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November 24, 2021

Dear APA Members,

My name is Susan McNeil, and I am a candidate seeking election to the office of Vice President of the APA.

I have been a member of APA for 19 years and a member of NAGE for six years before that. I am a staunch supporter of and believe in the absolute necessity of Unions. I am grateful for the fights they have fought and won on behalf of all workers.

It has been my honor and great privilege to serve as the APA Local Chapter President and Grievance Officer at Massachusetts College of Art and Design for almost 3 1/2 years now. I have represented this membership ardently and whole heartedly through some very turbulent times and major transitions on our campus; Through everything I have taken my role as an APA Chapter President and representative very seriously! I have worked fervently studying our contract language and learning as much as possible from the experiences and knowledge of our current APA leaders.

I show up and I do not shy away from the good fight! I am honest and empathetic. When I believe in something strongly I do not back down. I am an excellent mediator and I appreciate a "win-win" solution. I am a good listener, fair and impartial. I have fought diligently to resolve grievances for many individual members and I have been consistent in representing my entire local membership, quickly addressing concerns and bringing all of their voices to the table even when they disagree. I have been a delegate at every annual MTA meeting during my term. I have taken part in two Contract negotiations, impact bargaining of the mask and vaccine MOAs and the State University Telework Policy. Being on the bargaining team and experiencing the negotiation processes was enlightening. I am proud of what we have accomplished in serving our membership so far, but there is much more work to do.

I am ready to take on this next challenge. If I am elected, I will be passionate and steadfast in representing your voices and when fighting to protect your rights. I will continue to seek better contract language and benefits and to build a stronger membership through communication, transparency, inclusion and participation. I will continue to seek guidance and knowledge from our current leaders, our members and all other sources available. I will represent you with vigor.

I ask for your vote for APA State-Wide Vice President in the upcoming election on December 20-21, 2021.

Thank you