

Associates of the Winnipeg Art Gallery

Annual General Meeting

Thursday, June 8, 2017

Penthouse

The Winnipeg Art Gallery

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|------------|--|------|
| 9.30 a.m. | Coffee | |
| | Membership renewal | |
| 10.00 a.m. | AGM: review of the year membership reports | |
| 12.00 p.m. | Tour of the Picasso exhibit led by Andrew Kear | |
| 1.00 p.m. | Lunch | \$30 |

Reserve by June 2 to volunteerassociates@wag.ca or phone 204-786-6641, ext. 286

The Gallery Shop will be offering a 20% discount for all Associates on June 8.

Trend reversed in membership

A team approach has reversed a trend in declining membership in the Associates of the Winnipeg Art Gallery. The result has seen a significant increase in new members this past year who now represent over 20% of paid members. The total membership is now 101.

Many art gallery volunteer committees like the one in Winnipeg are experiencing shrinking membership. *Cont'd page 2*

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From June 2015 to June 2016, the WAG Associates had lost 10% of its members. Losses were experienced in previous years as well. The increase in new members is a positive shift which increases excitement in the organization.

The impetus for change started in the summer of 2016 when a revitalized Executive committee in a brain-storming session set about to set new goals and increase membership. One of the first steps was to ask members to bring a friend to the Welcome Back Wine and Cheese fall party where volunteer opportunities, education events, and the study group were promoted. WAG director Stephen Borys presented at this event and has been highly supportive and involved in the revitalization of the Associates and drive for new members on an ongoing basis.

Both the Volunteer Liaison/Membership and the Development sub-committee have played key roles in engaging members. The Liaison efforts include revising the Associates brochure, inviting guests to one education event without joining, an online survey to match individuals to



volunteer needs, creating an information card for the WAG front desk, an expanded profile for the Associates on the WAG's website, developing social media resources to publicize fundraising events and recruit members, especially younger ones, and follow-up phone calls as well as one-on-one contact with members.

The Development Committee has undertaken new initiatives to involve members. A successful Wine4Art raffle held last fall raised over \$8,000 for the Inuit Art Centre Capital campaign. The Associates was involved in the Art in Bloom April 2017 event which uses flowers to look at art in a new way. Other projects are on the horizon.

In addition, Associate members continue to volunteer in the Gallery Shop and at numerous

activities and events organized by the Associates and the WAG. The Associates study group which operated on its own for many years has opened up to new members. The Associates Travel Tour Committee continues to be a mainstay in raising funds for the Winnipeg Art Gallery. With the advent of the future Inuit Art Centre more volunteer opportunities are expected for our growing membership.

With a committed core group, a well-defined plan and the support of the WAG Director, the Associates believe it is possible for volunteer committees of art galleries to reverse the trend of declining numbers. The WAG Associates are working hard to continue the momentum of a growing and more active membership

Esme Scarlett/Estelle Sures



Ivan Eyre Exhibit

On April 4, the Associates of the WAG were given a tour of two exhibits at the Pavilion in Assiniboine Park by Andrew Kear, head curator at the wag.

Ivan Eyre, a native of Saskatchewan and professor of painting and drawing at the University of Manitoba until his retirement in 1993 spent time in Germany early in his career and was greatly influenced by German expressionism. This was evident in many of his early paintings, drawings and sculptures in the exhibit.

By contrast the work of W.J. Phillips who lived in Winnipeg from 1926-1941 are watercolour landscapes many depicting the Lake of the Woods area. Phillips was also known for his woodcut prints.

Travel Tours South Africa November 15 to December 4

The exceptional tour to Southern Africa including an optional extension to Botswana is almost full. There are still 3 spots available.

The main trip will explore cosmopolitan Capetown, travel along the Garden Route coastline, view Africa's Big Five in Kruger National Park and visit incredible Victoria Falls.

The optional extension to Botswana will lengthen the trip by four days, returning to Canada on December 4. The tour includes Chobe National Park and the Okavango Delta. These sites are home to a wealth of wildlife.

In 2014, the Okavango Delta became the 1000th site to be officially inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list.

For more information, please contact Bill Glanville at 204-885-0091 (home) or 204 293-4780 (cell) or email sbglanville@shaw.ca.



Thank you

What an amazing year this has been! We began the year with two major goals. The first was to increase our membership. The second was to become more involved with and relevant to the WAG. As a group, the Associates have exceeded my expectations in terms of meeting those goals.

I would like to thank and welcome all the new members who have joined us this year (please see list on page 5). I would especially like to thank the members of the Executive who have worked so hard this year. You made it happen! Most importantly, warm thanks for all of the support you have offered me as I attempted to navigate my first year as Chair. Your dedication, fun and friendship made for a great year!

Esme Scarlett, President

Development Highlights

Negotiations are in process to proceed with two fundraisers:

Art4Art is a private art collection tour and cocktail reception in support of upcoming WAG exhibitions.

Polarama is an informal cocktail party format celebrating all things North in support of the Inuit Art Centre.

Venues are still being negotiated. Stay tuned for these exciting events.

The Wine4Art Raffle was a successful event last year and will be held again this year by popular demand. Members will be needed to work on both these fun events.

Please let Sherry know if you are interested at sbglanville@shaw.ca or Pat McCullough at mccullough.pat@gmail.com. The Picasso Paint Party and Art in Bloom are featured separately in this newsletter. The committee is also exploring a Home Tour in 2018

Sherry Glanville



Awe at Art in Bloom

The awe was evident from over 2400 visitors to Art In Bloom on the weekend of April 21 - 23 - from the bank of 800 red roses, to the whimsical forest garden in the main hall, to the 60 flower installations inspired by art throughout the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

Art in Bloom was modelled after similar events that have run at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston and the Minneapolis Institute of Art. The WAG Associates held Art in Bloom Events twice in the 1990s and this year's event promises to spring up every two years.

Co-chairs Hennie Corrin and Hazel Borys believe that the feeling of awe inspired by nature and art are

essential for happiness and wellbeing.

Art in Bloom required a monumental effort in organization. Corrin and Borys assembled a competent committee, 20 floral professionals, and a number of floral interpreters to create the beautiful floral pieces inspired by art in the WAG. 29 Associates, 9 AIB committee members and 25 friends of both groups filled 102 volunteer spots.

Proceeds from the event will go toward WAG programming. Thousands of flower stems were donated to various community organizations, seniors and patients in care through Floral Philanthropy.

Picture on page 5



Art in Bloom: A view of the garden wall and pop-up flower shop in the main foyer of the WAG.



The first paint party was held for the Associates on May 4 at Barley Brothers.

This fun event organized by the Development Committee provided participants with everything they needed to make their own masterpiece from brushes, canvas, paint, aprons, easels etc. A professional artist was there to teach how to paint with step by step easy to follow instructions. Beverages and food were available at the restaurant.

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Welcome to our new members:

- Carol Budnick
- Marian Campbell
- Janice Chance
- Andrea Cibinel
- Hennie Corrin
- Phyllis Fraser
- Jane Gateson
- Sasha Hedrick
- Paula Kelly
- Kim Kovacs
- Christine Lylyk
- Judy Palmer
- Rene Perreault
- Helen Ritchot
- Ruth Robert
- Mary Anne Rudy
- Day Scarlett
- Diane Shefford
- Pam Simmons
- Hilda Toews
- Barbara Wolch
- Art Wortzman

In Memoriam

We are sad to announce the passing of long-time members who were a vital part of our organization.

Sally Dowler

Eleanor Gibson

Barb Inglis

Sally joined us in 1959 and Eleanor in 1972. Barb joined in 1972, was a past President and on the Advisory Council.

If you have any memories to share of these valued members, please email them to me to include in the next edition. Estelle Sures, Editor

esures@shaw.ca

Paint Party Perfect

More than 38 tickets were sold to the Paint Party and more than half to friends. Most talked about afterwards - an eagerness to visit the upcoming Picasso exhibit at the WAG and surprise at how complex abstract art actually is to emulate.

Andrea Cibinel



From left, Lin Milne, Sherry Glanville, Esme Scarlett and Andrea Cibinel



From left, Jan Laidlaw and Lin Milne. Photos courtesy of Sharmon Luchuck.