

## DOCENT BOARD MEETING

### SANTA BARBARA MUSEUM OF ART

**DATE: November 13, 2013**

**Present:** Vikki Duncan, Molora Vadnais, Joan Dewhirst, Ralph Wilson, Gail Stichler, Christine Holland, Mary Eckhart, Ann Robinson, Sylvia Mabee, Mary Ellen Hoffman, Barbara Boyd and Mike Ramey.

President Vikki Duncan called the meeting to order at 9:35AM in Luria room. The minutes of the October 9, 2013 meeting were approved.

#### BOARD REPORTS

##### **PRESIDENT: Vikki Duncan**

Vikki described the excitement at the November 6<sup>th</sup> general meeting when it was announced that Patsy Hicks and Rachael Krieps had nominated the entire Docent Council to receive a Local Heroes Award from the S.B. INDEPENDENT newspaper. Our Council is being recognized with the award at a luncheon on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Docent Art Show on November 10<sup>th</sup> was beautifully curated and a great success with 17 exhibitors and over 50 in attendance. Vikki thanked: the three organizers--Gail Stichler, Francis Hallinan, Stephanie Amon; Linda Adams and Molora Vadnais who helped with installation; Denise Klassen for the reception fare. SBMA Staff assistance was provided by Rachael Krieps, along with Itoko Maeno and Alfonso Bravo of the Ridley-Tree Education Center.

An opportunity for continuing education was presented by the Asian Study Group when they hosted a Salon on November 11<sup>th</sup>. Fifteen or more docents met at Gail Elnicky's home. Curator Susan Tai was unable to attend but she baked sweets for the tea table and sent flowers from her garden, along with her message of encouragement and appreciation for the increased efforts by more docents to improve and update the information in the Asian Collection.

Gail and Mei Chih Ho organized the program and presented ways to approach research and to create interesting museum tours. The 2-page format for research papers makes curatorial vetting easier and quicker. Explaining Asian Art within a concept of storytelling and describing what an object is and how it is used, helps to incorporate hooks for successful tours.

Molora suggested investigating the San Francisco Asian Museum where they have a docent group of specially-trained storytellers. Vikki added that a presentation could be made at the June 4<sup>th</sup> Docent Council Meeting.

Amanda Garcia of the Education Department Staff asked to address the Board. She reported that Rachael Kriebs was in San Francisco over the weekend and involved in a car accident. She is OK but will not be in her office until Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. Amanda then announced that November 22<sup>nd</sup> will be her last day in our Museum. She has taken a position at Cal Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, in the Department of Multicultural and International Students. Board members expressed their thanks for her devoted efforts for the Council and wished her well in her new career move.

SBMA Conservator Nan Rogers will be speaking on "Framing Delacroix" at the Council meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup>. It will be an auditorium presentation with slides but without time in the galleries. This will provide additional information for our visitors, learning how paintings are finished for public viewing.

Vikki noted that the new docent directories were released on November 6<sup>th</sup>. The New Active Research Presentations will begin at the general meeting on January 15<sup>th</sup>.

NEW BUSINESS: Vikki said comments had been received from docents regarding the RESPONSIBILITIES OF NEW ACTIVE DOCENTS in Section 3 of the Docent Council BY-LAWS. (pg. 42 of 2014 Directory) The current By-Laws state:

**"During the second through fourth years of service, in addition to student touring, a New Active Docent shall be a member of an adult team for one quarter of service."**

This requirement had been established when provisional classes were smaller and there was more attrition post graduation. Now we have larger classes graduating, fewer going Sustainer, and Senior Actives still touring students.

Vikki recommended changing the wording of the Adult Touring Service Requirement for New Actives to the following:

**"A New Active may be assigned to an Adult Team in any of the service years numbers 2-4 to meet touring team needs."**

Barbara Boyd moved to accept this change in wording of the Adult Touring Service Requirement for New Actives into the Docent Council By-Laws. It was seconded by Joan Dewhirst and the motion was carried. This change will require a vote by the Council at large.

**VICE PRESIDENT: Molora Vadnais**

### **Travel**

Thirty-nine docents and friends are signed up for the Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> bus trip to LACMA. There are 36 paid participants at \$55 each for an expected revenue of \$1980.00. The proposed budget was for 25 participants, so the total income is considerably higher. After raising some expenses to account for the additional people, she expects to clear about \$400 on the event.



The rest of the travel plans remain the same as last month. The travel committee will begin now to plan the January Palm Springs weekend trip and the April 2nd bus trip.

### **Social**

The Docent Art Show was a great success. The art show trio of Gail Stichler, Francis Hallinan and Stephanie Amon did a fabulous job. Gail handled the logistics, Francis curated and Stephanie took charge of the media. The Social Committee was also very involved. Denise Klassen catered all the food and Linda Adams was on site on Saturday along with Vikki and Molora to help set up the show. 17 docents displayed art including flower arranging, textiles, sculpture, painting, mixed media and photography. There were about 60 attendees.

The holiday party is coming up on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Invitations will go out next week. Volunteers are needed to help with setup and cleanup.

### **Education**

The Techniques Team has had two presentations. In October the team met with Tom Henderson, a local painter, to discuss the life of a professional artist. Tom was honest about the challenges and stresses of making a living from his art and how the need to market his art influences his artistic choices. In November the team visited Claus Staplemann, a local wood turner, at his home. Claus is 90 years old and began turning wood when he retired at the age of 80. His lathe turns intricate bowls, platters, vases and objects d'art. He does not sell his art and he chooses projects as much for their technical challenge as for their aesthetic value. December team plans: meeting with Chantal Gariepy to learn about ceramics; traveling to the Getty Villa for a 2-hour demonstration on fresco painting.

Molora noted that the next National Docent Symposium will be held in Cincinnati. She recommended increasing the monetary support for Board members who attend.

### **SECRETARY: Joan Dewhirst**

Francis Hallinan is sending thank-you notes to: Julie Joyce for her presentation on the *Totally 80's* exhibition at the October 16<sup>th</sup> general meeting; Richard Hecht for his presentation on November 6<sup>th</sup> in preparation for our Byzantine Icons exhibition opening on November 27<sup>th</sup>.

She wrote a congratulatory note to new parents, Carlos and Natalie Hernandez, on the birth of their son, Carlos Emanuel, on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **TREASURER: Ralph Wilson**

Ralph reported the following balances for Month-End October 31, 2013:  
CHECKING ACCOUNT= \$5,303.87 SAVINGS ACCOUNT= \$10,280.13  
(See attached report)





**MEMBERSHIP: Gail Stichler**

Gail reported there are now 11 Provisionals. Maggie Perry has resigned for personal reasons. (See attached report)

**ADULT TEAMS: Christine Holland & Mary Eckhart**

Christine reported that the October *Ten Talks* had an average of 12.5 visitors per tour and they now account for 25% of total docent touring. She suggested that while the Delacroix exhibition is up there be an additional *Ten Talk* in that gallery at 5:40 pm and the regular team's tours at the usual times of 6:10pm and 7:10pm.  
(See attached reports for tour statistics)

**STUDENT TEAMS: Ann Robinson & Sylvia Mabee**

Sylvia reported that the five-person Power Point Presentation Team is off to a good start. In November they served 9 classrooms in 7 schools. Three evaluations have been accomplished and the rest will be completed in December.  
Loree Gold has put together and shared, via e-mail, a series of current images that can be used for all grades except 6<sup>th</sup>. These can be adapted to the curriculum core skills where critical thinking is the key. Lists will change as exhibits change and might be made available on the docent website.

Ann noted that a great deal of noise is created when students are returned to the Park Entrance after their tours. She suggested making it a policy to bring the classes outdoors for their dismissal. (See attached report for October's Student Team statistics)

**PROVISIONAL CHAIRS: Kathryn Padgett, Mary Ellen Hoffman, with Ralph Wilson**

Mary Ellen reported they have lost one student, Maggie Perry, for personal reasons. She hopes to apply next year. The rest of the class is doing great.  
There is lots of enthusiasm and engagement. Members are eager to discuss the assigned reading, tours they have observed, and all manner of things art. They all passed the first quiz on art vocabulary and each one has successfully presented a 3-minute "spotlight" talk. They will give their 3-minute talks on November 21<sup>st</sup>.

She and Ralph are preparing the syllabus for the next term with Kathryn's guidance. The last class for this term is December 5<sup>th</sup>. The Provisionals will be introduced by their mentors at the holiday party on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**RESEARCH: Barbara Boyd**

A team of 10 researchers has been established and 6 research papers pertaining to the *Totally 80's* exhibition are in progress. Ralph Wilson has submitted his paper on Charles Arnoldi's *Landfisher* for vetting. A list of items not researched is needed for the 11 Provisionals to prepare their research papers.

## MEMBERSHIP CHAIR REPORT

As of November 13, 2013

Active Docents	77
Active Docents - LOA	1
Sustainers	25
Provisional	11

MONTH	PUBLIC	RESEARCH	PROVISIONAL	TOTAL HOURS REPORTED
JULY	125	797		922
AUGUST	101	708		809
SEPTEMBER	66	790		856
OCTOBER	96	837		933
NOVEMBER				0
DECEMBER				0
JANUARY				0
FEBRUARY				0
MARCH				0
APRIL				0
MAY				0
JUNE				0
Total Hours	388	3132	0	3520

Note: July 2012 - June 2013 total hours = 18,314

Submitted by Gail Stichler



ADULT TEAMS REPORT  
DOCENT COUNCIL BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 13, 2013

In October 2013, SBMA docents toured a total of 411 visitors on a total of 62 tours, with an average of 6.6 visitors per tour.

*Highlights* remains steady as compared with previous months.

*Portraits* had a lot of interest, with an average of over 7 visitors per tour.

Both special exhibits have had very good attendance so far, with *Divola* welcoming 9.3 average per tour and *Totally 80s* welcoming 7.3 average per tour.

*Ten Talks* had an average this month of 12.5 visitors per tour. *Ten Talks*, it must now be admitted, is a huge success for the museum and the docent council, with a string of months with very good attendance and enthusiasm from the visitors. It seems to be an excellent way to reach out to people who might not be regular museum patrons, to help connect them with the art and hopefully build long-term interest.

DOCENT TOURING STATISTICS  
OCTOBER 2013

ALL TOURS

Total visitors toured: 411  
Total Number Tours: 62  
Visitors per Tour average: 6.6

REGULAR TOURS

Total visitors toured: 411  
Total Number Tours: 62  
Visitors per Tour average: 6.6

SPECIAL REQUEST TOURS

Total visitors toured: 0  
Total Number Tours: 0  
Visitors per Tour average: 0

TEN TALKS

Total visitors toured: 113  
Total Number Tours: 9  
Visitors per Tour average: 12.5

HIGHLIGHTS

Total visitors toured: 80  
Total Number Tours: 22  
Visitors per Tour average: 3.6

ASIAN

Total visitors toured: 21  
Total Number Tours: 5  
Visitors per Tour average: 4.2

EUROPEAN

Total visitors toured: 39  
Total Number Tours: 7  
Visitors per Tour average: 5.6

PORTRAITS

Total visitors toured: 43  
Total number tours: 6  
Visitors per tour average: 7.1

DIVOLA

Total visitors toured: 56  
Total number tours: 6  
Visitors per tour average: 9.3

TOTALLY 80s

Total visitors toured: 44  
Total number tours: 6  
Visitors per tour average: 7.3

DELACROIX

Total visitors toured: 15  
Total number tours: 1  
Visitors per tour average: 15

Notes:

Numbers are based on number of tours actually given and do not include tours scheduled but not given because there were 0 visitors.

“All Tours” statistics include *Special Requests* tours and *Ten Talks* tours.

“Regular Tours” statistics include all tours including *Ten Talks* but do not include *Special Requests*.

The attendance numbers for the first days of new exhibits were swelled by attendance by docents.  
1 *Highlights* tour had 0 visitors; thus, 23 were scheduled but only 22 given  
1 *Asian* tour had 0 visitors; thus, 6 were scheduled but only 5 given  
1 *Ten Talks* had 0 visitors ; thus, 10 were scheduled but only 9 given  
There were no *Special Request* tours in October

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Holland  
Adult Teams Co-Chair



Santa Barbara Museum of Art  
Docent Council Board of Directors  
Student Teams Report

October 2013

**Museum Tours**

Number of Students	197
Number of Tours	6
Grade Levels grade	1-2 <sup>nd</sup> , grade; 2-3 <sup>rd</sup> . grade, 1-4 <sup>th</sup> grade, 2-5 <sup>th</sup> grade,
Schools:	Brandon, Canalino, El Camino, Home School

**Classroom Presentations**

Number of Students	131
Number of Tours	5
Grade Levels	2-3 <sup>rd</sup> . grade, 1-4 <sup>th</sup> , grade, 2-5 <sup>th</sup> . grade
Schools:	Adams, Adelante, Monroe

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Robinson

Student Team Coordinator

Barbara met with the Asian Team and is coordinating efforts with them. A complete list of items now up in the Asian galleries, plus a list of research papers in progress and a list of objects needing research are forthcoming from this group.

A rough draft of the Research Papers Handbook and Resources will be circulating for ideas and feedback before being presented to the Provisional Class Instructors on November 20<sup>th</sup> and to the Provisionals on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

Some issues have emerged: 1) The question of how best to use informal information or research papers that have not been vetted has arisen with Tour leaders, the Asian team and others. Could we have a section on the docent website (similar to the "Comments Section") of "Bits and Pieces" which clearly states that the information has not been vetted? 2) Asian team members have produced background papers that pertain to not just one but several works from similar cultures. The Techniques Team is producing non-traditional research papers on various techniques. Will all of these need vetting?

**EVALUATIONS: Paul Guido**

Paul was traveling and reported to Vikki, via e-mail, that evaluations are coming in.

**WEBMASTER: Mike Ramey**

Mike reported that he worked with Rachael to obtain the packets she sent to the Heavenly Bodies Focus Team. Of the 12 artists represented, 8 had images suitable for use on the website and these 8 were posted.

He mentioned that he would like to display on the website the lists of works on the floor for each grade level that Sylvia mentioned in her PowerPoint report.

Mike is also working with the Asian Team to restore the remaining Research Papers from the old website. A few older papers will be replaced since the scholarship has changed since they were written.

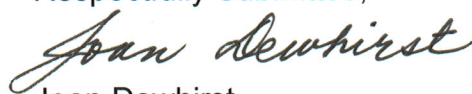
**PAST PRESIDENT/NOMINATIONS: Kathryn Padgett**

First meeting of the Nominating Committee will be held in early December.

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Vikki Duncan adjourned the meeting at 11:35 AM.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 11, 2013, at 9:30 AM in Luria room.

Respectfully Submitted,



Joan Dewhirst  
Secretary