



## Collections Highlight:

# A Moment to Appreciate SMOA's Permanent Collection

**Small but mighty, the Springfield Museum of Art's permanent collection is home to over 2,200 works of art spanning several centuries. Though the Museum's collections contain works whose artists cross several continents, the current collection philosophy of the Museum is to collect artwork by artists who have ties to the Midwest, Ohio, or the Springfield region, as well as other American artists whose works enhance the collection.**

The Museum has a strong permanent collection in a variety of media — oil, watercolor, fiber, wood, ceramic, sculpture, and printmaking — just to name a few. The collection tells the story of Ohio and its many talented artists, as well as the history and progression of art in this country. The themes of the collection range from calm still lifes and complacent portraits to folk stories and contemporary, abstract nuances, not unlike those seen throughout art history.

As SMOA continues to develop its collection, the new Collections Highlight segment of the newsletter and the Museum Musings blog will share with readers a monthly featured work from the collection. As this season's newsletter

corresponds with autumn, it only feels right to share this landscape by Franklin DeHaven.

Born in Bluffton, Indiana in 1856, Franklin B. DeHaven was an artist known for his landscape paintings of lush forests and winding creeks. DeHaven won several awards and medals over his lifetime in an array of exhibitions and organizations, from the 1901 Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York to the National Arts Club in 1921. A rather active artist, DeHaven exhibited work in major cities at sites like the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and the Art Institute of Chicago and has work in the collections of the National Gallery of Art, the Butler Art Institute, and the Brooklyn Institute Museum. DeHaven also participated in several art associations like the Salmagundi Club of New York and the National Academy of Design.

Franklin DeHaven's knack for painting lush forests and winding creeks is ever apparent in this **Autumn Landscape** painting from around 1920. Presented in the light of the golden hour, the scene invites the viewer into the forest on a tranquil fall day. One can feel the warmth of the sunlight radiating from the bright yellow field even though the cloudy skies and leafless trees indicate that the weather may be brisk and windy. DeHaven's use of complimentary colors, vibrant blues and ruddy oranges, creates a bold



Franklin DeHaven | AUTUMN LANDSCAPE | Oil on canvas | 28 x 40" | c.1920 | Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Fred D. Bentley, Sr.

effect that is at once visually stimulating. The composition of the stream winding from the foreground until it disappears into the horizon pulls the viewer in till they are fully absorbed in the feeling of autumn around them. It is the quintessential fall image.

## Recent Acquisitions to the Permanent Collection

**A Springfield local, Silas Jerome Uhl (1842-1916)** acted as the premier portrait artist for the Champion City during the 19th century. Prior to his career as an artist, Uhl served in the Civil

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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. It is the only art museum in Ohio accepted into the Smithsonian Affiliates program! It has a variety of programs that reach diverse audiences including early childhood, homeschoolers, adults with Alzheimer's, and many underserved populations. A robust calendar of exhibits fills the Museum's galleries to delight and inspire you. And this is all located in one of the most beautiful settings — indoors and out — in Springfield.

Membership includes free admission or members' rate for special exhibitions, discounts on art classes and workshops, invitations to

**"I cherish many of the wonderful amenities Springfield has to offer. One of the places I love most is the Springfield Museum of Art."**

**- Teresa Demana, Museum Trustee**

opening receptions, and more. Reciprocal membership provides great value with access to

museums across Ohio, and new VIP experiences at the Friend level.

The Springfield Museum of Art currently celebrates a strong, vibrant era, all made possible through support of our members. Please join or renew today so you can enjoy your membership benefits and support this great Museum. Visit our website at [springfieldart.net](http://springfieldart.net) to join or renew under the SUPPORT tab. ■

## In the Galleries

### Packed: Works by Nicki Crock

Deer Gallery through Dec 8; Chakeres Gallery through Feb 9, 2020



Nicki Crock | PACKED | cardboard | 2019

This solo exhibition features a range of works from Columbus, Ohio-based artist Nicki Crock. Through installation, sculpture, and performance she explores issues of home, community, and the role of place and transformation.

### Ohio Designer Craftsmen: Best of 2019

McGregor Gallery Through Dec 15



Matthew J. Paskiet | LAGOON-DESERT | glass

The Best of 2019 showcases 88 contemporary works of fine craft by 74 artists. Sixteen works

were selected for awards of excellence in the 35th annual members competition.

### Ten Years: A Reckoning – Paintings by Wendy Cross

Halley & Klein Galleries Through Jan 12, 2020



Wendy Cross | THE STAGES OF GRIEF | 36 x 60"

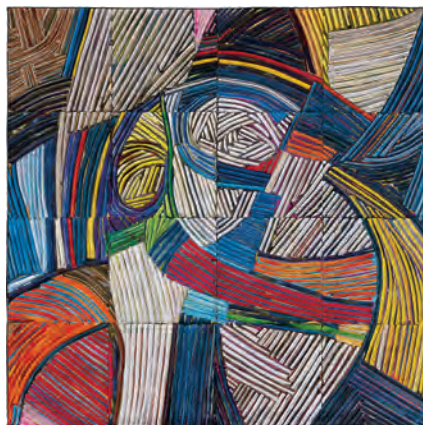
Athens, Ohio-based artist Wendy Cross creates large-scale oil on canvas paintings depicting contemporary culture and its relation to our past human history. The exhibition features a diverse selection of her works, including recently completed paintings.

## Upcoming

### Color Improvisations 2: International Quilt Exhibition

McGregor & Deer Galleries

Jan 4 – Mar 29, 2020



Kit Vincent | MOBY DICK | 2015

Color Improvisations 2 is an international quilt exhibition curated by Nancy Crow, one

of the most celebrated and influential quilt artists of the past forty years. The show features 50 large, improvisational quilts by 43 artists from Canada, France, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, Scotland, and the United States.

Opening Reception: Jan 4, 5:30-7pm

### Randy Deer

Deer Gallery

Apr 10 – May 17, 2020



Randolph H. Deer | ALBERTA CLIPPER | oil on canvas | 24 x 30" | 2015 | Gift of Randolph H. Deer

A longtime friend of the Museum, Randy Deer is a lifelong 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. ■

## Save the Date!

## Black & White

The 2020 Black & White Party will be held on Saturday, Apr 4, 7-11pm!

Co-chairs: Kyle and Gretchen Conroy



# The Three “R”s: Reading, wRiting, & aRt

Although Lois Lenski's family moved from Springfield to Anna, Ohio, when she was six, the city and culture of Springfield in 1919, when Ridgewood School opened, were familiar to her. So it seems fitting that Ridgewood School engaged wholeheartedly with **Lois Lenski: Storied Prints**, bringing every child in preschool through third grade to visit the prints, sketchbooks, and watercolors on display at the Springfield Museum of Art.

In her autobiography, Lenski described life in the small towns of Ohio as “simple, sincere, and wholesome.” The same adjectives could be used to describe her artwork and might be the reason children respond so well to the Lenski exhibition. Ridgewood students came to the Museum prepared: they had listened to many of Lenski's books read to them by their school librarian, Claudia Fett. At the Museum, the children browsed in the gallery, and then looked more closely to find the images on the wall that matched laminated copies of Lenski's



Ridgewood students visit the Lenski exhibit.

work they were able to hold in their hands. Fett and the students' art teacher, Molly Loftis, each accompanied a field trip.

Fett noted, “The children walked around the gallery to see original Lois Lenski illustrations from some of the books that we have been studying.” She heard several delightful comments: “Hey look, here is Mr. Small!” “I really like

**The Little Airplane**, do you think a picture from that book is here?” “The books in the display case are really cool!”

Groups then used the laminated copies to tell impromptu stories inspired by Lenski's images, focusing on simple stories with a beginning, middle and end. Some children learned about line quality and tried their hand at recreating Lenski images with pencils and drawing paper. Other students used watercolor paint to create backdrops or scenes for Lenski characters. When they returned to school the children worked with Fett and Loftis to make small books inspired by the works of Lois Lenski. Once finished, the older students read their books to younger students.

The Museum is an ideal place for schools to dive in deep with an exhibition, combining a field trip with classroom work to provide a rich experience for students. Teachers work with a museum educator before the trip, setting goals for student learning. The museum educator plans a set of gallery activities to support the goals, using hands-on, age appropriate activities to help students engage with the artwork. ■



Students creating their own stories using characters from Lenski's works.



# Sign Up Now for Winter 2020 Art Classes



Non-members receive 10% off, and Members receive 20% off if paid by Jan 3, 2020!

## 4-Week Sessions

### Needle Felted Painting | \$80

Thursdays, Jan 23-Feb 13, 6-8pm

Instructor: Annette Eshelman, Ages: 15+. Limit: 8. Supplies included.

### Felted Sculptures | \$80

Thursdays, Feb 20-Mar 12, 6-8pm

Instructor: Annette Eshelman, Ages: 15+. Limit: 8. Supplies included.

### Surface Design on Fabric | \$80

Saturdays, Jan 25-Feb 15, 10am–noon

Instructor: Annette Eshelman, Ages: 15+. Limit: 8. Some supplies included.

### Art Quilting | \$80

Saturdays, Feb 22-Mar 14, 10am–noon

Instructor: Annette Eshelman, Ages: 15+. Limit: 8. Some supplies included.

### Intermediate Calligraphy | \$65

Thursdays, Jan 23-Feb 13, 10-11:30am

Instructor: Anne Kazez. Ages: 15+. Limit: 8. Most supplies included.

### Color Focus | \$65

Thursdays, Jan 23-Feb 13, 6-8pm

Instructor: Kelley Booze. Ages: 15+. Limit: 10.

### Limited Palette Painting | \$65

Thursdays, Feb 20-Mar 15, 6-8pm

Instructor: Kelley Booze. Ages: 15+. Limit: 10.

## 6-Weeks Session

### Stained Glass/Night Light Class | \$80

Wednesdays, Feb 5-Mar 11, 6-8pm

Instructor: Sara Gray. Ages: 15+. Limit: 8.

## 8-Week Sessions

### Watercolor Studies | \$125

Wednesdays, Jan 22-Mar 11, 9:30-noon

Thursdays, Jan 23-Mar 12, 1:30-4pm

Instructor: Enid Willard, Ages 15+. Limit: 10.

### Beginning to Intermediate Watercolor | \$110

Wednesdays, Jan 22-Mar 11, 6-8pm

Instructor: Casey Moorman, Ages 15+. Limit: 10.

### Toddler Art Exploration | \$35

Fridays, Jan 31-Mar 20, 9:30-10am

Instructor: Amy Korpieski, Age 2 (with adult companion).

### Early Childhood Art Exploration | \$70

Fridays, Jan 31-Mar 20, 10-11am

Instructor: Amy Korpieski, Ages 3-5 (with adult companion).

### Young Artists' Workshop | \$90

Saturdays, Jan 25-Mar 14

10-11:30am, Ages 7–9

Noon-1:30pm, Ages 10–14.

Instructor: Brooke Griffin. Limit: 10. Supplies included. ■

Visit [springfieldart.net](http://springfieldart.net) and click on **Classes and Workshops** under the **LEARN** tab to download a brochure and registration form.

## Education Outreach

# Universe of Learning in Toronto!



## Student at Shawnee Middle School creating imaginary life on an exoplanet.

After presenting at the Smithsonian Affiliates Conference in D.C. this summer, Annette Eshelman, curator of education, was invited, along with three educators from other science museums, to present at the Association of Science and Technology Centers in Toronto with the science education team of NASA's Universe of Learning. The ASTC is an association of science centers and museums that are dedicated to furthering the public understanding of science among increasingly diverse audiences. The association encourages excellence and innovation in informal science learning by serving and linking its members worldwide and advancing their common goals.

Being one of the only art museums in the country who participates in the Universe of Learning webinars and training sessions, it was a privilege to be asked to present SMOA's resources to science museums looking for ways to incorporate art into their programs. Annette shared curriculum incorporating Universe of Learning resources and art lessons used in summer programming at the Dome Center for Innovation, at the Juvenile Detention Center in partnership with Project Jericho, and in the astronomy class at Shawnee Middle School. ■



## Permanent Collection *continued*

War for three and a half years. After the war ended, Uhl spent three years in Europe where he studied art under master artists like Pierre Puvis de Chavannes.



Silas Jerome Uhl | LADY KNITTING | Oil on canvas | 20 x 17 ½" | n.d. | Gift of Julie B. McGregor

Upon returning to Springfield, he painted portraits of the city's leading society members including Phineas P. Mast and Governor Asa Bushnell. His work can be found across the country in other museums as well, including the National Portrait Gallery in Washington D.C. where his portraits of William Tecumseh Sherman and President Benjamin Harrison reside.

**A Lady Knitting** shows Uhl's multifaceted talent, depicting both a portrait and a genre painting. (A genre painting refers to subject matter showcasing ordinary life.) The simple act of showing the woman knitting and not just posing, allows the viewer to understand more of her daily routine, and through this, the woman in the painting comes to life.



Anthony Schepis | AS THE CROW FLIES | Oil on linen | 38 x 32" | 2013 | Gift of Anthony Schepis

**Cleveland-born artist Anthony Schepis** has spent his whole life working with paint. Beginning in eighth grade, Schepis took a correspondence cartooning course and later, in 1948, enrolled in the Cooper School of Art. There, Leslie W. Lintelman taught him about underpainting and glazing, techniques used by Renaissance painters that he would continuously employ in his own practice.

Combining those techniques with an awareness of the abstract and surrealist movements of the time, Schepis created a distinct style. His work captures the careful stillness of a singular moment. Each piece presents an immediate, soft luminosity that forces one to stop and allow emotion to calmly thrive.

In **As the Crow Flies**, the viewer is transferred to a grass-filled prairie surrounded by a cloud laden sunset. The mood is subjective: it is unclear if the scene is serene or if the red structure forewarns of possible danger. What do you think?



Randy Deer | LA VIE EN ROSE | Oil on canvas | 20 x 18" | 2016 | Gift of Randolph H. Deer

**Impasto: the process of applying paint or pigment thickly so that it stands out from a surface.** Randy Deer's artwork, to be featured in a solo exhibition at the museum in early 2020, is the epitome of impasto. Deer employs thick brushstrokes so heavily layered that, in some areas, the paint rises an inch above the surface. This technique adds a rich boldness to his work and a unique sense of depth unattainable through perspective alone.

When viewed from far away, the colors of the paint blend, almost like those in an impressionist painting, to reveal thirteen roses sitting in a glass vase. Up close, however, one becomes fascinated with the pure tactile quality of the paint. The roses fade away, and the little dots of individual colors emerge. This work, along with others, will be part of a solo exhibition in the spring. Visit the Museum's lobby today to view **La Vie En Rose** and experience the magic of impasto. ■

## Ekphrasis, Revisited

Dave Lucas, Ohio's Poet Laureate, helped families engage with artworks through poetry. Ekphrasis is the poetry term for responding to artworks with words, thereby bringing together two art forms. Lucas was in Springfield with Arts Alive, thanks to grants from the Ohio Arts Council and the Turner Foundation, bringing poetry to this year's events themed **Our Stories Make Us Strong**.

Lucas' first poetry collection, **Weather**, was awarded the 2012 Ohioana Book Award for Poetry. Shortly after its publication, former U.S.



**Poet Laureate Dave Lucas in discussion with ArtsAlive! participants.**

Poet Laureate Rita Dove named Lucas as one of thirteen "young poets to watch." In January 2018, then Ohio Governor John Kasich named Lucas the state's second poet laureate, succeeding Amit Majmudar. Lucas was recommended for the two-year position after a statewide nominating process by the Ohio Poet Laureate Selection Committee.

Lucas, a native of Cleveland, earned a B.A. at John Carroll University, an M.F.A. in Creative Writing at the University of Virginia, and M.A. and Ph.D. in English Language and Literature at the University of Michigan. Lucas currently teaches at Case Western Reserve University. ■



# Everyone Loves a Field Trip!



School-age children aren't the only ones who take field trips to the Museum! This fall, a class of art history students from Wittenberg came to explore the galleries.

In planning for the fall semester, Dr. Alejandra Gimenez-Berger reached out to Elizabeth Wetterstroem, SMOA museum assistant and Wittenberg alumna, about the possibility of having her students visit.

Dr. Gimenez-Berger's Honors American Art History class features a unit about American landscape artwork and the Hudson River School which fits perfectly with one of the Museum's permanent exhibitions, **Point of View**. The exhibit includes 15 works from several Hudson River School artists including Asher B. Durand, Thomas Worthington Whittredge, and Sanford Robinson Gifford, along with pieces by the Frankenstein brothers who resided in Springfield.

Upon the students' arrival, Wetterstroem took the class of 12 outside to view a section of Buck Creek that runs parallel to the museum. She asked the students to picture the area as if it were 200 years ago and to focus on

the sounds and sights of the nature around them. By taking a moment to be present in the landscape directly, Wetterstroem hoped students would better understand the context in which these artists were painting. This exact type of landscape is what artists during this time were studying. They were working en plein air – a technique in painting where artists work

**Wetterstroem hoped students would better understand the context in which these artists were painting.**

outside to capture nature's likeness as close as possible.

The Hudson River School artists and other landscape painters were also dabbling with the concept of Manifest Destiny. (Manifest Destiny is the belief that it is America's god given right to expand west and claim more land for the creation of new states.) The students were next given the task of analyzing a work in the exhibition and then sharing their observations with each other. Several students pointed out that most of the work in the gallery portrays a positive mood with an effect of the sublime, which makes sense given the artists' motive to present the landscape as something optimistic.

Sanford Robinson Gifford | HOMESTEAD IN THE MOUNTAINS | Oil on canvas | 7-1/2 x 13" | c.1865 | Museum purchase with funds provided by an anonymous donor

From there, Wetterstroem directed the students to stand on the right side of a painting of their choice and determine what is in the foreground versus the background and left versus right. In most cases, the foreground and right side includes more shadows and something to mark the presence of civilization – a cottage, abandoned ruins, horses, people – while the background and left side reveals a glorious scene of unexplored mountains and forests, along with bright skies. The contrast of spaces within the painting can be understood as the juxtaposition of east versus west in the artist's interpretation of Manifest Destiny. When the background and left side are equated with the west, it becomes clear that the artists are showing how wonderful the west could be with expansion.

By the time the students had finished examining **Point of View**, they were all able to better connect with the landscape artwork they had read about for class, demonstrating the true power of field trips and museum-based learning. ■



# The 50th Annual Art Ball

Art Ball was a hit this year as we celebrated our golden anniversary on Saturday, Aug 24th with over 200 friends and sponsors of the museum in attendance. Hors d'oeuvres were prepared by Seasons Bistro while Kohler Catering provided a delightful meal complete with gold leaf cherries on white chocolate cheesecake! Hundreds of roses and purple flowers adorned the tables while displays throughout the museum showcased all of the museum's previous art balls. It was great fun seeing memories made over the years while making many more! ■



## Art Ball Sponsors

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# Members Matter!

## This could be the end!

If you haven't already renewed your museum membership for 2020, this may be the last newsletter or announcement you receive from us. Don't let that happen! Renew today at [www.springfieldart.net](http://www.springfieldart.net) under the SUPPORT tab.

## Calendar

Through Dec 8 Packed: Works by Nicki Crock Phase I

Through Dec 15 Ohio Designer Craftsmen, The Best of 2019

Through Jan 12 Ten Years: A Reckoning – Paintings by Wendy Cross

Through Feb 9 Packed: Works by Nicki Crock Phase II

Jan 4, 2020 Color Improvisations 2 Opening Reception

Jan 4 – Mar 29, 2020 Color Improvisations 2

Apr 10 – May 17, 2020 Randy Deer

## 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](mailto: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 under age 17 FREE (free admission for everyone during Come Find Art Sundays).

## Museum Staff

J.D. Beiting, Interim Executive Director  
Annette Eshelman, Curator of Education  
Amy Korpieski, Museum Educator  
Erin Shapiro, Curator  
Casey Moorman, Museum Assistant  
Elizabeth Wetterstroem, Museum Assistant  
Kelley Booze, Artist Instructor

## 2019 Museum Trustees

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