

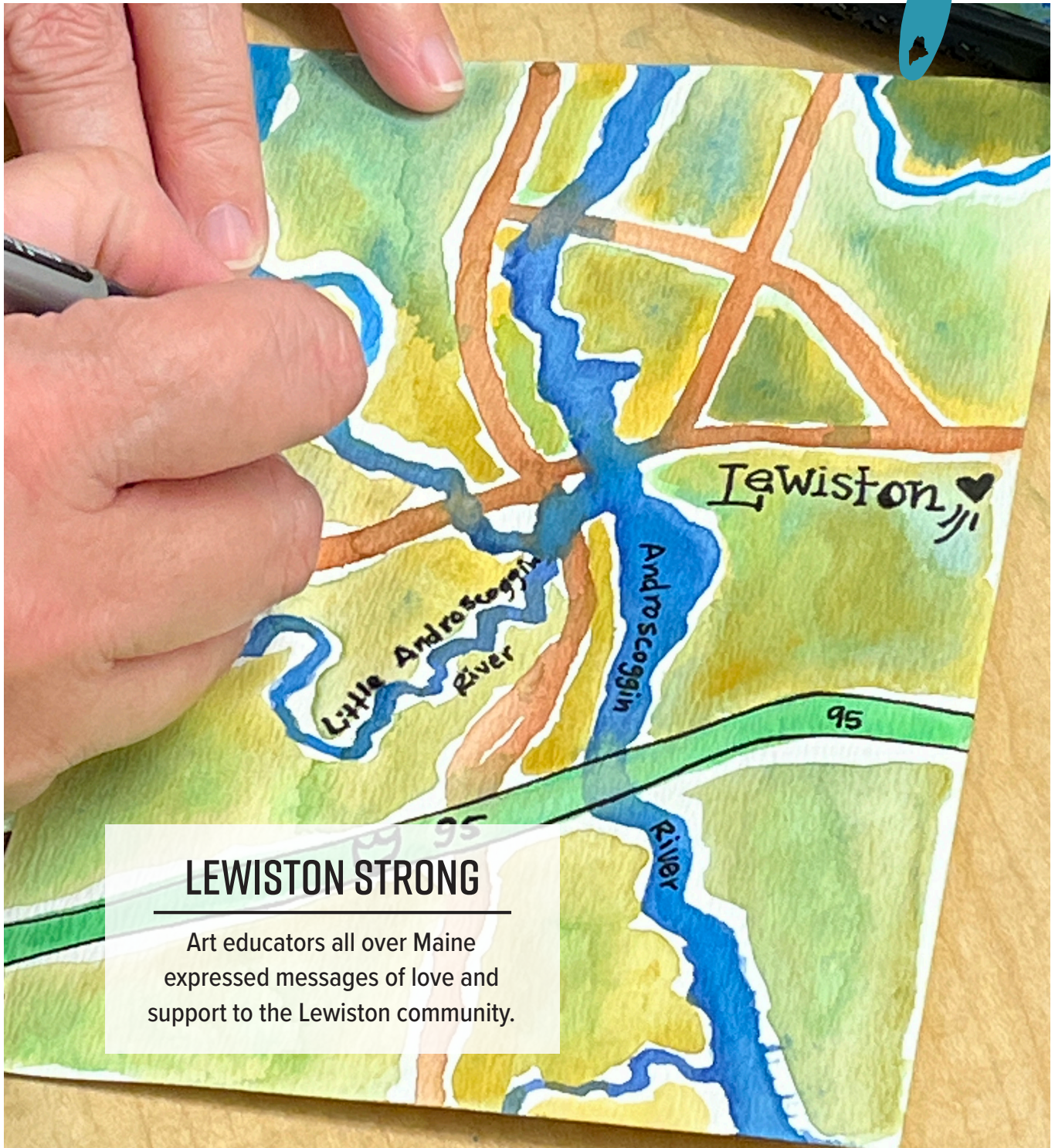
# Mixed Media

FOR  
AEME

A Publication of the Maine Art Education Association

aeforme.org

January 2024



## LEWISTON STRONG

Art educators all over Maine expressed messages of love and support to the Lewiston community.

# GREETINGS!

Maine has been hit hard with several extreme weather events since our last issue of *Mixed Media*. Communities from the coast to the mountains have suffered major damage and destruction. If you or your classroom have been affected by recent storms, please don't hesitate to reach out. The MAEA is here to help!

In my President's Message in October, I mentioned four goals I have as MAEA President: Communication/Connection, ED&I, Professional Growth, and Leadership. I'd like to use this month's *Mixed Media* issue to talk about the work the MAEA is doing on Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion. As a state organization, we're committed to constant reflection, examining our role in societal shifts, and taking action where we can to create meaningful change. To that end, we created the first MAEA ED&I Committee and the LGBTQIA+ Interest Group, who collaborated on seeking out diverse Maine artists to hire for conferences and workshops. We are also working with the Portland Museum of Art to hire ASL interpreters for the Youth Art Month ceremonies, and have chosen **Americans Who Tell the Truth** (led by Robert Shetterly and Connie Carter) as the 2024 MAEA Art Advocate of the Year. The work they do to promote social and climate justice through art education is beyond inspirational—you won't want to miss their presentation at the PMA YAM event on Saturday March 9th.

Is there more ED&I work to be done? Always. Are we ready and willing to do it? Absolutely! If this is an issue that you care deeply about, please reach out to me to join us in this important work. And if you want to continue your own ED&I journey, the **NAEA's ED&I Hub** is a great place to start.

Thank you,

Cory Bucknam  
MAEA President



Cory Bucknam, MAEA President

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*Mixed Media is the award-winning newsletter of the MAEA. It is sent to anyone interested in the MAEA and shared on our website: [aeforme.org](http://aeforme.org). Please contact us for reprinting considerations.*

*Submissions for consideration can be submitted to the newsletter editor, Megan McConagha, at [megan.mconagha@gmail.com](mailto:mconagha@gmail.com).*

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

## MAEA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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# JOIN US FOR ARTMAKING, BRAINSTORMING, SHARING, SUPPORT, AND CAMARADERIE:

## NEW TEACHER MENTORSHIP

**Next meeting: January 15 at 5pm via Zoom**

Being a new art teacher is challenging, but the MAEA is here to help. Join us as we brainstorm effective strategies for supporting and retaining our newest members of the profession. New teachers: tell us what kind of support you need! Veteran teachers: help us craft that support in meaningful and sustainable ways. Mentoring and supporting new art teachers is crucial to the continued strength and success of art education in Maine. To join us, please contact [Cory Bucknam](#) for the zoom link.

## PHOTO TEACHER MEETINGS

**Next meeting: February 14th at 3:30pm via Zoom**

This group meets online the second Wednesday of each month to share student successes and teaching challenges in both darkroom and digital photography. This is an opportunity to connect and learn about our many creative approaches to teaching young people. To join, please contact [Jennie Driscoll](#).

## LGBTQIA+ INTEREST GROUP

**Next meeting: February 13th at 5pm via Zoom**

Do you identify as LGBTQIA+? Are you an ally/accomplice? Join us! We recently formed this group to support Queer students, coworkers, and teachers. We meet over zoom to be inclusive of teachers around the state.

**New for Spring 2024: Queer Media Studies Group** — like a book group, but better! Join us as we study Jonathan Van Ness' memoir "[Over the Top](#)" as a way to reflect on and expand our empathy and support for our queer students and colleagues. If you're interested in participating, please email [Philippa Adam](#).

## MAEA CREATES (ARTMAKING SATURDAYS)

**Next meeting: February 10th at 9am, location TBD**

MAEA Creates is a monthly gathering (usually on the second Saturday) to give art teachers an opportunity to socialize and make art together. Join us! For more info or to host a gathering, please email [Erin Landry Fowler](#).

## AP ART TEACHERS

**Next meeting: TBD**

Connect with other AP Art Teachers throughout the state to discuss strategies for supporting student success. To join, please email [Holly Houston](#).

## RETIRED ART TEACHERS

**Next meeting: Spring TBD**

The Retired Art Teachers will gather again in the spring. Please join us. For more information about our group, please email [Cathy Grigsby](#).

# LEWISTON IN OUR HEARTS

After the tragic mass shooting in Lewiston on October 25th, MAEA members rallied to support the community: resources were provided for processing the event with students; postcards were made by colleagues and students for the L/A Arts exhibit “To Lewiston, with Love”; a new “Love for Lewiston” logo was designed by Suzanne Goulet for the [MAEA Swag Shop](#) (proceeds from the sales of these products will be donated to L/A Arts); and members across the state created artwork related to the tragedy, such as Liz Long’s illustrated poster for a Spencer and the Walrus concert that raised funds to support those affected by the shooting.



Artwork by Suzanne Goulet, Cory Bucknam, Liz Long, and students at Great Falls Elementary in Gorham

# MAEA SPRING MEMBER EXHIBIT AT THE SACO MUSEUM: “CHANGING SEASONS”

Exhibition Dates: February 10–May 3, 2024

Opening Reception: February 10, 1pm-3pm (snow date: February 17)

We invite you to participate in our Spring Member Exhibit! “Changing Seasons” will open February 10th and run through May 3rd at the Saco Museum. This is a chance to celebrate artist educators across the state. Special thanks to the Saco Museum for their long-standing partnership as the venue for this exhibition.

If you are not near Saco, not to worry. We coordinate art shuttles to bring artwork in from other regions around the state. Let us know if you need assistance.

Each member may register one or two artworks for this exhibition. Please provide a printed artist statement to be included in the exhibit binder when dropping off your artwork. We ask that if you plan to attend the reception, you sign up to contribute refreshments.

*All submissions must be ready to hang or display.*

## MORE INFO/REGISTER

Please contact Co-Coordinator [Diane Noble](#) with questions regarding submissions. Please contact Co-Coordinator [Jodi Thomas](#) with questions regarding registration and drop-off/pick-up procedures.

### ARTWORK DROP-OFF DATES:

Thursday February 1 from 3:30pm - 4:30pm  
Friday February 2 from 3:30pm - 4:30pm  
Saturday February 3 from 10am - 4pm

### ARTWORK PICK-UP DATES:

Saturday May 4 from 10am - 4pm  
Monday, May 6 from 3:30pm - 4:30pm



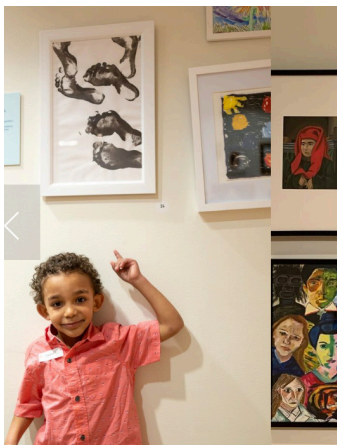
“Geometric Botanicals” submission by Dana Altman



“Fairy House” submission by Fairen Stark

# YOUTH ART MONTH 2024 AT PMA

The Portland Museum of Art and MAEA are teaming up for Youth Art Month once again, honoring and celebrating the incredible talent of K-12 students in Maine, and highlighting the importance of access to quality art programs. The student exhibition will be on view on the Lower Ground Floor of the PMA from February 28 – March 31, 2024. To register a student's work, visit the PMA website (button below).



Photos from previous PMA YAM celebrations

Registration is open!

[MORE INFO/REGISTER](#)

*The submission deadline is February 9, 2024*

All artists, their families, and educators are invited to the Youth Art Month celebrations on Sat. March 9th. Important dates below:

**EXHIBITION DATES:**

February 28–March 31, 2024

**CELEBRATION:**

Saturday March 9, 2024

Portland Museum of Art, Lower Ground Floor

3:30pm: K–4th grade

4:30pm: 5th–8th grade

5:30pm: 9th–12th grade

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

We are looking for a few member volunteers to help with artwork drop-off. If you live near Portland and want a sneak peek of submissions, please contact [Elise Pelletier](#).

All drop-offs will take place at 99 Spring Street, the PMA's Loading Dock.

**ARTWORK DROP-OFF DATES:**

Thursday February 15 from 3-5pm

Friday February 16 from 3-5pm

Saturday February 17 from 10am-2pm

**ARTWORK PICK-UP DATES:**

Friday April 5 from 12-4pm

Saturday April 6 from 10am-2pm

Monday April 8 from 12-4pm

**QUESTIONS**

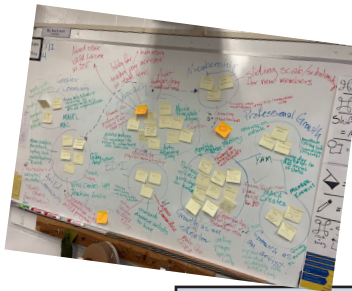
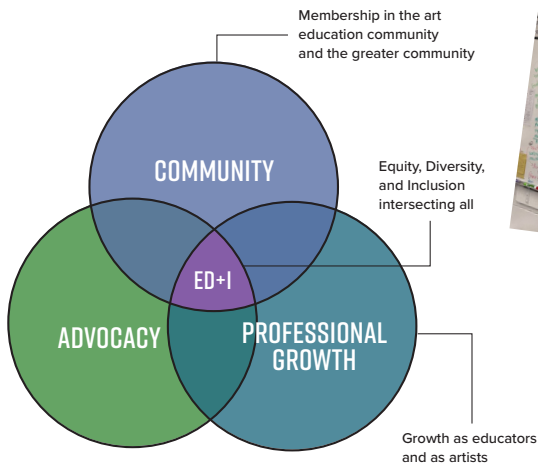
PMA Coordinator: [Meghan Quigley Graham](#)

MAEA Coordinator: [Elise Pelletier](#)

# MAEA WINTER LEADERSHIP RETREAT

In the midst of the damaging rainstorm on January 13th, several MAEA members gathered at Brunswick Junior High to enjoy an artmaking session of MAEA Creates and a delicious potluck lunch followed by some intense and productive big-picture thinking and planning. The work set the stage for developing a specific five-year plan with defined goals for the organization.

To begin our planning, we brainstormed on sticky notes what we each saw as the pillars or purposes of the MAEA. Our answers fell into four overlapping categories:



Left: The results of our brainstorming session on MAEA pillars, areas of strength, and areas to improve upon. Above: Pre-meeting artmaking

**PRIORITIES**

- Connecting with and supporting new art educators
- Connecting and collaborating with Art Education programs around the state to recruit future art educators
- Providing a variety of barrier-free leadership opportunities to MAEA members

After analyzing our current strengths in each of these categories, we identified the areas with room for growth. Then we prioritized what we felt were the top three issues MAEA should focus on as an organization (see box to right). These will become the basis of our five-year plan.

Now that we have a direction to move in, the work of the Summer Leadership Retreat will be to identify specific actions we will take over the next five years to work toward those goals. We invite you to be part of that process! Details coming soon.



## SAVE THE DATE FOR THE MAEA SUMMER RETREAT

Join us June 30 – July 3 for the fourth annual MAEA Summer Retreat and Conference!

Spend some time on the shores of Lake Cobbosseecontee at Pilgrim Lodge with some of your favorite artists, friends to be, and lots of loons. We here in Maine don't know how good we have it until folks from away remind us that it doesn't get any better than this! There are 13 cabins with their own bathrooms, showers, porches, and a boardwalk to connect it all to the Main Lodge. Come and hang out with other creatives to make art, swim, paddle, and relax. (Bonus, if you are a MAEA member, you get 20 contact hours!) Registration opens March 15. More info to follow.

## MEA MAGAZINE COVER ART CONTEST

Maine Educator will feature a cover designed by a Maine public school student depicting the theme: "What I Love About Maine." Details on [their website](#) (scroll down to Contests section). Deadline: April 26th.

## STEAM WORKSHOP INTEGRATING ART + SCIENCE

MAEA is teaming up with the NAEA Eastern Region, the National Science Foundation, and the University of Alaska to host an incredible two-day Fostering STEAM Workshop at Westbrook High School on March 15 and 16, 2024. The workshop is \$99 (for NAEA members) — but sends you home with \$200 in supplies! Hurry, there are only a few spots left!

[MORE INFO/REGISTER](#)

## EDUCATE MAINE SEEKING TEACHER FOCUS GROUPS

Educate Maine and the [Maine Department of Education](#) are in the first phase of developing the Teach Maine Center as a way to elevate the teaching profession and support teachers at every stage of their career. They envision this center as a hub of learning designed by teachers, for teachers. To that end, they are hosting focus groups in every county in Maine and invite educators from all content areas to attend and share their perspective (attendees earn 3 hours of PD). Contact [Kaitlin Young](#) or [Dolly Sullivan](#) from Educate Maine if you are interested in participating in one of the remaining focus groups:

- PISCATAQUIS COUNTY: January 20
- LINCOLN & KNOX COUNTY: February 3
- KENNEBEC COUNTY: February 10
- ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY: February 24

## ARTS ADVOCACY DAY IN PERSON!

Arts Advocacy Day is back and in person! Join us on March 20th in the Hall of Flags at the State House. Contact [Lynda Leonas](#) to participate — and stay tuned for more details.

previous Arts Advocacy Day



## MLTI IN-PERSON STUDENT CONFERENCE MAY 23

The Maine DOE's Learning Through Technology is excited to host the 21st annual MLTI Student Conference at the University of Maine in Orono.

Join MLTI for a day of learning through technology. "Camp MLTI" brings together over one thousand students and educators from all across the state for a day of engaging sessions and activities at Maine's largest university.

This event is open to any 5th-10th grade student who attends a participating MLTI school district during the 2023-2024 school year.

All attendees will receive a custom t-shirt if registered no later than March 29th, 2024. Click below for more information and to register.

[MORE INFO](#)

## MLTI STUDENT CONFERENCE T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST

The MLTI is hosting a t-shirt design contest for the in-person conference in May. This contest is open to all students in MLTI school districts, grades 5-10. Design the t-shirt that students around the state will wear during the MLTI Student Conferences! The winners will be recognized during the event they were selected for. Submissions are due February 1st. Winners will be announced within two weeks of submission.

[Click here](#) for more information, including the submission guidelines and link to submit.

For questions about the Conferences, please contact MLTI Project Manager [Bethany Billinger](#).





## STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FROM PORTLAND CAMERA CLUB

The Portland Camera Club's Latimer-Hutchinson Scholarship provides aspiring young photographers with educational opportunities in still photography. The annual award of \$1,500 can be used by the award winner for courses at Maine Media at Maine Media Workshops and College in Rockport, Maine, MECA&D, or any other still photography courses at an accredited post-secondary educational institution.

Graduating high school and home-schooled students age 17 or older residing in Cumberland or York Counties are eligible. Grant will be based on passionate dedication to photography.

[MORE INFO/APPLY](#)

## SIDE X SIDE + PROJECT M.A.I.N.E.

Side x Side is a Maine-based non-profit that offers public educators no-cost arts integration programming and professional development. They offer interactive webinars the first Wednesday of every month. They will also host in-person workshops throughout the state at the end of June.

[MORE INFO](#)

## MONHEGAN ARTISTS RESIDENCY

The Monhegan Artists Residency supports Maine artists by providing them time and space to work in the beautiful and inspiring environment of Monhegan Island. While not strictly an MAEA program, this residency has been a transformative experience for many MAEA members, including Raegan Russell, Justine Lasdin, Heather O'Neil, Erin Landry-Fowler, Cory Bucknam, and more. If one of your goals as an art educator is to focus on your own artistic practice, two weeks in a cottage with studio space on Monhegan Island is a pretty good place to start! Three residencies are awarded each year, one of which is reserved specifically for a Maine K-12 Visual Art educator. This summer, the teacher residency is June 28 through July 12. The submission deadline is March 19, 2024. More info and the application is on their website:

[RESIDENCY WEBSITE](#)

## GAMES IN THE ART ROOM



Sixth-grade student work inspired by Make-A-Monster Game

By Cory Bucknam

Argy Nestor invited me to write an article for the January issue of the *Maine Arts Journal*, a publication of the Union of Maine Visual Artists. The theme of the issue was "Play", which gave me the opportunity to show how using games in the art room increases students' creativity and motivates them to tackle more challenging projects. My article, "[A Sense of Play in the Classroom](#)", discusses how I use a Surrealism-inspired drawing game to help students generate unique ideas for clay bobble-head sculptures. What games do you play in the classroom? I'm curious, and always looking for more good ideas!

# EVENTS AT-A-GLANCE

## JANUARY

- 15: Monhegan Residency Applications Open
- 31: MAEA Spring Member Exhibit Registration Deadline

## FEBRUARY

- 1: MAEA Award Applications Due
- 1: Spring Member Exhibit Dropoff 3:30-4:30
- 2: Spring Member Exhibit Dropoff 3:30-4:30
- 3: Spring Member Exhibit Dropoff 10am-4pm
- 7: NAEA Webinar 7pm
- 8: MAEA Board Meeting 5-7pm
- 9: YAM PMA Registration Deadline
- 10: MAEA Creates
- 10: Spring Member Exhibit Reception 1-3pm
- 12: LGBTQIA+ Interest Group Meeting
- 14: Photo Teachers Meeting 3:30pm
- 15: New Teacher Mentorship Meeting
- 15: YAM PMA Dropoff 3-5pm
- 16: YAM PMA Dropoff 3-5pm
- 17: YAM PMA Dropoff 10am-2pm
- 28: YAM PMA Exhibit Opens

## MARCH

- 1: Waterville YAM Celebration
- 6: NAEA Webinar 7pm
- 9: MAEA Creates
- 9: PMA YAM Celebration 3:30-6:30
- 10: MEA YAM Celebration 1:00pm
- 12: LGBTQIA+ Interest Group Meeting
- 13: Photo Teachers Meeting 7pm
- 14: MAEA Board Meeting 5-7
- 15: Summer Retreat Registration Opens
- 15-16: NAEA STEAM Workshop in Westbrook
- 16: Scholastic Art Award Ceremony
- 18: Mixed Media Content Due
- 19: Monhegan Residency Application Due
- 20: Arts Advocacy Day at State House
- 25: Mixed Media Published
- 31: PMA YAM Closes

## APRIL

- 4-6: NAEA National Convention
- 5: Preservice Award Nominations Due
- 5: PMA YAM Pickup 9am-5pm
- 6: PMA YAM Pickup 9am-5pm
- 8: PMA YAM Pickup 10am-5pm
- 8: MEA Magazine Cover Art Contest Due
- 9: LGBTQIA+ Interest Group Meeting
- 10: Photo Teachers Meeting 3:30pm

- 11: MAEA Board Meeting 5-7pm
- 13: CMCA/MAEA Workshop
- 14: MAEA Creates
- 17: NAEA Webinar 7pm
- 27: MAEA Spring Conference? (TBD)

## MAY

- 1: HS Scholarship Applications Due
- 3: Spring Member Exhibit Closes
- 8: NAEA Webinar
- 11: MAEA Creates
- 13: Mixed Media Content Due
- 14: LGBTQIA+ Interest Group Meeting
- 20: Mixed Media Published

## JUNE

- 1: Fall Conference Registration Opens
- 1: Preservice Award Application Deadline
- 5: NAEA Webinar
- 8: MAEA Creates
- 11: LGBTQIA+ Interest Group Meeting
- 13: MAEA Board Meeting
- 30: NAEA Convention Proposals Due
- 30: MAEA Summer Retreat Begins

## JULY

- 1-3: MAEA Summer Retreat Continues

VISIT OUR ONLINE CALENDAR  
ANYTIME TO SEE WHAT'S COMING!

MAEA CALENDAR

Dates subject to change



# MAEA MISSION

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

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

## MAEA COMMITTEES

### COMMUNICATION

#### Chair

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president.mainearted@gmail.com

#### Calendar

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#### Website

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#### Newsletter

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Lynn Bustard  
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#### 2024 Spring Conference Co-Chairs

Lynda Leonas  
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Second Position  
OPEN

#### Summer Retreat Chair

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#### AP Teachers

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Lori Spruce  
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#### LGBTQIA+ Group

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### ED&I

#### Interim Chair

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### MEMBER EXHIBITS

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Samara Yandell  
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#### Spring Exhibit Chair USM/LA

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#### Waterville YAM Chair

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#### MEA YAM Chair

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