

NVC Newsletter



Upcoming Events

January 30

General Meeting

Stern Auditorium

10:30 a.m.

March 15 — 19

Art in Bloom

"Rhythm & Blooms"

Patron & Preview Party

March 15

Lectures & Luncheon

March 16

April 1

NOMA Egg Hunt & Family Festival

Besthoff Sculpture Garden

10:00 a.m.

May 22

General Meeting

Stern Auditorium, NOMA

10:30 a.m.

From the Chair



Lynda Warshauer
NVC 2017 Chair

Dear NVC Members,

As the New Year began, I had the privilege of taking on the position of NVC Chair after Dana Hansel's successful tenure in 2016. I want to begin by thanking her for her dedication to the NVC and for her support as I step into her shoes. NVC is more than just a group of volunteers who love the arts and NOMA. They are an organization of dedicated men and women who not only have a commitment to NOMA, but the broader New Orleans community as well. We have put together a fun and interesting 2017. So many volunteers have stepped up to chair not only our major fundraisers, but also our studio salons, general meetings, newsletter, directories, and all of the work that goes into making a successful year. We hope to extend our hand to the entire NOMA community and ask that you join us this year as we play, study, and enjoy all that the NVC has to offer.

Our Art in Bloom Chairs, **Quincy Crawford** and **Sarah Feirn**, are working hard along with volunteers from the Garden Study Club of New Orleans and NVC to present **Art in Bloom 2017: Rhythm & Blooms presented by IBERIABANK**. The Patron and Preview Party is Wednesday, March 15, at NOMA and the Lecture series and Luncheon are Thursday, March 16. Art in Bloom is one of the spring's most popular events, so purchase your tickets soon.

The **NOMA Egg Hunt and Family Festival** is scheduled for Saturday, April 1, from 10am-1pm. Our Chairs **Genevieve Douglass** and **Lauren Flower** are assiduously planning the annual Egg Hunt and fun-filled activities for the whole family. So mark your calendar and plan to attend this event for all ages.

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NOMA
Volunteer Committee

Continued

This year we have recruited very special NVC members to chair **LOVE in the Garden presented by Whitney Bank. Glendy Forster, Joanna Giorlando, Kathleen Mix, and Carol Short** are joined by our Young Fellows, **Eleanor Davis and Olivia Carisella**. These ladies are organizing a fantastic LOVE in the Garden on Friday, September 22. Not only mark your calendar to attend, but plan to **volunteer!**

Our final premiere event of the year will be **Odyssey Ball 2017 presented by IBERIABANK**. Chairs, **Shaun and Foster Duncan, Carmen and Kelly Duncan, Sweet and Ben Dupuy, and Kitty and Stephen Sherrill**, are planning an exciting and elegant event on Saturday, November 4.

In addition to our fundraisers, please join us for our studio salons, general meetings, and the many volunteer opportunities that all of these events generate for our members. Bring a friend to these events and help us share why it is great to be an NVC member.

Lynda Warshauer-NVC Chair 2017

Rhythm & Blooms to Rock Art in Bloom!

By E. Alexandra Stafford

Art in Bloom presented by **IBERIABANK**, a collaboration between the New Orleans Museum of Art and The Garden Study Club, will once again embellish the galleries of the museum between March 15th and 19th. This year's theme is "Rhythm & Blooms." The role of music will be the inspiration to the 100 exhibitors from New Orleans and beyond as they create flower arrangements and table settings for visitors to enjoy and get inspired from.

This year's co-chairs are **Quincy Crawford** and **Sarah Feirn**. Quincy has been a fan of the museum for many years and has served on a few committees for museum fundraisers, but is thrilled to be co-chairing Art In Bloom this year: "It's a wonderful event for a great cause and it also give me a chance to work with my dear friend, Sarah Smart Feirn." Her favorite flower is the tulip. Quincy prefers big, showy, summer flowers like peonies, hydrangeas, and sunflowers.

Each of this year's chairs has family history with flowers and gardens: "My mom was a wonderful gardener," says Quincy. "She used to arrange the most beautiful hanging pots that decorated our outdoor patio in Colorado. She was also amazing at tending to grape vines and berry patches and used to make jams and preserves. Later she became very active in a gardening group in Houston, Texas. Now she lives in California where everything thrives, especially her roses and bougainvillea. I was also lucky enough to work for Barbara Bush, who is an avid gardener and who would share tricks of the trade with me from time to time. She used to love working away in her gardens in Maine with her dogs by her side. Her home was - and still is - always filled with beautiful flowers right out of her own garden."

Sarah first got involved with NOMA as a new member of the Garden Study Club. As a pledge, she was responsible for the arrangement to be entered into the Garden Club category. Having been assigned to use Sargent's "Mrs. Asher Wertheimer" and trying to come up with a design, her five year old niece came in the room and upon seeing the picture of the painting, exclaimed: "that sure is one long neck!" That was enough to inspire team member Fifi Laughlin to create a perfect long, flesh tone, neck vase for the arrangement. It won "Best in Show!" Her sister, a former Art in Bloom chair, and her mother and grandmother, are all creative with flowers, and her father, Larry Smart, started the Southern Garden Symposium, nearly 30 years ago in St. Francisville.

Quincy admits that she loves the preview party and art. "There's so much to see and do - view floral exhibits, bid on beautiful art, people watch, eat and drink! It's kind of the kick off to spring in New Orleans!"

Sarah looks forward to what the Movers & Shakers will come up with for this year's inspirational theme: Rhythm & Blooms! "The creativity is bound to be off the (Billboard) charts!"

Quincy adds that this year's theme, Rhythm & Blooms, is a nod to the important role that music plays in New Orleans' culture. "Our featured artist is the amazing and talented Hunt Slonem. He is donating a 30x40 oil on canvas painting entitled *Cockatoos and Ginger*, which will be featured on the invitation and will be auctioned off, along with artwork from many other talented artists, at the Patron and Preview party."

First, the Patron and Preview Party will start at 6pm, with the preview beginning at 7pm on March 15. The first 1000 attendees will get to see the extravagant and creative floral arrangements made by garden clubs, decorators, professional florists, and others throughout the galleries. Food and libations will be provided by famous New Orleans eateries.

The lectures will begin at 9:30am on the 16th with editor-at-large of Southern Living magazine **James Farmer**, who is also a floral, garden and interior designer, cook, and author of *A Time to Plant*, *Porch Living*, *A Time to Celebrate*, and other lifestyle and decorating books. He will provide useful gardening tips for novices and experts alike!



James Farmer

Laura Dowling will follow at 10:30am, and as a former White House Chief Florist from 2009 to 2015 and author of *Floral Diplomacy*, she should relish the audience with fascinating stories and floral arrangements!



Laura Dowling

As usual, a lunch at the Pavilion of the Two Sisters in City Park will follow. The popular Ralph Brennan Restaurant Group will cater. The Saks Fifth Avenue Fashion Show is a yearly highlight of Art in Bloom and will catwalk both men and women's latest styles. **Catherine Favrot** is in charge of the luncheon centerpiece which are always a hot item for sale during the event!

All the hard work of the co-chairs, The Garden Study Club, the museum staff, and the NVC helps Art In Bloom raise funds to benefit the educational initiatives and exhibitions at NOMA and community projects of the Garden Study Club of New Orleans.

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

NOMA Volunteer Committee 2017 Officers

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, Sweet and Ben Dupuy

Immediate Past Chair — Dana Hansel

Fall 2016 Studio Salon — The REX Den

By **Glendy Forster**

A personal tour of the REX Den by **Dr. Stephen Hales**, REX Archivist, was held on Thursday, September 29, 2016 for the NVC Studio Salon event. Upon arrival, we gathered together in the "big den" where the beautiful, huge and colorful floats under construction for the upcoming 2017 Mardi Gras Celebration left us all awestruck. Dr. Hales explained to us the history of the REX Organization, including the origin of Mardi Gras in the Crescent City. We came away with a great appreciation of all the work that is involved as the REX Members put on the parade each year. Dr. Hales walked us all through the den, giving us the opportunity to view everything and ask plenty of questions after he talked about the floats and explained how each one is created every year. He said, "Just think of a very large artist's studio, always having works in progress."

Afterwards, we moved into two exclusive REX Rooms with even more beautiful museum displays containing lots of history, old art, costumes and jewelry from the Golden Age of Carnival. As he did with the floats in the big den, Dr. Hales explained everything in sight to us while we admired the collections, wandered a bit and asked ever more questions.

Martin's Wine Cellar topped off the afternoon with delicious, light appetizers after our tour.

I would like to thank Dr. Stephen Hales for his generous time and attention, and our wonderful 2016 NVC Chair, **Dana Hansel** who helped make it all happen.

Bernice Daigle and **Sheila Collins** were also invaluable in getting the REX Den back in order after our visit.

Thanks to everyone who attended!

Spring Studio Salon Adventure

By **Faye Lieder**

Salon Chairs, Susu Stall and Laurie Milani revealed that this year's Spring Salon will be at the **Ashley Longshore Studio Gallery** at 4537 Magazine Street.

Longshore, a 2016 LOVE in the Garden artist honoree, describes her style as "inspired by pop culture and things that I find intriguing. I like to combine the use of words and images in an unexpected way to create a smart, colorful, bold statement."

She has been compared to Andy Warhol, has appeared in national and international magazines and her work has been acquired by many celebrities.

Salons are usually sold out, so watch for date and time to be announced. Don't miss this one!



NVC Studio Salon at the REX Den.
Photo Courtesy of Glendy Forster

LOVE in the Garden 2016—The Very Lucky 13th LOVE

By Faye Lieder

From the exquisite invitation to the very last end-of-evening food truck treats, 2016 Love in the Garden was, in a word, spectacular. Presented by **Whitney Bank** and chaired by **Penny Baumer, Jennifer Heebe** and **Shelby Sandford**, the event was held the evening of September 23rd in the stunningly lit Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden. Stations with clever "love inspired" cocktails from 10 top bartenders and tempting, beautifully presented food bites from 65 restaurants and caterers were arranged throughout the Garden.

The Third Annual LOVE Cocktail Challenge presented by SKYY Vodka winner was Chris McMillan of Revel, with his "Eve's Desire." 1,400 guests attended, making it the most successful LOVE fundraiser ever.

Each year, LOVE names local artist honorees which this year included Skylar Fein, Josephine Sacabo, Elenora Rukiya Brown, Gene Koss, Ashley Longshore and Alexa Pulitzer.

NVC Volunteers helped set up the event and music was performed by the **Storyville Stompers, MoJEAUX** and **DJ Nikki Penny**. And the luck? No rain!



LOVE 2016 Co-chairs Jennifer Heebe, Shelby Sandford, and Penny Baumer



LOVE in the Garden 2017



From Left: Kathleen Mix Diamond, Sharon Marchand, Carol Short, Penny Baumer, Diane Hollis

Photos Courtesy of Roman Alokhin

Save the Date: NOMA Egg Hunt and Family Festival 2017

By Tara Tolford



Mark your calendars for one of NOMA's beloved spring traditions, the *NOMA Egg Hunt and Family Festival*, Saturday, April 1st from 10am—1pm. Last year, this event grew into a full-fledged festival providing far more than just eggs, with over 1,300 kids and their families attending.

This year's energetic event co-chairs **Genevieve Douglass** and **Lauren Flower** have harnessed that success and are preparing a fun and festive day for the whole family including art activities, games, face painting, a petting zoo, tasty treats, entertainment from **DJ Audio Jocks** and **Jojo the Clown**, and more to enjoy in the beautiful Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden.

The event is sponsored by **Catherine Burns Tremaine**, with special thanks to **Elmer Chocolate** (whose Elmer Bunny is a perennial featured guest!). Treat a favorite little one in your life to a fabulous morning of giggles and sweets this year!

The 50th Odyssey in Review

Reprinted courtesy of NOMA Publications

The 50th Odyssey presented by **IBERIABANK** took over the New Orleans Museum of Art on November 12. For a half century, this signature event has raised funds for NOMA to present world-class exhibitions and arts education. Program.

The 2016 co-chairs, **Susu and Andrew Stall**, marked the occasion with an elegant crowd that included 28 past Odyssey chairs. The setting was dramatic. NOMA's Great Hall was transformed by beautiful lighting and balloon décor created by **Susan Zackin of Z Event Company** - giving the effect of champagne bubbles. Patrons enjoyed delicious cuisine by **1718 Catering and Events, Hyatt Regency New Orleans**; craft cocktails by **The Grand Bevy, Los Angeles**, and champagne tastings. Guests danced to the sounds of DJ/violinist **Timothee Lovelock, Gio, and Karma**; the silent auction featured one-of-a-kind artwork, antiques, trips, and more in celebration of this momentous occasion.



*Carmen and Kelly Duncan, 2017 Odyssey co-chairs;
Susu and Andrew Stall, 2016 Odyssey co-chairs*



Past Odyssey Co-Chairs



2016 NVC Chair Dana Hansel with Karl Hoefer

Photos Courtesy of Roman Alokhin

Updates from the NOMA Docent Program:

By E. Alexandra Stafford

There have been a lot of activities and changes with the training the New Orleans Museum of Art offers to its volunteers. Not only are there our weekly "art history 101" lectures with curators and on site tours of works, but behind the scenes, Tracy Kennan and her staff have been working hard to make it the best and most effective training that can be offered to future tour docents.

NVC's E. Alexandra Stafford spoke with NOMA's Curator of Education, Tracy Kennan, about what's new with this important and engaging program:

Alexandra: How long have you been in your role at NOMA?

Tracy: I worked at NOMA from fall 1998 - summer 2005 in the Education Department (now Interpretation and Audience Engagement) as the Curator of Education for Public Programs overseeing art classes and camps for children, family workshops, public lectures, adult seminars, festivals and other public offerings as well as working with the curator of education to write and deliver teacher workshops. I came back to NOMA in the spring of 2011 when I was hired by Alice Yelen (then head of IAE) to develop

tours and programs that would incorporate Language Arts with Visual Art. That fall, the Curator of Education resigned and I applied for the permanent position. So in all, I have worked at NOMA for 12 years.

A: How was the training done prior to you?

T: I know that when Kathy Alcaine held this position from 1998 - 2006 the Monday Docent Training classes were similar to the way we do it today, but they did have nearly 120 docents so they offered the same training classes on Monday mornings and on Tuesday evenings. They were usually led by NOMA curators or visiting curators and focused mostly on the changing exhibitions. This was possible because the Docent-in-Training class was held separately on a Wednesday and offered an introduction to art history and to the NOMA Collection.

I believe that in the years following Hurricane Katrina, the main focus became special exhibitions, especially Rodrigue's Louisiana (2008) and Dreams Come True: Art of the Classic Fairy Tales from the Walt Disney Studio (2009). These exhibitions were heavily attended by school groups and the docents offered scripted tours. Many docents stayed on after and became the core of the post-Katrina Docent Program.

A: What processes have you implemented since you took the helm?

T: When I started working with the docents in 2011, Alice and I felt that it was important to delve into pedagogy and the collection and felt that all of the docents would benefit from an introductory art history course as well as learning about techniques and best practices for museum education. Since then, I have begun to emphasize a particular theme each year. One year the focus is art history and how it relates to our collection, the next year the focus is touring techniques and the this year we are focusing on Key Works in the collection. These themes are interspersed with new exhibitions and installations, so there really is quite a mix each year and we hear from NOMA's amazing curatorial staff.

A: Where do you get your inspiration?

T: I am inspired by colleagues, teachers, docents, students, works of art..... But really the thing I like best about my job is that the museum is always changing and there is always something new to learn. I love working with learners of all ages and helping others make discoveries.

A: How are the docents trained now?

T: The Apprentice Docents join right in with the experienced docents for one docent training class on Monday mornings. This gives us the opportunity to have the museum to ourselves and to work together in one big or several small groups. We recruit docents every year, but found that some apprentices were dropping out. Of course it is natural to have some attrition, but we wanted to develop opportunities that will lead to more retention, so we implemented some changes this year that will hopefully help our new docents feel more comfortable and prepared.

First of all, we added New Docent Orientation sessions in August. These two sessions introduced NOMA and the Docent Program as well as helping attendees become accustomed to talking about art. Secondly, we created a mentor program which assigns a few Apprentice Docents to work with a few Master Docents depending on their preferred day and what age group they plan to tour. Each apprentice is asked to complete three tasks with their mentors in addition to shadowing a minimum of 6 tours. Shadowing, presenting works, and attending the docent training sessions should prepare docents to give a final presentation of 3 works and, eventually, their own tours.

A: Who are the docents now? What is their background?

T: Many of our docents are retired educators, others come from other professions.

A: What is the daily routine of a docent tour guide?

T: On a tour day, docents should arrive at NOMA at least 15 minutes ahead of scheduled tour. We encourage docents to store their belongings and meet with other docents touring at the same time to plan their routes. School docents may give two tours on their selected day, as we offer a 9:30 and a 10:30 am tour to school groups. We are not always fully booked, so school docents coordinate with a Day Captain for each day (Wed, Thu, Fri) to make sure there are the correct number of docents/student. None of our tours are scripted, but for school tours we do offer a menu of tours and teachers select the most appropriate for their class. The docents then develop their own tours, selecting works according to the theme. Often docents come to NOMA on an additional day or stay after training on Monday to plan tours.

Adult docents may create their own themes or offer museum highlight or special exhibition tours. Again, the docents develop their own tours.

A: Who uses the guides?

T: Adult groups include traveling companies, garden clubs, local church groups. K -12 School groups come predominately from Louisiana and Mississippi public, private and parochial schools. Mini Masters is currently working with 4 schools in Orleans Parish. These 4 year old students visit NOMA four times per school year. We also work with Poydras Home to offer tours for visitors with dementia once per month.

We have increased our public tours and they are now offered on Sundays at 2 pm and on Wednesdays and Fridays at 11 am. These are free with museum admission and available to visitors of all ages.

A: What future offerings do you plan?

T: I would love to implement a Garden Guides program for the sculpture garden. Training could be offered in 8 session courses (or similar), as the works in the garden do not change often and do not span such great time and cultural periods as the NOMA collection does.

Welcome, New Members!

Natasha Alveshire	Kellie Gleason
Kathleen Balma and Rodney Jones	Sherrie Goodman
Elissa and Edward Bluth	Lisa Hoselle
Kathy and Michael Boudreaux	Sandy Hunter
Meb Cefalu	Jamie Lopez
Frances Cordell	Kathleen Nelson
Caroline Crosby	Kathleen and Dennis Pons
Beverly Dupre	Elizabeth Roth
Kathleen Garrett	Emily Rush
	Maryflynn Thomas

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Volunteer Committee

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Spring 2017

Tara Tolford &
Carol Short,
Co-Chairs, NVC Publications

NOMA Volunteer Committee General Membership Meeting

New Orleans Museum of Art
Monday, January 30th, 10:30 A.M.

Stern Auditorium

Program featuring:

Vanessa Schmid, Senior Research Curator for European Art
A Life of Seduction: Venice in the 1700s

A light lunch will follow in the Great Hall

Please encourage NVC membership and bring a guest!

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