



SEPT 2010

WivLA's Mission: To provide an inspiring forum for women to explore and advance their creative development, to promote their work in the marketplace, and to infuse the community with their spirit of cooperation and invention.

**SEPTEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
Tuesday, September 21, 2010

**Please join us for an evening with Sally Sprout, Curator of the Williams Tower Gallery!**

Sally has been active in the Houston art scene for over 30 years. In 1983 she became the curator of the then Transco Corporate Collection in the Transco Tower. When ownership of the building changed, she continued curating outstanding public exhibitions in the renamed Williams Tower Gallery. Through the years, she has served on boards and committees for such organizations as Houston Center for Photography, DiverseWorks ArtSpace and the Women's Center. Professional and community collaborations include Photolucida (Portland, OR), Texas Photographic Society, Texas Tech, UT Austin, Houston FotoFest International, Houston International Festival and Asia Society. Sally has juried numerous competitions, including ones for Houston Center for Photography, Houston Women's Caucus for Art, Visual Arts Alliance, Watercolor Art Society Houston, Houston Community College System and the Fayetteville Museum of Art, North Carolina. In addition to her corporate and community experience, Sally was owner and director of Sally Sprout Gallery for many years. Gathering Time: 6 PM

Meeting Time: 6:15 – 7:15  
Museum of Printing History • 1324 West Clay Street • Houston, Texas 77019

**Join us for dinner following the meeting at Café Express on West Gray**

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

By Jeanne Haner

Warm Greetings WivLA Members and Friends!

Our Annual Member Print and Photography Exhibition, OASIS, and opening reception were a huge success. Thank you to all participants and supporters of this exhibition, particularly Jean Caslin and Diane Griffin

Gregory for their tireless dedication to this exhibition and Elizabeth Earle and Corry Austin for doing an excellent job coordinating the readings during the reception. Well done ladies! Special thanks to Cafe Express and Vincenzo's Italian Grill for their tasty contributions to our opening reception.

The August "Circle of Five" meeting was grand. It was inspirational to see WivLA members share their work with others whether their work was in process, completed or on hold. Thanks to all of you who came to the meeting and shared your creative journey.

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Deadline for October 2010 Newsletter: Sept 25, 2010; submit to [newsletter@wivla.org](mailto:newsletter@wivla.org)

The WiVLA member retreat is a reality. Please read through the newsletter for details and sign-up information about this much anticipated member event.

I hope to see you at the next general meeting, September 21, 2010 which will be held at the Museum of Printing History, 1324 W. Clay. Thank you.



*J-Coby Wayne delivers her poetry at the Oasis Reading*

## Remember the Alamo!

By Lane Devereux

On **October 16**, WiVLA members will meet at the Alamo at the Northwest Forest Conference Center ([www.northwestforest.com/](http://www.northwestforest.com/)) in Cypress for an all-day retreat complete with workshops and lunch. NW Forest is an exceptional retreat destination with beautiful and unique buildings, lovely grounds, and a relaxing ambience. Stroll the gardens, walk a bridged path over to the small lake and sit in the gazebo, take a look into the past on the frontier town boardwalk, or just sit by one of the many fountains and enjoy yourself.

We have planned a box lunch that you can take anywhere you like on the property and workshops for the morning and afternoon. Eat breakfast before you arrive; beverages will be served all day. We will start the day at 9 a.m. and wrap up at 4:30 p.m.

Thanks to member Connie Buchanan, whose generous volunteer work for WiVLA has earned us a \$500 grant from Exxon, the cost to members for this wonderful day of respite and renewal is only \$25.00. Sign up by October 1, 2010 to be included in the fun. A registration form is included below. Directions to the Northwest Conference Center will be included in next month's newsletter.

We would like to offer two morning workshops and two afternoon workshops and are looking for volunteers to lead them. If you have an idea for a workshop for our retreat, contact me at [lanedev@comcast.net](mailto:lanedev@comcast.net) or call me at 281-373-9658.



Remember the Alamo! Be there October 16 at 9 a.m. and let the fun begin.

Sign me up for the WiVLA-member Retreat at the Northwest Conference Center on October 16, 2010 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. My \$25.00 retreat fee is enclosed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the sandwich you would like in your box lunch. (If you do not indicate a preference, your sandwich selection will be first come, first served from a variety provided by the conference center kitchen.)

Roast Beef and Cheddar.	Ham and Provolone.	Turkey Breast and Smoked Gouda
Dilled Egg Salad.	Tuna Salad.	Grilled Vegetable Sandwich.

Mail your registration form and \$25.00 to  
Lane Devereux, 16323 Cypress Trace Drive, Cypress, TX 77429-6388 by October 1, 2010.  
Make checks out to WiVLA.

## MEMBER NEWS

*This column is for members to report their news: getting published, having a show, receiving an award – recognizing any of their work. Please submit your news to share with other WiVLA members.*

### VISUAL ART CELEBRATIONS

#### **Jean Caslin and Diane Griffin**

Gregory have served as project consultants for the past two years for the exhibition and publication project: *Before (During) After: Louisiana Photographers' Visual Reactions to Hurricane Katrina*.

This show premieres at DiverseWorks Art Space, Friday, **September 10** from 6-9 pm. Ten of the 12 participating photographers will be in town for the event.

*Under-Standing Water*, an exhibition featuring work by four Louisiana-based installation artists, will also be on view. A free Symposium will be held at DiverseWorks beginning at 1:00pm on Saturday, **September 11**. On view thru **October 23**; free and open to the public. For more information, visit: [www.diverseworks.org](http://www.diverseworks.org)

**Peggy Sexton's** work will be included in the Houston Area Fiber Artists annual show, "Focus on Fiber". Opening Reception at 18 Hands Gallery, 249 th W 19th St.,

Houston, TX, **September 18** from 6 - 9 pm,

**Sue Burke Harrington** will feature work in the exhibit *Parallel Universes: The Art of Quantum Physics*. Exhibit opens **September 17** at Winter Street Studios, 2101 Winter Street.

Exquisite Corpse party starts September 18 from 6pm to 11pm with refreshments, panel discussion, and live music.

In celebration of its 64<sup>th</sup> Independence Day and the 150th birth centenary year of Poet Rabindranath Tagore, The Indian Cultural Center & The Tagore Society of Houston recognized **Piyali SenDasgupta's** work with a Spirit of Tagore Award. The Consul General of India, Mr. Aurora, presented **Piyali** with the award on the Indian Independence Day, August 15, 2010.

**Olva Pharo** has been chosen as one of the artists to paint fiberglass horses for Northwest Assistance Ministries' (NAM) **Jeans and Jewels Gala held October 16** at

the Woodlands Waterway Marriott. The auction benefits NAM's Children's Center and sponsorships are still available. Visit [olvastewartpharo.com/ontheroad.html](http://olvastewartpharo.com/ontheroad.html) for details.

**Bonnie Blue** will be the featured artist at *Good Gulf*, The Art Car Museum's Sixth Annual Open Call Exhibition on Saturday, **October 23** from 7 to 10 pm.

**Rebecca Kveton's** artchair was auctioned at an exhibit at the George R. Brown Convention Center on August 28. Proceeds from the event supported the Furniture Bank.

### LITERARY CELEBRATIONS

J-Coby Wayne will be bringing her writing skills to the support of world relations and conscious citizenship as a member of the City of Houston 2010 Citizenship Week Task Force. She will be heading up the communications efforts for this international, multicultural city-wide event hosted by the Houston Mayor's Office.

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear WiVLA Members,

As promised, the board will vote on the newsletter name this month, so stay posted for the unveiling at the next WiVLA meeting. Thanks again to everyone who contributed their ideas. I know the new name will reflect the unique talents of each member and the warm camaraderie of our group.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Watson  
[newsletter@wivla.org](mailto:newsletter@wivla.org)

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## Local Independent Book Store Gets “Facelift,” Keeps Old Charm

by Jennifer Watson

While Cary takes a short break from her regular column “Best Places to Write and Draw,” I thought it would be nice to shine the spotlight on a little known secret to Houston’s literary community. Or maybe it isn’t. For thirty years, Kaboom Books has been providing a varied selection of books and hard-to-find collections for folks who are well read or for those who simply enjoy strumming through worn pages every now and then. The store’s motto is “Better Read, Then Dead,” a phrase that perfectly characterizes the humor and charm of owners Dee and John. The devastation of Katrina brought the couple to Houston to recover and rebuild, and since then, they’ve found their niche in the Houston Heights, serving customers at two convenient locations.



Everything about this Mom and Pop shop is classic, from their wall to wall span of books, to their comic-themed gift certificates, to the two chocolate German Short-Haired Pointers that greet you eagerly at the door. Kaboom hosts the *Nano Fiction Reading Series*, now in its third season, in addition to inviting creative writing critique groups to its back patio.

Kaboom recently gave its website a fresh look, but fans still know it for its old-school appeal to audiences of all backgrounds and interests. Dee and John will even buy back used books in good condition, which is great news to Kindle-lovers and iPad users. For those of us who still enjoy the sweet smell of paper printed at the turn of the century and earlier, (admittedly, I am a new iPad convert) Kaboom Books is a seductive find in the heart of historic H-Town.

### Visit their two locations:

3116 Houston Avenue      733 Studewood  
713.869.7600                713.869.1700

Or online at [www.kaboombooks.com](http://www.kaboombooks.com)

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## Back to School Time Not Just for Kids

*Poets & Writers Ranks the Top Ten Low-Residency MFA Programs for Working Adults*

By Jennifer Watson

My mother stunned me last year when she said she was going back to school for her Bachelors in psychology after being away from the books for nearly thirty years. To top it off, she planned to earn her degree in three years time by taking all of her courses online. This from a woman who thinks you need a microphone and social etiquette to enter a chat room! Yet I’m proud to know that, despite the fact she refuses to pay a single bill online, she has embraced the opportunity to advance herself academically in a most accommodating way.

When I picked up the September/October issue of *Poets & Writers* magazine and turned to its listings of top ten low-residency MFA programs, I thought of my mother and all of the men and women who have been discouraged from returning to school due to the inconveniences that traditional Masters Degree programs typically involve. Low-residency

MFA programs are tailored for the working adult and usually schedule classes a few weeks throughout the year so students can fit their coursework within their schedule. Though not for every aspiring poet and fiction writer, low-residency programs can be a saving grace to a new generation of graduates. *P&W* ranks the top ten as follows:

1. Vermont College of Fine Arts
2. Warren Wilson College
3. Bennington College
4. Pacific University
5. Antioch University
6. Lesley University
7. Queens University of Charlotte
8. University of Southern Maine
9. Goddard College
10. Spalding University

For more information, visit [www.pw.org/magazine](http://www.pw.org/magazine).

## MEET OUR NEW MEMBER

**Name:** Anna Mavromatis

**Email:** annamavromatis@gmail.com

**Creative medium/media:** traditional printmaking, digital, mixed media

**She heard about WiVLA** through the Museum of Printing History

**She joined WiVLA** to meet/interact with other women artists

What she would like other members to know about her work: the truth!

*Welcome Anna!*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & CONTESTS

**Ann Bell's** new class schedule (with images for most classes) is available for fall at

<http://www.annbell.net/classes.htm>  
or call Ann at 281-330-3827.

**Mylène Dressler** is launching a new writing retreat, the River of Words Retreat, on the banks of the Colorado River in Moab, Utah. Visit [www.riverofwordsretreat.com](http://www.riverofwordsretreat.com) or write to [retreat@mylenedressler.com](mailto:retreat@mylenedressler.com) to join her for this unforgettable, inspiring event. Space is limited.

On October 9, **Mylène** will join forces with the dynamic Helen Terry of Nia Moves for their first-ever collaboration in Houston, "Writing With Your Body, Dancing With Your Words." This relaxed, playful workshop will combine words and movement to unlock the marvelous, natural potential of our bodies and our voices. You need have NO prior "movement" or "writing" experience to attend this unique, fun workshop!

For more information, and to register, visit [mylenedressler.com](http://mylenedressler.com)

In **October**, WIVLA members will have the opportunity to participate in the KUHF (Public radio) pledge drive by answering phones and taking pledges at the station. What a wonderful way to give our organization recognition and publicity while helping the radio station at the same time. The dates have not been announced, but when they are, a notice will be sent so you can sign up

to participate. Contact **Corry Austin** with questions.

**Margo Davis and Priscilla Frake** read their poems for *The Poets Corner* on Taping for the Blind. Listen to their archived work: [http://www.tapingfortheblind.org/Audio\\_Archives/index.html](http://www.tapingfortheblind.org/Audio_Archives/index.html).

**Grassroots Call for Entries.**  
**Deadline: September 10.** Juror Victoria Lightman will select works for the 2010 Open Exhibition opening October 21st and closing December 3rd at HCC's Northline Gallery. [www.grassrootsartinaction.org](http://www.grassrootsartinaction.org).

**Bayou City Art Festival Memorial Park, Houston Texas Call for Entries**

March 25 – 27, 2011

**Deadline: October 29, 2010**

Entry Fee: \$30

Juried at Museum of Fine Arts, Houston by an invited panel of artists, collectors and industry professionals. Applications are currently being accepted via ZAPP: [www.zapplication.org](http://www.zapplication.org)  
[www.bayoucityartfestival.com](http://www.bayoucityartfestival.com)

**The Sketchbook Project**  
**Sign up by 10/31/10**  
**Postmark book by 1/15/11**  
**Entry Fee \$25**

Thousands of sketchbooks will be exhibited at galleries and museums as they make their way on tour across the country.

After the tour, all sketchbooks will

enter into the permanent collection of The Brooklyn Art Library, where they will be barcoded and available for the public to view.

**Anyone - from anywhere in the world - can be a part of the project.** For more information, visit

<http://arthousecoop.com/projects/sketchbookproject>

**Consequence Prize in Poetry**

**Deadline: September 30**

Recommended free contest offers \$200 for the best poem addressing the culture and consequences of war. Send 1-3 unpublished poems, maximum 6 single-spaced pages total. Enter by mail or email. Consequence is a Massachusetts-based literary magazine, published annually, focusing on the culture of war in America.

[www.winningwriters.com](http://www.winningwriters.com).

**Writers in the Schools (WITS)**

seeks silent auction donations for its fundraiser, *A Celebration of Story*, benefiting creative writing programs for Houston's underserved youth.

The wish list includes paintings, photography, sculptures, jewelry, poetry, and other pieces of work in exchange for name recognition on the event program. All donations are tax deductible. Please donate an item and make a difference in a child's education! For more information email **Jennifer Watson** at [jwatson@witshouston.org](mailto:jwatson@witshouston.org)

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## WIVLA BOARD MEMBERS

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## WIVLA – CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 13:** WivLA Board Meeting, Live  
Oak Friends Meeting House

**September 21:** Member Meeting: Sally Sprout

**October 16:** WivLA Retreat: Northwest  
Conference Center

WivLA meets **the third Tuesday of every month** excluding December at The Museum of Printing History, 1324 W Clay Houston 77019

### Women in the Visual and Literary Arts

P.O. Box 130406  
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<http://www.wivla.org>