

**WESTPORT ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE [WAAC]
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 8, 2019, at 12 noon**

Attending: Nancy Diamond, Richard Epstein, Kathie Bennewitz, Miggs Burroughs, Eric Chiang, John Dodig, Lee Goldstein, Deirdre Kelle, Diane Lowman, Kelle Ruden, Tom Scavone, Carole Schweid, Elizabeth Strick

Absent: Frederic Chiu, Sandy Lefkowitz, Wendy Morgan Hunter, Deirdre Price

Guest: Harris Falk

Nancy welcomed Poet Laureate, Diane Lowman., who has already reached out to the Library, Senior center, Historical, Homes for Hope, MOCA Westport, and the Schools. She has created a Haiku for the Town which is on their web site. At the October TEA Talk she will read the poem "Still I Rise" by Maya Angelou and two of her Haiku poems, "Barriers" and "Overcome". She has a number of ideas for poetry around Westport, she will work with Kelle and Deirdre Kelly.

!. TEA Talk, October 27th at 2pm

Each Panel has 18 minutes to talk, poem has 2 minutes, and the suffragist segment 2 minutes.

Richard will introduce TEA Talk and 1st Selectman, Jim Marpe.

Jim Marpe will speak

Suffragist interruption

Jim to continue his intro which will include a recognition of Rose O'Neill

Nancy will introduce Wendy and Angie

Nancy will thank Wendy and Angie: and introduce Ann and Noah.

Ann and Noah. {John will help Ann on stage}

Diane Lowman: will read her poetry and the poetry of Maya Angelou

Richard, thanks Diane, Ann and Noah, and introduce Jeanine and Tiffany. They will be joined by Frederic, who will accompany Tiffany.

Invite all panelists on stage for a Q & A, take questions from audience.

Nancy and Jim present Horizon Award to Noah.

Present mugs to guests, invite all to reception in the lobby.

WAAC Horizon award. A copy of the bronze medallion, designed by Stanly Bleifeld, Kathie will look into it being cast in another material.

Gift Mug, on one side the TEA Talk logo, on the other side a Haiku by the Poet Laureate.

Extra mugs to be ordered for, Kelle, Deirdre K, Diane, Richard and 1st Selectman Jim Marpe.

All committee to arrive at noon on October 27th for run through before the event.

John will set timer on phone for each panel.

Sandy, will set stage, check lights and sound, check mikes on podium, and panelists.

Miggs, check video

John and Eric will be back stage, a custodian if needed will be on duty.

Elizabeth will provide lunch for committee and guests, provide cookies for the reception, and all paper goods and cups for lunch and reception.
John will pick up water and cider for reception
Kelle, flowers for stage and reception table

A raffle like last year was discussed, a Haiku party with Diane, 2 Playhouse tickets. Kellie to ask Eric sign-in table in the lobby.

Kelle to edit all bios for program.

Miggs will send an e-blast to committee to forward.

Eric to give Miggs a list of all artists that have passed in the last year for the program.

Kelle, to notify the press and post on Town Flyer and 06880+. Contact Dan Woog to do a feature on Noah.

Images for the video needed send to Miggs

Miggs to contract Noah

Nancy will contact Frederic

Richard will contact Angie

2. Otocast:

A space to be reserved at the Library for a reception for all who participated in the making of the Otocast app. John Nancy and Kellie will help. The first week in December was suggested.

Richard and Kathie will listen to audios and see what has to be re-recorded. Deirdre K and Elizabeth will review. Deirdre P to get MOCA to revise its listing, the Historical, Levitt and Library still need updating.

3. WestPAC:

Kathie reported that recently deceased sculptor Steffi Friedman, work has been offered to the Town. A bronze sculpture of a pair of dancers for the courtyard at Staples HS, and two small plaster reliefs of children in books. The artists estate will pay for all framing, transportation and installation.

Kelle moved to accept the 3 pieces into the Town Art Collection, Carole seconded, all in favor.

Kathie also reported that WestPAC had launched its new "Learning Galleries" spaces that will be installed this school year in each of the Westport Schools. The project is funded by the Drew Friedman Foundation via Friends of WestPAC. Tom Scavone and Lauren Francese are working with the committee to design and create a dedicated space in ES and SHS to use for classroom teaching allowing students to view original works side by side with discussion.

In the inaugural display in the Long Lots Learning Gallery, six still life images in different media were selected by an LLS art teacher to support the K-5 art curriculum.

At Staples High School, a display of prints of George Washington and the 1960's Civil Rights Movement, was selected by Lauren Francese, Director of the Social Studies Department.

An exhibit of Chinese painting from Yangzhou and photography by Larry Silver will be on rotation through each elementary school. which compliments the Westport Youth Concert's Global Initiative focus on China.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 AT 12 NOON, ROOM 212D

Elizabeth Strick
Secretary