

# **Pennsylvania Art Education Association Annual Report, October 2013**



*The mission of the Pennsylvania Art Education Association is to actively support and promote visual art education through professional development, leadership, and service.*

## **Leadership Council**

**President: Mary Elizabeth Meier, Ph.D.**

On behalf of the board of directors, I wish to thank Kristin Baxter and Heather Fountain who have co-lead the 2013 Conference Steering Committee. This committee has thoughtfully and artfully crafted a magnificent weekend experience for PA art educators! I commend them for their countless hours of dedication. In many ways, our annual conference is like a New Year's celebration. It is a time to consider the past and activate the possibilities for the present academic year. The highlights from this 2012–2013 annual report will be the focus of our general membership business meeting: Act 48 hours and professional learning, assessment of student learning and the teacher evaluation initiative, PAEA Strategic Planning, design education and the Learning By Design group, statewide Youth Art Month Show at PDE in March, partnership with Education Policy and Leadership Center (EPLC), and election of officers: Treasurer and Secretary. All PAEA members are encouraged to attend the meeting on Saturday, October 19 at 3pm.

In March 2013, many PAEA members were honored at NAEA with national awards. We honored many of them at the Eastern Division award ceremony. Amy Anderson and I represented PAEA as delegates to the NAEA delegates assembly. We voted on position statements and voted in favor of adding a student division to NAEA. The question of the student division is now before the general membership of the NAEA as a constitutional change. Members can vote by electronic ballot until December 2013. Check your email for a link to the secure ballot.

The PAEA Leadership Council (President, President-Elect, Past-President, Treasurer, and Secretary) continues to meet monthly via web conference. We also use web conference to meet among committees and work groups such as Learning by Design, YAM student show at PDE, and conference planning. As president, I work closely with a variety of committees to support them in service to art education across the state. In 2013, PAEA re-assumed responsibility for hosting and coordinating the annual statewide YAM show at the PA Department of Education. The conference committees for 2013, 2014, and 2015 have been working diligently to continue to provide a stellar professional development weekend for art educators. The treasurer and I work closely with the steering committees in planning.

Diane Wilkin and I work together to represent PAEA on various statewide advisory committees including the Educational Policy and Leadership Arts in Education Symposium steering committee, and the Pennsylvania Arts Education Network Steering Committee. I also

consulted with the PA Game Commission this year to help them develop criteria for an art contest to raise awareness about PA wildlife in their habitats. The EPLC sought our help with putting out a call for artwork to invite young artists to display artwork in the publicity materials for the EPLC arts in education symposium.

Our partnerships with other organizations have been very important in 2012 and 2013. In spring of 2013, I represented PAEA at the PA Music Educator's Conference. I presented research at this conference and attended sessions.

PAEA has been working in partnership with O. David Deitz to help art and music teachers rise to leadership in helping teachers learn methods of qualitative assessment of student learning.

The mission of the Pennsylvania Art Education Association is to actively support and promote visual art education through professional development, leadership, and service. The reports that follow summarize of activities led by members of the board of directors since October 2012. I wish to convey public thanks for the work that each member of the board of directors does to advance the mission of our organization.

### **President Elect: Diane Wilkin**

The board is in the process of developing a Strategic Plan. We have identified and aligned several goal areas with the NAEA strategic plan. Specific action plans and the definition of individual responsibilities are in process with several groups already moving ahead with action - most notably - a Design Team organizing a statewide initiative to work with recycled materials to create wearable art.

Several other board members and I are member/liasons on the newly created PA Arts Education Network, where arts groups and individuals from across the state are working together to promote policy, awareness and advocacy for the arts in education.

I represented PAEA at the Team East NAEA leadership weekend this summer.

### **Past President: Kris Fontes**

Kris has been very active with the newsletter and website in the past year. Our thoughts are with Kris Fontes as she recovers from heart surgery.

### **Interim Treasurer: Amy Anderson**

This year, I have continued for a second year as interim Treasurer, with former PAEA Treasurer James Ritchey as my mentor. Under James's guidance, PAEA maintains a professional relationship with Padgett Business Services, who update our financial records bi-annually using Quick Books, and with ParenteBeard, who provide us with an annual financial audit. PAEA's finances are maintained in a clear and consistent manner, and overall balances have remained consistent at a modest yet healthy balance. Our organization's financial proceedings have never been more predictable or transparent. Thank you James, for sharing your insights, experience, and wisdom with me.

Also this year, we have streamlined our banking into one main account with PNC bank, and have updated all of our financial accounts contact information to reflect the changes in our leadership. We have also updated our credit card processing contracts with First Data and RegOnline, and our PCI compliance contract has been renewed. PAEA's income comes from two main sources, both of which are subject to fluctuations: annual

membership dues and our annual conference. As a guideline, we look to these income streams to fund general operations and the annual conference, respectively, so that we are financially self-sustaining. This year, we have also seen an increase in donations to PAEA. This generous giving reflects well on the how our organization is perceived and valued in the larger communities we serve. Thank you, members, and Friends of PAEA, for your ongoing support and participation at the conference this year, and your part in promoting annual membership in your communities, school districts, and campuses.

As part of our annual operations, the PAEA Board of Directors are provided the opportunity to meet for a weekend long leadership meeting at Kutztown University each summer. This summer we continued work on our new strategic plan. Our board is comprised of 35 hard working volunteer members, representing all regions of the state, and all facets within the field of Art Education. Other predictable operational costs include, supplies, postage, travel related to Board work, attendance at the National Art Education Annual conference (PAEA send two delegates to the NAEA delegate's assembly each year), and attendance for one person at Team East, which is a regional meeting hosted by NAEA for state-level leaders. This year, as part of our mission to serve and provide leadership in the field of Art Education, we provided funds for Dr. Carrie Nordlund, from Kutztown University to attend the Pennsylvania Education Policy Fellowship Program this fall. We encourage you to take part in the symposia that the EPLC offers around the state

We continue to fund regional professional development workshops and art exhibits in regions across the state and at the state capital for Youth Art Month and Arts in Education Day. In attempts to stay current in the 21st century, PAEA has recently purchased a digitizing scanner, to digitize and archive vital PAEA documents and financial records, and a new Wordpress webpage theme, to enhance our web presence. We are grateful for your attendance this year at the annual conference here in Bethlehem, and are looking forward to seeing you again in 2014 at Seven Springs, PA! Thank you for renewed membership and support!

### **Interim Secretary: Kris Troxell**

As Interim secretary, I took notes for the monthly Leadership Council meetings and took minutes at our Board Meetings. I compiled the responses from the discussion from our online Ning meetings. I periodically sent reminders and updates for time sensitive and informational gathering of items for the Board. I continue to familiarize myself with Google Drive environment as a place to store and share files for the Board and Leadership council balance duties of secretary with ever changing job placement and demands. I facilitated the Apps roundtable at Conference 2012 and developed a public spreadsheet in Google Drive that lists Apps presented and the features of those Apps.

### **Division Directors**

#### **Elementary: Sandy Corson**

I sponsored the PAEA Annual Fall Conference in our Region last fall and encouraged many area art teachers to attend this event. Many did attend and so we postponed any additional fall activities. I worked closely with the YAM team to revamp the PAEA YAM Student Exhibit at PDE. We also received work for this exhibit for both Regions 7 & 8, and we helped to hang

and tear down the exhibit. Our goal was to create a quality exhibit opportunity for students of all ages in PA that was manageable, honorable and free of vandalism concerns.

### **Middle Level: Leslie Ann Kunkel**

As Middle Level representative, I shared information with the middle level division members. I also secured arts presenters for the Pennsylvania Association for Middle Level Education (PAMLE) Western Region Professional Development Institute. I have continued to work to forge a relationship with PAMLE.

### **Secondary: Alyce Grunt**

I am excited to have been appointed to the PAEA board in April of 2013 to serve as Secondary Division Director. I teach just outside of Philadelphia and may be reached through my teaching website: [www.msgrunt.com](http://www.msgrunt.com). I hope that the high school page being developed on the PAEA website can be a place where teachers can share ideas both about teaching art and navigating the changes in teacher evaluations that will be implemented this year. I also look forward to finding ways to support art teachers who wish to exhibit their own artwork as well as the work of their students through exhibits and increased web presence. As always, the upcoming YAM show in March is a great way to recognize student achievement.

### **Higher Education: Heather Fountain, Ph.D.**

On September 15, 2012, I co-led, with Kristin Baxter, the 2013 Conference Planning Committee Meeting at the Best Western Hotel and Conference Center in Bethlehem, PA. Also in September I hosted a student social with a fused glass class to gather region ten students together for collegiality and to share with them about the 2013 conference plans and what they can do to get involved. From October 5-7, I attended and presented at PAEA conference, Harrisburg. Kristin and I met by phone with Mary Elizabeth to confer about the conference on three different occasions.

On November 12, I participated in the GoToMeeting regarding Strategic Plan, with Diane Wilkin, Mary Elizabeth Meier, Beth Cornell, Jackie Thomas, Heather Fountain, Kris Fontes. From January 10-20, I participated in a Cyber Meeting.

I sent out information about The Clyde McGeary scholarship to all on the PAEA higher Ed member list. I also communicated with Jackie Thomas about the scholarship to make changes to who is able to submit and date change. I also disseminated information about the McGeary Scholarship.

I communicated with Kris Fontes about conference 2013 website and constant contact information. I talked with or met with Kristin Baxter multiple times a week about conference items. I mentored these conference teams: marketing, advertising, sponsors and ads, proposal team and tech coordinator. I worked with Dan Green to create save the date coins with member and keynote images and statements. I helped write and edit grant applications for sponsorship. I met with Giant Stores community relations reps to discuss conference sponsorship. With Kristin, I created a sponsorship form and save the date form for conference committee members and board to use to obtain support. I also worked on fundraising with Kristin for the 2013 conference. On March 2, I met at Baum School with Conference Planning Team. On March 4, I worked with Kristin on a proposal for Kelsey King to work with Rachel Drumheller on children's art exhibition during conference 2013. I worked with Amy Wunder - conference proposal committee chair- on call for proposals. I created and have maintained a conference planning blog site for the conference committee.

Amy Migliore and I worked on the spring Project Innovate Event at KU. I worked with Mary Elizabeth to procure KU rooms and reservations for summer board retreat- signed and submitted paperwork. In March 2013, I participated in another Cyber Board meeting. I attended the NAEA eastern region awards and business meeting to support our Pennsylvania educator of the year and to pass out save the dates for the PAEA 2013 conference. I worked on the 2013 Conference and all the daily details such as mentoring students, working on the program, contacting sponsors etc...finding ways to connect to students, to our generation of leaders, and to PAEA and service.

I met with Amy Wunder to discuss her desire to be part of the PAEA board. She wanted to know what we are doing and where she might fit in the scheme of things. She was highly involved in Iowa on the board and served as president there. She has a passion for state boards and serving the membership, as well as a passion for issues related to equity and social status.

I also worked with the public relations officer at KU to write an article or the summer 2013 TOWER highlighting the many PAEA members who are KU graduates or current faculty who have received state and national recognition this school year. It was great PR. I also facilitated Summer 2013 Board retreat and started working on 2014 retreat.

### **Administration & Supervision: Emilee Taylor**

This year I represented the PAEA attending the "the Dream@50" Award Ceremony honoring the Philadelphia Area Art award winners from area high schools. I also attended two training sessions in Harrisburg on developing Student Learning Objectives. I organized an informational session of this process for School District of Philadelphia Arts teachers and administration facilitated by O. David Deitz, Education Consultant for PDE. I continue to encourage PAEA involvement and membership from SDP art teachers and supported their participation of the Annual Art exhibition during the PAEA Conference.

### **Retired: Sandy Wood**

In continuing to honor retirees, I am preparing 5 certificates for the people appearing on the latest roster of retired members. I also have prepared a special certificate to honor retirees who have remained committed to PAEA.

The people appearing on the latest roster are Elizabeth Brndjar and Linda Sutton, who taught/have been a members for 38 years, Elizabeth Burkhauser who taught for 36 years, and Lois Dreater, Kaye Resser, Jackie Thomas and Sandy Wood for 35 years. I have also submitted material to the Retired Art Ed Assoc. about members; and continue to promote the visuals arts through PowerPoint presentations of "Your Brain on Art" for local in-services. I also submitted material for Kutztown University art conference last November, and for our current conference in Bethlehem. I also had a person-to-person meeting with the local new superintendent of our school district, who is very favorable. I attended one day of the retreat at Kutztown University. I also participated in our cyber board meetings.

### **Student Representative: Kristina Kopfer**

I am an art education student at Kutztown University, so along with being a member of Kutztown University's NAEA, I also try to advocate for the arts during the summer at my camp. I am a camp counselor, so I incorporate art activities into our weekly schedule. I also taught a Kindergarten art class and 6-9 Medieval Times class and incorporated art. At the conference, I will be presenting with a friend of mine on Aligning Objectives and Assessment.

Every summer I am a camp counselor for a program in Bethlehem, PA. This past summer I helped with fifth graders and taught arts activities at least once a week. I also taught an art class for Kindergarteners. I am involved in Kutztown University's NAEA and volunteer throughout the semester with various events that come up to help advocate for the arts! This fall I started my early field experience in Dieruff High School and will be student teaching in the spring!

### **Region 1: Leslie Kunkel**

Jody Guy and I are looking forward to working together as co-reps for Region 1.

### **Region 2: Christina Martin**

I accomplished many PAEA tasks for the 2012-2013 year. I worked on updating the current member contact list for Region 2. I planned a region 2 event in Erie, PA. Region 2 members met for dinner and then attended a presentation at Mercyhurst University given by Mr. Bill Strickland. On, October 14, PAEA region 2 co-hosted a workshop day for Erie County art teachers and the Erie Art Museum. I forwarded information from the board to region members. I attended/will attend three board meetings. I am planning to help collect and deliver student artwork for the annual show in Harrisburg.

### **Region 3: Jessica Souchik**

I have been trying to get members active in region 3. I am continuing to contact region members and encourage them to participate in PAEA activities.

### **Region 4: Karen Lintner & Julia Nelson**

No report

### **Region 5: Marcy Bogdanich, Leslie Kunkle, co-reps**

I sent post cards to region 5 members for the conference as well as emails. I sent an email blast to art educators in Reg. 5 as well. I presented at the 2012 conference. I am serving on the Learning by Design initiative group for PAEA. I also planned a joint event with Region 1, but it had to be cancelled due to low participation.

### **Region 6: Joy L. Knepp**

Deb Theys and I continue to send emails to art teachers in our region to encourage membership in PAEA as well as informing them to the various activities, events, exhibitions and advocacy tools that are available to members. In Somerset County, we promoted and held an art show at our local art center for all the art teachers in the county.

We had two schools participate in the PAEA Art show last spring at the PDE building in Harrisburg. We plan to promote this art show next year as well.

The 2014 conference will be held in our region and I am co-chair. I have recruited a few other teachers to serve on the conference committee in region 6 as well as the Pittsburgh/Fayette County region. Deb Theys has resigned as region 6 co-representative. We thank her for years of service on the PAEA board.

### **Region 7: Melissa Gallagher & Wendy Pires**

The Annual PAEA conference on design education was well attended by teachers in our region last fall and served as our fall activity. Local art teachers also supported the student

exhibit that was held at PDE. A second reception was held in late October for artists & their families after the conference. We also were highly involved in reorganizing the YAM student exhibit at PDE in March. We served as collection point for student art for regions 7 & 8. Our combined regions provided around 180 student works of art. We have been actively engaged in contacting PAEA members and encouraging non-members to join through email communication. We held a welcome back to school event in August at the Trout Gallery featuring a short presentation on an exhibit of Civil War drawings that were then converted to prints & published in a Northern newspaper. We assisted Leslie Gates with a Region 7 at MU on the new SLOs that will go into effect next year. We recruited eight new/renewing PAEA members at this SLO workshop!

## **Region 8: Vacant**

## **Region 9: Selena Mazella & Jenna Casaldi**

We attended the Harrisburg Conference and the spring meeting at McCann School of Art. We attended EPLC meeting at the Everhart Museum in Scranton. Participated in YAM. We are serving as board members of The Vintage Theater (art venue in Scranton) and suggested initiative for a cooperative program between Vintage and Art Ed students at Marywood University.

## **Region 10: Kristin Baxter, Ed.D.**

I attended these PAEA Board Meetings:

- Cyber Meeting on NING (quarterly on-line meetings)
- Annual conference meeting (October 2013)
- McCann School of Art, State College, PA (April 2013)
- Retreats at Kutztown University (July 2013)

In October 2012, I wrote an article about the state of Art Education in Pennsylvania, for the PAEA Online News forum “Practical Applications for Education Policy and Leadership Center’s (EPLC)” report, “Creating Pennsylvania’s future through the arts and education.” In addition, in October 2012, I help two of my art education students give presentations at the PAEA Conference, Harrisburg

In March 2013, I attended the Youth Art Month (YAM) Reception at the PA Department of Education in Harrisburg. In July 2013 I wrote article for PAEA newsletter about upcoming 2013 PAEA Conference.

I emailed announcements to our members, such as promoting:

- 2012 PAEA Conference in Harrisburg; hosted Region 10 dinner (Oct 2012)
- Art Education conference at Kutztown University, “Framing the Future” (Nov 2012)
- EPLC “Arts & Education Regional Community Forum” at Parkland High School (Nov 2012)
- Youth Art Month (YAM) Exhibition at the PA Department of Education in Harrisburg; collected works of art from Region 10 members (Feb 2013)
- Educators’ Night at Lehigh University Art Galleries in conjunction with the exhibition of works by American Abstract Expressionist painter Joan Mitchell (Feb 2013)
- “Creating Adaptive Art Materials” Professional Development workshop at Moravian College led by Heather Fountain (April 2013)
- “Call for Artwork” for the K-12 Student Exhibition in Payne Art Gallery/Moravian College held during the PAEA Conference in Bethlehem (spring-summer 2013)

- Summer Art Exhibition at Moravian College organized by the New Bridge Group, based in Allentown. All artists are invited to join the New Bridge Group as a way to exhibit their artwork regularly throughout the Lehigh Valley (Summer 2013)
- Summer art camp for children (grades 3-7) at Moravian College. Region 10 Member and Kutztown University graduate, Lauren Miller, assisted Moravian College students with camp. (July – Aug 2013)
- “Call for Artwork” for “Best of the Best,” an exhibition of artwork made by art educators, to be exhibited at the Kauffman Gallery at Shippensburg University in the winter 2014.

My Co-Chair, Heather Fountain, and I are finalizing details now for the 2013 PAEA Conference including:

- recruiting Board Members to staff specific areas during the conference
- Finalizing details of K-12 Student Art Exhibition
- Awards Ceremony and receptions
- Finalizing the schedule for the printed guide to the conference
- Confirming logistics and hospitality arrangements for our keynote speakers
- Making lists of checks that need to be requested
- Thank-you notes to be written, and gifts to be purchased
- Working with the hotel in the final weeks before the conference to ensure all details are attended to
- Finalizing details of transportation to/from off site events.

### **Region 11: David Miller & Ian White Williams**

We attended PAEA Board retreats at State College and Kutztown. We have continued to try to determine ways to foster fellowship. We are trying to be inclusive of all arts teachers in our region with hopes that those who are not members of the NAEA/PAEA will be enticed to join. We recently started a Region 11 Facebook group and held an open studio night during the October Ambler First Friday.

### **Region 12: Lisbeth Bucci & Robin Brewer**

We have continued to reach out to Region 12 members through personal correspondence, a gallery walk in West Chester (Spring 2013), email updates and networking in person at other events. We participate in social media (facebook and twitter) and advocate for art and education. We are currently assisting a local high school with getting the word out for their ceramics in-service on November 5. Leesa is continuing preparations for the student booth and presentations for students. We are both presenting at PAEA 2013 and NAEA 2014 conferences.

### **Advocacy & Membership: Christine Besack**

No Report

### **Arts in Special Education: Vacant**

### **Awards: Jessica Souchik**

I collected nominations for the 2013 award winners. At the July 2013 PAEA retreat, the awards committee and I reviewed the nominations and selected the 2013 awards winners. I have contacted the award winners and nominators as well as the nominators and nominees who were

not selected this year. I created the awards certificates and purchased the gifts, which will be presented at the 2013 PAEA Conference in Bethlehem in October. I planned the 2013 awards ceremony.

### **Conference Administrator: Leslie Gates, Ph.D.**

I worked with the 2013 conference committee to provide guidance and oversight as needed. My main task for the 2013 conference will be to handle all things related to registration, including any financial transactions with the assistance of Amy Anderson. I have also worked closely with Joy Knepp and Becky Gartley to confirm a location and dates for our 2014 conference. We have also been able to secure a few keynote speakers for that conference. I am playing a stronger role guiding the 2014 conference team as my conference administrator title officially goes into effect in relationship to the 2014 conference. I am seeing many benefits of the way we are currently planning and running conferences. This year I proposed to present our method at NAEA and my proposal was accepted. I will be presenting about PAEA's conference planning process at NAEA in San Diego in March 2014.

### **Conference 2014 Steering Committee: Joy Knepp & Becky Gartley**

The annual PAEA Conference for 2014 is planned for Oct. 30-Nov. two, 2014 at Seven Springs Resort near Somerset, PA. The theme for the conference is "Art is Natural." One of the highlights of the conference will take place at Fallingwater, the Frank Lloyd Wright house where we will have tours, programs and a spectacular keynote speaker. We will also be hosting our awards ceremony and the student art exhibition here. Touchstone Center for Crafts in Farmington, PA will be planning workshops at Seven Springs throughout the weekend so participants will be able to learn from artists who teach there. Since our conference falls on Halloween weekend, don't be surprised if we throw in a bit of "Trick or Treating" at our regional dinner. While this conference will be filled with rich professional development there are also plenty of recreational activities available at the resort. This is definitely the year to bring your family and take an extra day to enjoy your time in the Laurel Highlands.

### **Design Education: Amy Migliore**

I continue to seek ways to enhance the engagement of and service opportunities for innovative teachers and students by producing Project Innovate Events and by serving on the committee for Learning By Design. We had a huge event for Project Innovate in May hosted by Kutztown University, which supported 50 students from 13 different districts. This summer, I also attended the inaugural Design Ed conference in Philadelphia with Diane Wilkin and Sandy Corson to introduce a PAEA presence and to learn and gather information that could move us forward in our inquiries. I designed the logo and invitation post cards for the Learning by Design team and for the kick-off events at the Fall 2013 annual PAEA conference.

### **Fellows Representative: Jackie Thomas**

The PAEA Fellows was established to continue involvement of PAEA leaders as mentors and advisors to the PAEA Board. Technically, the Fellows are an extension of the Board when called upon to serve. A focus this year has been on helping to organize thoughts for a new multi-year strategic plan.

The PAEA Fellows Chair is also chairing the Clyde McGearry Scholarship Program. As a Fellow, Clyde pledged to establish a Foundation Fund to provide scholarships to help art

education students pay their tuition. In addition, the scholarship reimburses conference registration for the recipient. This year the scholarship program provided funding toward EPLC leadership training in addition to three scholarships. Please consider a donation to the scholarship fund.

I am honored to participate in the new Learning by Design project chaired by Sandy Corson.

### **Multiethnic Concerns: Wanda Knight, Ph.D.**

I am hoping that you will join me in coming up with ideas and suggestions for thinking about multiethnic concerns as issues important to everyone who teaches diverse students. We can work together to promote, strengthen, and encourage the role of the visual arts education while fostering respect for and a greater understanding of cultural diversity within our society. We ask: How do we show care and concern for the individuality of our students? How do we investigate and activate a celebration of diversity through the arts in community? As teachers, how do we see how our beliefs, attitudes, experiences are part of learning for all? Becoming culturally competent is relevant to everyone. I invite you to contact me to talk more about these ideas and I hope everyone sees the role that they can play in thinking about themes in art education as themes in multi ethnic concerns.

### **Museum Education Division Director: Wendy Pires**

No Report

### **Newsletter Committee: Kris Troxell**

The newsletter team sends quarterly newsletters as well as time sensitive updates, like conference registration reminders. Working with Kris Fontes using Constant Contact as digital newsletter tool.

### **Non–Public Education Division Director: Lisa K. Duffy**

(Lisa K. Duffy resigned from the board on October 6, 2013 and this position is currently vacant)

### **Professional Concerns: Beth Cornell**

Over the past year, Professional Concerns has worked with David Deitz and PDE to resolve Act 48 hours issues for PAEA. Success was met and PAEA submitted an application on a new form provided by PDE. For the next three years, PAEA will offer Act 48 hours for conferences and regional workshops. A companion online evaluation has been developed. The next step is to adjust the 2014 conference presenter’s proposal application to match the Act 48 requirements as needed.

### **Student Exhibitions: Rachel Drumheller**

No Report

### **Youth Art Month: Co-Chair Ashley Gogoj:**

The purpose of Youth Art Month is to emphasize the value of art education for all children and to encourage support for quality school art programs. PAEA supports the celebration of Youth Art Month in Pennsylvania by providing teachers across the state with guidance and opportunities to celebrate the annual observance. As one of the co-chairpersons for

Youth Art Month, I organized the annual flag contest and supported the YAM show held at the Pennsylvania Department of Education building in Harrisburg. I have also guided and supported art teachers from around the state to start the observance of Youth Art Month and to help support YAM activities. In addition to my responsibilities as one of the Youth Art Month co-chairs, I served on the 2012 PAEA conference committee and presented on Youth Art Month at the conference.

### **Youth Art Month: Co-chair Laurie Harnish:**

PAEA was asked by Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) to host an exhibition for Youth Art Month (March, 2013) at their building in Harrisburg. The PAEA Board of Directors worked hard last year to get the word out to all PAEA members, then collect, and deliver artwork from across the state. Ninety-two art educators/PAEA members submitted works amounting in 425 student works of art on display. We had 266 guests attend the artist reception. It was wonderful to see families and art teachers from all over PA travel to Harrisburg to celebrate with the young artists. All exhibition participants received a participation certificate from PAEA/Sargent Art. Four students were selected to receive prizes from the following PAEA Members; Elementary: Ms. Durgin of Carlisle Area SD, Middle: Ms. Barnhart of State College Area SD, High: Mr. Nagle of Cumberland Valley SD, and Grand Prize to Mr. Miller of Wissahickon SD. We hope all students were honored to have their work on display at the PDE building. Since this exhibition, I have been appointed YAM Co-Chair on the PAEA Board of Directors and have the responsibility of organizing future YAM Exhibits at PDE in collaboration with the YAM team. I am extremely excited about being on this team and look forward to involving more PAEA members in displaying the creations of young PA artists. I hope to see many faces at the YAM 101 presentation during the 2014 PAEA conference.

In March of 2012, at the NAEA Conference in NYC, I heard the news that assessments in art education were being collected and used in numerous states as part of the teacher evaluation process in response to the federal RACE to TOP initiative. Although at this time Pennsylvania was not a RACE State, I was sure it was only a matter of time considering federal funding was linked. I sought out to find what was known through the leadership of the PAEA. In July 2012, as an interested PAEA member I was invited to attend the annual PAEA Board of Directors leadership retreat where information regarding Pennsylvania's art assessment process was introduced. The official title that Pennsylvania Department of Education has adopted for the assessment process is called Student Learning Objectives (SLO's). SLO's are considered the elective portion in the PA Teacher Effectiveness system and will account for 35% of art educator rating during the 2014-2015 school year. The SLO process was created by a PDE consultant, David Deitz. I have attended numerous informative presentations by Deitz including; the July, 2012 PAEA leadership retreat, the October, 2012 PAEA Conference in Harrisburg, the October, 2012 EPLC Arts and Ed. Symposium in Harrisburg, the April, 2013 PAEA Board Meeting, and the July, 2013 PA Arts Ed. Network face-to-face Steering Committee Meeting. In March, 2013 I attended training along with other PAEA members to assist in the SLO development process. I am currently working on independently piloting the SLO process with my principal. I will be sharing my experiences during a PAEA Region 7 event in October, 2013 and at the 2013 PAEA Conference.

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Special thanks to Kris Troxell, PAEA secretary, and Samantha Strathearn, co-president of the Mercyhurst University NAEA/PAEA student chapter for compiling this annual report.