

## Legacy of Dr. Joan Allemand (1931-2025)

Art Educator, Joan Love Allemand, passed away peacefully on 21 May 2025, at the age of 94. An innovator and visionary, Dr. Allemand was an active member of the California Art Education Association (CAEA) for over forty years.



Born in Chicago in 1931, Joan graduated from Bloom High School in 1949 and was later inducted into the school's Hall of Fame for her significant contributions to art education. She continued her studies, graduating with a B.A. from Indiana's DePauw University in 1953. While teaching art in Beverly Hills High School, she earned an M.A. from UCLA. In 1974, she enrolled in UCLA's graduate program in art education and obtained her Ph.D. Moving out of the classroom, Dr. Allemand continued her professional career as the art supervisor for the Beverly Hills Unified School District.

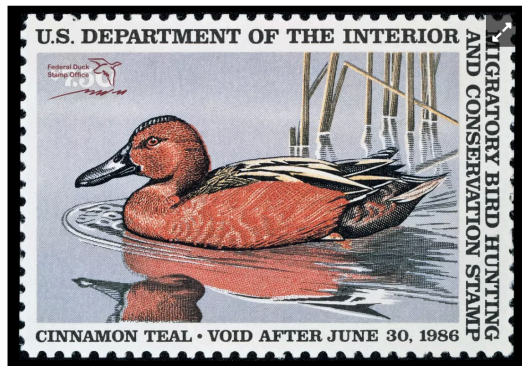
With her husband (an architect), the couple opened Denis Allemand & Associate, an international interior design firm that designed interiors for hotels, restaurants, and airports.

Elected CAEA's President-Elect in 1983, Joan became President in 1985. She was the first of a "second generation" of CAEA leadership—the first president who had not been one of the founding members.

As a relatively new CAEA member, Dr. Allemand brought with her a goal of involving new people in the organization's State Council. Communication and outreach were top priorities for the newly elected President. She selected an editor and supported the expansion of the *Painted Monkey* (CAEA's newsletter). During her administration, the "Monkey" received a top award from the National Art Education Association: it was selected as the "outstanding state newsletter" by NAEA. In the second year of her presidency, CAEA's Youth Art Month also received a national award for "outstanding participation" from the Art and Craft Materials Institute.

Additional innovations emerged under Dr. Allemand's leadership: For example, in 1985, CAEA awards of appreciation were given to two artists—Ruth Asawa and Georgia O'Keefe—who were honored not only for their accomplishments as outstanding artists but for their involvement in art education.

## Duck Stamp 1985-1986



Gerald Mobley (1938- ) Watercolor painting of a Drake Cinnamon Teal by Gerald Mobley.

Dr. Allemand was an international traveler—visiting a variety of regions and collecting art as she traveled. “Entering her home was like visiting a small folk art museum,” said a former student of ‘Dr A.’ “Every item had a history and a story that she was willing to share.”

A warm and welcoming hostess, Joan Allemand fashioned annual celebrations for her wide circle of friends. Her open house fetes were often formed around holidays (Christmas and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July were two of her favorites). “Every detail reflected Joan’s artistic eye,” commented a fellow art educator. “Her joyful vitality created an environment that embraced every person that walked through her door.”

Dr. Joan Allemand will live on in memory, not only for her creativity and many accomplishments, but for her warmth, her endless curiosity about the world, and her deep love of life. She will be missed.

In 1988, Dr. Allemand worked as a consultant with the Federal Duck Stamp Office to help design, develop and implement the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program. Through the art curriculum she developed, she helped ensure that K-12 students, their teachers, families, and entire communities were able to learn about the conservation of waterfowl and wetland habitats.

