FRIENDS OF THE DEVOS ART MUSEUM

CONVERSATION + COMMUNITY + COLLABORATION + CONSERVATION

THE MISSION OF THE DEVOS ART MUSEUM IS TO PROVIDE THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE ORIGINAL WORKS OF ART AND TO FOSTER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AUDIENCES THROUGH EXHIBITIONS, PROGRAMS AND PUBLICATIONS.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING SUPPORT OUR MISSION WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP!
THROUGH AUGUST 7, 2016

North of the 45th: Ninth Annual Upper Midwest Juried Exhibition
Juried by Michele Bosak, Curator of Exhibitions at Kendall College of Art and Design at Ferris State University. Featuring artists living in the geographical area north of the 45th parallel in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 4, 2016

Contained: Highlights from the Permanent Collection
This capsule exhibition explores the forms and functions of vessels from across the collection.

MONDAY, AUGUST 22 – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2016

Correlation Matrix: Vida Sacic & David Wolske
Featuring prints, collage and animation based in the process of letterpress printing. Mark your calendars: Sacic will give a talk September 8 and Wolske on October 13.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 AND FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

World Premiere: State of the Union
The Helsinki Chamber Choir, in their first U.S. performance, will debut a contemporary opera by 2015 Rabbit Island artists in residence Eugene Birman and Scott Diel. Visit tickets.nmu.edu for ticketing information.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2016 – FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2016

American Quilt Study Group: 2014 | Study of Civil War Quilts, 1850-1865
This traveling exhibit features twenty-five quilts made by members of the American Quilt Study Group. The quilts were inspired by historic quilts from the time leading up to and during the American Civil War.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28 – FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2016

NMU School of Art and Design Fall 2016 Senior Exhibition
Graduating seniors present work from all areas of the School of Art and Design including ceramics, computer art, drawing / painting, digital cinema, furniture design, graphic communication, human centered design, illustration, jewelry / metals / blacksmithing, photography, printmaking, sculpture, and woodworking.

MONDAY, JANUARY 16 – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2017

NMU School of Art & Design Faculty Biennial
The Faculty Biennial Exhibition is a celebration of the creativity found within the NMU School of Art & Design. Highlighting creative achievements in all medias and concentrations, this exhibition gives the NMU and broader community the opportunity to see the talent within the School firsthand.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27 – SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2017

UP FOCUS: Michael Friend and Scott Leipski
An ongoing series highlighting artists in the Upper Peninsula, this exhibition features painter Michael Friend (Marquette, MI) and ceramicist Scott Leipski (Gladstone, MI).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19 – FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2017

NMU School of Art and Design Senior Exhibition
Graduating seniors present work from all areas of the School of Art and Design including ceramics, computer art, drawing / painting, digital cinema, furniture design, graphic communication, human centered design, illustration, jewelry / metals / blacksmithing, photography, printmaking, sculpture, and woodworking.
LAKE SUPERIOR ART ASSOCIATION DONATES TO THE DOCENT PROGRAM

In May the Lake Superior Art Association made generous donations to the School of Art and Design and the DeVos Art Museum. The funds given to the museum will support the docent program, and will help pay for art supplies, bussing costs for local schools, and a paid education internship for an NMU student. Thank you to all of the members of LSAA for your support!

The docent program is looking for new volunteers! Each fall and spring, free hour-long tours are offered to area K-12 schools led by volunteer tour guides. Training is provided and schedules are flexible. Please contact Emily Lancot for more information on this fun way to give back to area youth: elanctot@nmu.edu.

GEORGE SHIRAS 3RD PHOTOGRAPHS IN PARIS

Last fall the museum loaned photographs from the permanent collection to the Museum of Hunting and Nature in Paris, France. The exhibition explored George Shiras 3rd’s contributions to wildlife photography, particularly at night. Shiras and his guide, John Hammer, spent several years around Laughing Whitefish Lake developing the first technologies to photograph wildlife at night. The museum received eleven vintage prints from Fred and June Schaefer in 2011 and seven were featured in the exhibition. In the Heart of the Dark Night, the first major publication about Shiras’ photography, was published in the conjunction with the exhibition.

ACQUISITION HIGHLIGHTS

We’ve had several artworks donated to the museum in the last year. Thank you to our donors: Daric Christian, Christine Flavin, Diane Kordich and Russ Magnaghi, Bob and Shirley Moore, Peach Tree Capital and Karol Lautner Peterson. Thanks to our museum members, we’ve also purchased artwork from local artists Leora Lancaster and Ann Russ for the permanent collection.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

HELSINKI CHAMBER CHOIR TO DEBUT NEW OPERA, SEPTEMBER 29 & 30

In summer of 2015, composer Eugene Birman and writer Scott Diel spent two weeks at the Rabbit Island Residency in Lake Superior. We are thrilled to bring the Helsinki Chamber Choir to Marquette (their first performance in the United States!) this fall to debut the finished work, titled State of the Union. The opera discusses global economic and environmental disparity with the goal of bringing the opera genre back to its original function - political commentary. Tickets will be available via tickets.nmu.edu.

This project is made possible with support from the NMU Provost’s Office, Department of Music, Beaumier Heritage Center, Finlandia Foundation International, City of Helsinki Cultural Office, Finnish Cultural Foundation, Rabbit Island Foundation, Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs and several individual donors – thank you!
CONVERSATION

Last year we welcomed nine visiting artists to Marquette, from as far as Israel to as near as NMU’s campus. From aesthetics to politics, we believe art is a platform for conversation and is intertwined into all areas of life. When we overhear discussion in the gallery or after an event, we know we are fulfilling our mission. Below are just some of the ways your support helped keep the conversation going!

• 9 exhibitions
• 13 special events & visiting artist programs
• 4 cash awards: two School of Art and Design Best in Show (Gold) Awards, one award for North of the 45th Juror’s Choice, one award for North of the 45th Audience Choice
• 1 exhibition catalogue produced
• 1 musical sing-along performed
• 12 new acquisitions for the permanent art collection, including: Tom Ferguson painting (gift of Peachtree Capital), Celia Kelly painting (gift of Bob and Shirley Moore), Frank Lloyd Wright lithographic prints (gift of Karol Lautner Peterson), Leora Lancaster photograph (purchase from the Friends of the DeVos Art Museum), Ann Russ ceramic urn (purchase from the Friends of the DeVos Art Museum) and Elizabeth Kimewon quill container (gift of Diane Kordich and Russ Magnaghi).

COMMUNITY

The museum is an important bridge between campus and the larger Marquette community. We are constantly seeking new ways to strengthen that bridge and make the museum a place for all visitors to feel welcome and engage with art. This past year we’ve increased educational offerings for community members with guided exhibition tours for groups. We also continue to offer paid internships that give NMU students real world experience working alongside community volunteers. For three years NMU student and museum intern Sarah Huebner assisted volunteers organizing the collection and designed the museum’s printed materials. After graduating in May, Sarah was hired as a full time graphic designer at the technology company CDW. She reported that her design work at the museum gave her a strong portfolio and a lot to talk about during her interview (congrats, Sarah!).

• 4 paid internships were offered to NMU students in graphic design, web design, education and collections.
• 8 tours were given to community groups, including the Northern Center for Lifelong Learning and MARESA Summer Institute.
• 986 elementary, middle and high school students visited the museum for docent-led tours during the last academic year.
• 7 NMU students from Art & Design and Education were trained as docents and volunteered giving tours for the K-12 groups.

The Northern Center for Lifelong Learning before a presentation and tour of the museum.
Head docent Carolyn Snyder leads a tour for a group from Lakeview Elementary during the Rabbit Island exhibition.
Intern Sarah Huebner (left) working on a project with lead collections volunteer Diane Kordich.
The museum is not an island. We leave that distinction to Rabbit Island, one of the many collaborative partnerships we celebrated in the last year. By nurturing these relationships the museum becomes a symbiotic organism, providing ideas and sharing resources with others while increasing our audiences locally and globally. We focused on reaching out to our most natural partner, the NMU School of Art and Design as well as across campus, bringing in more classes from all disciplines for tours and discussion. For the first time we shared pieces from the permanent collection to an international audience. Also for the first time, we hosted a little free poetry library, the inaugural stop on a U.P.-wide tour led by the U.P. Poet Laureate, Andrea Scarpino.

- 32 tours given to NMU student groups and academic courses from all over campus.
- One little free poetry library hosted for 10 weeks.
- One big open house party held (with the School of Art and Design) during the City of Marquette’s Art Week in June 2015.
- Seven George Shiras 3rd photographs loaned to the Museum of Hunting and Nature in Paris, France (see insert for details).
- One future performance planned by the Helsinki Chamber Choir (see insert for details).

To be totally honest, archival boxes are not exciting. But they may be the most important thing your membership helps support. Without them our permanent collection could not be stored properly and we think it’s VERY exciting to be able to care for the generous gifts given by donors over 40+ years. Your membership gift helps us keep our collection safe and in good condition so it can be an aesthetic and educational resource for years to come. This year, NMU supported a project to replace our HVAC system to better regulate humidity and temperature in the galleries and collection storage – again not the most exciting to most. But imagine us doing a lot of happy dancing when the new system came online!

- 4 new enclosed secure display boxes purchased to display small (some tiny!) items from the Lewis collection of Japanese Art and Artifact for the first time.
- 5 humidity and temperature data loggers recalibrated – we store this information online to see trends in temperature and humidity to better track potential problems. We have hundreds of graphs if you’d like to see them sometime!
- 37 light screens installed in the back gallery windows, bringing our UV light levels to zero (a good thing!) and visible light levels cut in half (also good!).
- 1 new HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning) system installed over four months.
THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

2015-2016 FRIENDS OF THE DEVOS ART MUSEUM MEMBERS

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*DENOTES DECEASED
**MEMBERS AS OF MAY 8, 2016

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GUY SCHUIL, COLLECTIONS INTERN

MEMBERSHIPS RUN THROUGH THE END OF AUGUST! VISIT CONNECT.NMU.EDU/GIVEDEVOS TO RENEW TODAY!