

**NCECA Executive Committee Board Meeting
October 22, 2014
Kansas City, MO**

In attendance: Deb Bedwell, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, Patsy Cox, Paul Sacaridiz, Steve Hilton, Cindy Bracker, Lee Burningham, Jill Oberman, and Josh Green

8:18am meeting called to order by Deb B.

The Executive Committee met to discuss the full Board meeting agenda, and to streamline upcoming discussion of certain topics with the full Board.

The meeting recessed at 5:52pm

**NCECA Full Board Meeting
October 23, 2014
Kansas City, MO**

In attendance: Deb Bedwell, Patsy Cox, Josh Green, Lee Burningham, Jane Shellenbarger, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, Garth Johnson, Steve Hilton, Paul Sacaridiz, Dori Nielson, Jay Lacouture, Dandee Pattee, Cindy Bracker, Jill Oberman, Paul Donnelley, Jennifer Chua, and Larry Bush

8:13 am meeting called to order by Deb B.

After discussion by the Executive Committee the previous day, and a brief discussion on each item by the full board, the Board of Directors agreed to the following:

- Approve board reports
- Current structure and categories for programming
 - Video screenings during conference- new format
Executive Committee had consensus to not revisit old format, but to consider hosting a film or movie night during the conference showing new films not otherwise available online
- Student Status in regards to SDAL qualifications for Membership, Exhibition submission and Fellowships
The Executive Committee asks that SDAL Jennifer Chua establish definitions and parameters of student status, working with two other board members (current or former), and to present recommendations to the Board by December 1st.
- Report on ED mid-year review and staff status updates conveyed to the EC during the meeting October 22, 2014

- The executive committee discussed investigation of potential opportunities and challenges related to the absorption and sustained production of a periodic journal of ceramic art.
- Grant award and budget variance discussion resolved. No variance needed, funds will be distributed as promised.
- New Program Director mentorship strategies discussed; Steve has agreed to meet with Mary Cloonan in Baltimore with Josh and Deb in attendance, if possible. Date and time of meeting TBD
- Member involvement in headliner recommendations was discussed. Cindy agreed to send out a survey between October 31 and mid-November to solicit member input
- Paul S will lead the 50 Friends receptions at the Providence Conference.

NCECA office relocation

Josh Green shared the status of the recent NCECA office relocation from the Erie office to a business suite in Boulder, CO. Along with the change of office space, 8 pieces of the NCECA collection have been moved to the ASU research center, and the Arvada Center will be hosting and storing the NCECA Cups of Merit collection.

Strategic planning

NCECA current strategic plan expires in 2015, and we are now discussing how to approach our next strategic planning session. Plans are being made to work with the Chipstone Foundation on this. Their approach to visioning differs somewhat from conventional strategic planning, using a "think tank" approach. Paul S and Patsy agreed to co-chair the strategic planning. They will contact Chipstone, and work with them and Josh to establish a budget, location, and timeline for a think tank/strategic planning session.

Providence Conference

Jay and Larry presented an update of the upcoming conference in Providence, RI. NCECA will have a strong presence in Providence and surrounding areas, including Boston, New Bedford, and Newport. There will be over 83 exhibitions, and a lot of participation from regional organizations. This conference coincides with the 25th anniversary of Empty Bowls, and the culinary school Johnson & Wales and the Providence Food Bank will all be working together on that.

Collector's Tour

Josh and Paul S. gave an update on the Providence conference Collectors Tour. The Collectors tour will be a weeklong experience, with the itinerary primarily focusing on visiting exhibitions and private collections, along with behind the scenes visits with curators at regional museums.

Multicultural Fellowships

Patsy reported on the status of NCECA's new Multicultural Fellowships. This program came directly out of Theaster Gate's challenge to NCECA last year during his keynote for attendees to cultivate greater diversity in the field. NCECA is instituting a pilot program whose goal is to increase participation by individuals of diverse cultural backgrounds in part by providing resources to those who might not otherwise attend an annual NCECA conference. The Chipstone Foundation and individual donors to NCECA are generously sponsoring these fellowships.

Up to 6 NCECA Multicultural Fellowships will be awarded for participation at the Providence NCECA conference. Information is on the NCECA website, and the application deadline is February 3, 2015.

Providence Programming Updates

Paul S. shared that our keynote for the Providence conference will be Dr. Frederick Douglass Opie. Not only will he be crafting a keynote especially for our conference, Opie will also participate in a round-table discussion that will expand on themes explored in this keynote lecture including ideas on food, community, and engagement, to be moderated by Namita Gupta Wiggers.

Steve also added that the string quartet ETHEL has been booked for the Randall Session.

Finance Report

NCECA accountant Helen Anderson joined the meeting via Skype to participate in our finance discussion. Lee reported that NCECA finances continued to be healthy over the last year, and that we are in a good position for future investitures. As a result of the office move, NCECA is looking into e-banking to help facilitate our banking needs.

Development Report

Patsy reported that the Development Committee, comprised of Deb, Paul S, Josh, and Glenda Taylor has been setting goals for annual giving for NCECA, and asked that all Board Members help with the ask mailing.

Deb reminded us that NCECA supports itself through conference fees, but increasingly our community and we want us to do more. Year round programming cost money. The need for charitable giving is imperative, especially with our 50th anniversary coming up next year. The Board pledged for 100% board giving this year.

Communications Report

Cindy reported that while the old model of the video screening room had many flaws, NCECA would still like to offer for our members to share new video. The Board agreed to put out a call for a ceramics related independently produced feature film. A committee will review these submissions, and select a film to be screened at the conference.

NCECA Blog

Cindy reminded the Board to submit all NCECA news to the NCECA blog.

Podcasting

Cindy shared that Ben Carter has agreed to assist NCECA in getting some of our past audio recordings to be podcast ready and available through iTunes. She has also been uploading video to the NCECA YouTube channel.

Demonstrating Artists Video

Cindy has also been working with two new editors for NCECA's 2014 demonstrating artist videos. She hopes that the outcomes of this year's editing process will provide some indication on the selection of an editor for production of a video document for the 50th. Funds still need to be secured for this project.

New Website and forms systems

NCECA staff Kate Vorhaus and Candice Finn joined the meeting via Skype to report on the new NCECA website. Updates were made to the overall look of the site, as well as to the design and use of application forms. This new system should be more stable and user-friendly.

Exhibitions Report

Leigh reported that application numbers for the Biennial were a bit down from past years, but application numbers for the NSJE were up. CIE's seem to be doing well.

Jen and Leigh will be selecting the jurors for next years student show.

New works category

At our last meeting, the Board agreed that the New Works category needed some revisions. The Board agreed to rename this category Transitions, and applying artists can self-nominate or be nominated by someone else. Leigh Taylor Mickelson will work on descriptive language for this category, and will submit for board approval.

Member benefits

Membership to NCECA has been separated from conference registration fees for a few years now, and Josh reported on some new and old membership benefits. A new benefit will include a deeply discounted membership to WESTAF CaFE, and will be available for individual, corporate, and institutional members. Membership is now tied to voting, only members can vote for NCECA officers online.

Nominations Committee:

The nominations committee is comprised of Board members Patsy, Jane, Jen, Paul S, and non-Board members Bill Griffith and Elaine Henry. The committee recommended Amy Duke as the On-Site Liaison for the Kansas City conference, and the Board supported this nomination.

Candidates

The Board approved to the following recommendations made by the Nominations Committee:

NCECA Board Positions:

Onsite Conference Liaison for Kansas City

Amy Duke, Spencer Museum of Art, nominated by Paul Donnelly

Director-at-Large (two candidates were ratified as required in bylaws)

- Justin Rothshank nominated by Dandee Pattee, endorsement from: Dandee Pattee, Deborah Bedwell
- Amanda Barr Self nominated, endorsement from: Cindy Bracker, Jon Glabus
- An additional candidate, Suzanne Lussier, will also be contacted by Patsy to see if she wishes to be included on the ballot.

Student Directors-at-Large

- Shalya Marsh, self-nominated, endorsement from Margaret Bohls and Peter Pinnell
- Kahlil Robert Irving, endorsement from Kate Maury, Linda Lighton

Honors and Awards:

Fellows of the Council

- Keith Williams, nominated by Robert Harrison, letters from Joe Molinaro, Susan Filley, and Richard Whers

Honorary Members

- Mary Barringer, nominated by Gail Kendall, letters from Linda Sikora, Clary Illian, and Peter Beasecker
- Leopold Foulem, nominated by Paul Mathieu, letters from Robert Harrison and Susan Greenaway

Excellence in Teaching Award

- Linda Arbuckle, nominated by Magda Gluszek, letters from Martina Lantin, Patrick Coughlin, and Thaddeus Erdahl
- Wayne Higby, nominated by Chris Staley, letters from Donna Polseno and Del Harrow

Outstanding Achievement Award

- John Hartom and Lisa Blackburn, nominated by Jay Lacouture, letters from Jay Lacouture

Regional Award of Excellence

- Harriet Brisson, selected by OSCLs Jay Lacouture and Larry Bush

Conference branding session for KC

Paul D. introduced Michelle and Angie Dreher from Two Tone Press. They have been working on branding for the KC NCECA, which will highlight KC's unique art deco architecture, as well as NCECA's 50th anniversary.

Tour of the KC Convention Center

5:50pm the Board recessed for the day, and went on a tour of the KC Convention Center.

**NCECA Full Board Meeting
October 24, 2014
Kansas City, MO**

In attendance: Deb Bedwell, Patsy Cox, Josh Green, Lee Burningham, Jane Shellenbarger, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, Garth Johnson, Steve Hilton, Paul Sacaridiz, Dori Nielson, Jay Lacouture, Dandee Pattee, Cindy Bracker, Jill Oberman, Paul Donnelley, Jennifer Chua, and Larry Bush

8:04 am meeting called to order by Deb B.

50th Anniversary Projects

Deb is working on the Honors and Fellow Exhibition, and will have more to report at our next meeting. Cindy is making progress with the 50th Anniversary Video Project. This video will tell the story of NCECA in short segments, with our membership as the intended audience. Garth reported on the status of the 50th Anniversary Book Project. There will be 2-3 essays written for the project, plus a core of essays from past NCECA journals. We are considering a small run of published books, and then offering the book as a print-on-demand.

International Residencies (not on agenda)

Jane reported that she sent out 19 invitations to international organizations, and received 6 replies of interest back. After discussing each organization, the Board agreed to partner with the New Taipei Yingge City Ceramics Museum residency and c.r.e.t.a. Rome residency for our international residency program 2015. Artists will apply to the organizations, and NCECA will then award the chosen artists a stipend after they have met all of their financial obligations with the residency host organization.

NCECA Presidential appointees Glenda Taylor and Michael Strand joined the meeting.

Across the Table report

Namita Gupta Wiggers joined the meeting via Skype, and she and Michael Strand reported on the progress of the Across the Table project, a nationwide ceramic art project leveraging the talents of potters engaging with local groups in experiences with food and handmade clay objects. Now in the development stages, there will soon be an active call out for participation in the project via the NCECA website. This will be a crowd driven project, aimed at anyone who uses or makes handmade ceramics, and will encourage community collaboration, and will be a major part of the Kansas City NCECA 50th Anniversary.

Lawrence, KS

Cindy reported on the status of the plans for a pre-conference in Lawrence before the KC NCECA. Plans are to host a workshop, fully in collaboration with Brackers, Lawrence Art Center, Spencer Art Museum, Kansas University, and the Lawrence Business Association. They are working on securing a bus from the KC airport to Lawrence, and then back to KC to assist those that will attend both the pre-conference and the conference.

Bus Tours Reserve

Josh reported on the Bust Tours. In the past, there has been some dissatisfaction with the reserve held for the bus tour. The Board agreed to create a budget contingency of \$3500 to allow for the securing of routes for the bus tours.

Reading Room

Garth presented an update on the creation of a reading room at NCECA, as previously suggested to us by Ezra Shales. NCECA will collaborate with ASU to create a reading room. ASU will ship reading materials (journals, scholarly writings), and take responsibility for the area during the conference. Publishers could have postcards for selling or distributing books there as well. The reading room will be a quiet space during the high energy of the rest of the conference. In the future, this could also be a place for authors to present their new books.

Voting Protocols

Josh and Jill presented a report on NCECA voting. As a reminder, only current NCECA members are allowed to vote, and all voting is online. Online voting will begin after online registration ends. There will be staff at the voting kiosk at the conference to assist onsite registrants to vote.

Candidates will provide a headshot, a brief bio, and a short video that will be posted online for members to view prior to voting. Please encourage people to vote.

Programming

Program Director for 2016 Mary Cloonan joined the meeting via Skype. Steve reported on programming, and the importance of deciding on our headliners early so they have time to participate in our conference. The Board agreed to discuss headliners earlier than in the past. We also agreed to continue relating our keynote and conference themes. The language of our programming categories is going to be edited, to clarify each section.

Paul S added that NCECA is planning an increase in year-round programming, demonstrating that NCECA is more than just a conference. There are a number of events lined up this year, including collaborating with the 92Y lecture series, an NCECA presentation on Across the Table at SOFA, and a lecture at CAA moderated by Paul S.

Meeting was recessed at 4:35pm

NCECA Full Board Meeting October 25, 2014 Kansas City, MO

In attendance: Deb Bedwell, Patsy Cox, Josh Green, Lee Burningham, Jane Shellenbarger, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, Garth Johnson, Steve Hilton, Paul Sacaridiz, Dori Nielson, Jay Lacouture, Dandee Pattee, Cindy Bracker, Jill Oberman, Paul Donnelley, Jennifer Chua, Larry Bush, and Glenda Taylor

8:14 am meeting called to order by Deb B.

Recap of reception at Nelson Atkins

Deb complimented to Board on a great job taking the time to talk with the collected invitees at the Nelson Atkins reception last night.

Glenda added that the KC Development Committee would be following up with attendees.

Future Conference Sites

Future conference sites were discussed, and the Board agreed on sites for 2018 and 2019.

Curatorial Task Force

Dandee presented recommendations from the curatorial task force, and the Board agreed that:

- The Curatorial Task Force will move forward with the creation of a CE Handbook.
- The Curatorial Task Force will define and then recommend to the Board a mentorship program for curatorial writing among the members. The CTF will determine the parameters and logistics of such a program, and then will present to the Board for authorization or further discussion by the June 2015 meeting.

12:15pm the meeting was adjourned.