

DEBRIEF NOTES from meeting with Deepa and Mary on April 7, 2016

Recommendations for Plants Illustrated Exhibition 2017:

Input by Catherine, Lee, Lyn and Sally

- Notification when panels of art are moved
- Extra hooks for each wall panel to accommodate 2 paintings per panel
- Would prefer 3-week exhibition
- Make clearer, perhaps with a checklist, who is responsible for what
- Track what worked well in posting labels so it is in writing
- Commit to JM building again
- No reception guest list – Just ID how many can come with the artist
- Universal form for volunteers – just one
- List of who is already cleared
- Theme, Location, length of time

DISCUSSION:

SCHEDULING: In January of 2017, there will be an artist named Anna Laurent who will be displaying her photos of magnified seedpods. This will likely push our exhibition date into February. This is actually good for us since we'll be hanging the Alcatraz Florilegium in January of 2017. Deepa met with the Arts Committee this afternoon and we will wait to see what they think.

LENGTH and LOCATION: NCalSBA has requested that we continue to exhibit in the JM Building. It certainly shows the work off better and gets more visitors. NCalSBA is also requesting that we explore the possibility of having the show for 3 weeks since a lot of work goes into putting it on. We could limit the number of weekends affected by hanging on a Monday and taking down on a Friday. The need for the ProPanels could be eliminated if we limit the number of artworks to 56, the number that fits between the panelling in the main room (with the option of using the front room as needed). In this way, the center part of the room would be free for rental or other use. We would have the artists sign a release of liability. Deepa will bring this up in committee as well.

RECEPTION: The reception sign ups became very cumbersome this year. Deepa experimented with holding the UCGarden Members reception on a Saturday morning with several artists in attendance. This worked very nicely and will allow for them to host an Artists Reception only on the first Saturday afternoon. In this way, and with a likelihood of fewer artists, we will be able to simply open this up to all artists and 'x' number of guests. The list of artists would be left at the kiosk and guests would stop by and check in at the kiosk. The space allows for 100 people though has handled up to 120. We will abandon the online signup.

VOLUNTEER FORMS: This became confusing this year. Apparently, the University requires a list of all “active” volunteers be registered with them. We were given 3 forms to fill out though and ultimately figured out we could get by with just a single volunteer form since our stints are limited to the exhibition only. Typically, artists are listed as “inactive” but kept on file. Confusion arose because a list of those who had to complete forms included many of us who are regular artists. Mary has suggested that 4 weeks prior to the exhibition we will provide Mary with the Artists List. She will check in with the University to see which artists require a Volunteer Form. The forms will be kept as “active” in the kiosk for the duration of the show. After the event, volunteers will be made “inactive”. She will check with the Volunteer Coordinator on this.

LOGISTICS: We went into this exhibit short on a few supplies – hooks and Velcro dots. Going forward, we will have enough hooks for the area between the wood panels thanks to a donation from Catherine. There will be 56 total (28 x 2) and Mary understands that we only use one half of the dots and will have more of those on hand. Mary and Sally will coordinate instructions for artists. Sally noted that Mary’s instructions were so complete last year that Sally simply emailed volunteers information about when and where to be, while Mary supplied the how once they were on duty. Sally provided the sheets for doing head count and so on. Mary and Sally will continue to collaborate on volunteer information.

THEME: Since the January show will focus on Seedpods we are in agreement (Lee, Catherine and Sally) that this will be a wonderful theme to build on. The garden will be having guided tours on subjects such as Plant Travelers and Seed Dispersal. It would be useful to support our artists by giving them a list of plant ideas as well as what defines a seed pod, as Paul pointed out that it’s a larger category than you would think.

CARDS: This year the cards were put together at the very last minute by Nancy Rosenlund who requested input from Sally to identify artists who hadn’t been selected before while considering plants that are not invasive and would show well in a group. Nancy wanted to have a larger group this year and selected six through a committee. All were pleased with the selection and a pack of cards was kindly given to each artist.

CATALOG: Lee prepared this as a two-sided one-page list of Artists and their work with information on the exhibition and both organizations. It was a lot of work but seems to be the easiest to print. The garden handled the printing and had laminated copies on hand.

ART SALES: Deepa will speak to Nancy Rosenlund again to see if this is viable.