

The PROVIDENCE ART CLUB



THE ART OF *Camaraderie*



141st Annual

Report

June 8th, 2022

AGENDA &
COMMITTEE REPORTS



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BEQUESTS AND GIFTS

FLORENCE B. KANE LEGACY SOCIETY

The Providence Art Club recognizes the following Legacy Society members who have made provisions in their estate plans to provide a gift for the benefit of our beloved Club to carry out its mission "For Art Culture"

1914 Isaac C. Bates Estate	1978 Dr. Roland Hammond Estate	2001 Ruth W. Findley Estate
1925 John S. Sargent Estate	1978* Bradford F. Swan Estate	2003 David Aldrich Estate
1938 Albert H. Whitin Estate	1979* Eleanor Parker	2003 W. Chesley
1944 G. Richmond Parsons	Anderson Estate	Worthington Estate
1947 Alfred L. Lustig	1979 Elizabeth M. Farnsworth Estate	2004 Marjorie Bradshaw Estate
1956 Arthur N. Peaslee	1980 Exene R. Meyersahn Estate	2006 Barbara Kerr Calder Estate
1956 Florence Brevoort Kane Estate	1980 Dana Rice Estate	2007 Mary M. Campbell Estate
1961 Charles A.. McDonald Estate	1985 Rachel B. Adams Estate	2007 Charlotte Wetherell Estate
1962 William E. Brigham Estate	1985 Helen T. Batchelder Estate	2007 Edith Erlenmeyer Estate
1970 C. Prescott Knight, Jr. Estate	1986 Sarah Minchin Barker Estate	2011 Allen M. Johnson Estate
1971 J. Banigan Sullivan	1986 Antonio Cirino Estate	2013 Frederick R. Griffiths Estate
Memorial Fund	1990 Mrs. John Carter Brown	2014 Arlene I. Wilson Estate
1971 Mrs. Austin Levy Estate	Washburn Estate	15-17 Frank & Mary
1973 Bertha B. Harris Estate	1994 Mrs. Dorothy Ferguson	Castelnovo Estate
1974 Loraine J. Swan Estate	Humphrey Estate	2016 Milton P. Hannah Estate
1974 William A. Heath Estate	97-98 Stella Halit Estate	2019 Barnet Fain Estate
1975 Ruth Ely Estate	1999 Louise B. Mackenzie Estate	2019 Dr. Alfredo R. Esparza Estate

Your Club has maintained an active program in the visual arts, through wars and depressions, for over a century. We are continually grateful to those members whose thoughtful generosity has made it possible for the Club to increase both its programs and membership. With the ever increasing costs and growing burden of maintaining our delightful but ancient buildings, the need for additional income becomes imperative.

Because the Providence Art Club is classified by the Internal Revenue Service as a non-profit institution under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal

Revenue Code, donations to the Club of cash or property can be regarded as charitable gifts. These donations are vitally important to the Art Club, which supports its yearly operations with the income from its endowment.

Yearly giving, as well as wills and bequests, can be considered a charitable gift. The Club Treasurer can supply further information concerning tax advantages for donations to the Club. Gifts of property to be retained by the Club should be directed to the attention of the Collections Committee.

SUGGESTED FORM OF BEQUESTS AND GIFTS

I give and bequeath to the Providence Art Club, incorporated by the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island at its January Session, 1880, located in the City of Providence, the sum of _____ to be applied to the uses and purposes of said Corporation.

The Providence Art Club is a 501(c)3 non profit corporation. It is suggested that you discuss with your financial advisor the relative tax advantages of bequests, gifts of cash, securities, etc., for the present and ultimate benefit of the Providence Art Club.



VIRTUAL MEETING AGENDA

Due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, and the success of last year's virtual meeting, the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Providence Art Club on Wednesday, June 8, 2022 at Noon will take place virtually through remote communication.

Without an in-person meeting, Annual Meeting voting will likewise be conducted remotely, either by electronic ballot or mailed-in paper ballot.

Order of Reports:

President's Greeting – Shawn Kenney

Secretary's Report – Judy Vilmain

Membership Committee Report - Joan McConaghy

Treasurer's Report – Carl Helmetag

Bannister Community Art Project Update - Co-Chairs;
Nancy Gaucher-Thomas & Jennifer Davis-Allison

NEW BUSINESS

Dues Increase: Voting Results

Proposed New Members - Board of Managers: Voting Results

Presentation of Art Club Medals and Special Recognitions

A Closing Message from Our General Manager, Seb Borges



OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS - DUES

The following proposed matter has been properly presented to and duly acted upon by the Board of Managers for action at the Annual meeting to be held on Wednesday, June 8, 2022.

As per Article II, Section 2.04 Dues and Fees of the Providence Art Club Constitution, the following dues increase will be effective at the beginning of the new month, July 1, 2022:

To raise the monthly dues	From	To	Increase
Artist/Arts Professional, resident members	\$89.00	\$93.50	\$4.50
Artist/Arts Professional, non-resident members	\$44.50	\$46.75	\$2.25
Patron, resident members	\$116.50	\$122.50	\$6.00
Patron, non-resident members	\$58.25	\$61.25	\$3.00

All assessments will remain the same.



PRESIDENT'S GREETING

Shawn Kenney, President

My fellow members, it is an honor to welcome you to the 141st Annual Meeting of the Providence Art Club.

We've once again opted to continue this recent tradition to conduct the business of the Club virtually (following our last two successful online meetings under our belt – with marked increases in member participation and easier access), followed by an in-person celebratory Strawberry Festival.

I think we all expected – or at least hoped – for a return to something closer to normal this year, but once again it's been 'anything but the status quo.' We've had to be mindful of both the evolving COVID-19 pandemic as well as the spectre of inflation – not to mention some shifts in key staff positions.

Happily, our Club not only survived – together, we've thrived – with both membership and finance in good health, and more public awareness than ever regarding our history and mission.

I'll leave it to the committee reports to showcase all that we've accomplished – but a short highlight reel would include: the implementation of a retirement plan for staff; a Legacy Workshop (along with numerous other tools) to increase awareness about the Spirit of Philanthropy; a record-setting Little Pictures show (including our first ever PAC block parties); our first-ever open-air sculpture show; our first ever PAC European trip to Ireland; 2 published books; and the initiation of the Bannister Community Art Project, which started off as a generous proposal for a commemorative bronze statue to memorialize one of our founders, but has since evolved into something well beyond our walls in terms of scope and participation.

Clearly, we've much to celebrate – let's raise our virtual glasses (for now) to:

Our members! Thank you all for your passionate engagement and support – through taking classes, dining, your gifts of time and financial donations, and the introduction of new members – and for remaining both compassionate and dedicated to the Club's mission.

Seb Borges and staff – thank you all for continually finding ways (even while working as a skeleton crew at times, and wearing many different hats throughout the year) to provide the Art Club Experience we all so dearly missed the prior two years.

Lorraine Hynes, Julia Hubbard, and Rheanna Diehl – for their tireless work (as well as seemingly-infinite patience) in coordinating everything leading up to this event – including online and printed materials, scheduling, people-wrangling, and party planning – all done with creativity, grace and a smile.

Cheers!

Shawn Kenney,
48th President, Providence Art Club



ARCHIVE COMMITTEE
Christopher Ratcliffe, Archivist

The Providence Art Club Archives is a repository for the Club's historical records dating back to 1880. It is mainly comprised of exhibition catalogs, letters, governance documents, PAC board meeting minutes, photographs, and other records.

Our next initiative is to create systems and processes that will allow us to seamlessly record future Club events and exhibitions, so that they can be accessed for years to come.

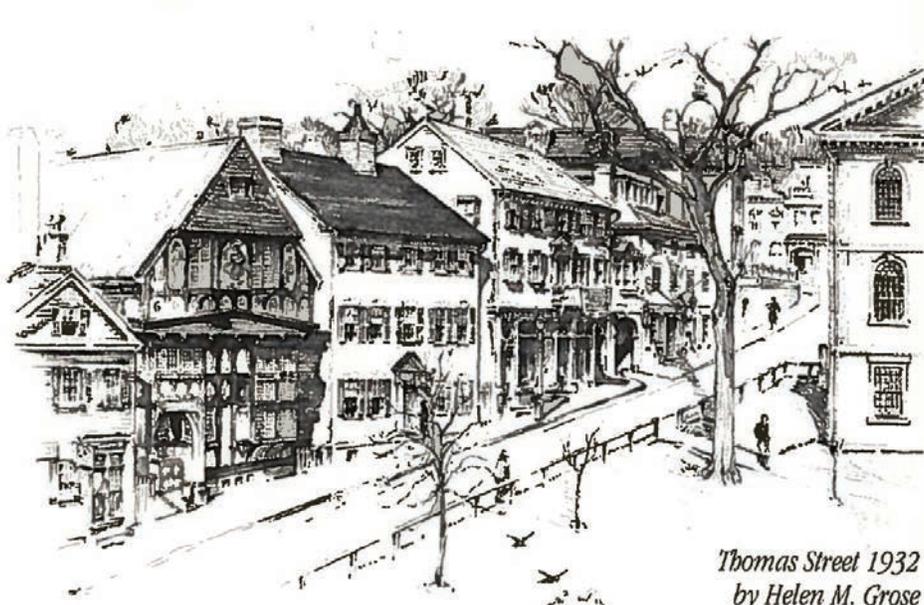
I would like to share an excerpt from *Angell's Lane*, by George L. Miner, about the Providence Art Club's move to our current home on 11 Thomas Street:

"The first meeting held in the new Club House on Thomas Street was a meeting of the Board at 7:40PM and half an hour later the Annual Club Meeting was held. The date was January 5, 1887. President Pegram made a report that was received with much applause."

Thus we, the Providence Art Club members of both past and present, have called our brick building on Thomas Street home for 135 years.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Ratcliffe, Archivist
Archives Committee





ART COMMITTEE REPORT

Carol FitzSimonds, Chair

Flexibility, creativity and hard work have been the watchwords for the galleries dealing with the impact of changing COVID-19 policies. The number of artist members requesting exhibit slots has continued to increase, as has the desire to host community, scholarship and innovative exhibits to enrich the gallery experience for our members and viewing public. The Art Committee, working with gallery staff, adjust gallery guidelines as needed to accommodate these demands. Moving forward the committee had the choice of only two options to deal with the high volume of exhibit requests: 1) go back to two-week exhibits or 2) go to a three-year interval between member group exhibits. Starting with the next “*Call for Member Exhibit Applications*”, the galleries schedule will go to the three-year interval cycle. If demand for exhibit slots should decline, then the committee will re-evaluate and adjust the schedule accordingly.

It was a busy year in the galleries - our *National Open Exhibition*, juried by Jamie Gabbarelli of the Art Institute of Chicago, was another success and continues to be one of the most competitive and popular shows of its kind in the nation. Our first ever *Open-Air Sculpture Exhibition* in the courtyard was such a hit with members that it is being repeated again this summer. Other exhibits of note included: photographer Warren Jagger’s special show of member *Smartphone Photographs*, our third “*Big Pictures Show*” celebrating larger scale art, and the *Hot Type Portfolio Exhibit* and auction, which raised funds to benefit the club. The club’s landmark event, *Little Pictures*, hit a new record for sales! Increased marketing, block party events and the ability of artist to continually replenish their work brought buyers to see the exhibit throughout the duration of the show and reflected the tremendous effort by the artists, Club members who planned and executed the block parties and other events, marketing staff and especially Michael Rose and his gallery staff. THANK YOU!

The Art Committee members are: Ann Thacher (Vice-Chair), Alice Gebhart, Elizabeth Goddard, Warren Jagger, Elena Obelenus, David Witbeck and new members Karin Forde Whittemore, Elizabeth Crane Swartz and Anne Wert. The committee sincerely wishes to thank Del-Bourree Bach for his many years of service to our committee; we know he will be a wonderful addition to the Arts Qualifications Committee. The committee also wishes to acknowledge the 16 years of service, thoughtful insights and great heart that Domine Vescera Ragosta brought to our committee. Her passing saddened each of us and our sincere condolences were sent to her family.

Michael Rose and staff deserve our thanks for their outstanding work! Thanks also to Kathy Hodge DeVault and now Rheanna Diehl for their great marketing work. The last thanks go to Seb. Seb and Rui and their staffs are essential to keeping our gallery spaces beautifully maintained.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol FitzSimonds, Chair
Art Committee



ARTS QUALIFICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Nancy Gaucher-Thomas, Chair

The Arts Qualifications Committee met from May 2021 through May 2022.

The committee is comprised of Sandra Basile, Del Bouree Bach, Claudia Iannuccilli, Craig Masten, Merle Poulton, Mimo Gordon Riley, Gretchen Dow Simpson, and David Witbeck.

Staff: Abba Cudney and Michael Rose.

The committee met monthly to review applications to the Providence Art Club for Exhibiting Artist and Arts Professional membership (as well as member applications seeking transfer of status), to determine acceptance and status. Decisions were based on the requisite portfolio, resume, and membership application submissions.

The committee organized a zoom program, open to the public, and powerpoint presentation titled: *What Does It Take To Become An Artist Member?* The program was held on Tuesday, April 26, 2022. Over 35 people were in attendance, most were non members.

During the 2021-22 PAC season, the committee approved the portfolios of:

ARTS PROFESSIONALS:

Lianne Bythewood
Jillian Lauren Kelshaw
R. Tripp Evans
Sarah Ganz Blythe
Kelly Brown
David Andreozzi
Lela Barclay de Tolly
Cindi Emery
Claire Andrade-Watkins
Pamela Lambert
Tenley van der Wal

Members Transferred their Status to Arts Professional Membership:
None

EXHIBITING ARTISTS:

Cecilia DelGaudio
Howard Rotblat-Walker
Bob Dilworth
Katie Kinnell
Tracy Weisman
Margaret Walsh
Barbara Crane

Members Transferred their Status to Exhibiting Artist Membership:
Toni Bertoncini Dumville
Mary Ann Rossoni
Nancy Driggs
Bee Givan
Nancy Springett

In closing, I'd like to thank the members of the committee for their experience and thoughtful participation.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Gaucher-Thomas, Chair
Arts Qualification Committee



BANNISTER COMMUNITY ART PROJECT REPORT
Nancy Gaucher-Thomas, Co-Chair



Steering Committee: Nancy Gaucher-Thomas, Co-Chair / Jennifer Davis Allison, Co-Chair
Claire Andrade-Watkins, Reenie Barrow, Miriam Coleman, Bob Dilworth, Wayne Franklin,
Lorraine Maloney, Jean Patiky, Nancy Springett, Betsy Zimmerman

Advisory Committee: Ray Rickman, Robb Dimmick, Dan Mechnig, Ted Mattis, Gail Ginnetty

This year the Providence Art Club embarked on an exciting new project titled the Bannister Community Art Project that celebrates the life and legacy of one of PAC's founders, Edward Mitchell Bannister. A committee has been formed to assist in the realization and installation of a public art sculpture in honor of Edward Mitchell Bannister.

It is our goal that this project create a broader platform for community engagement, expand the Providence Art Club's vision and mission and engage in public dialog that will encourage critical community partnerships while building and maintaining cross culture relationships. We do this by working with community leaders and organizations in promoting Bannister's historic role through exhibitions, education programming, a call for public art and discussion for a Bannister scholarship.

Famously, Edward Bannister was the first known artist of African ancestry to win a prize in the U.S. — for his pastoral landscape *Under the Oaks* at the Centennial International Exhibition, America's first world's fair, held in Philadelphia, in 1876. Edward Bannister was a dynamic force and founder of the Providence Art Club and helped to transform Providence into a cultural powerhouse.

Edward Mitchell and Christiana Carteaux Bannister created extraordinary institutions of art and culture that endure to this day. Now, an ambitious campaign has begun to create a stunning lifesize sculpture of the renowned Mr. Bannister.

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BANNISTER COMMUNITY ART PROJECT REPORT

Nancy Gaucher-Thomas, Co-Chair

Seated on a public bench with a sketchbook and pencil in hand, Bannister will be seen in front of Market Square overlooking the Providence River, Gage Prentiss, sculptor of the statue remarks “in a moment he lived countless times in his life. There he will welcome visitors to sit beside him and learn about his life, lessons and legacy. I want to help him cast a shadow out in Providence”.

Over \$178,000 has been raised towards the \$200,000 needed for the completion of the sculpture. Public and private donations including a grant by the Papitto Opportunity Connection for \$100,000 have been received. Fundraising continues as programs and exhibits are being planned along with an unveiling celebration in June 2023.

Community outreach and partnerships include: City of Providence - Mayor Jorge Elorza, Tomaquag Museum, Providence Preservation Society, Rhode Island School of Design, John Nicholas Brown Ctr. for Public Humanities, Stages of Freedom, New Urban Arts, Providence Library, TAPA (Trinity Academy for Performing Arts), Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence Athenaeum, Papitto Opportunity Connection, Providence Media, Nellie Gorbea - Secretary of State, Rhode Island Foundation, Providence Warwick Convention & Visitors Bureau, Avenue Concept, NAACP - RI Chapter, Lorne Adrain - Community Leader, New Flavor Media, Ruth Davis Associates.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Gaucher-Thomas, Co-Chair
Bannister Community Art Project Committee



CAFÉ COMMITTEE REPORT

W. Bruce Tillinghast, Chair

Committee Members: Roberta Wexler Ehrlich, Michael Manni, Steve Davenport and Lisa Browning

Staff: Seb Borges and Exec. Chef Drew Yerich

2021-22 was a most interesting year!! Gradually, Café business has returned. The Providence Art Club as a community, celebrating “Camaraderie” has been a comfortable respite for our members as we move out of an era of strict Covid mandates and restrictions.

During the Summer/Fall of 2021, the Café was rebuilding staff both in the front and back of the house. In September, we welcomed Dining Room Manager, Alda Borges, and Executive Chef, Drew Yerich back; along with a number of new food service staff. Kudos for Sous Chef, Scott King, who kept the stoves sizzling in Chef Drew’s absence! We are witnessing member requests for more plant-based selections and the kitchen has responded – try the delicious new Black Bean Burger.

In an effort to provide a safe and comfortable space for member socializing, donated heaters and firepits allowed the Burleigh Terrace to greatly extend its use. We anticipate this will continue to expand the Club’s dining options.

Last Fall, we witnessed the return of private functions. A brief surge of Omicron saw a drop in Café business during December, January and February – normally quiet months, but beginning in April, GM Seb Borges has seen bookings increase. The recent inflation has impacted our food and beverage expenses, and the Café Committee has monitored our menu pricing with several small increases. Despite this, thankfully it appears as if the Café will end this fiscal year (April 30, 2022) with a small profit.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Bruce Tillinghast, Chair
Café Committee



COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Nancy Whipple Grinnell, Chair

The Collections Committee met in person in May and November 2021 and February 2022. The Committee now consists of Nancy Whipple Grinnell, Chair, Patrick Anthony Caffrey, Claudia Iannuccilli, Ted Mattis, Alice Miles, Dan Mechnig, Chris Ratcliffe, Jon Small, Alice Tingley, and Charles Wharton.

The focus of the collection chair continued to be inventorying, cataloguing and refining several hundred works of fine art, as well as assessing their importance to the mission. To that end, Nancy Grinnell worked one or two days a week cataloguing, a job that entails examining the work, completing detailed entries in the collections database: assigning accession numbers, ascertaining correct titles, dates, donors and condition, and indicating locations. Committee member Alice Tingley, a framer, has identified and described frames on these works, some of which are original to the piece.

New committee member Claudia Iannuccilli, a textile conservator, has inventoried and cleaned the many sculptures of Florence Brevoort Kane, a bequest from 1957. Under her guidance we have purchased a Miele vacuum with HEPA filter and other supplies very helpful in keeping the art and its surroundings free of grime.

The process of inventorying the collection has resulted in the discovery of many works that variously 1) have never been accessioned and are not of interest to the collection, 2) are in poor condition, particularly some that were stored in the Fleur de Lys basement for years, and 3) are redundant or reproductions, etc. Approximately 30 of these works have been officially de-accessioned this past year, through the professional de-accessioning policy. This involves judgement by the Collections Committee and a vote by the Board.

At our February meeting, committee members determined to offer our de-accessioned work and other work that is not part of the PAC collection to Bruneau's auction site. We will selectively keep a group of potentially valuable objects for a future auction on site. Committee member Patrick Anthony Caffrey, an art historian and appraiser, has assessed many non-accessioned historical prints that have been taking up room, advising on their status.

The issue of art objects stored for many years in the Fleur de Lys basement has been deliberated. Many of these objects, some by important artists, have been retrieved from the basement. Some works had water damage, others had suffered from being in a damp, moldy space for so long. It was agreed that nothing should be stored there in the future.

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COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT [FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

Nancy Whipple Grinnell, Chair

In another matter, there is now a receipt for art work that is dropped off at the club and intended for the collection. Hopefully, this will clarify a potential donor's intentions for art, and provide a timeline so that we are not wondering a few years down the road where something came from.

The Archives have been valuable to the cataloguing process, as the scrapbooks and archival boxes contain checklists of artists' exhibitions, which provide information about some of the works that came into the collection. The Archives are now more accessible as they have been arranged according to standards set forth by the Archives, labeled and stored on shelves in the newly organized Collections storage area.

Committee members Chris Ratcliffe and Ted Mattis organized an exhibition in the Founders Room to commemorate the centennial of artist Angela O'Leary's death in October 1921. The show, comprised of loaned works and words from the PAC collection, opened in October 2021 to an appreciative crowd, which was entertained by an enactment featuring the ghost of Angela O'Leary herself.

During 2021-2022 the Collections Committee gratefully accepted the following works into the collection:

**1) Donor: Richard & Brenda Sisson, by way of neighbor Carol FitzSimonds
(ES was her sponsor)**

Artist: Eileen Shanley, PAC Member, 1989-
Aquidneck Shores, c. 1979
Monoprint, 12 x 21 in.

Artist: Eileen Shanley
Lazing in the Sun, c. 1979
Gouache; 8 x 10 ½ in.

2) Donor: Deb Haug

Artist: Angela O'Leary
Landscape with Road and Fence
Watercolor on paper; 4 ¾ x 3 ½ in.

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COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT [FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

Nancy Whipple Grinnell, Chair

Artist: Angela O’Leary
Woman and Small Child by House
Watercolor on paper; 5 c 4 ¼ in.

Artist: Sydney Burleigh
European Landscape, 1901
Watercolor on paper; 7 ½ x 9 ½ in.

Artist: John Aldrich
Landscape with houses, 1940
Watercolor on paper; 9 ¼ x 13 ¼ in.

3) Donor: Steven Easton, by way of Cathy Bert

Artist: Florence Leif
Peaches in Pink Bowl
Oil on canvas; 16 x 20 in.

4) Donor: Anonymous, by way of Cathy Bert, Art Advisor, Walter S. Feldman Trust for Artwork, Brown University, Walter Feldman project

Artist: Walter Feldman
At the Altar, 1953
Oil on canvas; 41 x 28 in.

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COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT [FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]
Nancy Whipple Grinnell, Chair

5) Donor: Anne Rourke

Artist: Eliza Draper Gardiner
Candy Apples
Color woodblock

6) Donor: Joseph A. Chazan

Gretchen Dow Simpson
Serrians VIII
Oil on linen; 22 x 18 x 1.5

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Whipple Grinnell, Chair
Collections Committee



DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Gail A. Ginnetty, Chair

The Development Committee was formed in late 2019 with the following purpose:

To support the Art Club's mission and assist in ensuring the Club has sufficient funding for its long-term financial sustainability by recognizing and encouraging the long-standing tradition of philanthropy among our members. Assist with the implementation and development of philanthropic opportunities and educate members on how to participate.

Highlights of Past Year Activities

- In addition to accessing the detailed Support pages on our website on how to give, members who might want to consider supporting the Club now have a “rack card” available that summarizes those opportunities. It's located in the lobby along with other Art Club material.
- A member wide mailing was done last summer reminding members about the Spirit of Philanthropy that has been a longstanding tradition at the Club.
- In October the Committee sponsored a Legacy Workshop for the BOM and Committee Chairs. An experienced Planned Giving consultant conducted the program.
- This year's summary report of gifts made to PAC over the past year was sent in a separate newsletter in February. Included were totals for gifts for our endowment, birthday challenge gifts, donations to the mortgage retirement fund and memorial gifts.
- In April the Committee hosted an afternoon tea and art talk to learn about Florence B. Kane, her talents, her life challenges and her generosity to PAC. Our Legacy Society is named in her memory in recognition of her milestone estate gift.
- During the year, the Committee participated in the oversight of the fundraising efforts made on behalf of the Bannister Community Art Project.

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DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT [FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

Gail A. Ginnetty, Chair

Our Committee members offer a posthumous thank you to Joan Boghossian for inspiring us to create the birthday challenge which generated \$7,000 this past year.

The Debt Retirement Fund now has a balance of \$620,000 with the recent addition of \$100,000 made from an internal transfer.

Our endowment at the RI Foundation had a balance of \$188,000 as of March 30th.

Thank you to all members for the many ways you gave your financial support to the Club this past year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail A. Ginnetty, Chair
Development Committee



*The Spirit of
Philanthropy*



EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Scott Simmons, Chair

Members of the Board and Members of the Providence Art Club:

The Education Committee consisted of Carol Beagan, Anne Carty, Roberta Ehrlich, Shawn Kenney, Bill Lane, Michael Manni, Nickerson Miles, Michele Poirier-Mozzone, and Scott Simmons. The committee wishes to thank Abba Cudney for her efforts in contacting instructors, coordinating calendars, publishing course offerings, registering members for classes, and working with the Education Committee to expand PAC's programming. We would not have a viable curriculum without her.

In this 2021 - 2022 season, 821 students were enrolled in 71 classes and 16 workshops and 2 pop-up workshops. Students were charged an averaged \$11 per class.

With the help of the Education Committee, Michael Rose restarted the *PAC Lecture Series* towards the end of 2021. These PAC events have been so successful that the Education Committee has allowed them to spin off from the committee and to be managed by Michael Rose as "Gallery Programming".

Throughout COVID Nickerson Miles and Anne Carty have maintained a program called *PAC-ET*, a travel abroad program. Thanks to their determination PAC-ET remained a functioning concept for the past two years, and by the time of this publication, and with the help of Ron Rosenstock, Anne and Nick would have taken a group of PAC members on its first artists' trip to Ireland.

Nick and Anne have not only worked on an international trip, but are planning a domestic travel program as well. This programming is in its preliminary stages and we're hoping to have our first trip planned for the fall. Nick's "*Around the World Series*", a photographic lecture series, will also be starting up over this summer.

Roberta Ehrlich and Michael Manni, with the help of Bruce Tillinghast have developed a wine tasting workshop. This program will run over a course of three evenings. The goal is to promote this as an ongoing series and as a means to once again have the Club open on the evenings.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Simmons, Chair
Education Committee



Pictured: PAC members on the PAC-ET Ireland Trip



ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

David C. DePetrillo, Chair

The Entertainment Committee is pleased to report that with a lesser impact from COVID and its variants, it was able to present a nearly full calendar. The Committee began its 2021/2022 season by working with the Annual Meeting Planning Committee to provide entertainment on the final evening of a three day celebration. On June 11, 2021 the Committee presented "*Night Beats: PAC's Own Women of Song and Soul*", which featured performances by Angel Dean, Kelly McCullough and Mary Ann Rossoni. A large gathering gave enthusiastic applause to our talented singers, who performed under a large, festively decorated tent, complete with disco ball and smoke machine.

For Members Night on Friday, October 1, 2021, we presented "*A Haunting Portrait: Memories of Angela O'Leary*", in coordination with an exhibit of the artist's works in the Founders Room. The play portrayed an event that happened *exactly* one hundred years ago when Angela O'Leary was found lying near death on the floor of Sydney Burleigh's studio in the Fleur de Lys. Though her tragic suicide was what most members had known about Angela, the aim of the play was to show there was much more to the life story of this gifted artist. The characters included Sydney Burleigh, played by Tom Monahan; John Aldrich, played by Ted Mattis; David Aldrich played by Jasper Mattis; and Angela, played by Kelly McCullough. Seb Borges made a special appearance as himself. A full house gave the actors a standing ovation. The play was preceded by a video interview with Ted Mattis and Cathy Bert about the life and works of Angela O'Leary, produced expertly by Kathy Hodge.

For Members Night, Friday, October 15, 2021, we presented the *PAC Annual Fall Concert: "The Many Faces of Franz Liszt"* with Pianist Ben Nacar. He shared stories about this prolific Hungarian composer's fascinating life and performed selections on our historic Steinway that included *Hungarian Rhapsody no. 12, Funerailles, and Consolations nos. 2 and 3.*

On March 25, 2022, almost two years to the day it was originally scheduled, we were delighted to finally present "*Revelations & Reminisces of Three Forefathers*", which had been delayed by the pandemic. In front of a full house in the Maxwell Mays Gallery, three forefathers of the Providence Art Club reunited for a memorable evening at their beloved Club. George Whitaker, Charles Stetson, and Sydney Burleigh shared fascinating stories, mostly based on their actual writings. Craig Masten, Chris Ratcliffe and Tom Monahan reverently brought these three artist friends back to life. Seb Borges made a special appearance as Brooks Sanderson, the Club's first barman.

For Members Night on Saturday, May 20, 2022, we presented the *PAC Spring Concert: "Katie & The Italians"*. Vocalist Katie Kleyla joined with "*The Italians*", Grammy-nominated pianist Joe Parillo and Jazz Guitarist Gino Rosati, to present an evening of jazz, musical theater and soul. The trio performed American songbook classics, jazz standards, musical theater showstoppers, and unique twists on pop favorites.

Respectfully submitted,

David C. DePetrillo, Chair
Entertainment Committee



FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Charles Wharton, Chair

Committee Membership:

Charles Wharton, Chair
Carl Helmetag, PAC Treasurer and Chair of the Audit Committee
Patti Cerilli, Independent CPA
Susan Aitcheson, Member of the Board of Managers
Frederick Mattis, Chair of the Investment Committee, past Treasurer
Gail Ginnetty, Chair of the Development Committee
David DePetrillo, Past PAC President

Staff:

Seb Borges, PAC General Manager
Nancy Plunkett, Controller [until 04/15/2022]

Purpose:

The Finance Committee is responsible for recommending financial policies and preparing budgets that support the financial integrity of our Club, its mission, and goals. The Finance committee prepares monthly or more often reports measuring the financial performance of the Club against its goals in accordance with the highest standards of accounting. It is responsible for creating the annual budget, oversight of its Audit, and filing of its tax reports.

The Finance Committee is a formal ‘standing committee’ and has two sub committees, the Investment Committee and the Development Committee, that work in stewardship for the Club’s well being and longevity.

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Fiscal Year ending 04/30/2022 has been challenging. We continue to have an operating deficit before extraordinary items, which this year included tax benefits and forgiveness of the second PPP loan. In addition, the Club recognizes as income any donations for the Bannister Project which are Board Restricted for the purpose of erecting a public statue in honor of one of our founders, Edward Mitchell Bannister. After non-cash adjustments, the Club will recognize a substantial profit which we do not expect to be repeated in the future. The Club also has had a strong increase in new membership, which has helped offset the operating deficit. Both the Investment Committee and the Development Committee had strong years in terms of returns and accomplishments.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT [FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

Charles Wharton, Chair

During the last fiscal year, the Club filed updated forms 990 and 990T as recommended by our independent auditor, PKF O'Connor Davies, who also completed our second official audit based on Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. We are currently submitting data for the fiscal year end 04/30/2022 for audit. I am pleased to say that we had a very successful and 'clean' audit, which is available upon request. We also encouraged the Board to fund the Mortgage Reduction Fund based on our strong returns. We were pleased to see a strong capital expense budget for needed repairs and maintenance funded.

In closing, I am sad that Nancy Plunkett has recently left PAC to join the prestigious New York Yacht Club as their full time Controller. Nancy has been integral to the financial success that the Club has achieved during the last four years of her tenure. We all owe her a debt of gratitude for her dedicated work on behalf of the Club in helping us attain the level of professionalism and accountability that we have today. Best of luck in your future Nancy!

I wish to thank all of the members of the committee for their insight and dedication to our wonderful institution, and, of course, to Seb for his unfailing commitment and love of our wonderful Club! I also wish to thank Julia Hubbard of her help in many ways, not the least of which is always being patient, pleasant, and helpful to me.

Respectively submitted,

Charlie Wharton, Chair
Finance Committee



GALLERIES REPORT

Michael Rose, Gallery Manager

The galleries of the Providence Art Club displayed the work of more than 150 artists during the 34 exhibitions of the 2021 - 2022 season. In spite of the significant disruptions brought on by the pandemic, the galleries continued to host exhibitions, online programs, and made significant sales. The galleries have earned Rhode Island Monthly's Best of RI Award for Best Art Gallery in Providence for the last three years for good reason. We continue to distinguish ourselves as one of the premiere venues to experience visual art both in Southern New England and beyond.

In November and December of 2021, the Club hosted the *117th Annual Little Pictures Show & Sale*. The exhibition was a great success, with sales totaling \$171,504. This represents a new record in the history of this important sale and is due in no small part to the enthusiasm of Club members, artists, friends, and volunteers. This year, the Club hosted its first ever Little Pictures Block Parties, which welcomed new visitors with festive camaraderie and encouraged boosted attendance in December.

The pandemic's effects continue to be seen in the world of art and culture, but the Art Club's gallery staff have worked diligently to produce exhibitions and events and welcome the public back into our remarkable galleries. Below are highlights of just a few items we have worked on over the last year.

- The return of **in-person gallery programs** to accompany exhibitions with an average of 3 artists' talks, demos, and lectures each month with about 30 – 50 attendees at each event.
- **PAC Lecture Series** featuring engaging monthly Zoom lectures with well over 1,000 attendees.
- **National Open Juried Exhibition 2021** - juried by Dr. Jamie Gabbarelli of the Art Institute of Chicago.
- Gallery staff supported the **Around The World** photography lecture series.
- **Fall Members Exhibition**, juried for prizes by Sonja Czekalski of Hera Gallery.
- **Class and Instructor Show** – celebrating work made in over 70 classes and workshops.
- **Winter Members' Show**, juried for prizes by gallerist Lucy Fernandez.
- **The Club's Second College Scholarship Exhibition**, juried by Michael Rose, with participants from RISD, Brown, URI, RIC, CCRI, Providence College, and Salve Regina University.
- **Off site long-term exhibition of work at The Preserve** in Richmond, RI.
- **A special online gallery of works created in support of the people of Ukraine.**

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GALLERIES REPORT [FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

Michael Rose, Gallery Manager

Looking forward, in June the Club will host our popular **National Juried Exhibition**, for which we have again secured a wonderful juror: Dr. Claire C. Whitner, Director of Curatorial Affairs and Curator of European Art at the Worcester Art Museum. This summer, we will host an exhibition of **Highlights from the Collection of Dr. Joseph Chazan**, as well as our second **Community Invitational Exhibition**. Alongside these exhibitions the Club's courtyard will play host to the Club's **Second Annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition**, which was juried by sculptor Steve Buduo and had a great response.

The Galleries have been promoted through a variety of free and paid calendar listings in specialty and general interest publications and websites. The Galleries of the Club are also listed on a variety of websites including RISCA, Providence Department of Art, Culture, and Tourism, Art Forum, Channels 10, 12, and 6, as well as visitrhodeisland.com. Paid advertisements for shows have been found in publications like *Artscope*, as well as *Rhode Island Monthly* and *Providence Monthly*.

The Art Club continues to see interest in our exhibitions from media outlets and this season we have earned numerous reviews and features in publications like *The Providence Journal*, *Artscope Magazine*, *Providence Monthly*, *Providence Daily Dose*, and *RI News Today* among others. Gallery staff continue to diligently promote the work of Art Club artists on social media and we have grown our footprint in the digital realm, to the benefit of the Galleries and our exhibitions. Our Facebook now has over 4,300 followers and Instagram boasts over 4,700. We also maintain presences on Twitter and LinkedIn. We have grown this audience by about 2,000 individuals in the last year.

In 2021 the Marketing Committee worked closely with gallery staff to execute a special publicity campaign for *Little Pictures* and Michael appeared on Channel 10 to discuss the show. We also participated in an interview on RI Classical Radio.

I would like to acknowledge the many contributions of those who have supported the Galleries during the last season. First, I cannot say enough about my dedicated coworkers in the Art Department. Brianna Turner, who has served the Club for nearly seven years is a cheerful and reliable colleague who can always be counted on to provide expert support to members and guests alike. Caterina Maina has now been on staff full time for a year and brings a wonderful energy and enthusiasm to everything she does. She is a talented emerging art professional. Abba Cudney, who is nearing her six year anniversary with the Club, has excelled in serving the galleries as well as in her newer role as Education Coordinator. Sadly, Abba will be leaving the Club at the end of the summer to move home to Chicago. We will all miss her very dearly, both as a colleague and a friend.

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GALLERIES REPORT [FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

Michael Rose, Gallery Manager

These trusted colleagues have made it possible for us to change, expand, and improve our gallery programming. We are fortunate to have such talented staff members in the galleries.

The continued success of our galleries would not be possible without the ongoing support and collaboration of our volunteers, artists, patrons, and other PAC staff. I would like to thank all the members of the Art Committee for their guidance and advice as well as to numerous other volunteers for the time and effort that they invest in supporting the mission of the Club and helping the Galleries to enjoy continued success. I would also like to thank all of the artist members for their dedication and acknowledge the high level of quality works seen in each exhibition.

In addition, I would like to thank all of my fellow staff for their continued support and help with gallery operations, in particular Seb, Julia, Rhea, Rui and Maria. These staff members help us to stay organized and to keep the galleries looking beautiful. Their support and professionalism is always appreciated.

In closing I would also like to thank our Board of Managers for all of their contributions to the Club and its galleries as well as their continued enthusiasm and support.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Rose
Gallery Manager



GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Susan Aitcheson, Chair; Caroline Reed, Vice-Chair

It was, and continues to be, a positive and productive year! With support from our Board of Managers and our members, Governance has been working hard to ensure that unwritten traditions and practices that developed over 140 years are documented as we grow into the future.

The Governance Committee is charged in the Constitution with assisting the Board of Managers in developing and implementing policies and processes for effective and efficient governance, as well as performing other duties as designated by the Board. Additionally, a Nominating Subcommittee of Governance assists Governance to identify suitable candidates to serve as Managers and Officers.

Accomplishments this year:

- Recommended that the Finance Committee review and update check signing authorities and routines. Finance created a new standard with new signature authority.
- Online access to minutes and reports for all committees created on Google Drive. Uploading authority is limited to Member Services, although Club members may view, download, and print documents.
- Guidelines for Committee minutes and submission dates for Board Meetings were distributed to all Committees. Receipt of these documents, in a more standard format, has greatly improved.
- Encouraged by our Vice President (and member of Governance), a new Board meeting agenda format was adopted. Meeting materials are now in a single, paginated, PDF document, and items requiring a vote are labeled.
- PAC's Conflict of Interest Policy and our Disclosure documents were updated.
- Rules and Bylaws for the 2021 - 2022 Year Book were updated.
- PAC's 501(c)(3) status provided us with the opportunity to encourage more community inclusion and outreach.

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GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE [FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

Susan Aitcheson, Chair; Caroline Reed, Vice-Chair

- COVID Guidelines and follow-up instructions for possible exposures were created and adopted.
- For the third consecutive year, guidance was provided to the Nominating Committee as they completed their responsibilities, including recommending PAC members for future Board vacancies, and a slate of Offices for the upcoming year. The Board itself reviews and approves each step of the Committee's multi-month deliberations. Nominating is made up of one member of the current BOM, and two non-Manager PAC members – one Artist, and one Patron.
- For the third consecutive year, routines and documents for a virtual Annual Meeting - including voting on dues, a slate of Managers, and other matters as may be considered - is being provided using the processes developed by Governance. Virtual Annual Meetings and electronic voting for the business portion of the Meeting has resulted in much greater participation by PAC members.
- Governance is now tasked pursuing options for training and consultation with regard to the creation of a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion practice for the PAC.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Aitcheson and Caroline Reed, Co-Chairs
Governance Committee



HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

Tom Monahan, Chair

We're ba-ack...

After poking along in low gear during most of the pandemic our committee has resumed our normal pace, and then some. Here are some of our current areas of focus...

Decorating the Club

We're sure you've seen Winter holiday decorating bring color and spirit to our most active rooms; from the lobby and the dining rooms, to Angell's Lane and the restrooms. Beyond that our committee has started doing seasonal decorating in high-visibility areas during the Spring and Autumn. New team member, Patti Wagner-Miller, brings vast experience and expertise to that initiative.

New Lamps in Café

Alda has often been an extension of our committee. After a few false starts replacing the lamps in the upper cafe area, our resourceful Dining Room Manager found a very appropriate and economical short-term solution that takes the heat off replacing the old lamps, which were in disrepair.

Exploring Improvements to Angell's Lane

President Shawn Kenney has challenged our committee to improve the bar and the seating arrangements/capacity in Angell's Lane. We are in the early planning stages, but are excited to bring our team's creativity and energy to this project.

Acknowledgements

I'd like to thank our amazing House committee for their time, dedication, resourcefulness; Audrey Monahan - former chair, Patti Wagner-Miller, Linda McDermott and Karen Rand Anderson.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Monahan, Chair
House Committee



INVESTMENT FUND REPORT

Frederick Mattis, Chair

The Providence Art Club’s overall investment portfolio consists of Board designated funds of approximately \$2,480,000 and the temporarily restricted “Mortgage Reduction Fund”, currently at over \$600,000. For the fiscal year ending April 30, 2022, the investment accounts had a combined market value of \$3,084,764. Last year, at the end of April 2021, the accounts combined value stood at \$2,982,808. Currently, cash and cash equivalents stand at 19%, and equity holdings represent 81% of the total accounts value. These assets are held, as they have been for many years, with the investment firm Brown, Lisle & Cummings.

During the fiscal year the Board authorized a transfer, from operations, of \$100,000 to the Mortgage Reduction Fund, bringing that account to over 60% of the targeted \$990,000 goal.

After backing out the \$100,000 transfer, performance was virtually flat for the time period. The combined accounts saw a net total return of \$1,956 for the fiscal year. Fees paid to Brown, Lisle & Cummings totaled \$5 for the year. For the same period, the S&P 500 index saw a roughly 1% negative return.

The Committee typically meets quarterly and reviews and monitors the portfolio on an ongoing basis.

Respectfully submitted,

James Kavney
Peter Lisle
John Marginson
Frederick Mattis, Chair
Ruth Mullen
Charles Wharton



MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Elise Fagnoli, Chair

Annual Meeting (3 Days of Events)

Trunk Show (Noon-2 p.m.), June 2021: Under the theme of “Step into the Summer,” the committee staged a show of fashions in a casual, outdoor setting to encourage members and guests to socialize and shop in the courtyard and a tent erected for a series of other Club events surrounding the Annual Meeting.

Little Pictures 2021, November-December 2021

Media strategy: Our committee worked with the PMC Media Group to develop a media strategy that would promote Little Pictures on radio, TV, and social media. The campaign focused on such key primetime programs as NBC 10 Sunrise News @ 6am, The Today Show, the Weekend Sunrise News & Dateline NBC News to generate public interest to the show—complementing the Club staff’s own promotional activities and resulting in impressive sales during the show’s duration. PMC also secured six bonus spots at no additional cost.

Block Party, December 4 and 19, 2021

Many members of the Club were instrumental in coordinating and marketing the first ever Block Party. The event goals were to improve public engagement, tours of the buildings, meet the artists in their studios and galleries, back courtyard enjoyment, food trucks, along with marketing and selling more art! Continuous outreach through social media and artists participation were very successful.

Public Engagement

The PAC Board of Managers currently is discussing transitioning the Marketing & Communications Committee to encompass more of a “public engagement” function now that the Club has hired Rheanna Diehl to the staff full time to manage marketing/communication, closely coordinating her activities with other key staff members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elise Fagnoli, Chair
Lorraine Hynes, Vice-Chair
Marketing & Communications Committee



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Joan McConaghy, Chair

The objective of the Membership Committee is two-fold: to encourage interest, participation and enthusiasm amongst members, and to increase overall memberships.

We welcomed a record number of **63** new members. It is my pleasure to report the membership numbers this past year total to **648** members. Our membership is robust and thriving, with a steady stream of new applicants.

Our committee meets monthly in-person, and at times, via Zoom. Some of the outcomes this year include:

Planning and Hosting Events: We began with a *Welcome New Members* cocktail party held in the courtyard late summer. Our annual Madness Party called *Moonshine Madness* took place in October. Both of these events were well-attended and enjoyed by all.

Projects: Led by Birch Coffey and with the help of our Graphic Designer (retired) Kathy Hodge DeVault and Rheanna Diehl, we were able to publish a *Studio Tips Handbook*. The idea was to create and produce a studio handbook with tips submitted by art makers at the Club. This handbook spun off the success of the PAC Cookbook and will be helpful to our art-making members, and will make a wonderful gift!

2022/23 Calendar: Stay tuned for another *Madness Party* date and theme to be determined, a sequel called *Studio Tips 2 Handbook*, and a **creative activity event for patrons** (no artists allowed) to engage in creating art in a non-judgmental environment where they may invite potential members to join.

Lately, we have encountered more and more individuals who are new to Rhode Island and interested in joining the Club, but who don't know any members for the two-year requirement. There is a vetting process available for those who do not have any sponsors. This year committee members have vetted dozens of such members.

We encourage ALL members to consider proposing a friend, colleague, or family member for membership. The process to propose a new member is simple. The proposer requests an application from Membership Services. All details, including membership fees, may be found in the brochure that is available in the lobby or on the website under the membership link. Please feel free to contact anyone on the committee if you have any questions or concerns regarding the membership or the application process.

In closing, I would like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the committee, Judy Vilmain, Vice-Chair, Kate Chute, Birch Coffey, Tripp Evans, Paige McGrattan, Suzanne Reeves, Dawn Robertson, and Kathleen Tirrell. Thanks to our General Manager, Seb Borges and a special shout out to Julia Hubbard for all her hard work and attention to detail; she is a crucial component to this committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan McConaghy
Membership Committee, Chair



NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Carol FitzSimonds, Chair

The Nominating Committee is pleased to Nominate the following individuals as directed by Article III Section 3.03 and Article VI Section 6.06(c) of the Constitution and Charter of the Providence Art Club.

For 3 year terms to the Board of Managers expiring in 2024:

Susan Aitcheson (AR 2013)
W. Bruce Tillinghast (AR 1983)
Carl Helmetag (PA 2011)
Charles H. Wharton (AR 1998)

The Nominating Committee submits the following members for Officers of the Board of Managers for a one-year term ending in 2023:

President – Shawn Kenney (AR 2005)
Vice President – Lorraine Hynes (AR 2015)
Secretary – Judy Vilmain (AR 2006)
Treasurer – Carl Helmetag (PA 2011)
Assistant Treasurer/Secretary – Susan Aitcheson (AR 2013)

Respectfully submitted – 2022 Nominating Committee:

Carol S. FitzSimonds AR - Chair
Bruce Tillinghast AR – Ex Officio 2021
Susan Aitcheson AR – Ex Officio 2020
Leslie Gernt – PA
Scott Simmons - AR

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BIOS – NOMINEES AND BOARD MEMBERS WITH NEW TERMS

SUSAN AITCHESON

- PAC Member since 2013, Exhibiting Artist Member since 2017
- 3 years on BOM, nominated for 3 year term. Nominee for Assistant Treasurer & Secretary for 1 year.
- Serves on Nominating, Finance, Audit, & Governance Committees.
- Retired Architect, Professional Artist, Art Instructor, one of the Founders & Past Presidents of Women's Development Corporation of Providence (1979) and Manager of a Nonprofit Real Estate business for 36 years.
- Spends her free time hiking and painting in oil, pastel, and watercolor. Seated on the board of Directors for the Women's Center of RI and the Warwick Center for the Arts.
- Serves on the committees for the Historic District, Community Building Renovation, and Affordable Housing of East Greenwich.

CARL HELMETAG

- PAC Patron Member since 2011
- 3 years on BOM, Treasurer for 1 year (2021). Nominee for Treasurer 1 year.
- Serves on the Finance Committee.
- BA University of Wisconsin, MBA Wharton School – U Penn. CEO Skis Dynastar Inc., CEO HEAD Sports, CEO UVEX Sports, Director Espey Mfg and Electronics – Chair Compensation Committee and Audit Committee, CEO Search Committee.
- In his free time, he collects paintings by American Women Impressionists.
- On the Board of Trustees of Newport Art Museum and served as Treasurer and first Vice President.

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BIOS – NOMINEES AND BOARD MEMBERS WITH NEW TERMS [FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

W. BRUCE TILLINGHAST

- PAC Exhibiting Artist Member since 1983
- 3.5 years served on BOM, and past-chair of the 2021 Nominating Committee.
- Serves as current Chair of the Café Committee.
- BFA RISD, Executive Chef of BayBanks for 10 years and former Chef & Owner of New Rivers Restaurant for 22 years.
- Served on the Board of Trustees as the Vice-President for the Old Slater Mill Association, the Board of Directors for Farm Fresh RI, the Board of Preservation Society of Pawtucket as President from 1979-1984, and the Tillinghast Society, Inc. as the current President since 2015.

CHARLES H. WHARTON

- PAC Member since 1998, Exhibiting Artist Member since 2019
- 5 years served on BOM, Previously served on the Executive, Development, and Governance Committees.
- Serves as current Chair of the Finance Committee. Also serves on PAC Collections Committee and the Investment Committee.
- BA University of Rhode Island, Professional Certification from U Penn Wharton School. Worked in the investment business for 53 years before becoming the Senior Vice-President/ Senior Consultant at Bank of America/Merrill Lynch.
- Has an extensive history of community service, including: The Education Fund (Founder 1987, Chairman 1987-1992), The Haitian Project (Founder 1986, President 1986-1993, Consultant since 1998), the URI Foundation, the Catholic Diocese of Providence, and Trustee of the Saint Joseph Church in Providence.
- Has a strong interest in Art, with 15 years of serious study under various PAC teachers: Harley Bartlett, Dora Atwater Millikin, Kevin Gilmore, Craig Masten and others.



PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

Clark Schoettle, Chair

The Property Committee is responsible for all capital improvements including the buildings, infrastructure and grounds. It seeks to incorporate functionality without sacrificing the Club's historic character. It oversees the maintenance, rehabilitation and historic preservation of the interiors and exteriors of the Fleur de Lys Studios, Deacon Taylor Studios, Seril Dodge House and additions; the design and construction of new buildings and additions; the design and location of signage; the installation, repair and replacement of mechanical equipment; and maintenance and improvement of landscape areas and parking lots.

Capital improvement expenses are supported by the PAC Preservation Assessment and a portion of the rental income from the Fleur de Lys and Deacon Taylor Studios. During the 2021-22 fiscal year we completed four significant projects totaling approximately **\$75,000**, including the following:

- 1) Replacement of the HVAC units in the 2nd and 3rd floor of the Dodge House.
- 2) Installation of new HVAC system in the 3rd floor of the Deacon Taylor Studios.
- 3) Replacement of the central boilers and hot water heaters that service the brick Club House, Seril Dodge House and the Kitchen.
- 4) Replacement of the roof on the Seril Dodge Houses and repairs to the EPDM flat roofs on the brick Club House and under the deck, off the Classroom.

This report is respectfully submitted by:

Clark Schoettle, Chair
Property Committee



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Judy Vilmain, Secretary

STATISTICS as of April 30, 2022

Artists	334
Patrons	314
Life Members	44
Total Membership	648 (434 women; 214 men)

April 30, 2021: 609 (402 women; 214 men)
April 30, 2020: 617 (408 women; 209 men)
April 30, 2019: 606 (402 women; 204 men)
April 30, 2018: 608 (400 women; 208 men)
April 30, 2017: 614 (395 women; 219 men)

April 30, 2016: 606 (374 women; 232 men)
April 30, 2015: 617 (375 women; 242 men)
April 30, 2014: 625 (382 women; 243 men)
April 30, 2013: 604 (367 women; 237 men)
April 30, 2012: 607 (366 women; 241 men)

NECROLOGY (10)

Ms. Sally Ann Martone

Exhibiting Artist Member 2001
On August 7, 2021

Ms. Joan Thompson Boghossian

Exhibiting Artist Member 1982
On September 7, 2021

Dr. Louis A. Corvese

Patron Member 1989
On October 16, 2021

Mrs. Loretta McKittrick

President's List Member 1988
On November 10, 2021

Mr. William M. Barnum

Exhibiting Artist Member 1997
On November 11, 2021

Mrs. Ann Daum

Exhibiting Artist Member 1998
On November 19, 2021

Ms. Coline S. Covington

President's List Member 1994
On December 1, 2021

Mr. John Clark Wheatley

Exhibiting Artist Member 2001
On December 25, 2021

Mr. Preston A. Atwood

Patron Life Member 1970
On December 27, 2021

Ms. Domine Vescera Ragosta

Exhibiting Artist Member 1997
On February 25, 2022

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SECRETARY'S REPORT [FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

Judy Vilmain, Secretary

63 NEW & REINSTATED MEMBERS

May 2021 – April 2022

42 PATRONS

Lisa Browning
Michael Glucksman
Geraldine Christ Cooper
Karin Conopask
Laurel Davis Huber
Vanessa Weiner
Louise Wechsler
Gregory Todd
Mark Swerdlow
Brenda Brock
Mindy Wachtenheim (reinstatement)
Andrew Tyska
Carolyn Roberts
O'Neil Outar
Anne Keigher
Karen Brooks
Jason Macari
Gerri C. Bain (reinstatement)
Ronda Cilento
Judith Brott
Judi D. Braman
Eve Dake Bayer
MeLani Liuzza
Chelsea Howerton-McWillie
Kristen Adamo
Jeffrey Williams
Willa Perlman
Allison Gaines Pell
Barbara Link
Deborah Drinker
Charles Roberts
Sandra Deitch

Sarah Verardo
Nancy Cassidy
Stephen Foley
Kate Bryant Nordstrom
Ruth Bourns
Carol Beck
Ann Hagan Webb
Keith Michael Ratcliffe
Danny Bullock
Karen Baker

9 EXHIBITING ARTISTS

Howard Rotblat-Walker
Cecilia DelGaudio
Bob Dilworth
Jill Tyler
Patricia Schneider
Katie Kinnell
Tracy Weisman
Margaret Walsh
Barbara Crane

12 ARTS PROFESSIONALS

Jillian Lauren Kelshaw
Lianne Bythewood
R. Tripp Evans
Sarah Ganz Blythe
Kelly Brown
David Andreozzi
Lela Barclay de Tolly
Cindi Emery
Claire Andrade-Watkins
Pamela Lambert
Catherine Bert (reinstatement)
Tenley van der Wal

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SECRETARY'S REPORT [FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

Judy Vilmain, Secretary

**5 Members Transferred their Status
to Exhibiting Artist Membership:**

Nancy Springett
Bee Givan
Nancy Driggs
Mary Ann Rossoni
Toni Bertoncini Dumville

PAST PRESIDENTS

Harley Bartlett
Anthony Carcieri
David DePetrillo
Robert Emlen

Daniel Mechnig
Alice Miles
Thomas Reilly
Robert Venditto
Nancy Gaucher Thomas

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Suzanne Dickson Albert
Linda Dewing
Janice Gaudreau
Philip Lieberman
Nancy Whitcomb



TREASURER'S REPORT

Carl Helmetag, Treasurer

The Art Club's fiscal year ending April 30, 2022 reflected improved operating results as our members emerged from COVID and embraced the wonderful art, dining and classes that the Club offers. Let's look at the past year.

Your Board of Managers approved a 2022 budget with an operating loss of \$145,000. This budget factored in increased use of the Club by its members, but also considered that larger gatherings such as weddings would be quite limited due to the lingering impact of COVID variants. I am pleased to report that the Club's operating performance was significantly better than budgeted with an operational loss of \$10,000. This improvement was primarily driven by strong membership gains that resulted in initiation fees and dues both being ahead of budget. Additionally, while party income was, as expected, quite modest, member use of the Café was ahead of budget and our food cost ratio was favorable.

As noted in my previous report, the Club separates its financial statements into operating (day to day operations) and non-operating items such as depreciation, investment gains and grants. In non-operating items the Club received forgiveness for its second PPP loan. The forgiveness of this \$209,400 loan as well as the strong performance of our investment portfolio helped strengthen our balance sheet.

We utilized our strong cash position to invest more than \$125,000 in improvements to the Club's facilities. These included a new tankless hot water system, new HVAC units in most areas of the Club and significant roof repairs. Additionally, I am pleased to announce that we added \$100,000 to our debt reduction fund. This fund, which now stands at more than \$600,000, will be used to repay a \$1million balloon payment that will be due in 2028. It's wonderful to be more than halfway to that goal!

The above being said, the Club faces financial challenges in the year ahead. We, like other businesses, are experiencing dramatic inflationary increases in utility, operating and food costs. Additionally, we will see increased compensation costs to retain our amazing staff. These are not only in direct compensation but, for example, the much-needed addition of a retirement program. In consideration of the exceptional cost pressures the Club faces, the Board of Managers is recommending a 5% increase in the monthly dues to help defray these expenses. With an increase of \$4.50 per month for artist and \$6.00 for patron members, this increase will generate \$30,000 of additional income to support operations.

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TREASURER'S REPORT [FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

Carl Helmetag, Treasurer

Your Club continues to be in a strong financial position. The Board of Managers, in concert with the Finance and Investment committees, has made the necessary decisions to get us to this place. As always though, it is our employees that make the Art Club such a special place. Each does an exceptional job.

In closing I would like to acknowledge our controller, Nancy Plunkett. She recently departed for another opportunity, but deserves special thanks for the work she did in providing accurate and timely financial statements, securing grants such as the PPP loan and generally being a steady hand on the financial rudder of the Providence Art Club.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Helmetag, Treasurer



CLOSING REMARKS

Shawn Kenney, President

Dear Members,

As we enter our 142nd year, I'm honored and proud to be a part of an amazing legacy of stewardship – this caretaking of, in the words of Charles Walter Stetson (when describing our founding to the Providence Evening Press in 1880), “a Club...composed not only of artists and amateurs, but art-lovers...to interest people not only in our own work, but more fully in art itself.”

I've been tremendously fortunate that, during my tenure on the Board of Managers, I've had the pleasure to serve alongside so many PAC Presidents – including Tom Reilly, Robert Venditto, Alice Miles, Harley Bartlett, Dan Mechnig, David DePetrillo, and Nancy Gaucher-Thomas – as well as to be able to call on the counsel of those I didn't serve with directly – Rob Emlen and Anthony Carcieri. Their generosity and love of this institution, along with the tutelage of so many fellow Board members, are reminders not only of how many extraordinary individuals have served as stewards of our beloved Club, but also of the obligation to pay it forward – to preserve this institutional knowledge for future generations of caretakers.

A little background here to help frame the next few paragraphs, as we speak about what's next for the Club –

During the week, I'm up the road at Hasbro, where I work on MARVEL entertainment. It might surprise you to know how much these institutions have in common. Spider-Man turned 60 this year and is at the height of his global popularity - yet the kids he charmed back in the early 60s would easily recognize him now – even as his adversaries, environment, and technology have changed to reflect the decades. It's the core – a compelling, relatable story that resonates with people generation after generation.

The Club is in a similarly enviable position – 140 years strong, our unique mix of art and history and camaraderie never fails to charm. Our founders could not have foreseen our state-of-the-art kitchen, online sales, or ZOOM programming – the transcontinental railroad had only been completed a decade beforehand, so they (unfortunately) certainly couldn't've foreseen the need for parking – but they would also no doubt see these as true to their original mission.

(Continued Next Page)



CLOSING REMARKS [FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

Shawn Kenney, President

Our Creative Capital city has emerged from the pandemic bustling with cultural upstarts – from culinary pop-ups to artistic collaborations. A new generation contributing to the cultural fabric by starting distilleries and speakeasies and galleries and plant-based eateries as a reflection of their needs, and of this time.

It's well worth remembering that we were an original incubator, started in 1880 by 16 younger artists and patrons to promote artists, conversation, and sales. It's also worth asking how we can more accurately reflect the times – the diversity of views and experiences and individuals on College Hill and beyond – without losing sight of the values that make the Club so special.

I've brought some of my Hasbro learnings – including how to best understand and serve your consumers, as well as a blueprint that serves as a compass for an organization's values – making sure that we are all working toward a common mission, while allowing for individual approaches and contributions. The BOM adapted this practice, and aligned on 3 key pillars to serve as guides as we all collectively work to both preserve our legacy and grow into the future:

1. Expand the Art Club Experience
2. Promote Art & Patronage
3. Sustainability

It's a way (as we look for more opportunities to extend the visibility of our Club and artists, to engage a younger and more diverse audience, and to forge strategic partnerships) to remain true to that original vision – and to safeguard the values of our Club.

My friend and mentor Tom Sgouros (PAC Medal recipient, AR 1965-2012, including 21 years teaching the Tuesday night “Duffers’ Class”) was both my introduction to the Club and to (along with the myriad of RISD students he mentored) the idea that art history isn't a static recitation of the past – that, much like the Force, art is something that connects and binds us to generation after generation of artists. (Speaking during a slide lecture,) “These men & women were no different than you and I here today in front of our easels – and if we went back in time, you'd share the same joys and struggles with them over a glass of wine.” I'm certain that, if we were all to travel back to February 19th, 1880 to raise a glass to our health and collective future, our 16 founders – and subsequent generations – would be proud.

(Continued Next Page)



CLOSING REMARKS [FROM PREVIOUS PAGE]

Shawn Kenney, President

We are excited at even just the possibilities, and welcome your ideas, thoughts and involvement. Feel free to reach out to one of your BOM members, or to email me at **president@providenceartclub.org**.

...as our good friend Tom Sgouros would've said, "For God's sake, take care of yourselves!"

Shawn Kenney,
48th President, Providence Art Club



BOM STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT
OCTOBER 2021

BOM STRATEGIC VISION



MY FIRST 90:

- LOOK, LISTEN, LEARN
- MEET W/BOM, STAFF & COMMITTEES
- PARSE/CONVEY RESULTS

BOM ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES:

- ALIGN ON VISION/GOALS (PICK 3 BIG ONES)
- CONVEY TO STAFF & COMMITTEES
- HELP DEFINE SWIM LANES
- EMPOWER & PROVIDE SUPPORT

*****BENEFIT: EFFICIENCY, VISIBILITY, STANDARDS*****

COMMITTEE/STAFF ROLES & RESPONSIBILITY:

- COORDINATE STRATEGY BASED ON VISION
- PRODUCTIVE COLLABORATION
- PROVIDE FEEDBACK, ID ROADBLOCKS

BOM, COMMITTEE, STAFF RESPONSIBILITY:

- GET STUFF DONE!!
- HAVE FUN!!!



STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

BIG 3 GOALS:

• EXPAND THE PAC EXPERIENCE

- ENGAGE & DIVERSIFY BEYOND OUR MEMBERS
- COLLABORATIONS & STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS
- SUCCESS REDEFINED = ENJOY NOW, JOIN LATER.

• PROMOTE ART & PATRONAGE

- NEW WAYS TO ATTRACT & ENGAGE BUYERS
- AMPLIFY ONLINE PRESENCE & CAPABILITIES
- REVISIT “MARKETING”

• SUSTAINABILITY

- FINANCIAL STABILITY
- INCREASED DEVELOPMENT/LEGACY GIVING
- AWARENESS OF PAC’S HISTORIC PLACE IN PVD

~LET’S GET STUFF DONE & HAVE FUN~



PAC SWOT ANALYSIS

(STRATEGIC PLANNING TOOL - DON'T BE SCARED)

HOW DO WE EVALUATE THE NEEDS OF THE CLUB?

HOW DO WE IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET THESE ?

HOW DO WE PROGRAM AND MARKET TO ACCOMPLISH?



PAC SWOT ANALYSIS

(STRATEGIC PLANNING TOOL - DON'T BE SCARED)



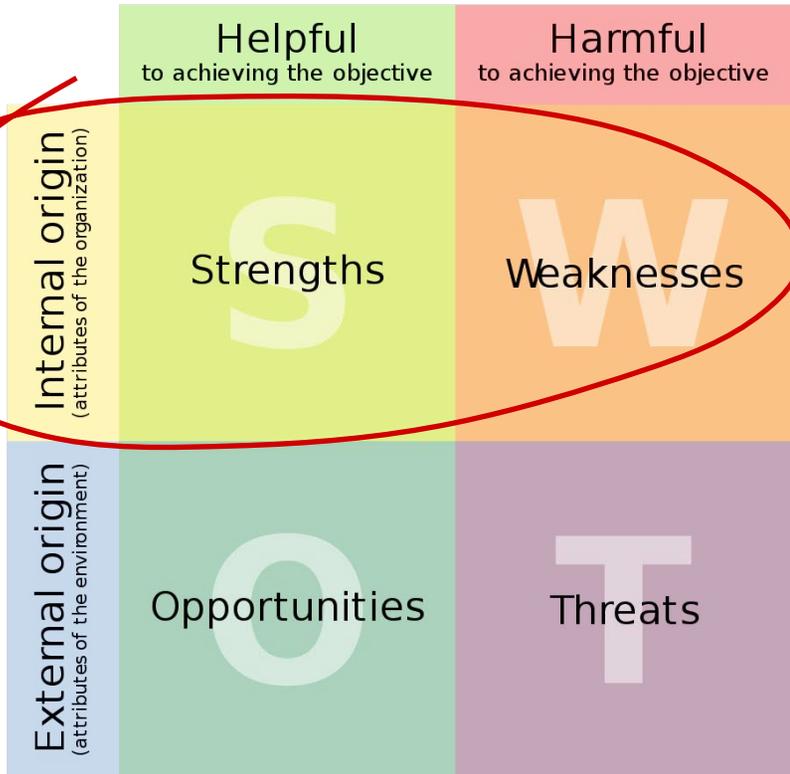
INTERNAL FACTORS

STRENGTHS:

- THE ORIGINAL INCUBATOR
- AUTHENTIC HISTORICAL PEDIGREE
- PRIME LOCATION, UNIQUE FACILITIES
- STAFF - COMMITTED, LOW TURNOVER
- PROGRAMMING, EDUCATION OPPS
- VIBRANT CLUB CULTURE
- DEDICATED MEMBERSHIP
- PASSIONATE VOLUNTEERS
- FINANCES NEVER BETTER

WEAKNESSES:

- COST OF MEMBERSHIP
- AGE & DEMOGRAPHICS
- LACK OF SPACE FOR GROWTH (SHOWS, STUDIOS)
- IDENTITY - 501(C)(3) v 501(C)(7)
- VICTIMS OF SUCCESS; ONCE-CLEAR
STAFF & COMMITTEE ROLES MUDDIED
- TOO MANY MEETINGS, NOT ENOUGH
VISIBILITY OR COLLABORATION
- CULTURAL RESISTANCE IE
“THAT’S NEVER BEEN DONE BEFORE”
“THAT’S NOT HOW THINGS ARE DONE”
- LACK OF FULLTIME SOCIAL MED. & MARKETING



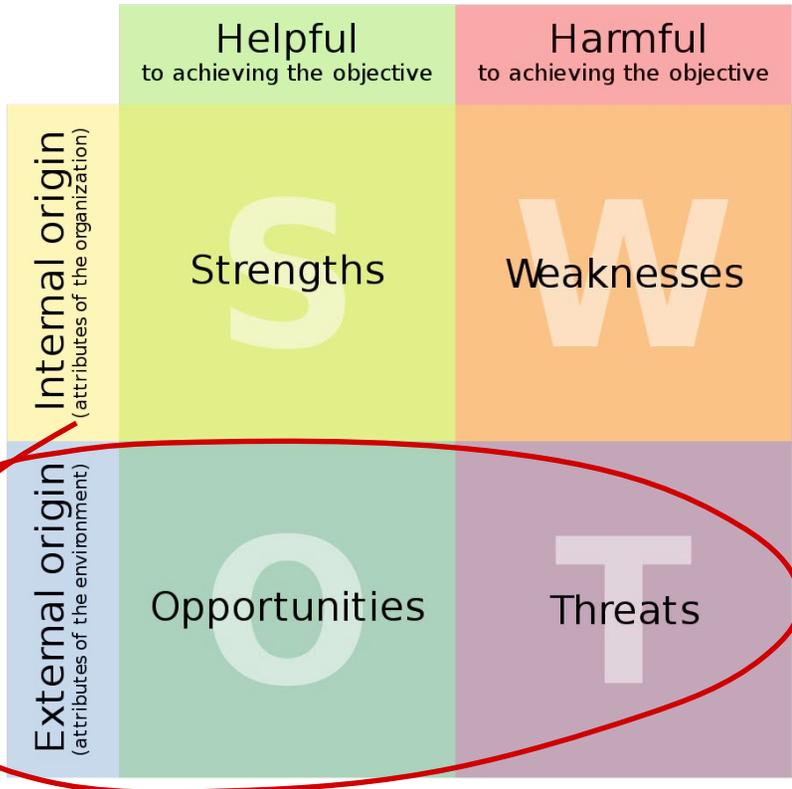
EXTERNAL FACTORS

OPPORTUNITIES:

- THE CREATIVE CAPITAL
- 300,000+ MILLENNIALS IN RI
- INFLUENCER TOURISM
- MULTITUDE OF POTENTIAL PARTNERS
(EAST SIDE, PVD, STATEWIDE)
- MULTIPLICITY OF SUCCESSFUL MODELS
(FOR COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS,
ONLINE SALES, SOCIAL MEDIA)

THREATS:

- PERCEPTION: STUFFY PRIVATE CLUB
- PERCEPTION: OVERLY TRADITIONAL ART
- PERCEPTION: AGE & DEMOGRAPHIC
- INTIMIDATING (GREEN DOOR)
- OTHER ORGS FILL THE VOID:
JAMESTOWN, WATERFIRE, AS220, ETC.





~LET'S GET STUFF DONE & HAVE FUN~

ANNUAL MEETING CELEBRATION

2022



“For God’s sake, take care of yourselves!”

“Strawberry Times” by Lorraine Hynes