and community outreach

Susan Laudicina

Museum Collection: Research and conservation of World War I posters.

Hannah Shambroom

Second Year, School of International Service

Office of Assistant Director: development of volunteer educational materials and docent guides, management and content generation for Director & Curator's blog

Lexie Tyson

Junior, School of Communications

Museum Marketing: graphic design

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Each semester, the museum employs 15-20 student gallery attendants, 3-4 Registrar and Preparator assistants, and 3-5 museum shop attendants.

Exhibition Exchange

Curatorial Practice students from American University and Vilnius Academy of Arts (VAA) in Lithuania presented two unique exhibitions as a part of an educational and artistic exchange between the two universities. The students from both universities developed their skills in the management of art as well as promotion of the artistic ambitions of their fellow students through an international exchange of exhibitions. Under the supervision of their professors, these students practiced all practical stages of the curatorial process, starting with the inception of artistic ideas to their presentation in the form of an exhibition to the international public.

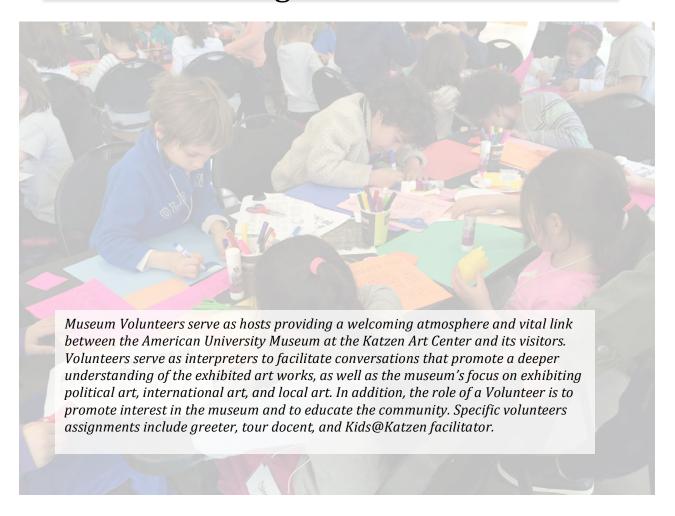
Lost and Found: Young Art from Lithuania was shown at the American University Museum from April 25 –May 24, 2015. The exhibition was the result of a search for promising young artists from the Vilnius Academy of the Arts and the notion of a so-called "Lost-And-Found" office, the first of which was founded in Paris in 1805 to collect items lost in the city streets. In this exhibition, the curators searched for VAA artists discovering their identity. The show presents a wide range of media varying from traditional craftsmanship to unique technological solutions.

As a response to the VAA show that took place in the American University Museum, Jack Rasmussen's curatorial class similarly explored young artists identities in their exhibition *E Pluribus Unum* on view at the VAA from October 1-October 31, 2015. "Out of Many, One" is the quote from the Great Seal of the United States that represents the nation's ideals. Out of countless individuals, cultures, and communities, one nation emerges. Expressions of identity are similarly forged. American University artists explored the construction and use of building of those identities. The artists interpreted this topic through a variety of perspectives and media. By constructing personal identities and investigating how overarching cultural narratives are sometimes damaging or uplifting, the artists demonstrated how identity is both prescribed and self determined. Unwilling to be defined, they manipulated, obscured, and revealed new identities.

The Lithuanian Embassy provided 6 students with travel stipends of \$1,000. These stipends ensured that the students could assist with the curation/installation of the exhibition and attend the opening of *E Pluribus Unum* at VAA.

Laura Pittman – Curatorial Practice, Non-Degree 2015 Rebekah Pineda – Masters of Arts Management Class of 2015 Helene Genetos – Masters of Arts Management Program Class of 2017 Adam Robert Hager – MFA Class of 2012 Angelina Samudre – MFA Class of 2015 Ben Tolman – MFA Class of 2012

<u>Volunteer Program</u>



Volunteer Education Program 2015-2016

The education program for the volunteers consists of activities designed to increase knowledge of contemporary art and to strengthen the role of the volunteer at the Museum. These activities include exhibition tours with Director & Curator, Jack Rasmussen, as well as a series of lectures on contemporary art, and educational field trips to galleries, artist studios, museums and collectors. The speakers for the lectures are experts in their field and come from various museums and universities, including AU.

Below is the schedule of meetings and field trips.

Fall

September 21st - Early Fall Exhibition training with Jack Rasmussen **October 5**th -Rebecca Stevens, Curator at the Textile Museum discussed Gerhardt Knoedel's Textiles

October 26th -Tour of the Smithsonian American Art Museum with Cindy Aron, Trustee of the Historical Society of Washington, DC.

November 9th -Docent Training Workshop session with Antonia Dapena-Tretter, Education Director at the Kreeger Museum

November 16th - Fall Exhibition training with Jack Rasmussen

 $\textbf{December 7}^{th} \textbf{ -} Lecture \ on \ Art \ and \ Health \ with \ Ann \ Wiker, \ Art \ Historian \ and \ Lecturer \ at \ OLLI$

December 14th - Feedback Session

Spring

February 1st -Review of Feedback and Winter Exhibition training with Jack Rasmussen **February 22**nd -Tour of *Pathmakers* exhibition at the National Museum of Women in the Arts and book art by Renée Stout

February 24th -Brown Bag Lunch with Jack Rasmussen. Discussion topics included the museum's history, upcoming exhibitions, and Jack's approach to curating

March 7th - Horace Mann Education Program with artist Frida Larios

March 14th -Studio Visit with artist Joan Danziger

March 28th -Lecture on Contemporary Women Artists by Sybil Gohari, Adjunct Professorial Lecturer at American University

April 4th - Spring Exhibition training with Jack Rasmussen

 $\textbf{April 11}^{\text{th}} \textbf{-Hands-on creative workshop with Shelley Brodecki and Susan Cole: Notan Paper Cutting}$

 $\textbf{May 11}^{th} \textbf{-} \textbf{Field trip to Art Museum of the Americas and tour with Curator Adriana Ospina}$

May 16th - Tour of American University's arboretum

June 6th -Tour of the Washington Art collection at the Crowell and Moring Law Firm

June 15th -Summer Exhibition training with Jack Rasmussen

June 27th -Lecture on Contemporary Latin American Art from Naomi Daremblum

AU Museum Volunteers

Abrams, Natalie Belkin, Harriet Berlin, Harriet Bishop, Heidi Bolter, Holly Boyarsky-Maisel, Andrea Brenner, Natalie Brodecki, Shelley* Brodkey, Florence Brodsky, Vivian Chong, Joanne Cole, Susan* Cooper, Aileen de Pontet, Joan Fink, Jerry Fink, Joanne Flowers, Beverly Fried Heller, Tina Gann, Judy Goozh, Judy Grant, Debbie

Guerber, Jay Hardis, Marilyn Hicken, Laura Kaitz, Lorrie Kelly, Terry King, Ellen Kissick, Marie* Koehler, Kathy Madigan, Kathleen Martin, Roxana* Mendelsohn, Rona Michel, Jacqui Paul, Marilyn Phillips, Hope Raskin, Nancy Robin, Gerry Rudolph, Zita Seidman, Myrna Smith, Mary Jo Stern, Susannah Thayer, Nena

Zuckerman, Sandy*

Zoss, Hope

Grell, Donna

^{*} Steering Committee Chair

Volunteer-Run Programs

Kids@Katzen

Sunday, June 14, 2015

Children participated in an engaging textile project inspired by the work of local artist, Betsy Packard. They combined textiles, paper, buttons, and string to create their own mixed media work of art.

Sunday, September 20, 2016

As part of our 10th-anniversary celebration, the museum offered a special family day for this session of Kids@Katzen with an art project for the whole family.

Sunday, November 15, 2016

<u>Kids@Katzen</u> Family Day for the entire family! The workshop was developed in coordination with artist Micheline Klagsbrun and inspired by her exhibition *Free Fall Flow*.

Sunday, February 7, 2016

This project was based on the work of Washington, DC-based artist Maggie Michael. After a kid-friendly tour of the exhibit, children created their own paintings based on Michael's technique of pours, drips, and splatters of paint.

Sunday, April 10, 2016

Family art-making workshop that is based on the work of local artist William Dunlap. William was present for the program and took families on a tour of his work before guiding the hands-on activity.

Tours

This year, we were able to offer a weekly tour to our patrons. Volunteers gave tours of the current exhibitions every Friday. The volunteers also gave 31 tours requested by classes, community groups, and tourists.

2015-2016 Tours

Event Name	Date	Attendance
Youth Group Tour/Shandong Provence Reception	5/19/15	128
Ward Circle AARP	5/21/15	23
AU Staff Appreciation Tour	5/22/15	8
Tour for AU Development Office	6/1/15	13
Eagle Summit Tour	7/7/15	15
Dupont Circle Village Tour	7/9/15	9
Eagle Summit Tour	7/10/15	10
Hiroshima Exhibition Tour for Japanese Students	8/2/15	38

Tours Continued...

Event Name	Date	Attendance
Cornell Club Tour	8/5/15	15
Thomas Circle Group Tour	8/6/15	10
Preview Day Tours	8/7/15	15
Landau House Tour	8/11/15	10
Hiroshima-Nagasaki Exhibition Community Tour	8/13/15	10
Hiroshima-Nagasaki Exhibition Community Tour	8/15/15	10
Textile Museum Group Tour	9/15/15	29
Senior Group Tour	9/16/15	12
Gerhardt Knodel Tour	9/17/15	10
Human Rights Class Tour, self guided	10/7/15	12
Board of Trustees Tour	10/15/15	18
Professor Ellington Class Tour	11/10/15	20
Director's Tour	11/10/15	23
Beverly Ress Tour	11/17/15	22
Carnegie Mellon Tour	2/3/16	16
Tour for Glen Echo	2/7/16	27
Writing Class Tour, self-guided	2/23/16	24
Maret School Tour with Maggie Michael	2/23/16	53
Director's Tour for COWAP Attendees	3/5/16	30
ArtTable Tour	3/5/16	20
EALS Tours	3/6/16	12
Wilson High School Art Class Tour	3/9/16	15
Modern Art History Class Tour	4/8/16	26

Volunteer Appreciation

The museum demonstrated appreciation for the volunteers with a '''tea" at the President's House hosted by Ann Kerwin, in honor of the Museum's $10^{\rm th}$ Anniversary. The volunteers were also invited to a Holiday Brunch in the Museum for Volunteers and Donors.

Publications

This year, the museum published six catalogs, contributed and collaborated on two catalogs, and created 13 brochures. We have mailed five seasonal exhibitions programs to 5,700 patrons. Our seventh catalog is currently underway.

Catalogs

Summer 2015

Realism Transformed - John Winslow solo-exhibition 48 pages; ISBN: 978-0-9964172-1-1

Abstraction - Michael Gross solo-exhibition 32 pages; ISBN: 978-0-9964172-0-4

Late Fall 2015

Free Fall Flow - Micheline Klagsbrun solo-exhibition
With support from Wolpoff Family Foundation (and the artist)
52 pages, ISBN: 978-0-9964172-2-8

Winter 2016

A Phrase Hung in Midair as if Frozen - Maggie Michael solo-exhibition 58 pages; ISBN: 978-0-9964172-4-2

Circle of Friends - For Alper Initiative for Washington Art 36 pages; ISBN: 978-0-9964172-3-5

IMPACT! The Legacy of the Women's Caucus of Art
Collaboration with the Women's Caucus for Art, published by WCA

Spring 2016

Twisted Teenage Plot catalog - For Alper Initiative for Washington Art 48 pages; ISBN: 978-0-9964172-6-6

The Tension of a Suspended Moment - Kevin MacDonald retrospective, Collaboration with the artist's estate, published by the artist's estate 72 pages; ISBN: 978-0-9964172-5-9

Brochures

Summer 2015

Outliers - Kurt Godwin and Betsy Packard exhibition tri-fold

Abstraction – Michael Gross one-fold

Realism Transformed - John Winslow one-fold

Early Fall 2015

Let the Games Begin! - Gerhardt Knodel solo-exhibition one-fold

Reflections and Contradictions - Mary Shaffer solo-exhibition tri-fold

Itinerant Eden - Walter McConnell solo-exhibition tri-fold

Late Fall 2015

Post-It - Joe White solo-exhibition tri-fold

Jerusalem - Suzanne Kessler solo-exhibition one-fold

The World is a Narrow Bridge - Beverly Ress solo-exhibition tri-fold

Art + Design - Michael Graham and Marc Pekala exhibition one-fold

Free Fall Flow – Micheline Klagsbrun solo-exhibition one-fold

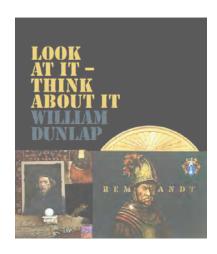
Winter 2016:

Alper Initiative - Grand Opening Promotional Material one-fold

Spring 2016:

Look At It—Think About It - William Dunlap solo-exhibition one-fold

Southern Constellations - with Transformer and Elsewhere tri-fold



Art in the News

"A-bomb exhibition: Hiroshima-Nagasaki, 70 years on." Culture. Jun. 19, 2015.

Brown, Kathleen. "Blood-Filled Sculpture Protests FDA Ban on Gay Blood Donations." CNSNews.com. Jun. 25, 2015.

Butler, Bryan. "New Exhibit Made From the Blood of Gay Men." Philadelphia. Aug 19. 2015.

Capps, Kriston. "Maggie Michael: A Phrase Hung in Midair as if Frozen' at the American University Museum, Reviewed." Washington City Paper. Feb, 12, 2016.

Capps, Kriston. "Reneé Stout: Tales of the Conjure Woman." Washington City Paper. Feb. 12, 2016.

Ceneta, Manuel Balce. "Atomic outcome: New exhibit different perspective on World War II end." *Associated Press.* Jul. 6, 2015.

Codik, Emily. "This Sculpture Was Made With the Blood of Nine Gay and Bisexual Men." Washingtonian. Oct. 5, 2015.

Crawford, Katie. "From Latvian Obscurity to DC Recognition: An Artist's Journey." Diplomatic Courier. Jun. 27, 2015.

Ennis, Dawn. "Blood Mirror Reflects FDA's Gay Blood Ban in 7-Foot Tower." Advocate. Jun. 24, 2015.

Feinstein, Laura. "Mesmerizing Art Made from Blood Highlights LGBT Injustice." Good. Oct. 1, 2015.

"First A-bomb exhibition on 20 years in Washington begins." *Japan Times.* Jun. 15, 2015.

Forgione, Mary. "Atomic bomb exhibit in Washington recalls days in Japan frozen in time." *Los Angeles Times.* Aug. 6, 2015.

Iacovone, Mike. "Breaking Down the Past: Titus Kaphar." Bmore Art. Dec. 2, 2015.

"Gay Men Donate Blood for Sculpture to Protest FDA Blood Ban." POZ. Jun. 15, 2015.

"GMHC Joins Conversation on FDA's Discriminatory Blood Donor Policy." Edge Media Network. Sep. 29, 2015.

Hinzmann, Dennis. "Blood Mirror: Gay Artist Jordan Eagles Creates Sculpture to Protest FDA Blood Ban." *Out.* Jun. 15, 2015.

"Hiroshima and Nagasaki horrors recalled, undiminished." Euronews. Jul. 16, 2015.

"Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Exhibit." C-SPAN. Jul. 29, 2015.

Kirkpatrick, Emily. "Blood Mirror Shines a Light on the FDA's Gay Blood Ban." The Creators Project. Sep. 25, 2015.

"Japanese art depicts atomic bombings: Controversial exhibit on display at D.C. museum." *The Columbian.* Jun. 17, 2015.

Jenkins, Mark. "Celebrating an ancient art form." Washington Post. Aug. 20, 2015.

Jenkins, Mark. "Galleries: One view of how people of color are portrayed in pre-modern art." Washington Post. Dec. 4, 2015.

Jenkins, Mark. "How are these things not like the others?" Washington Post. May 9, 2015.

Jenkins, Mark. "In the galleries: An artist's past, present and future." Washington Post. Jul. 10, 2015.

Jenkins, Mark. "In the galleries: Artist's glass has life of its own." Washington Post. Sept. 25, 2015.

Jenkins, Mark. "Women's artwork is never done." Washington Post. Feb. 25, 2016.

Jones, Caroline. "Blood Mirror' at American University Museum." Washington City Paper. Sept. 13, 2015.

Jones, Justin. "The Artist with Gay Blood on His Hands." The Daily Beast. Jun. 24, 2015.

Jousset, Anissa. "Rejected Blood Donations From Gay Men Turned Into Intriguing Exhibit of Medical Discrimination." *Beautiful Decay.*

Lopes, Carlos. "The Real Reason Why Gay Men Can't Donate Blood." About Relationships. Aug. 31, 2015.

Mansoor, Peter. "The Decision to Drop the Atomic Bombs - 70 Years On." Hasty Ambush. Jun. 24, 2015.

McDonald, James. "Blood Illuminated: Jordan Eagles' *Blood Mirror* to Fuel Panel Discussion of FDA Blood Ban." *Out Traveler.* Oct. 1, 2015.

Nichols, James Michael. "This Exhibit Is Made With The Blood of Queer Men – Blood the FDA Refuses To Take." *Huffington Post.* Aug. 18, 2015.

Oczypok, Kate. "Local Artist Conjures Distant Cultures to Examine Human Condition." Washington Diplomat. Mar. 1, 2016.

O'Donnell, Carey. "Sculpture Created Using Blood Donations from Gay Men Protests FDA Policy." *NewNowNext.* Jun. 17, 2015.

Pennington, Matthew. "New exhibit offers different perspective on World War II end." *Associated Press.* Jun. 15, 2015.

Shengdun, Hua. "Ancient art of Shangong displayed." China Daily. May 20, 2015.

Shorey, Eric. "Artist Creates Sculpture of Blood to Protest FDA Gay Ban." NewNowNext. Jun. 15, 2015.

Tanaka, Miya. "Famed Hiroshima Panels bound for U.S. in bid to spark rethink of A-bombings." *Japan Times*. Jun. 9, 2015.

Traube, Trenton. "Blood Works." POZ. Sep. 17, 2015.

"U.S. historian reflects on A-bomb sentiment as exhibition is held in Washington." *The Maincichi.* (Mainichi, Japan), Jun. 15, 2015.

Voon, Claire. "Folded and Fragmented Drawings of the Natural World." Hyperallergic. Dec. 7, 2015.

Voon, Claire. "A Mobile Stoop that Builds Community." Hyperallergic. Sep. 9, 2015.

Zeilinger, Julie. "This Artist Is Protesting The FDA's Gay Blood Ban In The Most Intense Way." Mic. Jun. 17, 2015

Zongker, Brett. "Blood from gay donors in art exhibit protesting FDA's ban." Associated Press. Aug. 13, 2015.

The Museum ONLINE

Women Artists Campaign with National Museum of Women in the Arts

In conjunction with Women's History Month in March, the National Museum of Women in the Arts hosted a campaign on social media called "Do You Know 5 Women Artists?" (#5womenartists) to build awareness of women artists, who are underrepresented in art history. The AU Museum was invited to participate and posted nearly every day of the month of March about women artists in the museum's collection, current exhibitions, staff-picks, etc. The campaign coincided with the museum's first ever all-women artists season (Winter 2016). The collaborative campaign was a success, gaining followers/shares/impressions of Facebook posts to a larger audience that was a part of a bigger conversation.

Artist Takeover

The Alper Initiative hosted their first "artist takeover" of the Alper Instagram feed – inviting an artist to post under the Alper handle for a week. The artist takeover resulted in 38 new followers for Alper and 15 for the museum and embodied the mission of promoting appreciation of DC art and artists.

Web

As CAS moved to fully-responsive mobile site, we adjusted our homepage content to be more mobile friendly, as about half of our traffic comes from mobile. This included adjusting the carousel header to simpler text/imagery

Web traffic is generally steady; it spikes around the opening of each season. From April 2015-April 2016, we received approximately 20,000 unique website views. Aside from our homepage and the "Visiting & Directions" page, exhibition pages receive the most traffic. Armed with this information, we've improved the content, images, and amount of information on exhibition pages. We include links to related events and press coverage on exhibition pages making them a one-stop destination.

Our highest traffic on record occurred in June/July 2015 related to the Hiroshima-Nagasaki exhibition. That exhibition page alone received over 6,000 visits, likely a result of the Associated Press article that linked to the page.

The Museum relies on our **Social Media** presence to provide ease of information for followers (rather than direct users from social media to our website). Based on that, we are always looking to increase our followers and their engagement with our posts.

By the Numbers:

Facebook, averages 35 new followers per

month

February: 2527 March goal: 2570

March: 2596; 69 new followers

April goal: 2650 2017 goal: 3000 June: 2711 Instagram, averages 49 new followers per

month

February: 360

March: 565; 205 new followers June: 763; 198 new followers

2017 goal: 1500

Twitter, averages 27 new followers per month

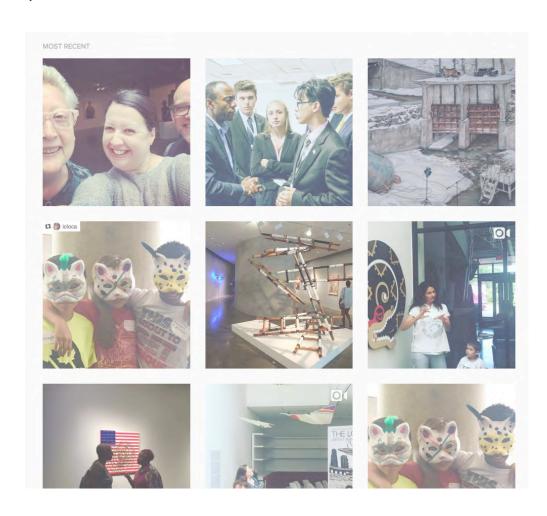
February: 1179 March goal: 1215

March: 1222; 43 new followers

April goal: 1265 June: 1,283 2017 goal: 1500

Social media pages on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram launched for the Alper Initiative. Alper social media is in a start up phase but growing steadily as we refine our niche and build relationships with artists and local organizations online.

Instagram: 184 Facebook: 363 Twitter: 298 *As of June



Katzen Museum Store

The Katzen Museum Store offers a selection of books including the American University Museum's exhibition catalogues, arts and crafts, and a variety of merchandise, much of which is derived from the museum's collection and special exhibitions. All items are carefully chosen for their educational and aesthetic quality in keeping with the museum's mission of enhancing visitor appreciation of the visual arts, both locally and internationally.

Best Sellers

Merchandise

Good Paper Fair Trade Handmade Cards from the Philippines: 156

Divine Specialty Fair Trade Chocolate Bars: 211

Modern Resin Necklace: 71

Fabric and Paper Bead Fair Trade Necklace from Uganda: 60

Marcella Kriebel Locally Handmade Cards: 58

Catalogues

Circle of Friends Alper Catalog: 79

Short Mean Fiction by William Dunlap: 79 Twisted Teenage Plot Alper Catalog: 62 Maggie Michael Exhibition Catalog: 51

Store Sales Associates

Diana Leigh Freeberg, M.A. Arts Management Emi Nishimura, M.A. Arts Management Sara Pereira da Silva, M.A. Arts Management Joanne Chong, J.D. Washington College of Law Zhen Liu, M.A. Arts Management candidate

New Additions to our Handmade Vendors:

- Shannon Broder: Brooklyn, NY (www.etsy.com/people/shannonbroder)
- Hsin-Hsi Chen: Washington, DC (http://www.hsin-hsi-chen.com/)
- Mollie Green: Chicago, Illinois (www.etsy.com/people/lafamiliagreen)
- Amy Marx: Washington, DC (www.etsy.com/people/amymarx)
- Tasha McKelvy: Richmond, VA (<u>www.etsy.com/people/tashamck</u>)
- Nona Nicholson: Washington, DC
- Bonner Sale: Washington, DC (bonnersale.com/home.html)
- Leah Staley: San Francisco, CA (http://www.etsy.com/people/leahstaley)

"Vintage chic"

"Great shop I'll be back!"

"Great selection of lovely things"

"I love this store, the buyer has a fantastic eye- I never leave without some creation"

Membership & Contributions

We are pleased to report that the museum currently has 302 members. Since the revamp of the membership program in 2014, membership and revenue from the program have more than doubled.

Curator's Circle

Alper Family Foundation
Carolyn Alper
Stephanie Bennett-Smith
Gisela and Benjamin Huberman
Cyrus Katzen
Charles & Carleen Keating
Jane Lang
Connie & Paul Mahon
Liza Phillips
Wolpoff Family Foundation

Artist's Circle

Paul Feinberg & Wendelin White Elisabeth French

Katzen Circle

Philip Barlow & Lisa Gilotty
The Edelman Foundation
G Fine Art
Henry Goldberg & Carol Brown Goldberg
Embassy of Israel
Madeliene Keesing
Ralph & Marie Kissick*
Aaron M. Levine
Rona & Alan Mendelsohn*
Nuzhat Sultan-Khan & Anil Revri
Steven Sumberg

Director

Vivian & Marc Brodsky*
The Clyfford Family Foundation
Community Foundation for the National Capital
Region
Frauke DeLooper
Alice Denney
Nancy J. Garruba and Christopher W. Hornig
Fruzsina Harsanyi & Raymond Garcia
Hemphill Fine Arts
Joseph Holbach Jr.
Mahy & Mihael Polymeropoulos

Joyce Jewell & Wilfred Brunner Arthur B. Kennickell Barbara Kerne Mirella & Dani Levinas Julia & Adam Lear Betsy Packard Lila Snow Peter Starr & Alice Hill Mary H.D. Swift Associate

Sondra Arkin

Andrea Boyarsky-Maisel & Harvey Maisel*

Adah Rose Bitterbaum Susan & James Cole* Teresa Grana Covacevich Delna & Kersy Dastur

John Doolittle & Ellen K. Baker

Linda Doman

Margaret Flaherty & Scott Hempling

Beverly Flowers*

Family

Elizabeth Barrett-Brown & Bos Dewey

Susan Bernhardt Robin Berrington Marla & Paul Boren

Shelley & Joseph Brodecki* Emily & Alex Brodsky

Philip Brown & Barbara Wolanin Judy Byron & Richard Reinhard

Helen & Craig Chason Marlene & Jim Connors

Ronald Costell & Marsha Swiss

Richard & Kitty Dana Joan Danziger Joanne & Jerry Fink* Pattie Firestone

James & Sandra Fitzpatrick

Fred Folsom Mira Foxman

Barbara & Herb Franklin

Susan Gallagher Linda Green Jay Guerber* Beth Irving

Bill Isaacson & Sophia McCrocklin

Melvin & Juanita Hardy

Helen Harkins Chris Harris Mira Hecht Tina Heller*

Douglas & Emily Jacobson

Margaret Johnson & Ray Ottenberg

Miriam & Edward Kelty

Cookie Kerxton*

Individual

Judy Aaronson Theodore Adamstein Michele Forzley

David Furchgott & Fetneh Fleischmann Nancy Hirshbein & Robert Roche

Cornelius & Ann Kerwin Geralid Malitz & Ruth Marcus

Lawley Paisley-Jones & Kathy Peyman

Michael Gross & Shelley Singer

Duncan & Betsy Tebow Rangeley Wallace Brian Weinstein

Stephen & Kitty Klaidman

Alan & Alica Klavans

John Kokus Jr.

Art Latterner & Bonita Tabakin Dalya & Edward Luttwak Nancy & Alan Mandel James & Marsha Mateyka

Jacqui Michel & David Weisman*

Bruce & Nan Montgomery

Kent Morrison & Dale Clayton Morrison

Joyce Muis-Lowry Theodore & Mary Myer

Sara Nieves-Grafals & Albert Getz

Nona Nicholson John & Anne O'Connor Paula Parkman Frances Pearce

Sandra & Malcolm Pritzker

Tina Ramoy Brigitte Reyes

Leigh Riddick & Ted Jaditz

Marie Ringwald Robert & Josefa Scholz Paula Goetz Schumann April Shelford & Philip Katz Norman & Ellen Sinel Peter & Jennie Stathis Jim & Sylvia Symington

Mary Tobin Gretchen Toles Jay Townsend

Women's Caucus for the Art

Janice Agricola Kathe Albrecht Michele Amano
Harriett Babbitt
Sarah Bahl
Harriet Belkin*
Sandra Birdsong
Marla & Paul Boren
Eva Blutinger
Herta Borniger
Frances Bourne
Natalie Brenner*

Florence & Robert Brodkey*

Lisa Brotman

Frances & Leonard Burka

Gretchen Cheney Janis & Robert Colton

Aileen Cooper*
Sandra Collazo
Marja Corden
Susan Coti
Betsy Damos
Judith Daniel
Sara Day
Kyra Detmer
Thelma Deutsch
Marta Miller Dunetz
Raquel Dunning
Elizabeth Edmonds
Tyrrell Flawn

Sharon Fishel
J.L. Friedenberg
Jessica Furey
Judy Gann*
Wendy Garner
Dora Gerbruers

Aneta Geogievska-Shine Judith & Steve Goozh*

Debbie Grant*
Judy Havemann
Carol Hearle
Deborah Hefferon
Francie Hester
Alan Huguley
Linda Jacobson
Renita Johnson
Lorrie Kaitz*
Kathleen Koehler*
Dominique Lallement

Mike Larson & Fernando Calalin

Jeneva Lee Carol Levinson

*Volunteer

Kathleen Madigan*
Robin Mahler
Glen Marcus
Roxana Martin*
Nicola Mathieu
Kik McGrath
Ruth Meixner-Bird*
Claire Monderer
Jennifer Noyon
Vanessa Nii

Percy North Geraldine Ostrove Terry Parmelee

Hedwig Pasolini-Zanelli

Hope Philips*
Joanne Peck
Kate Perrin
Mary Power
Alison Powers
Susan Rao
Nancy Raskin*
Linda Reeves
Gerry Robin *
Rebekah Rootes
Sharon Ross
Zita Rudolph*
Teresa Saavedra

Renee Sandell

Roberta Schneidman

Gerald Schwinn
Helen Sebsow
Michelle R. Sender
Mary Sieber
Sharon Simon
Beverly Sklover
Bruce Sklarew
Marie Tanabe
Nena Thayer*
Stefan Toepler
Patricia Tuohy
Janet Verner-Platt
Amy Vieth
William Walker

Amy Vieth William Walker Joyce Wellman Suzanne Ziska Eric Zolat Hope Zoss*

Sandra Zuckerman*