



## From the President

Kathryn Hillyer

The past two years of my RAEA Presidency have flown by—especially since I never was able to meet with any of you at our annual NAEA conventions! I hope to see you virtually at our “not-in-Chicago-but-virtual-instead” 2021 convention.

I am impressed with the variety of presentations and how NAEA has stepped up to make sure that this premier professional development activity will be as rich and rewarding as possible. Below are some sessions that are being presented by RAEA and also others of possible interest. Please sign up for the NAEF Fundraising event also!

This year we are able to again recognize an Outstanding Student Chapter, from Indiana University in Pennsylvania. More information is later in this newsletter. Congratulations IUP!! There were several very worthy nominees for this recognition and I am proud to know that they reflect a bright future for art education in our schools.

We also recognize our RAEA Emeritus Art Educator, Debi West. Debi is a long-time Georgia resident and art teacher who retired to South Carolina. Please read her information in this newsletter. Congratulations, Debi! Again, there were several worthy nominees for this award. It is wonderful to see how many of us lead vital, active lives post-retirement. As I often say, I retired from my job, not my career!

This is my last column to you as President. Betsy Logan of Alabama will be taking over this position right after the convention. Betsy retired in 2015 after 34 years of teaching elementary and middle school in Texas and Alabama. She has been very active in NAEA and is still active in teaching, online part-time for the State of Alabama ACCESS Virtual learning course. I've known Betsy for years and am pleased to pass the presidential baton on to her. Welcome!

Thank you to all of you who have been active in our RAEA group. Your work has helped to keep our community vibrant. Linda Willis Fisher has continued to work with our Student Chapters and the award. She also gently reminds me of the many things I forget! Flowerree McDonough and Donna Anderson stepped in to head the Emeritus email newsletter after the long service of Dean Johns and Bob Curtis (of Michigan). Boo Ruch coordinates our awards and also sends me reminders. There are many more of you, but space limits my appreciation! Betsy, you have a great group!

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## RAEA & Other Events at The Virtual Convention

### **Retired Art Educators Affiliate Interest Group Annual Awards\*\***

Kathryn Hillyer, Woody Duncan, Betsy Logan

**Saturday, February 27, 2:00-3:00 pm EST**

\*\*Note the date! This event is open to all, even if not registered for the convention. Come and support RAEA as we present our awards!

### **Art Educators Emeritus: Teaching and Learning Continues**

Linda Willis Fisher and others

**Friday March 5, 3:00-3:45 pm EST**

### **Retired Art Educators Affiliate (RAEA) Interest Group Annual Business Meeting**

Kathryn Hillyer, Woody Duncan, Betsy Logan

**Sunday, March 7, 11:00-11:45 am EST**

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## Other Sessions

**10th Annual NAEF Fundraising Benefit**—need to pre-register for this!

Diane Scully

**Saturday, March 6; 4:00-5:30 pm EST**

### **Research Commission: Envisioning the Next NAEA Research**

Agenda Sara Wilson McKay

**Thursday March 4, 1:00-2:20 pm EST**

Provide input into the next iteration of the NAEA Research Agenda

### **Art Education and Creative Aging**

Melanie Davenport

**Friday, March 5, 4:00-4:45 pm EST**

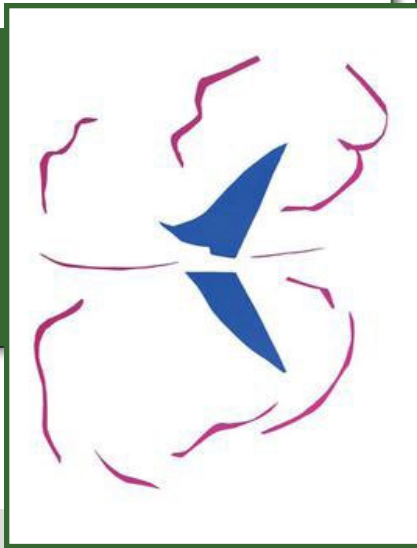
There are also many interesting sessions focused on cultural appropriation; equity, diversity, and inclusion: the artist series; invited lectures; General Sessions—the list goes on!

# Trivia

January's Trivia question was: Which of Henri Matisse's paintings was hung upside down at the Museum of Modern Art in New York for 46 days without anyone noticing? Again, I didn't receive any answers (I think we have been busy!).

**Answer:** Le Bateau ("The Boat"), a paper-cut by Henri Matisse, which was hung upside-down in 1961 in the Museum of Modern Art in New York. It took 47 days before a stockbroker, Genevieve Habert, notified the museum of the error!

**Le Bateau (The Boat)**  
Henri Matisse  
**Museum of Modern Art (MOMA)**  
New York City, NY



My last trivia bit isn't a question, just some amusing trivia that I ran across. Did you know that art used to be an Olympic event? Baron Pierre de Coubertin felt that a true Olympian was both a sports person AND a talented artist. Between 1912 and 1948 medals were given out for masterpieces of architecture, music, painting, sculpture, and literature that were inspired by sport.

The end!



## A Word from Our President-Elect

### Betsy Logan

Hello everyone! My name is Betsy Logan and I am about to become the new RAEA President. I am not sure how I will ever replace Kathryn Hilyer! She has done such a wonderful job, especially conducting everything virtually. Her informative articles, organizational skills and the trivia questions she posed were just what we needed. I know I looked forward to each issue to see what she was going to share with us. I loved the trivia question and tried so hard to get it in early! I am such an eager beaver.

Thank you so much Kathryn and I am so glad you will still be around as the Past President to help me out because your shoes are going to be hard to fill.

## Congratulations to **DEBI DUNAVANT WEST** National Emeritus Art Educator 2021 **Infectious Enthusiasm!!**

Our 2021 National Emeritus Art Educator is no stranger to anyone who attends NAEA Conference or is on social media where art, students, and art educators are involved. Debi West's worth goes far beyond a beautiful smile and an obsession with joy. She brings to the table art programming that offers thinking outside the box and creates an atmosphere encouraging just that. Whether art educator or student, you leave her workshops, seminars and speeches ready to take on adventures from a different angle. Her methods are sound, not simply fun. She takes a boardroom from simply following a tiring agenda into a stimulating plan that makes work seem fun and the members actually accomplish more than intended. In a recent interview she states that busy is something "good for me." Debi cannot be bottled, though we wish we could have just a bit of her enthusiasm. From the students in the traveling artsReach program, or in her university class, to the art educators sitting in conferences listening to her, we all benefit from her message. Debi takes her belief in being an advocate for art education to her community. She has worked with businesses, legislators and other stakeholders to provide visual arts education in her community, state and nation. Debi Dunavant West we commend you and thank you for your continuing infectious enthusiasm and unfathomable energy!

**Saturday, February 27, 2:00-3:00 CST – AWARDS Ceremony**

**\*\*Note the date!** This event is open to all, even if not registered for the convention.

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# CONGRATULATIONS!

**Debi Dunavant West**  
National Emeritus Art Educator 2021

## A recent interview with Debi:

Since retiring from the classroom, I began an educational consulting company: [www.WESTpectations.com](http://www.WESTpectations.com) and absolutely love working with teachers and districts across the nation. Sadly, I haven't been as busy in 2020 due to COVID, but before that I had the opportunity to work with over 30 schools and districts and loved every bit of it. I continue to make my custom, hand-stamped jewelry that I sell online via Facebook and Instagram, the Crystal Collage ART Wears pages do well but I have the most fun doing trunk shows and festivals. Again, 2020 was a bit slower due to COVID but I still managed to stay busy over the holidays. I'm looking forward to filling upcoming Valentine orders!



At our local Arts Center and Art League, I am the coordinator for the TAP Program (traveling arts Reach program) where I design and write integrated arts curriculum for 1st-5th grade teachers. Once these lessons are created I teach volunteers how to take the lessons to the schools in Beaufort and Jasper Counties. Teachers sign up for these lessons and the volunteers take the supply boxes and visual aids to the kiddos and teach them well! This is our 3rd year and I just completed my 15th lesson. Again, due to COVID, I have created a series of videos and am now doing the training via zoom.

Speaking of zoom, I was excited to be invited to present at 8 conferences last year and was asked to keynote 2 state art conferences. And, I continue to teach graduate courses via the Art of Education University where I've worked part-time for the past few years.

So I'm finding that BUSY is really good for me!

My upcoming plan is to start a monthly "Monday Mentoring" program this February where I will be doing bi-monthly Zoom themed lessons that I will advertise via social media. I think we need to remind teachers that we're here for them! We might be "retired" but we are a wealth of knowledge and are here to help! I would love to see this become something that we could perhaps advertise via the RAEA.



# Mentoring Mondays

...learning from seasoned Art Educators bi-monthly

I'm Debi West and I've been teaching children and teachers through the visual arts since 1992!

I am ready to bring my experience to teachers everywhere through my bi-monthly themed Zoom "Get Togethers"!



## Here's how it works:

- Every other week I will share tips, tricks, hacks, lessons, ideas, student samples and be here to answer any and all questions teachers might have, especially through these challenging times!
- These meetings will be short and sweet and I will include hand-outs that you can use and springboard off of.
- I would love to create these "Mentoring Monday" meetings FOR YOU, so please let me know what you're in need of and we will continue to work together!
- I think there is a real need to utilize the retired and "seasoned" art educator so my hope is to include other mentors as we grow! #togetherweARTbetter

## Schedule:

- February 8<sup>th</sup> and February 22<sup>nd</sup> – Service-Learning Topics!
- March 8<sup>th</sup> and March 22<sup>nd</sup> - YAM and Advocacy Ideas!
- April 5<sup>th</sup> and April 19<sup>th</sup> - Lessons, Lessons and More Lessons!
- May 3<sup>rd</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup> – All Things Assessment!
- June 7<sup>th</sup> and June 21<sup>st</sup> – Summer Fun!
- July 12<sup>th</sup> and July 26<sup>th</sup> – The Visual Journal!
- August 9<sup>th</sup> and August 23<sup>rd</sup> – Back to School!
- September 6<sup>th</sup> and September 20<sup>th</sup> – Drawing Tips!
- October 4<sup>th</sup> and October 18<sup>th</sup> – Scary Cool Painting Tricks!
- November 1<sup>st</sup> and November 15<sup>th</sup> – Giving Thanks!
- December 6<sup>th</sup> and December 20<sup>th</sup> – Sharing Joy!

## Short Bio:

Debi West, Ed.S, NBCT, owner of WESTpectations Educational Consulting is an award winning retired art educator who spent 25 years teaching children through the vehicle of the visual arts in Gwinnett County, Georgia. Debi taught at both the elementary and the secondary levels. She spent her career using project-based learning, art with purpose theories and integrated instruction with the commitment of ensuring that every student became a successful and authentic learner. She is currently a part-time Graduate Instructor with the Art of Education University and a full-time artist, art education advocate and mentor!

Debi currently resides in Hilton Head, SC with her husband Chuck and is the proud mom of Croy and Carson.

## Contact Info:

[dewestudio@gmail.com](mailto:dewestudio@gmail.com)  
[www.WESTpectations.com](http://www.WESTpectations.com)

*Check my social media pages  
for the bi-monthly Zoom links!*

FB: Debi Dunavant West  
Instagram: @dewestudio  
Twitter: @dewestudio

# Congratulations to INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA NAEA Student Chapter Award!



**Congratulations to the Indiana University of Pennsylvania for receiving the Outstanding Student Chapter Award 2021.**

According to faculty advisor Marissa Sweeney: “Our Student Chapter members are incredibly visible not only in the Art and Design Department but also throughout our campus. They are true ambassadors for our program, and leaders within our University. It’s almost impossible to be in the building and to not see an NAEA-related event going on— whether it’s a coffee or bake sale to raise funds for professional development or conference travel, a workshop devoted to helping everyone develop artistic skills, or developing a curated exhibition in our galleries that showcases the work of art educators as artists.”

President Tristan Croyle states that “Overall, our chapter values collaboration, holds itself accountable to connect with the community, and push to develop professionally to become well rounded individuals.”

Members of the Student Chapter include: Davey Beyer, Kaitlyn Carey, Tristin Croyle (President), Jennifer Freno, Sarah Cash, Brianna Adkins, Sarah Patrick, Allan Gaus, Sydney Huston, Mary Crouse, Abigail Cowles,

Bethany Butler, Brittney Albright, Grace Unger, Rose Burger. The faculty advisor is Marissa Sweeney.



**They are true ambassadors for our program, and leaders within our University. It’s almost impossible to be in the building and to not see an NAEA-related event going on.**

# THANK YOU KATHRYN



Kathryn Hillyer has served our organization with the commitment born of great leadership. She has been the first to speak up for art educators who are now out of systems' classrooms but continue serving art education in various ways. Never was there an e-bulletin deadline that she had not already submitted her timely column. She has kept us informed, encouraged and engaged. Thank you Kathryn for all you have given us and your community and all you continue to give.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MARCH 1



# CREATE

[VIRTUAL] 2021 NAEA NATIONAL CONVENTION | MARCH 4-7, 2021

Emeritus Registration: \$79 (Save \$20)





# CONTACT INFORMATION

## RAEA Board

**President** - Kathryn Hillyer, Illinois, [kathioh@aol.com](mailto:kathioh@aol.com)  
**President-Elect** - Betsy Logan, Alabama, [rbjlogan@bellsouth.net](mailto:rbjlogan@bellsouth.net)  
**Past President** - Woody Duncan, New Mexico, [woodyduncan@comcast.net](mailto:woodyduncan@comcast.net)  
**E-Bulletin Co-Editors:** Donna Anderson, Tennessee, [artzychick@yahoo.com](mailto:artzychick@yahoo.com)  
Flowerree McDonough, Tennessee, [flowerree@mac.com](mailto:flowerree@mac.com)  
**Secretary:** Becky Blaine, Illinois, [beckyblaine@gmail.com](mailto:beckyblaine@gmail.com)  
**Treasurer:** Pam Signorelli, Michigan, [ltcsig@aol.com](mailto:ltcsig@aol.com)  
**Awards Chair:** Emily "Boo" Ruch, Tennessee, [eruchboo@gmail.com](mailto:eruchboo@gmail.com)  
**Silent Auction Chair:** Anne Becker, Illinois, [anzebe@comcast.net](mailto:anzebe@comcast.net)  
**Membership Chair:** Patsy Parker, Virginia, [p2artkrt@gmail.com](mailto:p2artkrt@gmail.com)

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## RAEA MISSION STATEMENT

The purposes shall be to define and establish the role of the retired art educators as an interest group of NAEA; to conduct programs of professional activities for state and national events; to encourage continued personal involvement and development in art education; to inform State Associations and NAEA of concerns relevant to members of long-standing; and to encourage and support, as well as provide mentorship for student members of the NAEA.