Highlight: Marjorie Cohee Manifold at the *Brushes with History* Conference

*Alice Wexler* – Marjorie Cohee Manifold, former President of USSEA and current InSEA Vice President, shares a paper she presented at Teachers College, Columbia University’s conference, *Brushes with History: Imagination and Innovation in Art Education History*. The conference, which took place November 19-22, 2015, provided “a forum for the presentation and discussion of ideas, issues, information, and research approaches utilized in the historical investigation of art education within local and global contexts” (http://www.tc.columbia.edu/media/media-library-2014/conferences/brushes-with-history/FINAL-BWH-Conference-Booklet-2015.pdf). The catalogue for the conference goes on to explain that imagination and innovation might seem antithetical with our perceptions of history, yet this conference intended to reclaim history as a notion that is more complexly integrated into our present. In the following paragraphs she shares highlights from this presentation. She reflects on the conference as follows:

“Teachers College, Columbia University was a fortuitous location for a conference featuring recollections of Ziegfeld as it is home to the Ziegfeld Collection of Child Art, which includes 350 pieces from a 1957 exhibit of art from children of 31 countries.”
Other papers presented at the conference addressed the influences of Ziegfeld or Marantz through the outreach of their students or colleagues, who opened doors for previously marginalized groups of people to participate as artists and educators in the field. Yet, while art education that promotes peace by nurturing children to become empathetic global citizens was a goal of Ziegfeld and Marantz, solid research that explores the validity of such a claim and proposals of concrete methods for achieving that goal through designed curriculum and applied instruction was a challenge put forth to attendees of the conference.”

Ziegfeld & Marantz: Pioneers of Culturally Inclusive Art Education
Marjorie Cohee Manifold

“If we are going to have a country that has any kind of balance to it, we need to have a society which has humanistic values. If we do not have humanistic values present in a society, we are headed for an awful downfall.” (Edwin Ziegfeld, quoted in Gregory, 1987, p 16).

Art educators around the world owe immeasurably to the tireless efforts of Edwin Ziegfeld (1905-1987) as founding father and first president of the International Society for Education through Art (InSEA) (1954–1960). Transcripts of an interview with Ziegfeld that were published in an early USSEA journal (Gregory, 1987), reveal little known details about the experiences and influences that motivated Ziegfeld to campaign for comprehensive, inclusive national and international art education. While annual awards are given by USSEA to art educators whose scholarly works honor Ziegfeld’s insistence that culturally inclusive art education fosters tolerance, appreciation, and mutual respect among diverse peoples, few published accounts consider circumstances that surrounded the establishment of INSEA, his organizational role in the society or those influences that molded his ideas about education through art for all. Another important figure in promoting an inclusive vision of art education was Kenneth Marantz, founding president of the United States Society for Education through Art. A paper presented at the conference Brushes with History described how Ziegfeld took advantage of life circumstances and opportunities to facilitate art education for children globally, and how Marantz built upon and refocused the ideals of INSEA in a national context.

In the aftermath of World War II, educators awakened to realize a need for tolerance and appreciation of the cultural Other through art. Today we live in an era of great turmoil, as immigrants are on the move in search of economic opportunity and whole nations of people become refugees from civil strife. At the same time, mass media gives airtime hateful messages of xenophobia that depersonalize and humiliate Others, leaving millions vulnerable to abuse. Ziegfeld and members of InSEA set as an agenda open exchanges of ideas through art with a goal of global understanding that might mitigate jingoism. Marantz expanding upon that by calling for acceptance of the neighbor who is an Other within our midst. Thus, USSEA and InSEA function together like a breathing in of local-cultural appreciation and a breathing out of empathetic openness to all. In a contemporary world of deepening divides between competing ideologies, educational foci has turned toward functional interpretations of creativity as evidenced by scientific innovation and marketable products; thus humanizing possibilities of education through art are overlooked. The ideas of these two educators might speak to us once.
NAEA 2016 Conference
USSEA Events List

The National Art Education Association annual conference will be held in exciting, artistic Chicago, Illinois on March 17-19, 2016. This year’s list of events celebrates another year of contributions and hopes for the future of education through art. Following is a short list of USSEA events to help you get started with your planning. A comprehensive USSEA list will be available closer to the conference date. We hope to see you in Chicago!

Thursday, March 17
USSEA Executive Board Meeting
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM McCormick Place/North Building/N134/Level 1
USSEA Executive Board Meeting
In this meeting the Board will discuss policies and procedures for USSEA operations and share information from the Chairs of each category to review past successes and plan future goals. Members and non-Members are welcome.

Friday, March 18
Ziegfeld Awards Luncheon
12:00 PM - 1:50 PM McCormick Place/Lakeside Center/E258/Level 2
Edwin Ziegfeld Award Luncheon
The USSEA Edwin Ziegfeld Award celebrates international and national scholarship and national service. Join this celebration award with your colleagues and applaud their outstanding achievements. Honorees include:

International Ziegfeld Award:
- Dr. Glen Coutts, Part-time Professor of Applied Visual Arts, University of Lapland
- Dr. Kinichi Fukumoto, Executive Director, Vice President, Hyogo University of Teacher Education;

National Ziegfeld Award:
- Dr. Steve Willis, Professor and Coordinator of Art Education, Missouri State University;

Ziegfeld Service Award:
- Vida Sabbaghi, Queens Museum; and

Marantz Fellows Award:
- Dr. Allen Richards, Associate Professor, Department of Art, College of Fine Arts, University of Kentucky

Saturday, March 19
Open Discussion Meeting
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM McCormick Place/Lakeside Center/E264/Level 2
A Meeting for USSEA Members and Prospective Members to Discuss USSEA Interests and Initiatives
Meeting for USSEA members and prospective members to discuss USSEA interests, initiatives, and future opportunities such as the Child Art Exchange, Online Juried gallery and annual NAEA exhibition, Diversity Resources, Scholarship Mentors, and a contemporary issues newsletter.
Deadline for Awards Nominations
Approaching deadline for two USSEA awards

The USSEA Award for Excellence in PK-12 Art Education
This USSEA award is presented to a PK-12 art educator who has demonstrated leadership in and commitment to multicultural, cross-cultural educational strategies in their school/s and communities. This art educator actively implements an approach that builds respect for human dignity and diversity through art. The teacher must be a member of NAEA and USSEA to be recognized for their contributions.

Their work must be confluent with the mission of USSEA, which is to foster “teamwork, collaboration, and communication among diverse constituencies in order to achieve greater understanding of the social and cultural aspects of art and visual culture in education.”

USSEA Award for Outstanding Masters Thesis
The USSEA Graduate Thesis award is presented to a Masters graduate whose thesis or creative component reflects the mission of USSEA: to foster teamwork, collaboration, and communication among diverse constituencies in order to achieve greater understanding of the social and cultural aspects of the arts and visual culture in education. The topic investigated in the masters work promotes pluralistic perspectives, deepens human and cultural understanding, and/or builds respect for diverse learners.

Submit applications for both awards by mail or e-mail to: Angela La Porte, Department of Art fine Arts Center, Fayetteville, AR 72701, E-mail: alaporte@uak.edu Nomination materials (nomination form, letter of nomination, and one letter of support) are due by January 15, 2016. Recipients will be recognized at the annual NAEA conference.

ATTENTION ALL EDUCATORS AND ARTISTS!!!
We are seeking submissions from across the fields of art and education. How do you include multicultural children’s art into your pedagogy? What international artists inspire you and your classroom? Please send your input to Voices Editor Mara K. Pierce at mara.pierce@msubillings.edu by April 31, 2016.
In our quest for information about becoming strengthened educators and researchers, we take a look at the list of scholars and writers who have made a contribution to the USSEA’s 2015 Journal of Cultural Research in Art Education, Volume 32. For further information, please visit http://www.jcrae.org/journal/index.php/jcrae/issue/current

- Tangling in the Remix by R. Darden Bradshaw and Barbara Bergstrom

- (re)Mixing Girlhood by Olga Ivashkevich and Courtnie Wolfgang

- Remixing the Released Imagination by Tyler Denmead

- Mythical Beings and Becoming: Emerging Identities of Art Educators in India by Manisha Sharma

- Stories of Becoming an Art Educator: Opening a Closed Door by Nurit Cohen Evron

- Materializing Transversal Potential: An Ecosophical Analysis of the Dissensual Aestheticization of a Decommissioned Missile Base by Cala Coats

- The Spaces in which we appear to Each Other: The Pedagogy of Resistance Stories in Zines by Asian American Riot Girrls by Cathlin Goulding

- Dumarka Soomaaliyeed Voices Unveiled: Undoing the hijab narrative through a participatory photography exhibition by Ruth M. Smith

- Art Education as Exhibition: Reconceptualizing Cultural History in Singapore through Art Response to AhKu and Karayuki-san Prostitution by Kay Kok Chung Oi

- A Special Mountain Place and Sunrise Ceremony for Apache Students by Mary Stokrocki