

Monthly Guild Meeting

September 18, 2024

Meeting Opening - Shelley Mowry called the meeting to order at 10:05

Opening Prayer – Lucille Maho gave the prayer in both Hopi and English.

Speakers:

John Coggins, Heard Museum Board of Trustees Chair – Greeted the Guild members and thanked them all for their many hours of volunteer service and for supporting the Heard Museum (HM). Reminded the Guild members to document their volunteer hours either using the easy-to-use application VicNet or to go online and record hours served.

Updates indicated there were plans to use the HM’s budget for renovations, maintenance and new exhibition space. Goal is \$36 million for renovations and exhibition space. Reported current sales in the HM Shop continued to be strong during current construction period. This year the HM will be celebrating its 95th anniversary in December 26, 2024. The Board of Trustees has started strategically planning for the HM’s 100-year anniversary in December 26, 2029.

David M. Roche, Dickey Family Director/CEO – Thanked the Guild for their hard work, dedication to the HM, and support of many HM activities. Reported that the 2024 fiscal year begins in October 1, 2024. The HM Shop will open October 16, 2024. Reported the Shop is unique in that it offers visitors the chance to interact with the art in ways that they can’t in the museum itself. The Shop connects the world to Indigenous creativity by presenting the voice and vision of American Indian artists. Reported the Shop is a vital economic engine for American Indian artists and that the economic impact of the Shop on Indian Country is more than \$45 million per year. Recognized Bruce McGee (retired HM Shop manager) for his enormous contributions to the success of the Shop.

Other updates: During this year’s Moondance on October 16, 2024, the HM will honor D.Y. Begay (Navajo weaver). This fall on Friday November 22, 2024, the HM will be honoring another Navajo weaver, Barbara Teller Ornelas with the 21st annual Spirit of the Heard Award. The HM recently acquired Barbara’s “Navajo Barbie.” On October 4, a new exhibit opens – Meryl McMaster: Bloodline. There will be 65 art objects. This will be the first major solo exhibition of Meryl McMaster’s work outside of Canada. Meryl McMaster’s photographic works reflect her mixed Plains Cree, Dutch and British ancestry.

On November 9, there will be the opening of Space Makers: Indigenous Expression and a New American Art. This exhibition was organized by the Crystal Bridges Museum, and is their first partnership with any Arizona organization. The exhibition examines the mid-century American art movement known as Indian Space Painting and the relationship between those non-Native painters, the Indigenous visual and material culture that inspired them, and the artists from the modern Native art movement who expanded upon such creative explorations through their own visual heritage.

Last year the HM acquired for its collection the beaded and quilled horse mask by Juanita Growing Thunder and Kevin Pourier, which is illustrated in the HM’s latest publication Majestic Figures. Two other art acquisitions (not from Santa Fe) are a painting by Fritz Scholder titled Summer Dream, painted in 1982, and a spectacular Classic Navajo Bayeta Poncho Serape (characteristic of blankets woven between

1840-1860 and are quite rare). It has a Fair Market Value of \$850,000. This Serape was a gift to the HM from John and Margo Ernst of New York.

Last December, David M. Roche was awarded a Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust Fellowship. It enabled him to travel to other museums across the country that are similarly dedicated to American Indian art and culture. The image of Wheel by Edgar Heap of Birds (Dever Art Museum) was shown.

The newest January 12, 2024 guidelines to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), did not affect HM's art. The guidelines only apply to federally funded institutions, not to private collections. The HM does not collect, research, or exhibit human remains.

Last year Guild volunteers clocked in 37,000 hours. The volunteers that submitted their hours made up less than one-half of the HM guild members. And 32 of those members contributed almost 70% of total hours. Many members do not record their hours. These metrics collected by the HM are important and are used by the HM to present to supporters, in grant applications, and are even presented to the IRS. The request was made for members to record their volunteer hours more diligently.

Approval of the Minutes – Jeff Ross called for the approval of the April 17, 2024, Guild meeting minutes which were approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report – Newton Linebaugh reported the Guild is financially sound and has \$146K net. Best of Show (BOS) Ribbon collections and pledges – there are still about 50 ribbons for BOS available. Now the Guild has an Amazon account. Requests for items need to go to Newton. September 30, 2024 is the end of the fiscal year. Any expenditures must go to Newton prior to the end of the fiscal year. A motion was made for approval of the Guild budget (2024-2025) which was approved by voice vote.

Parliamentarian Report – Jeff Ross, Guild Parliamentarian, reported a Bylaws change. Two new Board of Director positions opened: one for Las Guias, and the other for Guild Education. The Guild approved the revised Bylaws unanimously by voice vote.

Staff Appreciation Luncheon Report – Christy Sinclair and Susan Gross, Co-chairs. Luncheon will be October 9, 2024 at 11:30 am. It is good time to meet some of the HM staff. Members may sign up to attend, help out, or bring salads. Sign-up table was located in the auditorium.

Tech Team Report – Dan Dolan, Guild Technology Chair presented an update of the team's endeavors. The team consisting of Michael Mandracchia, Rita Baker, Carrie Bagby, Dan Dolan, Rick Young and Barry Katzen was recognized as well as the assistance of JoAnne Mandracchia. Updates on the VicNet application, the Website, and educational videos were provided. Currently there are 18 Guild videos. Guild members are required to log in to see these videos using their passwords. Dan reported that one hour of video resulted in 10 hours of work to make it professional quality. The new Website is due in 30-45 days. This website will merge with the HM website. There will be a combined calendar and a merged events calendar. This is due by the end of October.

President's Remarks - Shelley Mowry thanked several individuals involved in updating the Guild's job descriptions this summer: Jeff Ross, John Miller, Jane Sanford, and Linda Zigrossi. Shelley encouraged Guild members to introduce themselves to HM employees.

Marquee Artist Series Announcement – JoAnne and Michael Mandracchia, Co-Chairs. JoAnne indicated Guild members could still sign up for the series. Tickets may be bought before the event, or at the door.

There will be three artists presenting: On October 23, 2024 will be Venancio Aragon, Navajo weaver; on November 6, 2024 will be Mavasta Honyouti – Hopi Carver, and on January 22, 2025 will be Jason Garcia – clay tiles and print making artist.

Membership Report – Carol Seidberg, Chair. New members were presented to the Guild members present. There will be a new members' orientation on October 8, 2024. For those unable to attend on that day there will be another orientation on October 31. Jack Brock will speak to new members. Susan Sherbocker came up with the idea of new members wearing ribbons by their badges to let others know they are new members. A call for new buddies was put out. Guild members were asked to check their files in the Guild room which have been updated by Rita Baker and Carol Seidberg.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda Zigrossi, Acting Secretary.