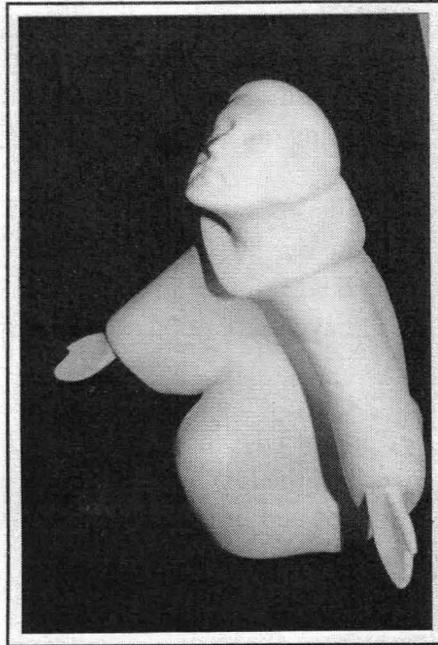


A Legacy in a Portrait



Lift high your face my children-
behold the presence of this God
I spoke to,
I spoke of,
I spoke about.

Take to heart this God of Life, this God of All.

Open your hands in receptivity ...
accept the grace with utter trust
embrace the love poured out lavishly
love tenderly, compassionately
without counting the cost
for love alone is sufficient.
Then love upon love overflows
bounces, and multiplies.

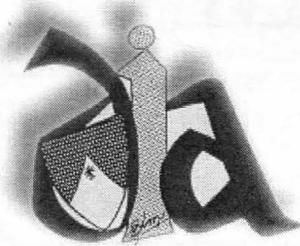
Let the radiance of Light
penetrate the soul
feed the spirit
enlighten the mind
strengthen the body.

Be guided by the Truth as you break upon the Word.
Go now, keep the preaching alive
sculpt it by your hands
dance it with the spirit
splash the palettes of colors
weave the strands of life
bring all to unity and harmony.

Be in a posture of perfect humility ...
pray for perseverance
and at the hour of your death,
I'll take you to my side.

Then together, we walk
to behold the face of our God.

Text and photography by Irene Mary Diones, OP, inspired by a statue of St. Dominic,
a gift from the Dominican Sisters of Amityville, New York, on the occasion of the
125th anniversary of the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose (2001).



Letter from the President



Winter days were always time set apart in the darkness to regroup, find our meaning, and tell the stories. Whoever thought a regular question of the board agenda would be, "do we continue to plan for a gathering despite the impending war?" We do, in hope. We do, for there is something the gift of the artist brings to the holy preaching that is needed now more than ever.

The DIA Board met in Chicago in early February. As we were about to come together on Saturday morning, Joeann brought news of the loss of Columbia. We sought out the latest reports and prayed. The disaster showed us the fragility of life and more. Columbia reminds us of the extraordinary visions humans have and often relegate to the mundane.

This winter has certainly been one of darkness, pain, and loss but there are fine stories yet to tell and words of the holy preaching that bring hope and beauty to light. The stories I have to tell are of wondrous things that have happened and are yet to come.

The DIA has a gift of beauty and light that its members bring to the holy preaching. We recalled the joy of our last gathering in Sinsinawa and gave thanks for its inspiration. We took time to re-examine the goals and objectives of the last board and noted what needs to be accomplished.

Exciting news came in the form of a report from Pat Daly about the planning committee for our gathering in Sparkill this summer. The planning committee and Sparkill Motherhouse have been busy collaborating. I hope you plan to attend.

The theme is "Out of the Ordinary Create the Extraordinary." As we heard detail by detail of the speakers, studios and focus groups, our anticipation was peaked. The packet of information should have arrived at the beginning of March. Be sure to give it serious consideration and plan to attend. We certainly will be exploring our role in the Dominican family!

Our incorporation is complete and we are working on getting our 501(c3) status, nonprofit, as an organization. Much work is yet to be done but, hopefully, in time we will have more good news to report.

Incorporation causes us to look at the organizational efforts of DIA in a more formal way. We applauded the work of the last board for all it accomplished in terms of policies and procedures, constitutional changes and incorporation itself. But sometimes it means we have to move a little slower to responsibly take legal issues into account. We need to examine issues and policies at times before actions can be taken. More than once it opened our eyes to new questions



The Board poses at their recent meeting: Joeann Daley, OP (Past President); Jeanne Stickling, OP (Treasurer); Janice Holkup, OP; Jude Bloch, OP; Barbara Schwarz, OP (President); Patricia Daly, OPA (Vice President); Rudolf Lowenstein, OP.

And so the board considered budgets, auditing, planning for future gatherings, hopefully with some news to report in July. We also discussed how to best accommodate the needs of the men in Norfolk and will get back to you in July with more information.

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Sandra Warner, Amanda Achenbach, Dawn McCarbery, Theresa Martin Pigott, OP, and Shirley Ruder, OP, at the Adrian Motherhouse
Logo design: Irene Mary Diones, OP
Masthead: Deborah Marie Butcher, OP

DIA Newsletter Vol. V No. 1 March 2003



Letter from the President, continued

How to promote our members was the subject of much discussion. We hope people find our links on the web site helpful in reaching out to our member artists. If a motherhouse or retreat house is looking for artists to supply work, perhaps that is a place to find contacts.

DIA is a grassroots organization which depends on the membership to get things up and running. We are most grateful to Elaine DesRosiers, OP, for all her work in editing this newsletter for us the past few years. She has brought it forward as a more regular publication with input from many of the members. (We look forward to reading all the poetry contained in this issue.) But we also know that Elaine has indicated that after the gathering in Sparkill she will no longer be able to continue. The work she has begun needs to go on. We continue to look to membership to find a new editor, and for articles, pictures, etc. Think about how you can help this endeavor.

The DIA Board also requests that you send in your nominations for the Fra Angelico Award. See details on this page. Thanks!

Out of sight does not mean out of mind. We need one another's mutual support that the holy preaching may continue through our artistic expression in whatever forms it may take. Art heals and promotes justice. The world is in need of the healing and justice your hands, heart, and mind can bring to the holy preaching. Continue to preach that the hope to which we are called in Christ Jesus may be proclaimed. "For how can they know unless they have heard? And how can they hear unless they have a preacher?"

Let us pray for one another!
Barbara Schwarz, OP

DIA 2003 GATHERING
Sparkill, New York
July 24-27, 2003

Visit our Web site at
<http://www.diaonline.org>



Planning committee members appear to enjoy deciding what is in store for participants in the 2003 Gathering: Pat Lee, OP; Pat Daly, OPA; Ann Eigenbauer, OP; Alyce VanAcker, OP; and Mary Reid, OP. Not pictured: Colleen Gallagher, OP.

Fra Angelico Award Nominations Requested

The Fra Angelico Award is presented in special recognition to members in the Dominican Family represented in DIA who have distinguished themselves in some area of the arts. We look for people in different fields who have received the recognition of their peers for excellence in their discipline. If you know a DIA member worthy of the honor, kindly nominate them via e-mail or letter by **April 15**. The Board makes the final determination of the recipient.

If you are nominating members, please identify their congregation/province, discipline, awards received nationally and internationally, as well as reasons you feel they should receive the award.

Kindly send written nominations with your registration or membership fees to:

Jeanne Stickling, OP
701 Locust Road #2 N
Wilmette, IL 60091
or e-mail
Barbara Schwarz, OP
barbsop@juno.com

Poetry Corner

Pat Chaffee's Untitled Poem from the
Pottery, Poetry, Piano Prayer Service
at Gathering 2000

Some folks say God flung the stars
to stud the skies.

Or simply said, "Let there be"
and the stars appeared, full blown.

I like to think

God made each one deliberately,
taking the stuff of the universe
in his hands,

turning it over,

becoming acquainted with it.

Can I squeeze it?

Does it resist the pressure of my hands?

Can I shape it with my hands

or must I use another tool?

then familiar with it

I can shape it if I add just so much

of something else,

no more and no less,

and I must learn to handle this stuff deftly.

If I work it a minute too long,

I loose its pliant cooperation.

And I must watch what I do with color.

This is a delicate business.

And then God and the stuff of the universe
became intimate.

Now I know your name.

We breathe together.

My hands know the shape

that lies within you,

and you are waiting patiently

for me to bring it out.

So with us.

We find a relationship

with clay or paint or words or marble

or paper and ink or musical instrument

or music itself, or wood or soil and seed

We become acquainted, then familiar, then intimate.

The meaning is in the relationship.

© Pat Chaffee, OP 2002

Martha Bartholomew's Evaluation
of DIA 2002:

At Dominican Institute for the Arts

There were three points of convergence in the
Forest of My Becoming.

❖ "Intimations of an astounding destiny. . ."

❖ "The task of poetry is to tell what happens . . .
always."

❖ "Finally, Comes the Poet."

At this place there was a sign pointing to The Village of Belonging.

At this place there was a bold sign pointing to Ownership of Gift.

From intimations to - to declaring - to boldly owning and bearing

-

From what has been heard:

Finally, comes the poet - or

Finally, comes this poet - or

Finely, finally, this poet comes.

She had been told: "You are a poet!"

She had been told: "You have heart - ears . . . and a voice."

"You listen others into speech . . .

watch WORD, enfleshing."

"You are Dominican!"

So she preached!

She preaches - so.....

Oh! She preaches -

Through poetry - and story.

She felt awarded a Deed of Ownership,

Claimed by it

As her yellow aged mortgage burned -

Was lifted -

Charred fragments were scattered -

by Spirit Wind.

©Martha Bartholomew 2002

Sinsinawa Dominican Associate 7/02

❖ Thomas Kelly, **Testament of Devotion**; Harper Row, 1941, P.29

❖ Northrup Frye, **The Educated Imagination**;

University of Indiana Press, 1964

❖ Walter Breuggeman; **Finally Comes The Poet: Daring Speech for
Proclamation**; Fortress 1989

Magdalen -- read by Martha
Bartholomew at the Coffee House on
the feast of Mary Madgalen

Even as she wept, she stooped to peer
inside and there she saw a dazzling sight,
more than she expected.

After all, throughout her night of sorrow,
she could not leave neglected

The poor vestiges, the body shell
so cruelly treated.

She knew not where, were it not for one
she did not know,

A Joseph, who had pleaded
her friend from his cross.

Life gone, as once was known.

Into a black dawn, angels shone,
questioned.

She turned, confronted by
a gardener who further probed:
"Why are you weeping?"

She railed: "Isn't it
enough that he is dead!
Gone! Gone! Gone!

Now where has what was
left been taken?"

Then - Then - she heard her name,
A familiar cadence and inflection.

And she ran -
She ran -

Was first -
to tell

other mourners
how she saw
the Gardener of her soul
- her Rabboni!

His return was certain, secure,
As she stooped to peer
inside herself.

A tomb no longer,
but a room
filled with dazzling light.

©Martha Bartholomew,
Turned Corners & Juniper Berries,
Sakura Press, Chicago, 2001;
junipertree170@msn.com

**For the homeless people buried under the West
Side Highway in NYC on 9/11/01.**

My heart weeps
for those unnamed, uncounted.

Buried in ash and dust
Suffocated by our pride;
Our towers of wealth
Of our class distinction
Of greed.

My heart weeps
For callousness of uncaring
For the heedlessness of the powerful,
Inflicting misery upon misery
Burden upon burden
The homeless, the hungry
The wandering, the lost.
The fearful, frightened masses raped beyond repair.

O weeping Christ,
You knew it long ago
You ached to gather them,
To cuddle them, to warm them
To have us do the same.
Yet, somehow we are part of the massive towers,
And cruel mighty bombs.

My heart weeps
For our country's sins
For we are all unnamed,
Uncounted, and unrecognized.

© Jean Beagan, OP 2001

On September 11, 2001

November has come early to this land,
The chilling wind of grief, the rain of tears.

If I have breathed your body into mine,
Then rest, be comforted and sleep,
For we are now close-knitted, one to one,
The Supper Rites continue as we weep.

Agape has a different meaning now
For we are wreathed in blood and bathed
In burning ash, and melted steel,
And powdered glass marks where the bodies lay.

We mourn forever, racked and torn with pain,
Welded in this moment, not alone,
Our ointments useless for no grave is here,
No cloths for us to fold here, and no stone.

© Pat Lee, OP 2001

This is My Beloved

I listen.

I gaze toward the Light.

I walk, wide-eyed,
Searching for truth.

“Ah,” I whisper,
“I am the beloved,
the servant.

I have received the Spirit
I am graced, called
To give bread to God’s people
And to proclaim justice.”

So, I shall
Go forth as commanded,
Serve the blind and prisoners

Follow the Light and the Truth
Rejoice in my servitude
I continue the search,
Chosen to find the Light
And the Truth.

from Jn 1 and Is 45

© Jean Beagan, OP 2002

WHY?

Eyes
of Children
Hungry, wanting, pleading
Waiting, hoping, needing
Bread
Unsatisfied

© Jean Beagan, OP 2002



The Butterfly Tattoo

On a summer retreat
I sat behind a lady
With a butterfly tattoo.

It was on her left shoulder
Unseen to her
Unless she gazed behind her
Into a mirror.

“Doesn’t she realize,” I wondered,
“that she speaks of hope
in a joyful resurrection
to all who look upon it?”

© Jean Beagan, OP 2002

God’s Sand

*Immeasurable,
Unaccountable, abounding,
Liberally scattered,
Ancient as sand.
We are drawn into the
Sea of God
And come back,
Gently flowing, crashing wildly
On the shore in the place,
At the time
That God calls us, desired us, needs us.
In unforeseen places and
Unknown times
We are sifted, refined, God’s sand.
Immeasurable, myriad,
Waiting.*

a reflection on the Last Judgement

© Jean Beagan, OP 2001

The Dominican Institute for the Arts

acknowledges with a spirit of gratitude the following congregations and individuals who have contributed funding for our organization:

Sisters of St. Dominic
Akron, Ohio

Community of the Sisters of St. Dominic
Caldwell, New Jersey

Dominican Sisters
Saint Mary of the Springs
Columbus, Ohio

Dominican Sisters
Edmonds, Washington

Anne Lythgoe, OP
Congregation of St. Catherine de' Ricci
Elkins Park, Pennsylvania

Sisters of St. Dominic
Racine, Wisconsin

Sisters of St. Dominic
Congregation of the Most Holy Rosary
San Rafael, California

The following congregations, institutions, and individuals have contributed time, funding, and services for us to continue our work:

Adrian Dominican Sisters
Adrian, Michigan

Congregation of the Holy Cross
Sisters of St. Dominic
Amityville, New York

Dominicans
St. Catharine, Kentucky

Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose
Fremont, California

Dominican Sisters
Springfield, Illinois

The Sinsinawa Dominicans
Sinsinawa, Wisconsin

Dominican Sisters
Sparkill, New York

Sean Fox, Attorney at law
Oak Brook, Illinois

Regina Dominican Convent "Sister's Place"
Maureen McGrath, OP, Director, and
Women in Residence at the Convent
Wilmette, Illinois

Regina Dominican High School
Wilmette, Illinois

Vincent and Elizabeth Rosiles, Printers
Los Angeles, California

"The paradox of the arts is that they are made up, and yet they allow us to get to the reality of who and what we are, or might be." – Anonymous

"There is in fact a path from fantasy back again to quality AND THAT IS ART." – Sigmund Freud

What's Doing?

A column dedicated to highlighting the DIA members' latest achievements in art

Film fest features Dominicans

On November 30, 2002, eight Dominican filmmakers presented their works at the first Dominican Film and Video Festival at Family Theater Productions in Hollywood. During the festival entitled "In the Spirit of Thanksgiving," producers and directors of the Order demonstrated how they are creating films and videos empowering Judeo-Christian values.

Contributors were:

- 1) written and directed by **Reid Perkins-Buzo, OP:** *Quantum Memory, The Uncanny, The Portal, Sredni Vashtar*
- 2) produced and written by **Barbara Hansen, OP:** *Iconography: A Brush with God*
- 3) produced and directed by **Ken Gumbert, OP:** *The Red Crusade: Cz/SI Under Communism*
- 4) produced and directed by **Dominic De Lay, OP:** *Premiere of Dogwoman & Magicman, The Soda Jerks*
- 5) produced and written by **Armando Ibañez, OP:** *A Moment of Silence*
- 6) directed by **Carlos Valladares**, produced by Ecos Latinos with Pluma Productions: *Javier Juarez, Ecos Latinos series*
- 7) produced by **Ibañez, Valladares** and **Patrice Fisher**, and directed by **Ibañez:** *premiere of Predicare, Pluma Productions with Ecos Latinos and Musicians for Music*

The event included a panel discussion: "The Lord of the Rings and Harry Potter are commercially successful films with good human values. How can we produce commercially viable films and videos with Judeo-Christian values?" The festival closed with a reception featuring "Harp and Poetry" by noted New Orleans harpist **Patrice Fisher** and poet **Armando Ibañez, OP.**

Lowenstein commissioned

Rudolf Loewenstein, OP, was commissioned to write a suite of dances to be performed by a children's ballet school in early March. The dances are based on "The Dancing Master" paintings by Degas.

Quinn film available on video

Within These Walls, the movie about **Pauline Quinn, OP**, and starring Ellyn Burstyn and Laura Dern, is now available on VHS and DVD at Blockbuster and other video stores.

DIA members present art at fair

On June 30, 2002, the Blauvelt Dominican Sisters of Rockland County held a special Arts and Craft Fair. While floral items were the major theme, local vendors and crafts people were encouraged to present samples of their varied arts. Members of the Dominican Institute of the Arts, **Margaret Joseph Gillis, OP**, and **Theresa Maillet, OP**, exhibited some items of their personal art work. These included Margaret Joseph's plaques on which she had painted flowers of every kind and color. These were exquisitely expressed in raised acrylics. Theresa had some small decoupage plaques and mobiles made with oil pastels on water color paper with quotes on peace from historic and contemporary figures as diverse as Thomas à Kempis, George Washington, and John Lennon. These were trimmed with multicolored ribbons. These pieces of art were created with skills acquired or practiced at the DIA Gathering in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania.



Decoupage plaques and mobiles featured at the art fair.

New Wine published

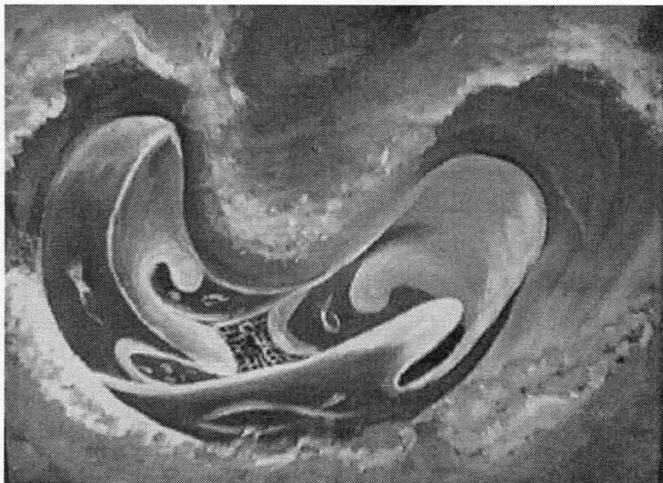
The first issue of *New Wine*, a journal dedicated to the exposure, promotion and advancement of Dominicans

in mass media—print, radio, film and television—has been published. **Armando Ibañez, OP**, editor, states that “the magazine is answering the call of our General Chapter of Providence (2001), which urged Dominicans to publish journals, newsletters and the like for the purpose of discussion,

healthy debate about issues pertaining to Dominicans, and mass media.” The first issue was paid for totally by the Western Province. Donations will be used for the publication of the next issue.

Schwarz depicts Church

The state of the Church is depicted in this new painting by **Barbara Schwarz, OP**, entitled “StormSea.” The stormy waters, the bark of a boat which seems leaderless and rudderless, and a sense of determination that it will survive. The net is broken and all seems in turmoil, within and without.



For further information about the Fra Angelico Chair, contact:
the Blessed Angelico Chair for the Sacred Arts,
Office of the Rector of the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas,
Largo Angelicum, 1, 00814 Roma, Italy.
Tel: (00 39) 06 670 2341; FAX (00 39) 06 620 2270
e-mail: rettore@pust.urbe.it

Fra Angelico Chair for the Sacred Arts established

abstracted from ID (International Dominican Information)

Number 407 December 2002

The Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome has inaugurated the Fra Angelico Chair for the Sacred Arts. The Chair, as its title indicates, has in a particular way been directly inspired by the long artistic tradition within the Dominican Order. Fra Angelico (or Blessed Angelico), a Dominican, was proclaimed the universal patron of artists by Pope John Paul II in 1984. The luminous paintings and frescoes of Angelico have been regarded over the centuries, and are still regarded today (even in the rather complicated ebb and flow of contemporary culture) as a uniquely powerful and beautiful signal of the transcendent. In line with the tradition of the *Instituto Beato Angelico*, which has been located at the church of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva for 30 years, and in collaboration with the program of *Catechesi attraverso l'Arte* at the Church of Santa Maria Novella in Florence, the establishment of the Fra Angelico Chair initiates a program of research and education in the arts to be developed within the historic building complex which houses the University.

The immediate aim and purpose of the Fra Angelico Chair is to provide a forum for the study of the Sacred Arts. Part of the work of the Chair will be to draw attention to the enormous importance in human history of the Sacred Arts. But another central focus of the Chair will be an examination of the role of the Sacred Arts in the contemporary world. Convinced that *beauty*, as much as the *true* and the *good*, is constituent of being, and without the beauty that it brings, the people perish, the Chair will also seek ways to assist and encourage the work of religious artists today. The holder of the professorship works in a number of different ways: organization of a Blessed Angelico Conference with an annual Fra Angelico Lecture given by a person who is well known and obviously accomplished; organization of scholarships for students; and coordination and integration of courses offered at the Angelicum (for example: Christian Archeology, Theology of Mosaics, Theology of Sacred Architecture, Church History).

Do you have a Promoter of the Arts?

Below is the proposal which the Board presented at a DIA Gathering a few years ago. The Dominican Leadership Conference discussed the matter but it never came to a vote. Many components of the Order, however, have appointed Promoters. A list of them was printed in the last *DIA Newsletter*. The proposal is printed for two reasons, namely to encourage more such appointments, and to give some direction to those Promoters of the Arts already appointed.

“From the earliest times the Arts have enriched Dominican prayer, study, preaching and community. The Power of the Word has impelled Dominicans to preach through the Arts, urging movement, image, color, rhythm, poetry, sight and sound to nourish the soul and express the spirit. Thomas Aquinas wrote that creation is the first and most perfect revelation of the divine. In our time Timothy Radcliffe has affirmed that the Arts have nourished the soul and uplifted the spirit. It is through the Arts that the poor have found a voice in their struggle for liberation and self-determination. One might even say that our Preaching, Justice work, and Art form a kind of interdependent holy trinity.

“Therefore, we propose that each congregation, monastery, province, and lay chapter appoint a promoter of the Arts to foster the Dominican tradition of the arts in our life, our preaching, and our works of justice. Such promoters’ responsibilities would include:

- encouraging Dominicans to use their creative gifts
- ensuring arts education in initial formation and in our schools
- collaborating with Preaching and Justice Promoters and other Promoters of the Arts participating in the Dominican Institute for the Arts.”

Who really makes a difference?

Take this quiz:

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America contest.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners for best actor and actress.
6. Name the last decade’s worth of World Series winners.

How did you do? The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields. But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here’s another quiz. See how you do on this one:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.
6. Name half a dozen heroes whose stories have inspired you.

Easier? The lesson: The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones that care.

– Contributed by Rudolf Lowenstein

*Is this newsletter important to you?
If so, please help us to identify a new editor—
soon!*

WANTED!

Editor for DIA Newsletter

**Three issues a year
Material submitted by members
Printed by Adrian Motherhouse staff**

**Computer skills needed: word-processing,
desktop publishing, basic photocopying.**

**If you do not have the skills, perhaps you
know someone – a student, friend, or rela-
tive – who is eager to get experience.**

**The present editor is willing to train/advise
the new editor while producing the Spring
issue.**

**POSITION NEEDS TO BE FILLED BEFORE
JULY 24, 2003**

**APPLY TO BARBARA SCHWARZ, OP,
AT BARBS@JUNO.COM**

DIA Newsletter Deadline

May 1, 2003

SUBMIT GREAT MATERIAL!

Why be a member of the DIA?

Membership in the Dominican Institute for the Arts has many rewards, among them:

- it offers reduced conference fees
- it provides opportunities to exhibit and showcase Dominican art
- it supports collaborative Dominican artistic projects
- it offers potential for mutual support and connections with Dominican artists
- it continues the treasured preaching tradition of Fra Angelico into the 21st Century
- it includes the *DIA Newsletter*
- it ensures listing on the Web Site Directory and ListServ

Bulletin Board

Letter from the Editor

Dear Members,

It has been a good experience being your editor for the last three years. I have learned a great deal about the process. Other commitments have come into my life, however, so the time has arrived for me to pass along this privilege to someone else. The next issue will feature preparations for the 2003 Gathering. This should be an excellent gathering in New York. The planning committee is hard at work. Mark your calendars now for July 24-27 at St. Thomas University in Sparkill. This is a wonderful opportunity to see the East Coast for many of you.

The Spring issue will have many pages dedicated to your latest artistic endeavors and for that essay that you've always wanted to get into print. Because I shall possibly be guiding a new editor through the process of editing the *DIA Newsletter* process, I'd like to have plenty of copy.

Please do think seriously about a replacement for me. The newsletter has been a great way to keep up with our organization. I will be sad if no one picks up the editorship, the result being that we will have limited means of communication between gatherings.

– Elaine DesRosiers, OP, editor

YES! I want to join the DIA!

Name.....
Address.....
Phone.....
Email.....

Congregation/Province.....
My artist interests are.....

Annual membership begins in January.

Fee is \$25.00. Make check payable to DIA and send to Dominican Institute for the Arts
c/o Jeanne Stickling, OP
701 Locust Road #2N Wilmette, IL 60091

