Greetings! My name is Andres L. Hernandez, and I am the Past President of the Community Arts Caucus (CAC) Interest Group.

I hope you all are well and have enjoyed the summer months, hopefully with a little relaxation and artmaking thrown in for good measure.

It’s been a while since you’ve heard from CAC, so I’d like to update you on a few things. Since the 2017 NAEA National Convention in New York City, we’ve had some changes in the leadership of our Interest Group. First, I’d like to personally thank our outgoing CAC Executive Committee members for their service over the last few years: Jennifer Combe, Past President; Jody Boyer, Vice President; and Marit Dewhurst, Communications Liaison. All three helped give new life to our Interest Group, including developing our first ever CAC website, reviewing Convention proposals, selecting our CAC Travel Award recipients, and organizing our CAC Convention Tour. We wish them much success in their future endeavors, and are extremely grateful for their service to our members.

During our annual Business Meeting at the Convention, we elected our current CAC Executive Committee members. Please join me in welcoming our new leadership: Kate Collins, President; and Dianne Sánchez Shumway, Vice President. As Past President, I look forward to working with both of them to continue shaping CAC and supporting our membership.

I’d also like to congratulate Jessica Nelson, who was selected as our 2017 CAC Travel Award recipient. Jessica was able to attend the New York City Convention with the help of this award, and delivered a great presentation entitled, Implementing a Portraiture Methodology in a Community-Based Arts Framework. For those of you that are unfamiliar with this initiative, the CAC grants a travel award each year to an emerging practitioner in the field to support attendance at the NAEA National Convention. Please stay tuned for our travel award application for the 2018 Convention in Seattle in the coming months.

In the meantime, we encourage you to stay connected with CAC by joining our Facebook group (www.facebook.com/groups/325319077516100), as well as bookmarking our CAC website (https://communityartscaucus.org). We’re working hard to bring some new initiatives to our membership, as well as preparing a robust community arts tour during the Seattle Convention. We’d love to hear any ideas you might have in support of the CAC mission, and of course, we’d like to learn more about the amazing work our CAC members are doing in the field. If you’d like to spread the word about your community arts work, please send a link and/or photos of projects you are working on or have recently completed to aherna2@saic.edu.

We’d love to hear any ideas you might have in support of the CAC mission, and of course, we’d like to learn more about the amazing work our CAC members are doing in the field.

Kate Collins
CAC President. CAC Chair Visiting Assistant Professor, Program Director, M.A. Interdisciplinary Arts Infusion, College of Fine Arts and Communication, Towson University. E-mail: kacollins@towson.edu

Dianne Sánchez Shumway
CAC Vice President. E-mail: dianne.shumway@tc.columbia.edu

Andres Hernandez
CAC Past President. Associate Professor, School of the Art Institute of Chicago. E-mail: ahernandez2@saic.edu

We’d love to hear any ideas you might have in support of the CAC mission, and of course, we’d like to learn more about the amazing work our CAC members are doing in the field.

2017-2018 NAEA PARTNERS PROGRAM HAS BEGUN

pARTNers Membership Growth Rewards Program—Did you know that there are 97,000+ K-12 visual arts educators in the United States? That’s a lot of potential for expanding our NAEA Community! Think of how our professional community and visual arts education worldwide could thrive with the addition of these new members! A special thanks to everyone who participated in the 2016-2017 year of the pARTNers Membership Growth Rewards Program—which members and state associations will win in 2018? It could be you!

This membership growth program focuses on increasing membership at the individual level as well as the state level. For each new member recruited, recruiters are entered in a chance to win a $500 Blick Art Materials coupon or a complimentary 2018 NAEA National Convention registration. State association leaders are provided with toolkits to assist them in connecting with potential members. States with the largest percentage of growth in each region—based on the program from April 1, 2017 through January 31, 2018—will be recognized at Delegates Assembly at the 2018 NAEA National Convention with an award and in NAEA publications.

Get started now! Find out more at: www.arteducators.org/community/partners-membership-growth-rewards-program