



# ARTline

the ohio art education association

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**OAEA's Mission:** To inspire, empower, and nurture the creative spirit within individuals of all ages and backgrounds. We are committed to advancing the field of art education by promoting the value of artistic expression as an essential element of human culture and personal growth."

## CALENDAR

### MARCH 1:

2024 Conference Workshop Proposals Open

### MARCH 2:

YAM, YPAE, YAM Flag, and JTACO Receptions

### MARCH 16:

Leadership Assembly Meeting, Virtual

### APRIL 1:

ARTline Deadline (Summer Issue)  
Teacher Enrichment Grant Application Due  
Classroom Incentive Grant Application Due  
Governor's Exhibit Scholarship Due

### MAY 1:

2024 Conference Workshop Proposals Due

### MAY 11:

Leadership Assembly Meeting  
Teacher Member 70th Anniversary Show Drop-Off

### MAY 17:

Emerging Artist Exhibition (HS) Deadline

### On the Cover:

**Hýmnos pros tin Eleftherían** by art teacher Jamie Schorsch. This work was created using Alcohol Marker, Prismacolor Pencil, Archival Ink, and Colored Maps on Bristol Board.

Let's Get Connected!



@ohioarted



## Resounding Joy.

JONATHAN JURAVICH • ARTline Editor • [artline@ohioarted.com](mailto:artline@ohioarted.com)

I have written several times about how it is the people of OAEA who make this association so incredibly unique, so special. I hope that you too have had experiences that have made this statement come alive. This year's OAEA Conference in Toledo was wonderful. The venue, the vendors, the workshops... and yes, the people. Catching up with old friends in the hallway and laughing at our collective dance moves as we watched decade's old YouTube videos of making the "world's largest gem sweater ever." Well, this is exactly what I needed. And meeting new friends at meals and during workshops, that stopped us all in our tracks with inspiration. Yes, OAEA is all about the people.

But, I want to share how my family learned this truth. To my two kids, the time I spend on ARTline or during day-long Saturday meetings with "all those art teachers" can feel very abstract or can inhibit their plans for days spent doing what they want. My wife Amy, well she knows you all through listening to one-half of my phone calls. My parents, they read about you as my mom reviews the editing on every single issue of the ARTline. In Toledo, you all became real and opened your arms to my family, which made me love this association even more. My mom received the Doris Schnepf Outstanding Service Award for her volunteer service to this association, and the whole family attended the award ceremony. You sat with my kids and talked to them about the art they love to make at school. You hugged my mom and thanked her for her dedication. You shared your connections to the Pittsburgh-area, where my parents live, with great detail and hilarity. And balloons. To my three OAEA friends with your joyous balloon hats, you saw that my kids and Ketel Patel's daughters, were enamored with your hats. And what did you do? Took the time to make each of them their own balloon hat that they wore with such pride. This small act, this joy-filled selfless act, this is what OAEA is, and will always be for me.

May all of our families know the resounding joy that comes from our membership, our sense of belonging in this association. And if you have stories like mine, share them with other art teachers and invite them to join. There is room for everyone in OAEA, and you have all made that beautifully clear.





GAYLE TRUEBLOOD • President • [president@ohioarted.com](mailto:president@ohioarted.com)

**Be Open, Give Grace, Be Present, Be You.**

Thank you to all who were able to join us in Toledo! I was able to talk with so many of you and thank you for sharing your thoughts, ideas and passion for our profession. I listened intently and will continue to do so, as I continue my Presidency. I am here in whatever capacity our membership and leadership need me. I will be your sounding board and shoulder, here to help you strengthen your voice within our profession, and hone your leadership skills. So many supported and guided me to this place and I want to do the same for others.

OAEA has accomplished a great deal in the last year and we are just getting warmed up! We adopted a new Mission Statement and Core Principles to support our journey. And, with all that has been done this year, there will always be room for growth and necessity for change. I am confident in our ability to do so. It is with much gratitude and honor that I'm here with you. I am proud of our community, what we stand for and whom we stand beside.

2024 will be our 70th anniversary as an organization. I look forward to planning and celebrating with everyone as we look forward to the Conference in Kalahari.

In the meantime, don't hesitate to reach out through email: [president@ohioarted.com](mailto:president@ohioarted.com)

**ABOVE:** President Gayle Trueblood with Logan Hicks (Artist and Conference Keynote Speaker) and Matt Young (Co-Conference Coordinator).

# from our PRESIDENT

**The Ohio Art Education Association CORE PRINCIPLES:**

to guide us in fulfilling this mission

**Advocacy:** We advocate for equitable access to quality art education, recognizing its role in fostering critical thinking, cultural responsiveness, and social engagement.

**Professional Development:** We provide opportunities for art educators to enhance their knowledge, skills, and teaching techniques, ensuring they remain at the forefront of art education practices.

**Community Engagement:** We foster a supportive and inclusive community of artists, educators, students, and enthusiasts, encouraging collaboration and the exchange of ideas.

**Innovation:** We embrace innovation in art education, adapting to evolving technologies and contemporary art forms while preserving the rich traditions of the past.

**Diversity and Inclusion:** We celebrate the diversity of artistic expression and are committed to inclusivity, striving to create an environment where all voices and perspectives are valued and respected.

**Advancing Art Education:** We collaborate with educational institutions, policymakers, and the broader community to advance the understanding and appreciation of art education's profound impact on society.

Through these principles, the Ohio Art Education Association seeks to cultivate a world where every individual has the opportunity to explore, create, and appreciate art by fostering a more imaginative, empathetic, and culturally responsive global community.

**NEW MISSION STATEMENT**

"To inspire, empower, and nurture the creative spirit within individuals of all ages and backgrounds. We are committed to advancing the field of art education by promoting the value of artistic expression as an essential element of human culture and personal growth."

# OAEA is turning 70!

## An Exciting Member-Only Art Exhibit Opportunity

SUZANNE MITOLO • Project Chair • [suzanne.mitolo@att.net](mailto:suzanne.mitolo@att.net)

OAEA was formally established on November 12, 1954, at the Cincinnati Convention. The organization technically began much earlier as a committee of what has now become the Ohio Education Association (OEA). That is why the OAEA has always been able to offer our members a payroll deduction option. The 50th Anniversary was celebrated at the 2004 Conference in Columbus with the theme, "Hand, Heart, Mind – OAEA's 50 Year Journey." Not only was it a wonderful conference but that year signaled a complete review of the OAEA organizational structure including a formalized strategic planning process.

Fast forward to early 2023. We wondered how we might celebrate this momentous occasion and include the entire OAEA membership. We decided to hold an ALL-MEMBER ART EXHIBITION. The exhibit will take place at Wild Goose Creative located at 188 McDowell Street in Columbus in the Franklinton Arts District. Not only is this venue centrally located, but there's plenty of room to display tons of artwork! Visit their website to learn about this organization: <https://www.wildgoosecreative.com/>

Specific guidelines and procedures will be communicated later through email and our social media channels, but will likely mirror the process we have developed for our student exhibit program. Below is the initial timeline.

Saturday, May 11	Drop off artwork at the OAEA Leadership Assembly meeting. <i>Work will be stored over the summer so make sure it is securely wrapped.</i>
Wednesday, September 11	Exhibit set-up
Friday, September 13	Public Opening/Franklinton Friday Reception: 5:00-8:00
Saturday, September 14	OAEA Reception 3:30-5:30
Saturday, September 28	Exhibit Take-down.

This project will be organized through the OAEA Fellows, but we'll need lots of volunteers to make this project a success. Please step-up and join the excitement!



**ABOVE:** Woodland clay houses built by fourth graders at Liberty Tree Elementary School, Art Teacher: Jonathan Juravich.



### The OAEF was established:

- To promote and advance the teaching of art in elementary through secondary levels schools in the state of Ohio through programs such as the Governor's Exhibit.
- To support and assist teachers of art in the state of Ohio by awarding grants such as the Teacher Enrichment Grant and the Teacher Incentive Grant; and,
- To foster and reward careers in art education through the awarding of scholarships to higher education students engaged in art education programs.

Operation of the OAEF is through a board of trustees and funds are managed by the Columbus Foundation. Your tax-deductible donation is welcome at any time. Ways to help build the foundation include bequests, appreciated securities, mutual funds, charitable gift annuities, life insurance policies and **simple cash donations**.

### HELP THE OHIO ART EDUCATION FOUNDATION GROW. THE MORE WE GET...THE MORE WE GIVE!

For more information on the foundation or giving procedures please contact:

Suzanne Mitolo  
Foundation President  
[foundation@ohioarted.com](mailto:foundation@ohioarted.com)  
[www.ohioarted.com](http://www.ohioarted.com)





MARY HAAS • President Elect • [presidentelect@ohioarted.com](mailto:presidentelect@ohioarted.com)

I recently purchased a t-shirt with a quote from Salvador Dali that says "Have no Fear of Perfection- You'll never reach it." I cannot say Dali is one of my favorite artists but I do like this quote. My friends asked me why I would want a shirt with this saying on it. The reason it reminds me that it is okay if things are not perfect. I'm not saying I don't try to plan perfectly- it's just that it's okay to be human and things don't go as planned.

With each lesson (projects) we teach our students we want them to "do their best" but one of the reasons we do critiques is to get advice on our work and hopefully we have a second set of eyes to see where we can improve. I am often surprised by student's response to each other's work and how helpful and supportive they are.

Let me ask you, do you have fears of stepping up into a leadership position? Maybe you feel you're not going to be perfect in your position? I will not reply with Dali's quote but I will say it's okay if things aren't perfect. You will be stepping into a position where there will be lots of people who are willing to help you succeed.

The Ohio Art Education Association (OAEA) is the leading professional membership organization exclusively for visual arts educators in Ohio. Members include elementary, middle, and high school visual arts educators; college and university professors; researchers and scholars; teaching artists; administrators and supervisors; and art museum educators. OAEA's mission is to *inspire, empower, and nurture the creative spirit within individuals of all ages and backgrounds. We are committed to advancing the field of art education by promoting the value of artistic expression as an essential element of human culture and personal growth.* I can attest we are very supportive of you as an art teacher and a leader.

## OHIO ART EDUCATION FOUNDATION GRANTS

DEADLINE APRIL 1ST

The intent of the Ohio Art Education Foundation is to serve as the grant/scholarship issuing arm of the OAEA. Current programs include the: Classroom Incentive Grant, Teacher Enrichment Grant, college student scholarships, and support of the Governor's Exhibit. Funding for these programs is issued from monies generated from the interest on the principal investments of the foundation.

### TEACHER ENRICHMENT GRANT

Developed to support professional development and enrichment opportunities for art educators. Plus, specialized activities that advance or re-focus the development of skills by assisting with costs such as:

- Expenses for participation in seminars, workshops, conferences, training programs, or meetings;
- Books, software, or materials required for the proposed professional development activity;
- Equipment that broadens or deepens skills or advances an applicant's professional development.

Grant amount of up to \$1000 available to OAEA member teachers.

### CLASSROOM INCENTIVE GRANT

Application to this grant program is open to any Art Educator who is an active member of OAEA and is currently teaching art at an Ohio Elementary, Middle or High School. Grants are available for innovative classroom projects that advance and enrich art education for Ohio students.

Grant amount of up to \$500.

### APPLICATION PROCESS

Member teachers must submit an online application to be eligible for these programs. Visit the OAEA website for more information along with the application form - <https://www.ohioarted.com/foundation.html>.

### PROJECT TIMELINE

The deadline for both grants is APRIL 1ST. Projects must be completed by May 30th the following school year. Final documentation is due by June 16th. Teachers receiving foundation grants agree to present their project at a future OAEA Conference, and/or complete a short review of the project for the ARTline. Read about two recent grant projects on the next two pages.

If you have any questions, please contact:  
Suzanne Mitolo, President Ohio Art Education Foundation  
[foundation@ohioarted.com](mailto:foundation@ohioarted.com)



# EXPLORING OUR BACKYARD; RESTORING OUR SOULS

A Project of Barberton Intermediate School with CVNP and OAEA

MARYELIZABETH NORMAN • Barberton Intermediate School Art Teacher • [meliz.norman@gmail.com](mailto:meliz.norman@gmail.com)

Over the course of the 2022-23 school year, our inaugural year as Barberton Intermediate School, we set out to learn about Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP), one of the most popular national parks in our country, and ours to explore. This provided the perfect framework around which to develop a body of work. A year in the making, this project has provided sanctuary, exploration, and a place to connect with ourselves, others, and the land.

A Classroom Incentive Grant from Ohio Art Education Foundation (OAEF) helped to make our exploration possible by partially funding sketchbooks for every fifth grade student. Each student had his or her own portable, spiral bound sketchbook. These became a personal treasure trove of thoughts and observations, and theirs to keep.

Coming together for the first time as a brand new class, recombined when our two school buildings merged into one, the fifth graders outdid themselves. As often as we could, we were outside sketching and observing nature do her work. We explored the natural world of Northeast Ohio, learning about our area through the lens of art and writing. Looking closely, examining how our ecosystems work, allowed us to embody rich detail in our depiction of local wildlife and the landscape that our creatures call home. From detailed observations of the natural world around us, we created paintings, drawings, prints, and ceramics.

Our project culminated in an exhibit at Boston Mill Visitor Center, the hub for CVNP. This was a real thrill for our students, as we have never exhibited in a national park before. Our exhibit is a reflection of the gift that we have here in our own backyard, Cuyahoga Valley National Park. We were reminded of the power and the peace of nature, and of our own creativity, to restore our souls.

From this project, sketchbook to exhibit, a wonderful relationship has begun. Through our sketchbooks provided by the OAEA Classroom Incentive Grant, we have taken our classroom beyond its four walls and allowed our students to experience the undeniable benefits of creating in place outside. We plan to continue our partnership with CVNP through field trips, another exhibition, and a mural project.

We are most grateful to Barberton City Schools for providing an outstanding arts program, to Ohio Art Education Foundation for support awarded through a Classroom Incentive Grant, and to Cuyahoga Valley National Park for inspiration through their gorgeous photo galleries, a place to exhibit our work, and for the work they do everyday, preserving our wild spaces and educating our public.



# GLASS WITH CLASS II

ALICE TAVANI • Watts Middle School Art Teacher • atavani1965@gmail.com



I have been very fortunate over the years. The Ohio Art Education Foundation has been very generous funding my art program. A few years back I was introduced to fusing glass in the classroom at a workshop and was very excited to give it a try. Then I experienced it in a school setting at Ankeney Middle School at a workshop led by Melissa Clark. That was all I needed, except for some funds for start up tools and of course, glass! Glass is not cheap either.

Four years ago, I purchased storage bins, wheel nippers, glass cutters with oil, tweezers, safety glasses, safety gloves, bales, necklace cords, pin backs, E6000 glue, and strong magnets. This was through a grant funded by my local Centerville Education Foundation. Next, I wrote a grant to the Ohio Art Education Foundation and received funds for the actual glass. I was off and running!



I created a fun unit for all of my 7th graders to create fused glass pendants that could be turned into necklaces, pins, or magnets. We studied two American glass artists, Deborah Czeresko and Ginny Ruffner, looked a little at the history of glass, brainstormed ways glass affects our lives, and learned some vocabulary about glass. It is one of the favorite units of my students and it was fulfilling to see them wearing their necklaces around school. This year I added a class for the staff at my school and had two sessions. It was like art therapy for them and a bonding time. We rarely get to work together like that and have such wonderful results. No one talked about students and they were very relaxing sessions.

Grant writing is easy if you prepare for it. First look at your population and be able to describe it well. How many students will be impacted? What are the ethnic sub-groups? What are their ages and how many are on IEP's? The more students impacted the better!

Next, think about the timeline of the project or unit. Where will you start? What resources will you use? How many classes will it take? What type of assessments are best? Be very clear and specific for this part.



Last, make a good budget and include the product number, where you will purchase, and the cost. When you get approval, you will be ready to turn in the order. Don't forget to include shipping and the chance that prices might change from the time you write the grant and make the actual order. The Foundation will send you the check after you turn in the report so you must be prepared to front the money first.

I hope you are as lucky as I am in getting those grants. They can really enrich your art program and provide experiences your students might not have gotten.





# Fellows News

SUZANNE MITOLO • Distinguished Fellows Acting Chair • [fellows@ohioarted.com](mailto:fellows@ohioarted.com)

Happy winter to all! As you read this the 2023 Toledo conference may be a distant memory for some, but I thought I would share some conference highlights and recognitions especially for those who could not be with us. The conference would not have been possible without the support of volunteers at every level – many from our Fellows family on the State Conference Committees. Matt Young took on the job of Conference Chair with the help and advice of Alice Tavani (Chair 2021-22) and pulled off a great conference! Along with this team, we could not have managed without the tireless efforts of our Treasurer, Bev Finkel, who was even able to attend a workshop or two this year. The dynamic duo from Kent State Juli Dorff and Linda Hoeptner Poling provided support scheduling workshops and arranging for Professional Development credits.

Jonathan Juravich created the Conference and Awards books and Sarah Danner Hebdo arranged interesting keynote speakers (Logan Hicks, New York based stencil artist and photographer and Helina Metaferia, an interdisciplinary artist and educator). Please go online to learn more about the fabulous work by these artists. Thank you once again to the Ohio Arts Council and Fellow Donna Collins for support of this component of our Conference.

Awards are a big part of the conference and this year they were divided into two nights. We inducted three new Fellows – Mary Haas, Cathy Sweny, and Jennifer Thompson. Mary currently serves on the Executive Committee as the President Elect through 2024. Cathy Sweny is a longtime OAEA member serving in a variety of capacities from Regional Director to two terms as Emeritus Division chair. Jen Thompson has served two terms as Elected Board member and ongoing Emerging Artist Exhibit Chair. She is also an active ED&I Committee member. These three will be a great addition to our Fellows team.

Juli Dorff, the 2022 Art Educator of the Year gave a wonderful keynote address centered around special education – a field she has championed through her work at Kent State University. Then we celebrated the 2023 Art Educator of the Year, Fellow Bev Finkel, OAEA Treasurer extraordinaire who has worked tirelessly to keep OAEA financially strong.

Finally, a big thank you to all those who presented workshops, supported the Fellows fundraising efforts to benefit the OAE Foundation and simply attended the conference (21 members). I hope many of you will be able to join us next year at the Kalahari Conference Center – NOVEMBER 7-9, 2024.

Summer Symposium Update - Make sure to mark your calendars for Summer Symposium 2024. We'll be back in Dayton at the University of Dayton July 15-17. Watch for eblasts and information on registration this spring for more information.

Organizational Update – At our annual meeting held on November 10th we elected Juli Dorff as the new Fellows chair and Alice Tavani was elected Secretary. I know this team will do a fabulous job in these leadership positions. Georgann Blair was thanked for all her work as Fellows Secretary (2022-23). We also approved a working draft of a Fellows Policies and Procedures document.

Finally, my term as acting Fellows Chair ended December 31. I will continue as the President of the OAE Foundation. Don't forget to stay connected through the Fellow Connections Blog coordinated by Donna Collins. Check it out on the website - <https://www.ohioarted.com/fellow-connections>. Stay well and stay connected.

**ABOVE:** The newest Fellows Inductees with their nominators.



**Save the Date**  
**July 15-17, 2024**  
 University of Dayton

We are looking for volunteers to help with the planning and to present workshops.

Contact Juli Dorff  
[fellows@ohioarted.com](mailto:fellows@ohioarted.com)  
 or  
 Suzanne Mitolo  
[suzanne.mitolo@att.net](mailto:suzanne.mitolo@att.net)



# Randy Robart Inspiration Award



SUZANNE MITOLO • Distinguished Fellows Acting Chair • fellows@ohioarted.com

Amelia Golec is the 2023 Randy Robart Inspiration Award winner. She received her \$500 award at the 2023 Conference in Toledo. Amelia served as the Pre-Service Division Chair (2019-2021) and was their Division Award winner in 2019.

Amelia is beginning her third year of teaching in Bolich Middle School in Cuyahoga Falls. Being a new teacher is always a challenge, but Amelia had a double whammy - she finished her student teaching and began her teaching career during COVID. She stated in her application, "That first year, it was hard to navigate classroom management, switching from hybrid teaching to full classes, budgeting, working with shipment and stocking issues, and having suppliers completely shut down for clay."

Thankfully, Amelia has gained experience and insight, but still has financial challenges. As she begins her third year of teaching she is moving into a new middle/high school and has been asked to create a mural for the cafeteria with her students. The theme of the mural is Home is Where the HeART is. Funds from this award will be used to purchase felting materials to create textural quilt squares that will be digitized to create the mural.

John and Ross Robart established this on-going award to honor their father, Randy Robart (1957-2021). Randy was an amazing OAEA Fellow, leader, artist/educator, and arts advocate. He also knew how to work on a shoestring budget and identified with others (especially new teachers) who experienced the same challenge. This award is open to all OAEA teaching members with preference for those teaching three years or less. Previous award winners are not eligible.

**The deadline to apply for the 2024 award is JUNE 31, 2024.** For more information about the program and the application process visit: <https://www.ohioarted.com/robart-memorial-fund.html>.

**TOP:** Randy Robart **BOTTOM:** Amelia Golec





## CRAFTING CONNECTIONS

SECONDARY DIVISION SECOND SUNDAYS  
WILL KICK OFF ON 12.10.23!

PLEASE COMPLETE THE SHORT SURVEY BELOW SO I CAN GAUGE WHAT TIMES WILL BE BEST TO MEET UP, WHAT TOPICS ARE OF PRIMARY CONCERN, AND IF WE SHOULD EXPAND ON THIS IDEA FOR OTHER VIRTUAL EVENTS. ONCE THE TOPIC(S) ORDER HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED, I WILL SEND OUT A MONTHLY POST THAT WILL INCLUDE INFORMATION TO SIGN UP FOR THE GOOGLE MEET CODE FOR THE DISCUSSIONS.



Two exciting opportunities brought to you by the Secondary Division.

## OAEA SECONDARY DIVISION

# VIRTUAL HAPPY HOUR

4:30 PM TO 6:30 PM

BEST IN TOWN



CLICK THE QR CODE TO REGISTER





**TOP:** Eva Sanchez, sixth grade, Olentangy Berlin Middle School, Art Teacher: Kaitlyn Kennedy

**BOTTOM:** Evyn Powell, eighth grade, Olentangy Berlin Middle School, Art Teacher: Kaitlyn Kennedy

**RIGHT:** Remi Cain, second grade, Hawthorne Elementary School, Art Teacher: Liz Bash





LISA GIRLIE • Parliamentarian • parliamentarian@ohioarted.com

How do you keep your students on task, focused and involved around the holidays? Make sure their hands are as busy as their minds. My students love handwork. Creating and crafting is calming and relaxing. During the busyness, excitement and stress of exams as well as all things holiday, I have found that my students are happiest working with their hands. We began December by learning how to roll paper beads. (I made cheap paper bead rollers out of coter pins, dowel rods, glue and polymer clay.) Then, they painted stained glass designs on DVDs. The paper beads were strung from holes pre-drilled into the DVDs to create Suncatchers. (Use black fabric paint instead of liquid leading for an easier and more cost effective alternative for outlining.) Our next projects involve learning how to needle felt by felting ornaments. We then round out the projects by drawing/painting large ornaments in oil pastel on paper.

Quite often my students have commented on how relaxing the process of rolling paper beads is. They honestly didn't want to stop. So, we made a bunch. After the stained glass paint dried they were in awe of how the DVDs were so translucent and beautiful. They loved making suncatchers to hang in their windows. Needle felting is such a stress-releasing process that focusing on puncturing the wool and felt, but not your finger with the felting needle doesn't allow for much else. Blending and forming the fibers into tactile imagery is so soothing and appealing. Lastly, creating their own large versions of ornaments is just, well, fun.

I realize these lessons may not sound like legitimate art lessons, but they are. We cover standards and are learning skills that they may use again. We are focusing on their well-being as well as art skills and they will display their suncatchers in their home/bedroom windows and delight in the sun refracting the light off their dreamcatchers. Maybe even more importantly, I have seen them thoroughly enjoying and responding to the process of hand crafting. I'll take all that any day in a classroom.

# Dream in Art

AMY CHOLKAS • YAM Flag and Graphic Design Chair • yamflag@ohioarted.com



"Dream in Art" is the theme for the 2024 Youth Art Month flag design. As an art educator, how would you respond to the challenge of creating a flag design based on this topic? Perhaps you would call upon your knowledge of historical works such as "Dream Vision" by Albrecht Dürer (1525), "The Dream Approaches" by Salvador Dali (1932-33), "The Dream" by Pablo Picasso (1932) or "The Key to Dreams" by René Magritte (1930). As an artist, you might delve into your own dreams, producing an image full of symbols and colors from your subconscious.

Ohio K-12 art students recently submitted their personal interpretations of the theme "Dream in Art" for the 2024 Youth Art

Month Flag and Graphic Design Competition. The winning designs will be on display at the King Arts Complex in Columbus, February 16th - March 2nd. Ohio's overall winning flag design will be made into a 3X5 foot flag which will be flown at the National Art Education Conference in Minneapolis, MN in April. The winning graphic design will be made into postcards to promote art education in Ohio.

Thank you to the many OAEA teachers and their students who participated in the 2024 Youth Art Month Flag and Graphic Design Competition. Hope to see you in Columbus on March 2nd for the Youth Art Month awards ceremony.

# ADVOCATE!

ERIN DECHMAN • VP of Advocacy • [advocacyvp@ohioarted.com](mailto:advocacyvp@ohioarted.com)

Like so many, 2023 has flown by. It seems like yesterday we were laughing and catching up with colleagues at the conference. Flashback to last spring when we were able to have our annual Statehouse Art Exhibit in April. Several legislators attended and spoke to our young artists. They congratulated all the students and presented awards to some. Next time, the exhibit will be split between the Ohio Statehouse and The Riffe Gallery. The reception will be held at the Riffe Gallery. Please look for more information to come with dates and times!

I am excited for the upcoming year as VP of PR & Advocacy. My team worked hard this past year, and those no longer on my team are moving on to other roles within OAEA. I know the team will do great things in the years to come. I would like to thank the outgoing PR representatives Kimberly Burghy (C ), LeeAnn Vancamp and Julia Davis(E), Victoria Watkins (NC), Ellie Evans (W) for the commitment you have given to OAEA. You made a difference in making OAEA successful and represented your region with professionalism. Best of luck to you all! I'd like to welcome the following individuals to the PR team: Michelle Lerner (C ), Sara Andes (E), Brea Berry (NC) and Laura Cantrell (W). Thank you for volunteering your time to this position for the next two years! I look forward to working with all of you.

"Glass City Lights" was a wonderful conference. Thanks to Matt Young, Alice Tavani and the Conference Committee for working hard to make this event successful. I also want to thank all of YOU for attending! The tables at conferences this year were outstanding! I loved all the lights and creativity. I heard someone say the displays were the best ever. I do hope you had the opportunity to grab a pin representing your region. There were many wonderful workshops, AMAZING speakers and great offsite events. I can't wait to see everyone next year at the conference at KALAHARI in Sandusky.

Please know you have resources to help you advocate for your program provided by OAEA. All you need to do is visit <https://www.ohioarted.com/pr--advocacy.html> for more information. We have sample letters, advocacy tips, ideas for Youth Art Month and much more. If you have questions or need help, please contact your regional PR representative or email me. We want to help you advocate for your program.



KIMBERLY WATERS-BURGHY • Central PR/Advocacy  
[burghyartroom@gmail.com](mailto:burghyartroom@gmail.com)

This years OAEA conference was an amazing adventure filled with friends, fun and learning opportunities. As I write this I want to focus on advocacy.

Advocacy comes in many forms. As the outgoing Central PR/Advocacy Chair, I would like to encourage you to find ways that you can advocate for both yourself and your art program. Although we all feel at times like we are all alone, there are ways in which we can connect with our peers. Through peer connections at the OAEA conference and by getting involved in either your regional leadership team or state, you can make lasting friendships, learn from each other, encourage each other and become active and aware of the importance of what we do as art educators.

Art advocacy can be simple enough to do on your own through Instagram, Facebook, Websites and newsletters but I would like to encourage you to also get involved with your community. Find others that you can partner with who can assist you as you continue to promote the arts. Connect with leaders in your community and find small ways that you can contribute through your classroom to events in your area.

Most of all, stay positive. You've got this. We are here for you as leaders of the OAEA, and we encourage you to reach out to us. We are always seeking new volunteers and supporters and would love to hear new ideas. Look for events hosted by Central Ohio Art Education Association to attend and don't forget Summer Symposium. Even though I'm finishing my position as Central PR/Advocacy Chair, I will still be around and will see you as the new Middle School Division Chair. Don't be afraid to reach out. I'd love to connect with you. I hope that you have a great second half of your school year.

**ABOVE:** A moment from the Central Regional Get-Together at the Toledo Conference.





# Using the Elements of Art in Photography

JESSIE BARBARICH • Student Programming Chair • studentprogramming@ohioarted.com

Two ways that I implement the elements of art in my high school photography class are through the use of stations and a scavenger hunt. At the start of the semester, we cover a few basics like the anatomy of the camera, focusing the camera, and workflow. Then we look at composition. We talk about removing clutter by arranging the subjects, changing the perspective and cropping.

The first time I introduce the elements of the assignment I have seven stations set up around the room. I use black or white matte board as their background and each station has different materials depending on the elements. We talk about what the elements are and then they get started. Each photographer should experiment with the materials and take five different looking photos at each station, paying attention to the composition. After students get to all the stations they upload (we use Adobe Lightroom Classic), crop and critique. Looking just at their use of composition and their use of focal points.



**TOP (From the Left):** Elements of Art photographed by students- value, line, space, texture, color, form, and shape.

**ABOVE:** Shape by Camden Bowden.

## Examples of materials may include:

Line- spaghetti, straws, sticks, toothpicks, pencils  
 Shape- magna-tiles, coins, a dollar bill  
 Value- artificial white or monochrome flowers  
 Form- soda cans, boxes, balls  
 Texture- aluminum foil, a basket, cardboard, cork  
 Color- chalk, colored pencils, crayons, paper  
 Space- snow globes or little statues



**ABOVE:** Texture by Inaki Pinto.

Later in the semester, after we have finished learning about different camera settings and students are starting to work in manual mode, we revisit the elements of art as a scavenger hunt (see examples pictured at the top). Now students are thinking about composition, focus, exposure settings and the elements of art. This is one of my favorite assignments, because I find students get creative and everyone comes back with something different. More importantly, it gives student the tools to talk in detail about their work as they start to identify these elements in their photos. Students could do either of these projects with a DSLR, iPad, or cell phones at any age to development photography skills or even to plan for a painting.

# DIVISIONS

The divisions of OAEA are made up of job-alike groups of members as determined by the Executive Board and approved by the Leadership Assembly. OAEA currently has eight divisions representing the art education field. The primary function of the Divisions Committee is to be aware of and represent the unique needs and conditions within the Divisions in a statewide frame. Leaders of each Division represent the voice and perspective of members in that division.



## Unwavering Commitment

JANE TAYLOR • VP of Divisions • [divisionsvp@ohioarted.com](mailto:divisionsvp@ohioarted.com)

Art education thrives on the passion and dedication of its educators. And, in *Divisions*, we've been blessed with an extraordinary team of art teachers whose tireless efforts have transformed the landscape of creativity and learning. These remarkable individuals have not only enriched the artistic journeys of countless students but have also collaborated relentlessly to pioneer innovative programs, invigorating meetings, and a comprehensive curriculum resource that has become the backbone of our work for OAEA.

Their unwavering commitment and unwavering spirit have left an indelible mark, fostering a love for art and nurturing budding talents in ways that resonate far beyond the confines of the classroom. As they embark on new chapters of their journey, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for their invaluable contributions and wish them boundless success and fulfillment. Their legacy will continue to inspire and shape the future of art education, serving as a beacon of inspiration for generations to come.

Moreover, we eagerly welcome new leaders into this vibrant community of creativity. Their fresh perspectives, boundless energy, and expertise are a testament to the dynamism and evolution of our field. With open arms and hearts full of enthusiasm, we embrace the incoming leaders, confident that their vision and dedication will further elevate our shared mission of fostering creativity, innovation, and artistic expression. Together, we embark on this new phase, poised to embrace change, celebrate diversity, and continue the transformative journey of art education.

### **Please welcome the following new leaders:**

Lindsay Gustafson - VP of Divisions  
Melanie Antram-Ingraham and Liz Kengerter-Bash- Co- Elementary Chairs  
Kimberly Burghy- Middle Chair  
David Wolff- Emeritus Chair  
Juli Dorff- Distinguished Fellows Chair  
Jessica Swonger TAB/Choice Interest Group Chair

**ABOVE:** A student-made squash book. The outside paintings are neurographic drawings and watercolor paintings. The four inside drawings are a study in value and colored pencil techniques. The theme of the experiences was mindfulness.



TAB/Choice.

# MEET JESSICA

DAWN NORRIS • TAB/Choice Interest Chair • [tab@ohioarted.com](mailto:tab@ohioarted.com)

I have enjoyed being the Ohio TAB/Choice interest chair for the last 4 years. It has been great connecting with many of you at meet ups at conference, zoom meetings, and regional gatherings. I am excited to share with you that Jessica Swonger will be our new Ohio TAB/Choice special interest group chair. Here is a little bit about her:

## Jessica Swonger

**School:** Hylen Souders Elementary, Big Walnut Local Schools

**Grade Levels:** K-4

**Where do you fall on the choice spectrum?** Full choice 1st-4th grade,  
Limited choice for Kindergarten

**How many years have you been teaching TAB/Choice?**  
5 years full choice

**Your why?** I have the privilege of teaching a variety of types of learners, and I want to always make sure I'm able to meet students where they are. I'm able to differentiate so much more than I could have ever imagined, which allows each of my students to be successful every day they walk into their art studio. Choice allows each of my young artists to "invest more of themselves" in their work - to showcase their individuality - and I truly enjoy watching them develop their own sense of style while simultaneously seeing their confidence grow.

**Do you have your own room, share a room, or travel?**  
I have my own classroom

**What advice would you give someone transitioning to TAB/Choice?** DO IT! I was nervous at first, too! But, after doing the research (read alllllll of the books, observe alllllll of the TAB/Choice teachers you can find, go to as many workshops as you can find) I felt like it made sense for my young artists (and my older artists when I taught K-12 at one point). Don't feel like starting slow is bad either! I loved (and still love) teaching teacher-directed projects, so don't feel like you need to dive in head-first and all at once - try one day a week (like "ART-rageous Friday" - thanks to my colleague Christine for that word), or even work up to limited- or modified-choice toward the end of the school year. Also, my practice/facilitation of teaching TAB/Choice is ever-changing, ever-evolving, just like any teacher of any subject: if something doesn't quite work, change it! Try a different approach for your young artists until it sticks!



Higher Education.

# Theory into Practice

## Educating our Next Art Educators

MICHAELANN KELLEY  
Higher Education Division Chair  
higherreddiv@ohioarted.com

The session in Toledo focused on an inspiration artist that uses glass and how we can put that into practice through creation. We read about "Adam Smolensky of Smo Glass [and how he] compresses mystifying vortexes into small glass marbles. His colorful, handcrafted creations fit between your fingers, but as you look inside, they appear vast—as if their spirals could go on forever." After reading about our inspiration artist, members took additional creative inspiration from an architectural structure and then sketched an idea for their jewelry design. Higher education members worked on their necklaces during the meeting and left with both ideas for the future of the group and a new piece of art.

I am always looking for new innovative ways to work with my colleagues and students. Trying to think of new exciting things can be difficult, but what if "new and creative" means just to that audience? I spent almost 30 years in public education and worked with non-profits in bringing artists into the schools. Yet, my university had never explored having an artist-in-residence. After a couple of months of working with administration and a local contemporary artist, a plan was devised. This new adventure has been beneficial to students, faculty, area high school students, and to the artist. Mount St. Joseph University had its first artist-in-residence.



### From Mount St. Joseph University:

Michaelann Kelley, Chair of the Department of Art & Design stated, "Studio San Giuseppe is proud to feature Michael Thompson in his first solo exhibition since his graduation. Michael has been the Artist-in-Residence during the first semester at Mount St. Joseph University. He has worked with students in and out of classes, developed his work on campus, and his is ending his residency with this reflective exhibition. We are so excited about the opportunities our students have had working with Michael."

The culminating exhibition will be at the Studio San Giuseppe Art Gallery at Mount St. Joseph University presenting "The Kool-Aid Wino" (January 16-February 19, 2024) Michael Thompson Solo Show. Artist Talk: Sunday, 1/28/2024 – 2:00 pm and Gallery Opening Reception: Sunday, January 21, 2024 1:00-5:00 pm. If you are in the Cincinnati, please stop in and see the show. <https://www.msj.edu/news/2023/10/mount-st-joseph-university-features-first-artist-residency-michael-thompson.html>

I encourage you to be inspired by contemporary artists in our art education programs and in studio curriculum, and to bring artists on campus to work side-by-side with our future educators. The learning and building a relationship with an artist can be a game changer in the art classroom and in studio practice.

**ABOVE:** Michael Thompson at work.

Pre-Service.

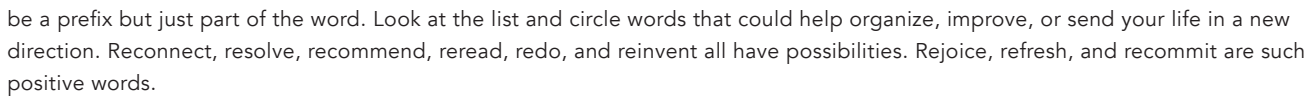
# We are 1/2 There.

CALEB HUGHES  
Pre-Service Division Chair  
preservice@ohioarted.com

We are halfway through the year, and you know what that means...it's time to think about the 2024-2025 school year! What a better way to start off the new school year than to apply for the OAEA Scholarship! If you are a full-time graduate or enrolled as a third- or fourth-year undergraduate student, consider applying for this wonderful scholarship. Start gathering photos of your strong artworks from the past few semesters and polish up your teaching philosophy! More information will be passed on when available, and can also be found at [www.ohioarted.com/scholarships](http://www.ohioarted.com/scholarships). If you have any questions about the scholarship, do not hesitate to contact me at [preservice@ohioarted.com](mailto:preservice@ohioarted.com), or Dr. Michaelann Kelley at [higherreddiv@ohioarted.com](mailto:higherreddiv@ohioarted.com).

A few other things I would like to share (Continued on next page):





Going back or backwards does not always mean retreat. It becomes more wrapped up with the word *again*. Take a minute. Write as many words as you can that start with *re*. It may not

- Reconnect with friends and colleagues
- Recommend a book, movie, or show and get together
- Reread a favorite book ( I am going for *To Kill a Mockingbird*)
- We all have a piece of art we have given up on. Reevaluate and redo.
- Reinvent the wheel. Find a fresh way, a new material, or a different approach to something.
- Rejoice in small things
- Refresh your environment. Get a new perspective.
- Recommit in some small way to OAEA

Miami University is hosted a "Pre-Service Mini Con" on February 11th, 2024. This event was full of workshops as well as wonderful speakers. The Mini Con provided some professional development during the winter months! Maybe you were inspired to create lesson plans, or even a presentation for this year's conference!

I would also like to congratulate Alyssa McRoberts and Madison Taylor from Mount St. Joseph University on receiving the OAEA Scholarship this past year! It was wonderful to see them being celebrated for their accomplishments as Pre-Service educators!

Lastly, I would like to give out a HUGE round of applause to the Pre-Service educators who presented at our conference in Toledo! We had a lot of praise from attendees on how professional and informative these presentations were. If you presented this past year, I would love to see you presenting again this year as well as spreading the word to your peers. The more the merrier! If you did not get the opportunity to present last year, please consider presenting this year! You do not have to present alone! If you want to collaborate with others, send me an email and I can get you in touch with others who are also feeling the same way.

Elementary.

# Elementary Leaders: Find Their Stride

AMY COMBS • Elementary Division Chair • elemdiv@ohioarted.com

Congratulations to the many Elementary Division educators recognized at the awards ceremonies in Toledo in November. I was humbled and honored to be acknowledged as the Elementary Division winner and shared the accolades with many distinguished professionals. Thank you to those elementary leaders who stepped forward to help organize the conference, present at workshops, and attend our division meeting. I see you, Elementary superstars! Your tireless efforts in the field of art education are so inspiring. To those volunteering for new leadership roles, I congratulate and support you. Be brave and find your stride!

Thank you to OAEA President Gayle Trueblood and OAEA VP of Divisions Jane Taylor for their dedication to all divisions of our organization. You have left a mark on our OAEA and our hearts with your energy and thoughtfulness. I would like to thank members of our division for the opportunity to serve as Elementary Division Chair for the past four years. Representing you on the Leadership Committee of OAEA has been a rewarding experience. Saying goodbye to this role is bitter-sweet. You have supported me, rolled up your sleeves to help me, and allowed me to find my voice by being your voice. I could not have done it without you.

Please welcome Melanie Antram Ingraham (Central) and Liz Bash (Central) as your newly elected Elementary Division Co-Chairs. These educators are brimming with excitement and ideas! They bring leadership experience from their local districts and the state level, which will serve them well as they strive to meet the diverse needs of OAEA's Elementary Division members. Good luck, Melanie and Liz! You are going to rock this!

*"The courage to be vulnerable is not about winning or losing, it's about the courage to show up when you can't predict or control the outcome." Brene Brown*

**RIGHT:** OAEA Elementary Art Teachers finding their stride at the OAEA Conference.



Student Artwork from Oak Hills High School **LEFT:** Molly Audretch, 11th grade, Charcoal on Canson. **ABOVE:** Cora Mundstock, 12th grade, Gouache on Watercolor.



Secondary.

# Nurturing the Creative Soul

JAMIE SCHORSCH • Secondary Division Chair • secdiv@ohioarted.com

I remember being a first-year art teacher and that initial excitement and passion for fostering creativity in my students. As the light dimmed with the seasons, and the holidays approached, the mounting pressure and demanding schedule began to take a toll on my well-being. Balancing lesson plans, grading, and the myriad responsibilities of a first-year teacher became an overwhelming challenge. The creative energy I once brought to the classroom felt strained as my own light dimmed, and the joy of witnessing my students' artistic growth was overshadowed by the stress of meeting deadlines and maintaining high standards. Burnout loomed like an unwelcome guest at the dinner table. The approaching holidays, meant to be a time of joy, instead brought a sense of overwhelm. It became clear that, in my fervor to provide the best art education for my students, I neglected to prioritize my own self-care. The need for a pause, a moment to recharge both creatively and emotionally, became glaringly apparent as I navigated, and continue to navigate, the delicate balance between passion and the realities of the teaching profession.

Research has shown time and again that by December, most teachers (newbies and veterans alike) hit a lull in their stride as the weight of the many roles we play in our classroom increases from the start of the year. In the dynamic world of art education, where creativity and inspiration are paramount, it's easy to get caught up in the demands of lesson planning, grading, and the logistics of guiding our students. From managing the studio to facilitating discussions on art history and contemporary global issues, it's easy to become overwhelmed by the gears constantly switching. Teaching art involves not just technical skills but also emotional investment as we guide students through personal and meaningful creative journeys. We serve as role models, not only in artistic techniques but also in life skills. Neglecting personal well-being can lead to diminishing the very essence of what makes art instruction impactful.

Practicing self-care enables us to manage the emotional toll that can come with this responsibility, fostering emotional resilience and balance. We play a unique role as cultivators of creativity. To effectively nurture the artistic talents of our students, we must first care for our own creative well-being. Engaging in personal artistic pursuits allows us to stay connected with our passion for artmaking and helps maintain a vibrant and inspired approach that brings fresh and innovative perspectives to the classroom. Regular self-care acts as a safeguard against burnout, ensuring that we can sustain our enthusiasm and energy over the long term. Taking breaks, setting boundaries, and prioritizing mental health are essential components of preventing burnout. Below, are some of the strategies that are in my art bin of tools that I employ: Create a Personal Art Space and Prioritize Self-Expression Dedicate a corner of your home or studio solely for your per-

sonal artistic pursuits. Having a designated space allows you to escape the demands of lesson planning and grading, providing a sanctuary for your own creative expression. Schedule regular time for your own creative pursuits. Engaging in personal artistic endeavors helps maintain your passion for art and fosters a sense of fulfillment.

## Connect with Fellow Art Educators

Lean on your OAEA community where you can share experiences, resources, and support. Connecting with peers allows you to gain insights into managing the unique challenges of art education and provides a sense of camaraderie.

## Attend Art Events and Exhibitions

Immerse yourself in the art world beyond the classroom. Attend local art events, exhibitions, or workshops to stay inspired and connected with the broader artistic community. Exposure to new ideas can invigorate your own teaching approach.

## Practice Mindfulness and Moments of Pause

Incorporate mindfulness practices into your routine. Whether it's meditation, deep breathing exercises, or yoga, these activities can help reduce stress and bring a sense of calm to your hectic schedule. Incorporate short breaks into your day to rest and recharge. Whether it's a brief walk, a few moments of stretching, or a cup of tea, these breaks can help clear your mind and increase overall productivity.

By investing time and energy into our own well-being, we can enrich our teaching practice, foster creativity, and contribute to a positive and inspiring learning environment. As the saying goes, you can't pour from an empty cup, and by prioritizing self-care, we can continue to fill the cups of our students with the wonders of artistic expression. Regularly reflect on your teaching methods and self-care practices and adjust your approach based on what works best for you, it's likely always in flux. Continuous self-reflection allows for personal growth and a more sustainable, fulfilling career in art education.





# OAEA REGIONS

OAEA divides Ohio into eight geographic regions to serve its membership. Each region conducts an annual meeting at the OAEA Professional Development Conference along with selected meetings within their region. Each region organizes programs in response to the needs and interests of their regional membership.



## INSPIRED

LINDSAY GUSTAFSON  
Vice President of Regions  
regionsvp@ohioarted.com

We had such a great conference in the fall! I want to thank all the Regional Directors for all that they have done for their regions. They are the lifeline to connect our members with OAEA. Each region has workshops, get-togethers and more to help their members excel in the art education field. Thank you for all you do.

Since conference I have been so inspired! I recently had a nationally known needlefelting artist come in to present and do a workshop with my 6th grade students. Boyd Hastings is a retired Ohio teacher and sheepfarmer. He raises all his own sheep and

harvests the wool, dyes and cards. His work is amazing and has won top prizes in national shows. The kids loved him and his positive energy!

Another new endeavor for me is setting up a teacher art club at my school. I currently run three after school art clubs. One is for multi-handicapped students from our Community Based program, one is for 6th graders and one is 7th and 8th graders combined. On the days I don't have student art club I have been offering a once a month teacher art class (see image above). We have done fused glass, clay vases and glazing, needle felting and tissue paper casts. I typically have anywhere from 12 to 25 teachers sign up in my building. It has been dubbed "Art Therapy" by the teachers. They love it because it is something different. I have a good budget so I am able to supplement this, but every teacher has always asked to donate. So, if you have never done this, try it out! You'd be surprised how much interest you get.

I am wrapping up as VP of regions. It has been so much fun and worthwhile to lead the Regional Directors these last two years. Taking over will be Alexis Morgan, from West. She is a dynamo at organization and I am excited to see what she will bring to this position. I will be moving on to VP of Divisions to oversee the division chairs.



RACHEL A. GEARHEART-FOUT • Central Regional Director  
centralrd@ohioarted.com



During the OAEA Conference, Central members took part in a engaging game of clue, art education style. Considering bringing this fun experience to your district or classroom. Contact Rachel Fout with questions about the game she designed.





# 'Twas the Afternoon Before Break

TIFFANY SCANLAN • East Regional Director • eastrd@ohioarted.com

'Twas the afternoon before break, when all through the halls  
 All the creatures were stirring, especially the goofballs;  
 The coats were hung in the cubbies with care,  
 In hopes that the parents soon would be there;  
 The children were sitting criss-cross applesauce;  
 While visions of the Grinch left them at a loss;  
 Johnny was crying, Suzie vomited in her lap,  
 All the teachers exclaimed "We all need a nap!",  
 When in the cafeteria there arose such a clatter,  
 They rushed to the door to see what was the matter.  
 Away to the door I flew like Mad Maxx,  
 Closed the shade and threw up the\_ sign for PAX.  
 The hallway lights were still all aglow,  
 Casting shadows of all that was below,  
 When what to my students eyes did appear,  
 But the shadow of a giant man and his pet deer,  
 The man was spritely and quick,  
 And the deer was obviously a choice pick.  
 Faster than the Flash he pulled out THE list,  
 He cleared his throat and started calling students quick:  
 "Now, Asher! Now, Kerry! Now Vance and Peyton!  
 On, Stephen! on, Koa! on, Tommy and Clayton!  
 To the top of the class! to the top of the hall!  
 Now freeze dance! Freeze dance! Freeze dance all!"  
 As papers in front of an open window fly,  
 The students jumped up and gave the dance a try;  
 After the first round of dancing was through,  
 ALL students were asked to participate too—  
 And then, in a pause, we heard from each room

Snickers and giggles of the holiday season bloom .  
 As I took a deep breath, relaxing a bit,  
 The next thing I knew I had been HIT!  
 The teacher next door had snuck into the hall,  
 To pelt our classroom with paper snowballs!  
 A basket of spheres ready for launching,  
 Loaded and ready, standing there taunting.  
 Our group returned the balls like lit firecrackers,  
 Until we all collapsed in fits of laughter!  
 Both sides conceded with a bow,  
 And realized they were hungry enough to eat a whole cow;  
 Restroom breaks and hand washing ensued,  
 You know, good hand washing helps slow down the flu;  
 Everyone went to lunch and filled their bellies,  
 And each student got a surprise snack of crackers and jelly.  
 Their bellies were full and energy restored,  
 The teachers all giggled as they sent them outdoors;  
 The Admin has taken the recess duty post,  
 To give teachers a break which was needed the most;  
 After recess the kiddos were chill,  
 Some energy burned off and full of good will,  
 The rest of the day went as smooth as could be,  
 Not a scream, or vomit, or tear was seen;  
 It brought a special kind of peace instead of the earlier bang,  
 Before everyone knew it, the dismissal bell rang.  
 The students were excited as they all rushed out, an exclamation  
 the teachers did make —  
 "Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good break!"



Eastern members were amongst the Emeritus members who attended the Conference field trip to see the Día de Muertos at the Sophia Quintero Museum in Toledo.



ERIN DUFFY  
North Central Regional Director  
northcentralrd@ohioarted.com



North Central members  
experiencing the joy of Toledo.

# TAKING A STEP BACK.

We are constantly in motion with the wonderfully unique nature of our lives, our creations, and our careers that it often is a challenge to take a step back, slow down, and appreciate everything that has happened throughout the year!

Our conference this year in the Glass City was an amazing opportunity to do just that. There was so much to explore and enjoy in the city of Toledo. With incredible workshops, fabulous new friends, and heads full of new ideas, we all had a chance to slow down and celebrate so many amazing experiences, memories, and one of a kind people.

We as a region were also able to celebrate many of our members' accomplishments. I want to congratulate our 2023 Outstanding Art Teacher and our future Regional Director of North Central, Victoria Watkins! We cannot wait to witness what amazing things she will accomplish in her future. Her determination and work ethic are to be admired. I also want to congratulate our very own Distinguished Fellow Inductee and new OAEA President Elect, Mary Haas! She is always on the go and a helpful hand to everyone she encounters. These women are such a treasure to our community, our schools, and to myself. I cannot wait to see what 2024 has in store for us.

Never forget to slow down, take a step back, and appreciate everything and everyone around you! Have those spontaneous trips, those weird conversations with students, the new material you want to try. Take a break and dig into it. Have the little chat with your students about dragons and fairies. See where life leads. That is where we find the most inspiration, creativity, and joy. Those are the aspects of life to treasure and remember!



STEPHANIE TIMKO  
North East Regional Director  
northeastrd@ohioarted.com

What a year we have had! It was great to see everyone come together and expand their creativity through multiple workshops and events we hosted throughout the year. Our region hosted several virtual workshops along with museum visits and hands-on activities such as glass making, silk screening to pastel drawings. We really appreciate everyone who has hosted a workshop, whether in-person or online, and to everyone who came out to learn a new technique and support the region.

We are planning for exciting workshops in 2024. Get excited for the upcoming year with workshops from vendors such as Blick, workshops on new techniques like Gelli prints and resin along with other get-togethers. Just like 2023, we want to move our workshops throughout the region. The NE region is large! Let's venture out and see what everyone has to offer! If there is something you would like to see and be a part of, please reach out.

We also want to congratulate our regional winners from our 2023 Conference. Jennifer Gasser won for our Distinguished Citizen. Our Distinguished Educator is Aireane Curtis, and our Distinguished Business is the Bruniswick Meijers. Our Outstanding Art Teachers for the 2024 year are Jessie Barberich, Mike Gruber, and Thomas Schemrich. Lastly, a big congratulations goes to Jen Thompson for achieving Fellow status.

Please make sure to follow us on Facebook (OAEA Northeast Region) and check your emails for up to date information on shows and events. If you are not receiving emails, please email [northeastrd@ohioarted.com](mailto:northeastrd@ohioarted.com) so we can make sure you are on the mailing list.





## Reflection

PEGGY MARTINEZ • North West Regional Director  
northwestrd@ohioarted.com



As 2024 begins, North West division has much to reflect on. November 2023 saw an exciting annual OAEA conference in Toledo at the newly renovated Glass City Convention Center. The 3 day event delivered opportunities to learn new skills and techniques for all attendees! Local businesses and non-profits, Gathered Glass, Vod's Sewing and Crafting Emporium, Jupmode and Sofia Quintero Arts and Cultural Center welcomed art teachers into their buildings and shared their missions and purpose. Glass City Convention Center proved to be an amazing space to learn, share and inspire for hundreds of art educators. As one of the many participants, I was able to take part in electro-etching, embroidery, silkscreening and much more. I watched colleagues get inspired and learn from the guest speakers, vendors and fellow teachers.

North West awarded some amazing, deserving individuals for their contributions in the field of art education. Congratulations again to our 2023 award recipients: Caleb Wyse, Erin Clinton, Continental American Legion Post 541, Matthew Temple and Barbara Bergstrom!

As we look ahead to a fresh year, let's welcome our new and returning members to our North West Regional Board:

Regional Director: Peggy Martinez	Regional Director Elect: Kirstina Roberts	PR/Advocacy Chair: Hollie Albright
Secretary: Dawn Murphy	Membership Co-Chairs: Jacob Palte & Audrey Manriquez	YAM/YPAE Chair: Jacob Palte
Regional Exhibits: Crystal Anderson	Awards Chair: Erica Mikovic	Workshop Chair: Jennifer Moorman

Our region plans to focus on opportunities to connect with like-minded professionals, exchange ideas, and explore new approaches to teaching art this year. If you would like to share your expertise with other art teachers in our division and/or have ideas for activities or would like to get involved in other ways, please contact me, Peggy Martinez at [northwestrd@ohioarted.com](mailto:northwestrd@ohioarted.com) or our Workshop Chair, Jennifer Moorman at [jmoorman@eastwoodschoools.org](mailto:jmoorman@eastwoodschoools.org). Don't forget to make sure your email is updated through your OAEA membership page and check your email to stay updated. After a busy 2023, let's continue into 2024 motivated and inspired!

**ABOVE LEFT:** The North West Local Conference Committee.

**ABOVE RIGHT:** The owner of Jupmode Screenprinting demonstrating the process and the workshop participants.



Conference was amazing as always! So many fun ideas, activities and of course the people!!! Where else can you come together with over 300 like minded individuals?

Here are some shout outs from our southeast members about what is going on with them and how much the conference impacts us as individuals.

**Shannon Fish** says, "The Southeast region might be small, but we are mighty! Spending time with SE colleagues leaves us all full of enthusiasm and ideas to bring even more energy to Art Education in our region. Looking forward to the exhibit season and YAM!" Speaking of Exhibits, please remember to save 2 pieces for YAM and YPAE and 2-3 pieces for a Spring Regional Show. We are still working on all the details. More information to come.

**Lynda Berman**, (who has taught literally thousands of children how to dip a candle and create a multi-colored, sometimes double-wicked, carved and/or hand sculpted candle) stated "retirement is great because you don't have to teach. Retirement is also great when you GET to teach... on your own schedule. I'm so looking forward to being in 6 friend's art rooms to teach candle-making to their students."

**Emily Davis** sends us a Greetings from Art Island, "at my school, a K-8 elementary school, I am the only art teacher. We have one music teacher and one PE teacher. While we do collaborate often for various projects, we are still more like an archipelago than all on the same island. In my district, to be honest, I do not know any other elementary art teachers and I only know one of the high school art teachers. Sometimes it can be a little quiet on art island. Sometimes

that is okay and sometimes I wish I had someone else to bounce ideas off. That is why I love OAEA so much - it gives me an opportunity to connect with my peers and share ideas... and sometimes gripes that only another art teacher would understand. Conference and Summer Symposium both come at the perfect time. Conference happens right as I am starting to feel the fatigue set in and just before the madness of the holiday season. Symposium is like a shining star to reset my personal creativity. If you have never been to one of these events, I highly recommend making it happen. I have made so many new art teacher friends and when I am with them, on OAEA Island, I always have a good time. If you are reading this and you are in MY region, get yourself to a Southeast event, post haste. You will not regret it."

**Laura Johnson** shares, "I always look forward to the Conference! It's so nice to connect with all the amazing art teachers in both the SE region and the state! Toledo was a nice location. I look forward to Kalahari again."

"Attending the OAEA conference is always something I look forward to!" says **Cali Sanker**. "The community aspect of the conference leaves me feeling inspired, assured and supported! Connecting with art teachers from around the state has greatly impacted the way I teach. I always leave with new ideas which contribute to my continual growth as an art educator. There are countless reasons why I will always plan to attend the OAEA Conference."

"The energy all of you bring to Conference keeps me going and inspires me to be a better teacher! I can't wait to have Lynda, 'the knower of all things,' in my classroom for candle making to experience her wisdom first-hand! Three art teachers from our district had their students create AMAZING displays for The Celebration of Trees at The Bowen House (our local arts organization). Looking forward to regional events and meeting more art teachers in our region." -**Suzanne Oldham**

**Roxanna Lehman**, our veteran Art Educator at LHSD says, "my Honors Art 8 students have been creating and displaying their Quilled Christmas ornaments for years at the Bowen House. I honestly have lost track of how long they have had a tree there. We always display in the window seat nook beside the entry room fireplace since it is a small space and not one that most people would choose. I love our birch tree instead of a traditional tree because it allows their ornaments to move with the air and not just sit against a tree. My Great-Grandma Westina Foster has been our inspiration for this unit. A rural Kansas farmwife, she would spend her evening creating art. Whether knitting, crocheting, drawing, painting, tatting or quilling, her hands and mind were never still until she slept. My mom still has several quilled eggs and other pieces my great-grandma made. She was a remarkable woman and artist."

Now that you know a little more about us here in Southeast, maybe we'll get to do a meet up. Or, if you are down in our area, give us a holler. See y'all at the summer symposium and keep ARTing.





# Thanks for the Memories

MARY SALA & STACEY BATTOCLETTE

Southwest Co-Regional Directors • southwestrd@ohioarted.com

We have had such a wonderful three years serving as your Southwest Regional Directors. This was a great final year as your leaders. We had so much fun learning and growing our creativity with you. Thank you so much to our team that has helped us this year on so many levels. Katherine Smith, from the University of Cincinnati, has been so helpful in acquiring a space for our Regional awards ceremony the past two years. Jamie Schorsch has been an exceptional Emerging artists chair. Kate Mills has collected work from our region for YAM and YPAE shows. Finally, a shout out to Holly Benjamin for all of her hard work on PR! What a dream team!

We were able to celebrate our exceptional art educators and their accomplishments this year at our regional awards and the 2023 OAEA Conference. Jamie Schorsch was awarded the Secondary Division Award and Amy Jo Combs was awarded the Elementary Division Award. It is such an honor and accomplishment, and we were so proud to cheer on our Southwest champs at the state level!

We recently held a glass workshop for our region at Brazee Glass Studios in Cincinnati, OH. Brazee Glass Design is a female-owned and operated studio led by Sandra Gross and Leah Busch Rockel. They work with art educators, schools, and students at all levels of creation. Leah provided a two hour program explaining how teachers can begin to use glass in their own classrooms, collaborative community projects, fundraising opportunities, and more. It was exciting on a scientific level and inspiring for our creative soul.

Brazee taught teachers how to make their own glass ornaments and for an hour we talked, mingled, and created our own masterpieces. We also used this opportunity to create our beautiful glass paint palette medallions which we turned into pins and necklaces for our Southwest members attending our conference in Toledo. They were a hit and I am sure a prized possession for all of our members to wear proudly in their classrooms.



We are proudly passing the SW RD torch to two superhero teachers in our very own school district. Jamie Schorsch and Steve Groh will be the new Southwest regional director co-chairs. Both teachers work at Oak Hills High School in Cincinnati. They will be an amazing team that is not only organized and prepared, but also know how to have a great time! We are sure to have some very exciting social and professional experiences for our region in the next two years. It is much easier to say goodbye to our leadership position knowing that we are leaving everything in great hands.

**ABOVE:** Your fearless, and mysterious, out-going SW leaders.

**LEFT:** Incredible glass regional pins, that made everyone (regardless of region) envious.



# Amazing Experience and a New Face.

ALEXIS MORGAN • West RD • westrd@ohioarted.com



The last two years have been very exciting for me as the West RD. Starting January 1, a new face took over as the West RD. I am so excited to be turning the region over to my friend and co-worker Joan Lucas. Joan teaches 4th and 5th grade art at LT Ball Intermediate school in Tipp City, Ohio. I know that Joan is going to do amazing things for the West region.

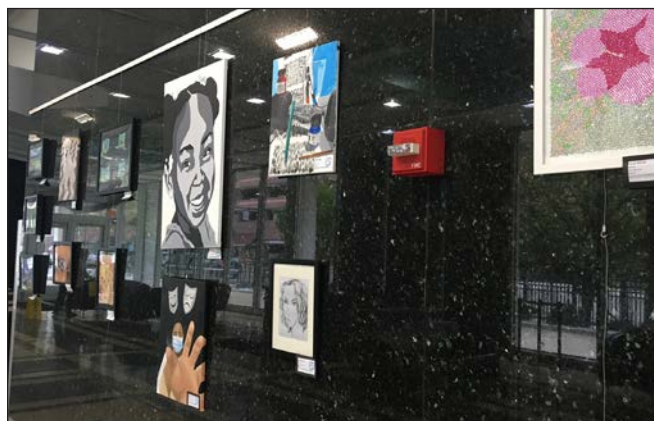
As my time as RD comes to an end, I find myself reflecting on my journey thus far. It has been a great experience for me. Four years ago I was nominated as West RD elect and I was excited but nervous because I did not know what to expect. I was starting to be more involved with OAEA by going to conferences and trying to find my place. I had been a member of OAEA for a long time but I worked in a small district and I was the only art teacher in the district so I got post-cards about conference but never really knew what things could be like. When I started working at Tipp City Schools I decided to test the waters and asked to go to a conference for one day. I was scared to ask for too much but I was interested in learning more. My co-worker Joan Lucas had been going to conferences for a long time and had been active in OAEA and she encouraged me to ask for both days of conference and encouraged me to be more involved. I started out small by helping with the summer show and eventually decided to try and do more.

Since that time I have grown so much. I have become more involved in OAEA and I am not afraid to advocate for myself and my art program. I am so proud of myself for learning and growing in the organization and I wanted to express to all of you my appreciation for helping me to grow. I have enjoyed being West RD for the last two years and I hope to be able to continue to grow and hopefully find ways to continue to be involved with OAEA. So from the bottom of my heart thank you for everything. I have met many great art teachers and I hope to meet many more.

If you are just starting out or if you have been involved with OAEA for a while I strongly encourage you to get involved. Become an active member of your region by participating in student shows, or workshops. Once you are comfortable take the chance and become a member of your region's board or try and join state leadership because being involved can change your perspective and it can be one of the most rewarding experiences.

**ABOVE:** Alexis Morgan, outgoing Regional Director for Western Region with the new incoming Regional Director, Joan Lucas.

**BELOW:** Scenes from this year's Emerging Artist Exhibition. Read all about this annual event on page 27.







**OHIO State Fair**  
JULY 24 - AUGUST 4, 2024

**OHIO STATE FAIR  
YOUTH ARTS EXHIBITION**

Open call goes live Spring 2024  
Entry deadline is June 21, 1 p.m.  
Open to current Ohio Students

Elementary School Division (Grades 1-4)  
Middle School Division (Grades 5-8)  
High School Division (Grades 9-12)

Scan the QR Code to  
join the mailing list

Questions?  
Contact Youth Arts Director @  
[f.garrabrant@expo.ohio.gov](mailto:f.garrabrant@expo.ohio.gov)

## Emerging Artists took over Columbus this year.

JENNIFER THOMPSON and CARLY SHERMANI • High School Exhinit Co-Chairs • [hsshow@ohioarted.com](mailto:hsshow@ohioarted.com)

The show was displayed in two different areas of Columbus during the Months of September and October. The reception was a great success at the Westerville Public Library where we heard from a young up and coming artist Sarah Morisson. She showed her work and talked about her experiences at SCAD and CIA art institutes. She discussed the importance of Art in Education and how her teacher influenced her to create, making her a stronger person. The parents, family and friends of the emerging artists were able to celebrate their strengths. Thanks to Jim Seitz of the Westerville Public Library Museum Staff who helped organize the show.

The final showing was at the ODE (Ohio Department of Education) building for the month of October. Thanks to Helen Buck-Pavlick, MFA, MEd Fine Arts Education Specialist Office of Learning and Instructional Strategies for organizing the show. This was exciting for students because many people were able to see the work. We were told that people wanted to buy a few of the pieces.

Emerging artists is a juried show for students in the earlier levels of art curriculum. The show this year was judged three separate times and then works were judged for best in show for all the different me-

diums on display. For those teachers who have not submitted work in the past, it is an excellent opportunity for students to feel pride in their work. Submissions are open in May then judged in the summer and work needs to be brought to the RD's before our September meeting. You are encouraged to submit five works but one work can make a difference for one student.

This years best in show were:

Drawing/Rendering/Observational: Allison Williams  
Ceramic/Sculpture/3-D: Alivia Schultz  
Photography/Image Manipulation: Sophie Platt  
Painting: Violet Gies  
Printmaking/Stamping: Megan Green  
Mixed Media/Collage/Assemblage: Sarah Johnson  
Digital Art: Brianna Becerra-Negrete

A show this large would not have been possible without a great team. I want to give a special thanks to Jessie Barbarich, Student Programming Chair, Sarah Morrison, Student, Amy Cholkas, YAM Flag/Graphic Chair, Cindy Kerr, House of Reps Chair, and Beverly Finkel, Treasurer.







MATT YOUNG and ALICE TAVANI • Conference Coordinators • [conferencecoor@ohioarted.com](mailto:conferencecoor@ohioarted.com)

Last year was a tough year for the conference with all the hardships that befell Alice and all the conference committee members in Dayton. But they persevered and put on an amazing conference nonetheless!

Toledo stepped up to the plate and made it much easier on us. The Glass City Center and the Hilton opened their doors to ensure that our conference and its attendees had all they needed for the best Art Education Professional Development opportunities in OHIO! The theme this year was “Glass City Lights” and the city, State Conference Committee, and Local Conference Committees did not let us down. The conference was an immersive journey into the evolving landscape of artistic pedagogy. Held at the vibrant junction of creativity and education, this gathering became a melting pot of ideas, perspectives, and breakthroughs that showcased the best that our organization has to offer.

During our lunches, speakers Logan Hicks and Helina Metaferia passionately spoke about their work and influences that showed us as art educators how our passion can lead to a lifelong career of discovery. One of the most striking aspects was the emphasis on inclusivity. Workshops and discussions delved deep into methodologies that cater to diverse learning styles and cultural backgrounds. It was enlightening to witness how art can serve as a universal language, breaking barriers and fostering empathy.

Our emeritus division shared in a luncheon and artists experience on Thursday at the Sofia Quintero Art & Cultural Center. We had an amazing Teachers as Artists Exhibit at the Porters Gallery where our members showed off their tremendous talents as artists as well as educators. The awards were split into two nights with our outgoing teacher of the year, Julianne Dorff, giving an inspiring speech and announcing our current Ohio Art Educator of the Year Bev Finkel.

The conference concluded its on-site action with our annual Co-Lab Friday night, a place to unwind and celebrate conference, teachers as artists, and ourselves. Over 28 OAEA Artisans sold their wares at the Artisans market. And many members danced the night away as they *Made Their Mark* on take and make art pieces and supplies. The local conference team knocked it out of the park for Saturday with their offsite encore series. Many opportunities to explore Toledo through glass blowing, t-shirt making, and many other art making experiences. All in all, Toledo was a gracious host to us this year and we look forward to exploring more of its rich heritage in future conferences.

Our conference has improved so much over the years due to the guidance of Donna Collins and the generosity of the Ohio Arts Council. We had been struggling to get speakers with big reputations or those who have had a big impact on our world but they need to be booked two or more years in advance and cost a lot more than we could budget for. The \$20,000 from OAC has been a game changer. Recently we have had inspiring keynotes like Bisa Butler, Ann Hamilton, Logan Hicks and Helina Metaferia. This has only happened due to OACs funds.

#### From Alice:

It has been a great learning experience serving as your State Conference Coordinator the past three years. I learned a whole new set of skills and vocabulary thanks to the service industry and post-pandemic practices. There have been many challenges and I can say that I did my best. What made it all worth it, was the people. You! I loved the committees that I worked with in each city that made my job so much easier. I loved sitting with different people at meals and at workshops. I loved hearing your feedback on the surveys and comments as you went about doing your thing at the conference. *Continued on next page.*

*Continued from previous page.* I loved dressing up and seeing all of your costumes while you took photos to document your joy. I loved dancing at Co-LAB and shopping at the Artisan Market. I loved showing my art at the Teacher as Artist Exhibit. I loved talking with people on the bus and elevators. I loved watching the preservice students play edgy games late at night. I even loved giving directions and answering tons of questions for the members during the conferences. Thanks so much for making it a great experience. Thanks for being my OAEA family!

You will be in great hands next year with Matt Young. Afterall, I trained him! Ha! Seriously, he did an amazing job this year and I look forward to what he does next.

#### CONFERENCE BY THE NUMBERS

Total	470
430	Thursday
456	Friday
415	Full Registration
55	Single Day registration
1st person registered-	Erin Dechman
Northwest	110
West	54
Southwest	63
North Central	52
Central	61
Northeast	94
East	17
Southeast	19
Elementary	150
Middle	74
Secondary	146
Higher Ed.	23
Emeritus	19
Museum	4
Pre-Service	48
Friend of Art Ed	6

2 Great dinner themes: "Mystery Night" and "Dress With Glass"  
 2 Nights of awards  
 1 Emeritus Field Trip to Sofia Quintero Museum  
 1 Pop Up Artist Trading Card Station  
 24 Vendors mixed up in the hallways between workshops  
 4 Vendor presentations  
 121 Workshops total  
 24 Hands-on workshops  
 20 Ticketed workshops  
 28 Artisan Market tables  
 3 Keynote speakers thanks to a \$20,000 grant sponsored by the Ohio Arts Council  
 \$178,800 was the total cost of the conference  
 7 Options on Saturday for offsite activities including a few hands-on called the Encore Series

#### NOW ON TO THE FUTURE – KALAHARI 2024

Mark your calendars for November 7-9, 2024

Consider spicing up your professional life:

1. Be a workshop presenter at the next conference. Proposal window opens March 1, 2024 and closes May 1, 2024. Watch for eblast reminders!

2. Watch the OAEA website for online professional development opportunities.



*This page and next: Scenes from the 2023 OAEA Conference.*



# Why do We Attend the OAEA Conference Every Year?

CARLY SHERMAN with LINDA HOEPTNER POLING • Professional Development Chairs • [profdev@ohioarted.com](mailto:profdev@ohioarted.com)

Why do we attend the OAEA conference every year? Because our art teacher souls are refreshed as we experience the power of diversity of ideas and perspectives, and because our voices are amplified in a powerful community of art teachers who care about art education as much as we do. Feeling the art education love every November is a highlight of our academic year. Thirty-eight people completed the OAEA Conference Course for graduate credit through the University of Dayton this year—wow! If you ask any of them, I think they would agree that it adds an additional layer of meaningful professional development that is well worth your time. If you missed the opportunity for conference graduate credit this year, it will be available again in 2024. Not interested in the graduate credit, but love the PDUs? Did you know that you can get an additional PDU for being a presenter? Start thinking now about what proposal you will submit! And get ready—graduate credit (1 hour) will be available at the 2024 Summer Symposium that will be held at the University of Dayton, July 15-17th. Details will be posted on the OAEA website soon.

**RIGHT:** Carly Sherman with OAEA Conference Keynote Speaker Helina Metaferia.



## WORKSHOPS for 2024!

JULI DORFF • Workshops Chair • [workshops@ohioarted.com](mailto:workshops@ohioarted.com)

Hello Creative OAEA Members! You are amazing teachers with wonderful information to share. Help make the 2024 Conference at Kalahari the best. Start thinking about a workshop you could present. Maybe you have a new process you have tried, or a no fail lesson to share, or wonderful collaboration you have worked on with a co-teacher. Plan now as the portal to submit your workshop proposal will open on March 1, and be open until May 1, 2024. If you have questions about how to go about submitting or just want to talk about some of the ideas you have, just reach out to me at [jdorff@kent.edu](mailto:jdorff@kent.edu).



# And the 2023 Awards Went to...

JACKIE MAHAFFEY and MARY FRANCES DOWNS • Awards Co-Chairs • awards@ohioarted.com

Just in case you missed the 2023 OAEA Awards Ceremonies this year, yep two Award Ceremonies! Having the Awards ceremonies after dinner each night turned out to be an efficient and successful way to highlight the amazing accomplishments of the 2023 OAEA Award winners. Thank you to all the support and efforts of the nominators, Award Winners, Regional Directors, PR Chairs, Division Chairs, and more for making the OAEA Awards program what it set out to be. We would love to recap the two nights of spectacular Awards Shows that took the whole year to plan and coordinate!



## THURSDAY, November 9, 2023

### Circa Society

**Presenter:** Ashton Peck:  
State Membership Chair

### OAE Foundation

**Presenters:**  
Michaelann Kelley: Higher Ed Chair  
Suzanne Mitolo: Foundation Chair

### Scholarship Winners:

Alyssa McRoberts  
Mount St. Joseph University

Madison Taylor  
Mount St. Joseph University

### Outstanding Art Teacher Awards

**Presenters:**  
Jackie Mahaffey  
and Mary Frances Downs

Amy Neiworth (C)  
Mandy Rubino (C)  
Stephen Tornero (E)  
Victoria Watkins (NC)  
Shari de Wever (NE)  
Josh MacMillan (NE)  
Dawn Luetete (NE)  
Barbara Bergstrom (NW)  
Erin Clinton (NW)  
Julie Woodburn (SE)  
Ann Hobart (SW)  
Carolyn Althoff (SW)  
Jill Hartman (W)  
Patricia Brown (W)

## FRIDAY, November 10, 2023

### Distinguished Fellows Inductees

**Presenter:** Suzanne Mitolo:  
Acting Fellows Chair

Cathy Sweny (W)  
Mary Haas (C)  
Jennifer Thompson (NE)

### Robart Inspiration Award

Amelia Golec (NE)

### Division Awards

**Presenters:** Jackie Mahaffey  
and Mary Frances Downs

Elementary: Amy Jo Combs (SW)

Secondary: Jamie Schorsch (SW)

Pre-Service: Caleb Hughes (NE)

Higher Education  
Ketal Patel (C)

Emeritus: Cathy Sweny (W)

### State Distinguished Service Award Winners

Distinguished Business for Art Ed.  
King Arts Complex (C)

Distinguished Educator for Art Ed.  
Niki Sage (W)

Distinguished Citizen for Art Ed.  
Mayor Ben Stahler (W)

## FRIDAY, November 10, 2023

### Doris Schnepf

**Outstanding Service Award**  
Diane Juravich (C)

### Keynote Speaker

Juliann Dorff (NE), 2022 Ohio  
Art Educator of the Year

### Ohio Art Educator of the Year 2023

Beverly Finkel (W)

Throughout the awards presentation materials, the following key was used to represent OAEA Regions:

C: Central  
E: East  
NC: North Central  
NE: Northeast  
NW: Northwest  
SE: Southeast  
SW: Southwest  
W: West

### Hosts

Jackie Mahaffey (W)  
Mary Frances Downs (W)  
Co-Awards Chairs

*Continues on next page.*



The Circa Society was established in 1992 to recognize and thank members who support and contribute to OAEA through their membership. The first level of recognition is at 15 years of membership and then recognitions are presented every five years after that with a certificate and small gift at our annual professional development conference at the Regional Meeting. Circa Members 40 years and beyond are recognized at the Awards Ceremony. If you have any questions about the Circa Society please contact Ashton Peck at membership@ohioarted.com.

**15 Years**

Laura Cantrell (W)  
Elizabeth Evans (W)  
Alexis Gentry (W)  
Dayna Hansen (NE)  
Erica Kenny (SW)  
Erin Kraly (NE)  
Sarah Litkenhaus (SW)  
Dawn Luethe (NE)  
Amber Moore (SW)  
Mary Sala (SW)  
Melissa Sherrock (W)  
Jacquelyn Sommer (SW)  
Kimberlie Todd (NW)  
Stephen Torno (E)

**20 Years**

Joanne Becker (NE)  
Marlene Bossart (NE)  
Matthew Bower (NW)  
Terri Bradshaw (E)  
Martha Carroll (SW)  
Hilary Carvitti (SW)  
Sara Cory (C)  
Sarah J. Curry (NE)  
Sue Diemer (SW)

**20 Years Continued**

Shannon Fish (SE)  
Carrie Flagg (NW)  
Jeanna Linenkugel (SW)  
Kelly Meyers (SW)  
Barbara Moser (NE)  
Shannon Murlin (C)  
Peter Nezovich (NE)  
Amy Rohr (E)  
Joni Turner (E)

**25 Years**

Tina Grimes (NW)  
Jeanne Guerin (NW)  
Tiffany Hofmann Rees (SW)  
Mandy Howard (NC)  
Jodi Hupp (E)  
John Jordan (C)  
Kristopher Sherer (NW)  
Mindy Staley (CN)  
Victoria Vollet (SE)  
Linda Wilson (NC)  
Lisa Zolman (NE)

**30 Years**

Kathy Burton (SW)  
Rhonda Doup (NC)  
Guinivere Gallaway (NC)  
Leslie Koelsch Carson (NE)  
Joan Lucas (W)  
Vonda McDonald (NC)  
Alicia McGinty (NC)  
Sharon Phillips (SE)  
Barbara Porter (NC)  
Kathy Rakel-Ferguson (SW)  
Maryann Rodin (NE)  
Kevin Schroeder (NW)  
Gary Wells (NW)  
Ronald White (NE)

**35 Years**

Christina Bostater (NW)  
Regina Cameron (NC)  
Judy Charves (W)  
Melanie Huffman (NW)  
David King (NE)  
Withenia Moore-Williams (C)  
Kathleen Pugh (W)  
Pam Snoke (NW)  
Diane Thorpe (NW)  
Ruth Weinhardt (NC)

**40 Years**

Mary Brondfield (NE)  
Sue Hagan (W)

**45 Years**

Willis Bing Davis (W)  
Georgia Cadic Justice (W)  
Kay Wilusz (NW)  
Judith Zimmerman (E)

**50 Years**

Amelia C. Joynes (NE)

**55 Years**

Dr. Dennis Cannon (C)

**60 Years**

Dr. Nancy Macgregor (C)

**2023 Lifetime Member**

Sandra Kight (C)

Turns out the Awards Co-Chairs job is never done! We have less than 365 days until the next Awards Ceremonies! The Awards Co-Chairs job is year-round and oftentimes feels like it's never ending. However there is a lot to celebrate and without the time and dedication to all those who support the OAEA Awards Program, we wouldn't get the opportunity to hear about all these amazing Ohio Art Teachers, Service Awards, and more! A special thanks to Gayle Trueblood, Matt Young, and Alice Tavani for all their insight and assistance. Also, a BIG THANK YOU to Jonathan Juravich for putting together the Awards Booklets for each night.



On the next page, let's take a look at the OAEA Award timeline for a great overview of the process, but to also get you thinking about future nominations now! Continued on next page.



# OAEA Awards

## Nomination and Submission Timeline

JACKIE MAHAFFEY and MARY FRANCES DOWNS • Awards Co-Chairs • [awards@ohioarted.com](mailto:awards@ohioarted.com)

At the Annual OAEA Conference in November the following awards are nominated and voted upon at the Regional Meeting:

- Outstanding Art Teachers
- Service Award: Distinguished Citizen for Art Education
- Service Award: Distinguished Educator for Art Education
- Service Award: Distinguished Business/Organization for Art Education

You can submit your nomination letter before the Conference to your Regional Director (especially if you can't attend the conference).

\*If your nominee is selected at the OAEA Conference, you will then be responsible for submitting your nomination information online: <https://www.ohioarted.com/awards.html> by November 20th.

All OAEA Awards Nominations due online by November 20th. The following OAEA Awards are online nominations only: Ohio Art Educator of the Year, Division Awards, Advocate Awards, Doris Schnepf Outstanding Service Award

### December 15

Awards Materials Checklists and directions given to nominees via email

### February 14

Awards Materials Online Packet Submission is due for all awards

### March/April

Award Winners Materials Reviewed by Awards Co-Chairs  
Regional Service Award winners compete at State Level Vote  
Division Awards and Honor/Merit Awards scored by rubric  
Ohio Art Educator of the Year nominations scored by rubric  
Official Award Winners Announced

### May/June/July

Awards Co-Chairs share emails/congratulatory letters  
Regional Directors celebrate region winners



**ABOVE:** Friday night award winners.

### August/September/October

NAEA Award Opportunities If you are a state Division winner or selected as our Ohio Art Educator of the Year and if you are a member of NAEA, you can submit your packet to compete at the National level. Due date is mid-October.

Awards Chairs Prepare for Awards Ceremony at Conference  
Regional PR's contact local newspapers/media outlets to share winner info

For all Award Descriptions, Materials Checklists, and forms please see the OAEA Awards Page for specific award nomination requirements. \*Nominators and nominees (except the Service awards) must be current members of OAEA. Contact the Awards Chairs at [awards@ohioarted.com](mailto:awards@ohioarted.com) for more information.

As you can see there is a lot of collecting, waiting, sorting, emailing, more collecting, more waiting, more collecting, more sorting, more emailing, writing, presenting, shopping, planning, and then finally putting yourself out there on stage hoping people will like what you've just spent a year putting together. It has been one of the most challenging, sometimes frustrating, and, yes, rewarding jobs we've ever had! Time to start it all over again!

Contact the Awards Chairs at [awards@ohioarted.com](mailto:awards@ohioarted.com) for more information.





# Squish Mâché

Lesson Plan for Grades K-12



**Mix:** Mix instant paper mâché and place on burlap or fabric.



**Squish:** Place plastic wrap over surface and manipulate with fingers, tools, or texture plates.



**Paint:** Work color into wet design, or allow to dry and then paint it.

**Satisfyingly tactile! A low-mess sculpting process with successful results for all ages and abilities.**

Students squish and sculpt Activa FastMâché™ beneath plastic wrap, creating beautifully textured and paintable shapes.

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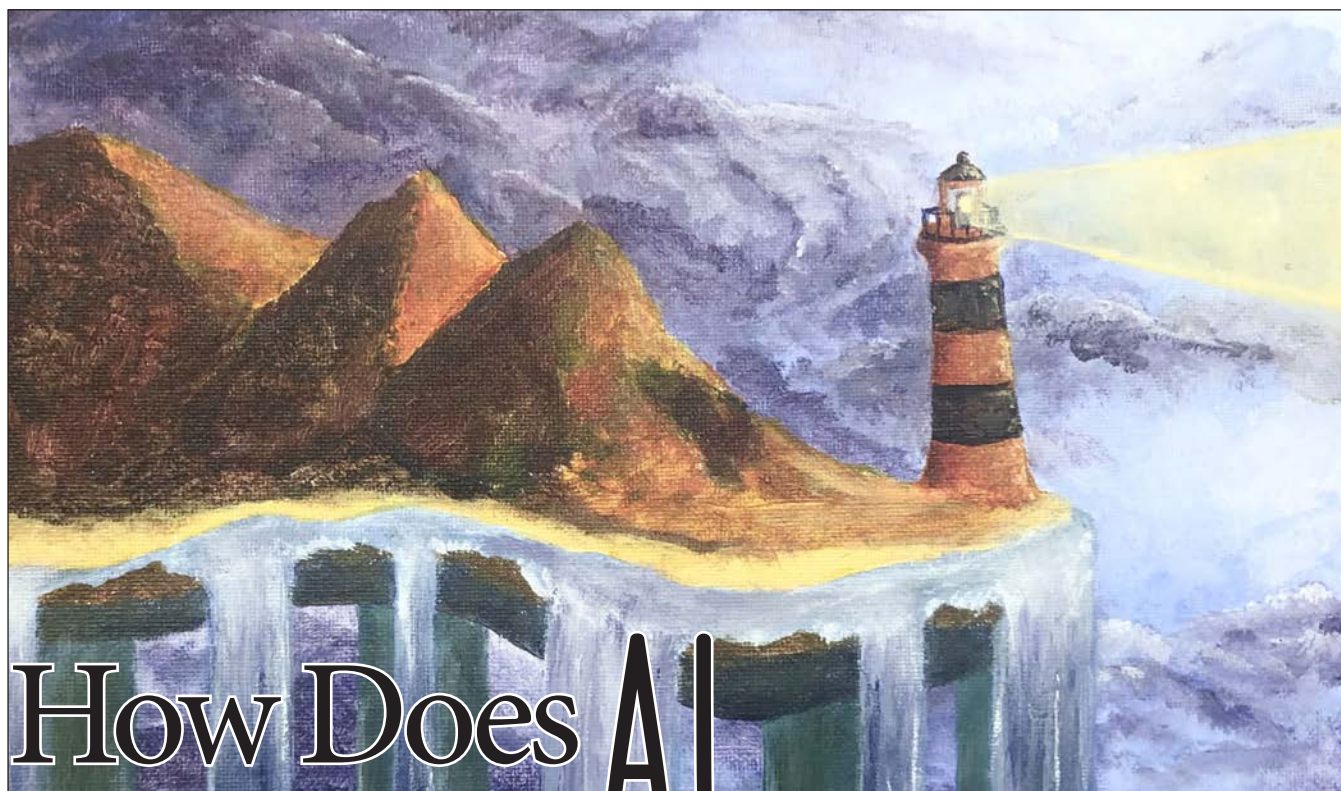
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# How Does AI Fit into the Art Room?

FLINT GARRABRANT • High School Art Teacher, Central Region • fgarrabrant@gmail.com

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has been a topic of heated conversations in recent years. When I was accepted as a presenter at the 2024 OAEA Conference in Toledo on the subject of AI in the classroom, I was both excited and a little nervous. There was a lot to cover, and a wide variety of opinions on the topic. Some love the opportunities it provides, but skeptics fear that AI could automate tasks traditionally performed by humans, leading to job loss and a lack of “human touch.” We hear this in education, with critics worrying that AI automation will remove the empathetic aspects of teaching. Similar complaints arise in the art world, where uniquely human expression is highly valued.

The familiar fears propagated by pop culture of “AI Overlords” seizing jobs and sending robots back in time to start wars have been around a while. These concerns are mostly dramatized, though there are both pros and cons to the technology. AI like Skynet is a long way off, and our current AI is much closer to a very advanced version of Microsoft’s “Clippy” than a robotic Arnold Schwarzenegger. AI should be a complementary tool rather than a replacement for human work. Art teachers are specifically skilled at teaching appropriate usage of tools. I can think of no better place to learn than under the supervision of trained teachers. The following list of considerations when using AI as a teacher is not an exhaustive list, but should provide a good start.

## 1. Technology Concerns in the Arts

The concerns about technology’s impact on the arts are nothing new. Every new technological discovery brings uncertainties about its ramifications. Even photography faced debates over its status as “fine art” in its infancy. It threatened jobs of portrait painters because of its speed and accuracy. Much like AI, photography transformed how we think of visual expression. It also introduced challenges like double exposures and staged images that “faked” reality. Now it is seamlessly integrated into our lives and art rooms, becoming an integral part of artistic expression. AI seems ready to follow a similar path, finding its place in our lives and classrooms. *Continued on next page.*

**ABOVE:** Acrylic painting by Leah Maynard, a ninth grader at Watkins Memorial High School



*Continued from previous page.*

## **2. Legal Safeguards for Student Privacy**

Ensuring student privacy is a legal requirement when integrating AI into education. The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) establishes federal guidelines safeguarding students online. Compliance requires parental permission for students under 13 before using AI technologies that may collect direct (i.e. name & address) or indirect identifiers (i.e. tracking cookies). Schools, acting as intermediaries, must clearly communicate data collection practices to parents. Understanding and adhering to COPPA is crucial for educators using AI with students.

## **3. Bias in AI Training Data**

AI training data is like a person's experiences shaping their worldview. Less experience means less understanding, and less understanding can lead to bias. Teaching students to be aware of potential biases in AI systems encourages them to evaluate AI-generated content and fosters critical understanding. I began using the AI face generator [thispersondoesnotexist.com](https://thispersondoesnotexist.com) as a tool to create randomized realistic faces for students to practice portraits about 3 years ago. Since then, improvements to their dataset have drastically improved their diversity and accuracy of portraits. The new faces now show a variety of ages, skin tones, and ethnicities (and fewer "faces" that land squarely in the uncanny valley). Improving the Inclusivity of datasets and the transparency of AI companies is an ongoing process to create a more equitable and unbiased AI.

## **4. Fostering Critical Thinking**

A valid concern with AI usage in education is the potential for student disengagement from critical thinking and ownership of learning. AI should be a supplementary tool, not a substitute for independent thinking. Encouraging active participation, questioning, and reflection during lessons cultivates ownership of learning. Engaging students in critiquing AI-generated art enhances their higher-order thinking, teaching them to identify the "tells" of AI-generated images. Last fall I wrote a list of Halloween prompt images in the AI Art Generator at [perchance.org/ai-landscape-generator](https://perchance.org/ai-landscape-generator) as we worked on composition and landscapes. Each group enjoyed their lively discussions about how to "fix" the AI's composition.

## **5. Discussing Equity, Ethics, and the Future of Work**

Classroom discussions about AI can explore issues of equity, ethics, and the changing landscape of work in the arts. Some of my own students have brought up artists they follow on YouTube who have spoken about how AI has personally affected them in both positive and negative ways. It is okay to have these conversations with students even if you don't have a clear picture of the "right" way to think about it. Embracing uncertainty and open questions fosters creative thinking and exploration, preparing students for their constantly evolving future. Students may be inspired to use their art to explore the topic further and generate new ways of understanding the issue.

## **6. AI for Student Accommodations and Modifications**

AI, particularly text-based generators, can assist in making accom-

modations and modifications for students. Adhering to COPPA regulations is crucial when utilizing such tools. Platforms like [magicschool.ai](https://magicschool.ai) offer student support tools for accommodation suggestions, behavior intervention, and text scaffolding. AI tools like Bard or Chat GPT can also aid in translations, but I would recommend collaborating with colleagues like intervention specialists or language teachers to check the appropriateness of accommodations or modifications.

## **7. AI Helps Visualize Ideas**

AI generators can be useful in helping students visualize ideas, especially for those facing challenges like aphantasia (a mental characteristic that does not allow someone to create a mental picture). A past student with aphantasia used Dream.ai to give text-based requests, turning them into reference images for drawings. In painting class last year we used Gaugan-2, which allowed students to draw original compositions as their input to create "photographs" of landscape. These new AI photos were then used as reference for make paintings with traditional acrylic techniques. Programs like Scribble Diffusion provide similar opportunities. A drawn image input allowed some students to explore the boundaries of the AI to create fantastical scenes, while other students with limited fine motor skills were able to show their learned painting techniques with their gross motor skills after using AI to scaffold their drawing.

## **8. Streamlining Teacher Workflow**

AI generators can save educators hours of work, streamlining workflows and freeing up time for more important tasks. Platforms like Chat GPT, Bard, and [magicschool.ai](https://magicschool.ai) offer support in creating presentations, providing feedback, and generating teaching content. While both Magic School and a teacher could write the same rubric, it feels like a John Henry vs. the Steam-Powered Drill situation. It is more efficient to let the computer do the "computer work" quickly, and the "human work" of teaching students can be done by the teacher.

## **9. Improving Teacher Creativity**

AI opens up endless possibilities for educators, allowing for creativity and problem-solving. By automating certain tasks and troubleshooting challenges, AI lets teachers invest time in writing new lessons, creating art, or practicing self-care. Art teachers are then free to find novel ways to inspire students. For example, last fall I generated my own lists of Inktober prompts for students based on their own interest surveys to encourage student choice.

## **10. Embracing Lifelong Learning**

AI provides an opportunity for teachers to continuously learning. The newness of AI opens a wide road for exploration, and challenges teachers to stay on the frontier of education. Encouraging an open mind to new ideas is the essence of teaching. A current students ability to think and adapt to new situations will be essential to their future careers. I can think of no other profession which is more suited to finding creative ways to incorporate ethical uses of new technologies into society than art educators.



# ED&I CONVERSATIONS

MATTHEW REYNOLDS • West Carrollton High School  
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I don't know about you, but I had a blast in Toledo. It was a wonderful time to catch up IRL, learn a new thing or two, meet some incredible artists, and make connections with fellow art educators. Many of you attended one of the three ED&I sessions, but if you missed them, here's a quick recap:

**ED&I Veteran Teacher Panel:** We began the conversation around what it means to champion Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity in our spaces. Several OAEA members shared their own experiences with equity work. We also launched the ED&I Network for OAEA members to get in touch with each other to discuss, share, and support each other in equity work around the state. To join the network, scan or access the links below.

Link for OAEA Google Form to build an ED&I Network across Ohio: <https://tinyurl.com/yc3p34hz>  
OR Scan the QR code:



## Artmaking as Forms of ED&I

**Work and Resistance:** In this session we explored various artists who use elements of equity, diversity and inclusivity in their artwork. We each had the opportunity to create our own pendants that embody our personal thoughts regarding ED&I. Members of the committee guerilla installed the string of pendants across the main stage in the expo hall.

**Art, Radical Hospitality and ED&I Work for Teachers:** Here we explored our own emotional well being and delved into the concept of Radical Hospitality in order to foster a sense of welcoming and belonging for all who enter our spaces. We then were provided with a series of tools to address and discuss issues of equity work in our own spaces, be that microaggressions, biases or prejudices.

Thank you to all of our ED&I presentation team: Stephanie Danker, Arenda T. Evans, Amy Neiurth, Isa Obradvich, Trina Parrish, Ketel Patel, Linda Hoepfner Poling, Katie Putka, Matt Reynolds, & Jen Thompson.

If you missed out, don't fret! This is only the beginning of the conversation regarding Equity, Diversity, & Inclusivity. Connect with us through the network link above or email your ED&I committee at [edi@ohioarted.com](mailto:edi@ohioarted.com). We'd love to connect with you and help you connect with others. Check back next *ARTline* for practical, tangible ways you can incorporate ED&I into your current practice!

*OAEA would love to highlight the ED&I work that you are advancing in your roles across the state of Ohio through art education. We are committed to sharing member stories that showcase the successes and multiple approaches to advance equity, diversity, and inclusion in schools, pre-service, higher education, museum, and community spaces as an art education community. Please contact us at [edi@ohioarted.com](mailto:edi@ohioarted.com) to share your work and stories! ABOVE: OAEA ED&I committee on a virtual roundtable.*





**LEFT: "The Hands That Make and Heal"**

Collaborative Hand Quilt

Creative Director:

Patrick Arriola Gonzalez, tenth grade

Teacher: Sarah Danner Hebdo, Whitehall Yearling High School

This hand quilt is made up of photos taken by the students in a 'Hand 'Photo lab. Then, the photos were post processed, edited and turned into black and white digital images. Students then took these photos and digitally collaged them into a chosen quilt square. Seventy student quilt squares were then put together by our Creative Director to make "The Hands that Make and Heal."

Whitehall Yearling High School is in their 8th year of the Teach Arts Ohio Grant Initiative with the Ohio Arts Council. This residency has allowed Duarte Brown to be a resident artist in grades 6-12, 3-4 times a week. This experience has created a legacy that will impact the community for years to come. You can view "The Hands that Make and Heal" and other collaborative student artworks at the CCAD Beeler Gallery Exhibition featuring Artist Richard Duarte Brown, Transit Arts & Teach Arts Ohio Teachers: Christina Clumm, Jennifer Davis, and Sarah Danner Hebdo.

The exhibit, "Looking For Family" will be on view February 29 - April 27, 2024.

Visit [beelergallery.org](http://beelergallery.org) for more information.



**RIGHT:** Art teacher Melanie Antram Ingraham, says "sometimes our art is full of deep meaning and inspiration. And sometimes it's penguins." This penguin was created by Kindergartener Elian, at Navin Elementary School in Marysville.

# ARTline

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*Dreaming of the beach? Spring Break is around the corner. Until then, enjoy this painting by Nougouma, a fourth grader at Hawthorne Elementary School in Westerville. Art Teacher: Liz Bash.*



*Acrylic painting by Samantha B., a fifth grader at New Albany Intermediate School, Art Teacher: Amy Neiworth.*