President’s Message

Yep, I admit it – I love the holidays. There are things I do not love: the traffic, rude remarks instead of holiday cheer, complaining and many other things that accompany the stress we put onto ourselves. But the overall festive feeling of seeing the darkest days of our season brightened by people who are really thinking of others – family, friends and strangers alike – is heartwarming to me.

Of course, the decorations lovingly (sometimes humorously) placed in every corner of our environment is truly entertainment with a surprise at every juncture. My heritage puts me into the gift giving culture. The former concerns of hours spent disguising an outlandishly shaped gift as a treasure box or even a dog, has given way to the #1 priority: FREE SHIPPING.

Speaking of decorations, our hearty hospitality chairs, Alyson Grossman and Carol Spagnola, took a deep, post-Thanksgiving breath, plunged in and decorated the Pavilion and parlors for the Holidays at MAG. Thanks so much to all volunteers who said “YES” to the email appeal and came to help. It is a big job! That space really takes an amazing amount of materials to make any kind of statement and it looks beautiful!

We will soon begin the 2015 calendar year – and February 9 is a day to circle now to plan your participation in our 75th Anniversary celebration for members. Save the date – all day! It will be quite special indeed!

It is with great pleasure that we announce our leadership team for Art and Treasurer’s this coming June: Co-Chairs are Katherine Cove and Dee McCleary. The new position of event administrator is being filled by Lois Sumberg. Of course, there are numerous other fine volunteers on the planning committee – and there is plenty of room for more. So please sign up, and if you are good with a camera – you are especially needed.

Many new members have been approved for the Council this fall. Please help the Membership Committee by seeking out the newbies to interest them in attending programs and volunteering for Art and Treasures. Just in time for the new year, the 2014-15 Membership Directory will be coming very soon. If you know any of the new members personally, you can be the crucial link to make them feel welcome in every way.

Sharon McNamee has posted hours for taking our calls and visits and meetings in the Council office. In January, she will be called out for many, many hours of training for a new accounting system. Please be aware of the hours and days she can assist your committee work and accompanying requests.

On to 2015 – and may it be a wonderful year for all…

Marilyn Merrigan
Thank You!
A special thank you for the MAG Council volunteers who helped decorate the Gallery. Also, to the Staff who helped make our job easier. The beautiful decorations will be enjoyed by many this holiday season.

Carol Spagnola and Alyson Grossman

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Membership

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to the Gallery Council:

Andrea Handy
75 Westminster Road #1, Rochester, New York 14607
Tel. 585-739-7465   Email: ageerhandy@yahoo.com
Andrea is a clothing designer and artist. She has participated in the Gallery Council's Fine Craft Show, and Gallery Store's trunk shows for many years. She has taken classes at the Creative Workshop and has made many donations of her products to various fundraising efforts. She is referred by Charlotte Herrera.

Lois Taubman
3515 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, New York 14610
Tel. H (585) 387-0854   C (585) 944-2571  Email: loistaub@rochester.rr.com
Lois is a trustee for WXXI, and serves on the boards of Writers & Books, Hadassah and the National Council of Jewish Women. She is referred by Inge Goldstein.

It would be helpful to the membership committee if we had contact information for guests at our programs so that we could send them information about the Gallery Council, as well as invitations to future meetings, events and programs. If you brought a guest, please contact Joanna Grosodonia (mgrosod1@rochester.rr.com) or Pat Rahn (wrahn@rochester.rr.com) with your guest's contact information.

For an application form call the Gallery Council office at 585-276-8910 or email gallerycouncil@mag.rochester.edu
or contact the Membership Co-Chairs below:

Joanna Grosodonia 244-4594 or mgrosod1@rochester.rr.com
or Pat Rahn 385-0632 or wrahn@rochester.rr.com
Council Projects

Staff Appreciation
Save the Date

We will celebrate the MAG staff on March 17th with a St. Patrick Day theme.
More information will follow next month.

art & treasures
2015
New Co-chairs in Place

Katherine Cove and Dee McCreary are the new Co-Chairs for the 2015 Art and Treasures Sale. Last year Katherine served as Co-chair and Dee was a member of the committee. With a year of experience under their belts both are fully prepared to take on the challenge of leading this year’s sale.

Are you sprucing up for the holidays? Don’t forget it’s never too early to donate to the sale. Need pickup now? Contact Mary Lisa Sisson (585.482.9144 or msisson@howeandrusling.com). And remember to save your extra gift tissue paper & shopping bags!

If you have news of a Gallery Council member, or if you know of a Council member who would benefit from a “hug” or “sunshine” note, please contact Nancy Heppard at nancyheppard@gmail.com

Submit newsletter items or comments about the Newsletter to Barbara O’Hare at barbarianpress@gmail.com

To access the Gallery Council area of the MAG website use the direct link <http://mag.rochester.edu/gallerycouncilarea>
Looking Ahead...
2014-2015 PROGRAMS
Gallery Council’s 75th Anniversary Year

Monday, February 9, 2015: see adjacent article

Monday, March 9, 2015: “Hands across the Avenue”- Tri-Council meeting at George Eastman House, 10:00 Coffee in the Cafe, 10:30 meeting, 12:00: luncheon

Thursday, April 16, 2015: “Fashion Design from Haute Couture to Wearable Art in Vintage Kimono” by Fashion Designer Etsuko Goode. 10:30 coffee, 11:00 business meeting & program

Thursday, May 14, 2015: Leonard Urso Studio Tour 2:00 PM followed by refreshments

Thursday, June 4, 2015: Our 75th Annual Meeting! “Celebrating What Was and Focusing on What Will Be- the Future.” 10:30 coffee, 11:00 business meeting & program, 12:15 lunch

Program details, including signup information, can be found in the monthly newsletter and posted on the Council website.

Contact: Sharon McNamee at gallerycouncil@mag.rochester.edu, 585.276.8910

Celebrate 75 Years of Creativity
~ A Day of Inspiration ~
Monday, February 9, 2015

In February 2015, the Gallery Council (nee “Women’s Council”) will mark its 75th Anniversary! That's 3/4 of a century! It is truly remarkable that a service group such as the Gallery Council has been productively thriving for so many years. To celebrate our longevity and value, we are having a day of inspiration and stimulation.

All of the members of the Gallery Council are invited.

On Monday, February 9, 2015, the following program will be presented, designed to stimulate your creative senses and to teach you a little about the inspiration others have received from art.

9 a.m. coffee and danish
Presentations to follow:

9:30 Art Inspires Music: RPO Principal Pops Conductor, Jeff Tyzik

10:30 Art Inspires: MAG docents

11:30 Art Inspires Movement: PUSH Physical Theatre directors Darren and Heather Stevenson

12:30 Luncheon artfully presented by Gatherings

One of the many benefits of membership in the Gallery Council is the availability of unique and stimulating programs. You must, however, sign up for these. And don’t forget our fun projects and trips! These allow us to support the Memorial Art Gallery in creative and fun ways. Check out the opportunities for involvement noted in this newsletter.
Docent News

There are two programs in December which are open to Council members:
On December 2nd, Dr. Dorothy (Doot) Bokelman, Fine Arts Professor at Nazareth College, spoke on indigenous people and MAG’s collection.
On December 16th, Mary Delmastro, member of the Creative Workshop faculty and Art History instructor, will discuss gesture in Italian Art. Both programs begin at 9:30 a.m. in the MAG auditorium.

A group of 17 enjoyed the October trip, arranged by the docent travel committee, to Florence, Italy. Kudos to Jean Ligozio and her committee for all their work which resulted in a very informative and enjoyable time. Highlights of Florence included the Uffizi Gallery, Bargello Museum, the Accademia Gallery and the famous Brunelleschi Dome and many delicious meals! Two trips out of Florence included the Chianti province of Tuscany and an afternoon in Fiesole.

The Golden Books exhibit is very popular with school groups, and enjoyed by all age groups!

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CREATIVE WORKSHOP

What’s up in the Creative Workshop?

Fall 2014 Children’s classes ended on November 22nd. Ten Rochester City School District children were able to attend Saturday classes thanks to the Gallery Council’s scholarship fund.
Children’s classes for Winter 2015 start Saturday, January 10th. Currently on view in the CW’s Lucy Burne Gallery is the Winter Adult Student show. There are approximately 100 pieces on display, several of which are works of art from new students. The show will be up until February 17, 2015.

samples of some of the scholarship student’s’ work

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Gallery Council contact:
Sharon McNamee, Gallery Council Assistant, (585)276-8910 or gallerycouncil@mag.rochester.edu

Please note the office hours for Sharon McNamee, Gallery Council Assistant:
Tuesdays, 9 - 4
Wednesdays, 1 - 4
Thursdays - 1:30 - 9
Fridays - 9 - 4

These hours are available to Council members for meetings, appointments, and any other Council business. These changes will allow concentrated hours to be dedicated to financial duties and priority projects. Thank you so much for your cooperation.

- Peggy Lahair-Edmunds
Upcoming Tours - Spring and Summer 2015

**Travel** with us to historic Providence and Newport, Rhode Island, in their finest spring garb! Highlights include the Rhode Island School of Design Museum, a visit to the prestigious and private Providence Art Club, a tour of The Breakers, the most well-known example of gilded age architecture in Newport and a cocktail reception at the private home of a prominent art collector. This tour has been planned with the assistance of a Providence art gallery owner and avid supporter of the local arts. It promises to be another exceptional travel experience! Included in our visit will be:

- Docent tour of the venerable Rhode Island School of Design Museum, a collection of art and design representing diverse cultures from ancient times to the present;
- A visit to TEN31, a studio which produces the amazing living art statues you’ve seen worldwide;
- Hope Artiste Village of art studios and shops in Pawtucket;
- A special dining experience at the Providence Art Club;
- Brown University Bell Gallery at the List Art Center;
- Newport Art Museum, whose permanent collection concentrates on works illustrating the role played by Newport and New England artists in the development of American art;
- The Breakers, magnificent summer Cliff Walk playground of the Cornelius Vanderbilts;
- Reception at the home of a prominent art collector.

We will travel to Providence by luxury motor coach. Accommodations in Providence will be at the historic and elegant Biltmore Hotel, located in city center.

Further details regarding cost and accommodations will be provided in next month’s newsletter.

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**Watch for Dates and Details for these exciting tours:**

**Corning Glass Museum’s New Wing and Rockwell Museum** – April, 2015 - Opening in March at Corning Glass, a huge new glass exhibit display space and glass blowing studio. More details soon.

**Buffalo** – May, 2015 – Basilica, Botanical Garden, and newly constructed to Frank Lloyd Wright designs, Filling Station at the Pierce Arrow Museum. More details soon.

**Mystery Tour** – June 2015 – the annual special event that sells out within days every year. This year’s details soon.

**Art Lovers’ Provence**  October 16 - 23, 2015 ~ From Cézanne to Matisse, Renoir to Picasso, artists have gravitated to Provence’s vivid sunlight and vibrant landscape. Join us in southern France as we explore their museums, studios, and homes, as well as meet contemporary artists, collectors and art lovers.