President’s Greeting

It is hard to believe our DMA League year will be over soon. I have enjoyed my time as President especially because it has allowed me the opportunity to develop new friendships and have deeper fellowship with long-time friends. It has been great fun sharing artful life experiences with you this year. A heartfelt thank you goes to my DMA League Board for doing an outstanding job in their assignments.

This year we enjoyed a beautiful Membership Tea at Mary McDermott Cook’s home planned by VPs of Membership Barbara Averitt and Sharon Popham. Karen Keith, Yearbook/Directory Chair kept us all organized with a redesigned, concise, yet informative yearbook/directory. VPs of Publicity and Communication, Sherry Winger and Janet Greedy, have kept us on our toes and informed with our well written, newly formatted and printed League newsletter. A big thank you also to our Historian, Suzanne Guthrie, who has done a great job of taking pictures and documenting our Art adventures all year for our newsletter and publicity.

Under the direction of VP of Education, Susan Bondy, we have had extremely interesting programs for our General Meetings including visiting Art professors, our DMA Art Curators and Educational Staff and an Art Advisor/Expert from England. Thank you also to Arts Liaisons Carole Ann Brown and Marsha Dowler for keeping us up to date with the Dallas Cultural Arts Scene. Karen Reeder and Cindy Wolf greeted our members with a smile at every meeting as General Meeting Administration Chairs. As VPs of Hospitality, Cindy Williams, Karen Yaguchi and Ellen Welch kept everyone happy with delicious and pretty luncheons and meeting refreshments.

Both our day trip around Dallas and overnight trip to Nashville were fantastic outings full of art, education, fun and new friendships. They were both beyond my hopes and expectations. Hugs and kisses go to Day Trip Chairs Carol Resnick, Ann Dunbar and Valerie Casillas and Overnight Trip Chairs Jill Goldberg and Emily Maduro for all their hard work and effort to ensure the overwhelming success of these two trips!

I am very grateful to Honorary Art in Bloom Chair Beverly Freeman and Art in Bloom Committee Chairs Michelle Alums, Liz Bremond, Susan Fisk, Kay Weeks, Jill Goldberg, Glenda Cotner, Barbara Bigham, Suzanne Guthrie and Leslie Champlin for stepping up to the challenge of many hours of volunteer work to help VP Art in Bloom Chair Eleanor Bond present the Twentieth Anniversary of Art in Bloom, Joie des Fleurs.

As Treasurer, Mary Ellen Winborn has kept us in the black and on a sound financial track all year with the flexibility to fit in extra fun things like our Berthe Morisot League Happy Hour. Recording Secretary Tara Freeman and Corresponding Secretary Pat Altschuler have made sure all our “i”s are dotted and “t”s crossed with accuracy, attentiveness and reliability. Kudos to these unsung heroes as well as our other unsung heroes on the League Board: Committee Chairs Sue Flynn-Floral Design, Joanie Smith-Volunteer Opportunities, Jan Clay-Docent Liaison and Susan Tribble-VCAM Liaison, who has represented the DMA League at several VCAM Conventions, including at the Detroit meeting in September.

Last, but not least, a very special thank you to Parliamentarian Nancy Cates, President-Elect Dyann Skelton and Board Advisors Barbara Bigham, Sheila Durante, Susan Fisk, Pat Pace and Marilyn Willems for their support and inspiration to help me to do my best job. THANK YOU to EVERY Board member and the DMA Staff for your serving hands, empathizing hearts, listening ears and encouraging words.

I hope to see everyone at our Annual General Meeting on Monday, May 6th featuring Annette Becker, Director of the Texas Fashion Collection at UNT, speaking on the History of Fashion as a build up to our greatly anticipated Christian Dior Exhibition at the DMA. As a last fun treat for our DMA League, we are having a special private opportunity to view the upcoming Dior Exhibit on Monday, May 20th from 2:00p.m. to 4:00p.m. This will be a great time to see the exhibit with League friends before people scatter for the summer. It has been my great honor to serve as your 2018-2019 DMA League President. We have truly shared an “Artful Life” this year!

All My Best,

Sarah Jo Hardin, 2018-2019 DMA League President
The new concept for Art in Bloom was well received by League members and their guests who enjoyed a sumptuous New Orlean-style brunch in an extravagant floral setting with live jazz music. We salute the amazing AIB committee as well as our remarkable League President Sarah Jo Hardin. That’s Sarah’s daughter, Caroline Hardin, modeling the fabulous floral head piece created by featured speaker Francoise Weeks who demonstrated a variety of her signature designs and arrangements. If possible, the Floral Exhibition inspired by the Museum’s permanent collection was even more breathtaking than in past years.
DMA League Meeting and Luncheon

Monday, May 6, 2019
10:00 a.m. coffee; 10:30 a.m. meeting
Dallas Museum of Art, Horchow Auditorium

History of Fashion

Annette Becker, Director Texas Fashion Collection, University of North Texas, will take us on an exciting journey inside the world of apparel through the unique lens of design and social history.

In charge of an archive of nearly 20,000 historic and designer garments and accessories, her perspective and insight is something you simply don’t want to miss. With the amazing Dior: From Paris to the World Exhibition opening at the DMA on May 19, this should be especially interesting to all members.

LUNCHEON MENU

Thinly Sliced Goat Cheese & Onion Tart served with Mixed Greens
Flavorful Coq Au Vin accompanied by Wild Rice & Asparagus
Heavenly Lemon & White Chocolate Tart plus Popovers & freshly brewed Ice Tea

Note new procedure for luncheon reservations in email accompanying this newsletter.

Elegant Patron Party Celebrates 20th Anniversary of Art in Bloom

Our deepest gratitude to Lisa and Clay Cooley for hosting our Patron Party in their gorgeous home. The delicious food was only exceeded by the stunning floral displays.
Since his debut collection in 1947, art gallerist turned legendary couturier Christian Dior has generated an epic movement in fashion history. With lavish embroidery, luxurious fabrics, and elegant silhouettes, his designs were a revolutionary celebration of modern femininity when they emerged in Paris after World War II. Today, Dior’s global influence is as enduring and iconic as ever. *Dior: From Paris to the World* surveys more than 70 years of the House of Dior’s legacy, featuring a dynamic selection of over 100 haute couture dresses, as well as accessories, photographs, original sketches, runway videos, and other archival material. This Exhibition profiles both Dior himself and subsequent artistic directors, including Yves Saint Laurent (1958–1960), Marc Bohan (1961–1989), Gianfranco Ferré (1989–1996), John Galliano (1997–2011), Raf Simons (2012–2015), and Maria Grazia Chiuri (2016–present), all of whom have carried Dior’s vision into the 21st century.

Opening May 19 through September 1, the DMA is the final United States venue for this extensive and highly anticipated retrospective of the celebrated haute couture house. “The House of Dior has been a legendary force in fashion and visual culture for decades and continues to be an important influence that blurs the lines between fashion and art,” said the DMA’s Director Dr. Agustin Arteaga. “Dallas has long recognized the artistic significance of Dior, most notably when in 1947, early in his career, Christian Dior traveled here to receive the Neiman Marcus Award for fashion. We are excited to welcome this innovative creative voice back to our city and to offer DMA audiences the chance to be inspired by the remarkable legacy of a global icon.”

Don’t miss this extraordinary opportunity to see how fashion icon Christian Dior forever transformed the fashion industry by turning luxurious fabrics into wearable and most beautiful works of art.

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**Ten Things You Might Not Know About Christian Dior**

Christian Dior is a name that could arguably fall under the dictionary definition of ‘fashion’ itself. Given the ubiquity of his title, many might assume that they already know all there is to know about the famed designer, whose legacy remains etched in our sartorial psyche alongside the likes of Coco Chanel, Jeanne-Marie Lanvin and Hubert de Givenchy. In fact, the nuances of his character extend far beyond his influence in pioneering cinched-in waists and voluptuous skirting. In honor of his birthday on January 21 (one that unfortunately he would have been unlikely to reach, even if he hadn’t suffered an untimely death at the tender age of 52), we present ten little-known facts about his legacy.

1. **He was an unashamed mother’s boy**
   Post-1945, women who had previously been confined to the frumpiness of wartime dress embraced the exuberance championed in the designs produced by the house of Dior with unbridled enthusiasm. Inspiration for Dior’s work was heavily sourced from La Belle Époque (or The Beautiful Era), which the couturier’s mother Isabelle Cardamone – a woman who he completely and utterly adored – had symbolized for him, with her penchant for wasp-like silhouettes and lavish textiles.
2. The designer once had curatorial aspirations
   Prior to his career in fashion, Dior expressed a desire to become an architect, but ultimately enrolled at the École des Sciences Politiques to undertake an education in political science in 1925. Upon graduating, his father (casually) decided to buy him an art gallery; a space that went on to display the works of Pablo Picasso, Jean Cocteau and Georges Braque – and for the first time in Paris, exhibited the painting The Persistence of Memory, by Salvador Dalí – proving that a breadth of knowledge in the arts and social sciences makes for the most fruitful of creative minds.

3. He dabbled in anarchism
   Christian Dior is further testament to the fact that, despite an unjust reputation of superficiality, fashion is a highly politicized industry occupied by individuals with inquisitive and conscientious dispositions. During his time at Sciences Po, Dior briefly experimented with anarchism, even labelling himself as such. Conversely, he also spent some months in The Soviet Union, examining the socio-political effects of communism.

4. His sibling influenced a famous fragrance
   In keeping with the Dior family's proclivity for rebellion, Christian's sister Catherine served as a member of the French Resistance against the Nazi occupation during World War Two. Eventually she was captured by the Gestapo and sent to the Ravensbrück concentration camp, where she was incarcerated until her liberation in 1945. Two years later, Dior named his debut fragrance Miss Dior, as a tribute to the heroism of his sibling.

5. He was a ‘Tyrant of Hemlines’
   Carmel Snow, editor-in-chief of Harper’s Bazaar between 1934 and 1958, famously coined the phrase ‘The New Look’ in praise of Dior’s post-war sartorial revolt. However, others were not so keen, protesting the designer’s excessive use of fabric after the extreme frugality of the wartime rationing mantra, ‘make, do and mend’. Thus, Dior garnered a fetching new title: The Tyrant of Hemlines.

6. He was highly superstitious
   Dior’s superstitious nature correlated with his growing older; by the time he was presenting collections regularly, he would feel a compulsion to name one garment in each show after his hometown of Granville. At least one model would be instructed to carry a bouquet of white lilies, and God forbid he ever begin a couture show without consulting his tarot card reader first.

7. Bath-time was a hub of creativity
   His 1957 obituary in The New York Times read: “behind the vast Dior enterprises was always the plump, pink-cheeked master, who twice each year went into seclusion to create the newest designs. And much of that time each year he spent in the bathtub, usually his Empire tub of green marble lined with silvery metal and fitted with swan's-head faucets. There he soaked, and pondered a new line, and sketched his ideas on scraps of paper.” Fabulous!

8. His death is shrouded in mystery
   Following his ardent passion for bathing, in the month of his death Dior travelled to a spa in northern Italy for some much needed R&R. During his stay, on 24th October, he suffered a third – and final – massive heart attack. The official coroner’s statement proclaimed that the attack had been caused by unhealthy eating habits; however, much speculation was made over the fact that it was due to the designer choking on a fishbone, or an adrenaline rush whilst playing a game of cards.

9. A 21-year-old Yves Saint Laurent was photographed at his funeral
   Christian Dior’s funeral was attended by over 2,500 people; family, friends and the loyal clientele who he had amassed over his illustrious career. Notably, his successor, a 21-year-old Yves Saint Laurent who had been working under Dior’s wing for two years prior to his death, was also in attendance. After the ceremony, Saint Laurent was captured by LIFE Magazine standing alone and looking distinctly melancholic and pensive – not only had he lost his mentor, but was subsequently about to become the world’s youngest couturier.

10. Reference to Dior can be found in modern day film and literature alike
   “I came from the people! They need to adore me; so Christian Dior me, from my head to my toes”, sings Madonna in the 1996 musical, Evita. From Broadway numbers to lyrics penned by Morrissey, Dior has often been referenced in contemporary culture. One of the most beautiful mentions comes in the form of Haruki Murakami’s writing, in his novel The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle: “I went to the bathroom and took out the bottle of Christian Dior cologne that someone had given to Kumiko... I slowly poured the entire contents into the sink.”
A Glorious Nashville Trip

Thirty three excited DMA Members gathered in the Nashville International Airport on January 30 to begin a fabulous, fun-filled, art inspired five day adventure in that glorious City of Music in the South.

Highlights of this year’s incredibly successful League Overnight Trip included an expert tour of The Hermitage, the historical home of Andrew Jackson, the 7th President of the United States, as well as a look at Belle Meade Plantation, a Greek Revival Mansion that was once home to many outstanding thoroughbred studs, including Bonnie Scotland and Enquirer, whose bloodlines still dominate horse racing today.

DMA Leaguers enjoyed a visit to the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, whose vast collection includes over 2.5 million country music artifacts, such as Bill Monroe’s famed mandolin, Hank Williams Martin D-28 Guitar, the infamous “red dress” Reba McEntire wore during her performance on the 1993 CMA Awards, and Elvis Presley’s Custom 1960 “Solid Gold” Cadillac limousine.

League Ladies were also treated to a very special tour of the lovely home of Marlene and Spencer Hays, Nashville and Manhattan based philanthropists and collectors of French Art, especially the Post-Impressionist Avant Garde art work of the Nabis. Mr. and Mrs. Hays’ entire art collection is bequeathed to the Musee d’Orsay in Paris, where visitors from around the globe will one day also appreciate seeing these exquisite paintings by Maurice Denis, Edouard Vuillard, and Pierre Bonnard.

Along with delicious Southern inspired cuisine and great conversation, other exciting experiences in Music City involved attending the annual Antique and Garden Show at Music City Center where Leaguers were able to wander the showroom floor, shop, and hear Country Music Star Faith Hill discuss how she and husband Tim McGraw designed and built their island home in the Bahamas. Additionally, League Members were invited to the Frist Art Museum for a Special Members Preview of their stunning new exhibit Van Gogh, Monet, Degas and Their Times: The Mellon Collection of French Art, beautiful art in an exceptional setting!

Many thanks to Jill Goldberg, Emily Maduro, and our League President Sarah Hardin for planning and presenting such a fantastic and memorable 2019 DMA League Trip to Nashville!
2019 Faye Briggs Award

League President Sarah Jo Hardin is this year’s recipient of the Faye C. Briggs Merit Award. This is the League’s annual service award named in honor of Faye Briggs who recently passed away. It continues her legacy of amazing dedication including many hours of volunteering and continual financial support to the Museum.

Sarah Jo has been volunteering at the DMA since the 1980’s when she was a member of the Junior Associates and the Junior League’s Go van Gough project. She worked on the Beaux Arts Ball and continued to do so when it became the Art Ball. She and her husband actually bought their first car at a Beaux Arts Ball auction. They also purchased a painting previously owned by Greer Garson at another of the auctions.

Her service to the DMAL has ranged from her current role as President to VP of Membership along with many other Board posts. She has been the overall Chair of Art in Bloom and handled countless AIB chairmanships including underwriting, ticket sales, patron party, arrangements and decorations.

Late Night at the DMA

Celebrate the life and work of Impressionist painter Berthe Morisot with music, art activities, lectures, tours, and more. DMA Members are FREE!

Friday, May 17 from 6:00 – 9:00 PM.

Late Night Talk: **Berthe Morisot, Woman Impressionist**
7:30 PM, Horchow Auditorium

Hear DMA curator Dr. Nicole Myers discuss the Exhibition. Through approximately 70 paintings, it traces the exceptional career of an artist who, against all odds, became a founding member of the Impressionist group. Using her figure paintings as a point of departure, illuminates Morisot’s role as an essential player within the Parisian avant-garde and reevaluates her legacy.

Main Stage Music featuring La Pompe 8:00 – 9:00, Atrium

Named for the driving rhythm characteristic of gypsy jazz, La Pompe transports you to a Parisian café.

Late Night Talk: **“How much freer we are today”: Morisot’s Letters and Legacy**
9:30 PM, Horchow Auditorium

How can an artist be both modern and a woman? Morisot struggled with this question. in Paris in the 1870s. Nearly a century later, American painters Helen Frankenthaler, Grace Hartigan, and Joan Mitchell confronted the same challenge as prominent women among the Abstract Expressionists. Join art historian Daniel Belasco for a talk exploring Morisot’s life, art, and how the English publication of her revealing personal correspondence inspired a generation of American women artists in the 1950s.

The Book Nook

**The Little Dictionary of Fashion** by Christian Dior

The fashion icon reveals the secrets of style in this charming handbook that no woman should be without. An indispensable guide that covers everything from what to wear to a wedding and how to tie a scarf to how to walk with grace, *The Little Dictionary of Fashion* is full of timeless tips. From afternoon frocks and accessories to traveling and tweed, Dior’s expertise ensures every woman will know the three fundamentals of fashion: simplicity, grooming, and good taste. Published for the Victoria and Albert Museum’s Golden Age of Couture exhibition celebrating the 50th anniversary of Dior’s “New Look” and illustrated with delightful photographs and drawings, this handbag-sized classic is the perfect gift for the style-conscious dresser.
The application for the new 2019-20 Docent Class is now live: https://dallasmuseumofart.wufoo.com/forms/rilqaxs145vrc. Men and woman who have a desire to communicate the power of art and help visitors of all ages feel welcome in the Museum are needed.

Please pass this information on to your friends who might be interested in being a part of this outstanding program. Docents attend training sessions (September - May) that include lectures, gallery talks and workshops led by staff and outside experts.

The DMA is also seeking Go van Gogh volunteers. This is a great fit for anyone interested in working with school groups, enjoys art-making activities and cannot commit to the weekly docent tour schedule. In the 2019-20 school year, there will be a Spanish-language Go van Gogh initiative with themes related to Latino and Latin American art and culture. Spanish-language skills are required for this particular program but not for the other school outreach activities. Direct questions to volunteers@DMA.org.

Membership Renewal Reminder
Don’t forget that your League membership and your DMA membership have the very same anniversary date. Join both at the same time on the DMA website by simply scrolling down to “a la carte additions” and clicking on DMA League. For assistance, please call the League Hotline at 214-922-1235.

Dates To Remember

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Questions? We’re here to help!
Contact the DMA Members team at 214-922-1235 or email League@DMA.org.

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