

# AR7ifacts

The Newsletter of the Art Libraries Society of North America, Southeast Chapter  
January 2022

## President's ARLIS/SE Meeting Report from Beaufort, South Carolina, October 14–15, 2021

by Ann Holderfield,  
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The Southeast Chapter of ARLIS/NA held its 47th annual meeting virtually last fall, hosted from the University of South Carolina Beaufort (USCB) in Beaufort, South Carolina. The decision to host a second annual virtual conference was based on the uncertainty of the pandemic. Thirty people registered for the conference, which was not free this year, as it was last year. The virtual conference featured a keynote speaker for the first time in chapter history, as well as the fall chapter business meeting, local virtual programming, and two hours of engaging lightning round presentations.

The ARLIS/SE Chapter business meeting kicked off the conference, with seventeen members in attendance. Congratulations to our newly elected vice president, Kristina Keogh, and treasurer, Lee Sorenson, who were both elected by the membership in attendance at this meeting. Congratulations are also extended to Virginia Seymour, who has been appointed chair of the Mary Ellen LoPresti Art Publication Awards Committee.

The 2021 chair of the LoPresti Committee, Patricia Gimenez, announced the winners of the 37th Annual LoPresti Awards for 2020 publications.

There were three winners this year. The winning limited edition was *Captivated: The Art of Ikki Matsumoto* (Sandpiper Press). The winning scholarly publication was *Belonging: Georgia and Region in the National Fabric*, edited by Dale L. Couch (Georgia Museum of Art). The winning exhibition catalogue was *All Is Possible: Mary Ann Scherr's Legacy in Metal*, curated by Ana Estrades (Gregg Museum of Art & Design). *Working Together: Louis Draper and the Kamoinge Workshop*, by Sarah L. Eckhardt (Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and Duke University Press), received an honorable mention.

Following the regular reports and updates, Past President Leah Sherman reported on her work of compiling the chapter's history since 1999 to the present. We are one of the oldest chapters in ARLIS/NA, and we are an extremely active chapter, with chapter members serving widely in ARLIS/NA at all levels.

In new business, President Lindsey Reynolds raised the question of having our chapter membership directory on the website. Members discussed whether this was useful or if it was intrusive. Member names could be listed without contact information, but this contact information could be included in a downloadable document. Lindsey Reynolds also asked if members supported our usual practice of donating to the ARLIS/NA 2022 conference. Members agreed.

Following the chapter business meeting was the presentation by keynote speaker Sauda Mitchell, an artist and special collections librarian at SCAD in Savannah, Georgia, who is influenced by the research that she conducts as an archivist and

librarian. Her artwork reflects her conversation with these documents and deals with history, culture, family, and race. She discussed her *Finding Aid* series, in which she incorporates QR codes into relief prints that direct the viewer to the archive that influenced the content of the work, as well as to new artists' books and mixed-media work that is included in her solo exhibition *Re-Cor-Dare* at the Jepson Center in Savannah. Thank you to Sauda Mitchell for such a meaningful, reflective, layered, and inspirational talk.

Day two of the virtual conference began with a morning drawing meditation by Joanna Angell, art professor at the University of South Carolina Beaufort, in which she led us through a contemplative contour-line-drawing exercise. Many of us have pledged to continue this practice throughout the year.

Next, we enjoyed seven lightning round presentations on many topics, including open access in the arts, assessment, creativity in libraries, and more! Presenters were Marty Miller, Louisiana State University, and Peter Klubek, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, "Open Access to the Arts: Coordinating Creation of Pilot OERS in Exploring the Arts and Dance Appreciation"; Virginia Seymour and Emily Decker-Bess, SCAD, "Engaging Faculty through Service Design"; Lauren Tubbs-Ezell, University of Alabama, "Not Just for Research Colleges!: Collection Development Policies in Small Academic Libraries"; Raeshelle Cooke, University of Kentucky, "Taking Assessment in the Academic Library: Using OneDrive to Store Data"; Megan Lotts, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, "Advancing a Culture of Creativity in Libraries: Programming and Engagement"; Meredith Hale, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, "Increasing the Accessibility of ARLIS/NA's Video Content"; and Lydian Brambila, University of Georgia Libraries, and Ariel Ackerly, Princeton University Library, "Sewing Circles and Learning Spirals: Building Communities of Practice in the Makerspace."

In the afternoon, conference attendees participated in a live virtual walking tour of the historic Penn Center, conducted by Chris Barr, interpretive supervisor at the Reconstruction Era National Historical Park. Asynchronous virtual programs

on the conference Google site, created just for conference attendees, included a virtual 360 tour of Reconstruction sites, contributed by Dr. Brent Morris, professor of history at USCB and director of the USCB Institute for the Study of the Reconstruction Era; relaxing ocean minute videos; links to local places of interest; and Lowcountry cocktail recipes for happy hour.

Peter Klubek provided a session for discussing the ARLIS/SE Mentoring Program, which is an informal program that matches a mentor and a mentee with similar career interests from within the Southeastern chapter of ARLIS/NA.

The conference concluded with a virtual happy hour during which the LoPresti raffle winners were announced and attendees talked with Dr. Brian Canada, USCB computational science chair and Lowcountry video game creator. Dr. Canada discussed the Beaufort references and symbols in his video game *Bugs 'N Boo Hags*, such as *boo hag* and the color *haint blue*, as well as the process for creating the musical score.

Many thanks to our conference planning committee: Karyn Hinkle, Ann Holderfield, Maggie Murphy, Lindsey Reynolds, and Leah Sherman.

Planning for the ARLIS/SE 2022 annual meeting in Florida, in Sarasota or Gainesville, is already underway—stay tuned for more details! We also look forward to seeing you at our Midyear Business Meeting at ARLIS/NA in 2022 in Chicago!

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## Report from the ARLIS/NA Chapters Liaison

by Stephanie Grimm,  
ARLIS/NA Chapters Liaison,  
Art and Art History Librarian and  
Fenwick Gallery Manager,  
George Mason University,  
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Happy New Year, everyone! I'm happy to share updates from the ARLIS/NA Executive Board, the work we've been doing over the past few

months, and some things to look for in the coming spring.

The **2022 Annual Conference in Chicago** is still set to be an in-person conference. The Conference Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) offered a virtual town hall earlier in January to discuss the conference program, workshops, tours, special events, and COVID-related guidelines and planning. You can [view a recording of the session via Zoom](#). The conference website also has details on [COVID guidelines](#) and [links to the current program in Sched](#).

The **Humanities Commons Implementation Task Force** also continues its work on the back-end to support ARLIS/NA's own instance of Humanities Commons, which will serve as the new repository for ARLIS/NA conference recordings and webinars. The ARLIS/NA Commons will also serve as host for constituent group blogs, discussion groups, and more. The task force plans to present a society-wide town hall to discuss the status of the ARLIS/NA Commons, likely in the coming months, ahead of the conference.

One of my major projects coming into the chapters liaison role was the **Bundled Membership Program** and making improvements to better support chapter membership management. Thanks to our new membership database and the work of the team at McKenna, **chapters now have the option to set their own membership rates**—rather than the standard fee set when bundled membership was implemented. This will give chapters greater flexibility and control of their chapter finances. In the coming year, we will roll out the option for additional **chapter membership categories**, allowing for student, retired, or other special membership categories to take advantage of bundled membership renewal. Gaby Webster, deputy director of ARLIS/NA, and I will be in touch with chapters later this year to start work on this process.

The board has also reviewed a number of issues and discussions related to **ethics, labor and professional standards, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) and anti-racism efforts**.

- The **Anti-Racism Task Force** is

finalizing a report based on surveys collected this summer, along with next steps for the group and the society. Look for more on that soon!

- The **Job List Task Force**, led by Amy Furness (Canadian liaison, ARLIS/NA), is researching the implications of implementing salary transparency on the ARLIS/NA JobList, with the goal of making progress towards salary transparency on the JobList. We expect to hear updates from that group in the coming months.
- A **Paraprofessional Membership Category Task Force** was recently convened within the Membership Committee and will be examining the feasibility of creating a new membership category for paraprofessional and support staff (including pricing and criteria for the category, and how to assess its impact).
- We also standardized **speaker honorariums** for non-conference speakers, at a new flat rate of \$300USD/person. Chapters can apply for special funding up to this amount for speakers at local events. There is also a new rate for commissioned blog posts or other writing. [See the ARLIS/NA Policy Manual, section J-14](#) (login required) for full details. (Kudos again to Amy Furness for her work on this!)
- The Executive Board also recently approved an amendment to the society's policy manual **recognizing the rights of library workers to organize unions and collectively bargain**. See ARLIS/NA Policy [No. N-10: Statement on Organized Labor](#) (login required).

Over the summer, the Strategic Planning Refresh Task Force met to identify a revised process to improve the society's approach to strategic planning. As a result, the **Strategic Planning Committee** was established, replacing the former Strategic Directions Committee. The Strategic Planning Committee will have greater connectivity with the Executive Board and the ability to

develop, execute, and monitor progress on the strategic plan.

Finally, in the coming year I will be working with McKenna to start to review our current process and criteria for **annual conference site selection**. The goal is to investigate and potentially develop strategic approaches to conference host selection, which might alleviate the burden put on chapters to propose and organize annual conferences, while creating a more sustainable conference planning process that continues to highlight the many diverse geographic, artistic, and cultural highlights of the society's chapters.

***In case you missed it:***

Earlier in the fall, ARLIS/NA completed its migration to a **new website and membership management database**. In addition to providing better reporting and data for chapter rosters, this also allowed us to build a more robust membership demographics form. By collecting detailed information about ARLIS/NA members, we will have a better foundation to support the society's DEI initiatives. Amy Trendler (past president, ARLIS/NA) and Heather Slania (education liaison, ARLIS/NA) worked with the Anti-Racism Task Force to develop this more robust form. See the ARLIS/NA [Demographics Factsheet](#) to find out more about these efforts and to submit any questions or suggestions.

**Wishing you all a healthy and happy start to this new year!**

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**[Minutes from the ARLIS/NA Southeast Chapter Annual Conference Virtual Fall Business Meeting, hosted from Beaufort, South Carolina, October 14, 2021, 1:00 PM](#)**

**Minutes include photographs of the winners of the 37th Annual Mary Ellen LoPresti Art Publication Awards.**

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## **The ARLIS/NA 50th Annual Conference Meets in Chicago, April 5–9, 2022**

From Mark Pompelia,  
ARLIS/NA President.

Read his full welcome letter at:

<https://www.arlisna.org/events/2022-50th-annual-conference>

“On behalf of the ARLIS/NA Executive Board, Conference Planning Advisory Committee, and 50th Anniversary Task Force, it is easily the highlight of my term as President to invite you to attend and participate at the 2022 annual conference in Chicago for the society's Golden Anniversary. Whether member, exhibitor, colleague, or friend, we welcome you to join us as the society returns to an in-person conference after two years of holding a virtual event.

“. . . Embodying the Golden Anniversary milestone is the conference theme, ‘Past, Present, Future: Aspiring to New Heights.’ . . .

“The conference Co-Chairs have assembled an impressive schedule of panel sessions, posters, roundtables, and workshops with content related to diversity, equity, and inclusion; advocacy, social justice, public policy, and activism; and critical librarianship. Joining those are the perennially strong topics of collection development and management, visual literacy, digital scholarship, and pedagogical practice among others—such as the highlighting of local art and architecture—that all combine to make the annual conference the professional development event of the year.”

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*ARTifacts* is published twice a year.  
Next submission deadline: May 20, 2022.

Please send your contributions to:

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