

**Brett Binford, Exhibitions Director**  
**NCECA Board Report October 2020 - March 2021**

**2021 Annual:**

- Oversaw coordination of invited and juried artist works with changed show dates
- Updated contracts, oversaw communications with venues, galleries, artists, shipping companies, etc.
- Approved shipping allocations, general budgets
- Participated on calls with ED and curator, as well as venue administration
- Oversaw documentation, reception video

**2021 NSJE:**

- Oversaw shipping stipends for students
- Oversaw and corresponded with venue regarding damaged work and compensation procedures.
- Oversaw Juror video recording and events programming with SDAL's

**2020/21 Concurrent Exhibitions:**

- Coordinated to shows moved to 2021
- Oversaw emails and questions from venues and exhibition organizers
- Coordinated and solicited Satellite exhibitions
- Coordinated collateral for reception videos
- Organized reception schedule
- Organized Corner stone exhibitions evening content
- Part of selection process for VOE's, and satellite Exhibitions

**Post Covid Adjustments...**

- Weekly Board meetings
- Formed committee for 2021 Events and Exhibitions
- Overseeing Annual "moving parts"; emails calls with venues, artists, curator, board, and ED.
- Weekly Events and exhibitions committee chair

**2021 Multicultural Fellowship Exhibition (MCFE)**

- Oversaw and answered questions regarding 2020 exhibition being moved to 2021
- Oversaw new juror selections.
- Coordinated collateral for reception night

**2022 Annual:**

- conversations with ED and prospective Curator
- contingency planning for Hybrid conference

**Misc.**

- Monthly EC conference calls
- Morgan Stanley portfolio review conference calls.
- Introduction to M. Prull to do Cornerstone Virtual booths
- Participated in NCECA Collectors tour ZOOM preconference

For the Good of the board:

- acting PADA (Portland Art Dealers Association) Board President, interim director
- Artist Coordinator for LH project
- Board member for Township 10 residency
- Stayed in business

Respectfully submitted by Brett Binford, Exhibitions Director

*Please contact me at [exhibitions@nceca.net](mailto:exhibitions@nceca.net)*

**Michelle Castro, Student Director at Large**  
**NCECA Board Report October 2020 – March 2021**

**Nominations Committee**

- Continue reviewing applicants

**Communications Committee**

- Created 2021 Critique Room art

**Exhibition Task Force**

2021 Conference Exhibitions/Satellite Events

- Active discussions continued, active preparation for Conference

**Student Focused Task Force**

- Maintaining Communication with Ellie regarding deadlines and plans for Student Critique Room and Mentoring/Mentors
- Reviewed all communication between Jurors and SDAL regarding NJSE
- Helped in discussion regarding 2021 NJSE Jurors
- Calls -prepared and sent

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Castro, Student Director at Large  
*Please contact me at [michelle.nceca@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.nceca@gmail.com)*

**Mary Cloonan, Programs Director**  
**NCECA Board Report October 2020 - March 2021**

- Worked with the presenters to get all the ducks in a row for our marvelous experiment of a Virtual NCECA
- Finalizing the Post-conference Afterglow flow of talks to maintain the momentum of the conference beyond the limit of the conference week.
- The Program Committee has been meeting almost weekly to ensure the success and dynamic offerings for the virtual conference. I am in awe of and have deep respect for their dedication and efforts.
- Passing the Programs torch to Chanda Zea, who has seized it with zeal, exquisite organizational skills and humor. I am sincerely grateful for all of her hard work, even before officially stepping into the role.
- Hearing lots of good feedback and enthusiasm for the Virtual conference from students and colleagues due to the fantastic Marketing and Communications team getting the word out.
- Am excited and a little nervous for the conference to be launched. However, the opportunities that a virtual conference will afford NCECA a year-round, worldwide audience is energizing as an educator and artist.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Cloonan, Programs Director.  
Please contact me at [Mkcloonan.nceca@gmail.com](mailto:Mkcloonan.nceca@gmail.com)

**Edith Garcia, Communications Director**  
**NCECA Board Report October 2020 - March 2021**

**General**

Administrative Duties associated with Communications Director Position  
Strategic Communications and Marketing Planning of Branding for NCECA 2021 Conference  
Development/Implementation of long-term strategies for diversified programming, marketing, and representation of membership, global communities, across NCECA Social Media Platforms  
Participation in Finance Committee calls with Financial Advisers

**Programming Committee (Chair)**

Participation in the creation of implementation of the new framework for the 2021 NCECA Virtual Conference with a focus on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion  
Structuring and finalizing the planning for virtual conference: presentations, presenters, keynote speakers, and demonstrator - with emphasis on transforming the in-person conference experience to virtual and social media platforms

**Executive Committee**

Participation in planning for virtual conference programming and hosting platforms  
Discussions in the development of new Board of Directors roles and responsibilities

**Communications**

- NCECA Communications Strategies in collaboration with Executive Director, Social Media Curator, and Board of Directors

**2021 NCECA Virtual Conference | Rivers, Reflection and Reinventions**

- Work collaboratively with Social Media Curator for the creation of cohesive conference branded marketing presence across all social media platforms
- Work collaboratively with vFairs in the creation of the conference website and virtual environment for the conference
- Work collaboratively with Executive Director, Designers, Video and Motion Graphics Artists to create a cohesive conference branding for all-conference digital assets
- Implemented strategies to address Diversity on Social Media Platforms - during conference marketing with an emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Creation of public engagement strategies to build a community for Conference
- Creation of strategies to engage audiences to register/participate in Conference
- Analysis of Audience and representation on NCECA Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube social media accounts:
  - Instagram | 39k (Previous 38k | August 37k Followers)
  - YouTube | 5.06k (Oct. 4.7k | August 3.64k Subscribers)
  - Facebook | 16,813 (Oct. 16k | Previous 13,334k Followers)

**Communications Policies**

- Implementation of Community Guidelines

**For the Good of the Board**

- Partnering with AMOCA Museum for Breaking Ground: Women in California Clay. AMOCA Museum received a Center for Craft Awards for Breaking Ground: Women in California Clay. For this project, I will be conducting original research for the accompanying exhibition catalog with fellow curator and writer Jo Lauria.

Respectfully submitted by Edith Garcia, Communications Director.

*Please contact me at [communications@nceca.net](mailto:communications@nceca.net)*

**Holly Hanessian, Past- President**  
**NCECA Board Report October - March 2021**

**Weekly Full Board Meetings**

Participated in the weekly meetings.

**Presidential Cycle Meetings:**

Twice a week or more, 20-50 emails a week depending on crisis  
Conversations to problem solve, listen, and offer advice.

**Fall Board Meetings: (October 2020)**

Met with the Executive Committee and then full board.

**Finance Committee: (Quarterly)**

Participated in Online Quarterly meetings with the Finance Committee.

**Chaired the Honors and Awards Committee**

Recruited 3 outside members, held a series of meetings to discuss the nominations, created letters and sent email to nominee's and nominators to let them know the outcome as well as the process for the conference.

Respectfully submitted by Holly Hanessian, Past-President  
*Contact me at [holly.nceca@gmail.com](mailto:holly.nceca@gmail.com)*

**Alex Hibbitt, Secretary**  
**NCECA Board report October 2020 - March 2021**

- Participated in virtual full board meetings from November 17<sup>th</sup> 2020 to March 10<sup>th</sup> 2021 and recorded the minutes for the meetings; November 17<sup>th</sup>, November 24<sup>th</sup>, December 8<sup>th</sup>, January 12<sup>th</sup>, February 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Participated in the Fall Board Meeting Executive Committee meeting on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and recorded the minutes.
- Participated in the Fall Board Meeting, October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> 2020 and recorded the minutes.
- Collected and compiled Board and Staff reports.
- Member of the *Online Content and Technology Review taskforce* on Youtube metadata and playlists.
- Member of ad-hoc committee on *New Operating models* for NCECA
- Oversaw NCECA Board Voting during board meetings and in survey monkey.

November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020

The board unanimously passed the **motion: to approve the minutes for the Oct 27 fall executive committee meeting as presented by the secretary.** (Moved by Alex, seconded by Brett, 14 votes in favor. 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

The board unanimously passed the **motion: to approve the minutes for the Oct 28 and 29 Fall board meeting as presented by the secretary.** (Moved by Reena, Seconded by Brett, 14 in favor. 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

The board unanimously passed the **motion: to approve the minutes for the Nov 17 full board special meeting as presented by the secretary.** (Moved by Reena, Seconded by Brett, 14 in favor. 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

The board unanimously approved the **motion: to accept Vfairs as the NCECA 2021 conference platform and to authorize Josh, Pete, Reena and Helen to move forward with negotiations with Vfairs.** (Moved by Simon, Seconded by Brett. 14 votes in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

The board unanimously approved the **Motion – to approve the conference pricing for individuals, schools and non-profits as laid out in the 2021 pricing-summary worksheet** (moved by Lauren, Seconded by Holly, 14 votes in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).



December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020

The Board unanimously approved the **Motion: To Approve the Award and nominations committee recommendation -The Award and Nominations Committee made up of past board members, Susan Filley, Michel Conroy, and current members, Simon Levin, Eliza Weber, and Holly Hanessian with outside member, Raheleh Filsoofi, voted to give the Honorary Member Nomination to Amy Gogarty and Janet Koplos, (moved by Holly, seconded by Brett, votes in favor 15, opposed 0, abstentions 0).**

The Board unanimously approved the **Motion: Three applicants, as recommended by the Nominations Committee, for the NCECA Graduate Student Fellowship: Jihye Han, Malene Barnett, and Marissa Childers, be awarded that fellowship with the requested funding amounts. (moved by Merrie, seconded by Holly, votes in favor 15, opposed 0, abstentions 0).**

The Board unanimously approved the **Motion: Three applicants, as recommended by the Nominations Committee, for the Regina Brown Undergraduate Student Fellowship: Eleanor Foy, Bonnie McEachren, and Lena Coletto, be awarded that fellowship with the requested funding amounts. moved by Merrie, seconded by Reena, votes in favor 15, opposed 0, abstentions 0).**

The Board unanimously approved the **Motion: One applicant, as recommended by the Nominations Committee, for the Helene Zucker Seeman Curatorial and Critical Writing Fellowship: Raheleh Filsoofi, be awarded that fellowship with the requested funding amount. (Moved by Merrie, Seconded Holly. votes in favor 15, opposed 0, abstentions 0).**

The Board unanimously approved the **Motion: The 13 applicants for Multicultural Fellowships, as recommended by the Nominations Committee, be awarded that fellowship with the requested funding amounts. The recommended applicants are:**

- Parvin Peivandi
- Nyasha Madamombe
- Isaac Diaz
- David Mosley
- Minah Kim
- Alex Paat
- Yael Braha
- Grace Gittelman
- Adilene Rosales
- Aida Lugo
- Summer Brooks
- Amrita Puniani
- Asmaa El-Essealy

(Moved by Merrie, Seconded by Lauren, votes in favor 15, opposed 0, abstentions 0).

The Board unanimously approved the **Motion: 4 nominees, as recommended by the Nominations Committee, for the Student Director at Large Position: Isaac Scott, Dina Perlasca, Jamin Shepherd, and Martha Underriner, be brought forward to the membership as**

**board ratified candidates.** (Moved by Merrie, Seconded by Holly, votes in favor 15, opposed 0, abstentions 0).

The Board unanimously approved the **Motion: to approve the 2021 Virtual/Cincinnati Conference pricing model for non-profit, commercial and gallery expo prices as shown in the Spreadsheet titled 2021 Conference Pricing Summary.** (Moved by Reena Seconded by Simon, 12 votes in favor, opposed 0, abstentions 1)

The board approved the **motion: approve the programming committee's recommendations for plenary speakers as ranked and pursue agreements.** Moved by Edith, seconded by Mary, (14 votes in favor, opposed 1, abstentions 0)

The board unanimously approved the **Motion: that the NCECA Virtual Conference runs from Wednesday, March 17, 2021, through Sunday, March 21, 2021.** (Moved by Edith, seconded by Simon. votes in favor 15, opposed 0, abstentions 0)

#### January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

The board unanimously passed the **Motion: to approve the minutes from November 24, 2020** (Moved by Reena, seconded by Simon. 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

The board unanimously passed the **Motion: to approve the minutes from December 8, 2020** (Moved by Brett, seconded by Holly. 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

#### February 19<sup>th</sup> 2021

The board passed the **motion: that Joshua Green, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR of the Corporation, be and is hereby authorized and empowered to execute and deliver to Lender all notes and other loan documents necessary to obtain a loan from Lender in the amount of \$115,842.00, together with interest and all other charges and indebtedness becoming due and owing under the loan; that such authorization shall continue in force until express written notice of rescission or modification has been received by Lender.** ( moved by Alex, Seconded by Reena, votes in favor 14, opposed 0, abstentions 1.)

#### February 9<sup>th</sup> 2021

The board passed the **Motion: Continue the search for 2021-2024 DAL candidates until the nominations committee has at least three applicants to bring to the board for ratification.** (Moved by Merrie, seconded by Lauren, votes in favor 14, opposed 1, abstentions 2.)

The Board passed the **Motion: Create an ad hoc committee to evaluate board nominations and the process used for nominating and selecting these board members in relation to stated goals of addressing racial diversity within the board and membership.** Moved by Merrie, seconded by Brett, votes in favor 16, opposed 0, abstentions 0.)

Respectfully submitted by Alex Hibbitt, Secretary  
Please contact me at [secretary@nceca.net](mailto:secretary@nceca.net)

**Reena Kayshap, Treasurer**  
**NCECA Board report October 2020 - March 2021**

**Attended several board meetings from October to March**

**Development Committee:** Member of the committee. Discussed strategies for events for fundraising and other pertinent topics for the rest of this FY. Chair Merrie Wright updated board members at the Fall meeting of Development activities. Received Appeal letters and signed and mailed them out to NCECA supporters. Participated in the Development committee meeting on January 20th.

**Virtual Platforms:** Participated in several Zoom calls to learn more about the different companies offering Virtual Events that will meet the needs of NCECA to present in March. Reviewed several platforms and most impressed with the V-Fairs event platform which offered the broadest appeal and supported NCECA's needs. The Sales Manager Stefany Kaprielian was very thorough in her presentations and provided relevant information to any queries. After many deliberations, an agreement was signed by Josh on December 2nd with V-Fairs to be NCECA's host platform

**Investment Activity:** Informed the board at the Nov 13th board meeting, that funds were invested from the expiring CDs to the Lord Abbott Ultra Short Bond fund (LUBAX) equaling \$279,400.

**Accounting matters:** Held a zoom meeting with Tanya MS Advisor, Josh and Helen to discuss cash flow for upcoming months up until March. Planned to move funds to the checking account from the Preferred Savings account to pay for any expenses. Revenue is expected to come in late and closer to the time of the conference unlike past years. Discussed Deferred Revenue implications with 2020 Conference registration fees with Josh and Helen on how best to deal with these monies for upcoming registration. Preference is not to not defer any funds for the next FY.

**Conference:**

**Pricing:** Chaired the Pricing committee. Held a meeting with staff and EC on Nov 19th to discuss pricing options.

Reviewed advertising and Sponsorship opportunities (ads sold) for the Richmond Conference with Tammy Lynn and Josh.

Held a Pricing Committee call with Alleghany Meadows, Mike Sievers, and Brian Harper to provide an opinion from long-time NCECA members and to seek their opinion on pricing.

Pricing as recommended by committee for 2021 Virtual Conference was presented & approved by the full board at the December Board meeting.

Signed up to assist in several lectures at the conference.

**Finance Committee quarterly meeting:** Held on January 25th. Discussed investment portfolio with Tanya MS advisor and the committee reviewed the NCECA's 2nd quarter Financials. A CD is maturing on Feb 3rd and the decision was to keep the funds liquid and not re-invest. CD rates are very low at .15% currently. NCECA needs the cash flow now.

On Feb 3rd, As Treasurer I authorized Tanya to move the funds from the expiring CD to the Lord Abbott Ultra Short Bond fund of \$126,400. These funds are liquid and can be used the same business day if needed and earn .3% interest.

**2nd PPP Loan:** The portal for the 2nd PPP loan opened and Helen submitted the application with the GW bank for the amount of \$115,842. A board resolution was made through electronic voting and it was approved to apply for the loan. At the same time, Helen is working on completing paperwork for forgiveness for the 1st PPP loan

Respectfully submitted by Reena Kashyap, Treasurer  
*Please contact me at [reenak.nceca@gmail.com](mailto:reenak.nceca@gmail.com)*

**Marsha Karagheusian, OSCL**  
**NCECA Cincinnati 2021**  
**NCECA Board Report, October 2020 –March 2021**

- As the OSCL for Cincinnati 2021, all of my efforts reference **CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITIONS, GOAL 1** in our Strategic Plan.
- Attend NCECA Full Membership Zoom Meeting on October 4, 2020
- Participate in the Virtual Fall Board Meeting October 28 and 29, 2020.
- Tuesday video conferencing with the full Board of Directors
- Continue with communication efforts with select galleries/directors and arts institutions regarding hosting exhibitions during Cincinnati 2021.
- Continual meetings and communication, either in person, by email, text, phone, iMessage and Zoom with team leaders for Cincinnati 2021.
- Serve on the Virtual Exhibition & Event subcommittee, with Zoom calls most Thursdays.
- Devise a letter to announce the conference as a *virtual* event, send to all venues, asking for their participation in a manner that will best serve them as well as NCECA.
- Email exchange/ phone calls fielding questions with the Concurrent venues trying to navigate the news of a virtual conference and what that means for them. Procure a venue for those wanting an in-person exhibition.
- Send letters to all venues (1) announcing VOE date, (2) the extended VOE date, (3) reminder emails, (4) our mission statement...then fielding questions for navigating the technology.
- Attend a *vFairs* demonstration zoom meeting as a possible virtual platform for the conference.
- Attempt to curate shows at local venues who decided to participate at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour.
- Send 34 appeal letters for NCECA's annual fundraising event.
- Zoom meeting with Cincinnati Magazine's digital team re: NCECA coming to Cincinnati and its virtual presence.
- Continue to field questions and concerns from community folks.
- Compose a 1000 word welcome statement and a short welcome video as OSCL for the virtual conference platform.

**For the Good of the Board:**

- I survived the 2020 election season!
- I received the first dose of the Pfizer vaccine!

- I retired after 37 years of teaching...*whew!*
- I've been an NCECA member since the '70s, and now I've personally donated to this organization while serving as a Board member for the 2-3 years of conference planning as the Cincinnati OSCL. It's been an honor....thank you!

*Respectfully submitted by Marsha Karagheusian, OSCL*  
Contact me at [marsha.nceca@gmail.com](mailto:marsha.nceca@gmail.com)

**Simon Levin, Director At Large**  
**NCECA Board Report October 2020 - March 2021**

This period of time has been an enormous but equal amount of hard work and uncertainty. Building a conference model that most of us have never seen in a careful considered way is such a brave and difficult challenge. I commend the other members on the board, as well as all our conference presenters on their adaptability and diligence. It has been tremendous to be a part of this journey.

**2020 Annual:**

Attended monthly board meetings, Participated on the communications committee, and programming committee.

**Emerging Artist Program (2020 and 2021)**

- Worked directly with 2021 Emerging Artist Fellowship jurors Brendan Tang and Louise Met several times, reviewing and re-reviewing applications until six 2021 Emerging artists were selected.  
Requested, edited and published the Juror Statement Written by Jurors, Brendan Tang and Louise Cort.  
Called selected artists with the good news, wrote and sent letters to the remaining applicants.
- Working with Intersect Chicago and Traver Gallery, developed a webinar format to highlight the NCECA 2020 Emerging Artists. Webinar was presented on November 8th.
- Negotiated an exhibition for the 2020 Emerging artists at the Gardiner Museum in Toronto in 2021, with the help of Nurielle Stern and Sequoia Miller.
- Partnered with Eutectic Gallery to host the 2021 Emerging artist exhibition
- Coordinated with 2021 Emerging artists expectations and announcement date.
- Gathered Press Materials with Emerging Artists, for use with Communications, NCECA Conference Promotion, and the Emerging Artist Exhibitions.

**NCECA Conference.**

- Coordinated 2021 Emerging Artist Exhibition with Eutectic Gallery
- Set up training with both Emerging Artist Cohorts on Virtual Booth Creation
- Created with Dori Neilson a Google Calendar version of the NCECA conference, a working example of which can be seen embedded in my website [SimonLevin.com/NCECA](http://SimonLevin.com/NCECA)
- Wrote and filmed video introductions to the NCECA Emerging Artists for both 2020 and 2021 groups.

**Misc.**

- Many, many zoom calls, texts and emails with emerging artists.
- Weekly Communication Committee Meetings.
- Conversation with several applicants for Emerging Artist regarding, process ranking, and transparency.
- Kept my stuff together.

*Respectfully submitted by Simon Levin, Director at Large*  
*Please contact me at [Simon.Nceca@gmail.com](mailto:Simon.Nceca@gmail.com)*

**Heidi McKenzie, Director of Collaborations & Engagement**  
**NCECA Board Report, February 9, 2021 – March 1, 2021**

Participated in my first NCECA Board Meeting, introduced myself to the Board

**Collaborations & Engagement**

Have commenced identification of committee members, long-list of pool of candidates in preparation, in consultation with other Board members and a number of key individuals within the ceramics international communities. The goal is to present the committee a slate of members, draft vision and mandate for approval at the June NCECA Board meetings.

**Committee Work**

Volunteered and worked with Ad hoc Committee on identifying and reaching out to BIPOC candidates to expand and diversify the pool of Directors at Large candidates.

**Communications/Outreach**

Worked with Communications to outreach re \$50USD offer before March 1. Reached out to six international ceramic artist in residence programs; 22 heads of Ceramic Programs and Educators across North America and Australia; 25 Ceramic Guilds/ Associations/ Galleries/ Museums; and cross-promoted on 33 Facebook Group pages internationally, including India, Australia, US, Canada, Hungary, Indonesia.

Prepped and recorded keynote address for Kwame Akoto-Bamfo for virtual NCECA 2021.

**For the Good of the Board**

Set up the Virtual Exhibition Booth in NCECA vfairs for Disruption! And virtual opening  
Prepped/Rehearsed NCECA Panel Discussion, Disrupting the Canon  
Featured in Ceramics Monthly February Issue: [“Mixed Clay and Color”](#) by D Wood.  
Delivered 55-minute live-stream talk on Instagram through Clay Voices, March 5, 2021

Respectfully submitted by Heidi McKenzie  
*Please contact me at [heidi.nceca@gmail.com](mailto:heidi.nceca@gmail.com)*



**Lisa Merida-Paytes, Cincinnati On site Liaison**  
**NCECA Board Report October 2020 – March 2021**

- Ongoing correspondence & meetings with Cincinnati Team regarding Conference, Exhibitions
- Attended & Participated in Monthly Full Board Meetings
- Ongoing correspondence with ceramic collectors in Tristate Region for inclusion in Cincinnati Conference
- Ongoing weekly meetings with Exhibitions Director and Exhibition Committee regarding Conference
- Ongoing correspondence with area businesses for participation of sponsorship & inclusion in Conference.

Respectfully Submitted by Lisa Merida-Paytes, Cincinnati Onsite Liaison  
*Please contact me at [lisanceca2021@gmail.com](mailto:lisanceca2021@gmail.com)*

**Peter Pinnell, President 2020-2022**  
**NCECA Board Report October 1, 2020 - Feb 28, 2021**

- Chaired the NCECA annual members meeting on October 4, holding this national NCECA business meeting virtually for the first time. Worked closely with the Executive Committee, the Executive Director and other members of the board to develop the agenda and direct the necessary business of the organization.
- Worked with the presidential circle, the Executive Committee and members of the board to develop the agenda for the annual fall board meeting, which was held virtually for four days, from October 27-29. Chaired the meetings.
- Worked with the presidential circle to develop agendas and chaired monthly meetings of the full board on October 6, November 24, December 20, January 12 and February 9.
- Met with the Executive Committee of the board on October 13, October 27 and November 10.
- Met with the finance committee on October 23 and January 25 to monitor investments and approve financial actions being brought to the board.
- Beginning January 8, met most Friday afternoons with the programming committee to monitor the progress of that committee and help where appropriate
- Throughout the fall, worked with members of the board to evaluate different companies that are capable of hosting a virtual conference. Met with representatives of each company, evaluated the financial impact and worked together to envision how our conference could look with each option. Together, the board chose to go with vFairs.com, which offered good visual characteristics, an accessible price and good customer support.
- Met weekly with representatives of vFairs, beginning in late December, to plan the organization of the conference.
- Met regularly with the presidential circle to plan materials to bring forward to the full board.
- Met weekly since January 25 with the Subcommittee for virtual Exhibition Halls, to help plan the booths for the various virtual halls that will be part of the conference.

Respectfully submitted by Peter Pinnell, NCECA Board President 2020-2022  
*Please contact me at [pete.nceca@gmail.com](mailto:pete.nceca@gmail.com)*

**Lauren Sandler, Director at Large**  
**NCECA Board Report, October 2020 – March 2021**

Member of Nominations Committee

- Continued reach out to potential new board members
- Reviewed applications for incoming board members
- Assessment and evaluation of processes used to recruit and nominate new board members

Multicultural Fellowship Exhibition and Programming

- Communication and logistics surrounding the 2021 Multicultural Fellowship Exhibition and conference programming

Gallery Expo

- Oversaw communication with Expo galleries in preparation for conference
- Organized Gallery Expo artist talks
- Participated in weekly Exhibition Hall meetings

Miscellaneous

- Attended Communications meetings
- Attended VFairs informational meetings
- Met with The Color Network to discuss potential collaborative projects

Respectfully submitted by Lauren Sandler, Director at Large  
*Please contact me at [laurensandler.nceca@gmail.com](mailto:laurensandler.nceca@gmail.com)*

**Nancy M. Servis – Onsite Conference Liaison  
Sacramento Conference, 2022  
NCECA Board Report November 2020 – February 28th 2021**

**Introduction:** Nancy has been working with the Sacramento Planning Committee (20 people) via regular Zoom meetings scheduled every six weeks in preparation for the 2022 conference scheduled to be in Sacramento March 16 – 19, 2022. The online collaborative worksite, BASECAMP has been very effective as a planning tool for our committee. A few Planning Committee Members had to go off the committee due to unforeseen circumstances. There are several areas where the committee has made strides:

**Exhibitions:** The call for the Concurrent Exhibitions has been made via the NCECA website; a letter of invitation to submit an exhibition proposal, offer a venue for exhibition, and notification of the imminent call for Venue Originated Exhibitions has been sent to nearly 135 contacts in the region who have shown interest in the conference; and we are poised to connect interested curators and programmatic participants with impending call for submissions.

**Programmatic Sub-Committees:** There are five active subcommittees that are preparing planning material for 2022 conference: Collector’s Tour Sub-Committee, Education Sub-Committee, Farm to Table Sub-Committee, Fundraising Sub-Committee and a new possible committee, Slide Jam Sub-Committee--needed for exterior projection sites in Sacramento. The committee has also created detailed recommendations for Keynote Speaker, Closing Lecturer, Randall Session, and has begun building recommendations for Demonstrating Artists.

**Promotional: Logo-**A logo sub-committee has developed two viable options for the conference logo. Once the logo has developed to a final form the board can officially approve their most preferred version. Also, the **Promotional Video** is in the editing stage and will be ready for its showing at the 2021 virtual conference. It features key cultural aspects of Sacramento and several members of the NCECA Planning Committee.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy M. Servis OSCL  
*Please contact me at [nancy.nceca@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.nceca@gmail.com)*

**Zach Tate, Director at Large**  
**NCECA Board Report**  
**October 1, 2020 - Feb 28, 2021**

**General:**

- Have been present for NCECA Zoom Board meetings.
- Have been talking with membership to direct them to services to assist in their academic needs during COVID
- Have been working to attract new members for future board service.
- Working with membership to answer questions about the upcoming virtual conference.
- Working with membership to discuss NCECA's role as an arbitrator for discrimination
- Talking with Clay Conversation participants about the virtual conference and trying to prepare them for the upcoming event.

Respectfully submitted Zach Tate, Director at Large

*Please contact me at [zach.nceca@gmail.com](mailto:zach.nceca@gmail.com)*

**Eliza Weber, Student Director at Large**  
**NCECA Board Report, October 2020 - March 2021**

- Attended board meetings November-February
- Attended Communications Committee meetings
  - Welcoming of new Communications Director and Social Media Curator
  - Planning of upcoming social media posts
- Attended weekly Exhibitions and Satellite Events Committee Meeting for 2021 planning
  - Created draft for Hellos From... call
  - Created draft for NJSE Meet the Artists call
  - Helped record brainstorming ideas for virtual conference exhibitions and events
  - Reached out to several galleries, institutions, and individuals about interest in satellite exhibitions, with further communication to follow
  - Assisted in creating evening programming for exhibitions
  - Created programming with Michelle and Brett for NJSE virtual exhibition programming
  - Communicated with video editor on compiling NJSE evening programming
- Attended Programming Committee meeting to help communicate overlap in programming of Exhibitions and Satellite Events Committee
- Communicated with Chanda/Mary about Student Interest proposals and conference content
- Served on the Awards and Nominations Committee voting to select 2021 awards
- Facilitated NJSE 2021 jurying and exhibition details
  - Coordinated 3 rounds of meetings with jurors for jurying NJSE
  - Launched Meet the Artists call to accepted artists, jurors, SDAL's, and gallery. Communicated with each artist and followed up in attempt to include all videos
  - Coordinated with gallery director on final details and changes.
  - Assisted in communication regarding shipping works between artist, NCECA and gallery.
  - Worked/communicated with DAAP galleries about logistics, planning, organizing of NJSE
  - Worked with Kate on organizing and logistics of NJSE
  - Created working document for future SDAL's detailing NJSE calendar and to-do details
  - Helped facilitate award selections with juror and sponsor recorded announcements of awardees. Helped to process and communicate awards with Kate and gallery.
  - Wrote catalog statement and compiled juror, gallery, SDAL statements, bios and headshots for exhibitions catalog.
- Worked with Michelle on creating Virtual Student Critiques
  - Launched Signup for mentors with follow-up communication
  - Created social media posts with Communications (Edith and Gerald)
  - Created working document for future SDAL's detailing how to create student critiques
- Created Meet the Board Hello video
- Joined the Green Task Force and attended available weekly meetings
- Joined Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate board nominations

*For the good of the board: Finished my MFA at ASU in September. Recently moved back home to Montana as Director of Education for the Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, while continuing to teach online as an FA for ASU.*

*Respectfully submitted by Eliza Weber, Student Director at Large  
Please contact me at [eliza.nceca@gmail.com](mailto:eliza.nceca@gmail.com)*

**Rhonda Willers, Special Advisor to the Board**  
**NCECA Board Report October 2020 - March 2021**

**Virtual Conference Planning**

Along with members of NCECA's staff and board, I have attended weekly planning meetings with our vFairs project manager. In these meetings we have worked on the conference landing page, the conference platform, and the backend of the conference platform software.

*Strategic Plan Goals: 1, 2*

**Future Collaborations: The Color Network**

Along with board members, Lauren Sandler and Michelle Castro, and Executive director, Josh Green, I met with representatives from The Color Network (Natalia Arbelaez, Adam Chao, April Felipe, Salvador Jimenez-Flores). From this conversation, we made future plans of collaboration beginning with an interactive panel discussion to be held during the virtual conference and a nonprofit booth in the virtual Exhibition Hall on the conference platform. This group will be meeting again to continue discussions future collaborations.

*Strategic Plan Goals: 2, 5, 6*

COMMITTEES

**Programming Committee**

I have been meeting regularly with members of the programming committee to continue organizing content for the upcoming virtual conference. Work of this committee has included making plans for presenter communication, outreach and securing conference keynote speakers, and plans for how the board will volunteer during the virtual conference. Conversations have also moved into the future thinking of how programming will be called for, selected, and also potentially curated for future NCECA conferences with accessibility and diversity in mind.

*Strategic Plan Goals: 1, 2, 3, 4*

**Subcommittee for Virtual Exhibition Halls on the Conference Platform**

I have chaired this subcommittee, which has been meeting weekly since the end of January. This purpose of this subcommittee is to coordinate efforts and communications between the three virtual exhibition halls with members of the staff and board. The three virtual exhibition halls are: Vendors & Gallery Expo, Organizations & Student Critiques, and Art Exhibitions & Emerging Artists.

*Strategic Plan Goals: 1, 2, 3*

**Communications Committee**

Participating in regular meetings with the communications committee providing thoughts and recommendations for upcoming organizational communications and timelines. I am preparing blog posts with conference content. *Strategic Plan Goal: 7*

**Finance Committee**

Participating in quarterly review meetings, which include meeting with Morgan Stanley investment advisors.

*Strategic Plan Goal: 7*

**Executive Committee & General Board Work**

Participating in monthly full board meetings and as needed executive committee meetings. Additionally, I have been a part of conversations surrounding: recruitment for upcoming board positions; reviewing and revising of NCECA bylaws and policies to eliminate elements and practices contributing to systemic racism; and content development for the spring 2021 board meeting.

*Strategic Plan Goal: 7*

**For the good of the board:** As we near the 2021 virtual NCECA conference, I can't help but feel excited and thrilled at the potential global connections this conference will create. The thematic organization of content reflects NCECA's mission, and I hope that members will find this conference compelling and thoughtful. I'm looking forward to meeting NCECA attendees and members on the virtual platform. I said the following in my November board report, but it feels worth repeating: While the virtual conference can never replace the warmth of in-person encounters and joy, through the virtual conference we hope to provide a place of connection in a time of physical disconnection.

Respectfully submitted by Rhonda Willers, Special Advisor to the Board  
Contact me at [Rhonda@nceca.net](mailto:Rhonda@nceca.net)



**Merrie Wright, Steward of the Board**  
**NCECA Board Report**  
**November 2020 – February 2021**

**Regularly Scheduled Executive Committee and Board Meetings**

- Participated in all scheduled Presidential Circle, Executive Committee, and Full Board Meetings.

**On-going Board Service**

- Fundraising & Development Task Force: Met several times during the report period. Continued developing short and long-term fundraising and development goals/strategies, continued work on the annual appeal and outreach team efforts, organized the second virtual cup sale, began planning for 2021 cup sales, and provided the board several development committee updates.
- Finance & Budget Committee: Participated in a quarterly finance review.
- Nominations Committee: Met several times during the report period. Finalized 2021 fellowship recommendations and communicated with applicants and awardees, continued review of 2021 board nominations and communicated with several prospective future board members.
- Reports Committee: Worked with reports committee to review and provide communication regarding several harassment reports submitted through [reports@nceca.net](mailto:reports@nceca.net).
- Board Steward: Assisted with on-boarding for new board members Heidi McKenzie and MaPó Kinnord.
- Provided content and reviewed/edited various NCECA communications.
- 2021 Conference Planning and Preparation: Worked with board and staff to communicate with and solicit materials from presenters, nominees and awardees for the Past Masters and Awards and Honors programming. Submitted board introductory video.

**For the Good of the Board**

Provided an interview to Lauren Skelly Bailey for her Clay Conversations research on parenthood and clay.

*Respectfully submitted by Merrie Wright, Steward of the Board*  
*Please contact me at [boardsteward@nceca.net](mailto:boardsteward@nceca.net)*

**Chanda Zea, Programs Director mentee**  
**NCECA Board Report**  
**November 1 2020 – March 1 2021**

**List of Committees I am on: Executive Committee, Programming Committee, Harassment Reports Committee, Communications Committee, Green Task Force**

**November** – attended two board meetings, three executive committee meetings and weekly Programming committee meetings. Programming committee is working hard to finalize the schedule for a virtual 2021 conference and make use of the programming submissions from 2021. Met with the harassment reports committee to plan responses to submissions.

**December** – attended board meeting, multiple Programming Committee and Green Task Force meetings. Worked closely with Dori to get contracts out to all of our presenters for the virtual conference. Led the search for keynote speakers who would fit our daily themes, submitted the Programming Committee's recommendations for a board vote, and moved forward with contacting keynote speakers. Answered various emails concerning programming questions. Actively attending and participating in all Green Task Force meetings, fine-tuned the survey the task force had developed and guided its release into the world, coordinated with Communications to promote it via social media and the NCECA blog.

**January** – attended board meeting, weekly Green Task Force and Programming committee meetings. Continue to address programming issues as they arise. Closed out the Green Task Force survey which received 953 responses. The Task Force is working on developing content for their NCECA booth, analyzing the data gathered in the survey and keeping folks who expressed interest in volunteering engaged. We are in the process of rewriting the GTF charter and strategic plan and will be sharing preliminary progress in April in preparation for the spring board meeting.

**February** – attended board, Programming and Green Task Force meetings. Joined the subcommittee for virtual exhibition halls and attend weekly meetings. Continue to address Programming and any Green Task Force questions and concerns as they arise.

**For the Good of the Board:**

I stay involved with the local clay community here in Seattle and attend meetings of the Washington Clay Arts Association as I can.

Respectfully submitted by Chanda Zea, Programs Director mentee  
Please contact me at [programs@nceca.net](mailto:programs@nceca.net)

Joshua Green, Executive Director's Report  
**October 2020 - March 2021**

**CONFERENCE FUNCTIONS**

**Virtual Conference Planning**

Worked with NCECA's staff, board, and contractors to plan and implement various aspects of the virtual conference. This has ranged from establishing and monitoring systems infrastructure and performance for content submissions on Dropbox, coordinating content with video editors and Journal designer, and responding to presenters' questions and requests for assistance.

I have participated in weekly planning meetings with our vFairs project management team and handled correspondence and questions with our managers between meetings. The focus of weekly meetings have ranged from design of conference landing page, functionality of conference platform, layout and development of exhibition halls, and understanding the administrative side, presenter, and exhibitor experience within the conference platform.

*Strategic Plan Goals: 1, 2*

**Programming**

Regular communications and meetings with programming committee to advance planning for conference. Reached out to Eric Gottesman co-founder of For Freedoms for keynote presentation dedicated to Advocacy & Activism theme.

Weekly conferences with Edith Garica and video editors, Chuck Masi and Adam Holz on progress and obstacles to resolve related to development of conference content.

Worked with Conference Manager Dori Nielsen on tracking of presenter content and preparing data for conference platform.

Worked with Rhonda Willers and others to determine board and staff roles during conference. Correspondence with board on possibilities of engaging additional voices and perspectives in programming development and selection processes.

*Strategic Plan Goals: 1, 2, 3, 4*

**NCECA Exhibitions**

Regular communications with NCECA Annual Curator [Shannon Rae Stratton](#) and venue director Dennis Harrington. Numerous problem solving communications with artists related to production of printed materials to be presented as artworks in the exhibition and safely moving and insuring artworks from invited artists within budgetary constraints. Established projects with Cincinnati based production house on print production and installation and with former colleague to arrange professional art handling from NYC/Brooklyn to Cincinnati. Similar though not quite as complex communications with director of DAAP Galleries.

Working with contractor Adam Holz and Weston Gallery director Dennis Harrington to establish a plan to gather documentation to produce a virtual walkthrough experience of the NCECA Annual.

Editorial work with [Shannon Rae Stratton](#) and [Elaine Henry](#) on development of texts for NCECA Annual Exhibition. Additional work with Kate Vorhaus and David William on exhibitions catalogue content.

Concurrent communications with Brett and Scott Shields of Crocker Art Museum pertaining to 2021 Annual curator selection and logistics.

**Virtual Exhibition Halls**

Established work agreement with M. Prull to build out virtual booths for NCECA within conference platform.

Extensive work with staff and board on marketing, communications, design and implementation of three virtual exhibition halls: Vendors & Gallery Expo, Organizations & Student Critiques, and Art Exhibitions & Emerging Artists.

Worked with staff and board to develop and implement conference sponsorship options within the virtual conference platform. Developed strategies for outreach to potential sponsors and resolve deferred sponsorship revenues from 2020 into visibility opportunities within the 2021 conference platform

Strategic Plan Goals: 1, 2, 3

### **Communications**

Regular communications with Edith Garcia and others on organizational communications and timelines.

Drafted enews communications, worked with designer David William to refine enews template making it more flexible and responsive to stories with multiple images.

Composed and edited content for conference platform, website, and NCECA Journal.

Established retainer agreement with web developer Jac Wynn and initiated updates to nceca.net website. Spent copious amounts of time with Jac and web hosting service to address problems related to data accumulation preventing site back-ups and vulnerable to crashes. Working with Jac on long term plan to purge site of no longer used pages, migrate site to a new hosting platform, update and streamline site back end.

Established retainer agreement in collaboration with Nancy Servis to work with videographer [Abner Soto](#) to develop promotional video for 2022 conference.

*Strategic Plan Goal: 7*

### **Finance Committee**

Worked with Helen and Reena on second PPP loan application. Worked with Alex and Pete to establish board communication and motion to gain approval for submission.

Worked with Reena, Helen, and Tanya to approve transfer of maturing structured note into Abbett short term bond fund.

Participated in quarterly review meetings, which include meeting with Morgan Stanley investment advisors.

*Strategic Plan Goal: 7*

### **Executive Committee & General Board Work**

Participating in monthly full board meetings and as needed executive committee meetings. Additionally, I have been a part of conversations surrounding: recruitment for upcoming board positions; reviewing and revising of NCECA bylaws and policies to eliminate elements and practices contributing to systemic racism; and content development for the spring 2021 board meeting.

*Strategic Plan Goal: 7*

### **Future Collaborations:**

Met with representatives from The Color Network to imagine and discuss future collaborations. Initially, this group will develop and implement an interactive panel discussion, and a

nonprofit virtual booth for the upcoming virtual conference. This group will continue discussions for future collaborations with the inclusion of NCECA's new board officer dedicated to advancing partnerships.

Participated in an exploratory conference with an international member researching the launch of a sustainability training and certification program for ceramic artists and educational programs.

Worked with Nancy Servis, Edith Garcia, and David William on branding concepts for 2022 conference in Sacramento.

*Strategic Plan Goals: 2, 5, 6*

**For the good of the board:**

I have enjoyed working with many presenters and the terrific contractors that have complemented our work as a staff and board to bring this virtual conference to fruition. While there have been many challenges and much to learn along the way, the depth of knowledge and commitment of so many people from different backgrounds and perspectives coming together to advance this effort in myriad ways has been deeply appreciated and impactful. The contributions and openness of the current and evolving NCECA board has been supportive and expanding throughout this changing and inventive process.

Respectfully submitted by Joshua Green, Executive Director  
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