

NVC Newsletter



Upcoming Events

August 29

General Meeting

Stern Auditorium, NOMA

11:30 a.m. *NEW TIME!*

September 23

LOVE in the Garden

Sydney and Walda Besthoff
Sculpture Garden

7 p.m. — Patron Party

8 p.m. — Garden Party

9 p.m. — Late Night Party

September 29

Studio Salon

REX Den, 1 — 3 p.m.

November 10

Odyssey Sponsor Party

Audubon Place home of
Drs. Rupa and Tarun Jolly

November 12

Odyssey

"The 50th Odyssey"

NOMA

7:00 p.m. — Midnight

From the Chair



Dana Hansel
NVC 2016 Chair

Dear NVC Members,

Spring was a busy and successful time. We hosted the largest crowd ever for the newly revamped Egg Hunt - now officially named the **NOMA Egg Hunt and Family Festival presented by Whitney Bank**. The time window was extended, with more vendors included but what was unique was that for the first time in the event's history we moved it inside due to weather. NOMA was full of children enjoying not only the activities but also NOMA's art collection. What a great time! Following that our wonderful volunteers worked on **Art in Bloom presented by IBERIABANK** which included a patron party, lectures, a luncheon with a fashion show provided by Saks Fifth Avenue and a newly added speakers' reception. Thanks to everyone who helped make both of these events highly successful.

In June our general meeting included a presentation about the sculpture garden followed by a guided tour. **Glendy Forster** hosted a sellout Studio Salon at Brennan's where **Ralph Brennan** gave us a guided tour highlighting the renovations & historic architecture while we sipped tasty champagne.

In July we had a new member/prospect and THANK YOU party at my house. What a great turnout! Please make sure to provide your prospects' contact information to **Cara Dessens**, Membership Chair, at dessens@bellsouth.net.

As we fall into the second half of the year, please join us on **Monday, August 29 at 11:30am (NEW TIME) for our general meeting to help us celebrate The 50th Odyssey**. We will honor our past Odyssey chairs. Vanessa Schmid, *Senior Research Curator for European Art*, will give our members a special preview of *The 50th Odyssey* exhibition - *Seeing Nature: Landscape Masterworks from the Paul Allen Family Collection*. Then we will have a delicious seated lunch catered by Brennan's.

Continued p.2

NOMA
Volunteer Committee

LOVE in the Garden presented by Whitney Bank is right around the corner. **LOVE Co-Chairs Penny Baumer, Jennifer Heebe, and Shelby Sanderford** and the **LOVE Committee** are busy preparing for this beautiful evening on **Friday, September 23rd**. The Patron Party begins at 7 p.m. with Storyville Stompers Brass Band. LOVE Artist Honorees Elenora Rukiya Brown, Skylar Fein, Gene Koss, Sarah Ashley Longshore, Alexa Pulitzer and Josephine Sacabo will be recognized followed by the Garden Party at 8 p.m. featuring MoJEAUX, the official party band of the New Orleans Saints. For the third year, LOVE's popular Cocktail Challenge presented by SKYY VODKA will be showcasing craft cocktails from 10 of our city's top bartenders. Guests will also enjoy cuisine from over 60 of New Orleans' top restaurants. DJ Nikki Pennie will keep all of us moving at the Late Night Party while food trucks will be serving the crowd until midnight. Please help us promote this **LOVE** event by sending emails, making telephone calls, and talking to your friends about attending.

NOMA will celebrate **The 50th Odyssey presented by IBERIABANK** on **November 12th**. **Co-Chairs Susu and Andrew Stall** have planned a very special evening. Here is what you can look forward to at **The 50th Odyssey**:

- The unforgettable evening will be a feast for the senses inspired by NOMA's fall exhibition, *Seeing Nature: Landscape Masterworks from the Paul G. Allen Family Collection*. Odyssey guests will also enjoy the premiere of *George Dunbar: Elements of Chance*, which surveys the career of one of Louisiana's most renowned artists.
- Patrons will bid on one-of-a-kind items in Odyssey's silent auction, while delighting in wonderful cuisine, libations, dancing and more!
- At the **TOUCH** level, we invite you to join us for a Sponsor Party at the exquisite **Audubon Place home of Drs. Rupa and Tarun Jolly on Thursday, November 10th**.
- Both nights will also feature **special recognition of our amazing past Odyssey Chairs**.

Following Odyssey, my year as NVC Chair will end. Increasing our NVC Membership while having fun was a priority, and we accomplished that goal thanks to many of your referrals. Please keep talking up NVC! I thank the **NVC Officers** and **Steering Committee** for their support and tireless work to ensure NVC's vital support of the museum. NOMA's staff has been great to work with, especially **Kristen Jochem and Rachel Dorfman**. My heartfelt thanks to all NVC Members for what you do to help make NOMA the best!

— Dana Hansel, 2016 NVC Chair

Preview: LOVE in the Garden

Courtesy of NOMA Publications

NOMA's annual fall bash in the Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden is just around the corner. Mark your calendars!

Enjoy cuisine from over sixty local restaurants and caterers, live music, and the third annual LOVE Cocktail Challenge presented by SKYY Vodka featuring some of the city's brightest bartenders, all under the stars and live oaks in the sculpture garden.

This year's **LOVE in the Garden presented by Whitney Bank** is chaired by **Penny Baumer, Jennifer Heebe, and Shelby Sanderford**, and will honor the following New Orleans-based artists:

- ◆ Elenora Rukiya Brown
- ◆ Skylar Fein
- ◆ Gene Koss
- ◆ Ashley Longshore
- ◆ Alexa Pulitzer
- ◆ Josephine Sacabo



NEW ORLEANS MUSEUM of ART
LOVE IN THE GARDEN
 presented by
WHITNEY BANK.

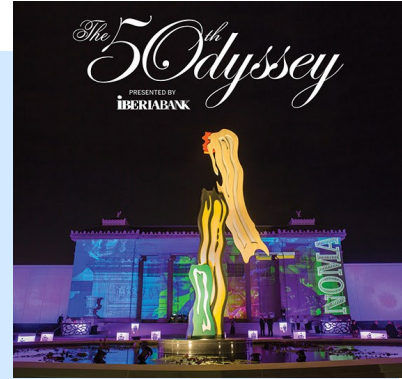
Starting at 7pm, the Patron Party will feature the Storyville Stompers Brass Band, followed at 8pm by the Garden Party with Mojeaux. The evening will conclude with more dancing with DJ Nikkie Pennie for the Late Night Party starting at 9pm.

For ticket information, visit www.noma.org or call the NVC office at (504) 658-4121

Courtesy of NOMA Publications

Fifty years of planning, fundraising, and celebration at the New Orleans Museum of Art have made it possible for the museum to present hundreds of engaging programs and exhibitions for the whole family.

On Saturday, November 12, *The 50th Odyssey presented by IBERIABANK* will not only continue that tradition of service, but will honor all those previous event chairs who have paved the way. Guests will enjoy cuisine by 1718 Events of the Hyatt Regency New Orleans, and a silent auction with works of art, jewelry, antiques, and one-of-a-kind vacations. DJ and violinist **Timothee Lovelock** will provide entertainment for Patron Party guests and the IBERIABANK Champagne Lounge, and all guests will enjoy dancing along with the music of **Karma** in the Great Hall.



Odyssey 2016 Entertainment: Karma

Sponsors at the TOUCH (\$5000) level and above are also invited to the Audubon Place home of **Dr. Rupa and Tarun Jolly** for a private party and reception on November 10, catered by **Ralph Brennan Catering & Events** and featuring music by singer and recording artist **Phillip Manuel**.

This unforgettable evening will be inspired by NOMA's fall exhibition, **Seeing Nature: Landscape Masterworks from the Paul G. Allen Family Collection** on view in Ella West Free-

man Galleries, including 40 masterpieces spanning five centuries of European and American landscape painting. Odyssey guests will also enjoy **George Dunbar: Elements of Chance**, which surveys the career of George Dunbar (American, b. 1927), a New Orleans native who played a pivotal role in introducing abstract art to the South.

Event chairs **Susu and Andrew Stall** are planning an unforgettable Odyssey to commemorate fifty years of supporting NOMA. Be a part of this milestone event!

For ticket and sponsorship information, visit www.noma.org or call the NVC office at (504) 658-4121



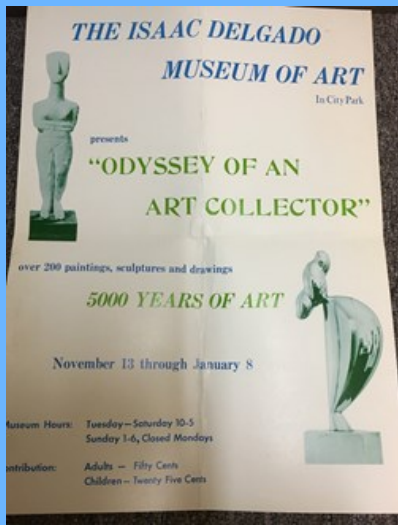
Odyssey 2016 Entertainment: Timothee Lovelock



Odyssey Kickoff Party, June 2016. From Left: Margaret Beer, Ann and Tony Fuselier, Susu Stall (Odyssey co-chair 2016)

Special Feature: UNITY IN DIVERSITY: THE 1966 ODYSSEY BALL

By E. Alexandra Stafford



Advertisement for 1st Odyssey Ball



Stafford Collection— 1st Odyssey Ball



"Hazel Blue" silk décor for 1st Odyssey Ball

All photos courtesy of E. Alexandra Stafford except where otherwise noted

Many NVC members have either helped, attended, or chaired our yearly fundraiser, the Odyssey Ball. But as we celebrate its 50th anniversary with another sumptuous black tie gala and unique exhibition, let's look back at the very first Odyssey Ball and how it came about.

THE COLLECTION

Then director, James B. Byrnes, had paid numerous visits to the New Orleans born Hazel Muller Stafford's home in Paris. "Mimi," as she is known, and her husband, Frederick, had been avid art collectors since the early years of their marriage. Objects from their collection had been loaned or donated to museums in America, France and England.

"Jim Byrnes knew how to charm everybody. He instigated it all," says William A. Fagaly, former Françoise Billion Richardson Curator of African Art, who was the newly appointed registrar at the Delgado Museum in August of 1966.

It was agreed that the Staffords would lend their collection, pay for the freight and attend the opening of the exhibition.

In her 2010 blog, *Musings from an Artist's Wife*, Wendy Rodrigue quotes former NOMA director, John Bullard as saying:

"The Staffords had formed a collection which was like a mini-museum, covering practically the entire history of Western art from ancient Egypt and Greece to twentieth-century modern masters, as well as the arts of Africa, Asia, and Oceania. The breadth of the Stafford Collection gave the Delgado's trustees, staff, and patrons an idea of a possible future for the Museum --- to aspire to present the broad scope and diversity of world art."

Of course, now the small Delgado Museum of Art had to get ready for it.

THE MUSEUM

The Stafford collection would take over both floors of exhibition rooms at the Delgado, which in 1966 was still just the marble 1911 Beaux Art building.

Bill Fagaly remembers:

"It was a huge deal for us because we were a small museum with a skeleton staff. So everyone pitched in from the director to the janitors! We had to design and build cases. We had to install the lighting in and on the cases. We worked until after midnight, unpacking the works, writing condition reports, doing carpentry and electrical work. We even hung fabric to enliven the exhibition space with a silk fabric we called "Hazel Blue" because it was Mrs. Stafford's favorite color!"



Preparations for 1st Odyssey Ball

According to the files in the museum's library, for the Stafford collection to be exhibited, Jim Byrnes had to get the Kress Foundation to approve having all their paintings temporarily removed and stored.

THE WOMEN'S VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE

The one-year old Women's Volunteer Committee decided to get involved by throwing a party for the opening of the exhibition. It would raise funds for the Matching Fund so that the museum could continue to



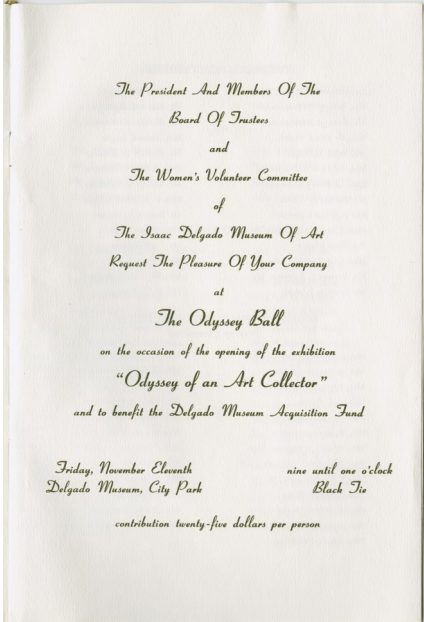
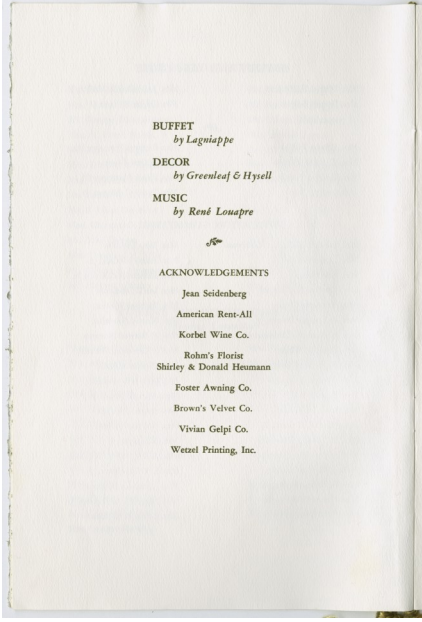
WVC member Betty Moran decorating candelabras for 1st Odyssey

buy art. The Board of Directors had not been too keen about the formation of the WVC but reluctantly let them run with the idea.

"We hired the best chef in New Orleans at the time, who had owned many restaurants and catered. We secured \$2000 from the Board and signed a contract with him. He then disappeared!" recalls Bev Muller, who chaired the WVC and the first Odyssey Ball with Muriel Francis Bultman and Margo Logan. "We were a nervous wreck!"

"Christopher Blake had gone bankrupt and all his kitchen equipment had been repossessed. But he was determined to cook for the Ball so he prepared everything in his own kitchen at home over the course of a few days, as the museum had only a tiny closet kitchen behind the marble stairs at the time" adds Bill Fagaly.

The members of the WVC decorated the Great Hall with ivy garlands on the balustrade and angel vases on tiny cocktail tables in the balcony area as no tables were allowed in the exhibition room. They did all the flower arrangements and added (GASP) lit candelabras around the museum! "We were sweeping the floor in ball gowns before the event to make sure it was perfect!" says Bev.



Invitation, Cover and interior. 1966 Odyssey Ball. Image Courtesy of The Historic New Orleans Collection, acc. no. 1976.133.4.

“A BALL—IN BALL CITY, USA?”

The New Orleans community was very curious about the scope of the exhibit, especially coming from a native collector, and the idea of an opening black tie gala. Nearly 800 people bought tickets for the sold out event. Rene Louagre's orchestra played all night to citizens who normally went to Mardi Gras or deb balls.

“It turned out great! We had to serve everything cold or room temperature on paper plates but it was delicious. Who was going to clean 750 china plates?” asks Bev.

“People dressed up in beautiful elegant designer gowns and wore real jewelry. We had a very nice band. But we sold more tickets than we should have and we were so scared the fire marshal was going to come in and close down the event!” muses Bev with a chuckle. “Crazy to think about it now: overcrowded, lit candles, and borrowed art!”



Revelers at 1966 Odyssey Ball



Revelers at 1966 Odyssey Ball. From Left: Beverly Muller, Frederick Stafford, Mimi Stafford and Jane Favrot

Bev wore a dress from Maison Blanche. Mimi brought over a dress by Dior from Paris. They and other WVC members got their hair done at Godchaux for that special night.

“Edith Stern walked in and she put her hands on either side of her face and gazed in amazed pleasure! We knew at that point that we had a winner,” recalls Bev.

From then on, the Odyssey Ball would become the most elegant fundraising ball in the city.

A FIRST FOR EVERYONE

Bev Muller recalls that Bobby Newman, a Delgado Museum Board President, said: “Do you realize that this is the first time that the Jewish and Christian communities came together at a fancy ball?”

The Staffords received the key to the city for their generosity. “The Odyssey Ball is the granddaddy of all fundraising balls in the city,” confirms Bill Fagaly. People paid to come to an elegant catered social event at a public institution. “The Odyssey was the first: there was no Opera Ball, Symphony Ball, or Zoo to Do!”

Like the 1966 catalog of the exhibition, *Odyssey of an Art Collector: Unity in Diversity, 5000 years of Art*, the Odyssey Ball has united the diverse New Orleans community with its 50 years of successful fundraising.

An edited six minute news account and tour of the 1966 "Odyssey of an Art Collector," featuring the Staffords and Director Byrnes at the garlanded balcony of the (Delgado) New Orleans Museum of Art, can be seen at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y81aiQNC4c>

Art In Bloom 2016 Presented by IBERIABANK Springs to NOMA

By Faye Lieder

Always welcome as the debut of Spring in New Orleans, Art in Bloom is our first chance to break out the florals at a series of events including parties, lectures, a luncheon and displays throughout the museum.

Art in Bloom was 28 this year, and each year the chairs and their committees have put together fun, fresh and different programs of participating restaurants, exhibitors and art auction contributors. From the clever and stunning "Mover and Shaker" displays to the schoolchildren's creations, Art in Bloom is a show for everyone and attracts many new visitors to the museum. The NOMA and Garden Study Club venture, presented by **IBERIABANK** and put on by volunteers, is an important funding source for the museum.

This year's Patron and Preview Party was full of gourmet treats, designer cocktails, entertainment and art auction surprises and, as always, seemed very grand and festive in the lovely museum surroundings.

According to Co-Chairs **Mathilde Currence** and **Carol Bienvenu**:

"We had a great time and loved chairing the event together. The speakers were all great and very different which was so interesting."

Guest lecturers were **Princess Giorgiana Corsini**, expert in Renaissance gardens; **Frances Shultz**, author of "The Bee Cottage Story"; and **Benton Weinstock and Annie Behringer** who post the A2B Table website from Los Angeles.

Lectures were followed by the delightful and SOLD OUT Saks Fashion Show and Luncheon in the Pavilion of the Two Sisters. AIB Co-Chairs for 2017 are **Sarah Feirn** and **Quincy Crawford** so even more fun and new ideas are in the works. Note to self: Don't miss out next year!



Art in Bloom 2016

Photos Courtesy of
Dana Hansel



Art in Bloom 2016. From Left: Annie Behringer, Benton Weinstock, Dana Hansel, and Elise Kiser



Art in Bloom 2016.



Art in Bloom 2016. From Left: NVC 2016 Chair Dana Hansel, Princess Giorgiana Corsini, Marilee Hovet

Docent Field Trip: The Historic New Orleans Collection's *Women of Progress*

By E. Alexandra Stafford

On May 24th, **Sheila Cork** organized a visit to the new exhibit *Women of Progress: Twenty Women Who Changed New Orleans*, at the Royal Street location of the Historic New Orleans Collection. The show continues until September 11, 2016.

Approximately 25 NOMA docents admired the biographies, photographs, papers and other materials related to a spectrum of influential and determined New Orleans women who improved the social, educational, and political status quo of the city. Starting as early as the mid 19th century with Henriette Delille and ending with Lindy Boggs, the small but detailed exhibit surprised even the most learned of our members. Some of the women represented were Margaret Haughery, Sophie B. Wright, Martha Gasquet Westfeldt, Oretha Castle Haley, Doris Jean Castle, and Iris Turner Kelso.

From there, the group strolled over to the Williams Research Center on Chartres Street and the Laura Nelson gallery for a curated talk on the show: *Awash with Color: Seldom Seen Watercolor Paintings by Louisiana Artists, 1789-1989*.

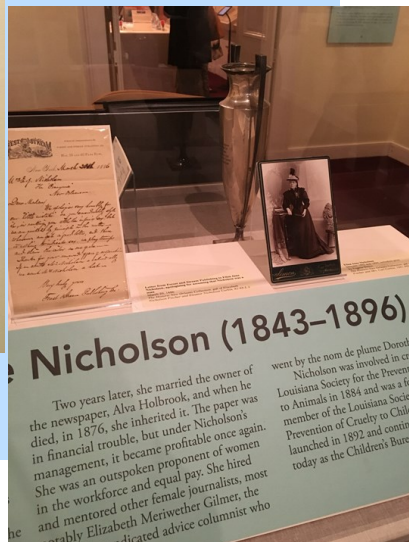
Most members stayed for a Dutch treat lunch of muffuletta salad and shrimp remoulade at the Napoleon House. Chef Chris led us to a private visit to the freshly updated upstairs apartment, where, as legend has it, Napoleon was supposed to stay if Lafitte had been able to rescue him. Now it is available for anyone and has a great view of the French Quarter.



NOMA Docents enjoy "Women of Progress" at Historic New Orleans collection



Highlights from HNOC Exhibition: *Women of Progress*



Save the Date! Fall Studio Salon — REX Den

Save the date – **Thursday, September 29th, 2016, 1:00 — 3:00 p.m.** — for the upcoming Studio Salon at the REX Den: an artist's studio writ large! Dr. Stephen Hales, Rex Archivist, will lead a tour of the “big den” and discuss the parade and the annual creation of its floats, followed by a tour of the den museum, including art, artifacts, costumes, and jewelry from the Golden Age of Carnival. Be on the lookout for your invitation to RSVP!!

NOMA Volunteer of the Year

Courtesy of NOMA Publications

On March 6, NOMA celebrated its volunteers at the annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch. NOMA Staff had the opportunity to serve the museum's volunteers as a way to say thank you for their hours of dedicated service. All volunteers who completed over fifty hours of service in 2015 were invited – about 150 total.

The 2015 Volunteer of the Year is **Joanna Giorlando**. Joanna returned to New Orleans in 2010, and joined the NOMA Volunteer Committee shortly thereafter. She has been a valuable member of NVC since then. From 2011 to 2014, Giorlando served as the chair of art ambassadors, and also as vice chair of activities in 2013. She was also a member of the committees for NOMA fundraisers LOVE in the Garden, Odyssey, and Art in Bloom for multiple years. In 2012, Giorlando joined the docent program, where she leads the public in informative and engaging tours of works of art in NOMA's galleries. She was one of the first docents to sign up for Artful Minds, NOMA's new program for visitors with dementia and their caregivers. Her friendly, kind manner puts visitors of all ages at ease. She is currently an at-large member of the Docent Advisory Board.

NOMA is grateful for Giorlando's service, and the service of all volunteers.



NVC Volunteer of the Year, Joanna Giorlando

NOMA Egg Hunt and Family Festival Brings Fun and Merriment to NOMA's Great Hall

By Tara Tolford

Wet weather did nothing to dampen the delight of the 1,450 excited children and their families (a new record!) who dashed about NOMA's great hall on March 12th for this favorite annual event, newly expanded this year to become the **NOMA Egg Hunt and Family Festival presented by Whitney Bank.**

Led by event co-chairs **Elizabeth Wood** and **Genevieve Douglass**, the festival featured the famous Elmer Bunny, along with a plethora of activities for the whole family including: arts and crafts, face painting, jugglers and musicians, hula hooping, musical entertainment from The Swing Setters and DJ Audio Jocks, martial arts demonstrations, student performances, delectable food and beverages for kids and adults, and even a petting zoo!

The talented authors, actors, and artists of StoryQuest brought the world of children's literature to life, with appearances from Alice in Wonderland and Curious George, to name a few. Proceeds from the event benefit NOMA's education and exhibition programs. NOMA and NVC are grateful to the many generous sponsors who made this event a resounding, laughter-filled success!



NVC Chair Dana Hansel with Event Co-Chairs Liz Wood and Genevieve Douglass



Turtles and bunnies and goats, oh my!



NOMA guests in their Easter Best meet with Curious George and the Elmer Bunny



NVC Volunteers stuff a record 19,000 Easter Eggs

Give the Gift of NOMA Volunteer Committee Membership!

Share the wonderful NVC experience—including Studio Salons, lectures, docent tours, art trips, and events—with a friend or loved one by giving them a gift of membership!

Recipients will be sent a gift card as an acknowledgement of your thoughtfulness. For more information, call the NOMA Volunteer Committee at 504.658.4121. *Checks should be made payable to the NOMA Volunteer Committee and mailed to the New Orleans Museum of Art, PO Box 19123, New Orleans, LA, 70179.*

Welcome, New Members!

Carla and Jay Adams	Maria Landry
Martine Alford	Elly Lane
Kim Barnett	Barbara Laughlin and Earl Pratz
Elizabeth Black	Melissa Mason Gordon
Nancy Davies Blouin	Josie McNamara
Jill and Christian Cassard	Joan and Donald Mechlin
Michelle d'Amour	Denise Mehurin
Joanne Dufour	Tyra Mitchell
Marie Louise de la Vergne	Katherine de Montluzin
Melissa Fanning	Christine Owen
Anne and Fred Francis	Drs. Suzanne and Bruce Senter
Lauren Glorioso	Fran Smith
Susan Stakelum Gray	Laura Stewart
Valerie Grubb	Diana Stieffel
Dr. Stephen and Nancy Hales	Ann Yoder Swayze
Bonnie Hebeisen	Jolanta Tipler
Stephanie Hennings	Beth Watkins
Cheryl Kain	Mrs. Donnell Zeringue
Jennifer and Fred Heebe	Diane Zink
Kathy Kornman	Kathleen Zucker

NOMA Volunteer Committee Proposed Slate of Officers — 2017

Chair — Lynda Warshauer

Chair Elect 2018 — Anne Redd

Vice Chair Activities — Jennifer Heebe

Vice Chair Membership — Sheila Collins

Vice Chair Education — Cynthia Kolb

Vice Chair Fundraising — Juli Miller Hart

Recording Secretary — Joanna Giorlando

Corresponding Secretary — Glendy Forster

Treasurer — Carol Short

At Large Member — Cammie Mayer

At Large Member — Elizabeth Ryan

Parliamentarian — Celeste Marshall

Odyssey Ball — Kitty and Stephen Sherrill, Carmen and Kelly Duncan, Shaun and Foster Duncan

Immediate Past Chair — Dana Hansel

Autumn 2016 (504) 658-4121

Flowers for the Freeport-McMoran Great Hall

The NOMA Volunteer Committee Invites New Orleans Museum of Art members and friends to help provide the beautiful floral arrangements in the Freeport-McMoran Great Hall by making a gift to the *NVC Flower Fund*.

Gifts may be made as a memorial, an honorarium, a commemoration of an event, or just for the love of flowers! Recipients or their families will be notified of the gift and acknowledged in *Arts Quarterly*. For more information, contact the NVC office at 504.658.4121 or email nvc@noma.org

Checks should be made payable to the NVC Flower Fund and mailed to New Orleans Museum of Art, PO Box 19123, New Orleans, LA 70179.

Published by the NOMA
Volunteer Committee

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Autumn 2016

Tara Tolford & Carol Short
Chairs, NVC Publications

NOMA Volunteer Committee General Membership Meeting

New Orleans Museum of Art

Monday, August 29th, 2016, 11:30 A.M. **Note New Time!**

Stern Auditorium

Program featuring **Vanessa Schmid**,

Senior Research Curator for European Art: Preview of *The 50th Odyssey* exhibition -
Seeing Nature: Landscape Masterworks from the Paul Allen Family Collection.

A special seated luncheon following the meeting, catered by Brennan's!

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Volunteer Committee

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