



YEAR-IN-REVIEW REPORT

July 5, 2023

What a busy year it has been! From workshops and exhibitions to monthly meetings and administrative tasks, LAFTA members have actively participated in a wide variety of ways.

Between July of 2022 through June of 2023:

- We completed an installation of 21 pieces of art for the Korea Fiber Art Forum in Suwon, South Korea in September 2022. The work was subsequently installed at the Crane House Asia Institute here in Louisville in March 2023.
- We executed the *Redefined* exhibition at the Little Loomhouse Education Center in March 2023.
- We conducted numerous in-person workshops, including *Kawandi Quilting* (Diana Irvin), *Wet Felting* (Cindy Rollins), *Soy Wax Batik* (Pat Sturtzel), *Coiled Bracelets* (Maria Tinnell), and *Strip Weaving* (Felice Sachs). We also hosted the Winter Wonder Day of Workshops, an all-day event in February 2023 that included offerings in *Needle Felting* (Becky Hunger), *Hand Stitching* (Kathy Loomis), *Paper Folding* (Elizabeth Riggle), and *Notan* (Vickie Wheatley).
- We donated eight pieces of art to the Child Advocacy Center in Jeffersonville, IN.
- We took three field trips: to the Little Loomhouse Education Center, to the Squallis Puppeteers, and to the Pyro Gallery (where LAFTA member Bette Levy gave a talk about the *Remembrance* exhibition).
- We visited the *Form, Not Function* exhibition, where we participated in a Juror's Talk by LAFTA member Kathy Loomis.
- We started a private Facebook Group with 40+ members.
- We started a Weaving Special-Interest Group.
- We completed a membership survey that garnered 21 responses and included many suggestions, some of which were incorporated into this year's schedule of programs and workshops.
- We hosted hands-on experientials at two monthly meetings: *Mini Tapestry Weaving* (Lori Sargent) and *Soy Wax Stamps* (Pat Sturtzel).

- We offered several presentations: *The Work of Alma Lesch* (Dennis Schaffner), *Daily Art Is Good for You!* (Kathy Loomis), and *Meet the Artist* meetings with Terri Dryden and Jacque Parsley.

- We refreshed the organization's communications profile: The monthly newsletter was redesigned to a more user-friendly format, thanks to Miriam Forinash, who has taken over as editor. A new rack card was designed by Linda Witte Henke to replace the outdated brochure. Through the capable leadership of Sally Lackner, the LAFTA (email) Digest was sent out multiple times each month. The LAFTA website, one of our best tools for attracting new members, was regularly updated by Kristyn Morrison.

- We ended the year spending only a fraction over our proposed budget. The 2022-24 year-end budget report is available on the LAFTA website under the FOR MEMBERS tab (login required).



LAFTA's rack card for community education and new-member engagement.

- In June 2023, we held Executive Committee elections for the upcoming year. We are grateful to Karen Buckingham for her tenure as Exhibitions Chair and are pleased to welcome Portia Brown into this position. We are also excited to have two new LAFTA members join the Executive Committee: Leah Tenney (Programs Chair) and Jessica Beels (Member-at-Large). Executive Committee members who are continuing to serve include Frances Englander (Treasure), Sue Soebel (Education Chair), Kristyn Morrison (Communication Chair), Debbie Hoblitzell (Membership Chair), Becky Hunger (Member-at-Large), and Amy Sloboda (Chair).

Broad member participation helps make LAFTA an active and robust organization. We are grateful for the leadership provided by our Executive Committee, for all those who led workshops and organized activities, and for the countless members who quietly perform behind-the-scene tasks that contribute immeasurably to our effective operation and shared participation.

It has been a privilege for me, as LAFTA Chair, to witness so many exciting dreams and visions coming to fruition over the past year. As the saying goes, "Many hands make light work."

With gratitude,

Amy Sloboda
LAFTA Chair