

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

The Henry Art Gallery at the University of Washington: Building a Culture of Creativity through Community Engagement

INFORMATION ONLY

The Henry Art Gallery was founded in 1926 on the principle that art stimulates inquiry, fosters knowledge, and builds healthy communities. Today, the Henry is internationally recognized as a pioneer in the study and presentation of contemporary art. With a collection of over 25,000 objects, it is also a vital resource to University students and faculty and to regional schools, artists, and the public. Healthy communities are tolerant and curious. They are not passive repositories of culture but active participants in dialogue and debate about our world. Henry Executive Director Sylvia Wolf will talk about how the Henry serves as a beacon and a magnet for the University, fostering ties with the community and forging new relationships across the region. She will be joined by Elaine Colligan, a 17-year-old college bound student from Roosevelt High School whose life has been profoundly altered by her experience with the Henry's student guide program. The museum has recently been awarded a Golden Apple Award by Seattle public broadcasting, KCTS, for excellence in promoting education by youth to youth. The Henry: Washington State's oldest museum with the newest ideas.

Sylvia Wolf, Director of the Henry Art Gallery, came to the University of Washington in April 2008. Previously, she had served as the endowed chair of the Photography Department at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, and as curator of photography at the Art Institute of Chicago. She is the author of over twelve books on contemporary art and photography, including *Polaroids: Mapplethorpe* (2007); *Ed Ruscha and Photography* (2004); *Michal Rovner: The Space Between* (2002); *Julia Margaret Cameron's Women* (1998); and *Dieter Appelt* (1994). As an educator, Wolf has taught courses in curatorial studies, art history, and studio art at the graduate and undergraduate level, most recently at Columbia University, New York University, and the School of Visual Arts, New York. At the University of Washington, Wolf is an Affiliate Professor in the School of Art, and is currently Chair of the School of Art Director Search Committee. She is on the Board of Trustees of the Association of Art Museum Directors, where she chairs the Professional Practices Committee. Wolf is the recipient of numerous awards for scholarship and leadership, including the French government's Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres. She received a BA from Northwestern University and an MFA from Rhode Island School of Design; and is an International Fellow in the School for Cultural Analysis, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands.



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Seventeen-year-old Elaine Colligan, is a Seattle native and a college bound senior from Roosevelt High School. Elaine has diverse interests and accomplishments, which include being her high school's French Club President, Managing Editor of the Roosevelt High News, and playing Ultimate Frisbee. In 2010 Elaine was voted Best Delegate at the Washington Model United Nations Conference at University of Washington, where she, with other high school students from around the country, took on the role of diplomats who engaged in research, debate and analysis of diverse global issues. Elaine is also a 4.0 student and an active member of the National Honors Society. Since 2008 Elaine has led tours of current exhibitions at the Henry, organized high school student art exhibitions and helped launch Teens at the Henry, a group which holds art events at the museum and advises staff on ways to make the Henry an inviting and educational place for young people.

