

Greetings Members and Friends!

This edition of our Associates of Brand newsletter brings you information from our Annual Membership meeting which was held on August 8 at Brand Library & Art Center. Besides the usual updates, we shared information about the far-reaching impacts on Brand of recent city budget cuts and what we as an organization dedicated to supporting Brand can do to minimize that impact.

OUR MOST IMPORTANT update involved current Board membership and what we need for future Board functioning. Emily Goff is leaving our Board after fulfilling her 3-year commitment and acting as our Secretary; we thank her for her great contributions and wish her well as she focusses more fully on her own art practice. We announced and voted to bring onto the Board, Jordan Toone, who has volunteered to be on the Board for a 2-year term.

Many current Board members have served multiple terms and are anticipating leaving the Board in the next 1-2 years. These members include Debra Thompson (President), Tammy O'Connor (Vice-President), Debra Burchett-Lere (Treasurer), and others who have been essential to our functioning. We must have new Board members willing to join us and step into leadership roles in the organization. The year 2027 will be a turning point for the Board as our experienced members choose to retire from this service.

We need members or future members to consider taking on Board positions!

Leadership will provide support and education for anyone interested in joining us. We all have enjoyed doing the work of the Board and, especially, taking on the challenges that present themselves to the organization. We need new energy and engaged members to continue to have an organization called Associates of Brand. Please contact Debra Thompson at debra@associatesof-brand.org for more information.

The majority of our Annual meeting was spent discussing the recent budget cuts in the Library, Arts & Culture Department, the impact of those cuts on Brand, and what we as the 501c3 non-profit devoted to Brand programming can do to help. These are challenging times for Brand and for our Board and we need not just your membership dollars, but your time, energy, and ideas. Please become more involved with the Associates of Brand!

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER JORDAN TOONE!

Jordan is a corporate attorney at the international law firm of Rimon, P.C. based in Los Angeles. His practice focuses on mergers & acquisitions, private equity, and general corporate matters. He previously served on the board of the Utah Nonprofits Association and is involved in various pro bono and volunteer initiatives.

Jordan has offered to take on the duties of our recently departed Secretary, Emily Goff.



A Challenge ...

THE CITY of Glendale's Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget significantly impacts Brand Library & Art Center's operations and programming.

Due to a 20% reduction to library hours, Brand is now closed on Fridays and is only open from 12-5 pm on Saturdays. The hours of part-time staff have been greatly reduced so their ability to support various programs is decreased or gone altogether.

Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada, Director of the City of Glendale Library, Arts & Culture (GLAC) Department has informed us that there will be reductions in the following programs:

- **Make It and Music Animated** (children's programming) have been reduced to 2-3 events (each) per year
- **Recital Hall Music Series** – reduced from 6 per year to 4 per year
- **Summer Music Series** – status unclear
- **Dance Series** – reduced from 4 to 3 per year

■ **Art Talks** – reduced from 8 to 4 per year

■ **Art Interactive** – cancelled

■ **In addition, ARTful Conversations and Reel Art, two programs created by the Associates, can no longer count on support from Brand staff and could be cancelled.**

The cuts also means a \$50,000 reduction to digital resources such as databases.

More bad news will come in FY27-28, when the department will likely be asked to reduce their budget by at least another 2%.

You, our cherished members and friends, know what a treasure the Brand

Library & Art Center is. You might not know, however, that Brand's library collections are unique to public libraries. They are more aligned with university and museum library collections, aimed at researchers and creative professionals – except they are available to everyone; no need for university or museum credentials to access our collections.

Brand Associates is not sitting idly by, accepting all these cuts to Brand programs. We are still sorting through information and figuring out our options, finding the best ways to aid the library system, and Brand specifically.

NOT TO FORGET...

PUBLIC LIBRARIES stand as pillars of democracy, education, and community engagement, promoting core skills like literacy, information access, and lifelong learning. Public libraries anchor communities and serve as hubs for economic and community advancement. They provide critical resources across employment, health, information access, civic engagement and social services for jobseekers, small businesses, immigrants, seniors, families with children, students and those bridging the digital divide.

Glendale Library, Arts & Culture (GLAC) is especially unique among public library systems. Not only does GLAC promote core library issues of information access and community engagement, but it also places significant focus on arts and culture, and public art across the City of Glendale with the goal of making Glendale an arts and culture destination. This unique combination of libraries, arts, and culture plays a vital role in serving the diverse community needs in Glendale as well as across the Southern California region.

THE ASSOCIATES Board of Directors has developed a plan of action to support Brand now and attempt to minimize impacts to Brand programming and staffing in the future. Below are actions that we as a Board and as individual members can take now.

2. Budget cuts have resulted in fewer staff carrying out the big and little tasks that a complex library and cultural center like Brand needs to fully function. **Please consider volunteering to help**

5. The Board is using social media to get the word out and gather support for Brand. **Please use your social media to spread the word, also.** Look for us at events where we will educate attendees about the current situation and ask for their support.

Contact Debra Thompson at debra@associatesofbrand.org for more information or to volunteer your time.

Email Debra Thompson
at [debra@associatesof
brand.org](mailto:debra@associatesofbrand.org).



Thank you, Catherine
and Bobbye!

BYE BYE BRAND 54

THE BIGGEST EVENT on the Associates' calendar, our Annual National Juried Exhibition of Works on Paper, ended August 27 and many visitors felt it was one of the best shows in recent years. Brand 54, juried by Tracy Bartley, was both an artistic



Juror Tracy Bartley (right) with artist Susan Amorde, whose paper sculpture, *Transmission*, was in the show

and fundraising success with 20 artworks finding new homes.

Opening night on June 6 was very well attended by the artists, our members and the art-loving public. We were serenaded by a jazz trio from Crescenta Valley High School whose music was a great accompaniment to the general excitement of



This year's Robert Brown Award winner, Jean Gumper's *Small Glimpse*, a 20 x 30 in. woodcut

the evening. Awards totaling \$4,500 were presented to artists in a variety of mediums, including drawing, collage, and unique print-making techniques.

It takes a village to bring our Works on Paper exhibitions to Brand. Many thanks go to Stephanie Sherwood, Gallery Supervisor and her team who handle the artwork and display every creation to its best advantage. We couldn't get anything done without support from Caley Cannon, Brand's supervising librarian and her staff.

On our Board of Directors, Mike Diehl designs a new logo every year and creates our postcard; Greg

Ross does the painstaking work of designing our lovely



Above, left to right: Former Board Member Emily Goff; Caley Cannon, Senior Library, Arts & Culture Supervisor, Brand Library & Art Center; Volunteer Gloria Sander, and Board Member Valerie Taylor. At left, Stephanie Sherwood, Exhibition Coordinator at Brand, and artist Bloomer



Deep Nest, this year's Juror Awardee: Pamela Bailey Lewis's 26 x 80 in. charcoal drawing



Our catalog was a popular item this year

Art

THE GALLERY AT BRAND The Associates supports all the exhibitions in Brand's beautiful art gallery. Our popular Annual National Juried Exhibition of Works on Paper is a favorite of artists and art lovers alike. Brand 54 was a resounding success!

UPCOMING:

■ **Artifacts from an Unborn Empire, opens Sept. 26**

Info: brandlibrary.org/gallery



Dance

THE DANCE SERIES Our acclaimed Dance Series includes original works performed by Southern California's top dance ensembles. The works are often site-specific and performed to interact with the unique architecture or exhibitions inside and outside of the library.

BRAND IS TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2027 SERIES

Info: brandlibrary.org/dance-series



Dustbowl Revival
(performed on
July 10, 2026)

Music

THE SUMMER MUSIC SERIES Presented outdoors on Friday evenings from July through August, this relaxed, open-air program includes an exciting and eclectic array of musical performers.

THE 2026 SEASON WAS RECENTLY COMPLETED

Info: brandlibrary.org/summer-music-series

THE BRAND ASSOCIATES MUSIC SERIES Offering indoor concerts, this series features renowned, award-winning artists performing a variety of classical and contemporary compositions.

THE SERIES WILL RESUME IN SPRING 2027. A SPECIAL HOLIDAY CONCERT WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE FALL

Info: brandlibrary.org/music-series

Presented
June 11, 2026



Film

THE REEL ART FILM SERIES

Offered periodically throughout the year, the Reel Art Film Series, spearheaded by Arlene Vidor, switched focus to performing arts this season. Dance, rock music, and theater were celebrated in film and conversation.

THE FUTURE OF THIS PROGRAM IS UNKNOWN AT PUBLICATION TIME. PLEASE FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA, OR BECOME A MEMBER TO RECEIVE UPDATES BY EMAIL

Info: brandlibrary.org/programs



Poetry

ARTful CONVERSATIONS This innovative program educates attendees about Gallery exhibitions and then guides them to engage and reflect on their experience through writing poetry.

UPCOMING EVENTS (ALL ON TUESDAYS, 6:00-7:30 PM)

■ **October 13 and December 8**

Info: brandlibrary.org/programs

Family Activities

The **MUSIC ANIMATED** and **MAKE IT!** programs give children of all ages a chance to express themselves with hands-on crafts and music making.

CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR INFO ON UPCOMING EVENTS IN BOTH OF THESE SERIES

Info: brandlibrary.org/programs



And more!

DOCENT TOURS Art Historian Valerie Taylor, PhD, a Brand Associates board member, presents the fascinating story of the Brand family and *Miradero*, the historic family home that is now Brand Library & Art Center. *RSVP is mandatory!*

UPCOMING 2026 TOURS - ALL BEGIN AT 9:30 AM AT BRAND

■ **October 3, October 10 and December 5**

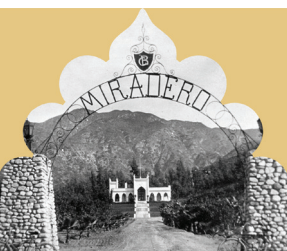
Info brandlibrary.org/programs#docent-tours

ART TALKS AT BRAND invites contemporary artists to discuss their work and the issues surrounding it, followed by a moderated Q&A with Brand staff member, artist, and writer Jennifer Remenchik. Artists are selected to reflect the diversity of the art scene of the greater Los Angeles area.

CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR INFO ON UPCOMING EVENTS

Info: brandlibrary.org/programs

PLEASE LET US KNOW if you find the publication helpful, and if you have suggestions for topics we might address. Thank you for your interest in the cultural activities at Brand, and for your support of Brand Associates.



IF YOU'VE READ THIS FAR

you've learned that the Arts at Brand already have suffered under the city's budget cuts.

We know you value the programs we offer; more than ever, it's crucial that you support

our efforts to provide the community with engaging programming — *offered free to everyone* — by supporting the Associates financially.

You can make a monthly or one-time donation or become a

member of the Associates and contribute annually.

Whatever you choose to do, we hope you will join us for all the wonderful events that Brand Library & Art Center has to offer.

Support the Arts at Brand. Support Brand Associates.



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Use the QR code above to go directly to our Membership page

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