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Reflections and Being a Light!

I would like to start this article by thanking the 2015 conference team! Under the leadership of the chairs, Christopher Bruce, Sharon Stratton, and Tricia Erikson, the 2015 Fall Conference was a smashing success! These individuals and their team spent hours of their personal time planning, organizing, and designing the conference. Thank you for your service, thank you for your sacrifice of time, thank you for your dedication to art education!

January 2016 marks the end of my presidency and the beginning of my role as MAEA Past President. Reflecting on the past two years as President, as well as the two years as President-Elect, I have discovered a consistent theme from my vantage point of the association that I hope every member also sees—and that theme is being a light. Bear with me as I explore this idea a little further. During my tenure as President, I had the opportunity to work with an outstanding executive board and council. Every person who served and volunteered his or her time became a light to me. They brought to me inspiration to help others, they brought the honest struggles they were experiencing in their region, they brought ideas, and with every interaction I have had, I found myself leaving with a little bit more “glow” than I had before. I think this illumination came from being in a community of individuals who are all extremely talented in a variety of ways and are honestly seeking to lift up the young artists we teach, the educational communities we work in, and the greater community through the power of visual expression...ART.

My goal when I started my term as President was to improve communication and transparency, but at the heart of those goals is a core value of improving the lives of art teachers through positive inspiration, i.e. being the light.

The particle and applicable side of my presidential goals was to develop a professional development endorsement policy and procedure, so MAEA members can access offerings across the state throughout the year. Also, the MAEA has a constant contact account allowing for reliable and consistent communication. The MAEA Council and Executive Board also have allowed for a new position on the Council. The conference mentor will allow for consistency across years and locations for our conferences. It provides a legacy of leadership.

None of the things, both tangible and affect goals, would not be possible without the support of the executive board. My new role as Past President will allow for me to continue supporting the efforts and mission of the MAEA while being more involved with member relations. Our new President, Ren Hullender, is bringing his expertise in art education, leadership, and research to his role. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve so many art educators and I am excited about the future for the MAEA.

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Ren Hullender

Happy New Year!

I am excited to begin serving as your President. Working with the Executive Board and Council for the last two years as President-Elect, I have discovered a very strong, unified, and dedicated leadership team that is highly committed to maintaining the quality of our excellent organization. It is a privilege to serve with them.

For those of you whom I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting, let me introduce myself. Although I have only lived in Michigan five years, this is my 40th year in education. I am currently an art education professor at Central Michigan University, but taught high school for 30 years in rural, urban, and suburban Georgia settings. My PhD is in Art Education from The University of Georgia, and my research explores how the embodied cognitive nature of art making impacts the individual and informs learning – especially in community-based practice. My wife (also a former high school teacher and working at CMU) and I have six children and three grandchildren. While I am not very sentimental, I am a forward thinker who cares deeply and is passionate about art and teaching.

The strength and vibrancy of the MAEA resides in the very broad and active participation of our membership. At our *Framing the Future* conference in Grand Rapids, I observed an extremely dedicated conference committee and a very large volunteer cohort that worked tirelessly for a year to insure its success. The conference was one of the best I've attended, due to dedication, passion, and hard work. Many presenting members, who shared innovative classroom and community practice and offered meaningful service in running the conference, ultimately facilitated professional growth to one another, our schools, and our communities. I extend my gratitude to each of you for your leadership and service. Second, our senior members, many of whom have retired from teaching (a non-existent culture in similar organizations), grounded the process in their experience, efficiency, and wisdom. Thank you for all you do. Third, I was impressed with the enthusiasm and involvement of an unprecedented number of pre-service and first-year teachers; well-done, higher education division, our future looks very promising!

In our MAEA Council meetings, there is a commitment to continue to grow and evolve as a leading voice in art education and in education reform, and we made significant strides toward implementing our Strategic Plan in 2015. This year, I anticipate the organization continuing to build upon those successes.

I look forward to supporting each member's efforts as we broaden our vision of who we are, what we know, and what we can do.

Thank you,
Ren Hullender

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

The Winter publication is in macro-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].

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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.



Adrienne DeMilner

A Framework for Art Education

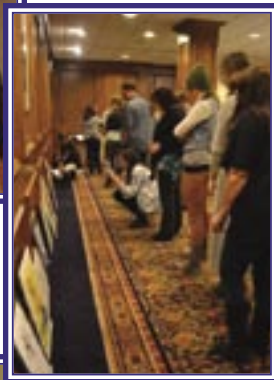
This week at school I had my formal evaluation. I have to admit that it was stressful in planning and executing because I wanted everything to go perfectly. My evaluation had a new level of pressure added because we are implementing Charlotte Danielson's *Framework for Teaching* method. For those of you not familiar with this method, be prepared because it is coming down the pipes for all Michigan educators. Some districts are already embracing the method to be prepared for the inevitable. What this method presents is an objective way for administrators to assess your success in the classroom. There are four "domains" that speak to specific areas of expertise in teaching:

1. How well are you prepared for teaching?
2. What does your classroom environment look like?
3. How do you teach so that your students pick up key ideas?
4. How do you take care of your professional responsibilities?

As I reflect on the entire process, I realize that there was really no need to be so concerned. I did fine because I have been well prepared for this through my teaching experience and my association with MAEA. I take ideas into my classroom daily that have been shared by other art teachers at our conferences, our summer PD or any variety of gatherings throughout the state. This is probably the greatest benefit of being a member of MAEA. We learn from each other in a profession in which most of us are isolated from the camaraderie of peers, quite unlike other staff members in our buildings. Through our association we are able to share current practices in real time. Consider inviting a friend who is not a member to experience that same kind of sharing. It will only make our organization stronger and impact the benefits of quality art education for our students. Make it a priority to reach out to someone that you think would benefit from an association with us and know that you have eased the stress of another art teacher by providing them with an avenue to learn best practices.

Have a great school year!

Artfully,
Adrienne DeMilner



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Message from the Conference Co-Chairs

The conference in Grand Rapids was another very successful one. We had over 500 attendees this year at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, more than 50 vendors, almost 200 workshops, six off site tours, awesome events every night, inspiring keynote and spotlight speakers. We talked about what our favorite parts of the conference were, and one of the intangible, but vital elements of the conference is the opportunity to spend time with wonderful friends and partners in art education.

Kicking off the conference evening events, on Thursday evening the Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts opened its doors exclusively to MAEA members to explore its contemporary galleries and experience its award winning ArtPrize exhibition. In honor of MAEA's partnership with Comic-Con, members had the unique opportunity to hear from classic and contemporary cartoonists through conversations with Allen Bellman, Captain America cartoonist, and Comfort and Adam Love (creators of The Uniques). Following these once-in-a-lifetime discussions, participants were invited into the UICA's art studio to experience the numerous programs UICA is developing exclusively for students and educators. A reception rounded out the evening.

Friday morning attendees were treated to a day of workshops and were able meet our vendors who were conveniently located in the concourse of the hotel. Many of us invited our administrators to lunch and were enlightened by keynote speaker and author, Steve Robbins. The retirees and new teachers enjoyed their Under Construction Luncheon, where tips and experience were generously shared.

We had two fundraisers side by side Friday and Saturday. The Annual Garage Sale was booming as our Retiree Division sold donated supplies and equipment. Next door, the Empty Necks fundraiser was buzzing with excitement as members hand dyed silk scarves. We had a MakerSpace in the same room where members could finish projects started in other workshops and have just have a place where they could sit with others between workshops and create art.

On Friday Night we collaborated with the founders of FailureLab to create our own unique event that featured three storytellers who shared their own personal stories of failure with our members. Karl Gude (MSU Professor of Creativity), Adonna Khare (ArtPrize winner 2012) and our very own Cindy Todd (Kendall College Art Ed Department Chair) bravely shared their most personal stories of failure at Kendall College's Woodbridge Building. Their stories left people talking all weekend and resonated deeply

with many of us as we considered our own failures and how we grow and learn from them. It was sponsored by the KCAD and Uncle John's Hard Cider, who provided delicious beverages in the reception area afterwards. The event was so successful that we are already working with FailureLab again for next year's conference in Traverse City - so be sure to register early!

Saturday started with a warm welcome from Grand Rapids Mayor, George Heartwell at our Members Breakfast and the Annual Meeting that followed. Some of the highlights Saturday included an inspiring and entertaining glimpse into the career of Adonna Khare as she spoke to a large crowd in the Ambassador Ballroom. Ms. Khare was generous with her time as she gave hands-on workshops both Friday and Saturday, even donating several of her drawings to the Silent Auction.

Our Awards Banquet afforded us with the opportunity to honor new retirees, excellent teachers, partners, and advocates in art education. The speeches by the nominators and honorees were touching and moving. This event took place at Grand Rapids Art Museum who generously sponsored us. Our gala was fun as members dressed up as their favorite paintings or artists. The numerous Fridas, Lichtenstein painted attendees, and others enjoyed the wonderful music provided by Vinylicious.

For those of you who missed the conference or just parts, be sure to check out the videos on our Michigan Art Education Association page on Facebook. New member, videographer Steve Harryman, produced a number of wonderful videos that highlight a number of the conference events. We are excited to see these soon on our NEW WEBSITE, too.

With the conference in our rearview mirrors, we would like to thank everyone who participated; whether you presented, volunteered, or attended, it would not have been possible without you. We hope that you all enjoyed yourselves and left recharged, inspired, and rejuvenated. We look forward to seeing you all next year in Traverse City. If you have never presented or helped plan a conference, we recommend it. Get involved! Planning the conference was a lot of work, but we had such a great time! Seeing it all come together and seeing you enjoying yourselves, hearing your positive comments, and seeing you smile made it all worthwhile. Thank you!

Sharon Stratton, Christopher Bruce, and Tricia Erickson
2015 Conference Co-Chairs

2015 MAEA Council Election

Congratulations to the newly elected council members!

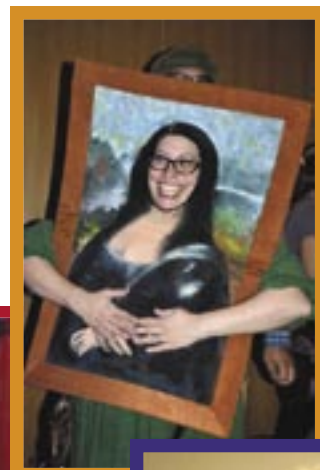
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Grand Traverse Resort

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Empowering art educators to develop
greater vision and direction for their
students, colleagues, and community in
order to make a lifelong difference in
those we serve.

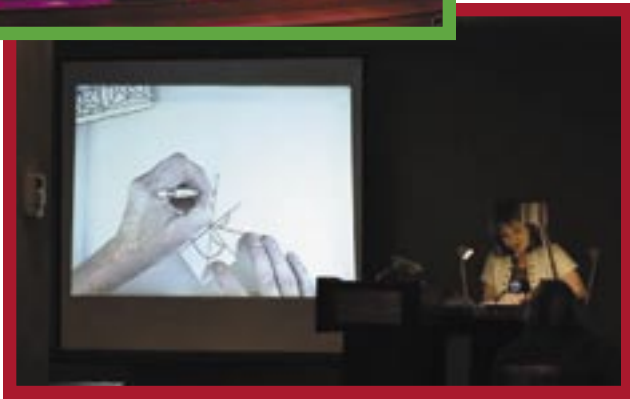


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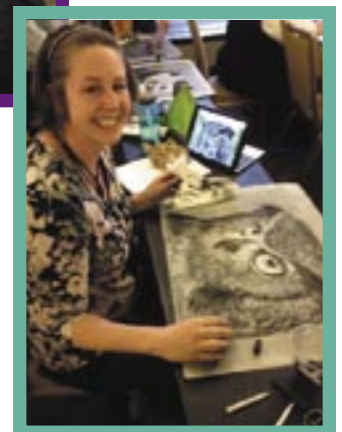
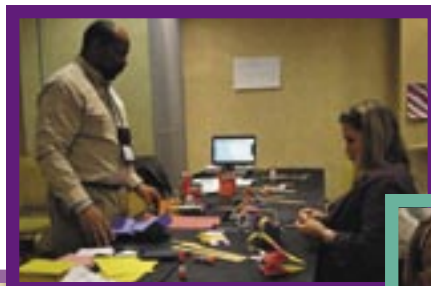
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from the 2015
Conference



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 -OR- Membership online: www.miarted.org click on *All Members Services*, then click on *Become a Member*

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