

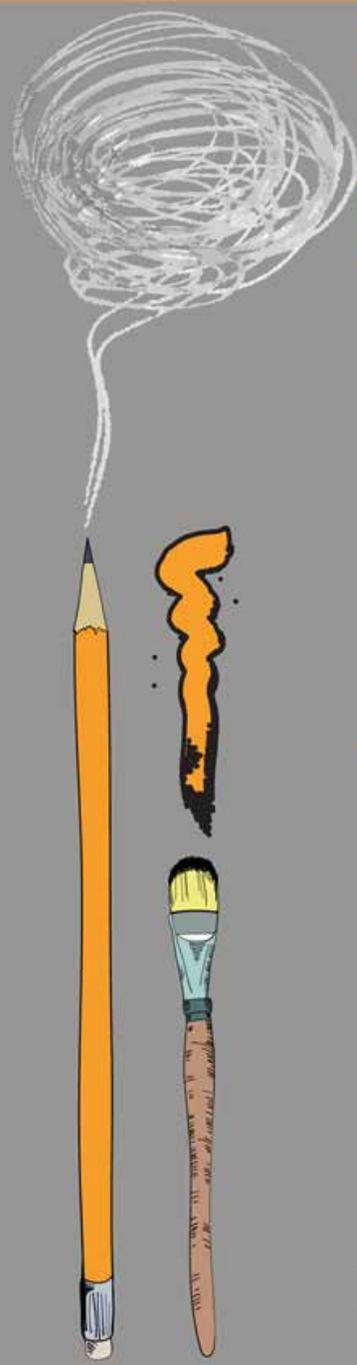


*Searching for truth and beauty, preaching through the transforming power of the arts*

*Volume 18 Issue 1 Winter 2017*

## Preparations under Way for the DIA Gathering in July: “RESPONSE”

**DOMINICAN INSTITUTE FOR THE ARTS**



**SAVE THE DATE** **JULY 26 to 29 2017**  
**WEBER CENTER**  
**ADRIAN**

REGISTRATION MATERIALS WILL BE COMING OUT IN APRIL 2017  
HERE'S THE \$\$ BASICS:  
\$410.00 - PRIVATE ROOM  
\$350.00 - SHARED ROOM  
\$200.00 - CAMPUS SISTERS  
\$60.00 - ROUND TRIP SHUTTLE

**THEME:**  
**RESPONSE**

This is precisely the time when ARTISTS go to work. There is no time for despair, no place for self-pity, no need for silence, no room for fear. WE SPEAK, WE WRITE, WE DO LANGUAGE. That is how civilizations heal.

**TONI MORRISON**

Artists throughout history have been responders to world situations, and we felt that the problems facing the U.S. and other countries around the world needed some sort of RESPONSE. Aneesah McNamee, OP a member of the Planning Committee found this quote from Toni Morrison, that the Committee thought summed up all of our discussion so we present it to you as our theme for the 2017 DIA Gathering.

“This is precisely the time when ARTISTS go to work. There is no time for despair, no place for self-pity, no need for silence, no room for fear. WE SPEAK, WE WRITE, WE DO LANGUAGE. This is how civilizations heal.”  
(Toni Morrison)

From this theme we set the program. Our Keynote Speaker Sue Schreiber, OP will set the stage as she speaks about the life and art of Käthe Kollwitz.

Käthe Kollwitz was one of the most important German Artists of the twentieth Century, and a very remarkable woman who created timeless art works against the background of a life of great sorrow, hardship, and heartache. Käthe believed that

art should be a response to the social conditions of the time and produced a series of works reflecting her concern with the themes of war, poverty, working class life and the lives of ordinary women in the first half of the 20th century. Sue will bring to life this great artist and her work.

Following Sue's Keynote there will be a panel response by three women from the membership.

### ***The GALA***

The GALA will present members of DIA who will perform for us – music, dance, voice and piano recital.

### ***The Workshops***

We are sure you will enjoy the workshops; Collaborative Art, Permaculture, dance and film study. We will have a tour of our campus attractions – list of things to do – maps will be provided – also a visit to INAI a new art/reflection center.

Nancy Murray, OP will also join us for her performance of Dorothy Stang, who was a Sister of Notre Dame de Namur who was murdered in Anapu a City State of Para, in the Amazon Basin of Brazil. Dorothy was outspoken in her efforts on behalf of the poor and the environment, and had previously received death threats from loggers and landowners.

Dot, as she was called, is often pictured wearing a t-shirt written in Portuguese that means, "The Death of the Forest is the End of our Lives."

Members of the Planning Committee:  
Barbara Cervenka, OP, Pat Daly, OPA, Aneesah McNamee, OP, Joella Miller, OP, Suzanne Schreiber, OP Nancyann Turner, OP, and Janet Wright, OP

**Registration Information will be sent out in April.**

**Have you sent in your renewal of membership and updated your email and address?**



## **Sue Schreiber: Keynote 2017 Gathering**

Sue Schreiber defies assignment to any one of the standard employment categories assigned to sisters in the American church.

She readily admits that she made up a title for her current ministry in Detroit only because we asked her to. "Director of Special Projects in Art, Spirituality, and Social Justice." With artistic talents ranging from photography to "liturgical harmonica" and life experience in ministries including education, parish ministry, social justice advocacy, and art show management, she assumes whichever role the project at hand requires. Inevitably, all her gifts converge in the priorities of her primary identity as an Adrian Dominican.

These priorities are evident in a wide range of arts projects. At the time of our interview last month, Sue was curating an exhibit at the Swords into Plowshares Peace Center & Gallery in Detroit entitled "Children of Challenge, Crisis and Conflict" featuring paintings and drawings by Lynn Baum. The childhood traumas depicted include images of war and famine in Nicaragua, Northern Ireland, Israel, and Palestine. Fortunately, upstairs in the same gallery, recent drawings of children depict "Detroit Hope."

For many years, Sue has enjoyed introducing spiritual dimensions of artistic activity to young people at Dominican High School Preaching Conferences. With Barbara Cervenka she has been involved in the ongoing "1000 Cranes" fund-raising project to support the Dominican sisters and their people in Iraq.



In keeping with the 2017 Gathering theme, Sue's presentation will introduce most of us to the art of Kathe Kollwitz (1867-1945), an expressionist sculptor and printmaker who believed that art should be a voice for social justice. Kollwitz "spoke out" by creating works which depicted universal human suffering in the person of prisoners, workers, and the grief-stricken. Sue shares Kollwitz's commitment: "Our art comes out of our contemplation. Today, more than ever, our contemplation compels us to action. For some people, the only meaningful action available is protest. The Dominican artist is more likely to respond with an art of affirmation."

It will be fascinating to hear Sue take artifacts like "The Downtrodden" and "Death Snatches a Child from Its Mother," and use them to inspire DIA artists and arouse their enthusiastic "RESPONSE".

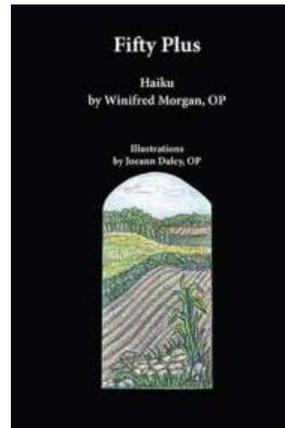


## Call for Nominations for the Fra Angelico Award

The Fra Angelico Award gives special recognition to members in the Dominican Family represented in the DIA who have distinguished themselves in some area of the arts. We look for candidates in the different fields who have received the recognition of their peers for excellence in their discipline.

Please take this opportunity to consider DIA members who qualify for this honor. Enclose the reasons for the nomination.

Nominations are due by March 15. Email to diartsop@gmail.com or mail to Barbara Schwarz OP 555 Albany Avenue, Amityville, NY 11701.



## A Review: Fifty Plus

Haiku by Winifred Morgan, O.P.  
Illustrations by Joann Daley, O.P.

Haiku, perhaps, one of the most contemplative art forms, can be described as three lines: maximum attention, minimum words, maximum silence. Sometimes, a good haiku draws us into prayer, and sometimes it just makes us smile.

For three decades, Sinsinawa Dominican Winifred Morgan has been publishing both kinds of haiku individually, and now, thanks to a grant from her congregation, she has assembled fifty of her favorites for our enjoyment. Winifred has captured the essence of the haiku content and adapted its form by reducing the mathematical tyranny of the seventeen syllable pattern and focusing on its other characteristic virtues: keenly observed imagery, compelling juxtapositions, subtly implied metaphors.

By simply presenting snapshots like a petunia rising from the dust at a construction site or snowflakes sifting through a gritty skylight, she suggests an eloquent unstated homily.

Sometimes traditional seasonal imagery inspires the poet; at other times, contemporary objects---hotrods, graffiti, dragsters---startle her attention. In fact, the collection opens with a visual signal of Winifred's playful intent: "on a hill above/the frozen river---a sign/'Hazardous swimming.'" Joann Daley's illustrations share the poet's style, both serious and witty, perfectly.

Consider being on the  
DIA Board. Elections at  
Gathering in July!

# Spread the message to End Racism with your art.

We know that racism raises its ugly head in our lives in many ways. The Dominican Institute for the Arts seeks to help the Order and LCWR further our work of rooting out Racism. We invite all DIA Members, Dominican Youth, Young Adults and all the Dominican Family as well as those they minister with to submit your personal artwork, videos, poetry, to join with us in one voice for this on our website and beyond.

Work must be original and if a YouTube or Vimeo it must abide by copyright laws. We reserve the right to choose what appears on our website. Let us know in your email your connection to the Dominican Family. To submit your work and support this preaching in action, please send it or the links to [diartstop@gmail.com](mailto:diartstop@gmail.com). by the latest April 2.

## Annual Shem Center for Interfaith Spirituality Concert.

Our anthem, “Laudare, Benedicere, Praedicare” was the highlight of the occasion with Dominicans joining the musicians in leading the audience in its singing. This year’s concert is titled, “Restoring Civility, a Concert of Classical Music,” and will take place on Sunday March 26th at 3:00 pm at St. Giles parish Center in Oak Park, Illinois.



The exquisite photographs of **Sister Pat Farrell, OP** will be projected during part of the concert. Those of you who live within driving distance of Oak Park are cordially invited to join us. Our musicians are first rate and will surely inspire and delight us with their performances.

Br. Joseph Kilegevce, OP Shem Center for Interfaith Spirituality 708 N. Harvey Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302 [shemcenter@comcast.net](mailto:shemcenter@comcast.net) [www.shemcenter.org](http://www.shemcenter.org)

## Request for Donations



The Dominican Volunteers USA are preparing for our annual event, Praedicare, April 22, 2017 at the Irish Heritage Center in Chicago. Like years past, the event will feature a silent bidding auction to raise funds for our program.

Last year, the fine art donations that we received from DIA were purchased by event attendees who were excited to have prints of original Dominican art. Would DIA artists be interested in making a donation to DVUSA again this year?

**What to donate:** Value should be about \$40-50 or so, though if you want to send something to them worth more it would be welcome.

**What kind of Auction is it?** This is a silent bidding auction where the lowest bid is about half the market value to start. About 125 people are expected 1/3 of whom are DV alums, 1/3 are religious and the rest invited guests. Art that is not bid on can be returned if desired.

**Where to and by when By April 14.** The artist is asked to pay shipping costs unless they are delivering it themselves, in which case please call DVUSA office- (312) 226-0919

To: Allison Beyer, Program Manager  
Dominican Volunteers USA  
1914 S. Ashland Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60608

# “What Have You Been Up to Lately?” Members Report

OPalette editors devoutly hope that reading through this report will provoke those whose names are missing with both guilt and inspiration: guilt if you have failed to report your activity and inspiration to produce something alone or in collaboration with one or more other artists.

For the past two years, **Laurena Alflen** (Grand Rapids) has been contributing pastel paintings to ART PRIZE Grand Rapids. In February 2017, she entered two paintings in a religious art show sponsored by the United Methodist Church of Grand Rapids. In July 2017, Laurena will mount her first solo show there.



In 2016-17, poet **Martha Bartholemew** (Sinsinawa OPA) launched a writing group with residents of Village Green.

**Sharon Foley Bock** (Adrian OPA) has submitted entries for shows in Longview, Colorado and Palm Springs, California.

“To celebrate the internationality of the Dominican Family,” **Mary Anna Euring** (Amityville) collaborated with the cloistered Dominican Sisters in the Monastery of the Mother of God in South Korea to bring their work to the Amityville Art Exhibit celebrating the 800th Jubilee of the Order. The Korean artists sent Mary Anna burnt wood depictions of the Nine Ways of Prayer which she translated in calligraphy. She shared with them her Asian Brush Paintings. Both communities now continue to strengthen a bond rooted in the arts.

On March 26, at the Shem Center for Interfaith Spirituality in Oak Park, Illinois, **Pat Farrell’s** exquisite photographs will be projected during the annual classical music concert.



At the urging of Toni Harris, **Winifred Morgan** (Sinsinawa) published “50 Plus,” a collection of Haiku accompanied by Joann Daley’s drawings. (See review, p.3)

**Mary Navarre** (Grand Rapids) edited, designed, and introduced each poem in “As the Day Brings Forth Its Gifts,” a compilation of poems by Mary Schwind, OP.



**Mary Ellen Paulson** (Racine) reads poetry every week to the street people in their Guest House in Milwaukee.

**Mary Ellen Robertson** (Grand Rapids) is working on the manuscript for: “The Spiritual Connection: Nursing for the Soul.”

**Barbara Schwarz** (Amityville) reached over 100 posts of her art, photography and poetry on Global Sisters Reports and also completed a dozen videos for her congregational Heritage Center.



At Good Shepherd Gallery, Ferguson Missouri, **Elizabeth Slenker**: (Sparkill) mounted a solo exhibit, “God’s Creative Diversity,” a spacious display featuring images of fifty different animals. She will participate in a group exhibition at the same venue in May.



**Anna Godiner** reports that “As a member of the Experts Council for Children’s Programs at the 18th International Book Fair in Moscow, I was responsible for selecting Best Books About Special Childhood and made presentations on three titles from this list.”



**Nancy Murray** has been travelling all around the country in the celebrations of the 800th Anniversary doing Catherine of Siena. She also has been presenting **Rooted in Love: The LiFe of Dorothy Stang..** She received a Distinguished Alumnae Award from Barry University.



## Reflections from the President

Throughout this issue we can see that DIA members have been very busy about preaching through the arts. We are certainly grateful for all those who have shared their current works .

Many things happen between gatherings. Recently the McGreal Center at Dominican University received archives of our gatherings, membership, photos and publications. and more.

The Planning Commission has a timely theme with the events of the past few months and they are working hard to bring something new to be in us. The Legacy group has been meeting monthly and their report is on page 7 with interesting questions and ideas.

Membership continues to come in and we have reached out to the Women of Fire group and the Justice and Peace promoters for the gathering. We continue to depend on you to reach out to those who may not see themselves as artists but everyone else does. Encourage them and your associates to join or befriend us with a donation.

As I near the end of my term on the Board, I ask you to consider what gifts you have to share with DIA and the members you know that might help us unfold a future of hope for DIA. Elections will be held in July. More news will come in the next Board Updates.

We hope to see you at the gathering in Adrian. Not only does a warm welcome await but the challenge to speak to our time through your art. Art peaches the truth we cannot always see.

Take time to enjoy the beauty of the world and what you create. Be brave enough to share it . Now more than ever the truth must be proclaimed. We need to inspire one another. See you at the gathering!

## My Collaborative Art: Elaine DesRosiers OP

Can you believe that my time of recovery from a knee replacement has become a true ministry and an experience of collaborative art? While here at Sansbury Care Center adjacent to the Dominican Sisters of Peace's Kentucky motherhouse, in the dining room I fill in a menu sheet for the next meal.

After a week or so, I began to sketch a little flower on the sheet to cheer the kitchen crew. Soon this little flower began to be a miniature drawing in full color thanks to colored pencils. I've created, for example, farm scenes, flower pots, bird houses, school buses, seascapes and on and on. At three a day for three weeks you can just imagine how many spontaneous one-minute 2" x 3" pieces of art are bringing smiles to the kitchen staff. That was just a start, however. One of the residents takes my menu sheet around the dining room to share with all the others. Each day I get greetings from smiling residents and staff of the care center like "I love your butterflies", or "That teddy bear was so cuddly."

Note: Another outcome of this ministry is that a young woman employee in the kitchen has begun to add a drawing of her own to my menu sheet. Perhaps this will be the inspiration for her to develop her artistic ability.



# Legacy Committee Progress Report

As reported in OPalette, Fall 2016, Joeann Daley raised concerns at the Racine Gathering regarding appropriate disposition of an artist's works which should be considered her legacy. ("When Junk Is Not Junk," p. 4) The discussion which Joeann initiated resulted in the Board's formation of a sub-committee to formulate a DIA Policy and Guidelines for recommendation to artists and to congregational leadership. Elizabeth Michael Boyle (Caldwell) volunteered to chair this committee which now includes Barbara Cervenka (Adrian), Joeann Daley (Sinsinawa), and Elaine DesRosiers (Peace). The group has held monthly conference calls since January.

So far, the committee has focused its time together on two questions:

- a) what can each artist herself do now to provide for the preservation/ disposition of her art work?
- b) what, ideally, could American Dominicans do together to preserve and share our corporate artistic legacy?

Consideration of the first question led to Joeann's consultation with archivists and digital technologists and to Barbara Cervenka's composition of a model inventory form. As the committee focused on each artist's personal responsibilities, it was soon evident that providing for one's artistic legacy will be laborious and TIME CONSUMING! Acknowledging this, the committee next formulated a recommendation/invitation/plea for volunteers to provide clerical and technological assistance to the artists.

Discussion of the second question immediately provoked a third: are there funding sources that would support our dream of a National Museum of Dominican Art? After consideration of Joeann's investigation of some funding possibilities, the committee agreed to table dreams of a national museum for the present.

By June, the committee hopes to present its policy statement and guidelines for Board approval and, perhaps, to initiate membership action at the Adrian Gathering in July

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## DIA Board 2016 -17

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