

PSA E-News *Keeping you informed...*



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The 14-member Board of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) met on April 9-10, 2010, at PSA Headquarters in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. There were a number of important, even exciting, reports presented and actions approved. Some of the highlights are presented below.

Reports to the Board

Membership – Joanne Stolte, APSA, EPSA, Membership Vice President, reported that the Society's membership has surpassed the 6,000-member mark, and membership continues to grow at a fast pace. In March, 2010 alone, 210 new members, or about 3.5% of the total PSA membership, joined the Society.

Conferences – Janet Bigalke, APSA, Conferences Vice President reported very positive reviews and an attendance of 617 for the 2009 Yellowstone Conference. She also announced the highlights of the schedule for the 2010 Conference in Charleston, South Carolina. Future conferences are scheduled for Colorado Springs, Colorado, in 2011; San Francisco, California, in 2012; and Portland, Maine, in 2013.

PSA International Exhibition – Terry Carroll, Exhibition Services Vice President, reported that the 2010 PSA International Exhibition will have a total of 24 Sections. The closing date for this year's PSA International Exhibition is August 9, 2010. Exhibitor interest in the PSA International, as well as in PSA-recognized exhibitions worldwide, has been expanding at an unprecedented rate.

Strategic Planning Committee – John Davis, APSA, PPSA, Executive Vice President and Chairman of the Society's newly formed Strategic Planning Committee reported on the work of the Committee in coordinating the strategic planning process. He announced the formation of seven "task forces" assigned to help identify the Society's priority issues, to provide information to guide the development of a SURVEY of the PSA membership, to do analysis of member responses, and to assist the board with the development of a strategic plan. Member responses will be the key to the plan's development. The seven task forces will address these topics: organizational structure, membership retention, simplification and uniformity of exhibition guidelines, contract services and staff, volunteer development, volunteer recognition, and financial development. The Plan will address the priorities which are essential to fulfillment of the Society's mission, will respond to the operating environment and the needs of members, and will help optimize the use of resources toward important member services.

PSA Journal – Elena McTighe, PSA Publications Vice President, reported that the *PSA Journal* is now an "all-color" photography journal, and the *Journal* is also "downloadable" for members on the PSA Website.

Investments – John Fuller, PSA Investments Vice President, reported that the Society's Endowment Funds have fared well, even in recent difficult economic times; that the principal of the funds remain secure; and that the funds will continue to support the work of the Society.

Board Actions

Future PSA Conference – The PSA Board of Directors approved the Marriott at Sable Oaks hotel in Portland, Maine as the site of the 2013 PSA International Conference of Photography.

New PSA Website – The Board approved a contract with Relevant Arts Enterprises, Inc. for the design of a new PSA Website.

PSA Bylaws – The Board approved a comprehensive update of the Society's Bylaws prepared by John Davis.

New Mission Statement – The Board adopted an ambitious, comprehensive mission statement prepared by the strategic planning committee: *"The Photographic Society of America (PSA) promotes the art and science of photography as a means of communication, image appreciation, and cultural exchange. PSA provides education, information, inspiration, and opportunity for all persons interested in photography. The Society fosters personal growth and expression, creativity, excellence, and ethical conduct in all aspects of photographic endeavor."*

PSA Print Collection – The Board approved, in concept, an agreement with [Artspace] at Untitled (also known as "Untitled"), a non-profit art gallery in Oklahoma City, for the preservation and use of the PSA Print Collection. The PSA collection is one of the best, if not the best, collection of its kind in the world, and it will continue to be owned by the Society. Under the agreement, Untitled would preserve and exhibit the PSA Print Collection, including restoration, cataloging, scanning, organizing, documenting, and storing each print in the Collection. Untitled would also use the Collection for the benefit of the Society and to promote the Society's mission, including the exhibiting, publishing, and licensing the Collection for other uses. Selections of about 30 prints from the PSA Print Collection are to be selected and rotated regularly, providing a year round exhibit at the Untitled gallery.

Planned Giving Program – The Board approved, as part of the Society's Planned Giving Program, the creation of a new Society endowment fund through the Oklahoma City Community Foundation OCCF), a non-profit agency which will provide planned giving services for the Society.

PSA Ethics Code Violations – The Board approved sanctions and penalties against two members for unethical exhibition practices in PSA-recognized international exhibitions.

New Board Position – The Board approved the creation of a new PSA Board of Directors position to be named Information Systems Vice President, with supervisory responsibility for the development, coordination, integration, and maintenance of the Society information systems, including the data base and website, effective at such time as the Society President determines.

Board Position Title Change – The Board also approved the change in title and specific responsibility of the position of Services Vice President to Image Collections Vice President with supervisory responsibility for the PSA Print Collection and all other image collections of the Society, effective at such time as the Society President determines.

Concluding – As presiding officer of the April board meeting, I could not be more pleased. The new PSA Board is energetic and enthusiastic, and they get along well as a group. Our planned meeting objectives were carried out, and we added items to our busy agenda. I am delighted to report that most of the motions were approved unanimously. We all left Oklahoma City with a feeling of high accomplishment, and are we are looking forward to the future.

Fred Greene, FPSA, EPSA
President

Important Who's Who Notice - Terry Carroll, Exhibition Services Vice President, advises that some of the listings in the 2009 Who's Who Class A Monochrome Print Section are incorrect. The November Journal will publish the correct listings.

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