



ArTeacher

Issue No. 87

miarted.org



2021 Spring/Summer

The Michigan Art Education Association's mission is to promote quality visual arts education through leadership, service, and professional development.

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President's Message



Sharon Stratton

president@miarted.org

With spring in the air and an end to the Covid-19 pandemic in sight, changes are inevitable and welcome, but so many have already occurred in the last year. Big things have happened, like the leadership of our country, the Black Lives Matter movement, exploration of Mars is happening. In the world of education we have seen remote learning, one-to-one computers, cleaning protocols, social distancing, and a myriad other changes.

“When can we get back to normal?” is a question that resounds when talking about everything from lunch, sports, prom, and graduation to field trips and snow days. It is natural to want life to be restored to what it was before all of this craziness. I want that too. Silly “prom-posals,” pizza parties for a job well done, and packed pep rallies are some of the things I personally can’t wait for.

There are other things I don’t want to see go away like procedures and solutions that helped us through the year that are truly awesome. My grandmother used to say, “don’t throw the baby out with the bathwater,” which I now know doesn’t really have to do with infants, but more about keeping what’s valuable while trying to get rid of something that is worthless or undesirable. Students having computers and knowing how to use them, changes to how we honor graduates and Google Classroom are a few of my favorites. Digital art shows, pre-recorded seminars and video conferencing are also helpful options that I don’t want to throw out.

Another thing I don’t want to go away is my new Artist List. It was an indirect result of the Covid-19 pandemic overlapping the BLM movement. For the past 14 years, I always did a jigsaw type lesson where students researched artists, completed projects and shared with the rest of the class. The artists were 90% male, European-American, and deceased. Then, this year, I found an incredible list of Diverse Artists, many who are still alive. The engagement on this assignment was through the roof. I had students watching Ted Talks and videos of their artists speaking. Students found their artists on social media and many began following them on Instagram. One student even carried on an email conversation with a First Nations artist. We ended the project with a March Madness-The Artist Edition bracket. I loved the banter between students as they campaigned and discussing their reasons for their ranking choices. My students could relate to these artists whether they were the same race or not.

MAEA had our share of changes in the past year, too. From virtual conference meetings and our first virtual state conference to digital art shows and online adjudication; change was the name of the game. Moving forward some of those things will stay, like the online adjudication, while others go or continue to change.

Thank you for your patience, consideration, loyalty and feedback.



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President-Elect Message



presidentelect@miarted.org

Hello members,

Advocacy is so important in our careers for the sake of our students and our positions in employment. I was so incredibly excited to attend the NAEA Town Hall on February 16th. If you were not able to attend, the meeting was recorded and is available on the NAEA Facebook page. In this meeting, the leadership pointed us in the direction of www.artsareeducation.org. This wonderful resource has many advocacy tools for you including: Board of Education resolution, pledge to join this national movement and response, letter resource for writing to your legislators, talking points to support your programs, budget process guide, and letter for your local school board. When I left the meeting, I was moved to contact my school board, legislators, and other arts teachers within my district. It was a fueling experience and perfect toolkit for this trying time in arts education and in education. I hope that you are able to take advantage of that resource.

Have a great rest of the school year and a restful summer.

You are valued. You are important. You are MAEA!

2021 National Secondary Art Educator



Le Tran



Alexandria, VA—The National Art Education Association has named Le Tran, of Grand Rapids, MI, to receive the 2021 National Secondary Art Educator Award. This prestigious award, determined through a peer review of nominations, recognizes the exemplary contributions, service, and achievements of one outstanding NAEA member annually at the National level within their division. The award was presented during the [Virtual] NAEA 2021 National Convention.

NAEA President Thom Knab states, “This award is being given to recognize excellence in professional accomplishment and service by a dedicated art educator. Le Tran exemplifies the highly qualified art educators active in education today: leaders, teachers, students, scholars, and advocates who give their best to their students and the profession.”

Founded in 1947, the National Art Education Association is the leading professional membership organization exclusively for visual arts educators. Members include elementary, middle, and high school visual arts educators; college and university professors; university students preparing to become art educators; researchers and scholars; teaching artists; administrators and supervisors; and art museum educators—as well as more than 54,000 students who are members of the National Art Honor Society. We represent members in all 50 states plus the District of Columbia, U.S. Possessions, most Canadian Provinces, U.S. military bases around the world, and 45 foreign countries.

The mission of the National Art Education Association (NAEA) champions creative growth and innovation by equitably advancing the tools and resources for a high-quality visual arts, design, and media arts education throughout diverse populations and communities of practice.

For more information about the association and its awards program, visit the NAEA website at www.arteducators.org.

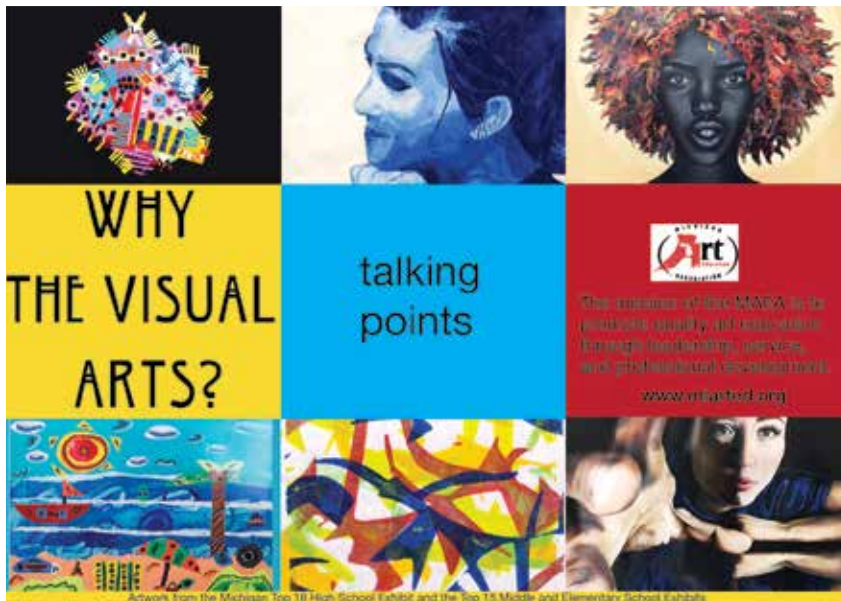
Vice President's Message



Meredith Giltner

vicepresident@miarted.org

What a memorable year it has been for us with all the ups and downs of virtual/hybrid teaching and COVID. I am so proud of how art educators have been flexible and resilient. This year's change from a physical to a digital show via CaFE was one such change we asked you all to embrace. Thank you, we could not have asked for a smoother transition and participation. It was nice to see regional online Art Shows advocating for their districts, teachers and students. It was a goal I think we all achieved. My goal this summer is to focus on three areas of personal development: reflecting on the sessions I attended at the NAEA 2021 Virtual Conference, advocating for the arts and seeking authentic professional development.

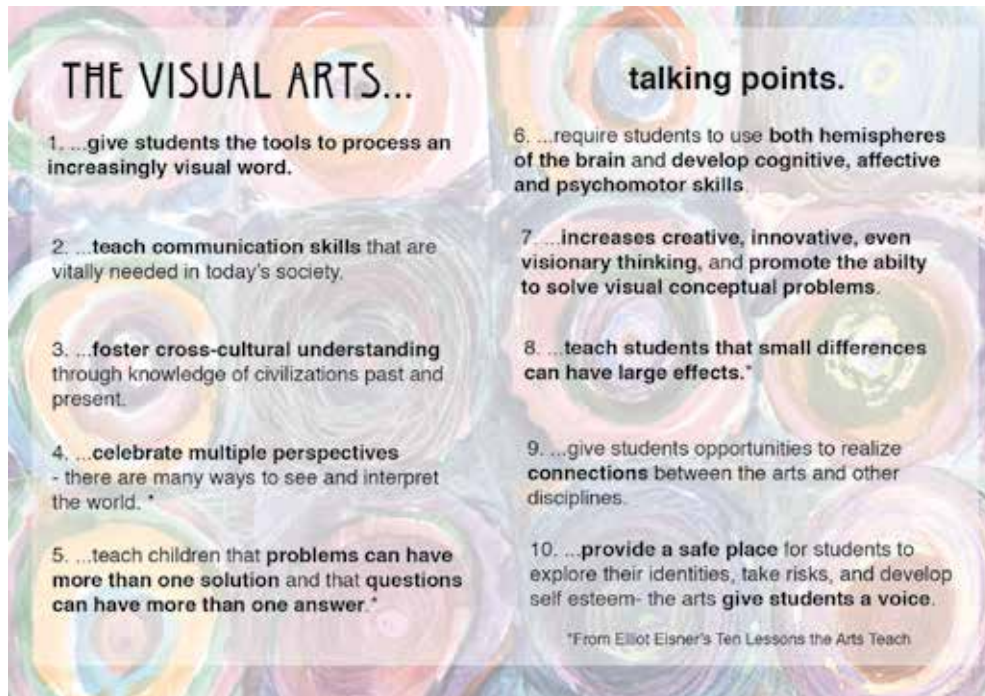


NAEA's Virtual Conference 2021 was a great escape for a couple of days. Although I have not been back to the classroom for over a year now, I can appreciate the diversity of offerings and perspectives that I heard. My sessions ranged from advocacy to leadership to race. I better understand the term amend, repatriation, integrity and dignity. My favorite session was *The Hidden Curriculum in Art Education with Libya Doman*. She had such passion and drive in how we can make art relevant and accessible to all students by inviting them to help us include the works they personally like. She has been quoted as saying

"speak up, and speak up scared." If you went to the conference, you can look up her session but there is a podcast of her being interviewed at soundcloud. As I attended many sessions and still have ones marked to watch, I will write more about my findings at a later date when I truly have time to reflect.

Advocating for the Arts is a topic with which many art educators struggle. We often ask ourselves if we have done enough or why should we have to advocate for Art when it is so important to students' critical thinking development. In February, I attended the *Town Hall: Arts Are Education - An Advocacy Conversation*, a new community building collective for arts advocacy. NAEA Executive Director Mario Rossero wanted to help increase the visibility of the Arts and their importance; you can watch and download the accompanying handout with numerous important links by going to: arteducators.org, click on Community and scroll down to the Town Hall article. It features those who had successful campaigns advocating for the arts in their communities. The NAEA has also developed an Advocacy Toolkit for Art Educators to use on their own journey. I myself have yet to go through all the sources but found that I do need to be more active. Also, another form of advocacy is being a liaison or co-liaison for your region. Please reach out to me at vicepresident@miarted.org if

Vice President's Message con't



you or someone you know is interested in joining our team of awesome volunteers. And of course we have the Visual Arts Talking Points by Elliot Eisner which we feature on our MAEA Advocacy postcard pictured below that you can always use as a tool for advocacy and enlightening others on how important the arts are.

Authentic Professional Development always seems like a personal choice and it fluctuates depending on what is going on in society, what we are teaching and our own personal needs. If you don't have time to dedicate to seek them out and need a more self-paced or quick refresher, I have some recommendations.

- * If you were to focus on equity, diversity and inclusion, my recommendations would be: *NAEA's Getting Started with Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (ED&I) and Tips*, *NAEA's Black Lives Matter*, and *Perspectives on Antiquities Collection and Repatriation: Case Studies from the Toledo Museum of Art and Beyond*.
- * If you were focusing on the why or how an artist creates, my recommendations would be: *The National Gallery of Art*, *Princeton University Art Museum*, and *Art Institute of Chicago*.
- * If you were going to focus on SEL for yourself, my recommendations would be: *Smithsonian's National Museum of Asian Art's Meditation and Mindfulness*, *Gardner Museum's Guided Courtyard Meditation*, *Gardner's Museum's Shen Wei Meditation*, and my favorite, *Yoga Nidra*.
- * If you want more of a traditional hands-on Professional Development making art, my recommendations would be: *The Adrian Art Center* (PD still being scheduled for this summer) and *The Detroit Institute of Arts* or visit some Virtual Art Museums, including the *Louvre*.

Wow! Lots of information to dig through but hopefully you found something that appeals to you. Wishing you all the best for fall of 2021. Since many schools are undetermined in how they will begin the school year in the fall, stay safe and healthy. Have a great end of the school year and a restful and peaceful summer! I keep reminding myself of the quote by the beloved Mo Willems whose animal characters don't alienate but embrace and celebrate difference - "... I thought, if I really believe that science is going to get us out of this ... art is going to get us through this..." (from *Town & Country*, September 2020).



Dr. Cam McComb

In Support | Apology | Collaboration | Innovation

We in the Higher Education Division stand in support of our Asian, Asian-American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) colleagues, students, and their families. We stand in support of their right to live, prosper, and especially to -create- free from fear and harassment.

On a personal note: As the 2020-2021 academic year closes, I am grateful to have had the opportunity to teach online. For years, I thought that those who taught online were somehow “getting one over” on the rest of us. I presumed that they were not working as hard or were not being as innovative as those of us who teach on campus. I could not have been more wrong in harboring this bias. To all of those who have taught classes online for years... I’m sorry for undervaluing your work. Thank you for leading the way and helping the rest of us to survive/thrive this past year. We could not have done it without you.

Teaching online this year has helped me to be a better professor. I learned:

- to be more explicit and organized in my teaching.
- the importance of giving students consistent written feedback.
- the value in sending students reminders of upcoming deadlines.
- that online tools enable a community of students to “see” work in action making the ability to collaborate far easier than ever.

Darby, F., & Lang, J. M. (2019). *Small teaching online: Applying learning science in online classes*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass

Through collaboration our active higher education cohort became a community. Meeting regularly, we worked together to deliver a group presentation at the MAEA Virtual Conference. We transformed that presentation into our first group paper which was submitted for publication to *Art Education*, the journal of the NAEA (fingers crossed). We are now working to set a new research goal for the 2021-2022 school year as we also prepare proposals for the upcoming MAEA/NAEA conferences.

Innovation

During winter semester I noticed several strong students falling behind and feeling alone and isolated so I decided to start a virtual Zoom study session called Open Studio. On Tuesday and Friday evenings I launched a Zoom session. During the first five-minutes we chatted and shared our work plans for the evening. We then turned off our cameras while I played Zen Meditation Radio to connect us through virtual space. At 9:00 p.m. we turned cameras back on and shared what we had accomplished. It was gratifying to see students become visually transformed having accomplished significant work in only two hours.

Professor Michael Letts (NMU) wondered how he would give preservice art teachers the opportunity to teach. It then occurred to him that preservice art teachers could provide visual art instruction to the elementary majors he was also teaching: Art education majors practiced teaching their peers majoring in elementary education. He also permitted preservice teachers to substitute hours attending the NAEA Virtual Conference for hours normally spent in schools.

Higher Education Division con't

Two-App Smash: Dr. Amy Ruopp, Assistant Professor of Art Education Department Chair,
College for Creative Studies

Imagine an artist pallet of apps! Thinking digitally offers creative opportunities to rethink and push apps in ways that redefine what they were originally designed to do. Apps, like color or mixed media, can be blended and combined to express something more complex and profound than any of them do individually! For example, a photo editing app combined with an animator app creates opportunities for the conceptual layering of visual elements with the addition of sound, deepening opportunities for meaning making. App-Smashing promotes ideation and iteration, cultivating a more complex process of critical thinking. Letting imagination take the lead, students of all ages can explore and discover innovative ways of connecting, creating, responding, and presenting ideas multimodally.

If you are a Higher Education Division member and you want to join our community, please email me (cmccomb@emich.edu) and I will make sure you receive notice of our next meeting. Professional growth and support await those who seek it.



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Elementary Division



Jane Montero

The ebb and flow of this school year continues to weigh heavily on our minds affecting not only how we teach, but how we are coping with the ongoing topsy-turvy pandemic. Maintaining personal joy and a positive mindset has been my main focus. We are fortunate that we teach art and have the ability to transform our curriculum into meaningful experiences for our students. Art can lift our spirits and provide a safe space for sharing our thoughts and reflecting upon the impact of this unusual year of teaching.

Back in June of 2019, I read *The Happiness Advantage* by Shawn Achor. His words left a lasting impression on me and I've found myself returning to it frequently over the course of this year. According to Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index (2008, as cited in Achor, 2010), "Studies have shown that optimists set more goals (and more difficult goals) than pessimists, and put more effort into attaining those goals, stay more engaged in the face of difficulty, and rise above obstacles more easily" (p. 98). Obstacles we've faced are many - from lack of technology, to unstable internet, limited art supplies, teaching art on a cart, and frustrating schedule changes. However, art educators have come together through social media, Facebook groups, and virtual conferences to support one another and promote the benefit of art education K-12.

Achor claimed, "When we encounter an unexpected challenge or threat, the only way to save ourselves is to hold on tight to the people around us and not let go" (2010, p. 173). Many unexpected events have kept us on our toes throughout this year. Elementary art curriculum has faced many bumps along the way, but we've continued to do our best to promote positive creative experiences for our students. We've leaned on each other and shared ideas in order to get through these difficult days.

One of the ways I've attempted to support elementary art teachers in Michigan is to provide monthly speakers on a variety of topics based on a survey sent to elementary members several months ago. Our first speaker night was at the end of January, and the topic was Virtual Student Art Galleries and Exhibit Ideas, with guest presenter Holly Bess Kincaid, current Virginia Art Education Association (VAEA) President. In February, three presenters - Jason Blair (NAEA/Ohio), Melissa Hronkin (NAEA/MAEA), and Rebecca Stone-Danahy (NAEA/Webinar Host) - spoke on the topic of Social-Emotional Learning. Sean Murphy (NAEA/VAEA) shared his process of Visual Sketchbooks and Journaling in March. The fourth and final topic was Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (ED&I), held in April with the NAEA ED & I Commission.

As this year winds down, I wish everyone a successful conclusion to a most trying year and a relaxing summer. I hope we can all spend time with our family and friends, and enjoy the warmer weather headed our way. As Achor reminds us, "Surrounded by these people, big challenges feel more manageable and small challenges don't even register on the radar" (2010, p. 180). We've got this!

References

Achor, S. (2010). *The happiness advantage: How a positive brain fuels success in work and life*. Currency, a division of Penguin Random House, LLC.

Painted Story Quilt

Lesson Plan for Grades 3-12



Blick White Glue
Item #23882



General's Kimberly
Watercolor Pencil Set
Item #20502-1209

A visual story on fabric, based on the art of Faith Ringgold.

In this collaborative lesson, students tell a visual story by illustrating scenes on fabric using watercolor pencils and pastels. Swatches are designed to create a border, then shared among learners just as fabrics and quilts have been shared by families and communities for centuries.

[DickBlick.com/lesson-plans/painted-story-quilt](https://dickclick.com/lesson-plans/painted-story-quilt)



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The Adrian Center for the Arts (ACA) is excited to invite you to our fabulous 5th Annual MAEA Professional Development workshops designed just for you!

From July 13-15th, our ACA member artists will offer workshops in a multitude of media. We have returning artists/workshops as well as new, exciting ones. Come for one day or all three. All workshops earn you SCECH credits in a meaningful and fun way. Participants in our events have raved about the wonderful variety of classes, the facilities, the instructors and the affordability of our workshops, most of which include materials. Enjoy our beautiful campus, spend time with other artist/educators and join us Wednesday, July 14th for an evening of collaboration as we work on Community Action with Pi Benio.

**Check our website for schedules and prices at
<https://www.adriancenterforthearts.org/> under Classes and MAEA.**

CLAY



Exploring Surface: Cuerda Seca with Laura VanCamp

Laura has an MFA in Ceramics and is our new Clay Director at the ACA. Let's explore cuerda seca, which translates from Spanish to "dry cord," an ancient technique for creating line decoration on pottery using a mixture of wax resist and a colorant. It is a great way to add definition to drawings because the wax resist keeps the glaze from covering up the lines.



Centering Free Throwing with Pi Benio

Pi is the founder of the ACA and returns to teach with us. This class is a stress free introduction to the wheel for beginners and useful techniques for the more experienced potter. Thrown "slabs" are more plastic than clay rolled out on canvas and it's capacity to stretch into slump forms is amazing. Using colorful slips and patterns created on the wheel you will enliven your surfaces.

3D



Figurative Clay Sculpture with Amy Philp

Amy returns to teach this popular class; space is very limited! Students will sculpt a full figure of a clothed model. They will sculpt with a solid block of clay and then cut in half to hollow out before reattaching to dry. If time allows, students may choose to work on individual studies of hands, feet, the head and face, etc. Clay and sculpture tools will be provided. Students are encouraged to bring their own if they prefer.



Low Profile Sculpture (Relief) with MAEA TOY Annie Howard

Any additional information the student needs to know? In this class, participants will learn many low-profile sculpture techniques. Students will participate in straw and felt sculpture, quilling, quilled jewelry, plaster relief, and pop-up mandalas. These are all items that you could adapt to an elementary or secondary classroom.



Low-tech Welding AKA Brazing with Pi Benio

Learn a fun and fast technique for joining metal using a torch, a propane tank, and steel wire. To become skilled in brazing takes practice and you will get plenty as you construct a wire nest. Safety, all the materials needed, and ideas for what can be done with this technique will be discussed.



Stitched Bookbinding with AnneMarie Kallenbach

Learn handmade stitching techniques for bookbinding including Coptic, Japanese Stab and Long Stitch. All materials will be provided. Bookmaking can be taught at middle school and high school grade levels where students can make their own sketchbooks.

JEWELRY



Mini Beaded Art Canvases with CJ Bauschka

CJ has been creating beautiful, unique jewelry for a long time and as a new resident of the ACA she is offering the first beading classes to our MAEA members. Participants will work with several beading techniques over the course of three days and design three small canvases using those beading techniques.



Textured Dome Earrings with AnneMarie Kallenbach

AnneMarie is a multi-talented artist in our Clay Studio, but she also works with beading and metals. In this class you will learn the techniques of stamping, rolling and hammering a texture as well as using the techniques of die cutting, drilling, filing, sanding and applying a patina to create a pair earrings.



Copper Cuffs with AnneMarie Kallenbach

In this workshop, participants will learn several techniques to bend and texturize a copper cuff.



Torch Enameled Copper Jewelry with Susan Matych-Hager

This is a make-and-take class. Use a torch to create enameled copper shapes for jewelry such as earrings, pendants, and bracelets. Several techniques will be explored, including simple cutouts, sgraffito, color blending, wire fusing, plique-à-jour, glass bit decorations and silver foil. All materials included.

2D



Exploring Atmospheric Landscapes with Oils with Kris Schmidt

Kris is the ACA Vice President and exhibiting oil painter. She is teaching her first workshop through the ACA. In this class we will be exploring Michigan landscapes with photos provided and reinterpret the photo references for best composition. There will be concentration on value under paintings, paint color mixing and brushwork. You will be working on smaller canvas panels and will have 2-3 completed paintings. The student may bring their own photo references, oil paint brushes sizes 6, 8, 10 in rounds or filberts, and any favorite brushes. Please bring sketchbook and favorite drawing pencils.



Pastel Plus with Jill Shaffer

Pastel Plus...there will be a demonstration using soft pastel in a liquid and dry technique. A variety of papers will be used in this class. There will be still life, your imagination, and any photos that you have taken to be used in the creative process. This medium (Pastel) lends itself to realism, impressionism, or abstract. All materials will be furnished. You just need to bring your photos, an apron or old shirt, and your creativity to enjoy this medium.



Painting on Glass with Jill Shaffer

In this class you will be painting on glass that will be annealed in an oven that will make it dishwasher safe and safe to use for food. Your imagination is the only thing you need to bring to class. We will have jars, wine glasses, plates, cups and vases that can be painted, even a set of four plates as a set of tableware for your use or as a gift.

GLASS



Introduction to Glass Beadmaking with Susan Matych-Hager

Make your very first glass beads! We will discuss important studio safety issues followed by time at a surface mix torch creating glass beads using soda-lime glass rods. You will make basic torus and cylinder shape beads and explore the properties of glass including making your own frit. All materials included.



More Glass Beadmaking with Susan Matych-Hager

Build on your previously developed glass torch skills by extending your time at a surface mix torch creating glass beads using soda-lime glass rods. You will make several bead shapes and explore the properties of glass including making your own stringers and using dots and lines. Make your own fantasy glass fish bead. All materials included.



Fused and Slumped Glass Plate with Susan Matych-Hager

This class will introduce you to the basics of fusing glass and slumping the fused glass into a dish. We will cover glass cutting, how to clean and arrange the glass in preparation for fusing, and what happens in the kiln at various temperatures. We will discuss the steps and firing process to produce your very own unique glass candy/sauce dish. No experience necessary. All materials needed to produce the dish are included. You may pick up your dish 24 hours after the conclusion of the class, or, for an additional fee due at the time of the class, you may make arrangements with the instructor to have your plate shipped to your home. Please be aware you will be cutting glass.



Fused Glass Picture Frame with Linda Jacobs

Choose your favorite stained glass from our fusing stock, decide what size frame you need/want (3x5, 4x6, 5x7) and learn how to cut, piece and embellish it for an original addition to your home!

GLASS



Copper Foiled Clock with Linda Jacobs

Choose your pattern from our selection, choose your beautiful stained glass too, then learn to cut, copper foil, solder, and add the clockworks for a wall-hung or freestanding clock. Dazzle friends and family!



Stained Glass Jewelry with Linda Jacobs

Design several pendants, choose your favorite stained glass, learn to cut simple shapes, copper foil each piece, then solder them together to make one-of-a-kind pieces you'll be proud to wear. Pieces can be trimmed and embellished with beads and wire or left simple. Be the creative envy of your friends!

FIBERS



Shibori Dyeing on Silk with Returning Artist Extraordinaire Anne Flora!

The students will be making small samples of various Shibori dyeing techniques. After making their sample, they will be dyeing two yards of silk that will be suitable for a scarf length.

COMMUNITY ACTIONS

Art is Relevant with Pi Benio

Join us for this evening event with refreshments and SCECH credits! We will think about how to highlight your program and help your students become citizens of the world through collaboration with non-profit organizations in your community. You will leave with ideas you can enact next fall. Class will also construct it's own socially aware large-scale artwork.



SAVE THE DATE

2021 MAEA Fall Conference

October 14-17, 2021

Mackinac Island • Grand Hotel



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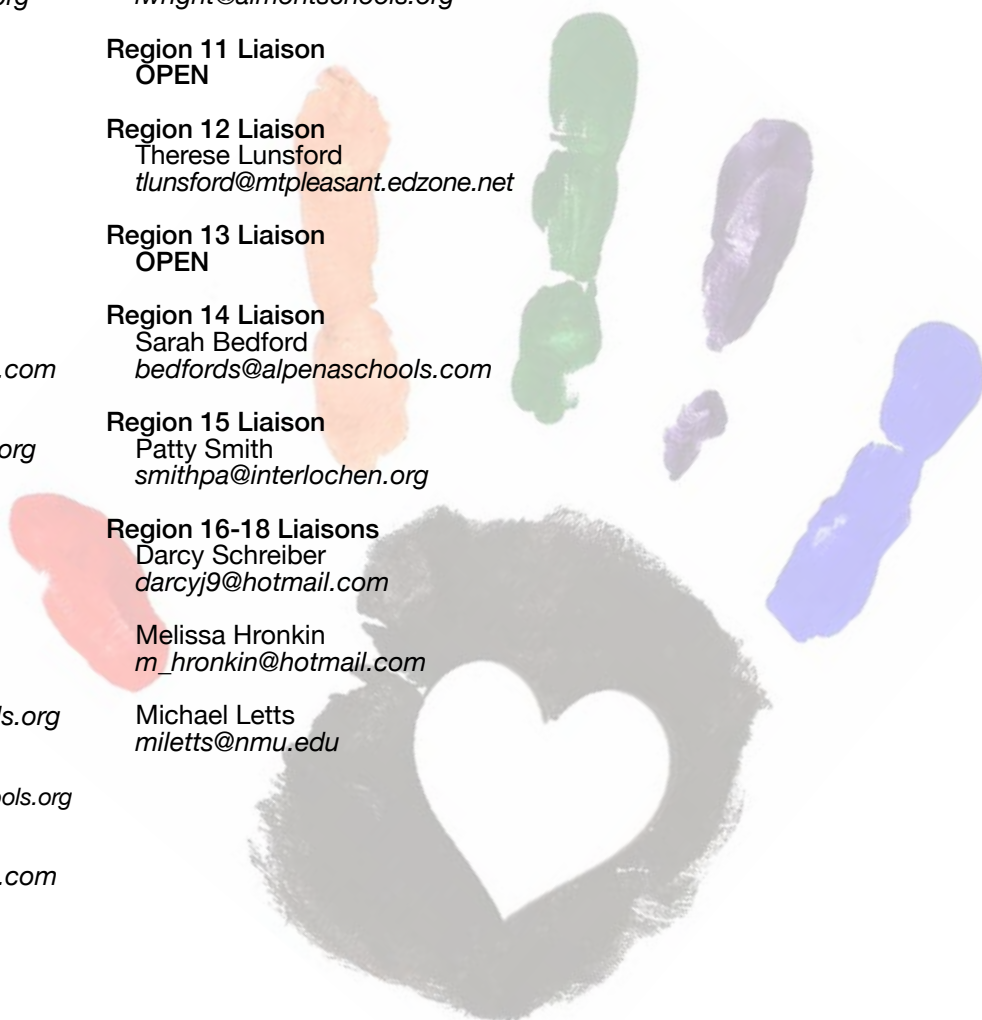
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