

**Ren Hullender**

## 2017 [Re]solutions

Happy New Year! I hope you have had the opportunity to reflect, renew, and re-solution the new year. In my reflections, one of the highlights of last year was the 2016 MAEA Leading the Way in Classrooms, Schools, and Communities Conference in Traverse City.

I need to share with you my most memorable experience from the conference. As I hurriedly searched for the hotel business center to print something off before a meeting, I rounded a corner to an enthusiastic group of 10-12 young teachers. The presenter had not come, so they sat in the hallway and conducted their own meeting, talking earnestly about best practices in teaching art and the future of education. Although grounded in all that is wrong with education, there was energy and passion in the conversation that focused on reform possibilities: "What is the most important element in the classroom?" "How can we make learning more meaningful?" "How can we, as art teachers, effect change?"

Throughout a career spanning five decades, I have longed to engage in such a conversation with like-minded educators. After briefly participating, I slipped away, privileged to have experienced the moment, encouraged to try new things in my classroom, and confident they will create the answers to their questions.

Once again, THANK YOU and WELL-DONE to Kelcey, Jill, Sharon, Julia, and the rest of the volunteers that made it so meaningful for the rest of us. A special thank you to the presenters and workshop leaders for taking the time to prepare and present engaging sessions that keep our members current in innovative best practices, and equip us as leaders in Michigan art and education reform. Your impact is very real, and evidenced in feedback I received – statements like, "I really needed this; this has been great!" and "best conference I've attended in 18 years" - that I felt like I should share with the membership at

large. In a meeting at the end of the conference, I wrote down the "take-a-ways" shared by several participants. Interestingly, their comments grouped around our ongoing theme of broadening our vision of who we are, what we know, and what we can do:

### *Who We Are*

"Surrounded by people who value art education"

"So many of us teach in such isolation on our own little islands. This conference is our mainland."

"Our tribe"... "our community."

### *What We Know*

"Rich program!"

"Yes, and a depth and breadth of information we don't usually get."

"Strong content. I got something out of every session and workshop I attended – and I haven't always been able to say that."

"I'm thinking about art education in ways I've never considered; stuff I've never thought of before."

### *What We Can Do*

"I realize there is a lineage and legacies in our organization, and – it's a little scary, but - it's time for me to step up."

"I realize I want to get more involved."

I am usually dubious of the New Year's Resolution hoopla that surfaces this time of year. However, as I was drawing doodles around the "2017" on my new calendar the other day, I admit that I felt a sense of new beginnings and contemplated new possibilities in my life and work. I encourage each of you to take time to reflect, refresh, reimagine, re-envision, re-commit, reconnect, reinvigorate, reinvent, repurpose, retool, and re-solution. I look forward to supporting each member's efforts as we continue to broaden our vision of who we are, what we know, and what we can do.

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**Adrienne DeMilner**

## Politics and the ARTS: A Change of Attitude

A little over a year ago, I had the opportunity of attending a political rally. I joined thousands of supporters and was caught up in the excitement of the promise of new leadership for America. Of course I was thinking of the support for our art students and their right to a comprehensive and inspiring art education in ALL schools. Fast forward to our current political climate and the unease in which many of us find ourselves looking ahead to the new administration. To compound that anxiety is the appointment of a conservative daughter of Michigan as the new Education Secretary. Whether we agree or not, this person will be in active service for the next four years in Washington.

I suppose we can commiserate about his choice and give in to the negative aura about Betsy DeVos, and what she will bring to the position. I contend, however, that we look at this appointment in a new light. Betsy is the mother of Rick DeVos, founder of the ArtPrize, which has elevated the making and viewing of art to a new level of importance in our society. Yes, many of us work in public education and do not want our jobs to be threatened, so we will become activists in our own right to save the system. However, if charter schools and private education are strengthened with her at the helm, students will still need the arts in their day to balance the rigorous standards in the core subjects. There will be even more of a need for art educators. Call me the eternal optimist, but I think we have an opportunity to be heard and have our positions strengthened with this administration.

I do hope that the President's Council for Arts and Humanities (PCAH) will continue to thrive within this new administration. With their primary goal of providing schools nationwide with a creativity rich environment, the PCAH, if it survives, can be a leader in the fight to produce more opportunities for art teachers to reach students everywhere. We can work together to have a collective voice in what happens to art education through our professional organization.

Our association provides a venue for becoming strong advocates on a state and national level. Consider attending the National Art Education Convention this year in New York City, a central hub of support for the Arts, in which there will be many opportunities to voice opinions of the future of art education. Certainly plan on attending the Detroit Conference next year, where the discussion will continue. We can pull together as an organization and be heard across the land. Creativity is still the skill that will be in demand in the jobs of the future, and we know how to deliver that skill the best.

*"Everything is ART; everything is POLITICS"*

Ai Weiwei

Artfully, Adrienne

MAEA *ArTeacher* is published three times per year: January, May, September, by the Michigan Art Education Association.

The Winter publication is in micro-newsletter format with the full edition posted on our website. The Fall and Spring/Summer editions are published both full and posted on the website. Annual Membership includes membership and publications for both the National Art Education Association and the Michigan Art Education Association: \$95 [Active Membership], \$95 [Associate], \$65 [Retired], \$80 [first-year Professional], \$45 [student], \$220 [Institutional].

Post Master send address changes to:

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Deadlines for submitting material to the MAEA *ArTeacher*:

April 1 – Spring/Summer  
July 1 – Fall  
November 1 – Winter

To submit please email articles to: [inhul2@gmail.com](mailto:inhul2@gmail.com).



**Maureen Roslanic**

## Retiree News

Thank you for acknowledging the retirees at the MAEA Fall Conference in Traverse City. There is a great YouTube video that I would like to share from Jill McKillips and I through popcrush.com by Jane Zhang titled: "Dusting My Shoulders Off." The video shows pop artists and the masterpiece artists with excellent humor. We all need some comic relief!

I head to the second "Retro in the Metro" planning committee meeting Saturday, December 3, 2016, which will be inspiring to all who participate. You can still email me at mroslanic@gmail.com if you have questions on mentoring!

Happy holidays to all!! Peace and joy.



**Cyndi Koppelman**

## NAEA Delegate

The 2017 NAEA Convention is March 2-4 in NYC. Registration is open. Jeff Koons is one of the speakers this year. Many outstanding museums are offering FREE admission to Convention participants. Register and book accommodations NOW. Rooms at the hotel go fast. Hope to see you in NYC!

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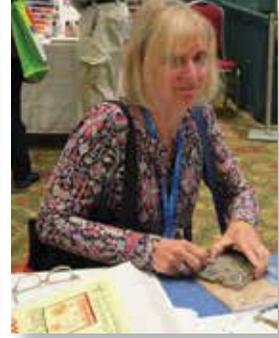
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# 2016



## Next Year... Save the Date!

November 2–5, 2017

Retro\*  
in the  
Metro\*

\* Reimagine\*

\* Reconnect\*

\* Rejuvenate\*

MAEA \* Detroit \* 2017

Join your friends and colleagues for a weekend filled with opportunities to re-CONNECT, re-JUVENATE and re-IMAGINE what being an art teacher is all about in the re-VITALIZED heart of Detroit.

See you at the 2017 MAEA Fall Conference located at Cobo Center and Westin Book Cadillac Hotel.

Your Co-Chair Friends,  
Lani Warner-Yuen, Adrienne DeMilner and Tanya Lockwood

## 2017 MAEA Art Educator of the Year Awards

Congratulations to MAEA's 2017 Awardees who were recognized at the Awards Banquet in Traverse City.

- Art Educator of the Year •
- Secondary Art Educator of the Year •  
Sharon Stratton
- Middle Level Art Educator of the Year •  
Carrie Jeruzal
- Elementary Art Educator of the Year •  
Michelle Reile
- Emeritus Art Educator Award •  
Robert Curtis
- Memorial Scholarship Award •  
Maggie Livengood
- Distinguished Service Award •  
Hedy Blatt and the Oakland County Schools Fine Arts Council
- Distinguished Service Award •  
Nicole Dekraker,  
MBA Director of Student Engagement,  
Kendall College of Art and Design of  
Ferris State University



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## Leave a Trail!

Lesson Plan for Grades 5-12

Create a dynamic “paint trailed”  
book cover or wall hanging in the  
style of Henri Matisse!

*“When I see a picture, I forget what it represents.  
All that is important to me is line, form, and colors.”*  
—Henri Matisse

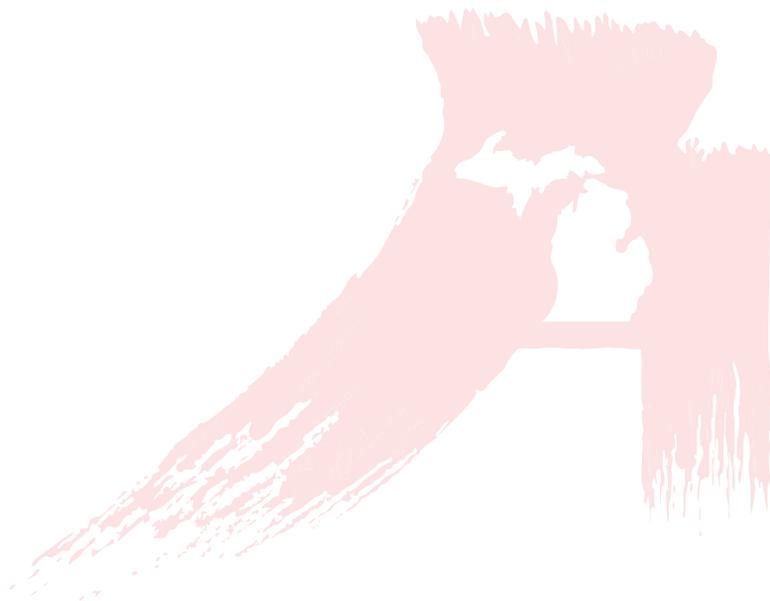
Make a vibrant, individual statement using brightly colored felts, paint applied by squeezing, and a folding technique that creates a repeating pattern. The end result is a functional piece of artwork in the form of a wall hanging or book cover!

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# NAEA/MAEA Membership Application

**Membership with MAEA is membership to both NAEA and MAEA:**

Mail to: MAEA Membership Chair: Annie Howard, 3274 Northmor Drive W, Adrian, MI 49221  
 -OR- Membership online: [www.miarted.org](http://www.miarted.org) click on *About*, then click on *Membership*

**Please Print All Information Below:**

New  Renewal - I.D. Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/St./Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

MI County you teach/work in: \_\_\_\_\_

School District: \_\_\_\_\_

Work: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership 104/204**

Categories: \_\_\_\_\_ Dues: \_\_\_\_\_

- Active \$95
- Associate \$95
- Retired \$65
- First Year Professional \$80
- Full-Time Student \$45

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Institutional \$220

SUB TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Subscription Option:

Studies in Art Education \$20

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Students: Attach photocopy of current student I.D.

**Please check ONE professional level where you spend over 50% of your professional time:**

- Elementary  Middle Level  Secondary  Museum  Higher Ed
- Supervision/Administration  Full Time Student  Retired Member

**Payment Information**

Check Enclosed -- **PAYABLE TO NAEA** (Tax deductible) 501 C3 Membership

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Charge by phone 1(800) 299-8321

Membership dues include \$25 for a membership subscription to Art Education and \$15 for a membership subscription to NAEA News. A separate rate is established for non-member subscriptions.