

WINTER 2014



focus



Great Art in
Grand Rapids
Dec. 12



Art League
Holiday Lunch
Dec. 10



A SEASON OF EXCITEMENT!

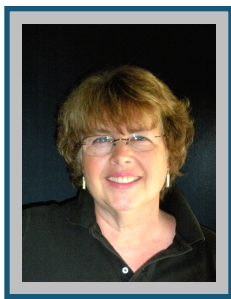
New KIA Executive Director
Belinda Tate
Dec. 10



Dr. Karen Carter
Nov. 12



President's Notes—



It's late September in Barcelona: art nouveau balconies sport Catalan flags, the lines at *La Pedrera* are a block long; and I'm daydreaming about an Art League lecture. But contrary to some allegations, I am not "flunking vacation." Last summer Dr. Karen Carter, our November lecturer, spoke at the *Michigan Modern* exhibit and symposium in Grand Rapids. She was one of the experts who addressed the "convergence of influences in Michigan...(that) defined modernism in the postwar world and shaped the American dream." Dr. Carter's talk was excellent, and as I expect you will discover, she is able to deftly connect—not the appearance, but the philosophy of—Michigan design to art nouveau and other avant-garde schools emerging in Barcelona and other cities in Europe at the beginning of the 20th century. It's a 2nd Wednesday you won't want to miss!

KIA's new Executive Director, Belinda Tate has graciously agreed to be our speaker on December 10. I know you join me in looking forward to Belinda's talk, as well as to her leadership and plans for the future. After the program a member-led Hospitality Team will furnish refreshments and you'll have a chance to chat with Belinda in person. Following the reception, the Programs Committee is offering our 3rd annual luncheon at Rustica.

Also, on Friday, December 12, you can board a jolly luxury motor coach depARTure to Grand Rapids. We'll visit the GRAM, including a festive walk through *Nutcracker* designs by *The Polar Express* creator Chris Van Allsburg, and a tour of *Marks of Genius*. Then, after dinner at San Chez, we'll join artist Kirk Newman at a VIP Reception at the Urban Institute of Contemporary Arts.

I'm looking forward to celebrating Art League's 60th anniversary together in 2015; in the meantime, here's wishing you a happy and art-filled holiday season.

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Now You Know!

Perks

One of the “perks” of serving on the Board is the opportunity to join speakers for lunch after the programs. The lively discussion is always fascinating. If you join a Hospitality Team and help “serve” refreshments this year, we’ll extend the invitation to you too.

Second Wednesdays

Have you noticed? Art League programs are always scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Upcoming programs will be offered on 2nd Wednesdays in November, December, February, March and April. All except April begin at 10 a.m.; April’s program will begin at 7 p.m.

Suggestion Box

Look for the Suggestion Box at 2nd Wednesday programs this year and tell us what you think. Go ahead and use it to ask questions or to volunteer, as well as for making suggestions.

Color

Printing Focus in black and white isn’t as handsome as color, but it does allow us to send it more frequently. To see it in full color, go to the Art League website: www.KalamazooArtLeague.org.

Great Art in Grand Rapids December 12th depARTure

—
VIP Reception with Kirk Newman

—
Sign-up Deadline November 12

Art League Members: \$116.00
KIA Members: \$136.00
General Public: \$166.00

A retrospective of an artist’s work is always a “big deal.” A retrospective of Kirk Newman’s work is especially meaningful for his numerous admirers in our community. This depARTure includes a special invitation-only VIP Reception with the artist on Friday, December 12 at the Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts (UICA) which will be featuring *Looking Forward: The Artwork of Kirk Newman*.

“Every once in a while, you get a once in a lifetime opportunity. It usually is connected to a first and a last time that either something happens or you make something happen. Water Street Gallery has been given (this) once in a lifetime opportunity to honor for the last time Kirk Newman, one of West Michigan’s art icons.”

The gallery is collaborating with UICA to present “powerful statements of Kirk’s observation of people and their fast paced world.” Gallery owner Maryjo Lemanski goes on to note, “This is the last showing of Kirk’s work



as he is looking forward to exploring other avenues.”

This depARTure will begin at the Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM). There *Marks of Genius* showcases the superb collection of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, featuring 100 outstanding drawings, watercolors, and pastels spanning more than 500 years—many of them rarely exhibited. After a guided tour of *Marks of Genius* there will be an additional seasonal treat —Chris Van Allsburg’s original drawings for the Grand Rapids Ballet exhibited in *Re-Envisioning The Nutcracker*.

At the San Chez Bistro, we’ll enjoy an appetizing selection of small plates and leisurely dining, giving everyone a chance to chat and relax before the Reception at UICA—just steps away from the restaurant.

Sign up forms are available on the KIA and Art League websites, and at the KIA Reception Desk. Our luxury motor coach is scheduled to leave Kalamazoo at about 2:30 and to return about 10 p.m. Details will be provided once the depARTure reaches minimum enrollment. Seating is limited.

Sign-up Today!

We’re looking for a few good members to sign-up for Hospitality Teams.

Please call Becki Moffett-Moore at 269-615-7588 to discuss.



Thank You Notes

Joan Foley: Thank you for an excellent suggestion. We hope it works!

Elite Taxi: Thank you for cheerfully donating your time and vehicle to transport members up the steep hill to the Membership Reception in September.

Becki Moffett-Moore, Fernanda Polachini, Carianne Zomonski and Becky Marvin. Thank you for pitching in to provide refreshments for the October program.

KIA Staff: Thank you George, Neil, Sandy, and one more George, plus everyone else who helped with set-up for the October program.

Reserve Your Place for the 3rd Annual Holiday Lunch at Rustica

After the program and reception on December 10, Rustica will be open exclusively for the Art League's 3rd Annual Holiday Lunch. We're inviting

you to join in the fun. Use the coupon to RSVP. Lunch guests (only) will have an opportunity to participate in a raffle; three ticket holders will win nifty gifts donated by generous friends of the Art League.

Please note any vegetarian requirements or allergies on the

RSVP form; there will be a set menu with no substitutions.

Cold beverages such as iced tea and soda are included, but there will be an extra charge for wine or hot beverages. Lunch at Rustica is by reservation only, and seating is limited.

Rustica Reservations - due by December 1, 2014

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Vegetarian/Allergies: _____

_____ seats I am reserving for the lunch on Dec. 10, 12:15 p.m. at \$25 per person, tax & tip included

\$ _____ total I am enclosing for lunch

\$ _____ tax deductible amount I am enclosing to support Art League

\$ _____ total enclosed - please make sure your address is on your check

Deadline to RSVP is December 1st. Reservations subject to availability: maximum number of guests is 54
no refunds unless there is a waiting list

Make check payable to: Kalamazoo Art League

Mail to: Art League Programs, 132 Edgemoor Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49001

November and December Programs

Michigan Design: International Context Wednesday, Nov. 12, 10 a.m.



Dr. Karen L. Carter will be the Art League's guest speaker on Wednesday November 12, 2014 10 a.m. Her talk will examine Michigan Modern design within the larger perspective of early twentieth-century European artistic movements. Artists and designers associated with de Stijl in the Netherlands, Constructivism in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and the Bauhaus in Germany provided the theoretical foundation, utopian vision and aesthetic prototypes for reform in architecture, furniture and industrial design that,

as this talk will show, carried over into mid-century American modern design.

Dr. Carter received a Ph.D. in modern French art from the University of Chicago. She has received grants and fellowships from the University of Chicago, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Getty Research Institute in Los Angeles, the French-American Foundation in New York, and the Library of Congress (Kluge Postdoctoral Fellowship). She is Associate Professor, Art History Program at Kendall College of Art and Design, Ferris State University.

Cultural Crossroads: The KIA and the World Around Us Wednesday, Dec. 10, 10 a.m.

Belinda Tate joined the KIA as executive director in September, after 15 years as director of the Diggs Gallery in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. At the start of her second 90 days, she will talk about the intersection between our local culture and larger world; the museum's winter exhibitions of contemporary work from artists in China, Japan, and Korea; and her hopes to broaden the KIA's community engagement with untapped audiences and other arts leaders.





Kalamazoo Art League
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 Kalamazoo, MI 49007

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KzooArtLeague@gmail.com
www.kiarts.org
www.KalamazooArtLeague.org



Becoming an Art League Member

Being eligible for Art League is one of the many benefits of joining the KIA. Taking that step and actually becoming a member of Art League is about more than just enjoying member benefits however.

Your dues serve our community by bringing outstanding speakers to Kalamazoo. They enhance the understanding and appreciation of visual arts for *anyone* who is interested.

Art League benefits include:
 [1] being part of a friendly, member-led organization of fellow art lovers
 [2] free admission to Programs
 [3] discounts on depARTures
 [4] mailed issues of Focus.

Art League Membership

Name: _____ Date: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zipcode: _____ Email: _____

Art League dues are \$40 (and you must be a member of the KIA). Make checks payable to Kalamazoo Art League

Please check to confirm that you are a member of KIA: _____
 May we use your information in the Art League directory? Yes _____ No _____

_____ New member
 _____ Renewing member
 _____ Rejoining former member

Please Mail to:
 Art League Membership
 314 Park St.
 Kalamazoo, MI 49007