

Spring 2016

KALAMAZOO ART LEAGUE FOCUS

serving the KIA, our members and the community since 1955

Kalamazoo Art League Presents

SPECTACLE AND THE SOCIAL IMAGINATION



Angela Tillges

Angela Tillges says she is an arts educator who “likes to bring visual arts and spectacle curriculum into schools and universities.” She was Associate Artistic Director and lead Community Educator at Redmoon, a Chicago public art and spectacle organization, from 2007-2013.

Ms. Tillges earned a Masters in Education from Harvard Graduate School of Education, Arts in Education program. Currently, she is Senior Program Specialist for Chicago Park District’s Department of Culture, Arts, and Nature where she oversees cultural partnerships and special projects, citywide.

At the KIA, “we believe the visual arts are for everyone. They inspire, fulfill, and transform.” Similarly, the Chicago Park District’s Cultural, Arts, and Nature unit envisions parks as vital cultural spaces that encourage all Chicagoans to explore and embrace the visual and performing arts, and their power to enhance individual quality of life, neighborhood development, and community dialogue.



Join Us on Wednesday, April 13, 2016

6:30 pm Lecture in the KIA Auditorium / 7:30 pm Reception

FREE Art League Members
\$10 KIA Members
\$12 General Public
\$3 Students w/ID

Note to All: Art League cannot accept credit cards. Please be prepared to pay with cash or check.

Kalamazoo Art League, 314 S. Park St, Kalamazoo, MI 49007 / Phone 269-585-9296 / www.KalamazooArtLeague.org

2015-2016 Calendar of Art League Lectures & Events

October 8

Opening Program & Reception
Mary Ann Caws, PhD
Author, Lecture / 6:30 pm

November 11

Renée Stout, Artist
Lecture / 10:00 am

December 9

Marshall Price, PhD
Curator, Lecture / 10:00 am
Holiday Luncheon 11:45 am

February 10

J. Fiona Ragheb, Curator
Lecture / 10:00 am

March 9

Todd Zima, Architect
Lecture / 10:00 am

April 13

Angie Tillges, Arts Educator
Lecture / 6:30 pm

May 11

Drew Adams, Animator
Lecture / 6:30 pm

depARTures

See information on pages 3 & 4 in this issue about exciting bus trips—to Chicago in April and Detroit in June. Register early!!

Please Join Us & Bring Friends!

KALAMAZOO
ART
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FOCUS
Spring 2016



2015-16
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A Message From the President

Thank you for your kind comments about Art League's work this year. So much goes on behind the scenes, and it's good to know when you approve. Sometimes a speaker or event seems to fall into our laps in a moment; sometimes it's on our list for years while we work out details. Next year you will see the fruits of several years-in-the-making plans!

Two exciting evening programs are still ahead of us in this year's lecture series, though I'm not sure the word "lecture" adequately captures their spirit. See for yourself when you watch Angela Tillges' stunning images in *Spectacle and the Social Imagination* in April. Or, when you come to Drew Adams' presentation of *A Lively Art: Characters and Animation* in May.

By the way, Drew tells us that his presentation is suitable for children (12+), so if you know a future animation artist, or someone nurturing one, be sure to invite him/her/them to be your guest/s. There is no admission fee in May.

Finally, I invite you to take advantage of the early-bird bonus offered for all memberships renewed or initiated by June 10. It's a great way to support Art League and to make sure you don't miss a thing! Our "new year" begins on July 1.

Barbara Brose
President

KIA Art Fair Volunteer Servers Needed: June 3!

Several years ago, Art League took on the task of serving dinner to the Art Fair artists on Friday night. This event has become an annual volunteer service to the KIA. Art League volunteers don't cook the food, but they do serve it. Lots of it!

After a long day of set-up and selling in the park, artists trudge into the KIA—hungry and oftentimes tired. Our jobs are fairly simple: greet at the door; smile, answer questions, and make them feel welcome; set up, and serve food and beverages; keep an eye on the secure storage area; and, clean up. It's actually quite a fun evening, and we hope you will consider helping out.

Send an email to www.KalamazooArtLeague.org or leave a message on the Info-Line at 269 269-585-9296. We will get back to you soon.

They're not starving artists, but they will be hungry.

Thank you for your consideration.

Art League Annual Meeting & Program

Wednesday Evening
May 11, 2016 / 6:30 pm / KIA Auditorium

Free admission - a great time to bring your friends!

Hear about two fabulous new events; elect next year's Board of Directors; taste cheeses courtesy of Earth Fare; and sip a glass of wine or punch with Art League friends – it's all part of the plan for your May 11 Annual Meeting and Program. Committee members will be ready to renew memberships, too, making sure you are eligible for a guest pass for next year.

Program: A Lively Art: Characters and Animation



The main event of the evening is the program by Los Angeles based animator **Drew Adams**.

DreamWorks' animator Drew Adams started his career at Walt Disney Animation (*Atlantis* and *Treasure Planet*). He then switched to computer animation and worked for ReelFX and Duncan Studio before joining DreamWorks. In addition to working on *Trolls*, which opens in November

2016, his film credits include Tim Burton's "9", *Kung Fu Panda 2*, *Rise of The Guardians*, *The Croods*, and *Mr. Peabody and Sherman*. The still and animated images in his talk will demonstrate artistic and technical skills involved in "bringing a character to life."

In addition to his studio work, Drew has taught at Animation Mentor for the last eight years. As part of Art League outreach, he has graciously agreed to meet with local animation students during his visit to Kalamazoo. Students ages 12 and older are invited to the program on May 11.

Thank You Note



Special thanks to our speaker in March, Todd Zima, of the Studio Gang in Chicago and lead designer of the Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership at Kalamazoo College. His presentation defined the mission-related goals and design considerations of the Arcus Center, took us on a tour of the interior of the center and its natural/neighborhood surroundings, and made the structure come alive with possibilities for all who attended.

We also thank the Arcus Center and Kalamazoo College for hosting the pre-lecture reception on Tuesday, March 8, for members to tour the center and visit with Todd.

Vintage Table Linens Needed

If you are downsizing or giving up ironing, please consider donating your vintage table linens to Art League. We are looking for about a dozen large damask napkins in white or cream; similar large table clothes are welcome, too. Call Carianne Zomonski's cell phone at 513-502-4013.

June 2 depARTure

Thursday, June 2, 2016, to Detroit

Leaving Kalamazoo 8 am / returning 8:30 pm

\$145 Art League Members

\$165 KIA Members

\$195 General Public / Non-Members

Sign-up deadline May 12, 2016

Limited to 26 participants, this small-bus depARTures features several unique opportunities.

■ **Taubman Center for Design Education**, located in the historic c.1928 General Motors building designed by celebrated architect Albert Kahn. Here, **Shinola Detroit** has transformed 30,000 sq ft of raw space into a state-of-the-art watch factory inside the **College for Creative Studies**.

Shinola's proximity to CCS undergrad and graduate programs, as well as middle school classes, provides unique opportunities for participation in Shinola-sponsored workshops and design courses on watches, bicycles, and leather goods. Shinola production combines meticulous hand-assembly with the most advanced technology available to ensure watches that are both beautiful and built to last.

■ A short bus ride away, the next destination is the **Detroit Institute of Arts**. There you will have time for lunch on your own before exploring the museum, including using your ticket to the *Dance! American Art 1830-1960* exhibit. Later, everyone will gather for a private tour with the DIA's distinguished curator of African art, Dr. Nii Quarcoopome. A recent speaker at the KIA, Dr. Quarcoopome charmed the audience with his interesting observations and perspective. We are delighted that Dr. Quarcoopome will share with depARTures his knowledge of the DIA's rare world-class works from nearly 100 African cultures.

Back on the road at about 4 pm, we'll stop in Ann Arbor for dinner. Famous for its "really good American food," **Zingerman's** is setting the table for Art League with tasty dinner favorites on the way home to Kalamazoo.

This cozy small-bus adventure will include rest stops along the way, generous snacks and beverages, tour admission fees, dinner, taxes, and tips.

Kalamazoo Art League
314 S. Park Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49007



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The Mission of the Kalamazoo Art League is to fund, organize, and sponsor an annual lecture series and other activities to promote understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of the visual arts.

We value and actively support diversity and inclusion on the Board, in our membership, in the lecture series and other programs we offer.

The Kalamazoo Art League is a 501c3 nonprofit organization; donations are tax-deductible.

Kalamazoo Art League April depARTture to Chicago!!

Thursday, April 28, 2016



Transportation by luxury motor coach, tips, museum admission, and dinner included.

\$159 Art League Members

\$179 KIA Members

\$209 Non-Members

Reserve your seat by April 12 at noon to Art League depARTtures, KIA.

■ Field Museum:

Looking at Ourselves: Rethinking the Sculptures of Malvina Hoffman

■ Chicago Cultural Center

Strandbeest: The Dream Machines of Theo Jansen

■ Quartino's Ristorante

Two scholars team up to make your first depARTture of 2016 meaningful and thought provoking. Explore *Looking at Ourselves: Rethinking the Sculptures of Malvina Hoffman* with local experts Dr. Lisa Brock, Academic Director, Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership; and Dr. David Brose, anthropologist and author. Find out how the exquisitely crafted sculptures commissioned by the Field Museum in the 1930s "fit" into current thought about race and art.

In addition, you will have time to enjoy other exhibition halls, including a visit to China's First Emperor and His Terracotta Warriors. These priceless treasures from one of the world's greatest archaeological discoveries are so revered that the Field Museum is the only place in North America they can be seen this year.

Enjoy lunch on your own in one of the Field's many eateries, and then after a short bus ride, tour a completely different approach to art in *Strandbeest: The Dream Machines of Theo Jansen* at the Chicago Cultural Center. You've never seen anything like it!

At dinner, share your discoveries and impressions with depARTture friends. Quartino's lively atmosphere and great menu will be a special treat before we start the journey home.