NYU's Visual Arts Administration MA Program Goes to China!

Sandra Lang, Associate Professor and Director of the Visual Arts Administration MA Program, was invited to speak at the 2nd Art Industrial Parks Development Forum in April 2017 hosted by the Central Academy of Fine Arts (CAFA) in Beijing, China.

Professor Lang’s presentation was in the first round of keynote speeches at the Forum, "Transformation and Upgrading of Art Industrial Parks from An International Perspective." She outlined how cultural areas have migrated throughout NYC in a presentation titled "From Soho to the High Line, the History and Development of New York City Cultural Districts." Forum speakers and attendees came from all over China and other parts of the world.

Attendees of the Forum were then taken to the Henan Province where they visited the fabulous Longmen Grottos where, during the 1st century A.D., over 2300 caves and niches were carved into the limestone cliffs next to the Yi River near the city of Luoyang. The group also visited the Luoyang National Peony Garden as well as the Zhengzhou International Culture and Creative Industry Park and met with several dignitaries from the area. It is remarkable what the Chinese are doing with regard to arts and culture in conjunction with urban development!

Professor Lang also had the opportunity to speak to prospective students at CAFA, where she gave a presentation about NYU's Visual Arts Administration MA Program, how its curriculum is structured and how, due to its focus solely on visual arts administration, the program is able to engage deeply in issues specific to visual arts management. Many students apply to NYU's arts administration program after graduating from CAFA, which is the major art school in China - it has its own institute of arts administration and education!
CLASS of 2017 – STUDENT HONORS and AWARDS

Congratulations to All!

2017 AWARDEES

Javier A. Plasencia
Departmental Banner Bearer at the 2017 Valedictory Celebration in the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development

Juliana Steiner and Stephanie Bokenfohr
Visual Arts Administration Alumni Council Awardees

Danielle Brock and Alexin Tenefrancia
Art and Art Professions, Student Excellence Awards

(Image: ALIX HORNYAN, JULIANA STEINER AND STEPHANIE BOKENFOHR AT THE GRADUATION PARTY, Barney, May 15th)

ALUMNI EVENTS

The Visual Arts Administration M.A. Program Alumni Council organized the following recent special events:

On Wednesday, May 17 a group of fifteen alumni attended a private escorted tour of The Easton Foundation/ Louise Bourgeois Archive, Home & Garden. This event was organized by Alumni Council Special Projects member Kate Beach,’15.

On Tuesday, July 25 our alumni group gathered from 9:00 AM -10:00 AM for a private, educator-led tour of Visionaries: Creating a Modern Guggenheim at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum. This event was organized and co-hosted by Anna Burden,’15, VAA Alumni Council Vice President.

On Saturday, August 12th alumni and guests were invited to a daytime summer social at Victori + Mo Gallery in Bushwick, Brooklyn to see the show Topographies, featuring new sculptures by Jemila MacEwan and paintings by Karin Waskiewicz. The event was co-hosted by the exhibition curator, Alix Horneyan, ’10, VAA Alumni Council President.
Conversations with Alumni:

This popular annual event was held in the Einstein Auditorium, Barney Building, on October 20, 2017, from 6:00-8:30 PM. First and second year VAA students and alumni gathered to meet our six invited alumni mentors including Jennifer Cohen,’10, Studio Manager Peter Huyghe; Olivia Davis,’12, Project Manager & Curator, Montefiore Hospital; Lyn Hsieh, ’07, Department Manager, Education, The Museum of Modern Art; Liz Slagus, ‘99, Director of Public Programs, New York Hall of Science; Cristina Tafuri, ’13, Director of Exhibitions & Art Fairs, F & Co. and Sunny Wang, ’11, Associate Development Officer, The Metropolitan Museum of Art. After a brief networking reception Alix Hornyan, ’10, our moderator, did a great job of keeping the conversation both lively and informal as our panelists discussed a range of topics pertaining to academic, career and professional advancement.

SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY DECEMBER 14

We are pleased to announce that our VAA annual holiday party will be held on Thursday, December 14th from 6:30 – 9:00 PM at Aicon Gallery, located at 35 Great Jones St. (between Lafayette St & Bowery & E. 3rd St.). Our alumna co-host is Jana Soin,’13, Sales Associate.

All VAA alumni are welcome!

Donations of raffle prizes are gratefully accepted.

If you would like to make a donation please contact Vida Schreibman: vs9@nyu.edu.

Money raised from the sale of raffle tickets goes to scholarships, Professional Development Grants and Excellence Awards.
Recognizing When it’s Time for a Change!

Stephanie Jauch, ’06, a former Alumni Council President offers some personal insights into taking the next big step in your career.

A little over a year ago, I started a new job for the first time in over ten years. Since graduating from the Visual Arts Administration program in 2006, I had worked at Artists Space, where I had started as an intern, was hired as an office manager upon graduation, and quickly grew into the Director of Operations and Finance, a position I then held for eight years. My own professional development corresponded with a time of considerable growth for Artists Space: during my tenure, the operating budget tripled and the programming expanded to a second downtown venue. It was an incredibly exciting and rewarding time to be a part of the institution, but as in all organizational life cycles, there came a day when I knew that it was time to move on. Not only had I reached the peak of my own career opportunities within the structure of the organization, it was also time for the organization itself to have a fresh, re-energized team to lead it. I was eager to expand the scope of my experience, and as an nonprofit operations and finance manager my skill set was highly transferable to a wider range of organizations.

As graduates of the VAA program, one of the greatest tools we have when embarking on a job search is our incredible network of alumni. If your situation allows, share the news that you are looking for new opportunities with fellow alums – I learned about the posting for the job I ended up landing through a former classmate. Seek those out who may have connections at the companies or organizations you in which are interested. Leverage alumni resources such as our active Facebook and LinkedIn groups, where our colleagues are continually sharing opportunities from throughout our far-reaching community. Keep in touch with program faculty, who are great resources for insider knowledge and can serve as key references.

Ultimately I joined the team at ArtsPool, a cooperative that provides arts administration services—from budget management and bookkeeping to workforce administration and compliance—to its broad range of performing and visual arts members. While stepping away from the only professional environment and set of systems I had ever really known was daunting, finding an opportunity to use the operational and financial expertise I had honed at Artists Space to now help relieve the administrative burdens of a variety of arts organizations has been incredibly gratifying both professionally and personally.

Change has its challenges to be sure, but striving for growth is something that I think drew us all to pursue our Visual Arts Administration degrees in the first place. I find it encouraging to know that whenever the time for that next big step comes around for each of us, we have a support structure of incredible arts professionals to lean on and to lift us up.
CAREER NEWS

Carli Beseau, '13, Executive Director of Exhibits and Programs, Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation

Stephanie Bokenfohr, '17, Hub Manager, Performa Institute, Performa

Danielle Brock, '17, Curatorial Assistant, Art 21

Mary Beth Brown, '15, promoted to Director of Administration and External Affairs, Arttable

Laura Cunniff, '17, Development Associate, San Francisco Museum of Art

Diego Foronda, '17, Development Officer, Fraunces Tavern Museum

Jessica Iannuzzi Garcia, '17, Art Program Analyst, JP Morgan Chase Art Collection

Henone Girma, '16 Andrew W. Mellon Research Associate, The Newark Museum

Nancy Harwood, '16, Corporate Partnerships Coordinator, The Highline

Anne Shisler-Hughes, '97, Director of Foundation and Government Relations, Japan Society

Hazal Kamisli, '16, Assistant to Director, artSumer Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey

Everett Laidlaw, '16, Marketing Manager, Pace Gallery

Hansi Liao, '16, Sales Assistant, Pace Gallery

Janice Monger, '05, CEO and President, Staten Island Museum

Neelima Narayana, '17, Civic Art Registrar, L.A. County Arts Commission

Molly Nathan, '13, Gallery Associate, Hostler Burrows

Javi Plasencia, '17, Coordinator, Arts & Design, MTA

Maria Sergeeva, '16, Deputy Director for Communications and Development, Multimedia Art Museum, Moscow, Russia

Juliana Steiner, '17, Special Projects, Sokoloff + Associates; Studio Assistant, Educational Department for Adult and Academic Programs, The Museum of Modern Art.

Sarah Stuby, '17, Grants Manager, International Center of Photography

Alex Tapnio, '02, Associate Director, Program Administration for the Arts Initiative, Columbia University
ALUMNI NEWS

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, PROGRAMS, EXHIBITIONS

Danielle Brock, ’17, presented her thesis this October, “Participation Whose Rules? “ at the Social Theory, Politics and the Arts Conference hosted by the University of Minnesota and University of St. Thomas in Minneapolis.

After two years spent on research & development Angelika Georgiou, ’09, is pleased to announce Arttanzit.com, an online platform with a vision to minimize the carbon footprint and inefficiency costs of art transportation services and streamline the process of art shipping into a 5-minute online experience. Museum and gallery can book their shipping in real time from anywhere.

Kris Lewis, ’07, Director of Government and Foundation Relations, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, recently gave a presentation on LACMA and their work in the local community in conjunction with building a new campus and most recently, a new satellite museum in an underserved South Los Angeles neighborhood.

Jenn McTague, ’08, Co-Founding Executive Director of Second State Press, the nonprofit community printshop she established with her husband in 2010, is teaching professional development courses for artists at Tyler School of Art, University of the Arts, and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts.

Lynnette Miranda, ’14 was named a Program Manager at United States Artists in Chicago, IL, where she works alongside Alexandra Siclait, formerly of Creative Capital. Lynette recently served as the 2016-2017 Curator in Residence at Charlotte Street Foundation in Kansas City, MO and she will continue working with Kansas City artists on local curatorial projects. She is the founder of the Artists of Color Alliance(KC), a collective of self-identifying artists and creatives of color in the Midwest region, and the founder and co-organizer of Present Futures, a collaborative group of educators, artists, curators, and organizers that believe in addressing issues around structural oppression and injustice through contemporary art.

Sarah Michelle Rupert, ’11, Director of Girls Club, a non-profit collection space based in South Florida, co-founded a Small Press Fair, SPF South Florida last year that focuses on the rise of the hybrid sub-culture of prints, books and zines and they were recently awarded a grant from PNC Foundation. She is co-curating the exhibition Change Agents at the Art and Culture Center/Hollywood which opens Friday, November 10, 2017, and will participate in a conversation with Girls' Club founder Francie Bishop Good and Creative Director Michelle Weinberg during Art Basel Miami Beach, on Thursday, December 7, 2017.

She recently directed and filmed a short video, Women Painting, that accompanied an exhibition of the same name, focusing on contemporary painting by women from the Girls' Club collection. The documentary-style video interviews 11 artists from South Florida and New York area sharing their perspectives on painting, feminism and the unique experiences of women artists. Artists include Louise Fishman, Joan Snyder, Joanne Greenbaum, Amy Mahnick, Beatriz Monteavaro, Shoshanna Weinberger, Vickie Pierre, Harumi Abe, Julie Davidow, Sharon Horvath and Elisabeth Condon. The video will air on South Florida PBS/WPBT on Tuesday, December 7, 2017, 7:30pm. A screening tour will follow in 2018.
Claire Sexton, '07, Program Coordinator of the Art Center of Waco, the only independent visual art nonprofit in Waco, reports that the organization received a $2,500 program grant from the Texas Art Commission to help fund its 24-foot-long mobile exhibit trailer, which will bring art and a gallery experience to area elementary schools.

October 14-15 Juliana Steiner,’17 participated in a conference held in Minneapolis “Social Theory, Politics, and the Arts” where she presented a paper titled "When the World Fails: Aesthetics and Activism in Bolivar Square."

Tracy Sweet, ’10, who is now working full-time as an artist, exhibited a new series of art works using encaustic, metal and found materials in the October ‘17 Arts Gowanus Open Studios, Brooklyn, NY event.

LET’S STAY CONNECTED!

Vida Schreibman, ’88, VAA Alumni Liaison: vida.schreibman@nyu.edu

Alix Hornyan, ’10, VAA Alumni Council President: alixandrahornyan@gmail.com

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VAA ALUMNI

Professor Lang at the Longmen Grottos in Henan Province, China, with Professor Yu Ding, Professor and Dean of the Institute of Art Administration, Central Academy of Fine Art and members of CAFA’s faculty and staff, April 2017.