



The **Archivists Round Table**  
of Metropolitan New York, Inc.

**Monthly Board Report February 1, 2021**  
**Online via Zoom**

**Present:**

Amye McCarther  
Stephanie Neel  
Danielle Nista  
Nicholas Martin  
Colleen Daw  
Megan Williams  
Anne Boissonnault  
Patricia Glowinski  
Emily Andresini  
Deidre Dinnigan

**Absent:**

Ashton Wingate  
Cristina Fontáñez Rodríguez

**President**

*Open Issues and Discussion Items:*

- Statement on January 6th Attack on the Capitol
  - Will circulate to membership tomorrow, pending comments
- Winter issue of [Metropolitan Archivist](#)
  - Colleen: Share with mentee Slack
  - Individual outreach
- Preservation Week Symposium, April 30-May 2
  - Expanding on Embedded Knowledge panel with social justice orientation
  - Confirming availability of co-organizer
  - Calendar of community events
- Land Acknowledgements: Working with Megan to develop a program to discuss in depth
- Pratt sponsored fellowship for website redesign, Fall 2021
- Other
  - Collection spotlights? Contact Amye if you have ideas about or inspiration for this
  - PO Box
  - Invoices -- if you have any invoices that you're concerned may have been missed somehow, get in touch with Ashton and Amye
  - NYAW videos
  - Website
  - June elections: recruitment. Contact Nicholas with anyone you may want to nominate.



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## **Outreach**

*Open Issues and Discussion Items:*

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## **Past President**

*Open Issues and Discussion Items:*

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## **Vice President**

*Open Issues and Discussion Items:*

- Jobs Board pilot case -- Guggenheim Archivist position:  
<https://theapplicantmanager.com/jobs?pos=ny246>
    - Not listed with ART, does not list salary range
    - Will reach out, invite them to post with us
  - Nicholas is presenting at the College Art Association's Annual Conference (February 10-13)
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## **Treasurer**

*Open Issues and Discussion Items:*

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## **Advocacy**

*Open Issues and Discussion Items:*

- Attended SAA workshop: "Advocating for archives in State and Local Policymaking" [https://mysaa.archivists.org/nc\\_event?id=a0l5a00000EYl0fAAD](https://mysaa.archivists.org/nc_event?id=a0l5a00000EYl0fAAD)
- Creating more formal advocacy plans and strategizing for ART -- what kinds of issues can ART pursue, both long- and short-term? What can we do at the local level (make connections with policy makers, people who have influence in our communities, etc.)?



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- The mission statement for the Advocacy group will be up for revision in the spring and summer of 2022.
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## **Education**

### *Open Issues and Discussion Items:*

- Meeting with committee this/next week
  - How to Get Started as a Freelancers skill share
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## **Publications**

### *Open Issues and Discussion Items:*

- Winter issue (call for submissions went out last week)
  - Interested in having more feedback and discussion in general -- from the board and from the Publications committee.
    - Need to increase committee membership and participation -- segues into Open Discussion topics (below)
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## **Communications**

### *Open Issues and Discussion Items:*

- Social Media Metrics ~ 4 announcements / posts this month
    - Twitter: 4,211 followers ; 5,344 interactions with posts
    - Instagram: 741 (+12) followers ; 1,051 interactions with posts
      - Linktree received 240 visits (+13 from last month) ; 118 (+ 8 clicks from last month)
    - Facebook
      - Group: 614 (no growth) ; no data
      - Page: 722 (no growth) ; 92 interactions with posts
    - LinkedIn: 951 (+4) followers ; no data
  - Talking to Megan about setting up an Instagram takeover with Indigenous collections, if appropriate to do so, as it relates to programming centered around Land Acknowledgements
  - Working with Amye and Megan to put out a call for a graphic designer to join communications team
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## **Programming**

### *Open Issues and Discussion Items:*

- Programming related to Land Acknowledgements. If you have any connections to Indigenous collections or American Indian archivists in NYC, contact Megan.
  - Joint program with Los Angeles Archivists Collective (LAAC) about COVID-related collections -- will move forward even if LAAC cannot partner on this program.
    - Catching up with what some libraries are doing with their COVID collections, such as the Columbia Center for Oral History, Queens Memory, and Brooklyn Public Library
  - Reading group starting in February, in honor of Black History Month. Reading articles by Bergis Jules and Dr. Tonia Sutherland.
  - Reading group for March: Critical Feminism in the Archives by Marika Cifor and Stacy Wood, and something by Safiya Noble.
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## **Membership**

### *Open Issues and Discussion Items:*

- Membership Report:
    - Friends of ART: **Total** - 16, Active -12. New - 1
    - Honorary: **Total** - 10, Active - 10
    - Regular: **Total** - 279, Active - 212. New - 3
    - Sponsorship: **Total** - 13, Active - 12
    - Student: **Total** - 138, Active - 58. New - 3
    - Sustaining: **Total** - 4, Active - 1
  - Updated Outgoing Messages
  - 1-1 Mentorship Ends at the end of March
    - Wrap-up/Happy Hour March 25th?
    - Designing Survey to send around for feedback
  - Want to set a timeline for the following things for second cohort (April-September)
    - Launch Application (End of Feb?)
    - Close Application (Third Week of March)
    - Announce Pairings (First Week of April)
    - Orientation (2nd week of April)
  - In need of mentors, if you have anyone you can think of please let me know.
    - FYI we already have 10 people who were not selected for last round of mentorship that have expressed interest in the program
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## **Secretary**

### *Open Issues and Discussion Items:*

Open Discussion:



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- Is the way the board is structured working for the committees, our community, and for the board members themselves?
- How do we improve communication amongst our community and committee members about how the committees function and what they do?
  - PG: There could be a lot more time for discussion, planning, and generally helping and supporting each other.
    - Mentioned Dorothy Berry's interview on Archives In Context from December 6, 2020, in thinking about self-care:  
<https://archivesincontext.archivists.org/2020/12/16/season-5-episode-2-dorothy-berry/>
  - AM: How to create more time to talk: meet more often? Meet for longer?
    - NM: Should board members go to other meetings with other committees? If we're relying on each other to provide feedback on how we work, maybe we need to get more buy-in from board member to board member.
  - DD: If committee meetings are on the calendar, people can see that these are open, free to attend -- not elected positions. This may help the committee leaders/directors as well: maybe part of the committee issue is there's so much responsibility that there's not enough time. More time can be spent not reporting, but discussing. Transparency is good.
    - DN: Should we try to tailor a schedule and calendar to the needs of a specific committee? Some committees might not need to meet as often as others, and/or have different levels of participation from committee members.
  - MW: Hold monthly meetings that are on the event calendar and open for all to join, and maybe it's just us (the directors) who are attending at first but that's OK.
  - NM: Could committees host weekly Community Hours, if we bring those back? To drive membership and engagement for the committees?
    - It would be helpful to have all the directors support each other in that way, but committee directors have to figure out how to increase membership within the committees themselves. That's where the focus should be. Agree that the Community Hours is a way to encourage/address that, but ultimately the committees do different things. Simplest way to approach is to have one standing meeting for each committee a month, and one board meeting a month. This is a long-standing issue and we need to keep the conversation going to attempt to resolve it.
  - MW: Likes the idea of committees hosting Community Hours. At the top of each Community Hours meeting, can provide committee updates and share when the next open meeting is taking place.
  - SN: Can support the directors by attending their committee meetings, helping with logistics, following up with interested committee members -- if directors need the extra support.
    - NM and AM can do this too.
    - AM: Why website redesign is important for communication.
  - AM: Should we start an email thread amongst the board so that people can sign up for hosting Community Hours with their committee?



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- Changing the time -- doesn't always have to be 1PM ET.