



MIXED MEDIA

February 2020

A publication of the Maine ART Education Association



*Looking
ahead to
YAM*

"Miracles and Glory Abound" by Vanessa German is on view at the Bates College Museum of Art until March 28th. Thank you to Bates for hosting our recent MAEA Winter Retreat! Photo by Lynda Leonas



MESSAGE from the President

Lisa Ingraham

MADISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Retreat?

While organizing some of the recent work of the MAEA I could not help thinking about all of our “retreats.” This February break will literally be a withdraw from my classroom (in theory...there IS still an art show to hang!), as well as a time to reflect on and plan all the opportunities the second half of this school year will bring for me, my students, and colleagues.

The MAEA Winter Retreat at Bates College was a productive mix of continuing the work at hand (Youth Art Month celebrations, professional development and exhibition opportunities both

new and old, new member outreach) and moving ahead with new ideas (Summer Retreat, Monson Arts Conference, MAEA Regional Leadership). Thank you to Lynda, Heidi, Matt, Hope, Suzanne, and Deb for spending your time with me on a sunny Saturday. I am looking forward to sharing the results of our work at the MAEA Spring Conference on April 4th at Leavitt Area High School (save the date!)

I hope this break will offer you a chance to reflect on the first half of the school year, and rest up to enjoy the second.

MAEA Board

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lisa.ingraham@msad59.org

PRESIDENT ELECT – Lynda Leonas
lleonas@auburnschl.edu

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heidiaemaine@gmail.com

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johnsonm@westbrookschoos.org

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hope_lord@maranacook.com

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sgoulet@aos92.org

REGIONAL LEADERS

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sshapiro@rsu87.org

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mavey2_2000@yahoo.com

gusta 30 membahs – Shalimar Poulin
arted4all@gmail.com

hARTrocks – Charlie Johnson
aht.tchr@gmail.com

Northern pARTners – Beth Ann Cummings
bcummings@msad45.net

Youth Art Month

Celebrations & Exhibition Opportunities for March 2020



of the museum. Celebrations are scheduled for Saturday, March 7th. Artwork pick up dates are Wednesday, April 1st, Thursday, April 2nd from 9AM-5PM. **Please contact Elise Pelletier with questions or to volunteer to help sign in visitors for the celebrations or to assist with artwork pick up: epelletier@scarboroughschools.org.**

MEA OFFICES IN AUGUSTA Opening Reception, March 8th

Join the Maine Art Education Association at the Maine Education Association offices in Augusta on March 8th from 1-2:30PM to celebrate student artwork from around the state. Contact Lisa Ingraham, lisa.ingraham@msad59.org for more information.

COMMON STREET ARTS Opening Reception, March 5th

Take a Journey Through Art will be on view March 2nd through 28th at Common Street Arts at the Hathaway Creative Center in Waterville, with an Opening Reception on March 5th from 4:30-6PM. Artwork can be dropped off during the school break, on February 17th and 18th. Artwork pickup is April 1st and 3rd, 9AM to 5PM, or by appointment. For more information or to register, contact Waterville Creates! Education & Outreach Coordinator, Serena Sanborn, ssanborn@watervillecreates.org.

PORTLAND MUSEUM OF ART Public Reception, March 7th

Student work will be on view February 26th through March 29th on the Lower Ground Floor

NAEA YAM GALLERY at the 2020 Convention, Minneapolis March 26th-28th

Are you interested in displaying student artwork in the NAEA Youth Art Month gallery in Minnesota? Send digital files of student artwork to Lisa Ingraham, lisa.ingraham@msad59.org. I will print, matt, and install it in the gallery. *Note: Reproductions will not be returned at the end of the convention.*

Share your Youth Art Month Celebrations!

Send your photos, captions, and a short write-up to Mixed Media editor, Lisa Ingraham, at lisa.ingraham@msad59.org to be included in our March issue of our MAEA newsletter.

Two Fine Arts Colleagues Collaborate

Bringing Student Voice and Peer Teaching to Lewiston HS

by LYNDA LEONAS

Art Teacher, Farwell and Longley Elementary Schools

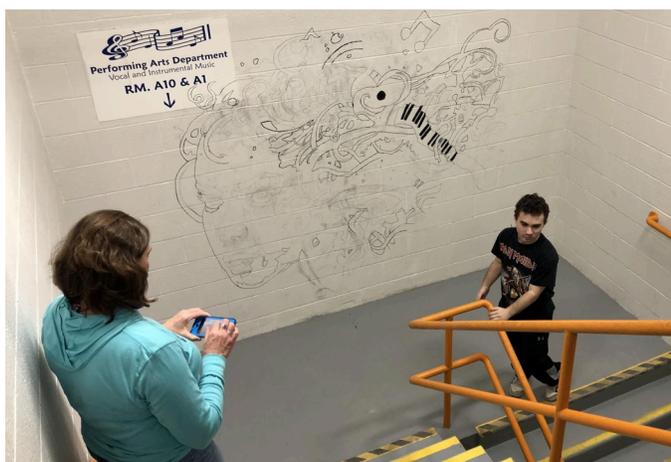
The sound of “Ms. Ehrhardt, we’re leaving now!” burst through the door in a loud whisper as the excited student closed out our presentation, “Lasting Impressions: Making Murals in Your School.” Stepping into the room, the young student’s pride became evident as he spoke with his Digital Media teacher and called out to our group to make certain she was treating us well. His laughter told us all that he very well knew the answer would be positive; and, his excitement told us all how he believed he belonged to a powerful community commitment. A lasting impression is certainly what the young man’s energetic demeanor provided to participants of the InspirED workshop



Laura Manchester, Drawing and Painting teacher, and Deanna Ehrhardt, Digital Media teacher, of Lewiston High School.

*“These are things the students
can walk through and be
proud of.”*

presented by Lewiston High School’s Deanna Ehrhardt, Digital Media teacher, and Laura Manchester, Drawing and Painting teacher, on Tuesday, January 21st, 2020. *Continued on page 7*



Andrew, LHS student, speaks with Auburn Teachers.



Hawa, LHS student, works on her mural during the workshop.

Save The Date

Items, Events, & Volunteer Opportunities

ART TEACHERS CREATE FEBRUARY 29th • 9AM to NOON Scarborough High School

Erin Landry Fowler will host the February get together at her school in Scarborough. To RSVP and receive more information about this bring-your-own art-making event contact Erin, elandry-fowler@scraboroughschools.org.

And save the date for the March 28th gathering of Art Teachers Create! Deb Bickford will be your host at Westbrook High School. Contact Deb for more information, bickfordd@westbrookscools.org.

ARTS ED ADVOCACY DAY MARCH 30th • 9AM to 2PM Augusta State House

This event connects students with their state legislators with the goal of advocating on behalf of visual and performing arts education. To find out more and to register please visit the Arts Advocacy Day page on our website,

<http://maineartsed.org/arts-advocacy-day> or contact Susan Potters, Executive Director of Maine Alliance for Arts Education at spotters@maineartsed.org. If you are a visual arts educator, you can also contact Visual Art ABC advocacy representative Theresa Cerceo, tcerceo@msad33.org.

MAEA SPRING CONFERENCE April 4th at Leavitt Area High School

Save Saturday, April 4th for professional development for art teachers by art teachers! This year we will visit Leavitt Area High School in Turner. More information about registration to come.

MAEA REGIONAL LEADERSHIP Ongoing

The Maine Art Education Association continues to explore Regional Leadership as a way to include art educator voices from all areas of our state and serve all MAEA members. Contact MAEA President, Lisa Ingraham lisa.ingraham@msad59.org.

TICKET TO RIDE GRANTS are available from the Maine Arts Commission!



<https://mainearts.maine.gov/Pages/Education/Ticket-to-Ride>

Ticket to Ride provides funding to defray the cost of travel for Maine schools wishing to visit Maine arts based venues and events as part of a well-rounded curriculum. The goals of the travel should support student learning and be aligned with the visual and/or performing arts standards. Applications are accepted throughout the year. Funding will be made available approximately one month after an application is submitted. Schools may apply more than once a year as long as they are applying to attend a different event, bringing a different student population, or have not expended their eligible amount.

Thornton Academy Teachers Display Their Work at Saco Museum MAEA Member Show

by JODI THOMAS

Art Teacher, Thornton Academy

The Saco Museum is currently exhibiting a show entitled, *It's Natural: Art by Art Teachers*. Thornton Academy visual art teachers Jennifer Merry and Dana Altman have works in the show, along with my own mixed media encaustic pieces entitled *Traveling Fools I* and *Traveling Fools II*. Dana Altman also has mixed media encaustic work on display. Dana and I attended a weekend workshop last fall at the Haystack Mountain School where we produced the art. Jennifer Merry has photography and mixed media pieces in the show. Jennifer's photos are from her travels, and her mixed media piece is a collage of work produced by her and her two sons at different times in their lives.

All works on display were produced by art teachers, including Justine Frapier who student taught with Thomas at Thornton.

Congratulations ladies on a wonderful show! The Thornton Academy community is fortunate to have such dedicated artists as teachers.

The Opening reception for *It's Natural: Art by Art Teachers* was very well attended on Saturday, February 1, 2020. Over 80 people stopped by to experience the vibrant color found in over 60 artworks created by 35 members of MAEA. The Saco Museum is a generous host and we are grateful to have the opportunity to exhibit there on alternating years. ***The show will be open until March 27 with artwork pick up scheduled for Saturday, March 28 (10 am- 2 pm) and Monday, March 30 March 31 (2-4 pm).***

~ Cameron Davis, MAEA Saco Show Chair



Jodi Thomas



Dana Altman



Jennifer Merry

TWO FINE ARTS COLLEAGUES COLLABORATE
Continued from page 4

As these two educators are encouraging students to bring stylized imagery to the halls of Lewiston High School, the student ownership of the mural project resonates loudly and positively through the school even on a day when it is open to district educators and their professional development.

The mural program is emboldening student voice and embracing cultural diversity while presenting the opportunity for students to lead the way, become excited about the content and process, teach one another from different fine arts classes and newcomers to the program, and increase attendance for some struggling students. Laura told participants: “Our school is here because of our students. We want them to feel relevant.” The students work on the murals without direct oversight once content and placement is approved. Many utilize study hall time to complete the murals in addition to class time. Each student works toward refining each project through revisions as detected through self-reflection and peer or educator conferencing.

As educators passed through the hallways of the InspirED camp at Lewiston High School, each could find students completing paintings on

murals in six different areas of the school. Deanna states that additional ideas of future murals are also working “in our brains”...educator brains and student brains. One educator at the high school noted, “these are things the students can walk through and be proud of.” Deanna does not have the students sign their murals as they are “for everyone.” Student pride does not stay with the artists alone, but transfers to many students attending the high school. Deanna feels starting with a “safe concept” of the school mascot and invoking community pride is what opened the door for adding additional murals with deeper meaning that invoked discussion among peers and educators themselves. Noting that these murals are “somewhat temporary,” in that, as the school culture changes so might these murals be repainted to reflect those changes. These two fine arts educators have defined Lewiston High School’s building as a “living, breathing entity.”

You are invited to
MAEA Board Meetings

Join us at the MEA offices in Augusta or virtually via Zoom online conferencing.

2019-2020 Meeting Schedule
3.12.20, 4.9.20, May-By Committee, and June/July (Summer Retreat)

MIXED MEDIA is the award winning (September-June) newsletter of the MAEA.

It is sent to anyone interested in the MAEA, and shared on our website aeforme.org. Please contact us for reprinting considerations.

SHARE YOUR STORIES

Submissions for consideration can be submitted to Lisa Ingraham (Editor/Designer): lisa.ingraham@msad59.org.

The opinions expressed in Mixed Media are those and only those of the authors and do not necessarily represent MAEA policies.

MAEA Mission

The Maine Art Education Association is a statewide professional organization whose members are committed to excellence in visual arts education.



MAEA Goals:

- To encourage best practices in standards-based and learner-centered visual arts classrooms in all Maine schools.
- To foster high quality teaching in the visual art and provide professional development opportunities in curriculum, instruction and assessment, as well as in current issues and artistic practice.
- To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and support collaboration among educators and other arts agencies to ensure quality programs for all learners.

It is our purpose to promote the highest quality instruction in visual arts programs that provide depth and breadth of experience to meet the varied needs of students.

Join Us Today!

You can sign up online at aeforme.org/membership or complete this membership form and include a check for membership dues made out to: MAEA and mail to MAEA, c/o Hope Lord, P.O. Box 10463, Portland, ME 04104

Name: _____

New Member Renewal

Home Address: _____

City/State, Zip: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email: _____

School/Institution Name: _____

and Address: _____

Grades taught (circle) K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Higher Ed

_____ years

Active Membership \$30.00

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Retired \$15.00

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Pay It Forward donation to new teacher scholarship to Haystack Fall Conference

Membership is renewed with each school year. New or renewal is required at time of Fall Conference

Registration. Membership expires August 31st.