

# Art Spots

Watch for photos of the **60th Anniversary Celebration & Fundraiser** in the December issue of *Minnesota Monthly* magazine!

Welcome to our new instructors this session! **Nicola Demonte** (Creative Tools for Caregivers, smART: Apps for Art), **Susan Dickman** (Weave a Waxed Linen Treasure), **Donna Rice** (Experimental Glass Fusing), **Steve Leeman** (Stone Carving) and **Laurie McNeil** (Palm Frond Bird Carving). Please check out their biographies on page 18 and sign up for their exciting new classes.

Through December 15, we are pleased to offer **two student art exhibits**. Ellen Richman's students are exhibiting paintings from the **Abstract Painting** class in the Café, front entry and studio hallway (back of the art wall). In addition, there are botanical drawings and paintings by the students of Suzanne Galloway's **Contemporary Botanicals I, II** and **Botanical Drawings** classes exhibited in the Henrietta Murphy room. These provide exhibition experience for our students and an opportunity for visitors to witness the exciting talent and products of the classes offered here.



A time-lapsed video of **Mark Balma** creating the *We the People* fresco, produced by **Matt Hoy**, is featured on the center's Facebook page ([facebook.com/artcentered](https://facebook.com/artcentered)) and at YouTube (<http://youtu.be/rQjXchV8dNE>). You'll be able to see the entire fresco creation process into a very entertaining 3.5 minutes!

Three of our artists are featured in *100 Artists of the Midwest* by E. Ashley Rooney, a 224-page coffee table book published this summer (Schiffer Publishing Ltd.). The artists featured – **Heidi Hoy** (sculptor), **Allison Luedtke** (three-dimensional artist) and **Richards Poey**

(sculptor) – will be on hand for a book signing at the Arts of the Holidays opening.

**Bette Hammel** (author) and **Karen Melville** (photographer) take us into 28 distinctive homes in *Legendary Homes of the Minneapolis Lakes*. Published this month by Minnesota Historical Society Press, the large 224-page book answers the question of “I wonder what it's like in there?” Signed copies of the book will be available at the Arts of the Holidays sale.



On October 12, more than 90 students swelled the population of the Art Center for the **Western Suburban High School Art Day**. Groups coming from Hopkins, Mound/Westonka and Wayzata High Schools spent an art-immersed day drawing figures, action painting, relief printmaking, sculpting in mixed media and learning raku- and soda-firing in ceramics. For some it was a unique experience to work with these materials. For all it was a creative break from the usual academic routine.



The frightfully adorable tots from **Creative Kids Academy** next door came trick or treating on Halloween this year. They stole our hearts and made our day!

**Nancy Haskin** has joined the board of directors as the newest member. Her position was approved in September, with her term beginning with the board meeting on November 28. First introduced to the Art

successful careers of their own, showing in prominent galleries and completing public art pieces. It's an impressive list: Allison Luedtke, Dick Poey, Tom Zahn, Greg Convoy, Jim Gabbert, John Currie and more. “I am really proud of that,” says Hoy, “and I think that is a huge thing to be proud of from a community art center!”

Hoy will be taking a sabbatical from teaching to create time for some experimentation with her art. “I just want to keep growing. I need to take some time to develop new ideas and new directions. I'm just breaking free of my routine and trying new things,” says Hoy. In addition to her own work, she'll be working with Bruce Stillman at Big Stone Mini Golf & Sculpture Garden in Minnetrista (featured in the *New York Times* on October 10).

Carey Netherton will be taking over Heidi Hoy's Sculpture in Metal and Metal Casting classes. “He's so hugely qualified! I have total confidence in him,” says Hoy.

While it saddens her not to be involved on a daily basis with the Minnetonka Center for the Arts, Hoy expressed a deep gratitude to

Center by Jim and Laura Miles, Nancy has 30 years experience in nonprofit management, fundraising and community relations. We look forward to her contribution.

We are sad to share the news of the passing this summer of a long time Art Center member and student, **Lisa Lutz**. Lisa was an extraordinary woman whose gifts were many, including her skilled ceramic artistry. In her memory, fellow students led by George and Pat Foulkes, have established a scholarship in her memory. For more information or to make a contribution, please contact the Foulkes or a member of the administrative staff.



We are proud to share that **Al Konaté**, operator of TNT Cleaning and Consulting Inc., a franchise of Tower Cleaning Systems of Minnesota, earned his United States citizenship on September 6 and voted for the first time in November's elections! Al began his work at the Art Center in 2008, after emigrating from the Ivory Coast in 1993. His kindness and goodness are only surpassed by his dedication and dependability.

Artist-instructor **Donna Rice** has compiled a fascinating Glass Casting display with explanations and examples of the steps of the creative process. It includes samples of lost wax, kiln glass casting and pate de verre. It is on display in the Judie Jones Atrium.

On March 16, master ceramicist **Guillermo Cuellar** will spend the day with an intimate group of students. In this special workshop, participants will witness outstanding clay technique plus the benefit of insight and perspective from his experiences. Learn what life was like growing up in Venezuela, how he

found his path meeting Minnesota ceramicists who came to present workshops where he lived and how it led him to settle here. It will be a memorable experience on many levels.



**Kim Christensen**, caterer with 20 years experience, has completed the Minnesota Department of Health Food Manager Certification.

TPT is featuring **Mark Balma** in the November 18 episode of *MN Original*. **Heidi Hoy** is slated for a January *MN Original* episode (the date is not set yet, we'll announce on [Facebook.com/artcentered](https://facebook.com/artcentered)).

Watch for the December issue of *Lake Minnetonka* magazine! You'll find a story on empty-nesters re-discovering themselves that features **Jeanne Obermeier** and **Wade Smith**, students of Ellen Richman's Abstract Painting class, who discovered art and each other at the Minnetonka Center for the Arts. **Traudi Bestler**, fiber arts artist and weaving instructor, will also be featured in this issue. Don't miss it!

## IN THE NEWS

**Ruth Mason** and **Andy Juelich** in the August issue of *Plymouth* magazine (page 25) | **Tara Jones-Deitering** in a FOX9 morning news feature by **MA Rosko** on September 18 | **Mark Balma** in *Lakeshore Weekly News* on October 9 (page 1) | **Michele Combs** in the January issue of *Plymouth* magazine.

Have you spotted the Art Center's new advertising campaign in the October, November and December issues of *Tonka Times* and *Lake Minnetonka* magazines? Hint: look for art words (**start**, **hearth** ...).

Send news to Sara Skalle, Communications Director at [sskalle@minnetonkaarts.org](mailto:sskalle@minnetonkaarts.org).

## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

### Heidi Hoy

With a degree in fine arts from Hamline University, Heidi Hoy came to the Minnetonka Center for the Arts in 1988. It was soon after she made a big decision to master one thing: sculpture. Discovering that the Minnetonka Center for the Arts had a full foundry on-site, she sought us out and set up an apprenticeship with sculpture instructor, Nick Legeros. Hoy learned not only the complicated bronze casting process, but also how to deal with clients and handle exhibitions, and in time established herself as a sculptor and instructor.

“I truly believe that I owe the art center everything. I don't think I would be where I am if it weren't for the Minnetonka Center for the Arts,” says Heidi Hoy.

As a teacher, Hoy gives so much more than technical instruction. “My concern is more about fulfilling the emotional and spiritual needs of my students,” says Hoy. “Most of them are there because they are trying to get in touch with something within themselves.” Whenever possible, Hoy tried to help her student artists be successful in all aspects of their art journey. Many of Hoy's students have gone on to forge



Heidi Hoy at this year's faculty show with her “From Your Lips ...” sculpture

Executive Director Roxanne Heaton, Laura Miles and her daughter Kitty for their encouragement and support. She also noted that her first sale was to a member of the board of directors and it was board member Tom Hull who purchased and placed the piece that stands in front of the building.

For Hoy, the Minnetonka Center for the Arts fostered the supportive community that enabled her to thrive. “I feel just like a hot house flower from the Art Center!” says Hoy. “I just don't know where I would have found that anywhere else at all. It's important to me to have that said.”