

February 2019 Issue No. 4

# Haiti Outreach

Published by the OSPIHM Haitian Outreach Project Committee



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Submitted by Sister Denise Desil, psst Responsible General

Since the earthquake on January 12, 2010 when the building for our Senior Sisters collapsed we have needed a decent place for them to live after working all of their lives. The OSP and IHM sisters have provided us with donations which helped us to start to build an infirmary. We have finished the foundation, the walls, and the beams. We thank you for your generosity and solidarity.

The Congregation of the Little Sisters of the Child Jesus was founded on December 14, 1948 to provide education, health care, and farming in the remote areas of Haiti. We have celebrated 70 years. Our entrance day is January 6th. First vows and perpetual vows are professed on September 14th. Our congregational feast day is December 14th. Our patronal feast day is October 1st.

### Meet the OSPIHM Board of Directors



S. Mary Ann Penner (M), S. Marianne Gaynor (M), S. Jane Herb (M), S. Ellen Maroney, (S), and S. Mary Ellen Tennity (I)

Global Sisters Report-A Project of the National Catholic Reporter  
Amid Haiti's Challenges,  
Congregation Continues Serving Those Living in Poverty

Link to the article: <https://www.globalsistersreport.org/news/spirituality-trends/>



S. Patricia McDermott (I), S. Fran Fasolka (S), S. Teresa Cecilia Haug (I), S. Mary Ellen Higgins (S), S. Rita Michelle Proctor (OSP), and S. Annette Beecham, (OSP)



How Do You Feel About Volunteering?

The OSPIHM Haiti Committee is seeking members. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact your respective congregational committee members.

One must come out of one's house to begin learning.



Haitian Proverb

OSPIHM Haiti Committee Members

First Row:  
S. Helene Therese Stanislaus, OSP, S. Cathy Nally, IHM (I)  
Second Row:  
S. Anne Marie Murphy, IHM (M),  
S. Susan Hadzima, IHM (S), S. Jane Gaughan,  
S. Paula Jameson, IHM (I), and  
S. Camille Brouillard, IHM (M), Not pictured:  
S. Eileen Coleman, IHM (S)

Book Review

Contrary Destinies: A Century of America's Occupation, Deoccupation, and Reoccupation of Haiti  
Leon D. Pamphile University Press of Florida: Gainesville, FL 2015

Leon Pamphile's *Contrary Destinies* introduces the complexity of U.S. and Haiti's relationship during the last 100 years in a succinct 158 pages. From negotiations between John Adams and Toussaint Louverture in 1798 to the U.S. intervention in the election of Michel Martelly in 2010, Pamphile explains how and why the U.S. influenced Haiti's post-revolution evolution and why Haiti was unable to resist this domination. In a chronological review financial, military, political, and cultural intersections are presented. In 1915 in light of its fear of European influence and after another of many government overthrows and assassinations in Haiti, U.S. Marines moved into Haiti and took control of the political establishment. This overt occupation continued until 1934 (and repayments until 1952). Pamphile contends however that through racism, fear of Communism being exported by Cuba, but especially through financial burdens, the control has never truly ended and that Haitian rulers including the Duvaliers and Aristide had to change their policies to appease U. S. interests. The author moved to the U.S. from Haiti at age 17 acquired a masters in theology and a PhD in education, taught French in public schools for 32 years and now serves as a bishop in the Church of God in Christ in Haiti overseeing more than 100 churches and is the executive director of Functional Literacy Ministry of Haiti. In a final chapter he mentions various ways the Haitian diaspora in the U.S. and American television in Haiti have influenced each country specifically mentioning the Oblate Sisters of Providence and their influence on U.S. Catholicism as the first black Catholic religious community. Today 60% of Haiti's budget relies on foreign aid. The U.S. is a major participant in the UN, World Bank and OAS. Most Haitian politicians campaign on improving relations with the U.S. Published in 2015, before the exit of the UN peacekeeping mission (2004-2017), *Contrary Destinies* brings context to the recent history of Haiti. While questions persist it weaves together many threads to make a more coherent outline of a troubled republic.

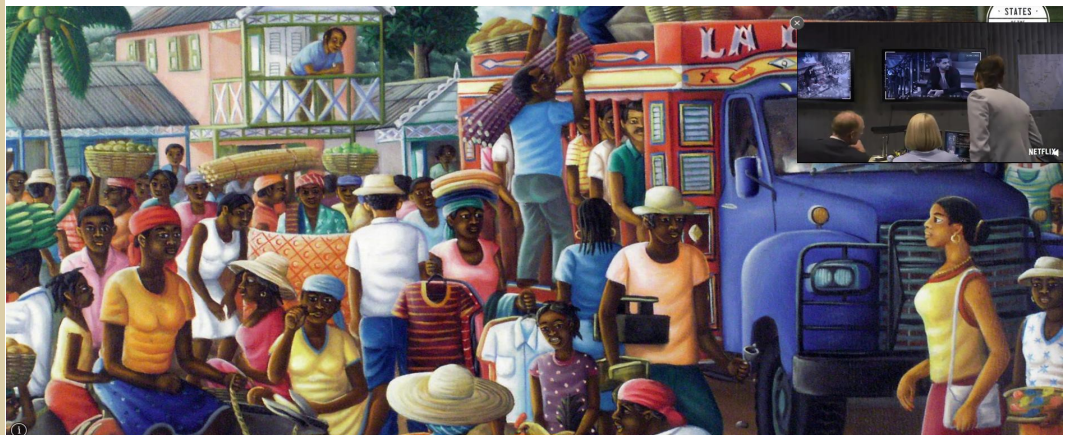
Submitted by S. Anne Marie Murphy,

IHM (M)

Haitian Art

Waterloo Iowa Art Museum

Link: <http://waterloocenterforthearts.org/exhibits/reuling-feldman-galleries/>



The Art of Haiti is a 28 minute documentary film about the unschooled painters of Haiti who have created a dynamic art movement documenting the everyday life, history, and culture of their country and consequently achieving international praise and recognition. The film also serves as a permanent record of the beautiful murals of the Cathedral St Trinite in Port-au-Prince filmed years before the church was destroyed during the earthquake of 2010. .