

# MANIFEST

CREATIVE RESEARCH GALLERY  
AND DRAWING CENTER



## GOODBYE TO SEASON 6!

### *What we did together*

**Every season goes by in the blink of an eye.** It seems like I just wrote you all a welcome letter, and now this one is saying goodbye. Season 6 was a monumental one in many ways, and these two newsletter issues will show you some of the reasons why. All season 6 memberships expired on August 31, so I hope you will renew your support for Manifest this year.

First, the season 6 class of supporting members was our biggest ever, at 109. That's a nearly 25% increase over the previous year. And your average contribution was \$83 per person. This means that your membership support provided nearly 10% of our operating budget! That's more than any single grant awarded for the year. So, when reading through our accomplishments and kudos, please know that you truly did make them possible. Thank you for that!

When I visit other organizations and compare notes about what we're doing, folks are routinely taken aback when they realize we now present 18 exhibits per year at Manifest. Add to that our production of full-color catalogs for each, as well as the sheer number of entries we jury, number of jurors involved, number of artists and works shown, and the fact that we're still running lean with only two part-time staff members, supported by some seriously fantastic volunteer interns, and they're rendered speechless. I sometimes think we do what we do, to the degree that we're doing it, because we're too ignorant to know any better - to know that this really can't be done. But that's the way I prefer it to be.

The 40% increase in number of exhibits was a big one. It added cost, effort, and time to just about everything we do. But it serves artists, our mission, and the community better. It couldn't have been done, of course, without the addition of our Parallel Space gallery. This added some muscle and some flexibility to our exhibition planning process.

Coinciding with the production of the *5th International Drawing Annual* publication, we helped Manifest Press take another step forward by launching the *International Painting Annual* project. This new book project will parallel the Drawing Annual, but will feature works of painting and writing about painting, and be produced about midway between the release of each INDAs. So now, every six months Manifest will produce another major publication about painting or drawing being made in the world today.

This year, with our ongoing evolution operating with a real staff, I was able to delegate the responsibility of Drawing Center Studio program coordinator to Tim Parsley. As you may already know, this has resulted in Tim's work to revise and fine-tune the studio program for our Open Sessions and instructed courses, expanding or enhancing both in significant ways. This will ultimately include more workshops by prominent national or international teaching artists such as those offered by Shane Wolf in August.

As you will soon see, season 7 is planned to be yet another power-packed lineup of exhibits and programs. Manifest's ability to exist as a nexus of creativity in the visual arts clearly builds upon successes in previous years, be they large or small. Our members list is something I look at often, as something of a touchstone to remind me that folks believe in what we're doing. In so many ways the list itself is as powerful as the financial contributions. It provides a reality check, and a boost to our spirit of a nearly obsessive dedication to our ideals of quality. It fuels everything we do next.

On behalf of everyone here, thanks for a terrific sixth season.

- Jason Franz, Executive Director and Co-founder

*"To make us feel small in the right way is a function of art;  
men can only make us feel small in the wrong way."*

E. M. FORSTER

## SEASON 6

### donors + members

Farron Allen	Phil Meredith
Marcia Alscher	Tim Mitchuson
Ron Bates	Kevin and Tamera Muenta
William Baumann	Theresa Murphy
Jessica Bechtel	Anne Nally
Maria Blake	James & Patricia Neidhard
Karen Bondarchuk	Daniel O'Connor
Richard Boydston	Brigid O'Kane
George & Kathleen Brinkman	Cindy Olmes
Daniel Brown	Marilyn Z. Ott
Roger Brown	Tim Parsley
Sharon Butler	Carol Pfetzing
Nancy Fletcher Cassell	Trevor Ponder
Matthew Clark	Elaine Potter
Lynne Ambrosini & Rob Contin	Tim & Linda Potter
Joyce M. Corum	Kirstine Reiner
Bruce Crippen	Chuck Rekow
Joseph Curry	Jay & Marilyn Richey
Christy Dakin	John Robinson
Jim & Jane Dean	Roy Robinson
DeSales Crossing Marianist	Andrew Schaub
Community	Elena Schaub
Jane Durrell	Barbara Schulman & Herbert Hood
Sandy Eichert	Elaine Suess
Chip Finke	Leslie Shiels
Suzanne Fischer	Marcia & Paul Shortt
Diane Fishbein	W.D. Shuster
Elizabeth Fisher-Smith	Mu and Robin Sinclair
Mark Flaspohler	Andrew Smith
Barbara Flick	Liz & Carl Solway
Fred Franz	Kristin Spangenberg
Alexandra Sophia Franz	Jane Stanton
Jason Franz	Nicole Staun
Gary Gaffney	Gina Stevenson
Scott Glaser	StrebelArt
Stewart Goldman	Margaret Szempruch
H. Drewry Gores	Sheldon Tapley
Tamara Harkavy & Matt Kotlarczyk	Richard & Vanessa Wayne
Polly Hart	Dawn S. Wilson
Mary Heider	Patricia Wilson
Jack Hennen	Ruth Wise
Barbara Henshaw	Melissa Wolf-Krummen
Deborah Heuer	McCrystle Wood
The Harvey C. Hubbell Trust	Boris Zakic
Janalyn Hubbell	Steve Ziebarth
Billy Inabnitt	
David T. Johnson	
Jeffrey Cortland Jones	
Stewart Katz	
Annette Kitchen	
Sol Kjek	
Nancy Kopp	
Kim Krause	
Lou Kroner	
Polk Laffoon	
Carol Bryant Lahke	
Mary Anne Lee	
Scott Lenkowsky	
Maria Lewis	
Whitney and Phillip Long	
J. Gibbs MacVeigh	
Diane Marcus	
Amy Mauck	
Constance McClure	
Laura McNeel	



Left:  
Sculpture by Nathan Hatch shown in Master Pieces 4.

## PERENNIAL MANIFEST

In January of this year our lease at 2727 Woodburn expired. After five years of operating free public exhibitions of contemporary visual art, open five hours a day, five days a week, we found ourselves questioning where Manifest's future might be. As we've always known, our space, which we invested so much energy and resources in while making it into an exceptional gallery, is one of our primary assets and strengths. The space enabled us, in part, because of its ideal location for the fulfillment of our mission, but also because we had negotiated a manageable rate for our rent thus preserving the organization's ability to be nimble, to maintain a part-time staff, and offer many of the other benefits people have come to expect. When our lease expired, we were still unsure what would follow, despite the fact that we had clearly established some strategies and longer range plans. Negotiations were delayed, and ongoing.

I'm happy to announce that one of our most significant accomplishments during the past season was the conclusion of these negotiations, and the signing of a new 10 year lease in our present facilities, with provisions for an additional five year extension. Even more significant than the reasonable pricing of our rent, and the landlord's (Charles Wolf) affirmation of his appreciation for Manifest, is the fact that we built into the lease mutual incentives for Manifest to undertake some major improvements in the property.

For six years our facility has been heated by very inefficient baseboard heaters, and cooled only by window unit air conditioners. Needless to say, not only does this make for a randomly hospitable climate, it also represents a financial black hole. Our new lease includes a provision that, if Manifest undertakes the installation of new HVAC equipment in its currently occupied spaces at its expense, then the landlord will provide Manifest additional space free of charge for the duration of the new lease. This additional space would be enough to nearly double the current exhibition space.

We have developed plans that will be implemented upon successful completion of this HVAC initiative, which will be to enlarge and renovate major portions of the gallery, creating a better reception area, larger individual spaces, and adding new galleries to our existing three. Along with this would come a better display/reading area for our growing collection of catalogs and books, and possibly a lecture/presentation area or dedicated film screening room.

Needless to say all of this will take a great deal of effort and more support than we've ever had before. But we're determined, and the wheels are in motion. *Wish us luck!*

### executive director

Jason Franz

### assistant director

Tim Parsley

### admin. assistant

Joanna Vance

### board of directors

Christina Dakin

Jason Franz

Laura Fisher

Debbie Heuer

Brigid O'Kane

### CONTACT

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East Walnut Hills

[www.manifestgallery.org](http://www.manifestgallery.org)  
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### gallery hours

Tuesday to Friday 2-7pm  
Saturday 12-5pm