Hello From the Director!

Looking back on this past year, we’ve accomplished quite a lot around the museum. By the numbers, we had over 10,000 visitors come through to see ten exhibitions and experience over 20 special events and programs. Not bad!

I’d like to thank the museum’s advisory committee who helped put this report together to highlight the exciting year we’ve had. The committee is a dedicated group of volunteers who support the museum by giving input on programming, permanent collection acquisitions, membership recruitment and fundraising. A special thank you to the committee: Carol Carr, Scott Demel, Kristine Granger, Erika Hefke, Diane Kordich (also head volunteer for collections), Emily Lanctot, Susan Peirce, Karol Lautner Peterson, Carol Phillips, Betsy Rutz, Carolyn Snyder (also head volunteer for the docents), Tracy Wascam and Cameron Wilcox.

In the coming year keep an eye out for some exciting changes around the museum including a new website and redesigning of the museum’s printed materials. Marquette-based designer (and NMU alumnus) Edwin Carter is leading museum interns on the project. Edwin previously designed catalogs for several museum exhibitions (with two more to come this fall) and I am really excited to see their ideas come to life.

It’s shaping up to be another exciting year. Hope to see you at the museum soon!

Melissa Matusczak, Director and Curator

Collections

The DeVos Art Museum permanent art collection consists of the following areas: Regional; Art; 20th Century Illustration; Modern Japanese Prints, Artifacts, Craft; Indigenous Art and Craft; and Modern and Contemporary Design.

The Acquisitions Subcommittee (Erika Hefke, Diane Kordich, Susan Peirce and Melissa Matusczak) met and determined, based on the museum’s acquisition guidelines that the following works met the Criteria for Acquisitions:

- Andrew Ranville photograph and sound recordings, donated by artist.
- Niel Haapala carving, donated by the Kadlec family.
- Japanese wedding kimono, donated by Bob and Peggy Jensen.
- Jim Galbraith photograph, donated by Susan Galbraith.
- Shino photographs, donated by the Schaefer family.
- UP Focus exhibition purchases: Susanne Kilpela (ceramics), John Lundeen (painting), Carol Phillips (painting), Russ Prather (painting).

Thank you to the generous donors who gave over the past year! Many of these works will be featured in the back gallery exhibition on view January 20 through July 20, 2014.

Accessioned care for in perpetuity, purchased or donated, require museum resources to properly care for objects in perpetuity. Last winter, archives intern Craig Neenon cleaned, scanned and catalogued over 150 glass slides taken by J.M. Longear during his trips to Europe around the turn of the century, to prepare the slides for long-term storage. Volunteer Diane Kordich continues to oversee multiple cataloguing projects and improvements on collections storage. The national Finlandia Foundation recently awarded the museum a grant to clean and restore 12 paintings by Finnish-American artist (and Ishpeming native) N. Cecilia Kettunen, with the goal of producing a traveling exhibition and catalogue about the artist in 2015.

Education

Last November and May, volunteer docents (tour guides) provided tours to more than 1,000 local school children. In the fall, the children focused on Andrew Ranville’s solo exhibition of work made during his Rabbit Island residency. Children learned about map making and map symbols and created maps of their own private island. The exhibition really provoked their imaginations with the tours and art project! As an added bonus, they spent time in the front gallery interacting with the art on display in the You Complete Me exhibition – the chalk wall was a definite hit! Thank you to the docents who helped guide tours this past year.

For the first time, the museum will bring an exhibiting artist to campus to train the docents for the fall tours. Seattle-based artist Donald Fels will present work in a solo exhibition in the back gallery. The exhibition will feature a series of large-scale portraits! Thank you to the artist made in collaboration with signboard painters in South India as a Fulbright Senior Research Fellow in 2005.

Donald Fels will also give a free public lecture during his visit – we do many educational programs such as these as part of our mission. We host several artists each year who visit with NMU students and provide some form of free public program, including workshops and film screenings.

We hope you will take advantage of one of the many educational opportunities the museum provides throughout the year.

Membership: Time to Renew & Enjoy More Benefits

If you are receiving this annual report it’s because you’re a museum member. We could not do what we do without your support. Thank you, from all of us, including the advisory committee, student volunteers, staff, interns and community volunteers.

The membership year ended July 30, so please consider renewing your membership for the 2013/2014 year. Membership renewal notices were mailed mid-July and featured museum intern Matthew Bizee who has been working at the museum this summer. He’s been a fantastic intern – working on graphic design, archiving and even the not so glamorous work outside of museum work. Your memberships help support students like Matthew so the museum can offer small stipends for interns.

The museum recently partnered with a second reciprocal museum member group called ROAM (Reciprocal Organization of Associated Museums). Now museum members at the upper level ($100+) receive member benefits at even more museums across the country, including free admission. Visit the membership page on our website to see the extensive list of over 400 museums who participate in this program through ROAM and NARM. When you renew your membership at $100 or above you will receive a new sticker to put on your card so you can take advantage of these great perks.

Image Credits: Hello From the Director. Local author Andrea Scarpino reads poetry and hosts a poetry open mic last October. Education: Top: Local children writing on the interactive chalk wall during the You Complete Me exhibition. Bottom: NMU School of Art and Design students during a performance for the artLAB exhibition. Collections: Top: John Lundeen’s oil painting in the beginning was recently acquired for the permanent art collection and will be on display this winter. Bottom: Curatorial intern Matthew Bizee works on organizing the Vida Lachner paintings. Membership: Left: John Hubbard discussing his work during last fall’s reception. Right: John Hubbard leads a members-only tour during his solo exhibition.
DEVOS ART MUSEUM
1401 Presque Isle Ave, Marquette, Mich., 49855
906.227.2235

MUSEUM HOURS:
Monday - Wednesday, Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Thursday 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday Sunday 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

INSIDE: EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS CALENDER

ANNUAL REPORT:
MUSEUM DIRECTOR REPORT
PERMANENT COLLECTION UPDATES
EDUCATION UPDATES
MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Check out our website for the latest information on museum events:
www.nmu.edu/devos

2013-2014 : EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

Through September 8
Vida Lautner: Works on Paper
Over 300 paintings and collages on paper made by local artist Vida Lautner (1885-1978).

August 19 - September 29
Free Association: Jennifer Davis and Amy Long
Minneapolis painter Jennifer Davis and Traverse City fiber artist Amy Long present new works and installations.
Friday, September 20, 2013: reception (6-8pm) and artist's talk (7pm)

September 16 - December 15
What is a Trade: Donald Pels and Signboard Painters of South India

October 11 - November 17
Illustrators 55: The Society of Illustrators Annual Travel Show
Friday, October 11, reception (6-8 p.m.) and live music (7 p.m.)
Wednesday, October 30, 7 p.m.: artist talk by John Hendrix

October 11 - November 17
Rabbit Island: Works and Research 2010-2013
Group exhibition featuring work created by artists in residence on Lake Superior's Rabbit Island from the past three years.
Friday, October 11, reception (6-8 p.m.) and live music (7 p.m.)

Saturday, October 26, 2pm
1913 Massacre: a film inspired by a Woody Guthrie song commemorating the Calumet Italian Hall tragedy
Film screening followed by Q&A with filmmakers Ken Ross and Louis V. Galdieri. In collaboration with the NMU chapter of the AAUP.

Saturday, November 9, 1pm

December 2 - 15
NMM School of Art and Design Fall 2013 Senior Exhibition
Closing Reception: Friday, December 13, 7-9pm

January 13 - February 23
Mariel Versluis: Solo
Grand Rapids-based printmaker and sculptor presents new works.

January 20 - July 20
Highlights from the Permanent Art Collection
Co-curated by DeVos Art Museum curatorial interns, featuring recently acquired artwork and rarely seen pieces from the collection.

March 3 - April 6
UP Focus: Cynthia Cote, Greg Green and Jack Oyler
Reception: Friday, March 7, 6-8pm

April 16 - May 2
NMM School of Art and Design Winter 2014 Senior Exhibition
Closing Reception: Friday, May 2, 7-9pm