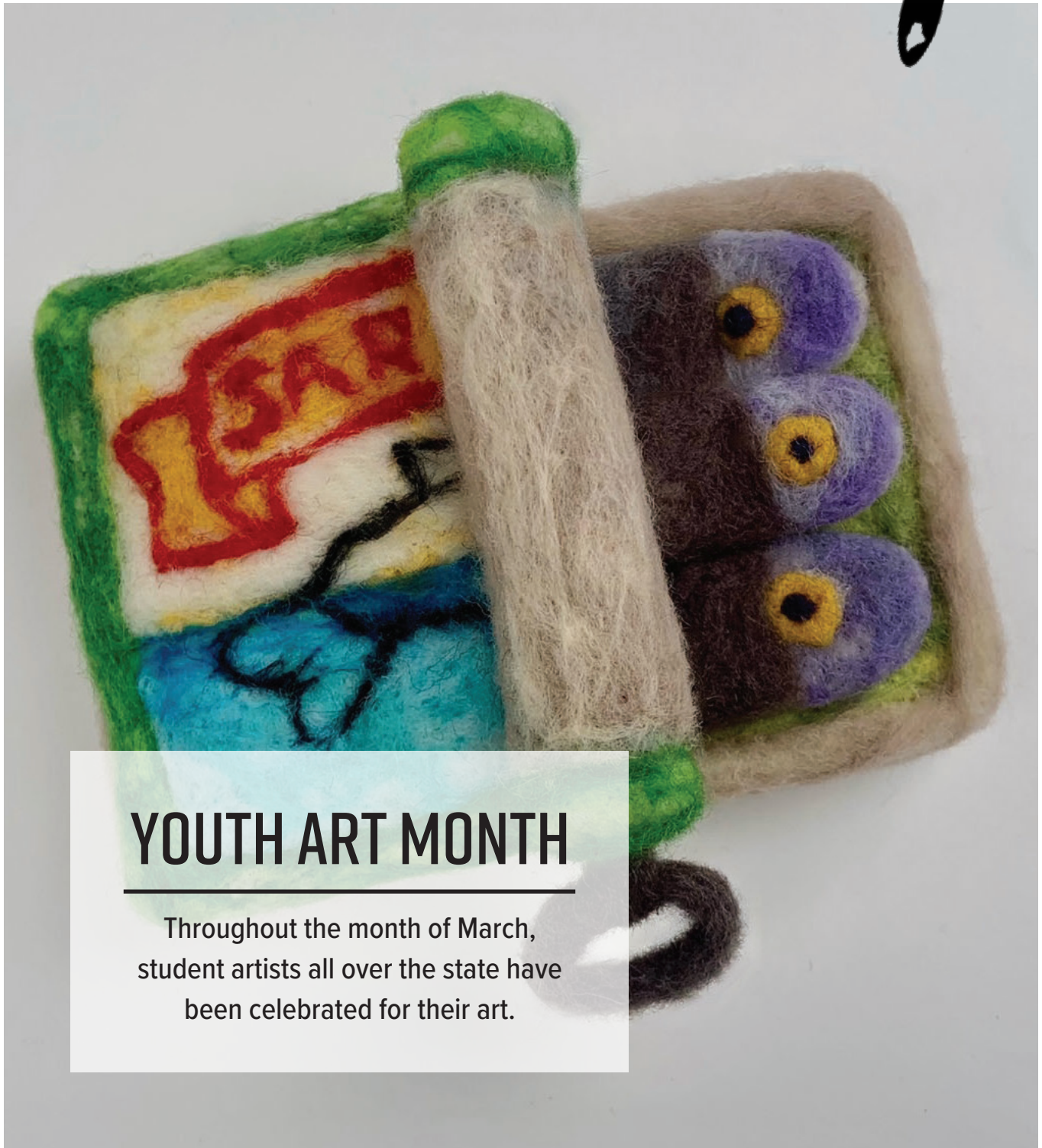


Mixed Media

A Publication of the Maine Art Education Association

aeforme.com

March 2023



YOUTH ART MONTH

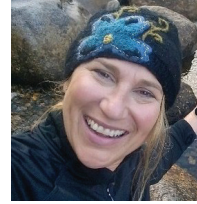
Throughout the month of March, student artists all over the state have been celebrated for their art.

"Packed Like Sardines" by Thorton Academy senior Julia Fomichenko

GREETINGS MAINE ART EDUCATORS

You always know when it is almost springtime if you are a member of the Maine Art Education Association! Winter's ending is marked by the Winter Member Exhibit and spring's start is set into place with our Youth Art Month activities across the state during the month of March! This year our CMCA Farnsworth Museum workshop partner opportunity on April 1st and our official MAEA overnight conference retreat on April 29th and 30th close out the spring season! Educators traveling a driving distance of three hours or greater to attend the overnight conference are being offered one of 12 Long-Distance Travel Scholarship opportunities to cover the costs of one additional Friday overnight stay in order for you to arrive prepared for the spring conference retreat in a timely, relaxing fashion! Please review links to these events on the following pages as we look forward to seeing you at these upcoming MAEA locations. The MAEA Board has great hopes that you will join us for the MAEA Art Educator Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening, April 29th, 2023, at The Ecology School and River Bend Farm in Saco, Maine (held during the spring retreat). Come celebrate our exceptional Maine art educators and stakeholders!

— President's message continued on next page



Lynda Leonas, MAEA President



Cory Bucknam, MAEA President-Elect

MAEA LEADERSHIP

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 president.mainearted@gmail.com

President-Elect

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Interim Secretary

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 sgoulet@aos92.org

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Lisa Marin
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Waterville Creates!

Serena Sanborn
 ssanborn@watervillecreates.org

hARTrocks*

Charlie Johnson
 cjohnson@gmail.com

* Seeking new person to lead this group

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message	2-3
Special Interest Groups	4-5
Spring Conference	6
Youth Art Month	7-9
MEA Winter/Spring Show	10
Upcoming Events	11-12
MAEA News	13
Maine Happenings	14

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. Please contact us for reprinting considerations.

Submissions for consideration can be submitted to the newsletter editor, Megan McConagha, at megan.mcconagha@gmail.com.

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

PRESIDENT'S LETTER CONTINUED:

On February 16th, our MAEA 2023 Secondary Art Teacher of the Year, Iva Damon, opened our first ever Winter Member Exhibit at the University of Southern Maine's Lewiston-Auburn Campus Atrium Gallery. Looking forward to continuing this biennial event, USM LA staff and Chairperson Iva Damon have already begun brainstorming for the 2025 exhibit!

Next year, the biennial Winter Member Exhibit will be held at the Saco Museum once again. **We are currently seeking a Chairperson or Co-Chairpersons for the 2024 Saco Museum Winter Member Exhibit.** Planning for this exhibit begins early in the new school calendar year and will be supported by some of our former committee members! For this event to continue on successfully, please reach out to the MAEA Board Members with your interest to lead a strong team of collaborators.

The Maine Art Education Association is still currently setting our elections slate for incoming MAEA officers, with each position intended to be served between July of 2023 and June of 2025. **Please review the candidates list herein and determine how you can best assist with a leadership role to offer uninterrupted phenomenal educator programming that supports every Maine art student!**

Candidates for office must be members in good standing who have held active membership in the association during the previous two years. Elections are slated for the upcoming April 6th MAEA Board meeting. **While all positions are open for additional candidacy, we have two without any candidates at this time, President-Elect and Secretary.** The MAEA Elected Leadership duties are listed within the Responsibilities/Benefits document linked below. **With the advancement of technology access within all MAEA Board and Event meetings, MAEA members from across the state - including our "remote" locations — are encouraged and invited to become Officers!** How do we transfer the location of which geographic region in Maine is next considered to be "remote"?

CURRENT CANDIDATES FOR MAEA BOARD OFFICERS:

President-Elect:

Treasurer: Libbie Winslow

Secretary:

Membership Services: Hope Lord

* [Responsibilities/Benefits document: MAEA-Elected Leadership](#)

Active, Retired Active, Student, Honorary, and Life members are eligible to vote. **The election is scheduled for our next MAEA Board meeting on April 06th, 2023, with our virtual April 06th**

MAEA Board Meeting Zoom Link opening at 5:00pm and business starting at 5:15pm. Please join us!

To provide us with a candidate's name and interest, please contact me at President.MaineArtEd@gmail.com. I look forward to receiving your candidate's name and contact information, your own candidacy intent, and any other information you wish to share!

MAEA member, Emily Haines, is seeking other art educator input concerning teaching art with the TAB (Teaching for Artistic Behaviors) Model. While she has one art educator in the South Portland area that she is currently collaborating with, she also hopes to hear from the Middle and Secondary Level TAB educators. She can be contacted at:

ehaines@rsu23.org

Old Orchard Beach High School
40 E. Emerson Cummings Blvd.
Old Orchard Beach, Maine 04064

Thank you for reaching out to Emily as she continues to offer her students high quality art education programming!

Fondly,

Lynda

Lynda G Leonas

President

Maine Art Education Association

PHOTO TEACHER MEETINGS

The next meeting is April 12th at 3:30 via Zoom.

Join us to share our student successes and the challenges of teaching photography in the wet darkroom and digitally. This group provides an opportunity to make connections with other art educators and learn about our many creative approaches to teaching young people photography.

Zoom meetings will be on Wednesday afternoons at 3:30pm and a link will be emailed the day before. There will also be a couple of opportunities to gather in person this year.

Please let Jennie Driscoll know if you are interested in joining this group or hosting us at your school: jdriscoll@brunswicksd.org.

MENTORSHIP MEETINGS

The next meeting is April 7th at 5pm via Zoom.

Join us for a series of casual virtual get-togethers to give new and emerging art educators a chance to connect with and learn from those with more experience. These upcoming meetings are hosted by Cory from 5:00-6:00pm: Apr 7, May 4, Jun 2.

Please contact Cory Bucknam to join this group: cbucknam@brunswicksd.org.





MAEA CREATES ARTMAKING SATURDAYS

— WATERVILLE CREATES HOSTS NEXT GATHERING SAT. MARCH 25TH —

Waterville Creates will host the March MAEA Creates meet-up at the Schupf Center in Waterville! MAEA members who attend can also earn contact hours for this event. Here is info from Education & Outreach Manager Serena Sanborn:

Come for a tour of the brand-new arts space in downtown Waterville, which includes two galleries, a clay studio, an arts classroom, three movie theaters, a rehearsal space, and a chocolate café! Our neighbors at Green Block + Studios are also opening their doors for Youth Art Month, so educators can come make a day of it here in Waterville. We will provide a fun metal stamping arts activity and a free movie ticket.

The galleries will host Youth Art Month and the Colby Museum of Art will host *Ashley Bryan/Paula Wilson: Take the World into your Arms*.

More about Waterville Creates:
watervillecreates.org/visit-us/

More on Greene Block + Studios:
<https://greeneblock.colby.edu>

More about the Ashley Bryan exhibition: museum-exhibitions.colby.edu/exhibition/ashley-bryan-paula-wilson-take-the-world-into-your-arms/

If you would like to host a Saturday meet-up in your classroom or studio, please sign up on our shared calendar:

MAEA CREATE CALENDAR



93 Main Street, Waterville, Maine 04901

MAEA SPRING CONFERENCE

AND THE MAEA ART EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR CEREMONY!

April 29-30, 2023 at The Ecology School at River Farm, 184 Simpson Road, Saco

Join us for a weekend of connecting and celebrating our colleagues and our planet as we create art in earth-conscious ways!

There are several studio workshops to choose from as well as optional programs that could include a Living Building Challenge Tour, a Field Ecology workshop, a Food is Ecology Lab, and an evening under the stars with the Astronomical Society of Northern New England.

COSTS

Saturday night stay and five meals: \$250
Friday and Saturday nights stay and five meals: \$350
Linens are offered for \$40 (or you can bring your own).

MEALS

Community-building meals include Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner and Sunday breakfast and lunch. They are served in the beautiful Dining Commons and feature farm-fresh, local, and nutritious foods. Coffee, tea, and fruit are always available.

LODGING

Up to 72 guests will stay in the double rooms in the unique dormitory building. There are two or three shared bathrooms per floor. The dorm was built according to the rigorous sustainability standards of the Living Building Challenge and promotes

sustainable actions in everyday routines.

HIKING TRAILS

A 3.5-mile trail system is blazed throughout the 105-acre property, great for walking or running.

THE SCHEDULE

Saturday:

- 7:00-8:15am: Registration, Move in, Breakfast
- 8:30-12:30pm: Morning Workshop Sessions
- 12:30-1:30pm: Lunch + The Ecology School Presentations
- 1:30-5:30pm: Afternoon Workshop Sessions
- 6:00-7:00pm: Dinner
- 7:30-8:15pm: MAEA Art Educator of the Year Awards
- 8:30-10:30pm: Star Gazing Event

Sunday:

- 7:00-8:15am: Breakfast
- 8:30-12:30pm: Morning Workshop Sessions
- 12:30-1:30pm: Lunch
- 1:30-5:30pm: Afternoon Workshop Sessions

THE WORKSHOPS

Saturday 8-Hour Workshops:

- Wondrous Wall Weavings with Bobbie Ann Tilken-Fisher
- Junk Journals Recycle! with Vicki Bove
- Plein Air Watercolors with Russel Whitten

Saturday 4-Hour Workshops:

- Brooch Sewing with Laurie Chiasson
- Making Zines to Inspire and Inform with Jamie Hogan
- Independent Ecology School Activity
- Open Studio

Sunday 8-Hour Workshop:

- Junk Journals Recycle! with Vicki Bove

Sunday 4-Hour Workshops:

- Making Zines to Inspire and Inform with Jamie Hogan
- Social Emotional Learning Zentangles with Laurie Chiasson
- Independent Ecology School Activity
- Open Studio

TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS

The MAEA is offering 12 scholarships of \$100 each to cover the additional cost of arriving Friday for an extra overnight stay. Each MAEA member traveling three hours or beyond by vehicle is eligible to apply. If interested, please fill out the section titled "Long-Distance Travel Scholarships" on page three of the registration form.

[LEARN MORE](#)

[REGISTER](#)

earth

The world without art is just, eh...

YOUTH ART MONTH CELEBRATION AT PMA

By Elise Pelletier, Scarborough High School teacher and YAM Statewide Coordinator

That's a wrap! The Youth Art Month 2023 exhibit at the Portland Museum of Art hosted three ceremonies on Saturday March 11th to honor all of our youth artists. A total of 79 students had their work on the walls of the museum's lower level, and an additional five students had artwork included in the digital gallery.



"Sunflowers" by Biddeford Intermediate School third-grader Caleb Whipkey

This was the first in-person show and celebration in three years. Attendees included friends, families, and art educators, as well as other supporters of the arts. Miia Zellner, a 2023

candidate in MECA+D's MAT program, led artists and families with a weaving activity in the foyer of the museum. The auditorium was packed for each celebration with smiles and cheers. Each ceremony included remarks from: Meghan Quigley-Graham, the PMA Learning and Teaching Manager; Lynda Leonas, MAEA President; Elise Pelletier, YAM Statewide Coordinator; Matt Johnson, Westbrook High School teacher and 2023 Art Educator of the Year; and Mia Bogyo, CMCA Education Coordinator and 2023 Art Advocate of the Year.



Fourth-grader Coraline Pearson of Auburn's Walton Elementary School and her parents enjoying the show



Above: "Deuteranopia" by Berwick Academy junior Aengus Onken; Left: "Mother Nature" by Old Orchard Beach sophomore Joana Massanga



Third-grader Caraline Pirkel and her teacher Elise Row of Vivian E. Hussey School in Berwick await the ceremony in the auditorium



"El patin" by Cheverus senior Jake Scheele

Each artist who attended received a round of applause and a certificate on the big stage. It was a wonderful celebration of all the incredible art programs across the state that wouldn't be possible without the efforts of MAEA educators. The show can be viewed in person until April 3rd and online until 2024 at www.portlandmuseum.org/magazine/youthartmonth.



Kindergartner Zayden Tahlii of Washburn Elementary poses with his painting "Footprints"



YOUTH ART MONTH CELEBRATION IN WATERVILLE

By Suzanne Goulet, Waterville Senior High School teacher, former MAEA President

For Youth Art Month, Waterville Creates partnered with Greene Block + Studios (GBlock) to celebrate work from 25 different schools of the Kennebec River Valley. Ticonic Gallery and GBlock provided beautiful spaces for a First Friday opening that was sponsored by Colby College Museum of Art, Kennebec Savings Bank, *Morning Sentinel*, *Kennebec Journal*, and PRO Moving Service.

The re-imagined Waterville downtown was lit with the bright lights of the Schupf Center, bustling downtown eateries, and the smiles of young artists and their proud families.

I must share that I wept openly numerous times on this night, overwhelmed with the re-emergence of what we had missed for the last two years. Yes, we persevered, adapted, and ingeniously shared student work and learning through public projections, digital exhibitions, and online celebrations. We found a way. A way to share the art of our learners' hearts.

evening attire. "Excuse me, you look like one of the artists?", I asked. The family hesitated, stopped and proudly responded physically and verbally with, "Yes." I inquired which location he was featured in and expressed my thanks for sharing his work. I later observed him with other older adults talking through his process and composition. **What we did for the last two years to help keep each other safe for this moment to happen... made it all worthwhile and more!**



A young artist discusses his work at the YAM event at Waterville Creates!

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS:

- Albert S. Hall School, Canaan Elementary School, Clinton Elementary School, George J. Mitchell School, Sylvio J. Gilbert Elementary School, Lincoln Elementary School, Madison Elementary School, Madison Junior High School, Maine Arts Academy, Maranacook Community Middle School, Messalonskee High School, Messalonskee Middle School, Mount Merici Academy, Mt. Vernon Elementary School, Palermo Consolidated School, Readfield Elementary School, Warsaw Middle School, Waterville Alternative High School, Waterville Senior High School, Waterville Junior High School, Wayne Elementary School, Whitefield Elementary School, Winslow High School, Winslow Junior High School.



Youth Art Month evolved to Youth Arts Month during this celebration with stellar performances by the Waterville SHS Chorus, directed by Ciara Hargrove.

The opening recorded over 750 viewers for Ticonic Gallery, and combined with Greene Block, it is likely there were close to 1000 entrances for viewing student artist creations on First Friday.

If you are a school in the Kennebec River Valley (or near) that would like to join our regional group for future celebrations and collegiality, please contact Suzanne Goulet (Waterville Senior High School) at sgoulet@aos92.org or Serena Sanborn (Waterville Creates!) at ssanborn@watervillecreates.org.



The Waterville SHS Chorus performed at the ceremony

Parking the car, and walking the sidewalk to Main Street I witnessed a young man, maybe 3rd grade, dressed in a jacket and tie. Adults with him also appeared to be in their best



YOUTH ART MONTH CELEBRATION IN AUGUSTA

By Suzanne Goulet, Waterville Senior High School teacher, former MAEA President

The Maine Education Association (MEA) is proud again to present an exhibition of 20 artwork by students from around the State, nominated by their Art and Design educators.

Daily, educators witness and guide the power of the arts to uplift, hold and sustain students, in their learning and creative journeys. We are so appreciative of all educators' extra efforts to share and support their students' work.

MAEA members curate, nominate, and submit the students' work. MAEA generously coordinates the framing and hosts the exhibition in the MEA Augusta office. As a thank you for the sharing

President Jesse Hargrove, recognized each artist for sharing their works and thanked the families and educators for their commitments and support of these artists and to quality public education. Each artist was recognized with a certificate and blank note cards featuring images of their art as a gesture of thanks.

This event, started by retired Lewiston teacher Kay McKeever-Allison, highlights quality in education and exhibition. We are very grateful to MEA, its current leadership headed by President Grace Leavitt of Greely High School, and our MEA staff partner Erin Noyes for their continued support and dedication to this unique program.



Jesse Hargrove, Vice President of MEA (left), Lynda Leonas, MAEA President (2nd from right), and Suzanne Goulet, MEA YAM Chairperson and MAEA Past President (right), with student artists at the celebration Sunday, March 12th.

of their work, the professionally framed work is returned to the student artists at the end of the exhibition.

The catered celebration on a beautiful time-change Sunday was well attended by 70+ educators, family, friends, and artists. Our event host, MEA Vice



PARTICIPATING EDUCATORS AND SCHOOLS:

- Katherine Gerwig: Biddeford IS
- Kimberly Medsker-Mehalic: Freeport HS
- Evelyn Abrams: Songo Locks ES
- Jennie Driscoll: Brunswick HS
- Jeremy Smith: Maranacook Community HS
- Kari McCarthy: Brunswick JHS
- Brooke Holland: Medomak Valley HS
- Ashley Pillsbury: Warsaw MS
- Jessica Hamilton-Jones: Waterville Alternative HS
- Karol Carlsen: Pittston Randolph Consolidated School
- Hope Lord: Maranacook JHS
- Nicole Blake: Readfield ES
- Heidi O'Donnell: Belfast Area HS
- Carolyn Brown: Camden Hills Regional HS
- Shalimar Chasse: Wiscasset MHS



The artists' works were made into note cards and presented to them at the celebration

Work is submitted in November, prepared in the New Year, hung in February, opened in March, and celebrated through November. Numerous MEA staff, Maine educators, and legislatures view and celebrate the work during this time.



Waterville Alternative High School senior Hannah Nelson poses with her artwork, her parents (left), and her teacher, Jessica Hamilton-Jones (right). Hannah will be using her technical drawing skills in the electrical program at Kennebec Valley Community College in the fall.

If you are a member of both the Maine Art Education Association (MAEA) and the Maine Education Association (MEA) and would like to participate with this program in the future, please contact Suzanne Goulet (Waterville Senior High School) at sgoulet@aos92.org.



Jesse Hargrove, Vice President of MEA, awards a personalized certificate to one of the 20 young artists.





WINTER/SPRING MAEA MEMBER EXHIBIT

The Winter/Spring Exhibit featuring works by MAEA members kicked off on February 16th at the Atrium Gallery at University of Southern Maine’s Lewiston-Auburn campus. Iva Damon, MAEA 2023 Secondary Art Teacher of the Year and Exhibit Chair, was on hand to greet visitors, including some Maine College of Art & Design MAT students and Shalimar Poulin, MAEA Regional Group Leader of the ‘gusta30membahs.

We are grateful to all of the current and retired art educators and exhibiting artists who helped to display the artworks and to USM LA, which is proudly hosting us as their first public exhibit since the pandemic. Committed to continuing this biennial event at the Atrium Gallery, Iva and USM LA staff have already begun brainstorming for the 2025 show! We are looking forward to our continued partnership with USM and Atrium Gallery.

We encourage all to stop in to see the 52 works — including book arts, ceramics, sculpture, fiber arts, drawing, and paintings — created by art educators across the state.

Exhibit runs through April 24, 2023.

Atrium Gallery hours: Monday through Friday from 8:00am - 4:30pm.

Artwork Pick Up: May 8th-10th



MAEA member Nicole Blake and MECA+D MAT students discuss art in education at the opening



Intricate book art on display at the Atrium Gallery



Iva Damon, 2023 Secondary Art Educator of the Year and Winter/Spring Exhibit Chair (second from left), poses with Anna Faherty, Kat Zagaria Buckley, and Kelly Hrenko at the opening

SEEKING 2024 EXHIBIT CHAIR!

The 2024 Winter/Spring Member Exhibit will be at the Saco Museum (where it was held in 2022). We are seeking a chairperson or co-chairpersons for next year’s event. Planning begins in the fall and will be supported by our former committee members. Please reach out to any of the MAEA Board Members if interested (contact info is on page 2).

MLTI STUDENT CONFERENCE SEEKING STUDENT-EDUCATOR TEAMS

Maine Department of Education is calling for **student-and-educator-team breakout session proposals** for this year's student conference of the Maine Learning Technology Initiative (MLTI). This May event is a unique technology experience developed exclusively for students at MLTI schools in **grades 6-9** to engage in authentic, relevant, and technology-rich learning experiences that prepare them for a fulfilling future.

The MLTI team is excited to host three events this year, which provides more opportunities for presenters (both educators and students) to share the innovative work that is happening with the technology in Maine schools.

If you are excited to share and showcase work at any of the in-person and virtual events, please consider submitting a proposal. MLTI will be hosting some Q&A sessions and providing support if you are interested but still unsure about submitting a proposal at this time.

- **MAY 12th: in-person conference at University of Southern Maine, Portland**
- **MAY 18th: virtual conference**
- **MAY 25th: in-person conference at University of Maine, Orono**

The conference theme "DiveRightIn" (Dive Right In) intends to reflect the many interpretations of water as they relate to Maine students and their use of technology as well as how technology connects us in different environments and virtual spaces. Possible topics include music, coding, video production, graphic design, writing and publishing, stop motion, and podcasting.

[SUBMIT PROPOSAL](#)

[LEARN MORE](#)

MEA MAGAZINE ART COVER CONTEST

By Giovanna Bechar, MEA Director of Communications

The *Maine Educator* will feature a cover designed by a Maine public school art student depicting the theme "What I Love About Maine." Submissions can be any form of art and should be 8.5 x 11 inches or able to be photographed. Please advise students that the magazine title will be across the top and 2.5 inches high. The artist will want to make sure there is nothing important to the piece at the top as it may be obscured by the title. Entries must include the name of the student, the school, and the submitting teacher's name and email.

WHO

Grades K-4, 5-8, 9-12

Based on entries, an indeterminate number of finalists will be selected, with one overall winner chosen from the finalists to have their work on the cover of the magazine.

WHEN

The deadline is April 24, 2023

HOW

The MEA uses WeTransfer for file uploads. Please follow these steps:

1. Visit [WeTransfer.com](https://www.wetransfer.com) (link below)
2. Add your files
3. Enter your email
4. Title your email message
5. Write a brief description with your name, title and school.
6. Submit your entry!

[SUBMIT HERE](#)

STUDENT T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST FOR MLTI CONFERENCE

MLTI is hosting a T-shirt Design Competition for the K-12 MLTI students. The theme for the 20th annual MLTI Student Conference is DiveRightIn and all submissions should include the text "DiveRightIn" as a central feature of the design. The conceptual theme is focused around water.

The winning design, chosen by a panel of judges, will be printed on t-shirts that will be worn by everyone at the conference.

T-shirt designs are due April 14, 2023 (no late entries will be accepted). Submit your entry via the form below.

For more information or answers to questions, please contact Jon Graham, Digital Learning Specialist, Maine Learning Technology Initiative, at jonathan.m.graham@maine.gov.

[SUBMIT DESIGN](#)

[GUIDELINES](#)



MAEA POSITION STATEMENT ON LD 123

On March 9, 2023, the MAEA Board voted to join a coalition of state organizations* in opposition to a proposed piece of legislation: **“LD 123: An Act to Eliminate the Educational Purposes Exception to the Prohibition on the Dissemination of Obscene Matter to Minors.”** If enacted, this piece of legislation would reverse the protection public school teachers currently have from being criminally prosecuted for distributing or displaying materials that some people may see as inappropriate or obscene. This legislation is a concern for school librarians, and similar legislation in other states indicates that this legislation could also impact school counselors, art teachers, health teachers, and English teachers since all of our curricula and materials include content that may be considered “obscene” by some.

While we recognize that many Maine districts support and protect their teachers against attacks on their curricula, we know that many art educators and their freedom to make professional choices about the content of their lessons are vulnerable. We, therefore, encourage MAEA members to take action and share their voices with their local and state legislators. Sign a petition [HERE](#) or write an email directly to your legislators to express your concerns.

*Maine Association of School Libraries, Maine Library Association, ACLU of Maine, Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance, Maine Education Association, Maine Humanities Council, Maine Chapter of the National Social Workers Association, The Telling Room, Maine Association of Health, PE, Recreation, and Dance Educators, Maine Council for English Language Arts Educators, Maine Curriculum Leaders Association

MAEA OPENINGS

We are seeking MAEA officers to serve in positions from June 2023 to June 2025. See the list of openings below to determine how you can take on a leadership role to support Maine art students and the art educator community. Candidates for office must be members in good standing who have held active membership the previous two years. Elections will be held at the April 6th MAEA Board meeting. While all positions are open, **we have two without any candidates at this time: President-Elect and Secretary.** The MAEA Elected Leadership duties are listed in the Responsibilities and Benefits document (link below). We hope that new technological access to our meetings and events will make it easier for MAEA members to take on these roles.

CURRENT CANDIDATES

President-Elect:

Treasurer: Libbie Winslow

Secretary:

Membership Services: Hope Lord

Please contact [Lynda Leonas at President.MaineArtEd@gmail.com](mailto:Lynda.Leonas@gmail.com) with interest or questions.

RESPONSIBILITIES + BENEFITS



HEADING TO TEXAS?

Are you attending to the NAEA convention in San Antonio next month? Email Cory Bucknam if you're interested in connecting with other Maine educators while there: cbucknam@brunswicksd.org.

UPCOMING MAEA RETREATS! REGISTER FOR SUMMER + SAVE THE DATE FOR FALL

JULY 7-9
SUMMER RETREAT + CONFERENCE
Pilgrim Lodge, Lake Cobbosseecontee, W Gardiner
Registration opens March 21st (link will be emailed)

SEP 22-24
FALL RETREAT + CONFERENCE
Haystack, Deer Isle, Monson, and Eastport
Registration opens June 1st at 7am

SEEKING TAB INSIGHTS

MAEA member Emily Haines is seeking art educator input regarding the Teaching for Artistic Behaviors Model. Though she is currently collaborating with an art educator in South Portland, she also hopes to hear from the Middle and Secondary level TAB educators. [Her email is ehaines@rsu23.org](mailto:ehaines@rsu23.org).

WESTBROOK STUDENTS + TEACHER DESIGN MAINE FLAG FOR THE NAEA CONVENTION

Westbrook High School art teacher Matthew Johnson, our MAEA Art Educator of the Year, was tasked with creating a physical flag for the NAEA exhibit at the 2023 Youth Art Month Museum in San Antonio, TX next month. Matt rose to the occasion with the help of his students. His words below:

“When I was tasked with working with students to develop this year’s Youth Art Month Flag, I faced a unique challenge. Nearly all of my courses being taught were sculpture aside from an Advanced Placement Studio Art and Yearbook class... So, I decided to approach the flag design a little unconventionally: I collaborated with all of my yearbook students to come up with the design. We approached it the same way we did for the cover and end sheet design of our book. Each student offered input into the design, offered feedback, or suggested alterations to come up with the design. They even chose to use the same font for the flag design as our headline font in the yearbook. So the design is not the idea of one student but the idea of nine. This is why we chose to change the slogan to “Our Art Our

Voice” instead of the singular “My”. We were proud of the design and are humbled to have this hang next to the other YAM flags in San Antonio in April.”

Westbrook High School teacher Matt Johnson with Maine flag created for the NAEA convention



ART POSITIVELY IMPACTS COMPUTER SCIENCE CLASSES IN SOPO

By Julie York, South Portland High School, Career Preparation Dept. Chair

As a computer science and media elective high school teacher of over twenty years, I can safely say that computer science needs art to connect best to our students. Computer science is about solving problems with technology in ways that helps the world around us. Art and creativity is a necessary part of breaking down problems and coming up with solutions. The A in STEAM is not always there, but it should be!

In my classroom we are coding, building, breaking, evaluating, iterating, and collaborating on projects. As in art, we are making and, quite frequently, doing so in creative hands-on ways. From constructing visual representations of websites and icons before coding them to using developmental platforms like Construct that have built-in art features side-by-side with coding, I am a firm believer in the integration of the two disciplines. Students need to be able to create, imagine, explore, and express just as much as they need to form algorithms, tinker, calculate and gather data.

My classroom is a maker classroom where the A in STEAM is celebrated. By doing so, my classroom has become inclusive to all types of students. The wide range and variety of assignments appeal to a broader audience, and as such my curriculum reaches more students. Our students need computational literacy blended with art, science, technology, math, and engineering.

