



FOCUS

Fall 2023

Greetings Art Lovers of Kalamazoo!

We have a fabulous year of educational events planned for you and your friends to enjoy. Please consider attending as many as fit your schedule – they're all listed within this Fall FOCUS. We hope to see you often this next year.

The Kalamazoo Art League also joins the community to celebrate the 99 years of KIA educating and enlightening our community through the arts. The KIA believes that art is for everyone. It transforms, inspires, and fulfills.

The KIA brings art to life through a world-class collection, engaging exhibitions, wide-ranging youth and adult learning opportunities, and excellent instruction in the Kirk Newman Art School.



ART LEAGUE is a motivated and dedicated volunteer organization founded to organize an annual lecture series at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. Since 1955, lecturers have been selected from across the US representing the forefront of experts who create, curate, study or write about art. Art League programs promote understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the visual arts for its members, the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts and our community.



2023-2024 Upcoming Lectures and Events!!

October 11, 2023 Charles Burke – 5:30 Reception. Lecture begins at 7:00.

Charles Burke will speak about his journey as an arts administrator, arts educator and his vision for the Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park. In February 2023, Charles Burke became the new President and CEO of Meijer Gardens succeeding David Hooker, who announced his retirement in 2022. Burke brings years of experience in arts and culture to his new role, having served as president and CEO of The War Memorial Association in Grosse Pointe Farms for past nine years. Previously, Burke spent a significant portion of his career as both an executive and orchestral conductor for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra (DSO).



“I am honored to be selected as the next president and CEO of such a world-renowned and beloved cultural institution,” Burke said. “I am eager to work with

the talented team at Meijer Gardens.” Burke is a graduate of Leadership Detroit XXXV and holds degrees from George Mason University and West Virginia University, executive leadership training at the Harvard Business School and Columbia College and as a Creative Alliances Fellow and Emerging Nonprofit Leaders Fellow for National Arts Strategies.

He is active in the nonprofit sector, volunteering in several roles including board director for Jefferson East, TechTown Detroit, community advisory board for Beaumont Health Grosse Pointe, editorial board of the Grosse Pointe News, executive producer for Live Inspired Productions and Michigan Youth Arts Festival.



November 8, 2023 10:00 am--Nayda Collazo-Llorens



Nayda Collazo-Llorens will speak about her life as an interdisciplinary artist from Puerto Rico. She earned an MFA degree from New York University and a BFA degree from Massachusetts College of Art and Design. Her work has been exhibited at El Museo del Barrio in New York City, The Mattress Factory in Pittsburgh, Museum of Latin American Art in Long Beach, The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum in Miami, Bass Museum of Art in Miami Beach, Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts in Grand Rapids, Museo de

Arte Contemporáneo in San Juan, Museo Universitario del Chopo in Mexico City, and The Dowse Art Museum in New Zealand, among others. She has received grants from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, Oolite Arts, and Beta-Local, among others, and is a former Visiting Fellow at the Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership. Her work is featured in the book *Relational Undercurrents: Contemporary Art of the Caribbean Archipelago*, published by Duke University Press; *A to Z of Caribbean Art*, published by Robert & Christopher in Trinidad and Tobago; and *The Dark Would: Language Art Anthology*, published by Apple Pie in the UK. Her work has been reviewed in *The New York Times*, *Art News*, *Art Net*, *Art Nexus*, *Hyperallergic*, *Arte al Día International*, *BOMB*, and *Newcity*, among others. She currently lives and works in Kalamazoo, Michigan.



December 13, 2023



Holiday Luncheon at the Park Club



March 13, 2024, 10 am—Laura De Becker



Laura De Becker, Interim Chief Curator and the Helmut and Candis Stern Curator of African Art at the University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA).

Many of the works De Becker oversees were donated from the late Helmut Stern's collection of Central African art, widely viewed as one of the finest private collections in the world. She will discuss the complex issues of repatriation, provenance, and collaboration which are among the pressing issues facing museums with collection of African objects.



April 10, 2024, 10 am –Tuliza Fleming



Tuliza Fleming will speak on Visual Art and The Americal Experience: A Journey into the Era or Reckoning. Dr. Fleming is the Curator of American Art at the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC), Smithsonian Institution. She received her M.A. and Ph.D. in American art history from the University of Maryland, College Park (1997 and 2007), and her B.A. from Spelman College (1994). During her tenure at the NMAAHC, she worked to build the museum’s foundational American art collection, supervised the creation of a collection-based multi-media interactive, co-curated the traveling exhibition, Ain’t Nothing Like the Real Thing: How the Apollo Theater Shaped American Entertainment, and served as the lead curator for the museum’s inaugural exhibition, Visual Art and the American Experience. Formerly, Dr. Fleming served in the position of Associate Curator of the American Art at The Dayton Art Institute in Dayton, Ohio.



May 8, 2024, 10:00 a.m.—Craig McDonald

Craig McDonald, Director of the Alden B. Dow Home and Studio



Designated a National Historic Landmark in 1989, the Aldean B. Dow Hoe and Studio continues to engage the imagination and elicits emotional responses in all who experience this powerful statement of Mid-Twentieth Century Modern architecture. The 20 into an encompassing pond, the Home and Studio is alive with reflective light, soaring roof lines, diverging angles, brilliant color and the perfect balance of enticement and tranquility. It truly is an “oasis of architecture and inspiration.”



JOIN US!!

The 2023-24 Art League season runs from July 1-June 30 and we have a great series lined up for this season. We hope you will continue to support art League by renewing your membership or becoming a new member. Please go to kalamazooartleague.org/membership to renew or join today. Enjoying the Art League has never been easier! Just print the following membership form, fill in the information and send a check to our mailing address.



KALAMAZOO ART LEAGUE

Membership Form

Name _____ Date _____

Preferred phone # _____

Address _____ City _____

ZIP Code _____ Email _____

Membership is valid for a 12-month season which begins on July 1

- Art League annual dues are **\$40/person** and *you must be (or become) a member of the KIA*
- Please check to confirm that you are a member of the KIA _____
- May we use your information in the Art League directory? Yes ____ No ____
- Make checks payable to Kalamazoo Art League
____ New member
____ Renewing member
____ Rejoining former member
____ Please contact me to discuss how I can participate in Art League committees

\$_____ I would like to contribute to Art League's Program Enhancement Fund

Art League Membership Benefits

Focus newsletter

Free admission to all lectures in our dynamic series showcasing speakers from all over North America

Invitations to members-only events

Advance notices and discounts for depARTures day trips

Networking and socializing with artists, community members, and others who appreciate and support the arts

JOIN TODAY!!

Mail to: Art League Membership, P.O. Box 2223, Portage, MI 49081



KALAMAZOO INSTITUTE OF ARTS

<p>Museum/Gallery Shop Hours Wed-Sat: 11 am-5 pm Mon-Tues*closed *Open selected Tuesdays at 11:00 am for Artbreak</p>	<p>Admission Adults-\$5 / Students-\$2 Free to KIA Members</p>
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EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 16, 2023 - DECEMBER 31, 2023

A Bridge Between Two Worlds: Works by Wu Jian'an is the first major museum exhibition featuring the artist's incredibly meticulous work in the United States. The exhibition features a variety of objects demonstrating the artist's creative evolution over two decades. Frequently, the artist's complex and multi-layered compositions include thousands of elements that reference contemporary, mythological, and obscure folklore. Wu Jian'an work has been referred to as a hybrid of past and future, figure and abstraction, and tradition and innovation.



SEPTEMBER 16, 2023 - DECEMBER 31, 2023

C. C. Wang: Lines of Abstraction

C. C. Wang is best known as a preeminent twentieth-century connoisseur and collector of pre-modern Chinese art, a reputation that often overshadows his own artistic achievements. Held twenty years after the artist's death, *C. C. Wang: Lines of Abstraction* recenters Wang's extra-ordinary career on his own artistic practice to reveal an original quest for tradition and innovation in the global twentieth century. Spanning seven decades, the exhibition focuses on the artist's distinctive synthesis of Chinese ink painting and American postwar abstraction.



OCTOBER 14, 2023 - JANUARY 28, 2024-- Kirk Newman Faculty Review

This biennial exhibition reveals why the Kirk Newman Art School (KNAS) faculty members are among the leading artists in Southwest Michigan. Featuring new directions in the work of more than 40 professional artists-educators, this exciting display of media and techniques provides a glimpse into the artistic prowess of our faculty. Highlighting a distinctive range of talent, expect fine artwork in ceramics, sculpture, painting, jewelry, photography, fiber, and more. Although many of these award-winning artists exhibit across the region, this is an opportunity to experience their works together, as a team dedicated to sharing the visual arts with everyone inside and beyond the KNAS studios.

To kick-off the KIA’s 100th Year Celebration, the KNAS Faculty Review will also highlight works from some of the most prominent former faculty members.



Kalamazoo Art League Board Members

President—Jim Cupper
Vice President—Nancy Kern
Secretary—Susan Eckhardt
Treasurer—Janet Thieme
David Brose

Laura Cathcart
Diane Eberts
Michelle Karpinski
Heidi Oberlin
Sally Pritko

Stephanie Robinson
Jim Rojeski
Paula Shelhamer
Julie Taborn
Gay Walker

Others who have retired from the Kalamazoo Art League Board after faithfully serving their terms (in fact, serving an extra year due to Covid) are listed below. We thank them for their dedication to our shared goals and look forward to seeing them at future Art League programs!

Veronica Harik, Membership
Sue Kovats, Membership
Efrosini Kokkinos, Engagement
Karen Matson, Past President

We are grateful that Doreen Thomas, who recently retired from the board, will continue to manage the Kalamazoo Art League’s Archives.



New Board Members

David Brose

Dr. David Brose is a highly accomplished professional in the Education and Museum communities. He has held directorship positions at many museums - The Cranbrook Institute of Science and the Royal Ontario Museum - to just name two. In addition, David's academic positions include professorships at Case Western Reserve University and the University of Toronto, among others. David has a keen interest in the Kalamazoo Community and has been a member of the KIA and the Kalamazoo Art League supporting both organizations throughout the years. Additionally, he has expertise in board development and management.

Diane Eberts

Diane Eberts has lived and worked in Kalamazoo since 1993. She has over 38 years of teaching experience as a music teacher, reading teacher and arts integration specialist. She also worked as an adjunct instructor at WMU (1994-2004), teaching Creativity in the Classroom courses for elementary education majors. Before moving to Kalamazoo, Diane taught in Chicago IL, Eugene OR, and Bethesda MD. She earned her BA from Oberlin College and an MA in Teaching (MAT) from Northwestern University. Diane enjoyed many years as a vocal performer with regional opera companies and musical theater. She has been an active volunteer with arts organizations in Kalamazoo including serving on the board of the Art League as Vice President and President and is currently co-chairing the Programs Committee.

Michelle Karpinski

Michelle's career began as a broadcast journalist/weekend anchor at WWMT-Television in Kalamazoo, expanding into more than 20 years as an executive in non-profit management. Her areas of expertise include fundraising, marketing and customer service. Since 2016, Michelle serves as Community Relations Manager for Portage Public Schools. She holds a BA in Broadcast Journalism and Spanish from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, and a Masters in Public Administration from WMU. She is also a Certified Fundraising Executive. Additionally, Michelle serves on the National Ski Patrol Board and previously served on the boards of Kalamazoo Rotary and Southwest Michigan Boy Scouts.

Jim Rojeski

Jim has been a longtime supporter of arts and art museums. He grew up in Detroit spending much time during his high school years at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Jim has been a long-time member of KIA at the Founders level. He and his wife take art classes at the Newman school. Jim is also a member of the Milwaukee Art Museum and a past member of the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Art Institute of Chicago. A photographer and printmaker, Jim enjoys attending art shows. Recently retired from working for national consulting firms, Jim is experienced in Meetings, community organizing and networking.



THANK YOU!!!

We wish to thank the following members who made a donation to the Art League in the past few months, in conjunction with paying their membership dues. We appreciate their generosity and support! Their contributions totaled over \$1,100.

Mary Brodbeck
Carol & James Dean
Susan Eckhardt
Veronica Harik
Sheryl Hinsdale
Linda & Joe Kanamueller
Nancy Kern
Deb Killarney
Mary Klenow
Donna Lambert
Joy Light
Sandra Linabury
Valli McDougale
Dave & Becki Moffett-Moore
Derl & Heidi Oberlin
Ruth Rowe
Paula Shelhamer
Doreen Thomas
Linda Van Dis
Patricia Viard

If you have not yet paid your dues for 2023-2024, please consider adding a small donation when you do. Every little bit helps us meet the expenses involved in bringing outstanding speakers to Kalamazoo for our Programs.

