



Museum as Resource: Integrating the Arts

By Erin Hill, Assistant Professor of Practice, Wittenberg Education Department

In Beth Pickens' short book *Your Art Will Save Your Life*, her recommendation to artists is to "Assess what you already have...start right where you are."

It's great advice for teachers, too: start right where you are, with the students, community, and resources at hand. If teachers have a de facto artform, this is it.

In Wittenberg University's education department, we prioritize intentional artforms, too. Integrating the Arts is a required course and a long-standing tradition for all elementary education majors. Dr. Claudia Cornett developed the course and authored the text we still use today; Dr. Lora Lawson and Dr. Sally Brannan both taught beautiful and beloved iterations. As a newer faculty member, I am a beneficiary of their good work, and I am proud that our department recognizes the importance of the arts for young people's growth, learning, and well-being.

I tell our pre-service teachers, "If you walk away with nothing else, let it be this: the arts are a powerful, transformative vehicle for learning. Make it your go-to rather than your extra." We talk about methodology for learning "core" content with and through the arts. We talk about the arts as essential – not as a "special," 45 minutes, once a week. We talk. But there is no



Wittenberg students consider arts integration in the gallery.

substitute for DOING, of course. In a class about the arts, we also need to experience art and to make art. To move beyond superficial outcomes measured on a standardized test. To experiment without a rubric. To take the creative risks they will ask their students to take. For a generation who has seen arts funding cut dramatically during their K-12 schooling years, they have had fewer educational opportunities to engage in creative work. They need a reminder of how life-giving viewing and making art is.

To that end, we take Beth Pickens' advice and start right where we are. For visual art, we have a phenomenal resource in the Springfield Museum of Art just blocks away from campus. On Thursday, January 23, fourteen students and I met in Blair Hall, bundled up, and enjoyed a brisk but sunny walk down the hill. Museum Educator Amy Korpieski met us in the lobby, helped us get settled, and led us over to the

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Join or Renew Your Membership Today!

Why should you be a Museum member? Because of the Museum's strong focus on art education and exhibits. We are the only art museum in Ohio accepted into the Smithsonian Affiliates program. The Museum has a variety of programs that reach families, people in recovery from drug and alcohol addiction, and many underserved populations. At the Springfield Museum of Art, members truly matter. Your membership enables exciting opportunities such as the development of New Paths, a program

for people in recovery from drug and alcohol addiction, and Museums for All, a new program that provides free admission to those benefitting

"Thank you for your support and I look forward to seeing you at your Museum!"

— Jessimi Jones, Executive Director

from SNAP or WIC. Together these programs are designed to benefit the entire community. Museum membership grants you discounts on art classes, free admission to inspiring exhibi-

tions, exciting events and programs, and more. Reciprocal membership provides great value with access to museums across Ohio, and new VIP experiences at the Friend level. Please join or renew today so you can enjoy your membership benefits and support this great Museum. Visit our website at springfieldart.net to join or renew under the SUPPORT tab. ■

From the Director



It is a tremendous honor to be the new director of your Museum. As a Bellefontaine native, coming to Springfield with my husband and daughter is a dream opportunity and a homecoming. We are thrilled to return to Ohio and make Springfield our home. This has truly been a surprising and challenging time to become a

new director, and I'd like to express my deepest gratitude to my incredible staff, our dedicated board, and the many community members who have welcomed me and my family.

We at the Springfield Museum of Art believe that art has the power to calm anxiety, reduce stress, expand our thinking, and connect us deeply to others. While closed to the public, we worked hard behind the scenes to make the Museum safe for you. We also used this time to reinstall and refresh all the Museum's galleries. A new installation of work from our collection honors female artists through Celebrating Women, showcasing a sculpture by internationally ac-

claimed artist Yayoi Kusama that is on generous loan from the collection of Angela and Scott Crabbill. We reopened with exhibitions including The Paintings of Randolph H. Deer, Underneath the Smokestacks by David Knapp, Vision 2020, and our popular 74th Annual Juried Members' Exhibition. Chakeres Art Lab has been reimagined to ensure that if we cannot be hands on now, we are still provoking conversation and connection through prompts in our What Makes Me Feel Safe? installation. Later this fall we will unveil a new suite of exciting exhibitions described in this newsletter.

In August, we joined Museums for All, a national initiative of over 500 museums from across the country who commit to providing free or reduced admission for those who benefit from food assistance. Now, those who receive SNAP and/or WIC can gain free admission to the Museum simply by presenting their EBT card.

I am so proud of the work that we are doing and of what we have coming up next. This time is challenging, but we will get through it together.

— Jessimi Jones, Executive Director ■

Families Welcome! The Springfield Museum of Art and KidsFest 2020

Families are welcome at the Springfield Museum of Art, and exploration awaits in the galleries and the sculpture park! Looking at art, and talking about it, helps children develop key thinking skills: discussing artworks boosts our tolerance for the opinions of others while also strengthening inference skills and creativity.

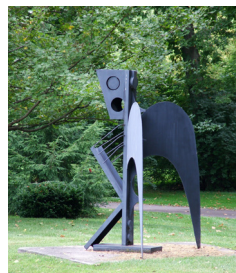
This summer, we invited the public to create their own KidsFest at the Museum. While we couldn't gather *en masse* at a KidsFest event, we celebrated KidsFest all summer long with "do at your own pace" gallery activities. The Springfield Arts Council, host for KidsFest, offered virtual content for families.

This fall, the Museum galleries still feature idea posters to give you a head start in enjoying the art together. The idea posters provide ways to play with art that also keep the artworks safe: imaginations can soar while children look at, but don't touch, the art.

The Museum sits in NTPRD's Veteran's Park, with a sculpture park on the west side. This outside space is comfortable for families and a mailbox holds guides with information about

the sculptures and ideas for engaging children with the artworks. The guide may also be accessed online, via your phone or device). Children can run in the grassy common of the sculpture park and the bike path connects to fun sites to explore farther west

in the park. The bike path borders Buck Creek, please be aware and keep children in sight at all times. Sculptures and architectural relics from historic Springfield buildings are featured in the sculpture park and provide inspiration for games with children. Ideas for games are listed in the guide, much like the idea posters in the galleries. Outdoor sculptures take a lot of weather, but the oils in human hands can be hard on them — so please don't touch! ■



1978.024 | Jon Fordyce | ANTHROPOMORPHIC OBSERVATION | Steel, painted | 10' x 10' x 10' | 1978

In the Galleries

...Does the Dream Dream the Dreamer? Unseen Works of David Catrow

Oct 31 – Feb 28
McGregor Gallery

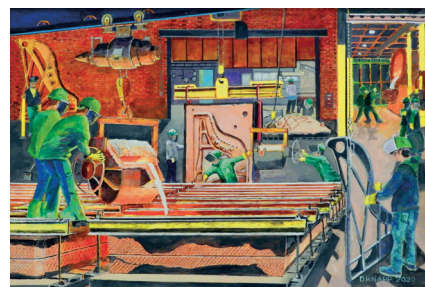


David Catrow | TRIAGE | acrylic, crayon collage on canvas | 83 x 135" | 2020

Showcasing never-before-seen work of Springfield resident, David Catrow, this exhibition reveals Catrow's vision in a series of larger than life paintings and works on paper. Catrow is a *New York Times* bestselling children's book author/illustrator and animator for films including *Horton Hears a Who* and *Despicable Me*. Additionally, he is an editorial cartoonist whose work has been published across the U.S. and Canada. Catrow's exhibited works reference his well-known illustrations but go further to reveal new and previously unimagined worlds that words can't begin to describe.

David Knapp: Beneath the Smokestacks

Through Nov 29
Halley & Klein Galleries



David Knapp | OS KELLY SPRINGFIELD, OH | Acrylic on canvas | 28 x 42" | 2020

David Knapp thoughtfully depicts scenes of labor in foundries through this series of colorful

paintings. In his art, Knapp chooses to highlight the people who work in foundries recognizing that the buildings and machinery are stagnant without their dedicated labor. Each piece portrays a foundry from around the country including Cast-Fab Technologies in Cincinnati, Ohio and Springfield's own, O.S. Kelly Company.

What Makes Me Feel Safe?

Through early 2021
Chakeres Interactive Art Lab



1979.016 | Clarence K. Chatterton | THREE WOMEN SEWING | watercolor on paper | 19 1/2 x 15 1/2" | undated | Gift of Victoria Cooper

We know life has been challenging the past few months. We also recognize art has the capacity to provide respite, beauty, and can calm our anxieties. Explore what makes you feel safe in the revamped Art Lab. This space has been updated to provide a low touch, safe space for engagement for visitors of all ages. Along with art featured from our collection will be minds-on activities designed to support conversation and inspire the observation of emotions. Consumable packets of materials will be provided to support your exploration of the question: what makes me feel safe?

Celebrating Women: Female Artists from the Permanent Collection

Through 2021
Bosca & Quinlan Galleries

This exhibition celebrates the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage by highlighting female artists from the Museum's permanent collection. To read more about this exhibition, see page 4.

Upcoming

Gary Birch: Paintings and Sculpture

Nov 29 – April 4
Deer Gallery



Gary Birch | UNTITLED | Oil on board | 2020

Milford, Ohio artist Gary Birch identifies as a Southwest Ohio painter and sculptor. His work seeks balance between disparate themes, especially those concerning domestic life, industry, and nature. This exhibit will feature both his expressive collage paintings and unconventional mixed media sculptures.

The Art of Watercolor – 46th Wows Annual Members' Show

Dec 19 – Apr 11
Halley & Klein Galleries



Rhonda Sloan | HONEY CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | watercolor | 2020

The Springfield Museum of Art is excited to host the Western Ohio Watercolor Society's 46th Annual Members' show this winter. For nearly half a century, Wows has engaged artists in our region through exhibitions and workshops. This juried exhibition will highlight an array of experienced, local artists working in a variety of watercolor techniques. Patrick Mauk of Lima,

Ohio is this year's juror. Mauk is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati where he received his Master of Fine Arts degree in 1999.

Past

Paintings by Randolph H. Deer

Through Nov 8
Deer Gallery

A longtime friend of the Museum, Randolph Deer is a philanthropist dedicated to the arts as well as educational, social service, health, and youth organizations around the country. This exhibit showcases his artistic talent in a series of whimsical paintings that use color to evoke a place and time.

Vision 2020

Jul 15 – Oct 4, 2020
Beach Gallery

Since the early 2000s, the Dayton Printmakers' Cooperative and Kyoto, Japan's Gen Studio Group have shared artwork in an international print exchange. This exhibition showcased a range of printmaking processes including etching, intaglio, silkscreen, and wood block relief.

74th Annual Juried Members' Exhibition

Aug 15 – Oct 11, 2020
McGregor Gallery

A fixture of the Museum's programming since its inception in 1946, this annual experience celebrated our community's creative spirit and gained inspiration from regional artists. This year, we had 87 artists participate with a total of 109 pieces in the exhibition..

Kusama's Pumpkin Sculpture

Jul – Nov 1, 2020
Bosca Gallery

The Museum was honored to display a loan of Pumpkin, a sculpture by internationally acclaimed artist Yayoi Kusama. Kusama is known for her immersive art installations and affinity for polka dots. Pumpkin was on display as part of a larger installation of work titled Celebrating Women. This loan was made possible through the generosity of Angela and Scott Crabill. ■

Celebrating Female Artists in 2020

When guests returned to the Museum this summer, they found that two of the Museum's galleries, Bosca and Quinlan, had been refreshed!



Frances H. D. Crumrine | **FACTORY SCENE, PROVINCETOWN, MA.** | oil on canvas | 16 x 19-3/4" | undated | Gift of Frances H.D. Crumrine

Historically, female artists have been underrepresented in museum collections and are shown at significantly lower rates than their male counterparts. During the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage, the Museum's staff felt this would be the perfect opportunity to highlight



Davira Fisher | **MOTLEY GROUP** | Woodcut on paper | 15-3/4 x 22-1/2" | 1961 | Gift of Dr. Elliot N. Fortescue

female artists whose works are in the permanent collection. While one gallery depicts pieces by women artists from Ohio, the second includes female artists from around the country and abroad. Both spaces showcase the wide range of media, subject, and technique with



Aminah Robinson | **(UNWRITTEN LOVE LETTER TO) DR. SELMA BURKE** | Mixed media on paper | 13 x 20 1/4" | 1988 | Gift of Gisela Josenhans

which female artists have traditionally worked and demonstrate how women continue to conceptually advance the art world today. Artists in the show include Frances H.D. Crumrine, Davira Fisher, Frances Hynes, Aminah Robinson, Alice Schille, Kara Walker, and Stella Waitzkin, to name a few.

In addition to new art on display, the Museum has been awarded a grant from Smithsonian Affiliations. Funding for this project allows us to host a Smithsonian speaker in support of their American Women's History Initiative taking place this year. We are hopeful to share new programming with you in the coming months! ■



Yayoi Kusama | **PUMPKIN** | mirrored bronze | on generous loan from the collection of Angela and Scott Crabill

Museum as Resource *continued*

Color Improvisations 2 quilt exhibit that had opened just a few weeks prior in the McGregor and Deer galleries, both beautiful, expansive spaces. Amy gave the students a bit of time to wander, to look at the quilts independently before we started our thinking together as a group. I knew a few students had been hesitant about visiting: they confessed to feeling intimidated by museum collections – what they thought of as Important Works of Art. One student said, “I mean, I’ve never taken an art history class, so I don’t really get that stuff.” As they fanned out, some in pairs, some solo, I stood off to the side and watched for what I knew would happen: eyes lit up, smiles widened, shoulders dropped. I was watching a collective unwind.

When Amy brought us together, she helped us practice Project Zero’s Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS), a series of three questions designed to stimulate critical thinking and engagement. The first question: What’s going on in this work? In our case, “the work” was one particular quilt Amy had asked us to gather around; in our

classrooms, the work could be a drawing, a painting, a photograph, a mural, or any other piece of visual art we’d like students to think about. The second question: What do you see that makes you say that? Here, we ask students to explain their thinking – in essence, to make their thinking visible. This gives other students an opportunity to practice listening without judgment and to consider different perspectives. The third question: What more can we find? Precise language matters here: rather than asking “What else can we find?” – deficit framing that implies we’ve missed something – we work from a place of abundance: there’s always more! More to see, more to notice, more to ponder. Here, we ask students to stretch and extend their thinking. To practice curiosity.

Most importantly, Amy then gave us an opportunity to create. She split the group into pairs; inspired by the work of their choice, they scattered with felt materials in hand to assemble their own miniature quilts. It was, in a word, delightful.

We took for granted, of course, what a gift it was to be together that afternoon, to share



Following their introduction by Amy Korpieski, students view the quilt exhibition.

space. To sit on the floor side by side, childlike in our posture and pose and presence, a mere six inches apart, exchanging thoughts about color and composition.

On our walk back to campus, a few students mentioned they had never been to the museum, that they hadn’t realized what was right down the hill from them. I had played it cool all afternoon, but high on art, I could no longer contain my enthusiasm. “Listen,” I said, “the Springfield Museum of Art is a GEM! It’s a Smithsonian affiliate, its staff is outstanding, they frequently feature local student artists, and that exhibit we just saw? This is the only museum in *all of North America* that showcased the complete collection!”

“Really?” they said. “That’s awesome.”

“Yes,” I said. “Yes, it is.”

When we met two days later for our Thursday afternoon class on campus, I gave each student a note card and asked them to write a few sentences about their experience at the museum. All fourteen students provided positive feedback, a string of superlatives: “It was so fun and engaging! It’s easier to think about using these strategies in the classroom when you actually go through the motions.” Another student said, “I really enjoyed the experience and how the environment felt so welcoming. I also enjoyed the freedom to express what we saw with no judgment. I learned what questions to ask to get students to express their thoughts.”

And this: “The day at the museum truly gave my terrible week a bright side.” It was a moment of joy. Right where we were. ■



After viewing the exhibition and a group session, students split into pairs and created their own mini-quilts.

Art and Wellness at the Springfield Museum of Art



New Paths participants have responded very positively to their experience at the Museum.

In 2016 the Museum began its first art and wellness program called In the Moment: Art Unlocks Creativity with elders who are living with Alzheimer's or dementia. Over the years we have had great success increasing participants' mood and social engagement. We have learned so much in this endeavor and become interested in Art and Wellness as it applies to our educational programming and our community wellness.

In 2019 the Museum was awarded two grants for art and wellness. The first was from the Ohio Arts Council and the next from the HealthPath Foundation of Ohio. Both awards were to fund a pilot art and wellness program called New Paths with the McKinley Hall inpatient program for adults in recovery. Tuesday mornings, when the Museum is closed to the public, we have a group of about 15 men and women from McKinley hall residential homes come to the museum. McKinley Hall counselors run private group counseling sessions in the galleries, focusing on a particular artwork.

The counselors attended training at the Museum and learned how to use Visual Thinking Strategy questions, such as: What do you see? What makes you say that? And what more do you see? After 30-45 minutes in the galleries, the group joins Annette Eshelman, Curator of Education, in a studio to create art based on what they have experienced in the galleries or emotions they may want to explore. In the studio, participants explore emotions and experiences using a variety of art mediums and techniques, like painting to music using acrylics, mind mapping using watercolor markers, and drawing your heart using graphite and colored pencils.

Through the data collected before and after each session, the Museum discovered that

"It is difficult to put into words how valuable this experience has been for all involved."

this program is more successful than we could have imagined. Participants reported that their anxiety is lessened while they are here, and they see how creating art can help them continue in recovery outside of residential treatment. The therapists who come with groups shared that women in the program reported they could be in the "worst mood" in the morning and then leave the art museum feeling calm. They expressed that clients experienced increased confidence and were happy to try new things. Many of the participants verbalized a desire to add art and trips to the Museum to their list of coping skills and sober activities. In addition, women with



Painting has been found to have a calming effect, resulting in increased confidence.

Participants reported that their anxiety is lessened while they are here, and they see how creating art can help them continue in recovery outside of residential treatment.

children shared a desire to participate in the arts with their children.

One of the therapists, Kathy Maddy, stated "The experience stirred up an inner dialogue for me that has caused me to take a closer look at some of my attitudes and beliefs. It stirred up a



One participant's finished painting.

mix of emotions on a spiritual level that makes me a better person and therapist. It also pushed me out of my comfort zone which allowed me to model what we ask our clients to do every day. It is difficult to put into words how valuable this experience has been for all involved."

McKinley Hall's residential program now includes art in the daily activity schedule, their art room is being utilized more, and more materials have been included to allow residents to explore their creativity.

The Museum also piloted a program with Oesterlen Youth Services which mirrors the McKinley Hall program. We are providing resources to our community and breaking new ground in museum education through these new Art and Wellness programs. ■

Taking the Museum Experience Online: Moments for Joy

March 2020 brought a huge surprise in the form of a global pandemic, forcing us to temporarily close the Museum to the public. We wanted to stay connected to our members and visitors during this time, so we started an online campaign called "Moments for Joy." The goal was to post content that would bring viewers an opportunity to de-stress while still feeling involved with the Museum and the community. SMOA staff worked together to present a variety of content accessible to all ages.

One of our most popular posts was our provisional "Trail Gallery." Since no one was able to physically visit the galleries, we brought the galleries to them! Via staff office windows, the Museum displayed rarely seen art from the permanent collection, giving passers-by a chance to appreciate art while still maintaining a safe, physical distance outside of the building ■



Moments for Joy

The Trail Gallery – Updated

We've updated our Trail Gallery with some new pieces! While we're closed to the public, you can still see art in our new "gallery." Just visit the trail that runs between the Museum and Buck Creek to see art on display in the staff office windows. We'll rotate these exhibitions often while we are closed to the public. Enjoy art while practicing safe physical distancing at SMOA's Trail Gallery!

[Read More](#)

May 14, 2020 Like Comments are off



Drawing the Collection

Drawing the Collection was a weekly lesson that highlighted pieces from the Museum's permanent collection while introducing a new drawing activity that one could do from home during the stay-at-home order. During quarantine, the Museum remained closed and unable to offer the various classes that are typically offered. This became a way to share some instruction based off the Fundamentals of Drawing class that is often offered for teens and adults. Each Friday provided a downloadable PDF lesson on the Moments for Joy page, as well as social media and asked for participants to virtually share their sketches.

The weekly lessons divided drawing concepts into small, manageable exercises that could be practiced at home without any special supplies or materials. The ten lessons began with a Fritz Hoffman watercolor as an example on how to simplify objects into their basic shapes. Other collection pieces included the works of Clarence K. Chatterton, Ralston Thompson, Frances H.D. Crumrine, Mary Lehman Cover, Paul Lacroix, Frank Myers Boggs, and more. These artists' drawings and paintings made for excellent examples for practicing concepts and techniques such as value, perspective, composition, balance,



and shading techniques. It's been a wonderful opportunity to share some of the lesser seen works with the community as well as share a taste of the educational programming. ■

The Drawing the Collection program produced a series of ten lessons during the Museum's closure.



SPRINGFIELD
MUSEUM OF ART

In association with the Smithsonian Institution
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Springfield, OH

Members Matter!

This could be the end!

If you haven't already renewed your museum membership for 2021, this may be the last newsletter or announcement you receive from us. Don't let that happen! Renew today at www.springfieldart.net under the SUPPORT tab.

Calendar

Through Nov 29 David Knapp: Beneath the Smokestacks!

Through early 2021 What Makes Me Feel Safe?

Oct 31, 2020–Feb 28, 2021 ...Does the Dream Dream the Dreamer? Unseen Works of David Catrow

Nov 29, 2020 – Apr 4, 2021 Gary Birch: Paintings and Sculpture

Dec 19, 2020–Apr 11, 2021 The Art of Watercolor – 46th WWS Members' Show

Volunteers Needed

We need your help with planning and manning special events, seasonal gardening/landscaping, and distributing promotional exhibition posters and postcards in our community as a volunteer. To learn more, email smoa@springfieldart.net or call 937-346-8439.

The Springfield Museum of Art

The Springfield Museum of Art, founded in 1946, is a non-profit organization designated 501(c)(3) by the Internal Revenue Service.

The Springfield Museum of Art Library is open to members and to the public as a non-circulating art reference and study center.

Send Us Your Email Address

We send quick reminders of exhibition openings, gallery talks, etc. Please send us any new email addresses!

Museum Hours

Wednesday-Saturday, 9am-5pm
Sundays 12:30-4:30pm
Closed Mondays and Tuesdays

Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, Easter Sunday, Independence Day, the Saturday of Art Ball and the Sunday after Art Ball.

Admission: Adults \$5; Members and youth 17 and under FREE (free admission for everyone during Come Find Art Sundays).

Museum Staff

Jessimi Jones, Executive Director
Annette Eshelman, Curator of Education
Amy Korpieski, Museum Educator
Casey Moorman, Visitor Experience Manager
Elizabeth Wetterstroem, Collections and Exhibitions Manager
Kelley Booze, Facilities Coordinator and Preparator

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