

# WAG NEWS

Windward Artists Guild Newsletter

## Annual Meeting Highlights

The Annual Meeting was held via Zoom at 1:00 pm on Oct. 18.

**ELECTIONS:** Members voted to fill two of our three vacant elected positions on the WAG Board. Marti Rounds resigned as VP Membership and was elected as President, a role she has been filling admirably on an interim basis. Cynthia Schubert-Richmond returned to the WAG Board as VP Membership. Other Board members are: Roger Tinius (Treasurer), Suzanne Barnes (Secretary), Eileen Towata and Jan Stiles (Education), Marshall Heaney (Parliamentarian), and Liz Corbin (Hospitality)

To fill out the Board, we need volunteers to serve as VP Exhibits and non-elective positions of Webmaster and Public Relations Chair. Let [Marti](#) know if you're interested in helping to keep WAG moving forward as a vibrant part of Hawaii's arts community. We'd like to thank Therese Babineau for her service as VP Exhibits and her PR efforts this past year, and Randall Pong, who served briefly as Webmaster. Wendy Roberts has been generously filling in for these positions.

**EXHIBITS:** Wendy has done an amazing job enabling WAG members to showcase their art through the two virtual shows she has organized this year. The [2020 Online Show: 60 Years of WAG](#) has been live since July 15 and will run through June 2021. The show was juried by Maui artist Carmen Gardner.



The [60<sup>th</sup> Annual Member Show](#), featuring 63 pieces by 33 artists, has just been launched. All members can help promote these shows by posting on their social media pages and emailing friends and family around the world to check out the wonderful art our members create. Wendy has sent out the electronic equivalent of the show postcards we've used in the past that you can download and share to generate excitement about the shows.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Like many organizations, WAG membership has been waning during this challenging time. We'd like to encourage everyone to reach out to their friends and colleagues who are artists or interested in the arts, and encourage them to join WAG. It's open to anyone on Oahu, and beyond in this virtual world. WAG information and a membership application can be found on the [WAG website](#).

At its recent meeting, the Board decided to update the way that dues are collected. The amount and benefits aren't changing, but instead of collecting dues for a one year period, no matter when one joins during the year, all memberships will renew on January 1 each year. This policy change will have two benefits: it will make it easier for members to keep track and it will greatly reduce the burden on the VP Membership who will be able to send out a mass reminder rather than tracking individual member due dates. Any carry-over dues from 2020 will be directed to educational programs.



**EDUCATION:** Jan Stiles reported on WAG's support of Hawaii's young artists through awards to participants in the national Scholastic Art & Writing Awards program. For several years, WAG Board members have reviewed the art pieces produced by students in grades 7-12 from all islands that have been selected for recognition and display at the

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**EDUCATION (CONTINUED):** Hawaii State Art Museum. This year, WAG awarded eight prizes, consisting of a check for \$60 (in honor of WAG’s anniversary), a certificate of excellence, and a free WAG student membership. Six Hawaii regional winners were selected for the [national exhibit](#).

Eileen Towata announced a new partnership with the Wellness Department at Adventist Health Castle. Beginning in January 2021, we will be cooperatively offering online art classes to the community. Details are still being finalized, but we expect to offer 45-minute classes twice each month that will use simple, easy to access supplies. Classes will be free in January, with a nominal fee after that to help defray costs. Registration will be through the Castle Wellness Program. Instructors will be provided with a small stipend. If you’re interested in becoming an instructor, [email Eileen](#).

**HOLIDAY PARTY:** Due to pandemic safety considerations, we won’t be having our annual Artists’ Holiday Party. If you have suggestions for an alternate way for WAG to celebrate, please email [Liz Corbin](#) before November 15.

## Art Chat

Following the Annual Meeting, we launched a new program to provide more opportunities for member engagement. The concept is that WAG members can get together informally to exchange ideas and experiences related to any art topic – anything from a discussion of a particular artist or movement, to a critique session where artists can ask for comments and suggestions, to a demonstration of a favorite technique, to a virtual field trip – the only limitations are our interests and imaginations. Although we must meet via Zoom for now, future Art Chats could be held in person or by Zoom, whichever the Chat Host prefers for the session they are leading. If you’re interested in leading an Art Chat session, contact [Liz](#).

Wendy Roberts volunteered to host the first Art Chat with a focus on art hacks, defined as anything useful or clever that makes your art space easier to use. Here are a few examples of what we shared:



Wendy recommended inexpensive materials she uses to clean her paintbrushes and showed us the rolling tool chest she finds ideal for storing her painting tools.



David Friedman took us on a whirlwind tour of his studio and showed us how to make innovative storage for paintings using plastic shelving units with grid-like shelves. He threads bungee cord or soft rope through the grid to make vertical separators.

Eileen Towata offered a mind hack. When you’re having trouble making time to make art, send yourself to “Art Camp.” Give yourself permission to ignore everything else and focus on your creativity. Since she’s a print-maker, of course she has a T-shirt for the occasion.



And there were many more hacks shared in the lively 45-minute session. If you’d like to see them all, please email [Liz](#) for a link to the video on Google Drive.