July 21, 2015

Notice of Inquiry, Copyright Office, Library of Congress Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works (Docket No. 2015-01)

Dear Ms. Pallante & U.S. Copyright Office Staff:

My name is Lori Alexander and I am a working artist. I have been producing art as a graphic artist, illustrator, gallery artist and teaching artist for most of my life. As a teaching artist I have always expressed how important it is not to take someone else's idea to claim it as your own. That is stealing.

I studied art at LSU in Louisiana and I have sought personal or workshop instruction from other professional artists.

I have been reading about the proposed changes to the current copyright law and I am deeply disturbed by the way the changes would affect the art business. The copyright law is not an abstract legal issue. The current copyright law is the basis on which I can determine who uses my work and how my work is used and how I license my work if I choose. Everything I create I consider business inventory. My inventory is important to me as a businessperson especially in this digital age. My work continues to have value to me even after publication.

The proposed changes to the copyright law would be cost prohibitive to me. I make every effort to label my work with my name and sometimes contact information so there is no question that it is mine. There are some people who would remove my name and claim the piece as an orphan. I don't think a law should make it easier for those people to claim what isn't theirs.

Thank you for your consideration. Lori Alexander