



Minnesota Artists Association October 2014

Dates to Remember

October 21: The Arts in Healthcare and HCMC, plus our Mystery Box Challenge!

November 15-16 Plymouth Art Fair. Register with Terrie Christian at terriepc@msn.com by October 15

November 18: Fall potluck Show and Tell

December 4: MAA Fall Exhibition Opening and Reception at the Ames Center (formerly the Burnsville Performing Arts Center) 6-8 PM

Our October 21 meeting will be threefold: cookies and coffee at 6:30 p.m., a presentation at 7 p.m. and then our Mystery Box Challenge. Our location is as usual, Rm 2020, 2nd floor, Bloomington Theater & Art Center. Wenda Ballinger, Arts Program Coordinator for the Inspire Arts program at Hennepin County Medical Center, will be doing a 30-45 minute presentation on the program which uses the arts to help create a healing environment. Wenda says, "I have found that visual artists are very interested in learning more about the topic - and particularly what is considered "healing"— for personal and human interest as well as an opportunity to market their artwork to a new audience."

What follows is something new for the MAA – a Mystery Box Challenge! To join in the fun, simply put 6-10 unlike items in a box, close up the box, and bring it to the meeting for someone else to make a creative (and probably funky) concoction with the contents. You in turn will pick someone else's box. You can work alone or combine boxes with another artist. The point is simply to PLAY, let your imagination run wild and even do a bit of mischief for the poor soul who picks your box! To help you along, we'll have a table with some tools (scissors, paint, brushes, and a glue gun). If there is time, we'll have a show and tell and definitely a few laughs afterwards. See page 3 for more information.

The Plymouth Art Fair is coming up!

The Plymouth Art Fair (November 15th & 16th) is scheduled for MAA members who want to participate again this year in November. This will be our third year at this event. This is an opportunity to sell our art, but we need to have realistic expectations based on the first two years. Both years the group had several hundred dollars in sales. The things that sold mostly were small paintings or cards that were modestly priced. The one that I sold was \$50.00. I know of at least one that was much bigger and a few hundred dollars, but that was not the main experience. That is not to say we should not bring bigger more expensive paintings to offer. One that I offered for \$300.00 had serious interest. One woman really wanted it and dragged her husband back twice, but could not get him to take the bait.

The fee for the booth is \$170 (we share 2 booth spaces). Since both artists and our organization benefit, we start out by splitting the fee. That leaves \$85.00 for the artists participating to share. When we find out the number of participants we will let each know their cost. For example, for 10 artists it would be \$8.50 apiece. And, happily, there is no commission taken by the center.

What you need to do is email me, Terrie Christian, at terriepc@msn.com to get your name on the list. We also need people to run the booth, but we don't all have to be there all the time. Tell me in your email what you could commit to so we can work out a plan. DEADLINE FOR THIS INFORMATION IS OCTOBER 15th on the 15th

Are your dues due? Thanks to all of you that paid your dues already! Our MAA dues are paid in September for the calendar year (September 2014 - August 2015). Please send your check made out to MAA to our treasurer: Diane Gilbertson 5275 Oxford St. N. Shoreview, MN 55126. Individual membership annual dues: \$25. Family membership annual dues: \$40.

Upcoming Exhibits:

The opening reception for the Bloomington Theatre and Arts Center member juried show is October 16, 6-8 p.m.

Minnesota artists who helped bring modernism to the state are featured in the James J. Hill House's "Minnesota Modern". The exhibit includes paintings and prints from the Minnesota Historical Society's permanent collection by Dewey Albinson (1898-1971), Cameron Booth (1892-1980), Clement Haupers (1900-1982) and Elof Wedin (1901-1983). These artists were some of the founders of MAA!! The exhibit opens November 22 and continues through March 22; James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave., St. Paul. \$9 adults, \$7 seniors, 651-297-2555 or

Members' News



Bonnie Crouch's painting (above) entitled "Neo Boreal Nomads" won an Award of Merit at the fall Edina Art Center Members Show.

Emmy White (321), Tom Dimock (Studio 183), Rita Corrigan & Marjorie Moody (392), Mandy Sadler & Rebecca Dudley (425) will be open for First Thursday at the Northrup King Building (1500 Jackson St. NE Mpls) on Thursday, October 2, 5-9 pm. Save the dates for Art Attack at NKB: November 7-9, 2014 with November 6 being First Thursday and preview of art.

Marjorie Moody will be showing at Curran's Restaurant October 8 through November. Marjorie's home art show is Sunday, November 2, Noon - 6 p.m. and all are welcome! (1220 Pascal St. No., St. Paul, MN 55108).



Judy Lieber was at a paintout in Wisconsin and sold a pastel right off her easel; and then the very next day she sold a drawing of a backhoe to its owner. Lesson learned: be kind to passersby (and construction workers!)

The Mystery Box Challenge

What would you put in this box?



What 6-10 items would you put in a box as a challenge to another creative artist to make something weirdly wonderful of the contents?

Heads-up, folks! This fun idea will be part of our program for our October 21 MAA meeting, so start thinking about it now!

Here's what to do:

1. Find a box - any box, any size (but one that can be closed at the top to hide the contents until the challenge is a "Go!") The box also can serve as a foundation to build on with the box's contents.
2. Search your house (or maybe a hobby store, or, well, Target or The Dollar Store!) for 6 to 10 unlike items to put in the box. (Think: cheap, even used, common household things. But quirky is also good!)
3. Bring your box to our Mystery Box Challenge Night for our October 21 meeting.
4. Also, bring a scissors, brush (for water-based media), and maybe some glue or scotch tape. If you have a glue gun and are willing to let others use it, too, please bring it. We will also have a grab bag with items you can use to supplement the items you find in the box you have chosen.
5. We'll put all the boxes on a table and, in alphabetical order, we'll each go up to the table and pick a box that is not our own to take back to our tables.
6. We'll have an hour to make something creative out of the contents of the box we chose. The idea is to REPURPOSE the objects and COMBINE them in a totally NOVEL, UNEXPECTED way!
7. To make this even more fun, consider teaming up with another person and combining the contents of your boxes.
8. The only rule is that we must use all the items (or at least one of each kind) in our box!
9. At the end of the hour, we'll display the mind-blowing and probably hilarious results on a table for a "Show and Tell"

Gems from the September Kat Corrigan Presentation

Kat's story included knowing that she needed someone and something to give her a "kick in the butt". One place she found the support she needed was the WARM mentor program (Women's Art Resources of Minnesota) where she found a mentor. The other thing that inspired her was an artist who was doing 100 paintings in 100 days. Kat decided she could do 30 in 30, and now she is still going strong, varying her subject matter to different animals and a few landscapes. Someone told her she could not be an artist and just paint dogs, but really, she could be successful at just those portraits. She says to follow what you love.

She paints small, mostly on 6 x 6 panels, and demonstrated for us, one on an 8 x 8. Lickety split, she had one done. What I found fascinating was that she starts her painting out on a totally black gesso surface. Many of us have learned to leave the white of our paper, or start from a colored surface such as orange or magenta. Then she leaves the black instead of the white. For those artists afraid of the dark,

who need to punch up the value change in their painting, this would be a great exercise. Kat also covered a lot about marketing and web products such as blogs and sites. You had to have been there! See Kat's website. Katcorrigan.com. (Terrie Christian reporting.)

"Every stroke is a new color. You're not painting a wall!" Kat Corrigan (Rachel Trockman reporting)

This and That

Check out the Museum Syndicate online at www.museumsyndicate.com. "A virtual museum featuring 81,206 images and videos of art and history."

Another online museum is at www.artrenewal.org which states its mission as : "To create the largest on-line museum on the Internet, with hundreds of thousands of oversized high quality images of all the known works of the greatest painters and sculptors in human history, cross referenced to the largest encyclopedic online art reference library of historical texts, essays, biographies and articles.

"Art seems to me to be a state of soul more than anything else." – Marc Chagall

Winston Churchill's inspiring essay, "Painting as a Pastime," is available in a new edition. It is selling on amazon.com in hardcover, paperback and Kindle format and all under \$12.00. In past years, you'd have been lucky to get a used copy for \$150!

Thanks again to Marjorie Moody and Terrie Christian for proof-reading our newsletters. Two extra sets of eyes is a luxury!

Thanks also to Jim Geisinger for printing out our newsletters for those wishing to receive them via snail-mail. All done with loving care, friends!

KEEP IN TOUCH! Please send news, announcements, and low res.JPGS of your latest work to Jeanne Emrich, your newsletter editor, at jemrich@aol.com. Put "News for MAA newsletter" in your subject line. Just attach a JPG to your e-mail or snail-mail Jeanne a photo. (Jeanne Emrich, 6566 France Avenue South, #508, Edina, MN, 55435).



"Guitar" by Terrie Christian