

Letter From the President

March 6, 2024

Dear Friends – Last year was a wonderful year for the DIAA: the celebration of our 50-year history, a number of new and returning members, and, importantly, sharing our incredible creativity.

In the words of our founders, we are “fostering community dialogue and exhibiting tremendous art to the peninsula” [and beyond].

Sadly, we have lost two very dear friends: Nancy Hodermarsky passed away in December, and Oscar Turner in January.

Our gallery is the shining beacon of art in the Deer Isle village year-round. The Winter residencies, and workshops, a reinvigorated Let’s Draw and the Winter Windows provide invigorating art

dialogue throughout the cold, snowy winter.

Thank you for your generous financial support of the DIAA. I know you will continue your involvement in the DIAA by participating in exhibits.

We can always use your help with exhibit installation. This year I am making a renewed effort to fill the appointed positions that have mostly been vacant for several years. Information will be coming out very soon from the nominating committee regarding the elected and appointed offices including Gallery Technician, Hospitality Chair and Archivist.

I encourage you to think about how you might like to serve in

these elected or appointed positions. As I have said many times over the years, I have been honored to serve the DIAA as president since 2009 and will gladly continue. However, there may be some one of you who might ready for the task.

We are looking ahead to another wonderful year in 2024. We are trying a couple new exhibit ideas that we hope you will embrace. The season of exhibitions Cindy has outlined will be fantastic. As we embark on the next 50 years of the DIAA, let the fun begin.

I am looking forward to seeing you all again this summer!

David McBeth, President 2024

The Membership Renewal Package

Please read everything in the Membership Package. In particular, note the different places to send the Membership Form and the Exhibition sign-up. Please do not create extra work for the Exhibition Chair, Membership Chair, and Bookkeeper and delays for you.

Membership Form – Send it, and your check, to the PO box. If your mailing address, phone or email address have changed in the last year, please flag that.

Exhibition Form – It is a “fillable” pdf. Download it from the website, fill it out, save with your name as the file name, and email it to Cindy. Of course, the traditional print-it-out-and-mail-it-to-Cindy will work just as well. Just do it before **April 21** to improve chances of getting into two of your exhibition choices. The assignment process begins then.

New: we are adding “Art Shelves” to give 3-D artists the same opportunity the 2-Ders have to display in the “Art Rack”. There will be size and weight restrictions, detailed information will come later.

Questions? Write csimonds@gmail.com.

Member Information Brochure – Please read it (again). It answers many questions and is a reminder of policies and practices we agree to when joining as an exhibiting member.

12x12(x12) – This special event will run for **one week** (six days) again. Please explain that the \$144 price does not represent the true value of artists’ work and talent to your friends and followers.

One Week Fundraising Show – please read the information about a Special Event – “Island Collection” which will benefit DIAA and the Library; see the footnote on the Exhibition Sign-Up form.

Thank You + A Plea – A big thank you: to those who show up for receiving and hanging (over and over); for participating in the 12x12(x12) (keeping us solvent); for keeping the gallery open beyond what’s required; and for being appreciative of the work, time and effort fellow members invest in keeping DIAA open and thriving. You are part of the reason that we do so every year.

In recent years there have been a few difficult incidents. We want feedback, and when we make mistakes, we need to know, and will try to fix things. But **please be gentle and respectful.** Getting yelled at—in person or in writing—adds to the stress of meeting deadlines and makes us wonder if it is time to step down.

Please help by responding in a timely way to emails asking you to confirm exhibition sign-up, submit images etc. It makes everything take longer—and more stressful—when we must chase people for information to meet deadlines.

Please show up on time for receiving and gallery sitting. No-shows, arriving late or leaving early for sitting hurt our reputation and it is disrespectful to fellow artists. **Please come to receptions** and bring friends; it’s a time to get to know each other.

It’s always a good time for new energy. Do you have ideas to enliven DIAA? **Why not run for a Board job or volunteer for another position?**

Susan Finsen, Membership Chair, 2024
sfinsendiaamembership@gmail.com