



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2017-2018**

**Kentucky Craft History & Education Association**  
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# **Kentucky Craft History & Education Association**

## **Annual Report 2017-2018**

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**Kentucky Craft History  
& Education Association**

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Philis Alvic, President  
Lexington, KY

Larry Isenhour, Treasurer  
Lexington, KY

Mary Reed, Secretary  
Irvine, KY

Bob Gates  
Frankfort, KY

Peggy McAllister  
Lexington, KY

Fran Redmon  
Frankfort, KY

Abby Vaughn  
Lexington, KY

**EMERITUS**

Susan Goldstein,  
Founding President  
Lexington, KY

**HONORARY FOUNDERS**

Marlene Helm  
Nicholasville, KY

Sherry Jelsma  
Shelbyville, KY

Crit Luallen  
Frankfort, KY

Kay Lowe Masuhr  
Louisville, KY

Juanita Peterson  
Lexington, KY

January 2019

Dear Friends and Supporters:

The Kentucky Craft History and Education Association (KCHEA) is pleased to present its 2018 Annual Report. KCHEA continues to make strides toward our mission of documenting and presenting the ongoing impact of craft in Kentucky. As my first year as President, Fran Redmon is both a hard act to follow and an easy one. Fran valiantly guided KCHEA for many years and set very high standards for the organization. She set forth policies and procedures that nicely illuminated a path for me to follow as I took over the leading the Board.

**Highlights of KCHEA's 2017-2018 programming:**

- Worked with the Frazier Museum in Louisville on the Kentucky Craft Luminaries: Sharing the Stories exhibit and planned accompanying public programming.
- Continued indexing of all of KCHEA's completed oral history interviews in order to make them more accessible to researchers and the public online.
- Processed 12 of 18 transcriptions, as part of goal to transcribe all of KCHEA's oral history interviews making them more valuable to researchers.
- Completed two oral histories interviews as part of the Craft Luminary Project.
- Carried on a public awareness campaign about Kentucky crafts and the work of KCHEA through social media.

Please take the time to review the following report and more of the details of our efforts this past year.

In the meantime, look for us on social media and the Internet.

Sincerely,

Philis Alvic  
KCHEA Board President

## **MISSION**

***The Kentucky Craft History and Education Association gathers, conserves and presents the history and ongoing impact of crafts in Kentucky.***

## **VALUE STATEMENTS**

***There is an inherent value in the making of craft*** which embodies both skill and design; many skills are intrinsic in rural culture and have historically been part of essential living.



***Kentucky has a long and rich craft heritage*** involving both the makers and organizations of craft that have created both an economic and cultural impact resulting in national and international recognition for the state as a model for craft development.



***History provides valuable lessons that impact our future*** and documenting and sharing Kentucky's craft history honors the makers and creates pride in our heritage.



***The arts offer many educational and economic benefits and support the development of intellectual skills.*** Crafts can play a role in education through a variety of academic disciplines connecting students to craft artists as role models and educating them to craft as a vocational and lifestyle choice.



***The documentation and preservation of Kentucky's craft history is needed and urgent*** and is best done through the artifacts, documents, and stories told by craft makers and organizational leaders that have most significantly impacted the state's craft movement.



***Partnerships are important*** and have been vital to Kentucky's craft success and are critical to the ongoing preservation and documentation of its history.

**KCHEA STRATEGIC PLAN 2016 – 2018**

**KCHEA: Saving the Story of Kentucky Craft**

**MISSION:**

**The Kentucky Craft History and Education Association gathers, conserves and presents the history and on-going impact of crafts in Kentucky**

**GOAL I:**

**Strong Organizational Capacity to achieve KCHEA mission**

Objective 1: Increase Board Membership to a total of 12 by 2018.

Objective 2: Cultivate partnership with organizations in order to implement KCHEA programming.

Objective 3: Hire administrative staff and part-time manager.

Objective 4: Establish a Financing and Fundraising Plan for 2016-2018.

Objective 5: Expand membership as a category for participation with benefits.

**GOAL II:**

**Kentuckians to take pride in our long, diverse and continuing craft history (Public Programs and Projects)**

Objective 1: Develop one annual public program

Objective 2: Define process for implementation of a traveling exhibit (Craft Luminaries)

Objective 3: Continue to make the Craft Luminary video interviews accessible

Objective 4: Provide workshops for the Legacy Project – guidance and training for others to document their story/legacy.

Objective 5: Encourage museums and galleries throughout the state to collect and/or exhibit crafts.

**GOAL III:**

**A strong support system for the identification, research and documentation (i.e. scholarship) of Kentucky Craft History**

Objective 1: Continue the Craft Luminary Project (oral history videos)

Objective 2: Continue to encourage the Legacy Project “everyone has stories to tell” where people document their own traditions and history.

Objective 3: Formulate methods for brokering between donors and historical repositories.

Objective 4: Formalize the PLAN for phase 1 of curating a Kentucky Craft Encyclopedia including “content” and “structure”.

**GOAL IV:**

**A Strong Brand Identity for KCHEA**

Objective 1: Consider an explanatory subtitle for KCHEA

Objective 2: Publish a quarterly newsletter/blog/social media.

Objective 3: Send Speakers out to promote Kentucky Craft History, Legacy Projects, Luminaries and KCHEA.

Objective 4: Continue to Strive toward making KCHEA’s work a national model.

Objective 5: Place emphasis on personal engagement and connections to craft.

**OVERVIEW 2017 - 2018**  
*Accomplishments and Progress Toward Goals*

**GOAL I: Strong Organizational Capacity to achieve KCHEA mission**

**Administration:**

- Continued to document KCHEA activities and projects via formal reports (e.g. 2017 Annual Report, yearly calendar of activities, event and grant reports, and via the web).
- Reviewed the Strategic Plan and discuss progress and focus for the coming year.

**Board Development:**

- Identified several potential new board members for consideration and invited them to board meetings.
- Met with Tamara Peterson from the LexArts Business Volunteer Assistance program.

**Funding:**

- Prepared for a fundraising mailing.
- Ran a KCHEA advertisement in TOPS magazine.
- Participated in fundraising programs including, Kroger Community Rewards, GoodShop, and Amazon Smile.
- Proposed joint fundraising with Murray Art Guild and the Kentucky Guild of Artists and Craftsmen using watercolors from Emily Wolfson's estate.

**GOAL III: A strong support system for the identification, research and documentation (i.e. scholarship) of Kentucky Craft History**

- Conducted two oral history interviews as part on ongoing Craft Luminary Project with photographer Warren Brunner and Neil and Mary Colmer, who ran a weaving and craft retail business in Berea.
- Prioritized Luminary Committee's current list of candidates for interviews.
- Completed the transcription grant from the Kentucky Oral History Commission and filed the final report.
- Continued indexing of interviews transcribed to date as part of the KOHC indexing grant.
- Secured Jonathon Philipot as someone who will conduct interviews for KCHEA.
- Board participation in professional conferences included the History Relevance Workshop at Shakertown in March, the Appalachian Studies Association Conference in Cincinnati in April; and the Kentucky Museums and Heritage Alliance regional dinner in December in Lexington, and the banquet in Louisville in June.

**GOAL II: Kentuckians to take pride in our long, diverse and continuing craft history (Public Programs and Projects)**

- Worked with the staff of the Frazier Museum to present the Craft Luminaries Exhibition.

- Worked with the staff of the Frazier Museum to identify public programming to accompany the Craft Luminaries Exhibition.
- Excerpts from two interviews with Founding President, Susan Goldstein, were completed and posted on KCHEA web site and YouTube Channel.
- Negotiated with the Kentucky Museum at Western Kentucky University about presenting the “Craft History: Preserving Your Personal Legacy” workshop in Bowling Green.
- Investigated preparing a Timeline of Kentucky Craft History.
- Added transcripts of Craft Luminary interviews to the KCHEA website.
- Prepared program on KCHEA and Berea Crafts for presentation at the Beaumont Library in Lexington.

**GOAL IV: A Strong Brand Identity for KCHEA**

- Maintained KCHEA web site posting annual report, activity announcements, press releases. Attached transcripts to Craft Luminary interview list and added links to videos in Kentucky Historical Society online digital collection.
- Increased presence on social media accounts including Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter. Instituted a series of profile features of KCHEA Board Members. Posted 32 video excerpts from interviews with founding board members Susan Goldstein and Mary Reed on Youtube. Facebook page likes increased by 25 from 374, to 389.
- Voted to adopt the History Relevance value statements and join the national campaign.
- Visibility at national and regional conferences.

## **Craft Luminary Interviews Report**

The KCHEA Board reexamined the list of people that had previously been selected to interview. The list was updated and priorities assigned to the names. It is understood that names can be reshuffled for health of the person or travel convenience.

Two Craft Luminary Interviews were performed on May 30, 2018 with Sean Anderson as videographer and Mary Reed as interviewer in Berea, KY.

Neil and Mary Colmer of Weaver's Bottom Craft Studio opened their gallery in 1984 and planned on retiring in September. Neil is a weaver of traditional patterns and Mary is a corn shuck doll artist. KCHEA wanted to capture their story and journey together in their gallery before they close the doors.

Warren Brunner, a photographer, age 90, is still very active and his mind is sharp as ever. He has turned his business over to one of his daughters and now considers himself a street photographer and carries his camera everywhere. He is in the process of archiving over 500 boxes of photos that donated to Special Collections at Berea College.

## **Kentucky Oral History Transcription Grant Report**

The KOH Transcription Grant was completed in December 2017, the final report was filed with Sarah Schmitt on January 28, 2018 along with all 18 transcripts. Joanna Hay Productions was contracted to do the transcripts, with Anna Barnard doing the actual work. Mary Reed worked with Anna on the final proofing/editing of the transcripts.

The goal of the project grant, Kentucky Craft Luminaries: Sharing the Stories was to complete approximately 23 hours of 18 recorded video interviews with craft artists, a craft organization representative and a collector, all that had an impact on craft development in the state. All 18 video interviews have been successfully transcribed, audited, and are archived at the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History. These will join the other 58 video interviews and transcripts already in the Craft Luminary Project for a total of 76, all are available for public use and research purposes.

## **Indexing Grant Report**

The Kentucky Historical Society's Kentucky Oral History Commission awarded KCHEA a \$2,340.00 grant June 30, 2-16 to index 78 hours of record video interviews with craft artists, craft organization representatives, and craft conservationists, who have had an impact on craft development in the state. The Oral History Metadata System indexing that was done by Joanna Hay Productions allowed the Oral History Commission to share KCHEA's Craft Luminary interviews online that are linked to the transcriptions of each interview. Visitors to the Oral History Commission's website can read transcriptions of the interviews and view the videos sections that correspond to the written section.

## **Kentucky Craft Luminaries: Sharing the Stories Partnership with the Frazier History Museum**

Following the success of the “Kentucky Craft Luminaries: Sharing the Stories” exhibit hosted at ArtsPlace, Lexington in 2015, KCHEA reached out to several venues that might collaborate in presenting the exhibit across the state. Meetings in 2017 resulted in an agreement from the Frazier History Museum, Louisville, to host the exhibit from November 2018 – May 2019. The exhibit is to be housed in prominent first floor galleries of the museum.

KCHEA board members, Philis Alvic and Fran Redmon continued discussions throughout FY 2018 with administrative, programming and curatorial staff about the implementation and presentation of the exhibit. Frazier staff have secured the artist boards and signage that KCHEA developed as part of the original exhibit. All the various materials including photos, bios, interviews and educational curriculum materials are available to museum staff. KCHEA contacted the exhibit artists to announce the upcoming show, and the Frazier has contacted the artists directly to begin the process of collecting objects for the exhibit. Due to the larger space, artists will have the opportunity to include more pieces than the exhibit originally displayed.

The Frazier is considering many potential programming and ancillary activities:

- Opening Reception
- Teacher Professional Development
- Student Symposium
- Family Programming/Hands-on – Second Saturday
- Interview Stage with Exhibiting Artists
- Craft Demonstrations
- Film presentations, including the exhibit video featuring segments of several luminary interviews
- Crafts in the Gift Shop
- Holiday Market – Crafts, Food, Music
- Docent Training
- Phone Audio Tour
- Craft Legacy Workshop – Artists
- Craft History Seminar
- Craft Tour for Museum Members

Frazier museum staff have begun the process of planning and scheduling these activities to be confirmed in the very near future.

This represents a significant commitment by a major venue that is pioneering new ways of presenting Kentucky history to visitors. Their mission and vision closely aligns with the work KCHEA is doing, and this opportunity will significantly boost KCHEA’s presence in the state.

FINANCIAL REPORT

	Budget FY2016-17	Actual FY2016-17	Budget FY 2017-18
Bank Accounts			
Community Trust			
Total			
Income			
Contributions	2,500.00	273.00	1,500.00
Grants	2,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Other	250.00	108.49	150.00
Total Income	4,750.00	381.49	2,150.00
Expense			
Operating			
Board training /Conferences	100.00	0.00	100.00
Fees	70.00	47.90	70.00
Insurance	415.00	415.00	430.00
Memberships	50.00	20.00	50.00
Office supplies	180.00	9.80	100.00
Postage	300.00	76.00	100.00
Promotion	620.00	919.40	200.00
Travel /Misc.	150.00	0.00	150.00
Personnel / Consultants	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Operating	1,885.00	1,488.10	1,200.00
Projects			
Luminaries Interviews/Exhibit	5,850.00	1,843.24	2,000.00
Transcriptions	2,000.00	00.00	1,000.00
Legacy Workshop	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Indexing	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Projects	8,850.00	1,843.24	4,000.00
Total Expense	10,735.00	3,331.34	5,200.00
Net Ordinary Income	-4,365.00	-2,949.85	-3,050.00

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Philis Alvic, President**, is an artist, weaver, and writer. Since graduating from the School of the Art Institute in Chicago, she has shown her work in exhibitions throughout the country. In 1977 she was awarded the Certificate of Excellence from the Handweavers Guild of America and received an Al Smith Fellowship from the Kentucky Arts Council in 1996. She has published over 100 articles and papers on crafts and crafts history and two books, one on early 20<sup>th</sup> century Appalachian weaving centers and the other on crafts of Armenia. She served as an international craft development consultant through agencies funded by USAID.

**Larry Isenhour, Treasurer** is a Kentucky registered Architect with Green Scheme Design. He is a collector of Kentucky art and folk art and has been a supporter of the arts in Kentucky as past president of the Lexington Art League and board member of the Kentucky Folk Art Center, Mid-south Sculpture Alliance, and Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft.

**Mary Reed, Secretary** is a craft artist and co-owner of Appalachian Crafts. She attended the University of Kentucky where she studied fine arts. She is a juried member of the Kentucky Guild of Artists and Craftsmen, the Kentucky Craft Marketing Program, the Kentucky Peer Advisory Network, and a Community Scholar. She serves on the advisory council of the Kentucky Appalachian Artisan Center and as a mentor for the Kentucky Craft Marketing Program. She has conducted numerous crafts workshops and artist residencies in elementary schools and her work has been presented in numerous exhibitions. Mary is the current chair of Artist Advisory Council, Appalachian Artisan Center. She is the founder and current president of the Estill Arts Council.

**Bob Gates** is the founder and former director of the Kentucky Folklife Program. He has a masters in Folk Studies and Historic Preservation from Western Kentucky University and over 30 years of experience as a public folklorist. He has worked throughout the United States as an ethnographer, oral historian, exhibit designer, festival director, cultural consultant, cultural diversity trainer and teacher. Bob is the recipient of the American Folklore Society Benjamin Botkin Prize for significant achievement in public folklore. He is the 2014 Folk Heritage recipient, Governor's Award in the Arts. He is currently working as an independent Folklorist consulting with individuals and organizations to document and present their own corporate, family, and community histories and cultures. Bob is consultant through the Kentucky Arts Council's Kentucky Peer Advisory Network (KPAN).

**Peggy McAllister**, is a graphic designer, artist, story writer, building restorer and fan of the arts. After earning a BFA at Eastern Kentucky University she spent 30 years at the Lexington Public Library in the marketing department as the graphic designer and Central Library Gallery exhibits manager. She is currently a docent at the Mary Todd Lincoln House and project manager for Bee & Clover Renovations. She is on the board of the Kentucky Ecuador Partners and serves on the City of Winchester Design Committee and a member of Winchester Innovative Business Association.

**Fran Redmon**, has a B.F.A. in Commercial Art from Western Kentucky University. She served as director of the Kentucky Craft Marketing (CMP) 1986-2007, a program of the Kentucky Arts Council, an award-winning and nationally modeled program. She received the 2007 Craft Organization Development Association's (CODA) national award for "Outstanding Service, Creative Thinking, and Leadership" having a significant impact on the crafts field. State and national leadership positions include serving on numerous boards, advisory councils and state government committees. She has consulted with programs in Georgia and Pennsylvania and CODA. She is currently a Kentucky Peer Advisor for the Kentucky Arts Council and program chair for the Appalachian Artisan Center. She is a part-time business co-owner of Redmon2 Marketing + Design, artist, and consultant for organizations and artisans on craft development.

**Abby Vaughn**, works as development director for Unified Trust Company's Wealth & Trust Management team with over 30 years of expertise in investment sales and banking. Prior to coming to Unified Trust Abby worked for a Global Financial Services Company and a Fortune 500 Bank focusing on high-net worth families. She is skilled in providing personalized service in collaboration with financial partners. She believes strongly in giving back to the community and has served on various boards including Lexington Humane Society, OperaLex, Lexington Art League, and Woodland Executive Board. Abby assists with fundraising for Blue Grass Community Foundation, Commerce Lexington, KET, and The March of Dimes. Abby spends her free time dabbling with home design and is passionate about animal rescue.

## EMERITUS

**Susan Goldstein, Founding President**, an artist, curator, and art collector, graduated from the University of Vermont with a B.A. in Elementary Education and earned a M.A. degree in Counseling Psychology from Tuft's University. An innovative clay artist, her work has been included in many national and regional exhibitions, including the Governor's Mansion in Frankfort and the Congressional Office Building in Washington DC. She has numerous past and present board affiliations including the Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft, the Lexington Art League, Lexington Fayette County Government, and the Kentucky Guild of Artists and Craftsmen, where she served as president. In 2009, nominated by the Lexington Arts Council, she received the National Philanthropy

## HONORARY FOUNDERS

**Marlene Helm**, of Nicholasville has a M.A. and Ph.D from the University of Kentucky and a B.A in Education from Kentucky State University. She most recently served as the Commissioner of Public Services for Lexington-Fayette County Urban Government. Marlene has held numerous positions in education, and state and city government throughout her career. Notable among them she was an Adron Doran Fellow at Morehead State University, Interim Dean for the College of Education at Eastern Kentucky University, and a visiting professor at Georgetown College. She served as the Secretary of Arts, Education and Humanities with the Commonwealth of Kentucky, having oversight of the Arts Council, Heritage Council, and Historical Society in that role. She served for many years in several positions with Fayette County Public Schools. Dr. Helm has received numerous awards and acknowledgements for leadership, education, and achievement in her fields of endeavor. She has an extensive history in board leadership with many central Kentucky charities and non-profits with a focus toward social issues, education, arts, and heritage.

**Sherry K. Jelsma**, graduated from Eastern High School in Middletown, KY, earned her B.A. at Harvard College, and M.A. from New York University. She was elected to three terms on the Jefferson County School Board from 1982–1991, when she left the board to serve under Governor Brereton Jones as Secretary of the Education, Arts, and Humanities Cabinet. Introduced to the Craft Marketing Program, she committed to strengthening it and its Craft Market. In 1997, she served as interim CEO of the Kentucky Center for the Arts. In 2002 and 2003, she served as Cultural Arts Liaison to Mayor Jerry Abramson of Louisville. Now retired, she lives in Shelby County in the 1830s home she and her husband restored.

**Crit Luallen**, a Frankfort Kentucky native, has been in public service for over 30 years and most recently served as Kentucky State Auditor from 2003 through 2011. Prior to public office, Ms. Luallen served seven years as Secretary of the Governor's Executive Cabinet. During her public service career, Ms. Luallen worked for six governors in the positions of State Budget Director, Secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet, Secretary of the State Tourism Cabinet, Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of the Arts, and Special Assistant to the Governor. During her state government tenure, Ms. Luallen helped secure funding for the Governor's School for the Arts and the Kentucky History Center. She was also instrumental in the development of the Kentucky Craft Marketing Program. The significance of Ms. Luallen's work has been recognized with many honors including the 2011 recipient of the Livingston Taylor Ethics Award and Governing Magazine's Public Official of the Year 2009 Award. Ms. Luallen is a graduate of Centre College, where she serves on the Board of Trustees.

**Kay Lowe-Masuhr**, a lifelong native of Louisville, has a B.A. in Fine Arts and Education from the University of Kentucky. Her career started as a graphic artist with the local Public TV/ KET station, while an active leader in various national & southern communication associations. After completion of her M.A. in Fine Arts at Eastern Kentucky University, she left WKPC/Louisville to become the Creative Services Director for the Kentucky Department of Information, and later Director of Information and Creative Services, Kentucky Department of Tourism. She served as Deputy and then Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of the Arts, which oversaw the promotion of the state's artists and craftsmen. Kay served as Community Relations Director for the Louisville Free Public Library. She and her husband, Burkhard, are partners with Masuhr International Marketing, Inc., which markets and produces events for artists, tourism, equestrian and international trade clients and actively produces the Library's Authors Events.