

## Looking Back and Looking Forward: Brand 50 to Brand 51

THE ASSOCIATES does not rest on its laurels for very long. After our very successful Brand 50 exhibition closed on December 30, plans are already underway for Brand 51!

As both a landmark anniversary celebration and a continuation of our commitment to featuring the best of contemporary works on paper, Brand 50 did not disappoint. Juror Shannon Currie Holmes selected and installed a visually stunning exhibition that was widely praised by artists and gallery visitors alike.

We celebrated the five decades of Associates-sponsored exhibitions in a special gallery dedicated to selections from the 100+ artworks collected by the Associates during those years. On display were ceramics, watercolors, photographs, drawings, and prints that represented both changing tastes and unchanging quality over the years. Brand 50 was ushered in with two opening events: a special invitation only Paper preView on September 23, complete with music, wine, and food, and a larger, public opening on September 24.

Our annual Works on Paper exhibition is a major source of income for the Associates through both entrance fees and sales of artwork. This year there were over 500 artists who entered 1200 artworks and art lovers purchased 17 artworks from the exhibition. If you didn't get a chance to visit the gallery during the three months that it was on view, please take a moment to look at the online catalog that

can be seen at: <https://www.brandlibrary.art/post/brand-50>.

Brand 51 promises to continue the standard of excellence that has been set over the last 50 years. Juror Ara Oshagan, who is co-curator of ReflectSpace Gallery at Glendale Central Library, brings experience working with a variety of media to the process of choosing the best works on paper for exhibition. His artistic practice demonstrates a keen eye and appreciation for conceptual as well as representational art.

The Brand 51 call for artists opens on March 1 and will end on April 7. The public opening is scheduled for Saturday, July 8. More information and the prospectus for artists are available on the Associates website: [associatesofbrand.org](http://associatesofbrand.org). Our annual works on

paper exhibition arrives earlier in the year than it has in the recent past due to changes in the yearly Gallery schedule that are needed to accommodate larger exhibitions in 2024. Stay tuned!



### **VOLUNTEER APPEAL**

Your support of Brand 51, the upcoming Book & Music Sale, and all of the many programs sponsored by the Associates is important to their success.

Please contact Debra Thompson at [debra@associatesofbrand.org](mailto:debra@associatesofbrand.org) for more information and to volunteer. Thanks!



Photos from the Brand 50 Paper preView and Opening Night events.

A splendid time was had by all!



Above: The historical gallery - selected artworks from 50 years of exhibits at Brand

## LOOKING BACK

# Our Annual Meeting

**THANK YOU** to everyone who took time out of their Saturday, January 28, to join the Board, our speakers, and your fellow Associates for our first in-person meeting since 2019. To celebrate, we feasted on food from Portos before moving into the Recital Hall where we conducted the business of electing three Board members to additional terms: Greg Ross (3 years), Debra Burchett-Lere (3 years) and Mike Diehl (1 year).

A review of budget year 2022 and projections for 2023 show an organization in good financial shape but always needing to focus on raising funds for our mission of

providing support for the cultural offerings at Brand. We have suffered a decline in membership during COVID and will work to bring in new and engaged members in the coming year. Please encourage your friends and family to join us!

We heard from administration about upcoming and ongoing programs at Brand and in the entire Library system. Many thanks to the hardworking Brand staff who make our work possible.

Following the meeting, Shannon Currie Holmes led a tour of the new exhibition Nexus IV:RAIZ, an interesting and challenging addition to the Gallery schedule.

The Associates of Brand Board of Directors for 2023 is unchanged from 2022:

**Debra Thompson, President**

**Tammy O'Connor, Vice-President**

**Greg Ross, Secretary**

**Debra Burchett-Lere, Treasurer**

**Mike Diehl**

**Tina Demirdjian**

Keep up with the Associates on our website [associatesofbrand.org](http://associatesofbrand.org), through Instagram and on Facebook.



Clockwise from top left: Board President Debra Thompson welcomes meeting attendees; Exhibitions Supervisor Shannon Currie Holmes leads a tour of the current show, Nexus IV: RAIZ; Gary Shaffer, Director of the Library, Arts & Culture Department, presents upcoming programs to members.

## LOOKING FORWARD

# Mark Your Calendars!

### Music

Brand Associates Music Series features some of the top chamber music musicians from Southern California. All concerts are on Saturdays at 2pm in Brand Recital Hall.

On March 4, **Duo Apollon** consisting of guitarist Aaron Haas and soprano Anastasia Malliaras will perform a song repertoire for voice and guitar, as well as transcriptions from piano music by Schubert, Ravel, Falla and Brad Richter.

In a program titled "Armenian Rhapsody," **ZePure Trio** will perform music by Komitas, Babajanian, Khachaturian, Arutiunian, Baghdassaryan, Sayat Nova, Khachatur Avetisyan, Stepan Davtyan, Edgar Hovhanisyan and arrangements of several anonymous folk songs. Their concert is set for Saturday, April 1. Rounding out the first half of the series is **Landmark String Quartet** on June 10.

### Music Animated

Interactive, family-friendly performances continue with Music Animated. **Ben and Friends** performs on April 15 at 10:30 a.m. Ben Gown is an elementary school orchestra teacher with LAUSD and a multi-instrumentalist. Join us to learn about the flute, trombone, accordion, and many types of percussion (including beatbox). Ben is also a puppeteer

and will do his best to convince one or two large puppet friends to make an appearance. Come sing new melodies in Portuguese and in Hebrew and take in a breath of creativity and hope!

**The Pineapple Quartet** performs on June 24 at 10:30am. This new, young string quartet will be presenting a family-friendly program with classical and popular music. Offering a fun introduction to the instruments of the string quartet, the quartet performs and educates through fun activities such as musical chairs and a freeze dance.

### Dance

Brand Associates Dance Series is set for Saturdays, April 29-May 20 at 5pm.

April 29: **MeCo** with artistic director Beth Megill provides an artistic outlet for community members who seek to take part in dance and theater at the semi-professional level. Productions are new works and are intelligent, finessed, humorous, clever, emotional, and fulfilling to those on stage, backstage and in the audience.

May 6: **Psychopomp Dance Theater** with artistic director Shenandoah Harris is grounded in viscerally athletic movement exploring social issues through the structure of Jewish culture and thought. The movement style is rooted in complex floorwork, powerful acrobatic Parkour movements and draws sparsely powerful traveling techniques from Horton and Limon. Harris's ancestral heritage of collaboration and discourse informs the collaborative culture of Psychopomp. Every artist in the company is asked to not only authentically represent their own identity but also question how their choices impact others. Psychopomp's work pushes the limits of dynamically powerful athleticism and storytelling while remaining grounded in virtuosic dance technique through a ritualistic mental rigor.

May 13: **Kenneth Walker Dance Project** (KWDP) was founded by nationally recognized choreographer Kenneth Walker for the purpose of providing a

vehicle to create and present original works of contemporary ballet. The repertoire of KWDP is a mixture of classical technique and modern sensibility. Walker invites the thoughts and ideas of his dancers when creating new works and offers dancers the opportunity to find their own voice within the work. The dances he creates are highly eclectic and run the gamut of ballet styles. They are sublime, athletic, quirky, and entertaining.

May 20: **Bernard Brown/bbmoves**, founded in 2014, began as a call to action. Inspired by arts and social justice movements of the past and present, Bernard Brown/bbmoves aims to serve



as a conduit for the oppressed to express their voices. Merging African Diasporic movement and postmodern sensibilities, they create and present dance theater performances and educational engagement that welcomes and challenges audiences to collectively celebrate the diverse, intersectional richness across the African Diaspora, interrogate systems that seek to marginalize communities, and conspire for a clearer understanding of our shared humanity.

Visit [brandlibrary.org](http://brandlibrary.org) to stay current with Brand Library & Art Center cultural programming and sign up for our email list. And you can follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

## LOOKING FORWARD

# Years of Books and Music on Sale

**FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 2018**, the Associates will be holding our popular Book and Music Sale at Brand on Saturday, March 11 from 10 a.m.—5 p.m.

Long a favorite of collectors and the curious, on sale will be five years' worth of materials that we have been waiting to offer to the public. Please join us! All proceeds will go to support the programs at Brand that you know and love. We will be accepting cash, checks (with valid ID) and credit cards. Please bring your own bag.

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS** to help with set-up of the sale on Friday, March 10. Please contact Debra Thompson at [debra@associatesofbrand](mailto:debra@associatesofbrand) if you would like to lend a hand sometime between 10 a.m and 5 p.m. Thanks!



## Speaking of Art...



**THIS YEAR** we have introduced an exciting new series to the Brand Library & Art Center's programming, Art Talk Tuesdays.

Each month artist and writer Jennifer Remenchik invites an artist to give a presentation on their work followed by a public discussion between the two. The artists selected are actively exhibiting their work, engaged in critical discourse, and portray the broad variety of art practices happening in the greater Los Angeles area today.

To start the series multimedia artist Delbar Shahbaz gave a cogent presentation on her work's relationship to feminism and her Iranian heritage and most recently artist Karl Haendel discussed how his drawings relate to both his personal and political life.

This series is free and open to the public.

Photo: Art Talk Tuesday with Dan Levenson:  
"How Should An Artist Be?" on December 6, 2022

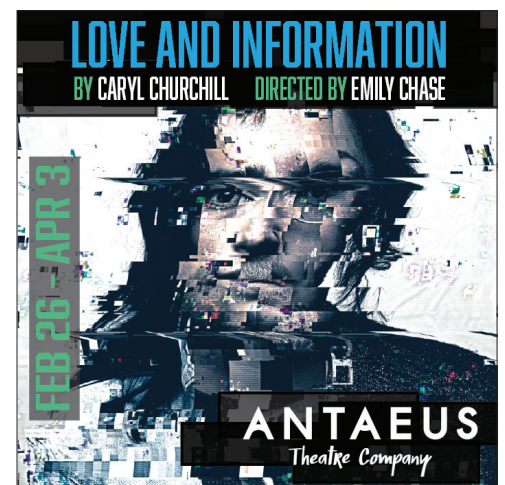
## Members with Benefits

**A SPECIAL OFFER FOR ASSOCIATES** from Antaeus Theater Company!

Associates can purchase reduced price tickets to the upcoming Antaeus production of *Love and Information* (Feb. 26–April 3). The play, by renowned playwright Caryl Churchill, explores what it means to be human in the age of digital communication.

Order tickets online at [antaeus.org](http://antaeus.org) and use Promo Code MESSAGE for \$10 off the regular price. This offer is good through 3/30/23.

Support our local theater company!



## LOOKING FORWARD

# The ABCs of GUSD

Crescenta Valley Art Teacher Ricky Ngai is excited about spring for good reason. Once again, Ricky will take an active role in the ABCs of GUSD (Annual Brand Classroom Showcase of Glendale Unified School District). The program, which made its debut in 2019 but was suspended due to the pandemic, is a partnership between Brand Library & Art Center and GUSD. Ultimately, the program features artwork in a wide range of media by high performing art students from all five public high schools in Glendale. Photography, painting, sculpture and installation art will be featured in the upcoming

workings of the gallery to inform and connect the students as they get a glimpse of what it's like to curate a show, professionally hang the art, and get an exhibit up and running.

Art teachers from the five campuses encourage students to submit their art, emulating a real “artist call.” Many seniors see this as the last time to shine before graduation. The public opening reception (currently slated for March 31, 2023 from 6:00–8:00 p.m.) brings together the students, along with their families, friends, school administrators and art lovers.

Brand Associates is proud to support this unique program as it is a win-win for all — the students, arts professionals and the viewing public. We thank the Brand staff for their dedication to art students through the ABCs of GUSD.



exhibition that showcases students' art in a public setting.

The exhibition is the culminating event in a larger program that provides interested Glendale high school students the opportunity to learn directly from art professionals. In 2019, students met with Brand Gallery staff, the Walt Disney Art Collection Manager and the Huntington Library Chief Preparator for an interactive learning experience that can be seen as professional development for the students, connecting them with the real life experiences of working artists. Brand's Exhibition Supervisor Shannon Currie Holmes and Senior Library and Arts & Culture Supervisor Caley Cannon extend the inner



Photos from previous ABCs events

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

**BRAND ASSOCIATES** is delighted to spotlight **Adryan Russ**, composer, lyricist, and writer. She has been a member for 10 years, and has especially enjoyed producing music gatherings at Brand Library's concert hall for The Society of Composers & Lyricists. She was recently at our Annual Meeting and says she loves all the exhibits, and if asked would say: "Your music library is one of the best anywhere."



Join her this coming September in her musical *The Right Is Ours*, about the friendship between Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, at Sierra Madre Playhouse. She's currently working on another musical, and writing a book to be published this year.

## Support the Arts in Glendale

**Be like Adryan Russ! Keep your Brand Associates Membership current!**

### FROM ROCK AND FOLK PERFORMANCES

on the lawn in summer, classical music concerts in winter, a dance series, family workshops, and stunning art exhibitions in its spacious galleries, Brand Library is a thriving center for arts and culture in Glendale all year round. The incredible and dedicated staff of the Library go above and beyond to produce these rich cultural presentations on top of building their award-winning music and arts collection and library services to the community.

More than 50 years ago, members of the Glendale community formed the Brand Associates in order to support the cultural activities and staff resources of the Brand, because we deeply value this place and want to see it well supported. The pandemic has hit us all hard, and community membership organizations like Brand Associates are needed more than ever to help our libraries, some of our most crucial public resources, expand and thrive.

Please urge your friends and family to become members today, or give a gift membership to support the important Brand Library cultural programming. For just a few dollars a month, this can ensure that these programs will last to enrich generations to come. Plus, they will get exclusive Brand Associates member news, invitations to special members-only Art Wanderings and opening receptions, and they will become part of a community of engaged Glendalians who truly care about the future of our city.

Visit <https://associatesofbrand.org/membership/become-a-member/> to join today.

## 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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# Please join us!

New Member     Renewing Member     Former Member     Gift Membership

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

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Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Consider a 1-year membership to the Brand Associates at one of these levels:

| LEVEL                                       | ANNUAL    | MEMBER BENEFITS  |
|---|-----------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Friend</b>      | \$25–99   | Associates Newsletters<br>Invitation to special events for members   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Supporter</b>   | \$100–499 | Associates Newsletters<br>Invitation to special events for members<br>One ticket to special opening event for Annual Works on Paper show   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Contributor</b> | \$500–999 | Associates Newsletters<br>Invitation to special events for members<br>Tickets for two to special opening event for Annual Works on Paper show<br>Works on Paper Exhibition catalog   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Patron</b>      | \$1,000+  | Associates Newsletters<br>Invitation to special events for members<br>Tickets for two to special opening event for Annual Works on Paper show<br>Works on Paper Exhibition catalog<br>Your name on the Brand Associates permanent Supporter Wall |

**We need volunteers! If you're interested, check this box  and we will contact you.**

Make your check payable to  
Brand Associates and send  
with completed form to:  
**Brand Associates c/o Brand Library**  
1601 West Mountain  
Glendale, CA 91201

To pay online by credit/debit card  
or PayPal visit:  
**associatesofbrand.org**

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