

# **GREATER KANSAS CITY AREA COMMITTEE NATIONAL MUSEUM of WOMEN in the ARTS NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2021**

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Jeanne Levy, Editor

## **SUMMER GREETINGS**

As we move deep into summer, the reduction of the COVID virus over the past weeks has signaled that we can resume our activities. And we plan to do so with an eye toward the resurgence of COVID, following guidance from our health agencies. We will move forward with our outings, but will cancel as necessary.

We have put together a schedule which you will find in this Newsletter. We are anxious to see you all again after many months of Zooming, living behind masks, and staying isolated. Please remember that your 2020 membership was extended at no cost for the year of 2021.

Chris LeBeau, Chair

## **WELCOME NEWS**

The Greater Kansas City Area Committee of NMWA is about to stir to life, starting with a Studio Open House at the studio of Cheryl Eve Acosta, with Lola Muller and Bernadette Torres on July 29. The notice for reservations has been emailed to all members.

The Committee on Art Outings has been busy planning more in-person activities for the Fall. These include a day-trip to historic Lexington on Saturday, September 18, the Annual Members' Luncheon in October, and a holiday shopping opportunity at Ten Thousand Villages in Overland Park November 18. Details to all these activities will be announced closer to the dates, but mark calendars now.

Suggestions for other Art Outings are welcomed. Forward them to Jan Leonard or any other member of the Committee, whose members are listed at the end of this Newsletter.

## **NATIONAL MUSEUM CLOSURES**

The National Museum of Women in the Arts will close August 8, 2021, for much needed structural repairs and general renovation of exhibit, public and behind-the-scenes spaces. These changes have been detailed in the Summer 2021 issue of *Women in the Arts* member magazine. Special Closing Week Celebrations are planned for the week of August 1 through August 8, after which virtual programming will serve to keep patrons in touch with collections and other museum activities. The Museum is expected to re-open to the public in the Spring, 2024.

### **ARTIST/MEMBER APPOINTMENT**

On May 13, UMKC announced that Adrienne Walker Heard, professor emerita of Fine Art and Black Studies, has been appointed as one of the eleven members of the Board for Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art. In the announcement, Heard expressed her commitment to contemporary art and her hopes to find ways to engage younger people in art as a profession, as well as an expression of contemporary society. Congratulations, Dr. Heard!

### **TRAVEL**

Members' trips to see art in other cities have been another of the casualties of COVID restrictions, but it may be time to begin to think of places where there are museums or other art attractions that would be interesting to visit over several days. Members are encouraged to forward suggestions for future travel to members of the Art Outings Committee. The Travel Committee needs a chairperson, and members who may be interested in such a position should contact Chris LeBeau.

### **REMINDER - DUES EXTENSION**

Dues were suspended for the current year because there could be no in-person meetings. Many members paid dues, anyway, for which the Board sincerely thanks them.

### **WOMEN TO WATCH 2024**

Planning is going forward to participate in the next Women to Watch, which is scheduled for the Summer of 2024. It will be one of the major events to celebrate the reopening of the National Museum in Washington, after major renovations have been completed. The Kansas City Committee has signed the Letter of Agreement and paid the deposit of \$1500 in May. An additional \$8500 will be due Feb. 5, 2024. There will also be some local expenses, including a stipend so the selected artist can travel to Washington for the opening of the exhibit. A fund raising event is being considered as one way to meet these necessary expenses.

### **ATTENTION: ARTIST/MEMBERS**

The Newsletter is one place where artist/members can notify members of openings, honors or appointments, but it is not always timely. The Greater Kansas City Area Committee is happy to post notices of such events on the Committee website, and to distribute notice of your openings through the site *listserv*. Artists may also post information about openings, honors or appointments on the Committee Facebook page, (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/215447111012>.) *the website is found at* <https://www.kc-nmwa.org>. Contact Chris Lebeau with such notices or news ([lebeauc@umkc.org](mailto:lebeauc@umkc.org)) Members are encouraged to check out postings on the website for such information.

## THANK YOU

Lou Gemeinhardt, who has served as Board Secretary for the past two years, has resigned her position. The Board thanks Lou for her unfailing efforts to keep accurate records for the Board meetings. Pam Damron will assume the position of secretary.

## BIRTHDAYS

Several members helped Darlene McClusky, a Charter Member of the local Committee, celebrate her 90th birthday in July, with a yard sign. Happy belated birthday, Darlene!



Jeannette Nichols, who founded the local committee in 2002, celebrated her birthday (which one unknown) on July 14. Note this date and send a birthday greeting in 2022.

## BOARD MEMBERS 2021

<i>Chair</i>	<i>Chris LeBeau</i>
<i>Vice-Chair</i>	<i>Jan Leonard</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Pam Damron</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Peg Billick</i>
<i>Immediate Past Chair</i>	<i>Arlene Finney</i>
<i>Chair Emerita</i>	<i>Jeannette Nichols</i>
<i>Art Outings</i>	<i>Jan Leonard, Debbie Welch, Sandy Funk</i>
<i>Consultants</i>	<i>Jean Rau, Darlene McClusky</i>
<i>Membership</i>	<i>Nekie Kramer</i>
<i>Newsletter</i>	<i>Jeanne Levy</i>
<i>Reservations</i>	<i>Lynn O'Sullivan</i>
<i>Publicity</i>	
<i>Historian</i>	<i>Linda Sybrant</i>
<i>Special Events</i>	<i>Arlene Finney, Shirley Goetz</i>
<i>Travel</i>	
<i>Members at Large</i>	<i>Helen Fisher, Eileen Duggan</i>
<i>Web Editor</i>	<i>Chris LeBeau</i>
<i>WTW 2024</i>	<i>Arlene Finney</i>