

The American Glass Guild Expanding the Glass Community



Patrice Schelkun, AGN Exhibit Panel

by Kathy Jordan, AGG President

There is still time to join the American Glass Guild (AGG) and network with the glass art community during our 2022 Summer Conference, July 14–17, at The Corning Museum of Glass (CMoG). The museum is a nonprofit educational institute that preserves and expands the world's understanding of glass. Visitors can explore 45,000 objects representing 35 centuries of glass art and history, a floor dedicated to glass science and innovation, a Contemporary Art + Design Wing, and the largest hot glass demonstration space in the world.

Live In-Person Presentations

If traveling to the conference is not in the cards, don't worry. We want to make our conference experience available to a larger glass audience. With help from CMoG, the AGG is planning an amazing day of presentations and panels on Friday, July 15! Corning Museum's Auditorium is a multiuse facility with state-of-the-art sound, lighting systems, and camera crews. We will capture the entire day of activities and make them available through our website with all proceeds going to the James C. Whitney Scholarship Fund of the American Glass Guild. Since its inception, the JCW Scholarship has awarded \$158,000 toward glass education in the United States and abroad.



Don Burt, Crane Collection auction panel



Kathy Barnard, AGN Exhibit Panel



Sylvia Nicolas, Fode Collection auction panel

Our Retrospective Exhibition is a tribute to Mary Clerkin-Higgins, who was the founder and past president of AGG, and a renowned conservator of stained glass. The exhibition will feature many panels from prior *American Glass Now* juried exhibits and auctions and will be on display in the lobby of the museum throughout the event. Saturday's activities and presentations will unfold at the Radisson Hotel. The conference crescendo on Saturday evening will be our annual Banquet and Live Auction. Sunday morning, we will enjoy a breakfast together and present a tribute to our Senior Advisors.

Expanding the Glass Community

It is exciting to know that we can offer the AGG Conference experience to a much larger glass community. This is a very special conference for so many reasons. We are emerging from a two-year pandemic to celebrate the International Year of Glass. The AGG will be hosting a prestigious list of glass luminaries, leaders, and scholars who hold doctoral degrees and are referenced in the *Who's Who in the World*. These individuals, who have shaped the course of glass art and research, will be teaching our future glass artists and scientists. We have invited historians and authors, as well as recipients of Getty and Guggenheim Grants, National Endowments, Fellowships, and Art & Film Festival awards. Their works are owned by museums, installed in public spaces, and are part of private collections. Many are traveling a great distance and bring extraordinary talent, elite resumes, and international recognition, and will humbly talk, teach, and share their passion for glass.

The underpinning vision for the AGG conference will be the celebration of an historic year in glass. The United Nations (UN) has declared International Years since 1959 to highlight industries, concepts, or ideals that promote its objectives. This year marks the first time that the UN has recognized a material with the International Year designation. We join many around the world in showcasing its artistic, economic, and cultural impact. From highly technical to purely aesthetic, glass is a medium that is defined by opposing terms—hot and cold, liquid and solid, strong and fragile, transparent and opaque. No other material so uniquely brings together art, beauty, and culture with function and engineering. This wonderful material continues to inspire emerging artists and scientists to dedicate their lives to working with glass.

A long overdue reunion of our membership and the exciting prospect of meeting and networking with new friends within this profession is finally happening at The Corning Museum of Glass. Please join us in-person and learn more about its makers, teachers, conservators, and curators, along with the vast history and contribution that glass has made and will make for generations to come.

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Visit www.americanglassguild.org for more details on the numerous presentations, plus lots more information on the full program. It is sure to be a feast for glass artists and enthusiasts.

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