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Member Newsletter

Northwest Designer Craftsmen Newsletter

April 2019

Remember if you have **member news to submit for the May newsletter the deadline is April 15th**. Please send information in the body of an email (not an attachment, pdf or postcard image) to Lisa at NWDCeditor@gmail.com. Images need to be in a **jpg format around 600 pixels** on the longest side. Please include titles and media for artworks.

President's Note

Celebrating NWDC at 65 At Our Annual Meeting

Over 70 NWDC members and guests attended our Annual Meeting and Winter Social at Factory Luxe on March 3. Member enthusiasm evidently did not wane despite the winter weather delay!

The program was a wonderful confirmation of the best aspects of NWDC as we celebrate the 65th Anniversary of this amazing organization. We celebrated our accomplishments and honored our many volunteers. We shared artwork. We learned about what's coming in 2019. And we shared an outstanding potluck and lots of great conversation.

One of the highlights was the opportunity to see images of art by so many of our members. Our nineteen new members shared images of the work submitted with their applications. The quality of the work is superb. The new members who attended were delightful to meet, and they gained a fuller appreciation of the organization. Some took the opportunity to volunteer.

Another terrific highlight was Don Myhre's presentation of his work over the many years of his teaching career and as a full-time artist. Many of us have seen Don's work in our exhibitions, but it was particularly interesting to see how he has worked in series and how one series has been a springboard to the next series. It provided food for thought.

Ron Pascho, chair of the Living Treasures Project, showed a 7-minute clip from the new Tip Toland video, now nearing completion. The quality of the production is terrific, and many of us learned – in a few minutes – so much more about Tip and how she pushes boundaries to critical acclaim. The premier is scheduled for later this year and will be a must attend event.

Nancy Loorem Adams, Vice-President and Museum Liaison, told us more about the new Ron Ho Exhibition opening at Bellevue Arts Museum on May 10. *Ron Ho, A Jeweler's Tale* is co-presented by BAM and NWDC, and Nancy is co-curating the exhibition with Benedict Heywood, Executive Director & Chief Curator of BAM. It's going to be a fantastic exhibition. You'll find more information later in the newsletter. It's open for just shy of four months, so it should be easy to find time to view it.

As an organization, NWDC has much of which to be proud. We are providing opportunities to our members even as we educate the public, collectors and supporters of fine craft in the Pacific Northwest. After 65 years, NWDC's mission is as relevant today as 10 years ago, 20 years ago, 40 years ago and 65 years ago. That's extraordinary.

- NWDC president, *Patricia Resseguie*



Member News

The Map is Not the Territory

Annette Bellamy

Annette Bellamy is one of eight artists in the Portland Art Museum's current exhibit, *The Map is not the Territory*, that opened February 9th and closes May 5th. The exhibit's title comes from the Polish philosopher, Korzybski, and questions the artists how their work relates to this statement. The curator, Grace Kook Anderson, hopes that viewers will be inspired to see in new ways.

This exhibit is replacing the tradition of the museum's NW Master's exhibit. There are two artists from Alaska, two from British Columbia, two from Washington and two from Oregon.

Bellamy's work, *Moving Mountains*, is an installation approximately 12 feet in diameter and 10 feet tall. Each rock form is hung individually. There is subtle movement from the air movement in the gallery.

Other works by Bellamy include a large wall mounted fish skin piece entitled, *Out of Water*, and wood fired tool forms entitled, *Blades*.



Annette Bellamy

Moving Mountains

stoneware, UV resistant line, stainless pins and epoxy

10' h x 12' diameter

Photo credit: Ben Cort courtesy of Portland Art Museum

Nature: Black and White

A Three Person Exhibition at Northwinds Arts Center

NWDC members, Ann Chadwick Reid and Leah Gerrard, along with Diane Saar have artworks featured in the exhibition, *Nature: Black and White*, at the Northwind Arts Center in Port Townsend, Washington.

Location:

Northwind Arts Center
701 Water St.
Port Townsend, WA

Exhibition Dates: April 4 - 28

Art Walk: April 6

Art Talk: April 7, 1 p.m.



Leah Gerrard
Knot, 2018
steel wire, rusty chain links
14" x 8" x 3"



Ann Chadwick Reid
Bees Unease, 2019
hand cut paper
13" x 13"

Sculptural Form Workshop

Barbara De Pirro

Barbara De Pirro's *Sculptural Form* workshop will be offered during our *STEM + Art +*

Design: Northwest Designer Craftsmen Create exhibition at Schack Art Center on June 8th.

The Sculptural Form

Discover how De Pirro creates environmental sculptural forms and installations using both reclaimed & organic materials. Explore a range of techniques that transform these found materials into a 'fiber' that can be manipulated into dimensional structures. Learn how to translate methods traditionally found in the textile, jewelry, basketry & industrial arts using unconventional materials. In addition to creating samplings of each of the techniques, De Pirro will share photos, samples & insight about creating large scale sculptural art installations. In this process, you will learn how to develop these small ideas into large scale structures and environments. All levels welcome, come with a sense of adventure!



Abstractly Speaking

Lisa Flowers Ross

The artwork, *Leaf Stack #20*, by Lisa Flowers Ross has been selected to be exhibited in the *Abstractly Speaking* exhibition at Woman Made Gallery in Chicago. The exhibition highlights "art which is non-representational and unconcerned with literal depiction, instead relying on the visual language of form, color, line, texture, mark-making and process, as a means to an end."



Lisa Flowers Ross
Leaf Stack #20, 2016
hand dyed fabrics, thread
33-1/2" x 35-1/4"

Exhibition Dates: April 5 – April 27, 2019

Opening Reception: Friday, April 5, 2019, 6-8 p.m.

Location:

Woman Made Gallery

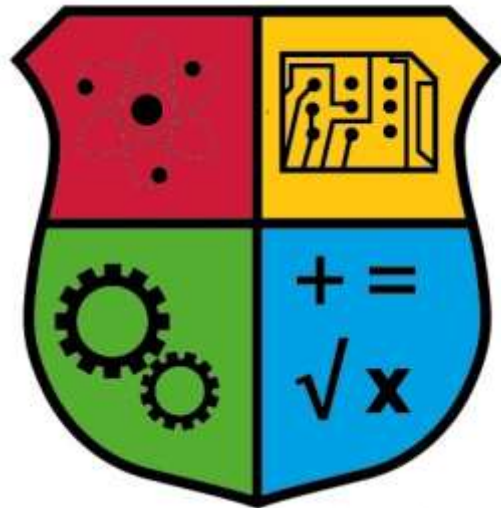
2150 S Canalport #4A-3

Chicago, IL

Exhibitions

Save This Date: April 25 At the Schack Art Center

STEM + Art + Design, Northwest Designer Craftsmen Create opens at the Schack Art Center in Everett, WA on Thursday, April 25. There will be a reception that evening for NWDC members and the public. About 80 NWDC members submitted work at the deadline, so it's bound to be an interesting show of NWDC member work. Sponsored by Boeing, this important educational exhibition is particularly aimed at groups of school children to encourage them to focus their studies on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.



By showing these kids alternative ways to view STEM disciplines, it is hoped that more students will understand how STEM is useful in pursuing their interests. The exhibition is

open to the public so many adults also will have an opportunity to understand more about how artists use STEM in their art practices.

Announcements

Ron Ho: A Jeweler's Tale Exhibition

Co-presented by Bellevue Arts Museum and NWDC

Member Opening: May 9th

Exhibition Dates: May 10th – September 15th



“My name is Ronald Tau Wo Ho.”

Step into the life of celebrated Northwest jewelry artist Ron Ho. Designed to illustrate the beauty of Ho's life, *Ron Ho: A Jeweler's Tale* celebrates his Chinese heritage, his fascination with ethnic and contemporary art, his influential friendships, his career as a

public school art teacher, and his life as a collector and world traveler. Throughout his 50 years of making, Ho drew from all these influences to develop a unique aesthetic infused with exceptional design, craftsmanship, and narrative.

When Ho passed away at the age of 80 in 2017, he left behind a treasure trove of objects-d'art. The exhibition presents a fraction of his extensive museum-quality collections of textiles, jewelry, and artifacts alongside pieces from his Northwest art collection. Slides of his world travels in search of inspiration bring to life the direct connection between these experiences and his work as a maker and teacher.

Displays of Ho's jewelry provide a survey of his life's oeuvre from 1969 to 2017, including five necklaces created after his 2006 retrospective at BAM. Collections of sketchbook drawings and precious found objects—carved jade, bone, mother-of-pearl, world beads, and buttons—are presented alongside his necklaces, opening a window into Ho's creative process.



For 54 years, Ho lived in his Seattle home designed by celebrated Northwest architect Paul Thiry. An immersive installation brings the interior of his home to life, displaying images and objects from the Jean Jongeward-designed living room created to display Ho's collections, as well as images of the kitchen that architect George Suyama redesigned in exchange for one of Ho's necklaces. These beautiful spaces help tell the story of Ho's relationships with Seattle's finest artists and designers.

Ho's studio, reconstructed in its entirety in the Museum, displays the books that inspired him, his worn tools and his jeweler's bench where he worked into the night, to solder, form, and fabricate.



Screening in the gallery, the 2018 Northwest Designer Craftsmen Living Treasures film, *Ron Ho: Becoming Chinese, A Jeweler's Tale*, tells the tale of Ho's life through recollections from his closest friends and mentors, his partner Peter Olsen, and Ho himself.

Ho's aesthetic inspired every facet of his life. Visitors are invited to experience the creative force that made Ron Ho a treasured artist, educator, friend, and maker of some of the most sought-after Northwest contemporary jewelry of our time.

Ron Ho: A Jeweler's Tale is co-curated by Benedict Heywood and Nancy Lorem Adams, Vice President and Museum Liaison of Northwest Designer Craftsmen, as well as a colleague and dear friend of Ron Ho, along with the support and guidance of Ron Ho's partner, Peter Olsen. The exhibition is co-presented by Bellevue Arts Museum and Northwest Designer Craftsmen.

About the Artist

Ron Ho (1936 – 2017) was a jeweler and honored art educator living in Seattle, WA. Born to traditional Chinese parents, Ho grew up in Hawaii, surrounded by diverse cultures and their unique artistic expressions. His work was influenced and informed by contrasts of American and Chinese culture and by the cultural diversity he encountered living in the Pacific Northwest. By using found-object pieces and materials enriched by cultural associations, his work reflects his search for a cultural sphere from areas as far as China, Thailand, Nepal, and Afghanistan. Ho was the recipient of several distinguished artist and art educator honors. His jewelry is in the collections of numerous private and public

collections, including the LA County Museum, Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Tacoma Art Museum, and the King County Arts Commission.

Exhibition Programs

Finding the Object of Northwest Jewelry

Saturday, June 15th, 4-7 p.m.

Bellevue Arts Museum

Kiff Slemmons,

A Russell and Margorie Day NWDC Invited Lecture

Events: Lecture, Screening of *Ron Ho: Becoming Chinese A Jeweler's Tale*, followed by a Social in the Atrium

Focusing on the development of found objects in jewelry, Kiff Slemmons will tell the tale of the movement created by Ramona Solberg of the use of found objects; worn and discarded, ethnic artifacts and narrative in contemporary jewelry expressed through the jewelry of Ramona Solberg, Kiff Slemmons, Ron Ho, Laurie Hall, Nancy Worden, and Nadine Kariya. Coupled with a screening of the NWDC Living Treasure's *Ron Ho: Becoming Chinese A Jeweler's Tale* video, Kiff will bring to life the history of this seminal art movement.

Wine & Workshop: Wirework Jewelry with Julia Lowther

Friday, June 21, 6-9 p.m.

Bellevue Arts Museum

BAM members \$35, Non-member \$45

In this hands-on workshop, create your own wirework jewelry piece with local jeweler, Julia Lowther, and be inspired by the incredible work in BAM's exhibition [Ron Ho: A Jeweler's Tale](#). Ages 21+ are welcome. The workshop includes a private tour, small bites, and refreshments.

Calendar of Events

Upcoming

April 2 – Notification of Acceptance for *STEM + Art + Design, Northwest Designer Craftsmen Create*

April 2 – NWDC Executive Committee, email nwdcpresident@gmail.com if you wish to attend.

April 25 – June 8 – *STEM + Art + Design, Northwest Designer Craftsmen Create* member exhibition at the Schack Art Center, opening event April 25.

May 7 – NWDC Executive Committee, email nwdcpresident@gmail.com if you wish to attend.

May 10 – September 1 – *Ron Ho: A Jeweler's Tale* retrospective exhibition at the Bellevue Arts Museum, co-sponsored by NWDC and curated by NWDC Vice President Nancy Loorem Adams. Members only opening on May 9.

May 26 – Annual Image Sharing Program featuring NWDC member work at Factory Luxe, 1-4 pm.

June 5 – Inaugural Russell and Marjorie Day Lecture featuring jewelry artist, Kiff Slemmons, 7-9 pm at the Bellevue Art Museum. Includes reception.

June 21 – Wine and Workshop, Wire Work Jewelry with Julia Lowther, Bellevue Art Museum, 6-9 pm.

July 14 – Annual Summer Social at Cheri Hill's home in Bellevue honoring new Lifetime Member Ron Adams.

August 27 – September 27 – NWDC Exhibition at Allied Arts, Richland, WA. Opening on September 6.

October – Tentative plan for Studio Tour of NWDC Artist Studios.



In Gratitude For So Many Incredible Volunteers

Larry Metcalf Helps NWDC Raise Funds for the Ron Ho Exhibition at BAM

Following through on the wishes of Russell Day, Larry Metcalf sorted through, transported and marked Russell's memorabilia for a fundraiser available to NWDC members and their guests. There was a three-day event at Bracepoint Pottery, followed by an opportunity to obtain items during the Annual Meeting. That's a lot of packing up and hauling. As always, Larry created a beautiful display of the items, and he even donated some refreshments. The fundraiser proceeds should cover most NWDC costs associated with the Ron Ho exhibition. We are so grateful.

Thanks also to Paddy McNeely, Leslie Campbell, Patricia Resseguie and Loren Lukens who helped with logistics and manned the donation desk.

Thank You Loren Lukens and Beth Kerchoff

Loren Lukens generously donated his Bracepoint Pottery Studio in West Seattle for the three-day Russell Day Tribute and fundraiser. He worked tirelessly with Larry Metcalf and crew. In a wonderful bonus effort, Loren and his wife, Beth Kerchoff, kept everyone well supplied with coffee, soda and nibbles. It made for a very special occasion.

E-mail Blaster Brian O'Neill Keeps on Blasting

For a couple of years now, Brian O'Neill has formatted and emailed a lot of fliers. This form of communication is vital to keep members and supporters informed about our programs and events. Thank you Brian for donating your time month after month to NWDC.

Programs Progress Under Nancy Lorem Adams

It's sometimes possible to take all of our ongoing programs for granted. But it takes tremendous dedication to come up with ideas and to push them forward. That's one role Nancy Lorem Adams has performed so well since she became Vice President in 2018. It's a big job. But Nancy is indefatigable! She also has served as our Museum Liaison and has built strong, ongoing relationships with the Bellevue Art Museum and with the Schack Art

Center. Co-curating the Ron Ho show at BAM is a huge effort. It's hard to give enough thanks for Nancy's contributions to NWDC.

Joyce Hayes is the Impresario of Exhibitions

Joyce Hayes is Chair of Exhibitions and has been a tireless producer of our exhibitions over the last five years. The job is multi-faceted, from writing prospectuses to distributing information to our members to accepting entry forms and preparing PowerPoint presentations for jurors. Then, there's the liaison with the venues and coordination of installation and take down. And there are countless questions to be answered for our members. Thank you Joyce. You do a fabulous job with nary a complaint. (We don't want to forget the contributions of Gale Lurie, who also was instrumental in exhibitions until she retired at the end of 2017.)

Thanks to Noble Golden and Tim Mauk

The dynamic duo again worked so hard to make our event at Factory Luxe a delight to attend. The room and table set ups are lovely. The food always good. The logistics run smoothly. (They even wash our potluck serving dishes!) Thank you to this fabulous husband and wife team.

A New Initiative Emerges

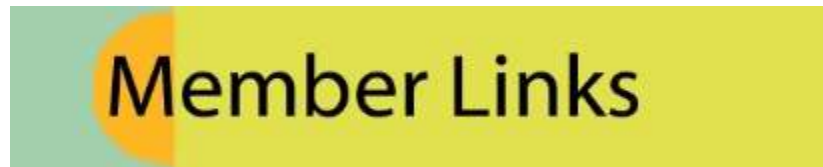
Jean Tudor and Lin McJunkin have worked over several months with a young artist named Webster Winter to develop a pilot program designed to provide new opportunities within NWDC for emerging artists in fine craft. These emerging artists are working toward professional careers, but are not yet ready to join NWDC as juried members. The program is still in early stages, but NWDC members are currently being recruited to serve as mentors. The Emerging Artists Program has long been a goal for NWDC, and these three people have been instrumental in defining what it offers and how it is implemented. We look forward to hearing more.

Robert Beishline Initiated Instagram for NWDC

Thanks to Robert Beishline, who is now retiring from his volunteer position, NWDC has an Instagram account which has been active for a few years now. We appreciate his enthusiasm for getting the program off the ground and onto the social media radar. And thanks, too, to Barbara De Pirro who will take over posting to Instagram with much of the information now seen on our two Facebook pages.

Anita Boyle and Beth Wyatt: Archiving NWDC's History

NWDC has stored its historical records at the UW Archives for many years now. It is a treasure trove of information about NWDC's 65 years of serving its members and educating the public about fine craft. It is so great to announce that Anita Boyle and Beth Wyatt have agreed to co-chair our Archives Committee. It is important work that requires a creative spirit and an organized effort. These two members have it covered!



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Send short, focused content, links and photos to Barbara De Pirro

INSTAGRAM:

[NWDC Instagram](#)

Barbara De Pirro manages the Instagram account.



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