

## History of the ASA Rocky Mountain Division

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The [Spring 1983 Issue 4.1 of the \*American Society for Aesthetics Newsletter\*](#) offered the following invitation on page 5:

ASA members who would like to form new regional divisions in order to hold periodic local meetings are encouraged to do so. For procedural information write to Arnold Berleant, Secretary-Treasurer ASA.

In spite of being a new member of the society—a University of Illinois at Chicago ABD graduate student who had moved to the University of Arizona in 1981, Peg Brand (now Peg Brand Weiser) raised the possibility of a new southwest and/or western division and pitched it to ASA trustees Don Crawford (Philosophy, University of Wisconsin) and the late John Fisher (Philosophy, Temple University; ex officio trustee; editor of *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*) who took the idea to the full board of trustees and then-president John Hospers (Philosophy, University of Southern California) and vice president Alex Sesonske (Philosophy, University of California Santa Barbara). The announcement of the officially recognized new division of the American Society for Aesthetics known as the Rocky Mountain Division (RMD) appeared in the [Summer 1984 Issue 5.2](#), complete with a list of officers elected. The first president of the division was Jane Cauvel (Philosophy, Colorado College), the first vice president Noreen Dornenberg (Administrative Science, Regis College), and the first secretary was Larry H. Peer (Comparative Literature, Brigham Young University). “Interested persons”

were invited “to meet with these officers at the ASA annual meeting in Los Angeles” with the announcement that “the division’s first meeting is to be held in the Spring of 1985 in Colorado Springs.” The exhortation to get involved and participate in a newly formed division concluded with the words, “The organizers write, ‘We thank the Board of Trustees for approving the creation of this regional organization. We believe that many good things may come of it.’”

The first RMD conference was indeed held June 28-29, 1985, on the campus of Colorado College. Peg Brand Weiser wrote the report of the first meeting for the [Fall 1985 Issue 6.1](#), calling attention to the location of the meeting “in the Pikes Peak region of the Colorado Rockies at a comfortable summer altitude of 6000 feet” as well as the extensive scope of the division that included “Utah, Arizona, western Texas, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, eastern Nevada, and the border areas of northern Mexico and Southern Alberta, Canada,” adding:

Participants heartily endorsed the suggestions of the officers that the emphasis of this region be broad and interdisciplinary; new foci include the participation of practicing artists and writers, western art and lore, the teaching of aesthetics, and the ‘business of art’ (state and national funding through Humanities and Arts councils). A full day of presentations on Saturday successfully demonstrated this diversity.

For instance, the first session on creativity included the poet Alurista (Spanish, Colorado College)<sup>1</sup> and a discussion of the “controversial but appropriate topic” of western/southwestern regionalism. Attendees were treated to an explanatory overview of the nuances of Navajo sand paintings at the Colorado Springs Fine Art Center by Marianne Stoller (Anthropology, Colorado College) and the firsthand experience of irrigating arid land held in one’s family for generations by Reyes Garcia (Philosophy, Colorado College). Thus began the long tradition at the Rocky Mountain Division meeting of looking broadly at the discipline of aesthetics and its traditional

subtopics by highlighting interdisciplinary interrogation and appreciation of artworks produced in the rich and unique regions of the Rocky Mountain range. From its beginning, RMD meetings provided a model for those in the ASA seeking diversity and multicultural representation. Other speakers included Peg Brand, Judy Genova (Philosophy, Colorado College), Todd Britsch (Humanities Brigham Young University, member of the Executive Committee of the Utah Endowment for the Humanities), and Mary Ann Koenig (Patten Institute for the Arts). The conference was launched; over the years, it has continually proved to be friendly and welcoming.

At the business meeting, new officers were elected: Larry Peer as president, Reyes Garcia as vice president, and Peg Brand as secretary/treasurer. Suggestions for the next year's location were solicited with the hope that the meeting would attract more attendees from outside the region.

The 1986 conference was held July 10-12 at the Inn of the Governors in Santa Fe, New Mexico, establishing the long tradition of meeting in a city known then as the largest center for art outside of New York City. Peg Brand Weiser's original Call for Papers in [Volume 6, No. 2 of the ASA Newsletter](#) highlighted the new location—the pleasant 7000 foot altitude, the Santa Fe Opera, a Chamber Music Festival, the museums, galleries, the historic hotel and travel arrangements—plus the lure of presenting one's philosophical thoughts on the artistic heritage of Santa Fe. A conference report by Tom Leddy (Philosophy, San Jose state University) appeared in the [Fall 1986 Issue 7.1 Newsletter](#). One noteworthy session was provided by Margery B. Franklin (Psychology, Sara Lawrence College) who spoke about the artwork of local Taos, New Mexico, artist, Melissa Zink who went on to an illustrious career, eventually honored by the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C. Other speakers included Tom Leddy, Manuel Davenport (Philosophy, Texas A & M), Robert Wicks (University of Wisconsin),

Jon Green, Gordon Epperson (renowned cellist and scholar in the School of Music at the University of Arizona), Todd Britsch, Stan Godlovitch (Philosophy, Lincoln University, New Zealand), and artists Jerry West—native New Mexican and recent recipient of the 2018 Governor’s Award for Excellence in the Arts<sup>2</sup>—and Cipriano Virgo, a Mexican-American folk singer who explored the social and cultural context behind his songs. Leddy concluded his report with enthusiastic approval of the new site of Santa Fe: home of fine restaurants, Georgia O’Keeffe landscapes, and an outdoor performance of Mozart’s *Magic Flute* at the Santa Fe Opera.

The [Winter 1987 7.2 issue of the Newsletter](#) issued a Call for Papers for the July 9-12, 1987 conference to be submitted to president Reyes Garcia (whose address had changed to Fort Louis College, Durango, CO). Emphasis was placed on “papers and performances in all areas of art, aesthetics and art criticism,” especially devoted to the regional character of the division or involve “native American, Afro-American, Hispanic, non-western, or feminist perspectives.” Professor John Crawford (English, University of New Mexico) helped with the planning, continuing to stress submissions on “issues of cultural imperialism, feminism, Marxism and phenomenology,” “presentations from outside traditional Euro-American aesthetic perspectives,” all under the theme of “Aesthetics and Cultural Diversity.” Potential attendees were warned of July being the busy tourist season in Santa Fe, complete with Santa Fe Opera performances of Mozart’s *Così fan Tutti* and Strauss’ *Die Fledermaus*. No report followed.

A lengthy report written by Reyes of the July 8-10, 1988, meeting at the Inn of the Governors, Santa Fe, appeared in the [Fall 1988 9.1 Newsletter](#). Presenters included New Mexico poet and short story-writer Jim Sagel who read from his works about his unique Chicano culture of northern New Mexico and Reuben Ellis (English, University of Colorado) on a Native

American (Ute) woman's dialogue with a paternalistic, ethnocentric white man. Other speakers included Thomas Haeussler (Comparative Literature, California State University Long Beach), Cliff McMahon (Art History, Florida State), Catherine Phillips Fels (Art, California State University Los Angeles) on "Four Women Artists of Istanbul," Renee Cox (Music, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga) on certain concepts of matriarchy and egalitarianism within African aesthetics, Manuel Davenport on African folk stories, Don Driscoll and John Crawford. New officers were elected for 1989 at the business meeting: Don Driscoll (president), John Crawford (vice president), and Thomas Haeussler (secretary).

In the [Fall 1991 Issue 11.3 Newsletter](#), Reuben Ellis (Teikyo Loretto Heights University, Denver) wrote a report on the July 12-14, 1991 longer three-day meeting held on the campus of St. John's College, Santa Fe, which he described as "delightful:" "From its foothills location we enjoyed sweeping vistas of the Rio Grande Valley and the Jemez Mountains beyond." Presenters included division president Thomas Haeussler, vice president Reuben Ellis, secretary Donald Driscoll, John Samson (English, Texas Tech University) and George Moore (English, University of Colorado Boulder): all on the topic of art and literature of the west. Other sessions included Marguerite Tassi (Claremont Graduate School), Honi F. Haber (University of Colorado Denver), Stephen Swords (Eastern Illinois), Manual Davenport, Rudolf Brun (Texas Christian University), Richard Rinewalt (Texas Christian), Peter Selz (University of California Berkeley), Robert A. Biggs (Texas Tech), Benjamin A. Thigpen (UCLA), Bruce Clarke (Texas Tech), Sally I. Everett (Metropolitan State College, Denver). Ellis reported "an exciting and expanding discussion, centered . . . on issues of interdisciplinary dialogue, problems of unity, and the dependence on location and situation in aesthetics."

In the [Winter 1993 Issue 12.3](#), Reuben Ellis reported that the 1992 meeting was “among the most diverse and extensive in the Division’s history, in range of topics, scope of the program, and breadth of analysis and discussion.” The keynote speaker was Anna-Teresa Tymieniecka, Director of the World Phenomenological Institute, and the “Artist’s Panel” included Gary Holthaus, poet (Center for the American West, University of Colorado Boulder) who read from his work and “performed” an explanation of the Native American storytelling tradition, and Charles Bestor, composer and professor of music (University of Massachusetts, Amherst), who spoke on his work in computer-generated improvisational composition. For the first time, the meeting offered two concurrent panels per time slot, considered by Ellis a successful change in format. Other presenters included Manuel Davenport, Stephen Swords, Steven Jeffrey Jones (English, Texas A&M), Donald Driscoll, Thomas Haeussler, Starla Stensaas (Art, Dana College), Douglas Dempster (Philosophy Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester), John MacKay (Music, West Chester University), Genevieve Schiffra (Art, University of Arizona), Sara K. Schneider (Humanities, Manhattan School of Music), Justine Noel (Philosophy, Queen’s University at Kingston, Ontario), Reuben Ellis, Edward Sankowski (Philosophy, University of Oklahoma), Elizabeth Jones (Art, University of Texas, El Paso), Felicia F. Campbell (English, University of Nevada, Las Vegas), and George Moore.

The [Fall 1993 Issue 13.3](#) (p. 15) issued a Call for Papers for the July 8-10, 1994 meeting in Santa Fe with papers to be sent to secretary Donald Driscoll and president Reuben Ellis (English, Hope College). The [Fall 1994 Issue 14.2 Newsletter](#) offered a brief report on the meeting at St. John’s College by vice president Manuel Davenport, citing thirty-four papers and performances presented in twelve sessions, a seven-fold increase in attendance and number of presentations in eight years of the division. Davenport concluded as follows: “. . . it continues to

be a relaxed forum that welcomes all who appreciate, study, or create the diverse products of the aesthetic impulse.”

A report by Davenport appeared in the [Fall 1995 15.2 Issue](#) which noted that for the 1995 divisional meeting, the keynote speaker, Gerald Vizenor (Ethnic Studies, University of California Berkeley) argued for a concept of “sovereignty of motion” for Native Americans and the first Artist-at-Work session highlighted a landscape poet, Jackie Bartley (English, Hope College). The second Artist-at-Work session included the painters Jim Wagner and Melissa Zink whose gallery in Taos was visited the next day by some of the attendees. On another day, Pete Williams (English, University of Colorado Boulder) presented a paper on the desert as art and the art of the desert followed by a field trip to the Cienega rock art site. It was noted that Reuben Ellis was current president of the division. A wide array of topics was presented, including a talk on “Art and Human Nature” by Spencer K. Wertz (Philosophy, Texas Christian University) whose eleven essays presented to the Rocky Mountain Division between 1995 and 2016 were published by Arthur Stewart at The Center for Philosophical Studies at Lamar University under the title, *Aesthetics Inside Out: Santa Fe Papers*.<sup>3</sup> (The [ASA Conference Reports](#) page now conveniently includes some [RMD Conference Reports listed by date beginning in 1995](#).)

The report for the 1996 meeting at St. John’s College appeared in the [Fall 1996 Issue 16.2 Newsletter](#) (and [online](#)) written by Manuel Davenport. The keynote speaker was Arnold Krupat (English, Sarah Lawrence College) on the history of North America from the Native American point of view while the artists’ sessions included Pam Chadick, director of the studio art program at the U.S. Air Force Academy, and Bruce Hucko, a photographer from Santa Fe who showed photos that were forthcoming in a book in a presentation entitled, “Where There is No Name: The Art of Tewa Pueblo Children.”<sup>4</sup> The business meeting yielded a new president—

Manuel Davenport, vice president George Moore, and secretary-treasurer Don Driscoll. Thanks were expressed for the “excellent and gracious service” (of a three-year term) of out-going president Reuben Ellis, particularly “for his making each conference better than the last.”

The [Fall 1997 Issue 17.2 Newsletter \(online\)](#) offered a report by George Moore of the July 10-13, 1997 meeting of the keynote speaker Arthur Stewart (Philosophy; Director of The Center for Philosophical Studies at Lamar University), two Houston artists, Neal Adams and Andis Applewhite, and many others including Robin Jones (Santa Fe) on myth-making in Chicana literature and Richard F. Fleck (Community College of Denver) who read a chapter on Utah’s Grand Gulch from his 1997 collection, *Where Land is Mostly Sky: Essays on the American West*.

A report by George Moore on the July 10-12, 1998 meeting—held again at St. John’s College—appeared in the [Winter 1999 Issue 18.3 Newsletter \(online\)](#). Perhaps the most unusual session was offered by Louis Cicotello and Raphael Sassower, both at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, in their joint paper, “Images of Coyotes as Avant-garde Art.” Reuben Ellis continued the theme focused on local visual imagery with his presentation on Kokopelli figures. The keynote was presented by John J. McDermott (Texas A & M) on the aesthetics of John Dewey while the Artist-at-Work session was a talk by C.M. Chadwell of Victor, Colorado, on plein air painting. Two poets—Cindy William of Houston and vice president George Moore of Boulder—read and discussed their poetry “in the context of personal and regional associations that influence their works.”

The [Spring 1999 Issue 19.1 Newsletter](#) issued a Call for Papers for the July 9-11, 1999 meeting at St. John’s College with a new proviso: “Papers on any topic in aesthetics are welcome but preference will be given to those focusing upon art in the American Southwest.” A report by

George Moore appeared in the [Fall 1999 Issue 19.2 \(online\)](#) highlighting keynote speaker Mary Devereaux (Philosophy, University of California San Diego) on the moral evaluation of art and the Artist-at-Work speaker was Heather Sellers (English, Hope College), novelist and short story writer. The business meeting saw George Moore elevated to the three-year position of president after serving as vice president for three years. Michael Manson (Languages and Letters, University College of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia) was elected vice president and John Samson became secretary for the division, to serve in that capacity for five years.

A report on the July 7-9, 2000 meeting appeared in the [Fall 2000 20.2 Issue \(online\)](#) written by Michael Manson relating the keynote address by James Soderholm (English, Baylor University) and the Artist-at-Work featuring Elizabeth Faulkner, sculptor (University of Colorado Boulder).

A Call for the July 13-15, 2001 meeting appeared in the [Winter 2000 20.3 Issue](#) with the announcement of a new venue, the historical Hotel St. Francis, one block off the plaza in downtown Santa Fe: a small European-style hotel restored to its original décor of the 1920s and one of two hotels in the downtown area listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Michael Manson served as president from 2003-2005, with Arthur Stewart as vice president. There was a hiatus in reports filed until 2006 when a report was published by Arthur Stewart (president from 2006-2008) in the [Winter 2006 Issue 25.3 \(online\)](#) listing the participants and the inauguration of the Manuel Davenport Keynote Address by Allen Carlson on “Art, Institutional Theory and the Aesthetic Appreciation of Nature.” The Artist-at-Work featured a visual artist from Albuquerque, Jinni Thomas. The issue also named John Samson as secretary, Arthur Stewart as president, and Linda Dove (independent scholar, Skull Valley, Arizona) as vice president. The announcement of a new Rocky Mountain Division ASA website appeared in the

[Spring 2006 Issue 26.1 Newsletter](#), complete with information on the annual conference and an invitation to interested persons to publish shorts papers on any matter of aesthetics. Information on, but no deadline to submit for, the July 14-16, 2006 meeting appeared under “Upcoming Events”; the 2006 meeting was listed as the twenty-second annual meeting. As the first meeting took place in June 1985, the 2006 meeting should have been designated the twenty-first annual meeting.

A report for the July 14-16, 2006 meeting was written by Linda Dove, appearing in the Winter 2006 (misnamed since Issue 25.3 was already called Winter 2006) [Issue 26.3 \(online\)](#). The Manuel Davenport Keynote Address was presented by Ann Hawkins, President of the College English Association; the Artist-at-Work featured Mary Ciani Saslow, a senior lecturer in the Visualization Program of the School of Architecture at Texas A&M.

A report on the 2007 meeting appeared in the [Spring 2008 Issue 28.1 \(online\)](#) by Arthur Stewart, highlighting Carol Gould (Philosophy, Florida Atlantic University) as keynote and Artist-at-Work session speaker: James Woodson, landscape artist (Art, Texas Christian University).

A report on the 2008 meeting was published by Linda Dove in the [Winter 2009 Issue 28.3 \(online\)](#) indicating a celebration of the meeting’s twenty-fifth anniversary: “Beginning in the backroom of the bar at the Inn of the Govenor’s [sic] in 1984, this meeting has grown in size and scope since those rather humble beginnings some 25 years past” (p. 10). As indicated earlier, the calculation of an anniversary date was a mistake and—and contrary to folklore—the first several meetings of the Rocky Mountain Division were held at the Colorado College campus in Colorado Springs. Susan Feagin (Philosophy, Temple University), editor of *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, delivered The Manuel Davenport Keynote Address on emotions in

appreciation and the Artist-at-Work session featured Jane Abrams (Art and Art History, University of New Mexico). James Mock was elected vice president for the 2008-2011 term after which he would assume the duties of division president from 2011-2014.

A report on the July 10-12, 2009 meeting written by James Mock appeared in the [Summer 2009 Issue 29.2 \(online\)](#) that noted twenty-nine participants, Linda Dove assuming the presidency, and a noticeable reduction of attendees due to the national economic downturn. (More submissions were accepted but some were unable to attend due to reasons of available funding.) Elizabeth Graham (Sociology, Brandon University, Manitoba) was elected secretary-treasurer. Donald Kuspit (Art History and Philosophy, State University of New York at Stonybrook) delivered the keynote address, “Aesthetic Transcendence;” coincidentally, he had previously written about the paintings—inspired by seventeenth century Dutch Masters—of the Los Angeles Artist-at-Work Jacquelyn McBain (represented by Littlejohn Contemporary, Inc.).

A report by James Mock of the July 9-11, 2010, meeting appeared in the [Summer 2010 Issue 30.2 \(online\)](#). Further erosion of attendees was noted; twenty-nine persons had presented in 2009 while in 2010, only eighteen. In both years, many more papers were accepted; persons were simply unable to attend due to cost. Also, in line with the previous year, president Linda Dove was searching for a new and less expensive hotel. Abstracts were made available on the division website. The keynote was delivered by Mary Domski (Philosophy, University of New Mexico) and the Artist-at-Work presentation was by Elizabeth Dove (Art, University of Montana). A paper by David Conter (Philosophy, Huron University) focused on “Cowboy Art, Indian Art, Romanticism, Nostalgia, Truth” while Cornelia Tsakiridou (Philosophy, LaSalle University) discussed the powerful work of Sebastião Ribeiro Salgado, a Brazilian social documentary photographer and photojournalist who has traveled in over 120 countries.

A report of the July 8-10, 2011 meeting by James Mock, the new president, appeared in the [Summer 2011 Issue 31.2 \(online\)](#) featuring Robert Ginsberg (Philosophy, Penn State University) as keynote and Sally Weber (Resonance Studio, Austin) as Artist-at-Work. A change of venue was noted; the 2012 meeting was scheduled for Hotel Santa Fe, a less expensive hotel located at the edge of town (not as conveniently located near the Santa Fe Plaza). The online version also included, “It was also agreed that the division contracts and financial records will now all flow through ASA treasurer Dabney Townsend and the ASA national office.”

A report of the July 13-15, 2012 meeting appeared in the [Summer 2012 Issue 32.2 \(online\)](#) written by vice president Allison Hagerman (University of New Mexico) noting the new venue but also the continuing problem of lower attendance, although presentations increased from eighteen to twenty-seven plus the keynote of Cynthia Freeland (Philosophy, University of Houston) and the Artist-at-Work, McCreery Jordan of McCreery Jordan Studio, Santa Fe.

A brief announcement of the July 12-14, 2013 meeting appeared in the [Spring 2013 Issue 33.1 Newsletter](#) announcing that Sarah Worth (Philosophy, Furman University) would be the Davenport Keynote speaker and a newly named Michael Manson Artist Keynote Address would be delivered by Siegfried Halus. A report appeared in the [Winter 2013 Issue 33.3 Newsletter \(online\)](#) written by Allison Hagerman. New to the program was a field trip to the historic San Miguel Chapel, one of the oldest churches in the country restored through community volunteerism, led by Robin Jones, Executive Director of Cornerstones Community Partnerships. Twenty-six papers were presented. The business meeting reported “the replacement of Secretary/Treasurer Elizabeth Graham by Allison Hagerman, and the replacement of Vice President Hagerman by Reuben Ellis.”

An announcement for the July 11-13, 2014, meeting appeared in the [Spring 2014 Issue 34.1](#)

with David Davies (Philosophy, McGill University) listed as Davenport keynote and Jerry West as Michael Manson Artist keynote. A report by vice president Reuben Ellis in the [Fall 2014 Issue 34.2 Newsletter \(online\)](#) listed the conference at The Lodge at Santa Fe, north of town. On the first occasion of the presentation of the Center for Philosophical Studies at Lamar University Graduate Student Essay Prize Awards, two prizes of \$100 were awarded to Coleen Watson of Texas State University and Liam Clements of the University of Mississippi. Acknowledgement was made to Arthur Stewart, Director of The Center for Philosophical Studies at Lamar University, for funding the awards. The meeting marked the end of the term of James Mock as president and the beginning of the term of his successor, Reuben Ellis. The number of papers presented increased to thirty-three and continued to reflect the long-standing interdisciplinary focus of the division. (The full program was made available at a website no longer accessible.)

An announcement in the [Spring 2015 Issue 35.1](#) for the July 10-12, 2015 meeting listed Christy Mag Uidhir (Philosophy, University of Houston) and Mary Anne Santos Newhall (Dance, History and Criticism, Contemporary Dance, University of New Mexico) as keynotes. A report by president Reuben Ellis appeared in the [Summer 2015 Issue 35.2 Newsletter \(online\)](#). The group heard from Julie C. Van Camp, Secretary-Treasurer & Executive Director of the American Society for Aesthetics, on “The Future of the ASA.” Sheryl Tuttle Ross was elected vice president and Arthur Stewart was elected secretary; their terms commenced upon completion of the 2015 annual meeting. Forty-one papers were presented.

A call for Proposals for the July 8-10, 2016 meeting appeared in the [Fall 2015 Issue 35.3 Newsletter](#) listing keynoters as Jeanette Bicknell—author of *Why Music Moves Us* (Palgrave 2009) and *Philosophy of Song & Singing: An Introduction* (Routledge, 2015)—and Claudia Mills. A mention appeared in the [Spring 2016 Issue 36.1 Newsletter](#) correctly identifying the

start of the conference in the year 1983, officially announced in 1984, with the first meeting held in 1985. No report followed but the program (once posted on the now deleted ASARMD website) listed forty-four diverse speakers including a session on “New Mexico Landscapes in the Nonvisual Arts” and four student winners of the Center for Philosophical Studies Graduate Student Essay Prize Awards. A Santa Fe Soirée—Canyon Road Art Walk took place on Friday evening.

Brief notice of the July 7-9, 2017 meeting at the new location of the Drury Plaza Hotel, Santa Fe, was announced in the [Summer 2016 Issue 36.2 Newsletter](#). An official Call noting Mary Devereaux (Philosophy, University of California San Diego) and photographer Robert Brian Welkie (Los Angeles) as keynote speakers appeared in the [Winter 2016 Issue 36.3 Newsletter](#) as well as [Issue 37.1](#). No report followed but the program included forty-four speakers that included poetry readings and the student prize winner Levi Tenen (Philosophy, Indiana University Bloomington) who spoke on, “What’s Aesthetics Got To Do With It?—Reasons for Preserving Nature.”

Both the [Summer 2017 Issue 37.2 Newsletter](#) and [Issue 37.3](#) listed a brief Call for the July 6-8, 2018 meeting, adding the inducement of the Irene F. Chayes Travel Fund from the national ASA office. Along with listing upcoming dates for the 2018, 2019, and 2020 meetings, “News from the National Office” in the [Spring 2018 Issue 38.1](#) noted:

The ASA Rocky Mountain Division is drawing very healthy attendance. Its new location at the Drury Plaza Hotel has also proven popular, with its location adjacent to the historic district and reasonable lodging prices. Many thanks to Sheryl Tuttle Ross, Raphael Sassower, James Mock, Julianne Chung, and Arthur Stewart for organizing the 2018 meeting.

Presentations were made to the members by ASA Secretary Treasurer Julie Van Camp and Ted Gracyk, co-editor of *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*. Fifty-six speakers appeared on the program, including the Manuel Davenport Keynote Address delivered by Eva Dadlez, “Jane Austen and the Naysayers: A Defense of Austen’s Work as a Source of Insight,” and a presentation by artist Anne Libera as the Michael Manson Keynote. As the annual Santa Fe Soirée event, attendees walked to a gallery show of the artist Robert Welkie’s work at the Peters Projects located on scenic Paseo de Peralta. Sheryl Tuttle Ross assumed the presidency with Julianne Chung (Philosophy, University of Louisville) as vice president and Jeremy Killian (HTC Honors, Coastal Carolina University) as secretary. Four students were awarded essay prizes and four awarded Irene H. Chayes Travel grants.<sup>5</sup>

A call for the July 12-14, 2019, meeting was issued in the [Winter 2018 Issue 38.3 Newsletter](#) announcing the Manuel Davenport Keynote Address by Dominic McIver Lopes, “Cosmopolitan Aesthetics” and the Michael Manson Artist Keynote Address by Pamela Knoll “Philia and Figurative Art.” Continued success to the Rocky Mountain Division of the ASA!

Respectfully submitted,

April 16, 2019

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<sup>1</sup> Alberto Baltazar Urista Heredia, known as Alurista, is a Chicano poet and activist born in Mexico City, and author of many books. <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/alurista>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.santafenewmexican.com/pasatiempo/art/dreaming-his-dreams-painter-jerry-west/article\\_92b6f2b6-b79d-11e8-b2b0-436e7843d668.html](http://www.santafenewmexican.com/pasatiempo/art/dreaming-his-dreams-painter-jerry-west/article_92b6f2b6-b79d-11e8-b2b0-436e7843d668.html)

<sup>3</sup> The Wertz volume is No. 6 in the Lamar Philosophical Studies book series.

<sup>4</sup> The Tewa Pueblo Indians are one of a linguistic group of Indians located on or near the Rio Grande River located north of Santa Fe in Northern New Mexico. Published in 1996 by the School of American Research Press (Santa Fe), the book won the 1997 Southwest Book Award and the 1997 Carey McWilliams Award from *MultiCultural Review*.

<sup>5</sup> To date, Lamar University-- through the generosity of Andrew Stewart--has awarded a total of nineteen cash awards to graduate students and provided support for annual meetings beginning in 2000.