

AFFA What's Up - November 2023

Greetings and best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving. My wish is that all of us have much to be thankful for. We certainly have beautiful weather as we go into the holiday season.

AFFA MARKET DAY

We had a great first Market Day and found happy homes for many treasures. Please take a moment to visit our website to view a video of this wonderful event (austinfriendsoffolkart.org). Thank you to Meta Hunt for funding this video production.

AFFA Holiday Party

Mark your calendars for our AFFA Holiday Party December 3, 2023! More information will be forthcoming.



AFFA
AUSTIN FRIENDS OF FOLK ART

HOLIDAY PARTY!

GREAT FOOD

SILENT AUCTION

Sunday, December 3, 2023
4pm - 6pm

Casa Chapala \$40 - Members
9041 Research Blvd \$50 - Nonmembers

Includes dinner and one drink.

RSVP: info@austinfriendsoffolkart.org

AFFA Board Members

It is an exciting time for Austin Friends of Folk Art. For me, it is the end of serving several terms as President. I want to give my thanks and appreciation for the support given to me from the board and our organization. It has been a wonderful experience full of hope and many ideas for the creation of a strong group of people who recognize the beauty and value of folk art and support the idea of an eventual museum as a permanent home for our ever-growing donated collections.

Outgoing Board Members

Kaye Northcott - A huge thank you for always being willing to help. I recall the many trips we took that you planned and that gave us so much enjoyment. Over the years, you faithfully took notes, wrote the minutes, and handled our correspondence when serving as Secretary. We appreciate the use of your basement when we ran out of storage space and the research you did to find the resale shops that could sell items donated to us, but that did not meet our museum standards. Thank you for your willingness to serve at all our events. Big hugs to you and our deep appreciation.



Ed Jordan - We cannot express our thanks enough to a person who has given this organization not only his personal time, serving several terms on the board, but also the donation of hundreds of pieces of quality folk art by Mexican master artisans to add beauty and value to our permanent collection. One donation that comes to mind is the more than 60 pieces of Herron Martinez art, which along with other donated pieces may end up qualifying us as having the largest collection of Herron Martinez art in the state. Then, there are the many books on folk art that he donated and continues to donate, so many that I decided we should have a library and worked to name it after him. Our annual auctions would not have been a success without his dedicated work. Thank you for your willingness to volunteer at all our events. Big hugs and our deep appreciation.



Gloria Mata Pennington

Thank you all for your support and for allowing me to serve.

Membership Vote Scheduled During December 3, 2023 Annual Meeting

AFFA Bylaw 4.8 directs that AFFA members vote on bylaw amendments and the election of AFFA Officers and Board Directors. During the December 3, 2023, AFFA Annual Meeting, members will vote on bylaw amendments and the 2024-2025 AFFA Officers and Board of Directors. Visit austinfriendsoffolkart.org to view Bylaws.

The AFFA Board unanimously approved the two amendments to Bylaw 5.2 Number of Directors. The changes increase the number of board members from five to up to 15 Board members and revise the minimum number of directors from not less than three to not less than five. Here is the proposed amendment language for membership vote:

5.2 Number of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of **five up to 15 persons**. The number of directors may be increased or decreased from time to time by amendment to the bylaws provided that the number shall not be less than **three five**.

The AFFA Board also requests a vote on AFFA Officers and Board Directors for the January 2024 through December 2025 term.

Proposed Board Officers and Board Directors	Name
President	Amalia Rodriguez-Mendoza
Vice President/Treasurer	Jim Huff
Secretary	Audrey Selden
Board Director	Carlos Brondo
Board Director	Carmen Guerra
Board Director	Carol Hayman
Board Director	Charles Peveto
Board Director	Janet Hutchison
Board Director	Patricia McCambridge

The candidate bios are presented below. We welcome your participation and member vote during the December 3, 2023, Annual meeting at Casa Chapala, 9041 Research Blvd, Ste 100, Austin, Texas 78769 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

The Candidates

President



Amalia Rodriguez-Mendoza served as Travis County District Clerk for 24 years. Elected in 1990, Ms. Rodriguez-Mendoza retired in 2014 after serving six terms in office.

She currently serves as a board member of the Visual Arts League of the JGallery, the Austin Friends of Folk Art, the Hispanic Alumni Network, and the Austin Saltillo Sister Cities Association and is a former board trustee/member of the Austin Opera, Austin Classical Guitar, Austin Museum of Art (now Contemporary Austin) and La Pena.

Ms. Rodriguez-Mendoza is the Zone 1 Director of the Pan American Round Table of Austin and is a founder of the Hispanic Women's Network of Texas (HWNT) organization. She is a lifetime member of the Texas Exes.

Vice-President/Treasurer



James R. Huff (Jim) served on the City Council of St. Helens (Oregon) for 12 years, the last 7 as President. While there, Jim initiated and chaired the Columbia View Park Committee. The 500-person amphitheater was built with donated funds, materials, and labor.

Jim has served on the Boards of the St. Helens Hospital (Acting Chair) and Columbia Foundation (bringing a library and the internet to Columbia County). Jim initiated and then served as President of the Columbia County Emergency Association for 23 years. This was a non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to improving emergency services to all of the county. He was also a long-term member of the Statewide Emergency Planning Committee.

Jim received his BS in Chemical Engineering from Washington State University as well as being a Stanford Business School Alumni. Jim worked for Boise Cascade Corporation, Pulp and Paper Division, where he was promoted to Mill Manager. He held this position for 14 years prior to retiring. Jim spent 47 years in Oregon.

Jim relocated to Austin in 2010, where he became involved with AFFA. He joined the Board sometime later and has been treasurer for the past 5 years.

Secretary



Audrey Selden, JD, is an innovative public speaker, attorney, and facilitator. Audrey is a consultant for the National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity providing keynote speeches, equity workshops, and leadership training across the United States. She served as the Texas Assistant Secretary of State and Deputy Commissioner for the Texas Department of Insurance. Audrey conducted Implicit Bias workshops at the White House Conference on inclusive STEM Education for Youth of Color. She

was the 2019 Executive Women in Texas Government Women of the Year and former board president of Leadership Women. She earned a BA and an MPA from Michigan State University and a JD from Harvard. She is an art enthusiast who supports the development of “art by any folk anywhere.”

Board Directors



Carlos Brondo has been involved in the field of folk art for more than 30 years. He was manager of the Mexic-Arte

Museum store and then worked with the Austin Public Library System at the St. John Branch. Upon retiring from the library, he works in sales at the Top-Drawer Thrift store (Austin-Project Transitions, a local nonprofit small business shop). He is also the museum store curator for the Old Bakery and Emporium.

Carlos is a clear-headed proponent of the arts in all genres, knowledgeable as a former dealer at the museum in the field of sales management and the study of folk art. With his wide range of acquaintances, he would spread the news of our Austin Friends of Folk Art to gain support for our many projects and especially our folk art museum.



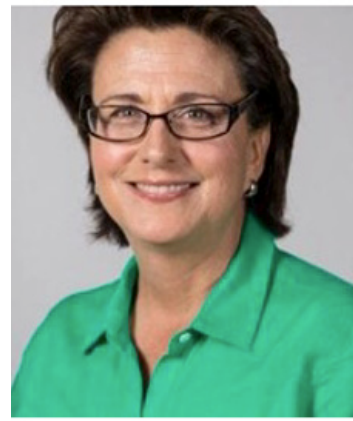
Carmen Guerra is a Senior Corporate Recruiter with Fortrea Drug Development and has extensive experience in both the academic and private sectors. Prior to working for Fortrea, she worked in Human

Resources at The University of Texas at Austin for 23 years, recruiting the top candidates for all academic and non-academic departments. She has degrees in Piano Performance and Choral Music and regularly sings with Chorus Austin and All Saints' Episcopal Church Choir. Ms. Guerra served a six-year term as President of the local alumni chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon, a music fraternity, and has held several officer positions with the local and state-wide Pan American Round Table, as well as serving as the Archives Chair for the Alliance of Pan American Round Tables. She serves on the international board of American Voices, which provides cultural exchange through the performing arts. Ms. Guerra always promotes the arts, in every medium, and is looking forward to serving as the Membership Chair for Austin Friends of Folk Art.



Carol Hayman is a retired Austin Community College Professor of Anthropology and has been on the board of several non-profit organizations including the Austin

Lima Sister Cities Committee, KOOP Radio, and Women Printmakers of Austin. She developed and implemented an annual Study Abroad Program for ACC students to Lima, Peru at the University of San Martin de Porres. In addition to teaching, she is a photographer and printmaker and has presented her work in numerous local and international venues. She has also organized many art exhibitions, including presentations of Peruvian artists in Austin, Texas. She participated in artists' residencies with the Coronado Studio Serie Print Project and with the University of Texas at Casa Herrera in Antigua, Guatemala. She has been a board member of AFFA since 2018.



Janet Hutchison has more than 30 years of experience in nonprofit programs and fundraising and holds a Certificate

Fundraising Management (CFRM) from the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. She has raised funds for literacy, education, and policy work that benefits low-income Texans. Janet also served on the Board of Directors for Sightlines, a non-profit magazine of arts, culture, news, and ideas from its launch in November of 2017. She also served on the boards of the Discovery School in Austin and the Foundation for the Homeless. Currently, Janet is a licensed social worker with Travis County Health and Human Services and is located at the Travis County Community Center helping Texans struggling with their basic needs.



Charles Peveto, Preservationist and Architectural Historian, has been with the Texas Historical Commission for many years, and has devoted his professional career and personal life to saving and maintaining the historic architectural and cultural resources of Austin and the state of Texas. He serves on several Austin boards and committees, including Austin History Center Association, President Board of Directors; Preservation Austin; Old Austin Neighborhood Association and Mid Tex Mod, Central Chapter, DOCOMOMO US.

Charles is an active advocate in preserving Austin's RICH and DIVERSE histories that give Austin that "Sense of Place".

Charles is a major collector of Texas Art, with a focus on Texas Modernism and is an active member of "CASETA", The Center for the Advancement and Study of Early Texas Art.



Pat McCambridge has been a member of AFFA since the early 1990s and served as President from 1999-2002. Growing up in San Diego, California, Pat was aware of Mexican folk art from an early age and loved visiting places like Bazaar Del Mundo in Old Town, which was always full of brightly colored Mexican fabrics and art objects. She was delighted to be introduced to AFFA when Marcia Lucas invited her to a Christmas party in the early 90s. Pat immediately started attending every AFFA event she could and joined the Board for the first time in 1998.

Pat has had a career of over 40 years in the publishing industry, working mostly on literature and language arts textbooks for grades 6-12. She worked for 24 of those years at various divisions of Harcourt Brace, including Holt, Rinehart and Winston, where she was an Executive Editor of Language Arts in charge of various literature anthologies, including World Literature, World Drama, World Myths and Folktales, Latino Literature, and Content-Area Readers. She is currently a freelance writer, editor, and editorial manager.

Until Next Month, Have a Blessed Thanksgiving

Gloria Mata Pennington

Gloria Mata Pennington,
President

Board Members:

Carmen Guerra

Carol Hayman

Jim Huff

Ed Jordan

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