



From the President

Nancy Walkup

This past July I was fortunate to represent RAEA at the NAEA Leadership Conference in Detroit, Michigan and to present a breakout session, "Spreading the Word about Art Education." (I shared the content of this in my last RAEA E-Newsletter.) The session's purpose was to encourage NAEA leaders to share with their colleagues why and how to write about art education.

Highlights of the conference were many: meeting with other interest group leaders under the guidance of Cindy Todd and Deb Pylypiw, the current interest group coordinators; learning from three dynamic keynote speakers: Nettrice Gaskins (<https://www.nettricegaskins.com>), Amanda Karhuse (<https://nafme.org/person/amanda-karhuse/>), and D'Wayne Edwards (www.plcdetroit.com); visiting the Diego Rivera Murals at the Detroit Institute of Art; touring the many murals all over Detroit, and spending revitalizing time with colleagues.

D'Wayne Edwards

D'Wayne Edwards, one of the inspirational keynote speakers, who in 2010 founded the first academy dedicated to footwear design, **PENSOLE**. It is now the preeminent footwear design school in the world with more than 700 former students working with top brands in the industry. Edwards shared with us his story, starting his career in 1989, with no formal education, as a **19-year-old entry-level footwear designer for LA Gear. Edwards has designed more than 500 styles for premier athletes such as Derek Jeter and Michael Jordan.**

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Edwards is now the president of **Pensole Lewis College of Business and Design in Detroit (PLC)**. PLC has been recognized by **Fast Company** as one of the most innovative design companies in the world. PLC's website shares that Edwards is known as one of the leading experts on diversity in design by his peers. He has **fostered a network of over 600 Black and Brown designers** across all design industries by creating an annual conference called the **Black Footwear Forum**.

Edwards also opened the **first Black-owned athletic footwear factory in the United States, JEMS**. Named after a black shoemaking pioneer Jan Ernst Matzeliger, this manufacturing space allows aspiring Black designers to create their own brands and watch their ideas go from concept on the page to product in hand. **Edwards brought a number of his students with him to his session and provided a drawing format so that we could design our own athletic shoes.**



**NAEA PRESIDENT
WANDA KNIGHT
WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKER
D'WAYNE EDWARDS**

**EDWARD'S STUDENTS CAME TO HIS
PRESENTATION WITH WANDA
KNIGHT AS PICTURED ABOVE.**



Detroit Industry Murals

On the final night of the conference, participants were invited to the **College of Creative Studies** Reception and the **Detroit Institute of Arts** (<https://dia.org>). The highlight of the evening was seeing and experiencing **Diego Rivera's Detroit Industry Murals**, created in fresco, 1932-1933 (<https://shorturl.at/Wza0D>) The artist conceived of the Detroit Industry murals as a tribute to the city's manufacturing base and labor force of the 1930's, with a specific focus on the manufacture of the 1932 Ford V-8 at the Ford Motor Company's Rouge Plant. The murals were considered controversial at the time, in part, for his communist views. You can learn more specifics about the controversies in an article in the **Detroit News** (<https://shorturl.at/uK6DG>).

IN SHORT, THE CONFERENCE WAS GREAT, AND I SO APPRECIATED BEING THERE TO REPRESENT RAEA.



NANCY WALKUP

**SEEING DIEGO RIVERA'S DETROIT
INDUSTRY MURALS WITH NAEA
PRESIDENT WANDA KNIGHT**

Trivia

**Congratulations to both
July and September Winners!!!!**

July Trivia Winner was Melissa Gallagher:
Renoir lived and painted with rheumatoid arthritis.

September Trivia Winner was Gail Purvis (RAEA)
"Salvador Dali felt that he was a reincarnation of his brother who had previously passed away!"

When Dali was 5, his parents took him to his older brother's grave and shared their belief in reincarnation with him, something he came to believe. His brother, also named Salvador, had died just 9 months before the artist's birth.



SALVADOR DALI - PORTRAIT OF MY DEAD BROTHER (1963)
THE REDDIT MUSEUM

November Trivia Question

**Which scientist invented
the color wheel?**

Send your answers to me at: nancywalkup@mac.com



In the Spotlight

2027 NYC Convention Program Co-coordinator

NAEA President 2019-2021

NAEA Distinguished Fellow

National Teacher Hall of Fame 2020

Hello, I am Thom Knab. You may know me as a former NAEA President (2019-2021) or by my scintillating personality. This past June I retired after a 36 year career in art education, with 34 years at Dodge Elementary School in Williamsville, NY. I am planning on staying here in beautiful Western New York in my little cottage home where I love to get out into my gardens and putt around. It truly is a Zen-space for me. At the end of August, I will begin my 41st year of coaching boys' volleyball; the last 33 have been at Williamsville South High School. So, this will keep me somewhat connected to education. I plan on continuing my support of art education through involvement with the NAEA Distinguished Fellows and RAEA. I have also been selected as the NAEA Convention Program Co-coordinator for the 2027 NYC convention along with Kim Cairy.



Die Fossilien by Thom Knab

I am currently serving on the Board of Directors for the Western New York Book Arts Collaborative, serving as its secretary. I also sit on the Advisory Committee for the National



Marilyn by Thom Knab

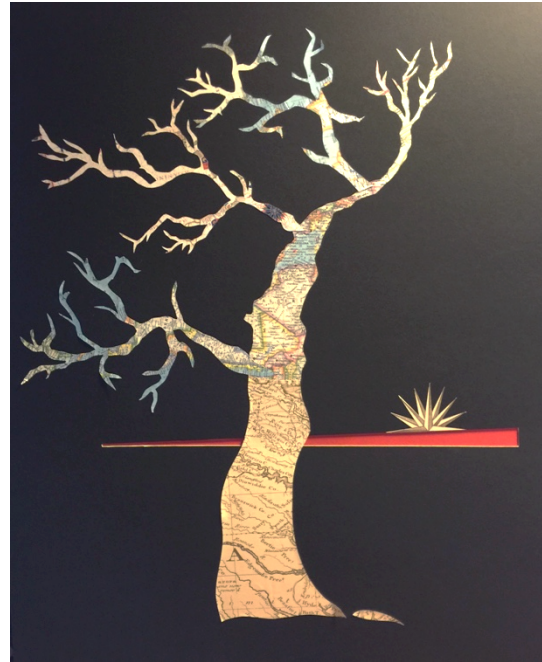
Teacher Hall of Fame, of which I am a 2020 inductee. I have not planned any big trips yet as I love the Buffalo, NY summers and this is the first summer in many that I do not have a trip or obligation taking me out of the area. I say this, however just today, a friend and I planned a short trip to Cleveland this month – but it is only about 3.5 hours away from my home.

This past February I had a skunk get under my house and sprayed, so I was unable to live there for six and a half weeks. I feel I have just recently caught up after cleaning EVERYTHING and then catching up on those jobs around the house that got pushed down the road. But things are good now. I am looking forward to creating more art and perhaps pursuing having an art show or submitting my work to art



"Oh, and I look forward to taking naps. I love a good nap."

shows/galleries. I do mostly assemblage and collage work. I find the challenge of “figuring out” how to put the pieces together, and make them stay, the most fun. I have included a few examples of my work. Take good care!



Are you a Member of the RAEA Interest Group???

Are you working harder than ever since you don't have to go to school every day? Is art still your life? Do you finally have time to create? Since you are reading this, you are obviously still a member of NAEA. As a member, do you want to continue working as an advocate for art education? Are you interested in sharing your experience earned expertise with classroom art teachers? RAEA has some of the top-rated, award-winning educators of the last 25 years (or more in some cases). We still care and are working together in the RAEA interest group to model, mentor, and motivate art teachers to continue providing support and instruction to their art students.

Now that time is no longer an obstacle, we will define and establish the role of the retired art educators. As an interest group we will conduct programs of professional activities for state and national events; we will encourage continued personal involvement and development in art education; we will inform State Associations and NAEA of concerns relevant to members of long-standing; and to encourage and support, as well as provide mentorship for members of the NAEA.

This is what we are about, be sure you have joined our group! It's FREE!

**THE 2025 NAEA AWARD NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN!
THE TIME IS NOW**

**To nominate friends and colleagues for the
2025 RAEA NATIONAL EMERITUS ART EDUCATOR AWARD**

This award recognizes continuous outstanding service to art education by an individual after retirement.

Eligibility

NAEA retired members who are also current RAEA Interest Group members and have been retired at least 3 years and brought distinction to the field of art education by exceptional and continuous records of achievement through teaching, professional leadership, and other contributions after retirement are eligible to receive this award.

Submit

Online nomination and vita information, which must note the date of retirement (mm/dd/yyyy) and all service and achievements, including specific dates occurring ONLY after retirement; one cover letter of nomination; two additional letters supporting the nomination; and a photograph of the nominee are required.

Deadline

Nominations must be submitted **no later than October 1.**

For further information

Go to: www.arteducators.org

Type "Awards" in the search bar and click the magnifying glass.

On this page please **download:**

1. The **"NAEA Awards Program Rubrics_2025"**
(The RAEA National Emeritus Art Educator Award [Rubric details](#) are on pages 44-46.)
2. The **"NAEA Awards: Activity Exemplars"**
(This list is intended to offer [suggestions and ideas for the activities section of the NAEA Awards Nomination Form](#). It **does not list all the possible activities** that could be included within the activities section; however, it serves as an excellent tool. This list is also intended for the use of Interest Groups.)
3. The **"2025 NAEA Awards Program Booklet"**
(The RAEA National Emeritus Art Educator Award [eligibility and submission details](#) are on page 6.)

Now, on this same page, **click on:**

4. The **"NAEA Awards"**

This will take you to another page where you can scroll down and.....

5. **Click here to begin your online nomination.**

Submitted by:

Dr Emily Boo Ruch - RAEA Awards Chair



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RAEA MISSION STATEMENT

The purposes shall be to define and establish the role of the retired art educators as an interest group of NAEA; to conduct programs of professional activities for state and national events; to encourage continued personal involvement and development in art education; to inform State Associations and NAEA of concerns relevant to members of long-standing; and to encourage and support, as well as provide mentorship for student members of the NAEA.