

SEATTLE METALS GUILD

Bi-Monthly newsletter

January/February 2000

SPECIAL MEETING, AND LECTURE: CONNECTED TO THE TUNDRA

Dr. Joan Tenenbaum

Date: March 24, 2000 at 7 pm
Location: University of Washington
Art Building, Room 3

Next year the Seattle Metals Guild will have a special meeting during March. It has been scheduled in order to give you an update on the reorganization of the Board of Directors, to begin the nomination process for new board members, and to alert you to funding opportunities through the Artist Trust. The guest lecturer will be local jewelry artist Joan Tenenbaum.

Following a business meeting to discuss the reorganization and board nominations, there will be a short presentation by representatives of the Artist Trust. The Artist Trust is a not-for-profit organization committed to encouraging and promoting Washington State artists in all disciplines by providing financial and other support. It offers financial support through two granting programs: Unrestricted Fellowships administered in cooperation with the Washington State Arts Commission, and specific Grants for Artists Projects (GAP). Because artists also need more than money to succeed, the trust collects and distributes information on business topics and other funding possibilities. Recently the creative and professional achievements of a Seattle Metals Guild member, Keith Lewis, were recognized by the Artist Trust. Keith is one of 19 Washington artists selected to receive a Fellowship Award for 1999. Come and hear how you too may benefit from the Artist Trust.

The remainder of the evening will be spent enjoying a lecture by Joan Tenenbaum on how traditional Inuit culture became such a strong influence on her jewelry designs. While completing her Ph.D. studies in anthropology at the University of Michigan, Joan documented a language spoken by a small group of only 250 Athabaskan Indians in Alaska, the Tanaina Athabaskan. This led to teaching opportunities through the University of Alaska, and eventually, her moving to a Chefornek, a village of 200 Yup'ik Eskimos. Now living on the Olympic Peninsula, Joan creates jewelry that reflects her understanding and respect for their culture. Her work has been featured in *Ornament* and *Lapidary Journal*, and she is represented locally by the Stonington Gallery.

If you have any questions regarding the agenda for this meeting, please contact Ron Pascho at (425) 488-3404. In addition, readers are encouraged to examine the article in this newsletter that goes over the board reorganization, and what will be discussed during the business meeting.

SMG Calendar

Jan. 21	Lecture: Deborah Krupenia
Jan. 22-23	Workshop: Deborah Krupenia
March 24	General Meeting
April 22	Swap Meet

THE SMG SWAP MEET



Date: Saturday April 22, 2000
Time: 9:30 am-12:30pm
Location: Pratt Fine Arts Center
1902 S. Main St., Seattle, WA 98144
206-328-2200

On a quest for a certain tool? Have extra materials you aren't using? Bought a tumbler you just never use? Here is your chance to get them out of your studio. Bring them all to the infamous Swap Meet and trade, sell or give them away. Chances are someone will gladly take them off your hands. Participation is open and free to SMG members as well as invited professionals. Professionals invited will include tool vendors, stone cutters, photographers and more.

The Meet will be held at the Pratt Fine Arts Center on April 22, 2000 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please call Jenifer Thacher at 360-379-3989 or e-mail at jwtrkk@olympen.com with questions or if you are a professional vendor wishing to be included.

ARTIST TRUST OPPORTUNITIES

Artist Trust funds individual artists in all disciplines including jewelry and metalsmithing, through our granting programs. Our next funding opportunity will be the GAP (Grants for Artist Projects) program for the year 2000.

The GAP program provides support for individual artists' projects by granting financial awards of up to \$1,200. GAP is intended to help artists develop new ideas and directions for current projects. Artist projects may include (but are not limited to) the development, completion, or presentation of new work; publication; travel for artistic research or to present or complete work; documentation of work; and advanced workshops for professional development, etc. In 1999 Artist Trust awarded 73 GAP grants, totaling almost \$82,000.

The GAP program is open to all practicing Washington State artists 18 years of age or older. The program is not open to matriculating students enrolled in any degree program. 1998 and 1999 GAP grant recipients are also ineligible. Applications will be available in late-December with a February 25th deadline. To request an application please send a SASE to our office or print an application from our website at www.artisttrust.org.

Artist Trust is a non-profit organization whose sole mission is to support and encourage individual artists working in all disciplines in order to enrich community life throughout Washington State. To accomplish this mission Artist Trust, gives financial grants to individual artists, serves as a professional information and opportunity resource for artists, and provides recognition and support for the contributions artists make to the lives of the people of Washington State.

For more information on Artist Trust and our programs or to become a member of Artist Trust contact us at: 1402 Third Avenue, Suite 404, Seattle, WA 98101 or 206/467-8734 or e-mail susan@artisttrust.org or www.artisttrust.org.

ATTENTION MEMBERS

We need a publicity person to generate and mail posters to different schools for workshops and special events. Graphics experience is a plus, but not necessary. This can be an interim position.

Please contact Kathleen Faulkner at 360-293-7621 or e-mail at kdf@fidalgo.net.

THANK YOU, LEILANI

Thanks to Leilani Norman-Young, SMG's publicity and marketing director, for her time spent serving on the Board of Directors. Leilani will be stepping down from her position this January to focus on her production line and her new baby. We thank her for her time and commitment to the SMG board and look forward to seeing her at future SMG events.

RESTRUCTURING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

During the general meeting last October I outlined a proposed restructuring of the Guild's Board of Directors. The decision to reorganize the board was made at a retreat last summer at which myself and the other board members took a hard look at where the Guild is today, and at what we felt were the biggest tasks facing it as a volunteer organization in the immediate future. We were fortunate to have the help of Greg Robinson, the executive director the Pratt Fine Arts Center, to facilitate the meeting. He helped us take an objective approach to developing an operational and governance model that better addresses what the Seattle Metals Guild is today, an organization that has evolved over 10 years from a small group of metalsmiths into the largest such guild in the nation, with about 300 members. From our discussions, it was obvious that the Guild is currently accomplishing its mission by providing affordable educational opportunities for the membership through workshops and other activities, and by creating a networking resource for local metalsmithing students and artists. Unfortunately, it was also apparent that the most difficult task facing the board in the near future will be to put in place an organizational structure to ensure that this level and diversity of Guild-sponsored programs continues to match the growth of the membership. There was a general consensus that the focus of the next year's activities should be to reorganize the Board of Directors. During subsequent years, proposals will be considered for expanding the number of Guild-sponsored events and programs.

To begin the reorganization process we have identified several changes that should be made to the bylaws. They will ensure that the Guild has all the rules in place appropriate for the governance of a not-for-profit organization. Most will not directly affect the membership, but one change from the current practice will allow officers to be elected by the Board of Directors rather than by the general membership. The Board of Directors will review and vote on these changes during January and February 2000.

A draft plan for reorganization of the Seattle Metals Guild is provided in this newsletter for your comments. The structural elements of the reorganization include an Executive Committee comprised of the President, Past President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer. This group will develop agendas, and serve to make decisions in the event of an emergency. Below them will be the committees, with committee chairs and members. Whereas the committee chairpersons will probably be Board Members, committee membership will also include many non-Board Members. I encourage each of you to look at this reorganization as an opportunity to get involved with the Guild's activities. Everyone may not have the opportunity, or desire, to be on the Board of Directors, but there is any number of chances to participate at a level of commitment that is strictly your choice. During a special meeting to be held during March 2000, I will discuss these changes and begin the nomination

