Rationale and Objectives for Educators  
2009 Art Education Conference at Kutztown University  
Teaching Art with Gender in Mind

**Rationale:**
Since the art classroom places a special emphasis on individual expression, acquiring a diverse range of skills and dealing with many gender related images and issues, the art classroom can provide a potent site for promoting gender equality. This conference will provide up-to-date accounts of key issues in art, education, and art education and by drawing on recent research that has significantly altered our understanding of all issues of diversity that are of concern to teachers.

**Keynote Speaker: Judy Chicago**
Judy Chicago is an artist, author, feminist, educator, and intellectual whose career now spans four decades. Her work and life are models for an enlarged definition of art, an expanded role for the artist, and everyone’s right to free expression as our constitution promises.

**Objectives:**
Conference attendees will:
- Identify intentions of those creating artworks, explore the implications of various purposes, and justify their analyses of purposes in particular works.
- Build upon one’s ability to describe meanings of artworks by analyzing how specific works are created and how they relate to historical and cultural contexts.
- Understand the origins of specific images and ideas and explain why they are of value.

**Featured Speaker: Martin Rosenberg**
Dr. Martin Rosenberg is Chair of the Department of Fine Arts, Professor of Art History and a member of the Women’s Studies faculty at Rutgers University. He has published extensively and lectured widely through the United States in the areas of European Art of the 18th-20th Centuries, feminist art history, and Art Education.

**Objectives:**
Conference attendees will:
- Gain a practical understanding of gender and the role it plays in culture and art education.
- Examine one’s own attitudes about gender, as they have been shaped by background, experiences and society.
- Understand why all children, regardless of gender, should receive and equitable education.

**Featured Speaker: Peg Tyre**
Journalist and writer Peg Tyre is a prize-winning investigative reporter and author of the widely praised book *The Trouble with Boys: A Surprising Report Card on our Sons, Their Schools and What Parents and Educators Must Do.*

**Objectives:**
Conference attendees will:
- Learn about the fault lines in American culture formed by class, gender, race, ideology and upbringing.
- Understand why all children, regardless of gender, should receive and equitable education.
- Gain a practical understanding of gender and the role it plays in culture and art education.
Concurrent Sessions Objectives

Women In Design
Conference attendees will:
• Understand that women are vibrant participants in the world of design—product, commercial, industrial, environmental, architectural, etc.
• Be empowered to guide female students with strong design skills to pursue a career in design.
• Compare the materials, technologies, media, and processes of the visual arts with those of other arts disciplines as they are used in creation and types of analysis

Guided Visits to The Dinner Party Curriculum Website:
Conference attendees will:
• Reflect analytically on various interpretations as a means for understanding and evaluating works of visual art.
• Compare characteristics of visual arts within a particular historical period or style with ideas, issues, or themes in the humanities or sciences.
• Learn of the rich layers involved in this monumental work of art that is on permanent display at the Brooklyn Museum of Art.
• Return to their home school trained and prepared to use this national curriculum in ways that best serve their students’ needs.

GLBTQ Student Panel:
Conference attendees will:
• Engage in dialogue that will enable educators to guard against bias and stereotypes.
• Hear accounts from college students that will help the educator value and foster equity in the art room.
• Learn how the art curriculum can promote opportunities to learn tolerance and acceptance of others.
• Learn how to create a classroom climate that promotes social responsibility.

Female Voice in Contemporary Picture Books
Conference attendees will:
• Gain knowledge that will contribute to the teaching of reading and writing.
• Investigate and explore literature that will enable art educators to help students meet the following National Standards For Language Arts. Goals in English: Applying Language Skills:
  ✓ Students participate as knowledgeable, reflective, creative, and critical members of a variety of literacy communities.
  ✓ Students read a wide range of literature from many periods in many genres to build an understanding of the many dimensions (e.g., philosophical, ethical, aesthetic) of human experience.
  ✓ Students adjust their use of spoken, written, and visual language (e.g., conventions, style, vocabulary) to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and for different purposes.
  ✓ Students employ a wide range of strategies as they write and use different writing process element appropriately to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes.

Gender in Children’s Drawings:
Conference attendees will:
• Evaluate and defend the validity of sources for content and the manner in which subject matter, symbols, and images are used in the students’ works and in significant works by others
• Investigate and gain insight to works of visual art with various techniques for communicating meanings, ideas, attitudes, views, and intentions.
Joys and Challenges of teaching art in focused learning environments of all males and all African American males
Conference attendees will:
• Understand the importance of respecting cultural values and norms that students bring to the learning environment.
• Celebrate diversity, practice equity and fairness, and use the multicultural content of art to promote opportunities to learn tolerance and acceptance of others.
• Learn how to create a classroom climate that promotes social responsibility.

Travels with Undine, the Feminist Sock Puppet, and other Art Educators enlightened by The Dinner Party Institute
Conference attendees will:
• Be reminded that educators are always students, learning and growing in new ways.
• Dialogue with colleagues about professional and personal development experiences.

Closing Event: Amii LeGendre
Conference Attendees will:
• Synthesize the creative and analytical principles and techniques of the visual arts and selected other arts disciplines, the humanities, or the sciences.
• Experience works of visual art with various techniques for communicating meanings, ideas, attitudes, views, and intentions.
• Participate and observe solutions to specific visual arts problems that demonstrate competence in producing effective relationships between structural choices and artistic functions.