

## Bowers Docent Guild Installation of Officers

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This 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sapphire Celebration year of the Docent Guild has been quite a year! Dr. Peter Keller and Anne Shih were instrumental in bringing approximately 11 exhibits to Bowers Museum during our fiscal year 2017-2018. We never in our wildest dreams thought that we would be able to memorize all that knowledge and be able to tour expertly but we did it! Paul Johnson was busy dreaming up how he would do all these installations and have them ready for opening day.

We are presenting the incoming Docent Board with these **Raku Dream Catcher Jars**. Dream catchers are one of the most fascinating traditions of Native Americans. The traditional dream catcher was intended to protect the sleeping individual from negative dreams, while letting positive dreams through. The positive dreams would slip through the hole in the center of the dream catcher and glide down to the sleeping person below.

Each person featured in our exhibits this past year had dreams. Our incoming Executive Board will channel their good dreams through these Dream Catcher Jars and lead us forward to another blockbuster year.

**TREASURER:** In March, **American Visionary: John F. Kennedy's Life & Times** opened. Did Jack Kennedy dream of rising to leadership – even becoming the President? Yes, he did. He planned carefully and maneuvered for this to happen. JFK was quoted as saying, “With great wealth comes great responsibility.” Our incoming Treasurer, **Andrea Krupka**, has a fiduciary responsibility to manage the Docent Guild’s great wealth modestly. No purchasing airplanes or yachts! Every penny needs to be accounted for. To help you remember this lesson, here is a book on JFK, just in case you feel the urge to splurge, shop, and buy, oh, let’s say, .....a trip around the world.

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Frank Lloyd Wright: Architecture of the Interior.** Remember this exhibit? Mr. Wright really dreamed of different things. He grew up in rural Wisconsin, always building. He dreamed of organic, architectural buildings, with even a house over a stream. He was seeking harmony between people and nature. **Terri Fertal**, as Corresponding Secretary, will keep in touch with the entire Docent Guild, writing invitations, sending letters to Associate and Sustaining members, and as Historian, preparing a scrapbook with architectural drawings to highlight the year’s activities. Here is a DVD entitled *Fallingwater* to inspire you to dream just like Frank and create harmony.

**RECORDING SECRETARY: Frida Kahlo: Her Photos.** She dreamed of becoming an artist and photographer even though she had set back after set back because of her health. She persevered and became the first modern Mexican painter to hang in the Louvre. As Recording Secretary, **Ellen Winter** will paint a picture through her accurate minutes of the Guild’s General, Board, and special meetings. Unlike Frida she will not be able to fold over, cut out, or tear off parts of the minutes that do not suit her fancy. Here is a DVD, *The Life and Times of Frida Kahlo*, so you can review her influence on changing art and be inspired by her spirit.

**VICE CHAIR: Empress Dowager Cixi: Selections from the Summer Palace.** The power behind the throne for four decades, she brought China into the modern world. No need for our next incoming officer to be “behind” the throne. As Vice Chair, **Sherry Wright** is no shrinking violet and will assume the duties of Chair in her absence, just as Cixi did. Cut off heads, send Generals into exile, well maybe not.....Sherry will oversee awards, like Life Appreciation, Docent of the Year, Ann Spencer, and Community

Connection. The Empress Dowager liked to pass out service pins, and so will Sherry. Here is a book, *Warriors, Tombs and Temples, China's Enduring Legacy* to remind you of your regal responsibilities.

**CHAIR:** My favorite exhibit of the year: ***Endurance: The Antarctic Legacy of Sir Ernest Shackleton and Frank Hurley***. How to describe Shackleton? Fearless, fair, determined, .....very cold & wet all the time. Well, I'm sure this won't bother our incoming Chair, **Anne Llewellyn**. We believe in *gender equality*. So, we have for her review, *The New Explorers, Women in Antarctica*, a book about women who like to hike over glaciers, dive under the ice, fly for hours over unexplored mountain ranges, and enter steaming volcano craters. Doesn't that describe Anne? Oh, well, as Chair of the Docent Guild, she might have to do even more than that. Her job description fills an entire page. She will be a great leader, just like Shackleton.

**TO THEM ALL:** Do you accept the job responsibilities as outlined in the Standing Rules? If so, please say, I do. You are duly installed as the next Docent Guild Board.

AND we can hardly wait to see what Peter, Anne, and Paul are dreaming up for us this year.