

Our History

Formation of an Arts Council research committee was initiated by unanimous Crystal Lake City Council vote in December, 1980 under the direction of Mayor Carl Wehde. After three years, in May, 1983, the Community Arts Council was established as a fully-sanctioned City Commission, with representatives appointed from the City, the Crystal Lake Park District, the community at large, local service organizations, visual and performing artists, and the corporate community. In addition, a separate group was designated to be comprised of representatives from local arts organizations.

The Community Arts Council was based in Crystal Lake's City Hall, acting as liaison to coordinate activities of various arts organizations in the community, promoting interest in programs in all phases of the arts, and aiding in program development. Steps were taken in 1991 for the Council to become a separate nonprofit organization. Working artists, some who also founded Women's Works, took over management of the group.

We've evolved over the years from a clearinghouse for publicizing events in the area to a facilitator for initiating broad-based arts programming, community outreach, and scholarships for the entire area. Members joined from McHenry, Kane, Lake, DuPage and Cook counties. In September, 1994, The Community Arts Council became a non-profit organization and adopted its current name, The Northwest Area Arts Council (NAAC), to reflect the impact and goals of the evolving organization. We had paid staff until 2005, when we became an all-volunteer group. Today, our work continues entirely through the dedication of our board and our volunteers.

Over the years, NAAC has successfully completed many art exhibitions and programs at the Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock (owned for many years by Bev and Cliff Ganschow) as well as other area venues. Most notably, our key exhibition, Women's Works, celebrated 25 years in 2012. In January 2014, NAAC assumed day-to-day (arts center) management for this classic venue, as the City of Woodstock seeks a new culturally-minded owner. More information is available on their website.

Our Structure and Direction

NAAC is a fully qualified 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Our membership is comprised of various arts organizations, working artists, photographers, writers, their families and organizations that support and appreciate the arts. Artist members of all disciplines share the beliefs and values of the Council. We were partially funded by the Illinois Arts Council, although this support has disappeared in recent years.

Our programming reaches out to the northwest area of Illinois, and lower Wisconsin in general and the McHenry County area in specific, with major events and activities in Woodstock, McHenry, Algonquin, and Crystal Lake.

Our Board plans coordinates exhibitions and programs, organizational relationships, and funding connections to continue our arts advocacy efforts.

Our Mission

"The Northwest Area Arts Council is a volunteer agency dedicated to connecting artists of all ages with the community at large and to fostering creativity in all areas of life. NAAC accomplishes this by educating, informing, and inspiring the community through programs and events that encourage appreciation, participation, and support of the arts."

Our Goals

- to encourage the coordination, promotion and development of educational and cultural activities among various area arts organizations
- to enhance the cultural climate in the greater McHenry County area
- to offer opportunities for people of all ages to showcase their artistic talents
- to organize and promote programs to enrich and strengthen families through the importance of the arts in their lives
- to value the artistic and creative expression of our young people

We welcome your interest and feedback as we continue to evolve.

Northwest Area Arts Council Post
Office Box 597
Crystal Lake, IL 60039

To contact us, please use these email addresses:

General: questions @ naac4art.org

Submit NEWS items to: artbeat @ naac4art.org Main

Website feedback: don @ naac4art.org

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Women's Works 2014 Winners

Here are NAAC's 27th Annual 2014 Women's Works award winners, announced at our opening reception March 22nd:

1st Place -The Straw Hat

Colored Pencil by Carol Maltby of Hamburg, NY

2nd Place - Jordan

Graphite, oil paint and Swarovski crystals by Gail Postal of New York, NY

3rd Place -Restraint

Watercolor by Suzanne Hetzel of Oak Brook, IL

Artistic Merit - What Lies Beneath

Mixed Media by Sydney Steen of Carrboro, NC

Roger Muterspaugh Artistic Merit - Hallandale
Sterling, found white coral, sand, steel by Kelli Jackson of Kalamazoo, MI

Jane Mary Weiss Artistic Merit - Every Blade...
Acrylic on canvas by Jude Kitts of Glenview, IL

Gallery Award - Conversation
Bronze by Belgin Yucelen of Boulder, CO

We invite you to enjoy the exhibition, now running at the Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock.

Orson Welles Festivals coming in 2014 & 2015

Like NAAC, Woodstock Celebrates is a volunteer organization. They were established in 2012 and are entirely focused on celebrating notable persons and entities associated with Woodstock, through educational programs. In BOTH May 2014 and May 2015, they will conduct programs centered on Orson Welles, who considered Woodstock his hometown. Here's their "Welles Woodstock" site portal: Also, this page has more detail on their upcoming Welles EVENTS

In future years, Woodstock Celebrates will shift their focus to other notables, including Chester Gould, Eugene V. Debs, Claussen Pickles, and the famous Woodstock Typewriter Company.

NAAC wishes them continued success with their efforts!

News about the Old Court House Arts Center

If you've been involved with NAAC for any length of time, you probably know our primary exposition location is the Old Court House Arts Center, located on the historic Woodstock Square. For well over twenty years, NAAC has enjoyed this venue for many of our exhibitions. In recent months, we've become even more involved with this historic landmark, behind the scenes. More news will follow, including background material and a site development RFP for the Old Court House Arts Center. Also, if you click on the graphic below, you'll be able to view a recently-completed twenty- minute video, crafted by Afterglow Creative Services, providing a well-tuned overview of the history, preservation and restoration of this classic building. It's hosted by Jim May, local writer and storyteller:

2014 Instructor Invitational now closed

NAAC's short-run exhibition, showcasing the work of 17 local art instructors, ended March 2nd at the Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock. Our opening reception, held Saturday, February 15th from 7-9pm was well attended.

We appreciate the work of our volunteers and participating artists for this first-time event! Click their links (at left) to learn more.

- Creative Arts, Crystal Lake
- River Arts, Algonquin
- The Studio, McHenry
- Mainstreet Art Center, Lake Zurich

Real People 2013 - Online!

Even though our 2013 Real People exhibition has come and gone, you can now visit our dedicated [Real People website](#), which provides a look at all the entries.

Women's Works 2014 Opens March 13th

Women's Works 2014 will run from March 13th - April 27th at the Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock. Our Gala Opening Reception will be held on March 22nd: 6-7pm for Artists / 7-9pm for the general public.

Here's our 2014 WW POSTCARD, which provides more of the details for this, our 27th Annual exhibition. It also illustrates winning entries from last year's 26th annual exposition.

We also have a NEWLY DEVELOPED Women's Works website. You'll find it here: womensworks.org

June ArtBEAT now available

Please download it here <ArtBEAT June 2013>

May edition of ArtBEAT now available

Now that Women's Works 2013 has closed, we're ready for our summer wave of activities, and we're inviting you to join along. We've just released our latest issue of ArtBEAT. Please download it here <ArtBEAT May 2013> or via our DOWNLOADS tab, above.

Free Folk Performance

Award-winning musician Tricia Alexander helped us celebrate the 26th anniversary of Women's Works at the Old Court House Arts Center on the Woodstock Square. The singer, songwriter and performance poet honored women's creativity during the last weekend of NAAC's annual exhibit of international fine arts. Her free half-hour performance was on Saturday, April 27th. Tricia Alexander is known throughout the Chicago area and well beyond for her powerful, original blues, jazz, pop and folk music. Her signature blend of spirituality, social commentary and humor has fostered community arts development for thirty years. Tricia received the Woodstock Folk Festival's Lifetime Achievement Award at their 28th Annual Woodstock Folk Festival, Sunday, July 21, 2013.

Little Women's Works 2013

An Exhibition of Artwork by Girls, Ages 6 - 17 Years Old. Exhibit dates: March 7 - April 28, 2013 at The Old Court House Arts Center, 101 N. Johnson Street, Woodstock, IL 60098. Artists Reception: Saturday, April 20, 2013 2-4 p.m. For more information e-mail LWW2013@naac4art.org or call 815-363-9855

March edition of ArtBEAT now available

As an all-volunteer organization, we don't publish our newsletter, ArtBEAT, as often as we'd like. But the latest issue, published last week, is chock full of important information. Please download it here <ArtBEAT March 2013> or via our DOWNLOADS tab, above.

Women's Works 2013 - Now Open!

NAAC's 26th annual international exhibition of Women's Art, Women's Works, opened March 7th at the Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock. The Gala Artists' Reception was held March 16th. It was a festive occasion, with lively conversation, good food and drink and a great exhibition to view. Just half a block away, two of our artists, Cristy Corso & Tye Johnson also held a pop-up gallery experience called "The Current Show" at Mixin Mingle. It was a great tie-in, enjoyed by many of our participants. Women's Works 2013 will close on April 28th at 5:00pm.

Many hours of planning and preparation were performed by our dedicated show chairs, Therese Cooper-Wiser and Denise Lambrechts, as well as many other NAAC volunteer workers. Last year, we celebrated Women's Works 25th Anniversary. That event was chaired by Kim Gust. She put together a special website, which is available here: [Women's Works](#).

Women's Works 2013 Postcard

Our 2013 Women's Works Postcard has been mailed. On the front, seven works are represented. On the back, show details are provided. A (low-res) PDF has been posted and is available here: [2013WWpostcard](#).

Cambridge Lakes Fine Art Festival - April 2013

Cambridge Lakes Learning Center, of Pingree Grove, Illinois sponsored a Fine Arts Festival on Saturday, April 6th, 2013. This family friendly event included fine art, musicians, vocalists, dancers, ensembles and cuisine from local restaurants. For more information, contact Leslie LaMarca: [leslielamarca @ comcast.net](mailto:leslielamarca@comcast.net).

Illinois Women Artists Project

The Illinois Women Artists Project is a non-profit organization, actively gathering information about artists who worked throughout Illinois between 1840 and 1940 and providing an appreciation of their work and experiences. Their unique, interdisciplinary Symposium: MIDWEST WOMEN ARTISTS 1840-1940 -- DISCOVERING THEIR WORK, TELLING THEIR STORIES, LEARNING FROM THE PAST. To be held November 7 & 8, 2013. Visit their sites for a rich collection of additional information, including a Call for Symposium Papers: [Illinois Women Artists Project IWA Facebook Page](#).

Call for Women's Works 2013 Entries

NAAC's 26th annual (2013), juried visual art exhibit for female artists is now open for entries. Women's Works is held in March and April at the historic Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock. The program is funded by contributions and by entry fees. Cash awards are given in various categories. Visit our Women's Works page on Call for Entry for complete details. We appreciate your interest.

Real People Closes after Successful Run

Reports are in...This year's Real People Exhibition at the Old Court House Arts Center was one of our best collections of artwork featuring the human face or form!

More information is available below, in our earlier article.

Kids & Nature Reception

The Board of Directors of the Northwest Area Arts Council celebrated our NEW summer fine arts exhibition, Kids & Nature, featuring work by young artists. The Artists Reception was held July 21st at the Old Court House Art Center on the Historic Square in Woodstock, and featured music, food and nature art activities for kids.

The Woodstock Group

River Art Studio in Algonquin hosted a successful exhibit, "The Woodstock Group" with work by Betty Schmidt, Barbara Brown, Carol Keene, Marilyn Olsen, Astrid Enskat, Anita Kaiser and photography by Tom Schmidt (in memory).

The work displayed included original art as well as affordable prints, giclées and small works and was shown Friday, July 13th through August 3rd. Visit the River Art Website for venue details.

Fine Fiber and Vintage Handbag Exhibits

NAAC again coordinated the Fine Fiber & Folk Art Exhibit, an integral part of the Midwest Fiber and Folk Art Fair, held June 22-24 at the Lake County Fairgrounds. The exhibit was then moved to the Old Court House Art Center in Woodstock, IL from July 5th-29th. The artists' reception was held July 21st from 7-9pm.

In addition, each year, we honor those who have inspired the work of our hands with a Vintage Handbag Exhibit. This year, designers based their work on a 1945 Coats & Clark handbag, featuring diamonds, squares, and circles. These were the rules: Bag front and back must be square and kept in proportion - smallest bag: 4" tall x 4' across; largest bag: 18" tall x 18" across. Bags must have at least three diamonds and buttons, beads, knobs or circles. The bags traveled with the fine fiber items for both venues. Visit: fiberandfolk.com for more information.

July ArtBEAT Available Now!

For a copy, CLICK: [July ArtBEAT PDF](#)

Our new board member, Andrea Brown, was instrumental in getting it done. Thanks, Andrea! The issue is chock full of info and links. And, please submit news for our August issue to artbeat@naac4art.org.

Kids & Nature



Note: Due to holiday week, Kids & Nature drop-off continues Sat 7/7 & Sun 7/8; 1-4pm...

Our newest event is a fine arts exhibition of original work by young artists, ages 6-17. Kids & Nature will be held July 5—July 29 at the Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock. This is an exhibition celebrating summer, nature and the world around us. We encourage young artists to pursue their talents within their chosen media and share their artwork with others through this new show. The Kids & Nature exhibition will run during the annual Garden Show at the Old Court House Arts Center.

Artwork should be related to nature, gardens or summer. One entry is allowed per artist, no larger than 18" by 18". The \$10 entry fee includes a Kids & Nature T-Shirt. All media will be accepted, but must be original (no kits or coloring books, etc.) 2-D artwork should be matted or mounted on card stock or construction paper but does not need to be framed. Work need not be for sale, but we receive many inquiries at our shows from visitors interested in purchasing artwork.

Young artists interested in submitting their work for display should fill out this Kids & Nature Registration form (entry deadline extended to 7/8), and deliver their artwork during drop-off: Sat 6/30, Sun 7/1, Sat 7/7, Sun 7/8; 1-4pm at the Old Court House Arts Center.

Other important Kids & Nature dates:

Artists Reception & T-Shirt Pickup: Saturday July 21 2-4pm (join us for art activities and food!) Final weekend: Artwork Pick-Up (& T-shirts): 1-4pm Sat. July 28 & Sun. July 29

If you'd like to help promote Kids & Nature, please download this Kids & Nature Poster (entry deadline extended to 7/8) and share it! Thank you.

Real People 2012

Celebrating the Arts through Faces and Figures



Celebrating
the Arts
through
Faces and
Figures

**REAL
PEOPLE
2012**

SPECIAL NOTE: GALA TRIPLE RECEPTION date changed to Saturday, August 25th. See below for details.

We're partnering again this year with the Old Court House Figurative League on Real People, our national juried figurative show. The exhibition, held in August & September, serves a dual purpose. The League is able to spotlight figurative artwork with this outstanding exhibition and offer substantial cash prizes totaling more than \$1,000 to the artists. Funds from the exhibition also allow the Figurative League to offer a year-round program of life drawing at reasonable rates for members and guests.

Real People is open to all artists and media; submitted work must depict the human form or face in some manner. This show is a national exhibit, drawing artists from across the country.

Artists may submit up to (3) pieces for jurying, for one entry fee of \$35.00. Each piece should be represented by one image; no detail views or images depicting the same piece from multiple angles. Up to two pieces may be chosen by the jury for the show. All work must be for sale and there is a 30% sales commission for any works which are sold. All works must be available through the entire run of the show. Gallery size limitation of work is six (6) feet in any single dimension and 150 lbs.

Discounts are available for current naac or Figurative League Members (\$10), and for artists who previously applied to Women's Works 2012 (\$10). (Multiple discounts are not allowed.) Please contact us at RealPeople2012@naac4art.org if you are eligible for a discount and we will send you the appropriate code. No additional Entry Fee upon Acceptance.

ENTRY DEADLINE: Wednesday, July 4th 11:59pm CST. NO EXCEPTIONS. NAAC is not responsible for incomplete entries and/or payments not received by the due date, so we encourage artists to enter early.

Jury Notifications will be emailed to artists July 5-10th, 2012. Real People 2012 opens Thursday, August 2nd at the Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock, IL and will close September 28th.

Real People will be shown in conjunction with two other exhibits of local artists' work, both being annual members' shows: the Workshop for Contemporary Artists and Claymirth, a St. Charles-based ceramics guild. Our GALA TRIPLE ARTISTS' RECEPTION will be held Saturday, August 25th, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the exhibition location, the Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock.

2012 Real People Juror/Judge Bios

Judy K. Dethmers

Judy received her B.A. in Chemistry from Hope College in Holland MI. (Cum Laude), a PHD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Northwestern University, Evanston, IL and her M.A. in Drawing/Painting at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, IL. Her work has been in numerous exhibitions and received many awards for excellence. She is active in the art community; currently living and working in Champaign, Illinois. Recently her work "The Reliquary" appeared in the Women's Work 25th Anniversary Show. Website: <http://www.judykdethmers.com>

Tracey Padron

Tracey was born in 1963, attended the American Academy of Art, Chicago; The University of Illinois; The Art Institute of Chicago; Carpenters Apprentice Program; Elgin Community College. She is a widow with 6 children. Since the age of 13, when she discovered Michelangelo and Norman Rockwell, she has been fascinated with the study of the figure. She has studied anatomy and at one point in her life was interested in a career in medical illustration. Tracey is a coordinator of the Division St. Drawing Guild and drawing from the figure is a regular occurrence in the walls of her private studio. Website: <http://www.barebrush.com>

Allison Grant

Assistant Curator at the Museum of Contemporary Photograph/Columbia College-Chicago. Allison has been with the museum since 2008. She has assisted with numerous exhibitions and curated the show 'Our Origins' in 2011, as well as co-curating the exhibition 'Peripheral Views: States of America,' which is on display during the summer of 2012. Grant holds an MFA in Photography from Columbia College Chicago and a BFA from the Columbus College of Art and Design, in Media Studies. Additionally she teaches as an Adjunct Faculty Member at Columbia

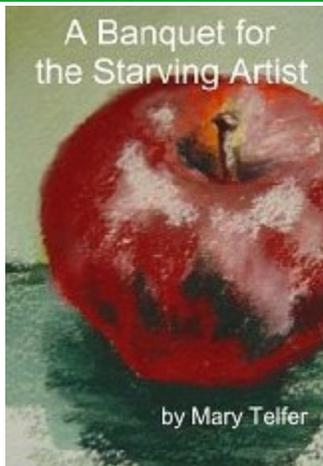
College Chicago. Website: <http://www.mocp.org/>

The Inner Circle: Featured Artist

In our continuing effort to provide benefits to our members, NAAC is pleased to introduce a new series of in-depth articles by board member Carol L. Zack. Carol joined our board last year. Her first effort focuses on member Mary Ann Telfer, of McHenry, and is available here as a PDF file. Carol will be creating these articles on a regular basis. For further information, please contact her here: carol@zackartistry.com

New Kindle Book

A Banquet for the Starving Artist - Kindle Edition



Mary Ann Telfer, a NAAC Member, has published a great little e-book...you should read it! It's only \$2.99, and well worth the price, with almost 200 pages of great content. Click the link above to go directly to her Amazon page. What makes Mary Ann's book a banquet? You'll find specific ideas on how to get inspired, how to prepare yourself, and where and how to sell your work. You'll be challenged to spend your time and energy creating your own version of what you want your life to be. It's up to you to design your art career the way you see it, and this book contains all the tools you'll need to realize your vision.

Open House at Creative Artistry School

Creative Artistry Fine Arts School held an Open House on Saturday, April 14 at its charming location in Lakeside Legacy Arts Park in Crystal Lake. The school is located in the historic former "Caretaker's Cottage," directly behind the Dole Mansion at 400 Highland Avenue. Their spring session runs April 30 - June 9, and summer programs run from June 11- August 25. For information, call Amber at 815-404-6520, e-mail [arttart13 @ gmail.com](mailto:arttart13@gmail.com) or visit www.creativeartistryschool.com.

2012 Women's Works Exhibitions

We opened the 25th Annual Women's Works and 16th Annual Little Women's Works Fine Art Exhibitions at the Old Court House Arts Center on Thursday, March 8th. The shows remained open until April 29th. The Women's Works Gala Reception was held on Saturday, March 24th, from 6-7pm for artists and NAAC members and then 7-9pm for the general public.

NAAC is very proud of our Women's Works committee's efforts, led by Chairperson Kim Gust. A record number of entries, over 900, were submitted for our 25th year, with over 120 chosen for display by our panel of jurors. Women's Works is a juried international show which supports women in the arts and embraces all mediums. The show is a beautiful showcase for women in the arts, on the historic Woodstock Square.

Little Women's Works is a non-juried exhibition which includes the fine efforts of over 100 young women artists and is displayed in a dedicated gallery in the same venue. A separate reception, including special art activity tables and refreshments was open to the public on Saturday, April 21st from 2-4 pm.

Two additional special events were held during Women's Works:

On March 31, from 10:00-1:00 pm, we had a Silk Scarf Demonstration by Christine Milostan, and a Book Altering project, to create a keepsake, with the theme: Women's History.

And, on Sunday, April 22, we had a free event, featuring the Woodstock Folk Festival's "Woody Guthrie Invitational" from 1:00 pm-2:00 pm, with Folk Music, Organic Chocolate and Fine Art. More info at: www.woodstockfestival.org

Starline Photo Contest: Get Your Feet Wet

Photographers are invited to submit work to the jury for possible inclusion in the Starline Gallery's upcoming "Get Your Feet Wet" photo contest.

Photographer Nancy Merklings and gallery staff are seeking submissions by midnight, March 13. The show will be held in the gallery, 400 W. Front St. in Harvard. For a prospectus, email nancy@nancymerklings.com.

First Friday at Lakeside...Art in Action!

Resident artists Amber Larsen, Johanna Gullick, Jeanine Hill-Soldner, Jean Tuttle and instructors from the Creative Artistry School presented a family-friendly evening of art, live performance and art demonstration, hosted by the Lakeside Legacy Foundation at the Historic Dole Mansion.

ART IN ACTION! was held on Friday, March 2nd. They offered graphics and illustrations, with works in oil, acrylic, watercolor and jewelry. Attendees were able to watch live art demos and get information on classes and art sales. The evening included appetizers and a cash bar. Live music was provided by Cassandra Vohs- Demann, with guest musicians.

It all happened at the Dole Mansion, 401 Country Club Road in Crystal Lake. Further information about their programs is available at www.LakesideLegacy.org or, phone 815-455-8000 to learn more.

Call for Farm Image Entries – LCHFF For immediate release - Call for Entries

THE FARM: IMAGES FROM THE HEARTLAND Launches second juried show with prizes

The Lake County Heritage Farm Foundation, in cooperation with the Lake County Discovery Museum, has issued a call for entries for artists, eighteen years or older, from Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana.

The topic is farm scenes: buildings, equipment, animals, farm fields, crops, and people. Work of winning artists will be displayed for ten weeks in the White Room at the Discovery Museum, Lakewood Forest Preserve, from August 25 through November 4. An opening reception will be held Sunday, August 26, from 1- 4pm.

Each of the winning artists will be eligible for Awards of Excellence in the amount of \$300, \$200 and \$100 for first, second and third place positions. A Special Award of \$250 will be given for a Lake County, Illinois, image. Well-known artist and teacher Didier Nolet, author and photographer Nancy Schumm, and gallery owner Joy Horwich will act as jurors for the exhibit.

For prospectus including deadline details and entry form, see <http://www.lchff.org>.

Contact person: Chris Geiselhart 847-362-5134; art@lchff.org

25th Annual Women's Works Opens March 8th

NAAC's 25th annual international exhibition of Women's Art, Women's Works, opens March 8th at the Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock. The Gala Reception will be held March 24th from 7:00-9:00 pm.

Roughly 125 artists were accepted and notified the first week of February, so they are preparing right now to have their work delivered for hanging. Many hours of planning and preparation has been performed by our dedicated show committee.

For further information, please visit our dedicated site, located at: www.womensworks.org

Collage and Paper Techniques, 1 Day Workshop

National and International awarding winning Collage artist, Laura Lein-Svencner will be presenting a one day workshop at the Creative Arts Fine Art School, 400 Highland Ave. Crystal Lake, IL., on April 28th from 9:30- 4:30 pm. The workshop is set up as a wonderful introduction to the Fine Art of Collage. Discussion on new and old movements in Collage will be presented along with emphasis on design that is crucial to all art forms.

Participants will learn how to alter and manipulate surfaces of found papers to incorporate this unique voice in their own collage artworks. Come create and celebrate 100 years of collage 1912-2012 in this one-day workshop, "You will never look at paper the same way again." says Collage artist Laura Lein-Svencner. To register: Call School Director Amber Larsen, 815-404-6520 or visit creativeartistrtryschool.com

Laura Lein-Svencner resides in Darien Illinois; she graduated from Downers Grove North High School in 79', Married with four grown children and a home full of loving creatures. She has continued with her personal studies in drawing, printmaking, sculpture, papermaking and collage. Seeking inspiration from one artist to another, Laura has pursued her love of paper. This steady pace of exploration has led her to become a member of many local and international collage groups. She co-founded the Midwest Collage Society, which exhibits throughout the Midwest region. Laura teaches her techniques on collage at LaGrange Art League, LaGrange IL., and Naperville Art League, Naperville IL. Her collage work is represented by J2 Gallery, Chicago

IL. and The Flying Pig, Algoma WI. During the summer months, you will find her exhibiting in art fairs and teaching collage workshops all over the Midwest. www.lauralein-svencner.com

Contact for Artist. phone: 630-655-4492 email: [lonecrow4 @ gmail.com](mailto:lonecrow4@gmail.com)

Starline: Birds and Bees Art Show

If you've not been to the Starline Gallery at 400 W. Front Street in Harvard yet, you MUST find an upcoming event and get yourself up there. It's a great venue! Here's one that happened recently...The Birds and the Bees Art Show was held February 10th and 11th.

- \$5 admission included art raffle
- roughly a dozen participating artists, all creating interesting work
- small clothing boutique, featuring 86 clothing of Chicago
- further info: Gabriel Karagianis, Starline Factory Studios

Call for Works by Legally Blind Artists

Guild for the Blind's Passionate Focus Art exhibit is looking for original works created by artists who are legally blind.

A jury, comprised of artists, curators and art educators, has the sole responsibility for selecting the works for the exhibit. Selected artists choose their own listing price and receive 70% of the sale (30% goes to Guild for the Blind).

Interested applicants must send a 35 mm slide, photograph, or electronic file of their work to Guild for the Blind by February 24th. Digital format is preferred. Actual pieces of art are not accepted during the application process. There is a \$30 .00 non-refundable submission fee for all artists. Make check payable to Guild for the Blind.

All applications and checks should be sent to:
Guild for the Blind
Attn: Passionate Focus
65 East Wacker Place, Suite 1010
Chicago, IL 60601

If you submit by email, please either mail the check or pay by credit card at www.guildfortheblind.org and click donate now and note Passionate Focus. For more information regarding applications, submissions, or the exhibit itself, please call Cheryl Megurdichian at 312-236- 8569 or send an email to: [cherylm @ guildfortheblind.org](mailto:cherylm@guildfortheblind.org) or visit our website, www.passionatefocus.org.

Women's Works 2012 Entries Now Closed

Many thanks to the hundreds of artists who have successfully submitted their artwork for consideration in our 25th annual Women's Works exhibition. Complete details are available at our dedicated [Women's Works site](#). We very much appreciate your interest and look forward to seeing you at our gala reception or one of our many other adjunct events.

Little Women's Works 2012

NAAC is pleased to present the 16th Annual (2012) Little Women's Works Exhibition, a fine art event for girls 6-17 years of age. The Poster and Registration Form (Flyer) PDF files have been added to our DOWNLOADS page for easy access. We appreciate your interest in this annual event, widely recognized for the scope of talent it represents. It is held in conjunction with Women's Works, celebrating 25 years in 2012. Entries must be submitted during Artwork drop off, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 25 or Sunday, February 26, 2012. The Artists Reception is Saturday, April 21st, from 2-4pm at the gallery, located in the Old Court House Arts Center, 101 North Johnson Street, Woodstock, Illinois.

Please help support LOCAL artists!

The 2012 NAAC Calendar is now available at Read Between the Lynes Bookstore and the Old Court House Arts Center, both on the Woodstock Square. Now is the time to buy & give these useful calendars!

Each calendar includes a wonderful collection of images, selected by a committee of artists whose works were published in our calendar last year. We've also included a full page for each month, with plenty of room to note upcoming events. To see a preview, see page two of our Winter 2011 Newsletter. It makes a wonderful holiday gift and supports NAAC's efforts for artists.

The 2012 Calendar was designed and produced by NAAC Members Pete and Donna Lewis. Entries were submitted in September and production started in October.

Further information is available from this 2012 NAAC Calendar Info Sheet.

Please download this 2012 NAAC Calendar Order Form and mail it in with your check.

Write to 2012calendar@naac4art.org for further information.

Fall NAAC Newsletter PDF now available

To view our Fall 2011 Newsletter, please visit our [DOWNLOADS](#) page.

Garlands Show - Still Life and 3D



NAAC's fine art exhibition at: The Garlands, in Barrington was held last fall, ending October 31, 2011. The Artists' Reception was held on Saturday, October 8th. Location: The Garlands Gallery - 1000 Garlands Lane - Barrington, IL 60010 - 847-304-1996

Google Art Project Web site - Amazing!

How would you like to use Google's Street View technology to take your own personal virtual walkthroughs of art at world-famous art museums? It's now possible, and it's an amazing example of Web technology. Just visit the Google Art Project Web site. It's simple and friendly.

Explore at your leisure...click to walk through national and international galleries. When you find artwork of interest...zoom in to see the artist's brushstrokes and much more information, including audio and video recordings. Get started by watching their introductory videos and FAQ.

Real People 2011 - Another Great Year!

Celebrating the Arts through Faces and Figures

Last fall, NAAC again successfully partnered with the Old Court House Figurative League on Real People, a national juried figurative show. The exhibition, held in August & September, serves a two-fold purpose. The League is able to spotlight figurative artwork with this outstanding exhibition and offer substantial cash prizes to the artists. Funds from the exhibition also allow the Figurative League to offer a year-round

program of life drawing at reasonable rates for members and guests. In recent years, NAAC has helped the League with show logistics.

Real People is open to all artists and media; submitted work must depict the human form or face in some manner. This show is a national exhibit, drawing artists from across the country. For this year's show, we received over 400 entries and 80 were chosen from a variety of media: photography, paintings of all kinds, pen and ink, pencil, digital media and sculpture.

Our jurors this year were Dan Addington, local artist Rodger Bechtold (who also judged the show), and Chicago artist Laura Kina, who is also an Associate Professor of Art, Media and Design at DePaul University in Chicago. Their Bios appear below.

Real People opened Thursday, August 4th at the Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock, IL and closed October 2nd. It featured the works of local artists Mary Hilger-Rajsky of Woodstock, Aron Esther of Bull Valley and Erica Spangler of Huntley, as well as works by another dozen artists from the greater Chicago area.

Real People was shown in conjunction with two other exhibits of local artists' work, both being annual members' shows: the Workshop for Contemporary Artists and Claymirth, a St. Charles-based ceramics guild.

Our GALA TRIPLE SHOW ARTISTS' RECEPTION was held Saturday, August 27th, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the exhibition location, the Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock.

Watch our site for news about Real People 2012!

Juror/Judge Bios



Rodger Bechtold is an accomplished, nationally recognized landscape painter of color infused nature-based work. His art studies include: The American Academy of Art, Chicago, IL, The School of the Art Institute, Chicago, IL, The Master Program, Santa Fe Institute, studies with well-known artist Wolf Kahn at his invitation. He is a part of many private and corporate collections as well as exhibitions at the Museum of Wisconsin Art and the Miller Art Museum, and is currently represented by prominent galleries in Fish Creek, WI, Milwaukee, WI, Richmond, VA, Chicago, IL, Glencoe, IL, Englewood, NJ and Minneapolis, MN. His work has been included in periodicals and books including *The Artist* and the "American Landscape: Two Centuries of American Landscape Painting" by John Discoll of the Babcock Gallery NY, NY, "Landscape Painting: Essential Concepts and Techniques for Plein Air and Studio Practice" by Michelle Albala and the forthcoming book "One Hundred Midwest Artists". Rodger also judged Real People 2011.



Laura Kina is an Associate Professor of Art, Media, and Design and distinguished Vincent de Paul Professor at DePaul University. A graduate of University of Illinois at Chicago (MFA 2001) and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (BFA 1994), her solo shows include: *Sugar* (Woman Made Gallery, Chicago, 2010); *A Many-Splendored Thing* (Gene Siskel Film Center, Chicago, IL 2010); *Aloha Dreams and Hapa Soap Operas* (Diana Lowenstein Fine Arts, Miami, FL 2007 and 2003); and *Loving* (Grand Projects, New Haven, CT 2006). Her two-woman show, *Indigo: Laura Kina and Shelly Jyoti*, toured through three venues in India, between 2009-2010, and was exhibited in Seattle and Miami in 2011. Her work has been published recently in *Modeling Citizenship: Jewish and Asian American Writing* (Temple University Press, 2011); *Other Tongues: Mixed-Race Women Speak Out* (Inanna Publications, 2010); *ZEEK: A Jewish Journal of Thought and Culture* (The Jewish Daily Forward, 2010), and *Embracing Ambiguity: Faces of the Future* (Cal State Fullerton, 2010). You may want to visit Laura's Facebook page.



Dan Addington has lived and worked in Chicago since the mid 1990's. His mixed media encaustic work is often based on his travels throughout Europe and has been shown in group and solo exhibitions across the United States. In Chicago, his work has been shown in numerous venues, including the Chicago Cultural Center, Contemporary Art Workshop, and various university galleries and fine art centers. He has also served as guest lecturer and visiting artist at colleges across the Midwest. In addition to his role as practicing artist, Addington has served as curator and director of various galleries since 1995, and is currently owner and director of Addington Gallery in Chicago. Addington has juried many competitive exhibitions throughout his career, is a member of the Chicago Art Dealers Association, and sits on the board of the Chicago Artists Coalition.

Contemporary and Non-Traditional Art Exhibition

On July 2, NAAC's Contemporary and Non-Traditional Art Exhibition opened at the Wauconda Area Library, located at 801 North Old Rand Road in Wauconda.

An artist's reception was held July 17th from 1-3:30 pm. The show closed the weekend of July 30. Visit www.wauclib.org for more information about the library and explore our site for more information about similar NAAC events.

Fine Fiber and Folk Art Exhibition + Vintage Handbags

Following a successful three days at the 5th annual Midwest Fiber and Folk Art Festival, held at the Lake County Fairgrounds in Grayslake, we moved the entire Fine Fiber and Folk Art Exhibition, along with the Vintage Handbag Exhibit, to the Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock. Complete details on the originating event, including prospectus, scholarships awarded and other fascinating details are located at: www.fiberandfolk.com. NAAC has been in partnership with Carol Cassidy-Fayer since her inaugural event, held in 2007.

These examples of fine fiber craftsmanship and artistry will be on display through July 31 at the OCHAC, 101 North Johnson Street in Woodstock.

A very successful artists' reception, coupled with the MFFAF volunteer appreciation reception, was held from 6-9pm on Saturday, July 9th.

Welcome!

Hello!

We're glad you've arrived at NAAC's new Web site.

Please send your comments and suggestions to [don @ naac4art.org](mailto:don@naac4art.org)



Thanks for visiting
our site today.
>NEWS stories move
down (latest on top).
>Please send feedback
via CONTACT.

Links to other Arts and Culture Web Sites:

(these are not active links – they are listed for archival purpose only)

- Americans for the Arts
- Arts Alliance Illinois
- Arts & Business Council
- Art Institute of Chicago
- Arts Midwest
- Art -Wikipedia
- Chicago Artists' Coalition
- Chicago Artist's Resource
- Clayworkers' Guild of Illinois
- College Art Association
- Community Media Workshop
- Elgin Community College - Arts
- Fine Line Creative Arts Center
- Harper College Art Department
- Illinois Art Collecting
- Illinois Arts Council
- Illinois Women Artists Project
- Illinois Art Education Association
- Illinois Creates - Arts at the Core
- International Art Materials Trade Association
- Lakeside Legacy Arts Park
- Local Focus: Art Schools
- ----- Creative Arts, Inc. - CL
- ----- Mainstreet Art Center - Lake Zurich
- ----- River Art - Algonquin
- ----- Studio Art School - McHenry
- MCC - Art Department
- McHenry County Historical Society
- McHenry County Music Center
- Midwest Fiber and Folk Art Fair
- National Art Education Association
- National Endowment for the Arts
- National Endowment: Humanities
- Non-profit Art Organizations - IL
- Northwest Cultural Council
- Northland Area Art League
- Old Court House Arts Center
- Open Directory: Arts
- Performing Arts Online - IL
- Professional Artist/Web Exclusives
- Professional Artist/Writers & Staff
- Raue Center for the Arts
- RBTL Bookstore - Woodstock
- School of Art - NIU
- Starline - Harvard
- State Arts Agencies
- US Regional Arts Organizations
- Wikipedia: Arts Organizations

- Women Made Gallery
- Women's Works – our Flagship Event



Please join NAAC and help support our 501(c)3 not-for-profit, all volunteer organization. NAAC Memberships run from January 1st through December 31st. To join, please visit our Membership Page. We appreciate your support.

Women's Works 2014: 27th Annual

NAAC's annual juried visual art exhibit for female artists which has gained international interest. It is held in March and April at the historic Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock. The program is funded by contributions and by entry fees. Cash awards are given in various categories. Visit our dedicated [Women's Works site](#) for complete details.

Little Women's Works 2014: 18th Annual

Held in conjunction with Women's Works, this non-juried, non-judged exhibit is open to young women artists, 6-17 years of age. Their work is also exhibited at the Old Court House Arts Center and is highlighted by a special Artist's Reception just for them and their families. Please visit our [DOWNLOADS](#) page for further information, in the form of PDF files.

The Cecil O. Johnson Performing Arts Award

A scholarship to a performing artist is given to an applicant who shows exemplary talent in music, dance or drama. The prize is funded by a bequest and is named for its benefactor, Cecil O. Johnson.

Annual NAAC Members' Show

The Old Court House Arts Center is the location for this two-month-long, non-juried visual art exhibit by artist members of NAAC. Entries are judged and awards are given at a reception which also includes NAAC's annual membership meeting.

DOWNLOADS:

2012Kids&NatureEntryForm.pdf (377K)

2012Kids&NaturePoster.pdf (2.5M)

2013 WW Postcard.pdf (270K)

ArtBEAT Newsletter - July 2012 (PDF) (403K)

ArtBEAT-October2005 (historic) (5.4M)

Fall2011NAACnewsletter.pdf (522K)

LWW2012-RegistrationForm.pdf (334K)

LWW2012poster.pdf (1.3M)

NAAC Featured Artist: Mary Telfer (PDF) (418K)

NAAC Membership Form (PDF) (168K)

NAAC-ArtBEAT-March2013-2.pdf (245K)

NAAC-ArtBEAT-May2013.pdf (510K)

Volunteer and Board Profile Form (PDF) (474K)

WW2014-CallForArtists.pdf (1.4M)

Winter2011NAACnewsletter.pdf (303K)