

PJ Anderson, Director at Large
NCECA Board Report
Oct 1, 2021 -March 1, 2022

2021

Elected to the NCECA Board, March 2021

Continued with the Programming committee for the 2022 Conference.

- Selection of programming and keynote speakers for board approval.

Joined the Collaboration and Engagement Committee.

- Crafting of mission statement
- Proposal of novel intra- and extra- collaborations that benefit all parties and expand the connection of NCECA with its less explored community.
- Researching and connecting with organizations that fall within the mission statement.

Joined the Members meeting committee.

- Planning the members meeting for 2021

Joined the Clay Week adjacent Student Discussion Panel Committee.

- Planning the student centric panel that compliments clay week.

Joined the programming call committee; focus on redesigning call for fostering inclusion and removing barriers while making the process more applicant friendly.

Attended all board meetings.

Attended all committee meetings.

For the Good of the Board:

- Was featured in the September issue of Ceramics Monthly.
- Gave a talk with Carole Epp during the May 2021, Ceramics Congress
- Gave a “3 Works” talk with Gardiner Museums Chief Curator Sequoia Miller

Respectfully submitted by PJ Anderson
Please contact me at pj.nceca@gmail.com

Brett Binford, Exhibitions Director
Board report
October 1, 2021 – March 1, 2022

2022 Annual:

- Oversaw shipping correspondences
- Reviewed questions regarding exhibition details between artists

2022 Concurrent Exhibitions

- Participated in Collector tour initial planning
- Answered questions for venues and artists

2022/23 NSJE

- Oversaw shipping correspondences and answered questions

2022 MCFE

- Oversaw and observed shipping correspondences

Misc.

- Monthly Board Meetings
- Morgan Stanley portfolio review conference calls.
- EC budget call
- Coordinated documentation of cornerstone exhibitions

For the Good of the board:

- Acting PADA (Portland Art Dealers Association) Board President, interim director
- ORVAA- Oregon Visual Art Alliance- interim director
- Continuing after-school programming for Sun Community Schools, RCI and SEI, expanded programming to Harriet Tubman Middle school
- Artist Coordinator for LH project-mapping 2022 Korean artist cultural exchange- formalized 2022 relationship with with KCDF
- Board member for Township 10 residency
- Stayed in business

*Respectfully Submitted by Brett Binford,
Please contact me at exhibitions@nceca.net*

Michelle Castro, Student Director at Large
Board Report
October 1, 2021 - March 1, 2022

- October 19-21 Full Board meeting in Sacramento
Toured the venue for the 2022 conference, discussed safety issues,
- Met with the NJSE Jurors to determine their finalized artist list.
- Kept up with emails to board members, staff members, and NJSE Jurors
- Communication with NJSE accepted students regarding “Meet the Artist” and contact information for virtual content.
- Worked with Dina, PJ, and Chanda to create the first 2021 Cultivating Community Symposium.
- Acted as support for Dina with the NCECA Student Critique Room
- Committees include:
 - Workflow Committee
 - Collaboration and Engagement Committee

*Respectfully submitted by Michelle Castro,
Please contact me at michelle.nceca@gmail.com*

**Calcagno Cullen, co-liaison for 2023
Board Report
October 1, 2021 - March 1, 2022**

Full Board Meetings & General Board Work

I participated in the full board monthly meetings to address the current needs of NCECA.

2023 Conference Planning

- Volunteer Committee
 - Co-hosted a general information session open to all ceramicists and arts organizations in the Cincinnati area to get folks planning for the 2023 conference and their participation
 - Followed up the general information meeting with a specific volunteer working meeting to set up committees and start brainstorming and planning
- Exhibitions and Partnerships
 - Have meet with many schools, galleries, museums, and other organizational partners who are interested in working on ceramics programming, exhibitions, and special events leading up to and during NCECA 2023
- 2023 Promo Film
 - Working with Pam, Asa, and other artists to move the production of the promo film forward, with the goal to be ready to present at 2022 NCECA Sacramento
- Fundraising and Friendraising
 - Set up a “major players” meeting with Pam for potential sponsors and funders for NCECA Cincinnati, to be hosted March 10th

C&E OSL Engagement

I participated in a C&E/OSL meeting to go over current initiatives for Cincinnati and Richmond and to brainstorm ways that the OSLs could have better communication and support, specifically for DEI strategies.

*Respectfully submitted by Calcagno Cullen,
Please contact me at cal.nceca@gmail.com*

Edith Garcia, Communications Director
NCECA Board Report
October 1, 2021 to March 1, 2022

General

Administrative Duties associated with Communications Director Position
Strategic Communications and Marketing Planning of NCECA organizational brand
Strategic Communications, Branding and Marketing for 2021 NCECA Fall Symposium
Cultivating Community for the virtual environment vFairs
Strategic Communications, Branding, and Marketing for hybrid 2022 NCECA Fertile Ground Conference for the virtual environment vFairs and in-person in Sacramento, California
Development/Implementation of long-term strategies for diversified programming, marketing, and representation of membership, global communities, across NCECA Social Media Platforms

2021 Virtual Fall Symposium Cultivating Community

<https://nceca.symposium.vfairs.com>

Participation in the implementation of the virtual 2021 Fall Symposium Cultivating Community from October 10-17, 2021. Creating and designing of Symposium Website/Landing page, promotion of daily speakers, and programming. Including the Member's Meetings.

2022 Hybrid NCECA Fertile Ground Conference, Sacramento California

<https://nceca2022.vfairs.com>

Participation in the programming, organization, and implementation of the hybrid 2022 Fertile Ground Conference March 16-19, 2022. Creating and designing Conference Website/Landing page, creation of strategic marketing planning for daily speakers, exhibitions, and events. Attended October Board Meeting in Sacramento to plan in-person logistics for the conference

Communications

- NCECA Communications Strategies in collaboration with Executive Director, Social Media Curator, and Board of Directors
- Reached the end of the first term as Communications Director

2021 Fall Symposium Cultivating Community | October 10-17, 2021

- Work collaboratively with Social Media Curator for the creation of cohesive symposium branded marketing presence across all social media platforms
- Work collaboratively with vFairs in the creation of the conference website and virtual environment for the week-long symposium
- Work collaboratively with Designers and Video Artists to create cohesive branding and professional pre-recorded videos for all-symposium sessions
- Implemented strategies to address Diversity on Social Media Platforms
- Creation of strategies to engage audiences to register/participate in Symposium

2022 NCECA Fertile Ground Conference, Sacramento California for March 16-19, 2022.

- Work collaboratively with Social Media Curator for the creation of cohesive conference branded marketing presence across all social media platforms
 - Meet weekly and worked collaboratively with the vFairs team in the creation of the conference website, programming sessions, and virtual environment for the hybrid conference - including the designing and promotion of virtual events and spaces.
 - Work collaboratively with Executive Director, Designers, Video and Motion Graphics Artists to create a cohesive conference branding for all-conference digital assets
 - Work intensely with Video artists to create professional branded pre-recorded sessions for the virtual platform. This work includes all sessions to be available on-demand for conference participants
 - Implemented new Initiative: NCECA Conference Ambassadors to share their diverse view of the conference experience on Social media platforms. Had the pleasure of working with some phenomenal individuals
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- Growth Analysis of Audience on NCECA Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube Social media accounts: (For detail breakdown please refer to Social Media Curator Report)
 - Instagram | March 2022: 43k (October 2021: 41k)
 - YouTube | March 2022: 6.09k (October 2021: 5.71k)
 - Facebook | March 2022: 17,499 (October 2021: 17,197k)
 - Twitter | March 2022: 5,244k (October 2021: 5k)

Executive Committee

Ongoing - discussions in the development of new Strategic Planning

Ongoing - discussions in the development of new Board of Directors roles and responsibilities

Participation in Finance Committee calls with Financial Advisers

Policies

- Joined Strategic Planning Committee
- Joined NCECA's Respectful Culture Committee
- Implementation of Community Guidelines & Respectful Culture Policies

For the Good of the Board

- Ongoing partnership with AMOCA Museum for Breaking Ground: Women in California Clay. AMOCA Museum received a Center for Craft Awards for Breaking Ground: Women in California Clay. For this project, I will be conducting original research for the accompanying exhibition catalog with fellow curator and writer Jo Lauria.

Respectfully submitted by Edith Garcia, Communications Director.

Please contact me at communications@nceca.net

**Ray Gonzales-Onsite Conference Liaison, Sacramento
Board Report
October 1, 2021 - March 1, 2022**

Weekly Meetings via Zoom with Josh Green, Nancy Servis and NCECA staff members:
Multiple issues discussed, addressed and resolved regarding the upcoming conference here in Sacramento

-**Exhibitions & Needs.** Arranged with a regional builder to increase the number of pedestals made to accommodate curators' exhibits.

-Conference presenters

-Shuttle & collectors tours

-Safety protocols.

Sacramento Planning Subcommittee:

--**Local Education Committee.** Now weekly Zoom meetings finalizing details of "Camp Clay". A pre and post-conference, Hands on Clay for kids' event planned at the Crocker Art Museum and at an area community park.

--Numerous meetings with Nancy Servis regarding all aspects of planning.

--Final meeting of our regional Planning Group members before the conference begins next month.

--Received and distributed NCECA Fertile Ground Flyers and Posters to area colleges and planning committee members.

*Respectfully submitted by Ray Gonzales
Please contact me at raygonzalesnceca@gmail.com*

Josh Green, Executive Director
Staff Report
November 2021-March 2022

Financial Oversight, Quarterly Finance/ EC Committee, and Development

Participated in perioding conferences with Treasurer Reena Kashyap, Finance Manager Helen Anderson on cash flow and considerations for investment instruments

Participated in quarterly meetings with the Finance Committee

Worked with the presidential cycle and staff to develop protocol for conference cancellation penalties, refunds, opportunities for deferring registration payments, and donations.

Worked with office staff to prepare shareable google sheets file for annual appeal letter to historic donors, board members, fellowship recipients, awardees, etc.

Communicated with NEA Program Officer on impact of CoVID-19 pandemic on 2021 conference and exhibitions

Contributed to messaging being developed in cooperation with Fundraising Task Force

Managed annual appeal letter development and mailing

Communications with Board Members

Participated in regular communications with Presidential cycle and executive committee, particularly but not limited to concerns around safety of group gatherings in light of evolving guidelines and response to COVID-19 pandemic

Worked with the ad-hoc committee on conference health and safety and prepared Google slide presentation on NCECA protocols and decision making rationale for February 2022 board meeting.

Participated in weekly meetings of ad hoc committee on future of NCECA conference management

Member, Public, and Vendor Communications: (Ongoing- Weekly)

Developed and implemented ongoing messaging with presenters, exhibitors, and the public via NCECA website, social media posts, and direct messaging.

Developed Enews messaging for a variety of NCECA program developments and opportunities

Communications with individual and organizational members about conference safety, cancellation, refund policies on registration, membership fees, and ads

Communications with presenters about content and opportunities for future presentations

Ongoing communications with exhibition venues, organizers, and curators.

Conference with medical risk management advisor on possible preparedness for gathering

Conferences with attorney related to legal and financial obligations related to agreements with hotels and convention center.

Worked to develop matrix of agreements and clauses to reference when composing letters to report cancellation of event.

Other: (December 2021)

Communications with conference booking agents, and management consultants.

Interviews with conference management consultants

Worked with ad hoc committee to develop recommendations to the board on future conference management

Worked with ad hoc committee and attorneys to review and modify agreement with selected conference management consultancy.

Worked with workplace investigations consultant Fran Sepler to develop and schedule training for 2022 conference staff and volunteers

Participated in weekly and quarterly conferences convened by the Tremaine Foundation with leaders of other arts organizations producing national events and conferences.

Planning of Sacramento, California Conference and Exhibitions

Weekly conferences with Onsite Conference Liaisons, Nancy Servis and Ray Gonzales, and staff member Tammy Lynn; periodically incorporated Linda Ganstrom and Brett Binford on Collectors Tour Itinerary

Worked with key contacts at venues for NCECA sponsored exhibitions

Initiated and followed up with contacts at Crocker art Museum on guidelines surrounding public events, food, and beverage

Established and monitored Dropbox file request systems for conference presenters

Communications with staff and presenters regarding publications and presentation requirements.

Recurring conferences with the presidential cycle related to clearly identifying issues as well as responsive and responsible approach to omicron surge.

Organized cargo and shipping of conference related materials from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania warehouse to Sacramento, California

Communications and protocol development with COVID compliance advisor Diane Niggli and RokketMed Founder Tracy Baldwin on COVID Testing

Worked with Helen Anderson and Dori Nielsen to develop securing and health check protocols with Members in Black security firm.

Worked with Nancy Servis and Raley's on invoicing and dissemination of unrestricted grant funds

Worked with Sacramento education group on permitting and insurance needs related to community ceramics camps.

Worked with onsite conference liaisons on pedestal needs and production quotes

Website, e-news, Social Media, Communications Issues, Print Publications: (Ongoing-Weekly)

Composed e-news communications regarding regular conference and opportunity updates

Posted updates in social media to promote online sessions co-produced with 92Y

Worked with Presidential cycle and Communications Director to develop and post job description for Communications Manager position

Reviewed and recommended candidates to be interviewed for above position

Engaged new designers for 2022 NCECA Journal and 2022 Exhibitions Catalog

Worked with Elaine Henry, Kate Vorhaus, and David William to update NCECA Style Guide

Worked with designers, content contributors, staff and editors to prepare three print publications

Drafted and edited content for NCECA print publications

Reviewed and edited design and proof files for print publications

Future Programming, Planning, and Agreements

Communications with and research related to for 2023 conference; provided information for local grant application

Conferences with 2023 OSCLs, Edith Garcia, and David William on branding
Conferences and basecamp communication with 2022 Onsite Conference Liaison Nancy Servis and planning committee for 2022 conference
Communications with 2022 exhibitions venues and curators, and Exhibitions Director Brett Binford
Outreach with Conference Manager Dori Nielsen and SAFE Credit Union Convention Center event contact Amber Dixon in regard to rescheduling a future conference
Negotiated license for vFairs platform for virtual programming
Participated in weekly project planning with vFairs team

*Respectfully submitted by Josh Green, Executive Director
Please contact me at josh@nceca.net*

Alex Hibbitt, Secretary
NCECA Board report
October 1, 2021 – March 1, 2022

- Worked on the 2021 virtual member's meeting prep and organization and participated in the meeting and recorded the minutes.
- Participated in Executive Committee meeting October 18, 2021 and recorded the minutes.
- Participated in virtual Fall Board meeting, October 18-21, 2021 and recorded the minutes. A transatlantic move has made attending recent board meetings more challenging. I collated the minutes of the November 16, 2021, January 11 and February 8, 2022 meetings from recording and from notes made by Allison Hoffelmeyer. (Many thanks to Allyson).
- Participated in Finance Committee Meeting February 3, 2022 and recorded the minutes.
- Co-Chair of the ad hoc fellowship review committee working on 2 new fellowships and reviewing language to make fellowships more accessible.
- Collected and compiled Board and Staff reports.
- Took over from Chanda Zea as GTF board Liaison and attended Green Task Force meetings, October 15th, Dec 17th, Jan 14th, Volunteer meeting Jan 25th, Feb 18th, Volunteer meeting Feb 25th 2022.
- Planning for the GTF Virtual conference Booth with Linda Swanson and other GTF members and volunteers.
- Oversaw NCECA Board Voting during board meetings and in survey monkey.

Motions:

October 19, 2021

The board Approved the September 21, 2021 minutes by unanimous consent.

The board unanimously approved the **Motion: that the board members acknowledge that they received the Audit & 990 as presented for the YF ending 2021.** (Moved by Reena, seconded by Alex, 16 votes in favor.)

November 16, 2022

The Board unanimously passed the **Motion: Appoint Ife Williams to the Board Steward position for the 2022-2024 term.** (Moved by Merrie, seconded by Rhonda, votes in favor 17.)

The Board passed the **Motion: to adopt the name *Current* as the title for the 2023 NCECA conference in Cincinnati, Ohio.** (Moved by Pam, Seconded by Cal, votes in favor 15, against 0, abstentions 1.)

The Board passed the **Motion: to transition Jeff Vick from an Onsite Liaison board position to Onsite Presidential Appointee until April 2022.** (Moved by Alex, seconded by Heidi, votes in favor 15, against 0, abstentions 1.)

The Board unanimously passed the **Motion: to use vFairs as the virtual conference platform for the 2022 conference.** (Moved by Rhonda, seconded by Edith, votes in favor 16,)

The Board unanimously passed the **Motion: that we give authorization to the OSCLs and staff to schedule bus tours during the 2022 conference on all days of the conference.** (Motion by Rhonda, seconded by Michelle, votes in favor 15.)

December 10, 2021 (electronic ballot on survey monkey)

The Board unanimously passed the **Motion: to approve a budget variance to re-assign \$5000 dollars from the conference shipping budget to have pedestals built in Sacramento for the 2022 NCECA sponsored exhibitions.** (Moved by Ray and seconded by Alex, 19 votes in favor)

January 11, 2022

The Board unanimously passed the **Motion: as recommended by the nominations committee to ratify Tracy Shell as a candidate to stand for election for the DAL position for the 2022-2025 cycle.** (Moved by Merrie, seconded by Chanda, votes in favor 16)

The Board unanimously passed the **Motion: as recommended by the nominations committee to ratify Michelle Castro as a candidate to stand for election for the DAL position for the 2022-2025 cycle.** (Moved by Merrie, seconded by Lauren, votes in favor 16)

Michelle Castro recused herself from the discussion)

The Board unanimously **passed the Motion: as recommended by the nominations committee to approve Rick Rogers as Treasurer for the 2022-2025 term.** (Moved by Merrie, seconded by Lauren, votes in favor 16)

After friendly amendment, The Board passed the **Motion: as recommended by the nominations committee to approve Adam Chau as Exhibitions Director for the 2023-2026 term.** (Moved by Merrie, seconded by Heidi, votes in favor 16, against 0, abstentions 1.)

The Board passed the **Motion: to approve all individuals recommended by the Awards, Honors & Fellowship Committee for 2022 Recognitions & Fellowships.** (Moved by Brett, seconded by Rhonda by unanimous consent)

The Board unanimously passed the Motion: **Empower the executive director and manager of finance and accounting to work in coordination with the Conference Manager search committee to develop and implement a one-year agreement with the Hutton Group for management of the 2023 NCECA conference.** (Moved by Reena, seconded by Chanda, votes in favor 15)

February 5, 2022 (electronic ballot on survey monkey)

The board unanimously passed the **Motion: to approve Ehren Tool to receive the 2022 Regional Award of Excellence and the privileges associated with that award in association with the 2022 NCECA Conference, Fertile Ground, held in Sacramento.** (Moved by Nancy, Seconded by Ray, 18 votes in favor,)

*Respectfully submitted by Alex Hibbitt, Secretary
Please contact me at secretary@nceca.net*

Reena Kashyap - Treasurer
NCECA Board Report
October 1, 2021 – March1, 2022

Attended monthly Zoom board meetings during the period of this report.

Audit:

Kris Flewelling sent a DRAFT of the audit to review

Josh and I participated in a call with Kris to answer questions that she had in preparation of the audit.

Annual Members' meeting:

Prepared video recording for Members Meeting which was conducted on Zoom. Presented NCECA's state of financial health and pie charts to show the annual income and expenses.

Development Committee:

Participated in Development committee Zoom meetings to discuss a strategy for the year end annual appeal. Focused on the impact letter and that board members need to update individual ask address lists.

October board meeting in Sacramento.

Attended the October board meeting virtually on Zoom for 3 days.

NCECA's auditor Kris Flewelling presented the audit results & 990 to board.

After her report was presented, the full board voted unanimously to accept both the audit and 990 as final and complete.

Conference Manager Search Committee:

Served on the search committee with Chanda, Helen and Josh to hire a Conference Manager as Dori announced her retirement after serving NCECA for 20 years.

The committee has met once a week since November to discuss and strategize how NCECA will proceed with a new hire as an employee or contract a conference/event company to help support and manage the next conference in Cincinnati. The committee helped edit the current job description, surveyed job posting sites, interviewed several conference meeting companies and presented our results at the January Board meeting and in the February Board meeting, got board approval to proceed with hiring a Conference company for a one-year contract. Upon interviewing several candidates, our final selection was The Hutton Group, a women owned company by Jill Garcia. We interviewed two of her event planners and we requested that MeLisa Zachery be present at NCECA's conference to work alongside Dori, current Conference Manager. Reviewed THG contract with the lawyer which is still being done at this time.

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Finance matters:

Update on PPP loan: Good news - In early November, we received the good news that the funds for 2nd PPP loan in the amount of \$115,842.00 were forgiven.

In early December a Motion was made by Ray Gonzales & seconded Alex Hibbitt to approve a budget variance to the budget to re-assign \$5000 dollars from the conference shipping budget to

have pedestals built in Sacramento for the 2022 NCECA sponsored exhibitions. The board voted and it was unanimously approved.

This vote was followed by an email from Rhonda to discuss ways to re-purpose budget allocations and to formulate a policy around this topic. This would avoid urgent board motions. This requires follow up as it is still pending. I wrote up a DRAFT policy for a variance and budget allocations to consider.

Finance Committee matters:

Quarterly Finance Committee Meeting: Held on November 17th on Zoom.

Helen presented the 1st quarter results. Income had not started to flow and so far expenses are as projected. Not much activity to report. Note: The Sacramento conference will most probably need additional expenses for health and safety measures to be considered for an in-person conference.

Tanya Merchant from the Morgan Stanley team presented NCECA's portfolio for period ending September 30th, 2021. Discussions included how the portfolio fared this year vs. last year. She recommended that we re-invest the monies from the Structured Note that will mature on December 3rd. She is recommending that we invest all the proceeds of \$143,395 plus an additional \$106,605 from profits in the Winslow LCG account for a total of \$250,000 in buffered PLUS on the Shares Global Clean Energy ETF (ICLN) issued by Credit Suisse. This note pays two times the upside to a cap of 27% and offers a 10% buffer on the downside. Investing in this note, will increase NCECA's exposure to clean energy investments and will add a new issuer to the structured notes portfolio. This will further extend the ladder of maturing notes to June 2024 – the current note with the latest maturity will mature in March 2024.

A Structured Note expired in early December and Josh and I both recommended that it be re-invested in a new note for the full amount of \$250,000. The FC agreed unanimously to invest in this note which would expire in 1.5 years.

Helen provided us with a cash flow chart for NCECA's projected expenses for the next three months. She projected \$250K in expenses and in the worse-case scenario, even if there is no income, we have cash liquidity in the Lord Abbett account to cover expenses. The funds that are currently in the Lord Abbett Bond account are at \$400K (which is liquid with no penalty) and will cover the projected expenses. We have taken into account that most likely income through registrations will be late and come in slowly and did not account for any income when we looked at cash flow.

We assessed the cash flow for the next few months required to pay for the expenses of the organization and determined that we were in a good position till revenue registrations for the '22 Conference would begin at the end of the calendar year.

Quarterly Finance Committee Meeting: Held on February 3rd on Zoom and attended by Finance Committee members and we welcomed Rick Rogers to the meeting. He is the incoming Treasurer and will begin his term in March 2022 immediately after the conference in Sacramento.

Catherine Coleman from the Coleman Merchant group at Morgan Stanley gave an overview of the portfolio review for period ending January 31st:

It has been a roller coaster for the last few weeks, The market has gone up and down and has been overvalued in recent times - our portfolio is designed to withstand this. This is normal,

where we see a common kind of correction with the Nasdaq and S&P down 10%. This has not happened for a couple of years. She is not concerned and says this is an excellent opportunity. The document shows the last 12 months of each manager in the separately managed accounts. (These are the same concept as a mutual fund and allow the manager to see each stock and bond in the portfolio). Using separately managed accounts is less expensive and allows us to restrict certain stocks- focusing toward socially responsible investing for example. Clearbridge multicap growth has underperformed consistently – they have made money over the last 10 years but have not made much in the last few years. Catherine recommends replacing it with the TCW relative value portfolio and she will send the information about this to the Finance committee for a decision. (This change will not cost us anything)

We discussed the need for liquidity and were assured that there is required cash to meet the needs of the conference expenses in the Lord Abbett Ultra Bond Fund and the checking account. Registrations have slowly been coming in both in person and virtual and we remain optimistic as Omicron diminishes and restrictions are lifted

Helen Anderson presented the 2nd Quarter financials which ended December 31st, 2021. She included a 2nd set of financials for the period ending January 31 to give a better YTD relevance to at the time of the meeting. Registration is slow and we are below budget projections for this period in all categories. Expenses are low at this point as expected as most invoices will get paid post-conference.

Action to change investment managers on February 25th: Catherine Coleman's recommendation was to change investments in fund managers from Clearbridge to TCW. The MS Consulting Group ranks them very highly for long term performance, portfolio construction, and team stability. There are no fees or costs associated with the change. This is in line with the current investment policy guidelines. The finance committee was informed. I informed Catherine Coleman to go ahead and proceed with making the changes on February 28th, 2022

For the good of the board: It's been rewarding to return to teaching after a 3-year absence and to share my passion, history and knowledge of clay

Thank you

Respectfully submitted by Reena Kashyap

Please contact me at reenak.nceca@gmail.com

Simon Levin, Director At Large
NCECA Board Report
October 2021 - February 2022

NCECA's work continues to change and adapt, but it is clear to me that not only does the act of change add the slowness and extra effort of learning to the process, but the new chores and challenges that NCECA faces are, and will continue to be a greater workload for the future board and staff members. Covid restrictions and safety protocol hopefully will wane, but I foresee that NCECA will continue to host a large hybrid conference from now on. In addition to growing NCECA's yearly conference, additional events and opportunities we provide have increased adding more and more value for its members. The distance so effortlessly crossed by digital conferences has increased our reach and membership, barriers to NCECA becoming a global ceramic organization have been removed. It is an exciting time to serve on the board of NCECA, and despite the extra work I am honored to work with such good people.

As I look at this year's Emerging Artist Cohort I am reminded of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg's reflection

“People ask me sometimes, when — when do you think it will be enough? When will there be enough women on the court? And my answer is when there are nine.”

I don't know the significance of all six of the 2022 Emerging artists being women, it happened organically, though I do feel there is a beauty in the occurrence.

Board General

Attended bi-monthly board meetings and acted as liaison between the 6 emerging artists and NCECA.

Emerging Artist Program 2022

- Coordinated and trained Jurors Roberto Lugo and Anya Montiel on application review
- Reviewed 62 applications
- Scheduled Zoom meeting and gathered support documents to facilitate the Jury process
- Oversaw the selection of the six 2022 NCECA Emerging Artists
- Notified the Fellowship recipients (This is the best thing I get to do!)
- Selected the Helene Zucker Seeman Award for Excellence among the six Emerging Artists (This was also pretty cool too.)
- Requested and edited a juror statement.
- Wrote and emailed a letter to those who did not receive the fellowship award. (this was less enjoyable, there were so many good candidates)
 - Had several email correspondences with applicants who did not receive the award. (This was surprisingly pleasant.)
- Met with all six emerging artists on Zoom four times, and counting.
 - To build fellowship
 - To provide support for written statements, submission deadlines, etc.
 - To plan and coordinate the Emerging Artist Exhibition at the conference

- Requested and received more space for the Emerging Artist Exhibition. I am so pleased that this year the emerging artists will be overflowing their booth and NCECA will be able to present their work more fully.
- Recorded a video introduction to the video portion of the Emerging Artist talks.

Additional Service

- Served on Fellowship and Grant selection Committee
 - Reviewed so many wonderful applications

*Respectfully submitted by Simon Levin, Director at Large
Please contact me at Simon.Nceca@gmail.com*

Heidi McKenzie, Director of Collaborations & Engagement
Board Report
October 1 2021 - March 1, 2022
including Standing Committee: Collaborations & Engagement report

Attended Board meetings including Fall board meeting October 18- 21, 2021, and monthly meetings into March 2022

Attended the NCECA virtual Members Meeting on October 10, 2021

Met regularly with the Collaborations and Engagement Committee

The Committee includes myself, MaPó Kinnord (Co-Chair of the Committee), Eliza Au, Gerald Brown, Michelle Castro, Lauren Sandler, Isaac Scott and Antra Sinha.

After the review of roles and responsibilities of Board members, MaPó Kinnord, Director of Governance and Policy, and myself, Heidi McKenzie, decided that it would be most productive for MaPó to co-chair Collaborations and Engagement as our aims and goals, mandate and vision are so similar and there is so much cross-over in our activities.

Members of the C&E met with Board and staff with the On-Site Liaisons for the next two upcoming conferences after Sacramento in order to facilitate two-way exchange of ideas and needs in terms of what support OSL need/want from NCECA with regard to all aspects of Diversity Equity and Inclusion of BIPOC and LGBTQ+ in the planning and programming of their conferences. We are working with the Executive Committee to implement needed changes in policy and procedures, and additional support for OSL's.

The Committee worked collaboratively with Communications on a pilot In-Reach programming initiative with POT-LA in order to increase profile of under-represented ceramics community organizations that support C&E's DEI mandate.

The Committee continues to develop other initiatives around resources, partnerships and collaboration building with a focus on DEI.

For the Good of the Board:

The exhibition, *Disruption*, (of which Heidi is one of four exhibiting artists) originally intended for NCECA 2020 in Richmond, and virtually realized at NCECA 2021, is installed at the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery in Waterloo, Ontario from February 5th to May 16, 2022.

Atlantic Vernacular, originally intended to be a 5-gallery touring exhibition launches virtually on March 5th, 2022. Heidi's work Spaces Within inspired a poem by Emilie Turmel.
<https://atlanticvernacular.ca/portfolio-item/heidi-mckenzie-emilie-turmel/>

Respectfully submitted by Heidi McKenzie
Please contact me at heidi.nceca@gmail.com

Dina Perlasca
Student Director At Large
Board report: October 1, 2021 – March 1, 2022

2022 Conference Preparation Meetings

- Attended meetings.

2022 NCECA Conference Hybrid in Person and Virtual Student Critique Room

Created Mentor and Student Sign Ups

Creating the invitations for both Mentors and Studentns

Creating and scheduling times and dates for both virtual and physical events

Create and set up Virtual Way Fairs Student Critique Room

Creating graphics for the booth and descriptions along with links and information for this event

2022 NCECA Communications Ambassador

- Met with Edith and Simon to coordinate a Team B for the Communications Ambassador that will be promoted over Instagram

2022 Special Project: Mata Ortiz Juan Quezada Keynote Event

- Contacted Juan Quezada, secured his interest in the keynote position for 2022
- Communication with Juan Quezada's family, Josh Green and Chanda
- Organizing a trip with NMSU to travel to Mata Ortiz and filming Juan Quezada keynote video
- Traveled to Mata Ortiz
- Produced and Directed the Key Note video
- Edited Video
- Have been in communication with Both Edith and Chuck to continue to make the video better
- Proofed and corrected the Captioning and translation of the video.

Misc.

- Monthly Board Meetings

For the Good of the board:

- 3rd year MFA Candidate at New Mexico State University
- Working on Thesis Exhibition and Defense for Spring of 2022
- Teaching 2 courses of Ceramics Introduction at New Mexico State University
- Organizer of Growing Seeds Exhibition for 2022 for Virtual Collective
- Keeping afloat with 3 happy children in El Paso TX

Respectfully Submitted by Dina Perlasca
Please contact me at dina.nceca@gmail.com

Peter Pinnell, President 2020-2022
NCECA Board Report
October 1, 2021- March 1, 2022

Board activities:

- Chaired the NCECA fall symposium and attended all events, both live and recorded. October 10- 17
- Chaired the Fall board meeting in Sacramento, working with the Presidential Circle and others on the board to develop the agenda and manage business. October 18-22.
- Chaired full board meetings on November 16 and January 11
- Met weekly with vFairs, board members and staff members to plan for the virtual portion of the Sacramento conference
- Met throughout December, January and February with the ad hoc committee to evaluate COVID safety for the upcoming conference
- Met with the finance committee for quarterly meetings to follow and evaluate NCECA financial management and management of long-term assets
- Met with the Presidential Circle to plan agendas and prioritize business for all NCECA meetings.
- Worked with an ad hoc committee that is reevaluating how work is distributed among the board and staff of NCECA
- Worked with staff members to investigate the purchase of a new system for administering applications to NCECA

For the good of the board:

- Took part in an exhibition at the Schaller Gallery.
- Was one of 6 international judges for the Jingdezhen International Ceramic Biennale 2021 in Jingdezhen, China
- Purchased and began to install 9 new electric kilns at my university that were purchased with funding from a grant I wrote with an outside agency.

Respectfully submitted by Peter Pinnell
Please contact me at pete,nceca@gmail.com

Lauren Sandler, Director at Large
NCECA Board Report
October 1, 2021 – March 1, 2022

Gallery Expo

- Organized Gallery Expo for the annual conference

Ad Hoc Committee, Board Nomination Process

- Evaluate the current processes used to recruit and nominate new board members
- Consider changes the board can make without altering the bylaws, as well as changes that might require amending the bylaws.
- Look for impediments to board service in our current structures and expectations

Collaboration and Engagement Committee member

- Ongoing committee that works with C&E Director to establish lasting partnerships with regional, national and international groups to support and promote accessible ceramic arts education and to create a broad and inclusive NCECA membership.

Respectfully submitted by Lauren Sandler, Director at Large
Please contact me at laurensandler.nceca@gmail.com

**Nancy M. Servis, 2 Year Onsite Conference Liaison
NCECA Board Report
October 1, 2021- March 1, 2022**

FERTILE GROUND 2022 Conference: I have been focused on realizing the 2022 in-person conference which involves many different projects and tasks, attending weekly Monday Zoom meetings to discuss the pressing timeline of the conference and resolve issues.

AWARDS: Wrote the profiles of two Regional Awards of Excellence for Akinsanya Kambon and Ehren Tool. I have also prepared an online presentation for the recipient for the Excellence in Teaching award - Ruth Rippon.

GRANT: Due to my efforts, NCECA received a 5-figure grant to be used for two k-12 educational programs in association with the conference.

PROMOTIONS: I have prepared a detailed Press Release currently being sent to numerous media outlets. Dispersal of all postcards and posters have taken place. NCECA banners are currently being distributed to exhibition venues.

COVID TASK FORCE: Worked with a five-person committee in monitoring Covid, researching strategies for the conference and helped to derive recommendations.

COLLECTORS TOUR: I have been working with Linda Ganstrom in contacting potential attendees, promoting the tour, inviting new collectors and devising and conducting a collectors' tour Zoom preview; arranging for welcome dinner and final dinner and coordinating curatorial guests for select days during the tour.

FOOD TRUCKS: As a part of our health and safety approach to this conference I have been working with select food truck vendors to be placed in areas around Sacramento during the time of the conference especially at the convention center.

For the good of the Board

- I was interviewed on the San Francisco public radio program KQED Forum regarding Northern California ceramics in relation to work of Bay Area potter, Edith Heath.
- I wrote an article for Studio Potter on my experience as the lead NCECA onsite liaison called *From Shifting Sands to Fertile Ground: Chronicles of a Clay Conference Pilgrim*.

*Respectfully submitted by Nancy Servis,
Please contact me at nancy.nceca@gmail.com*

Rhonda Willers, President Elect
NCECA Board Report
October 1, 2021 – March 1, 2022

Full Board Meetings & General Board Work

Assisted in the planning of agendas for full board meetings between October and March. Attended weekly vFairs planning meetings as often as possible to remain informed about the upcoming hybrid conference preparations.

Strategic Plan Goal: 7

Fall Board Meeting, hybrid meeting - October 2021

Provided leadership support and organizational support to the planning of the fall full board meeting. Provided assistance in facilitating agenda item discussions and created google jam boards to assist in the discussion process.

Strategic Plan Goal: 7

Conference Preparations

Preparations and planning for Honors & Awards Program, Past Masters Program, Multicultural Fellows Gathering, Awards reception, and the new storytelling event with Capital Storytelling. Worked with programs director, Chanda Zea and Josh Green to plan and organize the Capital Storytelling event for Friday evening of the conference.

Strategic Plan Goals: 1, 4, 5

Awards, Honors, Fellowships Committee, Chair

Led committee through the review process and coordinated with NCECA staff members to communicate with applicants and collect necessary assets for publications. Created a workflow spreadsheet to track action items.

Strategic Plan Goal: 5

Past Masters Program

Worked with NCECA staff and Josh Green to plan and coordinate the Past Masters Program for the 2022 conference. Communicated with presenters and coordinated with staff members to ensure assets were collected. Created a workflow spreadsheet to track action items.

Strategic Plan Goal: 4

Finance Committee

Participating in quarterly review meetings, which include meeting with Morgan Stanley investment advisors.

Strategic Plan Goal: 7

Collaboration & Engagement Committee

Attended a brainstorming and listening meeting of the Collaboration & Engagement Committee.

Strategic Plan Goals: 5, 2

For the good of the board:

In the recent months I have continued to write articles for *Pottery Making Illustrated*, with my most recent article focusing on how to plan for two hours of studio time. I've had the opportunity to share my terra sigillata research via Zoom workshops with The Potters Class and Pocosin Arts communities. At the end of February I launched season 1 of a new podcast, *The Artist In Me Is Dead*, which explores and traces the creativity of my guests.

As we near the first in-person gathering of our ceramics community since 2019, I am filled with deep gratitude, appreciation, and respect for the efforts of the NCECA staff and the volunteer working NCECA board members. This transitional time has required agility, flexibility, and an incredible amount of re-thinking. To re-imagine an in-person gathering during an era of heightened concerns has asked us to question our intentions and the needs of our community. The continuation of a virtual conference is essential as it provides greater access and connection across the world of ceramic artists, educators, enthusiasts, and more. The logistics of a hybrid conference are nothing short of webby, but they are made tangible and are realized through the efforts and knowledge of many. To the NCECA members: we thank you for your incredible patience through this time and for your continued support of this beloved community and medium.

Respectfully submitted by Rhonda Willers, President-Elect
Please contact me at Rhonda@nceca.net

Merrie Wright, Steward of the Board
NCECA Board Report
November 2021 – February 2022

Regularly Scheduled Executive Committee and Board Meetings

- Participated in all scheduled Presidential Circle, Executive Committee and Full Board Meetings
- Participated in the Fall Board Meeting in Sacramento; provided development report and updates on the ad hoc Fellowship Review.

On-going Board Service

- Finance & Budget Committee: participated in quarterly budget review meetings.
- Development Committee: worked with committee, board and staff to prepare the 2021 annual appeal materials and mailing, worked with outreach team to connect with donors, worked board and volunteers to provide feedback and recommendations for the 2022 annual appeal process.
- Nominations Committee: forming 2021 nomination committee, worked with committee, board, and staff to advertise and solicit applications for open board positions, reviewed board nomination submissions, and provided board with committee recommendations. Worked with SDAL and DAL candidates to prepare for the 2022 elections for those two positions.
- Community Culture Committee: reviewed and resolved in-coming reports.
- Board Steward: Assisted with on-boarding for new board member Cal Cullen and other in-coming 2022 board members, communication with prospective and future board members, and began working on the transition to the new board steward, who will begin in March 2022.

For the Good of the Board

- Work has been accepted in the *24th San Angelo National Ceramic Competition*, hosted by the San Angelo Museum of Art, and juried James Watkins.
- Organized UT Tyler student participation in the 2022 NCECA conference.

Respectfully submitted by Merrie Wright, Steward of the Board
Please contact me at boardsteward@nceca.net

Chanda Zea, Programs Director
NCECA Board Report
Nov 1 2021 – Mar 1 2022

My role as the NCECA Programs Director is to coordinate programming at the annual NCECA conference. This includes keynote lectures, demonstrating artists, panel presentations, lectures, project space interactions, maker space demonstrations, fablab activities, facilitated community discussions and more.

It is my personal goal, reflective of the desire of the NCECA Board and Staff, that our programming represents the diversity of attendees we wish to see, and the organization we hope to become. With the Sacramento conference programming, from keynote lectures to ten-minute short form presentations, I am happy to say we are making strides in the right direction. This year's conference offered 107 hours of active programming, with 125 paid presenters. Between Nov 1st 2021 and March 1st 2022 I have donated over 250 hours of skilled labor in order to accomplish this.

Programming:

Working closely with NCECA Conference Manager Dori Nielsen and other staff, we finalized the overall programming schedule for the Sacramento conference. Securing presenters for maker space and the fab lab was a personal challenge in the face of climbing Covid infections. In January as the omicron variant continued to surge, I worked with fellow board & staff members to draft a request for pre-recorded presentations that was sent to all presenters as a preventative measure should we not be able to meet in person. Personal follow up work included hundreds of emails responding to concerns from presenters, countless hours of attending meetings and trainings addressing how a hybrid conference would work, while remaining flexible and accommodating as presenters informed us they would not be attending in-person, up to the day before the conference began. All of this was accomplished while actively participating in committee and other meetings on a weekly basis.

Committees:

Executive Committee, Finance Committee, Green Task Force (chair), Programming Committee (chair – ad hoc), Respectful Culture Committee, Committee on Committees (ad hoc), Members Meeting Committee (ad hoc), Conference Manager Search Committee (ad hoc)

Green Task Force (GTF):

The GTF meets on the third Friday of every month. We are hosting an in-person booth in Sacramento, as well as a virtual booth that will be completely updated from last year's content. We held additional meetings in January & February to recruit volunteers to assist with these efforts. The GTF built a new website that organizes all the sustainable research and presentations we have sourced or created in the past two years, accessible through a QR code we shared during the conference, or via the main NCECA website. Membership and interest in the task force continue to grow every year.

Conference Manager Search Committee:

This ad hoc committee was formed during the October board meeting to determine how best to fill the role of Conference Manager Dori Nielsen upon her retirement in June. The committee

met extensively in November and December, sometimes several times a week, to research conference management options. We created an updated job description for the role of NCECA conference manager, met with conference planners to help us determine how this role might evolve, identified the pros and cons of hiring an in-house conference manager vs. working with a consultant and interviewed several conference management firms. After much research, the committee recommended a one-year contract with the Hutton group, to allow us to experience what a consultant could offer and give us time to further assess the best course for a more permanent solution.

Committee on Committees:

This committee of current and former board members was formed during the spring board meeting to examine how we can streamline the work we do as a board. We continue to meet weekly to examine and document the role of each board member as described in both our bylaws and the guide to the board, as a first step in creating a more equitable distribution of the work done by board and staff. As the NCECA board continues to become more diverse, we need to address the inequity of asking black, indigenous and people of color who are predominantly women, to continue to do copious amounts of unpaid labor on behalf of our organization.

Finance Committee:

The Finance Committee meets quarterly, and I actively attend our meetings.

The Executive Committee, Respectful Culture Committee, Member's Meeting Committee and Programming Committee have not needed to meet since our October board meeting.

For the Good of the Board:

I am the Programs Director for Pottery Northwest, a community pottery studio in Seattle, WA. I am a member of WA Clay Arts, the American Crafts Council and Americans for the Arts.

*Respectfully submitted by Chanda Zea, Programs Director
Please contact me at programs@nceca.net*