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Welcome to Northwest Designer Craftsmen's New Newsletter Format!

To help streamline things, as well as volunteers' time, the board decided to switch our newsletter format to Mailchimp. Here is a fresh new look and some changes that are still a work-in-progress and will (eventually) coordinate more with the Members Access area of the website. Please be patient with us as we work through this transition.

President's Note

The Board of Directors' Retreat

We hope you have all found this summer to be a time of creative productivity as well as refreshing leisure.

Our Board of Directors met early this summer to review our progress for 2017 and to flesh out our 5-year Plan. We are still in dire need of a president, vice president and secretary to join new Treasurer Gretchen Echols and the rest of the board, so please be thinking if you or someone else you know are willing to take on these important volunteer roles.

Here are some of the exciting highlights of what our next crop of officers and board members will oversee, and the energetic and creative people who are already in place working on these projects:

- The videotaping of NWDC jeweler, Ron Ho, as our 8th "**Living Treasure**" is well under way, as is the fundraising efforts under the guidance of Chair Ron Pascho and his committee, including Larry Metcalf, Lynn Di Nino and Gretchen Echols.
- The beginning of our **Quarterly Programming Series** with a talk by biologist/feather artist **Chris Maynard** on Saturday, October 21 from 2-3:30 pm at Bellevue Art Museum, in partnership with BAM. **This series of presentations on**

contemporary craft issues offered in big name venues will replace our monthly meetings at Phinney Center.

- The upgrading of our **Exhibition** process for events at prestigious venues under the guidance of Co-chairs Gale Lurie and Joyce Hayes. We are striving for only one major show per year in a high-value venue. These shows will require jurying of slides by prominent jurors selected by the sponsoring institution. We are currently in negotiation with La Conner's Museum of NW Art (MoNA) and several other similar institutions, both art and business oriented.
- The implementation of **MembershipWorks and MailChimp** to simplify our dues paying, newsletter and show application processes, as well as our Roster and website updates, and the addition of a "donate" button to our website, all have been added under the capable direction of Co-president, Julia Lowther, and a paid outside web expert. This has proved to be money very well spent to help maximize the efficiency of our precious volunteers.
- The introduction of a new **Membership Application process** with Chair Liz Alford. Please be asking qualified artists to apply in October. This is an important responsibility of every member as we seek to maintain and grow our organization.
- The institution of a new **Emerging Artist Mentorship** program, with a scholarship option, is itself emerging under the guidance of Chair Mark Ditzler and his student advisor, with their committee.
- The ushering in of innovative **Social Media techniques** with the Publicity Committee, including our new Instagram program with Rob Beishline.
- The additions to our **UW Archives** under the guidance of Archivist Sharrey Doré.
- The unveiling of the new **5-Year Plan**, including a new meeting venue and a proposed national symposium, under the aegis of Museum Liaison, Nancy Loorem, Volunteer Coordinator, Patricia Ressigüe, and Co-president, Lin McJunkin.
- The hosting of our **two Annual Socials** at intriguing locations, supervised by Hospitality Chair Noble Golden, the most recent highly enjoyable event being on August 13 at the Seattle home of contemporary Chinese art collectors, Lorraine Barrick and Paul Maybee, artists in their own rights.

I have loved serving on your Board for six years, two as Co-president, three as Membership Chair, and one as secretary. But it is time for me to return fulltime to my studio practice so that other talented and energetic volunteers can have the fun and challenge of serving NWDC. If that person is you, or someone you would like to nominate, please contact Patricia Ressigüe, our terrific Volunteer Coordinator.

Please contact Patricia if you see a project that you would like to work on with the existing committee. Many of these jobs are short-term, perfect for those of you

who don't yet have the time to devote to an office or board position. Thank you for considering these requests and I look forward to working with you for the rest of this calendar year.

Lin McJunkin



Meetings

Review of Julie Speidel's June Presentation



In a slideshow that started with ancient Roman stone sarcophagi and ended with a model of her work at Amazon's new Doppler building, Pacific Northwest sculptor, Julie Speidel, presented a short history of her illustrious art career. She is a neighbor to several of us on Vashon Island where she lives and works with a team of 5 fabricators and assistants of various kinds.

With a childhood partly spent playing on ancient rocks on the island of Majorca, Spain, and an adulthood spent surrounded by land sculpted by glaciers, it is no wonder that she remains heavily influenced by the boulders that inform her work.

Whether working with thin sheets of copper for jewelry, with massive stone, or with ½” sheets of steel, Julie relies on her awe and wonder of the stones to inspire her.

Early in her career, Julie’s desire to see her tiny jewelry “sculptures” in a larger format led her to combine stone and metal into massive sculptural forms that echo the stories in the stonework of the Ancients throughout what is now Europe. It became clear to her that making large sculpture is what she really wanted to do. And here she is, decades later, continuing to follow the path that still has that certain “magic” for her.

She continues to expand the venues for her commissioned pieces, from Seattle’s Federal Court Building and St. Paul’s Episcopal Church to Bainbridge Island’s Bloedel Reserve, to the American Greeting Card company headquarters in Cleveland, Ohio. Her slides showed the many steps in her laborious process, from conception, through fabrication, to installation.

You can see more of her work at www.juliespeidel.com, but you will have missed an inspiring evening with Julie’s calm, gentle and modest demeanor that’s firmly grounded in the spiritual realm of the natural carving done by glaciers and by the mysteriously artful stone stacking of ancient artists.

- Review by Lin McJunkin

Due to new programming, there will be no September meeting. The next meeting event will be the Chris Maynard presentation in October (see below).

NWDC and BAM present Chris Maynard Saturday, October 21, 2 p.m.

Take flight on wings of fact and fancy with biologist and author, Chris Maynard, who carves feathers into intricate works of breathtaking art. On **Saturday, October 21, 2017, from 2:00 to 3:30 pm**, NWDC joins in an exciting new partnership with Bellevue Art Museum to present Maynard’s talk in conjunction with BAM’s *Cut Up, Cut Out* paper exhibition which ends the next day.

This is an excellent opportunity to see that show before it closes and to hear how another artist “cuts up” using a totally different but related medium. Maynard will share his personal story, techniques and vision, and tell how his appreciation of birds and the natural world led him to his passionate study and unique art form.

Chris Maynard spent his youth in the mountains and rain forests on the Washington Pacific Coast. Three wonderful, but bothersome, sisters encouraged him to take refuge in the

damp woods where he would lie in the moss looking at birds in the tall trees. Since feathers represent flight, transformation, and a bridge between our present lives and our dreams, Maynard is grateful that his work with feathers has hit a soft-spot in the hearts of many people and cultures.



Maynard combines his strong backgrounds in biology and ecology into his engaging and informative talks on art and the beauty, function, and meaning of feathers. His work is in museums, galleries, and private collections in North America, Asia, Europe, and Australia. He is a member of the Society of Animal Artists and Artists for Conservation. Maynard's book, [Feathers, Form and Function](#), highlights his art while telling stories about what feathers are, how they affect the lives and flight of birds, and why we find them so alluring. For a preview of his art, visit [Featherfolio.com](#).

Following Maynard's talk, there will be time to purchase his signed book from the BAM bookstore. There will also be a Social Time for food and conversation with old and new friends and art colleagues. You can even plan to make a full day of it with lunch or dinner in one of Bellevue's many excellent restaurants nearby. Everyone is welcome, so please bring students and prospective members with an eye toward our 2017 New Membership Application Process that begins in October.

NWDC is also pleased to be presenting this, the first in our important new Quarterly Programming Event Series. These events are replacing and updating our former monthly meetings at Phinney Center to bring examples of high-quality contemporary craft issues to a broader audience in big-name venues.

RSVP: The talk is **FREE** but you have to register online [here](#). BAM members get into the exhibit area for free, but non-members have to pay to see the "Cut Up, Cut Out" show.

PARKING: is **FREE** and convenient under the museum.

Summer Social

The summer social was a big success. Below are just some of the artists who attended.



From left to right: Tim Mauk, Lois Harbaugh, Weston Nishimura, Joyce Hayes, Cecil Hayes, Paul Maybee, Lorraine Barrick, Noble Golden, Julia Lowther, Liza Halvorsen. (Photo credit: Bobbi Goodboy)



Member News



Hybrid Coral Polypus, 2015

Danielle Bodine

23"HX22"WX20"D

Mulberry and recycled papers cast on funnels, removed, reformed, painted, burned.

Coiled waxed linen, plastic tubes.

Photo credit: Michael Stadler

Bellevue Art Museum Vitrine Through November

Danielle Bodine is the current featured artist for the Bellevue Art Museum vitrine. Bodine's work is inspired by the amazing parade of ships that pass by her studio windows in the shipping lanes on Puget Sound and the active sea life underneath these waters.

"Hybrid Coral Polypus, an imaginary coiled and cast paper underwater creation, speaks

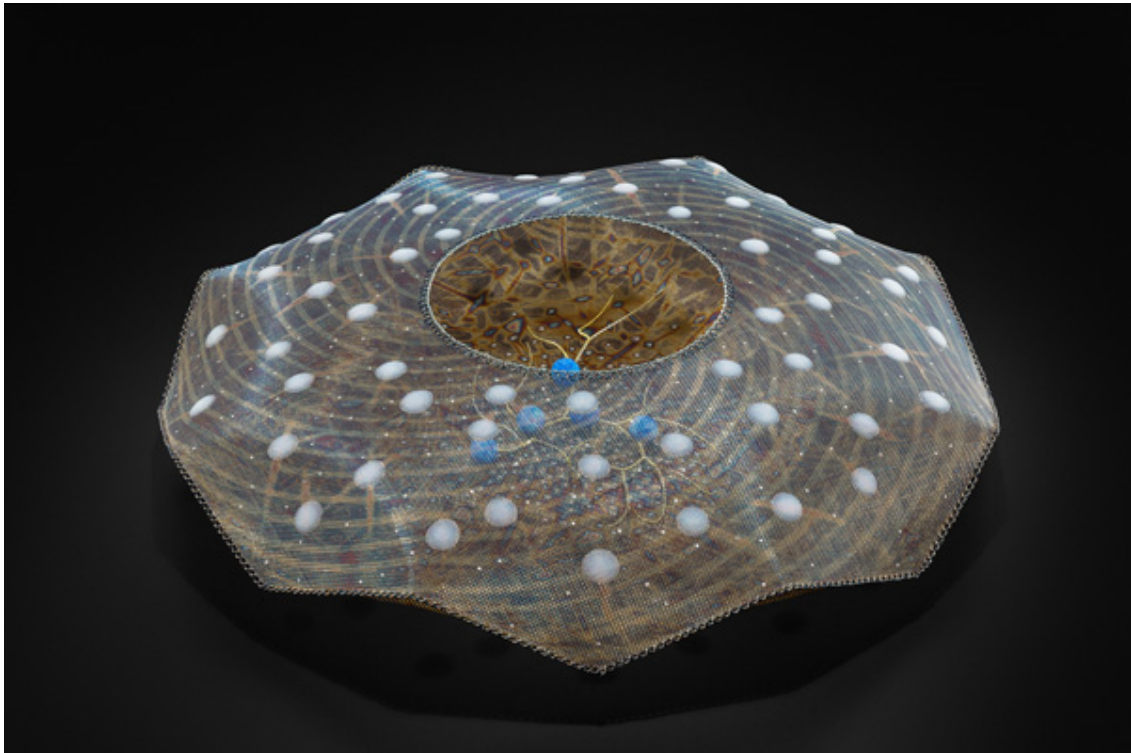
to concerns about plastic waste polluting the waters. It has learned to adapt by enveloping this plastic debris and morphing into a unique hybrid sea plant species."

Exhibitions

All Things Considered 9: Basketry in the 21st Century

The exhibition, *All Things Considered 9: Basketry in the 21st Century*, is presented by the National Basketry Organization. Ninth in a series of juried biennial exhibitions, this exhibit is intended to show a broad view, both traditional and sculptural, of contemporary basketry in the United States. The exhibition opens in conjunction with the National Basketry Organization's conference in Tacoma, WA and will include artworks by 12 artists who will be teaching workshops at the conference, alongside 70 artworks juried by Lloyd Herman. Forty of the selected entries will travel to an additional two venues on the East coast into 2018.

The exhibition's juror, Lloyd Herman, was the founding Director of the Smithsonian Institution's Renwick Gallery, the national craft museum of the United States, from 1971 – 1986. Herman is the author of [Art That Works: The Decorative Arts of the Eighties, Crafted in America](#) and lives and works in Seattle, Washington.





Above: *Spiral Nebulae* by Lanny Bergner.

Left: *Home Grown* by Katherine Lewis. Right: *Whoop* by Carol Milne.

This exhibition showcases excellence in creative exploration, technique, craftsmanship, concept and design, showing a full spectrum of work currently being executed by well-known and emerging artists. From black bamboo to reclaimed plastics, works by the instructors of Tradition and Innovation IX represent a broad range of approaches by artists working within the field of contemporary basketry.

This exhibit is made possible with support from the Lenore G. Tawney Foundation and the Windgate Charitable Foundation.

Exhibition schedule:

September 16 – October 29, 2017:

Peters Valley School of Craft, 19 Kuhn Road, Layton, NJ

SAC March 29 – June 9, 2018:

Society of Arts + Crafts, 100 Pier 4, Suite 200, Boston, MA

Included in the exhibit are NWDC members Lanny Bergner, Danielle Bodine, Barbara DePirro, Jill Nordfors Clark, Marilyn Moore, Katherine Lewis, Nancy Loorem Adams, Zia Gipson, Dona Anderson, Carol Milne and Dorothy McGuinness.



Searching for Art

A retrospective exhibition of work by Bob Purser is being put together to be shown at the Bellevue College Gallery in late April - early June 2018 time period. The organizers trying to locate work for this retrospective exhibition. If you know of anyone that has work by Bob

Purser that would be willing to loan it, or know of anyone that might have information on where to locate some of his work, please contact Lars Husby.

Work made by early NWDC members, Evert Sodergren, Ruth Penington, Ramona Solberg, Hella Skowronski and Russell Day is also being sought for an exhibition entitled, *Northwest Design At Mid-Century*, which will be held at the Cascade Art Museum in Edmonds, WA. The works need to be from the time period of 1948-1966. If you have any information about locating some pieces by these artists, please contact David Martin.

Living Treasures

The Living Treasures project continues, as well as the fundraising effort to support the making of the video of jeweler, **Ron Ho**. The NWDC website now has a Living Treasures page with information about the project, links to all the videos completed thus far and buttons to make donations directly on the website. Please take a look [here](#), enjoy the videos and consider making a donation.



Pat Pauly Radio Interview

NWDC Co-President, Lin McJunkin, and Treasurer, Gretchen Echols, represented and discussed our group in an interview on Pat Pauly's Artbeat NW radio show. The approximately half hour show can be listened to [here](#), if you missed it.



Our Deepest Appreciation to Lin Holley

Lin Holley has served as our Program Chair for many years. Almost every month NWDC met, she arranged a quality speaker to tell us more about his or her work or to share about trends in the art world. The talks have always been enlightening and inspiring. And Lin's work went far beyond lining up speakers. She was often there to help with set up. In addition, Lin served faithfully on the Board all these years sharing ideas and opinions that have been highly valued. Lin retired this Summer to focus on her travels around the world. During our first Quarterly Program this October, she will be in Africa. Thank you, Lin, and safe travels. NWDC owes you a big debt that can only be paid with our deep gratitude.

The Party's On Noble Golden

Noble Golden has shown such creativity in finding excellent party venues for our socials. The summer social was a great success thanks to her planning, and NWDC is fortunate for her volunteer service in this position. Socials are so important to ensure our members have a chance to mix, mingle and network. And a big thank you to Tim Mauk, Noble's husband, for helping out. Jean Tudor and her husband helped clean up. Katherine Lewis helped with parking. Teamwork makes a difference. We are grateful to you.

Thank You For Notecards and Postcards

NWDC is grateful to several members who sent us notecards and postcards of their work. We use these for thank you notes to express gratitude to our volunteers and program presenters. Our thanks go to: Julia Lowther, Helga Barry, Carol Milne, Zia Gipson, Mark Lubich, Jill Nordfors Clark, Lynn Di Nino, Donna Prichard, Paddy McNeely and Lois James.

NWDC Often Needs Research

When NWDC needed a list of qualified videographers to film our October meeting, Nia Michaels took up the challenge. Thank you, Nia, for researching a full list of potential contractors, each of which came with recommendations from others. We appreciate Nia's thorough job.

What Can You Do to Help?

In January 2018, there will be a changing of the guard in many of our Board and Chair positions. It is a wonderful time to get involved as new plans unfold to make NWDC even more valuable to members. The programs that NWDC provides to its members cannot happen without volunteers. If you have a desire to impact the future of NWDC, let the Volunteer Coordinator know what you might want to do.

Email NWDCvolunteers@gmail.com to ask questions or express interest. It's an exciting time at NWDC. Get involved. You will find new friendships, great resources and personal growth.



With the transition of the new newsletter format, work is also being done on the website to set up a page, in the Member Access area, with the list of board members and volunteers and their contact numbers. In the past, this information has been contained at the end of the newsletter. Once this page is set up, there will be a link in this section in future newsletters to access this list.

In addition, there will be a page (or more) explaining how to submit information to the newsletter, our Facebook group, Facebook page and Instagram account.

September will feature Fiber and Textile Arts on our Facebook Business Page. To post your general information in the main section, please send short, focused, content, links and photos to Kristy Kun.

Any future NWDC Call for Entries will have a link in the newsletter to a page on the website that will have all the information you need. This will streamline the newsletter and make access to that information easier to find.

To submit member news for the October newsletter, please send an email **with information in the body of the email** to NWDCeditor@gmail.com **by September 15th** with the images in **jpg formats** at 72 dpi, around 700 pixels on longest side, **saved at maximum quality**.



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