

# The ACGOW Gallery News

Celebrating 25 Years of Art: 1992 - 2017

**December 2017**  
25th Anniversary Year

For more ACGOW news, visit the ACGOW website  
<http://www.westerlyarts.com/>

## ACGOW Board of Directors

**President:** Arlene Piacquadio  
**Vice President:** Dan Marantz  
**Treasurer:** Ardie Harrison  
**Recording Secretary:** Nancy Gardner  
**Corresponding Secretary:** Lynn Anderson

## ACGOW Committees

**Membership:** Donna Mazzone  
**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** Lynn Anderson, Mimi Huszer Fagnant, Carol Schmedinghoff, Francesca Fay, Betsie Withey  
**Annual Appeal:** Liz McGee, Nancy Nielsen, Patty Nunes, Jane Rollins, Lisle Ann Jackson, Sandy Webb  
**Associate Members:** Carey Williams  
**BRAG:** Kristie Foss  
**DBA:** Carey Williams  
**Fund Raising/Art Heist:** Lora Cobden, Liz McGee, Kathleen Hemenway, Nancy Gardner, Gary Fuller, Angel Ramos, Prudence Hignett, Helen Roy  
**Gallery Space Design:** Lynn Anderson, Hanneli Ansel, Liz McGee  
**Training:** Patty Nunes, Kristie Foss  
**Lighting and Maintenance:** Charlie Liguori, Fordan Bonardi, Robert Wilkinson, John Mcguire, Smokey Spangler  
**Newsletter with Photography:** Dave Brierley  
**Posters:** Greg Eident (backup needed)  
**PR/Advertising/Facebook/MailChimp:** Madeline Beaudry, Lois Lawrence, Jane Perkins, Jane Rollins, Rose Mary Gates  
**Regional Show:** Gail Giancaspro,  
**Show Themes, Scheduling, and Assignments:** Gail Giancaspro, Patty Nunes, Lynn Anderson, Madeline Beaudry, Jane Rollins  
**Supply Purchase:** Roberta MacGregor  
**Visiting Artist:** Karen Dodez  
**Website:** Karen Dodez; Rose Mary Gates, Lisle Ann Jackson  
**Westerly Arts Café/Events:** Francesca Fay, Carol Schmedinghoff, Mimi Huszer Fagnant, Arlene Piacquadio, Betsie Withey, Lynn Anderson  
**WRAP:** Arlene Piacquadio (on WRAP board), Robin Halpren Ruder

**Ambassador at Large:** Sadie Davidson DeVore

## President's Message – Happy Holidays

Wishing all **happy holidays** in warm appreciation of our Artist Coop members and friends during the past year. May this season bring you the gifts of peace, hope, joy, and art.

**Arlene Piacquadio**  
Artists' Cooperative Gallery of Westerly  
President

## New Gallery Hours for the Holidays

The board has been debating on the merits of additional hours for the gallery to be open to the public during the holidays. There have been suggestions from the public that the gallery would benefit by being open in the evenings to have more exposure for the wonderful artwork, to increase sales of gallery artwork, and the newly opened gift shop in the former BRAG. Canal Street restaurants and the Savoy Bookstore have awakened this area of town in the evening.

ACGOW hours have been extended by adding a new sitting shift from 6 – 9 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. Artists and trained associates may sign up on TeamUp.

**Artists' Cooperative Gallery  
of Westerly**  
**Celebrating the joy of art for 25 years!**

**ACGOW**  
7 Canal Street  
Westerly, RI 02891  
401-596-2221  
Open Wed-Sat 11-7; Sun 1-5  
[acgow2015@gmail.com](mailto:acgow2015@gmail.com)  
Look for us on Facebook, too

## ACGOW Calendar of Events

**Nov. 29** – December show officially opens to the public; reception is on December 6

**Dec. 6** – **December show reception** will occur to coincide with the Westerly Holiday Stroll; 5 – 9 p.m.

**Dec. 7** – Last day to donate art supplies for The Johnnycake Center

**Dec. 11** – ACGOW Holiday Potluck Dinner; 5 – 8 p.m.; see sidebar for more Information. Contact Mimi Huszer Fagnant to RSVP and say what to bring to share with others; all membership categories are invited to attend

**Dec. 24** – **Christmas Eve**; the gallery will be open 11-3 p.m.

**Dec. 31** – **New Year's Eve**; the gallery will be open 11-3 p.m.  
last day of December show

**Jan. 2** – Members' meeting 6 p.m. bring in artwork for January show

**Jan. 3** – Hang January show "**Between Dark and Daylight**" - **Shadow & Light**; featured artists are wall - **Rick Petrocelli & Jane Perkins**; window – open

**Jan. 5** – January show reception; 5 – 8 p.m.

**Jan. 28** – Last day of January show

**Jan. 29** – Members' meeting; 6 p.m. election of officers; bring in artwork for February show "**Visiting Artists**" no featured ACGOW artists

**Jan. 30** – Hang February show

**Feb. 2** – February show reception 5 – 8 p.m.

## ACGOW Holiday Potluck Dinner Monday, Dec. 11; 5 – 8 p.m.

All artists, associates, adjunct member are cordially invited to attend.

The annual ACGOW potluck dinner has become a fun tradition. Attendance has grown each year along with the savory potluck contributions to the dinner.

Come join in this holiday celebration on Monday, December 11, from 5 to 8 p.m.

**Mimi Huszer Fagnant** is coordinating the potluck celebration. Please RSVP to her by email to let her know if you (and a guest) will be coming. Please discuss with her what you could bring to the potluck so we have a good variety of food. It is a BYOB event.

Contact Mimi at [Lilacwind@cox.net](mailto:Lilacwind@cox.net) or call her at 401-884-4107



## 2018 ACGOW Show News

The Show Themes and Schedule Committee chaired by **Gail Giancaspro** determined the annual show theme and organizing the monthly show themes and show hanging committees. The 2018 theme will be "**Transition by Design.**"

The committee members are: **Patty Nunes, Lynn Anderson, Kaleeny Cannon, Madeline Beaudry, and Jane Rollins.** ACGOW president **Arlene Piacquadio** is an ex-officio member.

Click on [2018 ACGOW Show Calendar](#) to view the monthly show themes

## Welcome New Artist and Associate Members

**Artists:** **Nancy Virbila** Mixed media /collage [nancyvirbila@gmail.com](mailto:nancyvirbila@gmail.com)  
**Lynn Batcho** Watercolor [Lynnbatcho@comcast.net](mailto:Lynnbatcho@comcast.net)

A membership campaign is in the works for 2018 to encourage new members to join ACGOW in all categories: artist, associate, adjunct, snow bird, and students.

## Helpful Hints to aid in Member E-mail Communications

- Always put **ACGOW** in the subject line of an email to all members or to individual members.
- It is confusing to use an email to every member if your subject is a new one from the one you are tagging onto. Change the subject line if you have a new subject to send to all members or to an individual member.
- Please ask **Donna Mazzone** for a current artist members contact list if you need one. Donna sends out updated email lists each month. Please use it.
- Please ask **Carey Williams** for contact information for the associates if you need to contact one of the associates.

## General News about ACGOW Members and Activities

- The **December 2017 show committee** is: Lynn Anderson – co-Chair; Madeline Beaudry – co-Chair; Patty Nunes, Liz McGee, Lois Lawrence, Angel Ramos, Smokey Spangler, Dave Brierley
- The **January 2018 show committee** is: Carol Schmedinghoff – co-chair; Donna Mazzone-co-chair; Nancy Gardner, Lisle Jackson, Mimi Huszer-Fagnant, Robert Wilkinson
- **Jane Perkins** is coordinating a program to enable artist and associate members to donate frames for use by the Chariho Career and Technical School. Frames may be left in the classroom with a note stating a donation for this school. Please let Jane know that you have made a donation.
- Donations of new art supplies for The Johnnycake Center need to be put in the container at the front desk by Thursday, December 7.
- **Carey Williams** is the new chair of the Associate Membership committee. Associates may contact her at [Carey@CareysArt.net](mailto:Carey@CareysArt.net)
- ACGOW's board members election is approaching. **Dan Marantz** has decided to step down as vice president and **Ardie Harrison** has asked for an artist member to work with him as treasurer. Please let **Arlene Piacquadio** know if you are interested in having your name placed on the ballot.
- ACGOW members may want to know about a frame shop in Wakefield, RI. The shop is Finishing Touches and the owner is Jan Bertwell. The store is located at 311A Main Street, Wakefield, RI. Her phone is 401-284-3700 and her email is [jan@fishingtouchesri.com](mailto:jan@fishingtouchesri.com)
- The 2018 ACCGOW budget was passed at the November 27, 2017 membership meeting.

## Membership Changes

Several artist members have decided to no longer be a member of ACGOW in 2018. They are **Diane Brown, Debbie Napolitano, Brian Comforti, and Angel Ramos**. ACGOW wishes them well in their future art endeavors. Artist members who will change their membership category to adjunct are **Lynn Anderson and Kathleen Hemenway**. **Karen Dodez** will become an associate. **Madeline Beaudry** will become a snowbird.

## Gallery Space Design News

Take a look at the new lighting, additional prints area, view design, and three dimensional exhibit space. The GSDC has been working on the combined area and named it **Artists Gift Boutique**.

The Gallery Space Design Committee (GSDC) is compiling a list of requirements and ideas for the new ACGOW space being designed by the architects of the United Theater renovation project. Please consider everything – wall space, hanging system, lighting, pedestals, and other 3D display systems, sound systems, storage space, front desk and reception area. Email your thoughts and concerns to [Lynn@NoankArt.com](mailto:Lynn@NoankArt.com) to be added to our list. The committee of Lynn Anderson, Hanneli Ansel, and Liz McGee are looking for more interested members.

## BRAG (Back Room Art Gallery) for 2017 and 2018

According to BRAG committee chair **Kristie Foss**, the remaining months of November and December 2017 will be used by artist members to exhibit their holiday artwork.

BRAG will be the location of the **Artists Gift Boutique** for December. New plans to come in 2018.

## November Show Reception – November 3



The fine jewelry, paintings, and photographs were enjoyed by members and guests



## The Gift of Art

As can be seen, the Gift of Art donation basket is filling up, thanks to the generosity of the ACGOW artists. In order to facilitate distribution of the art supplies, the last day to make a donation is Thursday, December 7. The donation basket is located next to the gallery's front desk.

**THE ARTISTS' COOPERATIVE GALLERY OF WESTERLY  
ASKS YOU TO:**

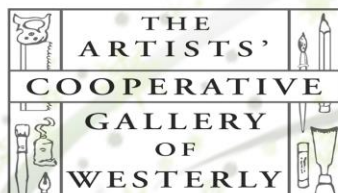
**HELP GIVE THE GIFT OF ART**

**THIS HOLIDAY SEASON ACGOW  
WILL BE COLLECTING ANY AND ALL  
DONATIONS OF ART SUPPLIES TO GIVE TO  
THE JONNYCAKE CENTER OF WESTERLY**

**ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING  
IN ANYTHING THEY WOULD LIKE TO  
DONATE TO GIVE THE GIFT OF ART AND  
HELP SPREAD SOME HOLIDAY CHEER**

**COME INTO THE GALLERY THROUGHOUT  
NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER TO DROP OFF  
YOUR DONATION TODAY**

**THANK YOU IN ADVANCE AND WE HOPE  
YOU ALL HAVE A WONDERFUL,  
MAGICAL HOLIDAY**



**7 CANAL STREET  
WESTERLY, RI 02891  
PHONE: (401) 596-2221  
[WWW.WESTERLYARTS.COM](http://WWW.WESTERLYARTS.COM)  
HOURS: WED-SAT/ 11AM-7PM  
SUN/ 1PM-5PM**

## “Through the Lens” – Mimi Huszer Fagnant



I joined the Artists' Cooperative Gallery of Westerly in 2014. As an artist I have struggled with price points for my artwork. This gallery seems to be the most fair to artists financially. The gallery being 25 years old has really worked out all the fine details to make it be a wonderful cooperative gallery. I have a strong commitment to the gallery and I am happy to do my cooperative share by being on committees. Over the years, the show committees I've been on, have been amazing. When I look at all the artwork that needs to be displayed professionally and in an interesting manner, it looks like an impossible task. And each show ends up being unique, beautiful and amazing. When the artists drop off their work, each



piece is precious and leaves me in awe of the talent used to create it.

I am a child who had two artists for parents. Their talents amazed me and also intimidated me. My artwork is totally different from my parents. I was always creative, but not with fine art. I did not want my parents to know I couldn't draw, so I didn't draw. Of course, they knew, but as a child I did not know they knew!! It wasn't until after my father passed, that I sent away my stencil designs to be purchased by nationwide companies. He would've been thrilled that I have been able to make money with my artwork. I wrote instructional craft books and designed stencils for a few years. While I was demonstrating one of my books in Texas, a bead manufacturer saw I was from Rhode Island and hired me as a designer. I worked there for 17 years learning the jewelry trade, the bead business, and lots about color and design. The company was a plastics manufacturer and in my heart I loved glass, so I started taking glass bead making classes. I tell people learning to make glass beads is like learning to play the violin. You need good instruction, lots of practice, and it's got to come from your heart and soul for you to progress. Glass bead making has become my total passion. I don't care to make the jewelry. It's the beads I am passionate about. I am thrilled to be considered an artist member of the gallery.



The bead making process is called lamp working, or flame working. I use a propane and oxygen-mixed fuel torch for melting colored glass rods. The molten glass is usually formed on a metal rod. When the rod is removed that's the hole in the bead. Some items I make are called off mandrel, and have no holes. An example of this is on my Christmas icicles which I make. Once the items are slightly cooled, I put them in them- in a digitally controlled kiln to anneal the glass for strength and durability. Then I make the jewelry or the finished product to sell.

## The Gallery Received Needed Cosmetic Attention

It was very fitting to have the Lighting and Maintenance committee spruce up the gallery in October so that it looks fresh and clean as ACGOW begins its next 25 years. With grateful thanks to the committee members and helpers, Clarence "Smokey" Spangler, John McGuire, Paul Flanagan, Jim Pepitone, Sandy Webb, Karen Dodez, and intern Correen Fowler. All the 40+ white cubes were repainted, the wall baseboards repainted, and the walls were cleaned and the painted surfaces were touched up. The gallery looks terrific now!



Freshly painted cubes look great and gives artwork a more professional-looking display surface



Check out the newly painted cubes and baseboard

THE ARTISTS' COOPERATIVE GALLERY OF WESTERLY  
PRESENTS

**SILVER & SNOW**  
HOLIDAY SHOW

**\*SPECIAL HOLIDAY OPENING\***  
OPENING RECEPTION WILL BE HELD DURING THE WESTERLY HOLIDAY STROLL CELEBRATION  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH, 2017 FROM 5PM-9PM**  
SHOW ON VIEW NOVEMBER 29TH- DECEMBER 31ST

LEZ MCGEE      GREG EIDENT      SCOT SCHEER

MIMI HUSZER FAGNANT      JANE PARILLO ROLLINS      ROSE MARY GATES

LORA CORDEN      ARLENE PIACQUADRO      MADELINE BEAUDRY

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December 2017 show poster designed by Greg Eident

