President’s Message

Art Alliance is my favorite organization—we have fun learning about the visual arts, while raising money for student scholarships. What could be better? I have gained many friendships due to Art Alliance, and hope to extend this excitement to all of you!

The Art Alliance Board is welcoming two new members, Veronica Michalowski as Secretary, and Diane Harris as a Member at Large. Board members have been busy this summer planning the Membership party which will be September 12. The theme is "Celebrating Art Alliance Artists." Be sure to attend so you can see work of our artist members, congratulate two new AA Life Members, and meet the new Director of the Begovich Gallery, Jennifer Frias. Don't forget to bring along a potential AA member. The more members we have the more we can do!

This fall we begin the year at the Begovich Gallery with "A Place For Everything, And Everything In Its Place: The Permanent Collection at CSUF, 1963 to the Present" opening September 7. Note that the AA/VIP reception is 2—3 pm. Director Frias has planned two other events related to this exhibit. Saturday, October 5 from 11 am to 1 pm "In Conversation: The Art Alliance and the Collection," and Saturday, November 2 from 11 am to 1 pm "In Conversation: G Ray Kerciu: The Prints that Built A Collection." This programming is a benefit of your membership, so don't miss out.

Enrichment tours will take us to the Getty Villa in October to see "Buried by Vesuvius: Treasures from the Villa dei Papiri" featuring items never exhibited before. In November we will go to the Huntington Library to see the newly restored Blue Boy, and view the video record of the restoration process, plus see other exhibits and the gardens.

I hope you enjoy the review of our spring activities in this newsletter. Be sure to mark your calendar now so you can participate in all the exciting events. Thank you for all your efforts on behalf of Art Alliance - see you soon.

—Joann Driggers

Scholarship Reception

The Art Alliance Scholarship Reception was held May 1, 2019 at CSUF Titan Hall. Each table had a succulent floral arrangement by Lois Austin, Junko Klaus, and Dodie Sailor. A lovely buffet luncheon was available. Scholarships were given to 11 students by Art Alliance plus those given by the Art Department.

A number of Art Alliance members and friends attended along with the scholarship recipients and many of their relatives. Each award was accompanied with a brief slide presentation showcasing that student's work.

—Dodie Sailor
Begovich Gallery Reception

Invocation of Almost: The Art of David Tibet in the Begovich Gallery March 9 — May, 2019 showcased a large selection of the artist's paintings, drawings, and sculptures, reflecting Tibet's interest in and study of Coptic and Akkadian texts, shamanism, and spirituality. Many people who attended the opening reception came great distance to see the exhibit.

Art Alliance Board Retreat

On April 11, 2019, the Art Alliance Board met at the home of Darlene Smart to create an action plan to build our membership. The goal is to attract more people age 55+ who are interested in art. This is essential for the continuing of our organization and an exceedingly important part of our fundraising.

After brainstorming, ideas were developed and a plan adopted. But whatever success the Board has must be supplemented by help from the existing membership. Members need to bring family, friends and acquaintances to all of our affairs, especially the Art of Dining and the Enrichment trips. This will show what an exciting organization we are. Now is the time—membership season is upon us. Plan to bring a potential member to our Membership Party on September 21, 2019.

—Lois Austin

Living with Clay: A Personal Experience enrichment trip to Richard and Judy Jacobs' home in Glendora, January 2019
Enrichment Tour—Judson Studios

On a cool morning in February, Art Alliance members climbed onto a waiting bus while eagerly anticipating their trip to the Judson Studios.

Stained Glass & Restoration  The first stop was at the Judson Studio in Los Angeles. It was established in 1897 by William Judson and his three sons and is still owned and operated by the family today. A tour guide led attendees through several art decorated floors highlighted by the ground floor studio area that displayed the step-by-step process that creates the intricate stained glass designs.

Kiln Formed & Fused Glass  The second Judson Studio stop was in South Pasadena at the new 7000 square foot facility that reveals the true beauty of blending light and glass. Members were able to understand and appreciate the Judson projects as revealed through public art, in private residences, and commercial and religious institutions both nationwide and worldwide. Towards the end of a fascinating tour Art Alliance members dodged a few rain drops as they gathered for a late lunch at a nearby restaurant.

—Shanon Fitzpatrick

Enrichment Tour—Culver City

Despite a rainy Spring, Art Alliance members and guests had perfect weather for a walking tour of some of the Art in Public Spaces, Culver City. The tour was led by Joann Driggers, President of Art Alliance. Each attendee received a booklet provided by Culver City, with colored photos and descriptions of over 100 individual art works.

Our tour focused on a six block segment of Culver Blvd. We began at City Hall with several art installations including a drought tolerant garden with a water feature that references Ballona Creek and the Tongva Indians, and a stained and leaded glass window that gives the illusion of a hanging garden. We walked past the Kirk Douglas Theatre, formerly the Culver movie theater designed in Streamline Moderne style with its polychrome terrazzo paving.

We enjoyed lunch at the Culver Hotel, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. It was built in 1924 and reflects the glamour of the film studios that surrounded this part of Culver City. After lunch we saw sculptures, a mural, and the front of the Culver Studios. The main administrative building is in Colonial Style and appeared in Gone with the Wind. After boarding our bus we saw the Lucy and Desi mural.

—Shanon Fitzpatrick
A Message from Jennifer Frias
New Director of CSUF Begovich Gallery

As a former student, adjunct instructor, and patron of the arts at CSUF, I am excited to return to a place that supported my education and my artistic career. It is also with great pride that I will be working alongside the Art Alliance as the incoming Director of the Begovich Gallery.

As the University's art gallery, I consider the Begovich as a space that connects art, education, and the region as foundations for critical thinking, discovery, and participation, while retaining a global outlook. Therefore, our first year together promises a range of activities that will involve communities on and off-campus.

We will kick-off the new academic year with an exhibition that is considered the heart of any art institution—its permanent collection. During my years working as a researcher for an art collection, I learned that behind an art institution's holdings is a fascinating story as to how it ended up there. This fall, the Begovich will present A Place For Everything and Everything In Its Place: The Permanent Collection at CSUF, 1963 to the Present. The exhibition will feature nearly 50 years of collecting works of art on our campus. Highlights will include prints produced at the renowned Gemini G.E.L. Workshop, photographs from the Andy Warhol Photographic Legacy Program, and distinguished artists such as Lita Albuquerque, Robert Rauschenberg, Ed Ruscha, and Alexis Smith to name a few. The collection also consists of works by individual artists who had affiliations with the University, such as former faculty (Daryl Curran, John Leighton), students (Patrick Nagel, Ann Phong), and Art Alliance members (Florence Arnold, Roslyn Chodos). The exhibition also pays tribute to individual private collectors and groups, such as the Art Alliance, who were integral to the development and expansion of the art collection.

In addition, the gallery staff and I are working on programs that will supplement the exhibition. From brunch talks to demos and classroom conversation series, there will be something for everybody! Part of my goal as Director is to engage in partnerships that will enrich and inform art experiences for our community. And together with the Art Alliance, I am looking forward to empowering students on our campus to pursue their artistic vision.

—Jennifer Frias
Director, CSUF Begovich Gallery