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SUPPORT

Support groups and event committees are essential to Rockford Art Museum. Ticket proceeds from each event help provide funding support for RAM throughout the year.

PATRONS
Patrons support RAM at the highest philanthropic levels of membership (Patron Couple, \$2000, Patron \$1000, Jr. Patron \$500).



GREENWICH VILLAGE ART FAIR
SEP 16 + 17, 2023
Keri + Doug Benhoff, Co-Chairs
The 75th Greenwich Village Art Fair featured over 100 artists and vendors, live music by local musicians, an artisan marketplace, children's art activities, and much more. Committee: Sarah Axelson, Jacqui Corsi, Brian Fischer, Todd Fischer-Free, Laura Gomel, Mary Jo Hare, Carrie Johnson, Kay King, Jerry Kortman, Dana Martin, Jenny Mathews, Doc Slafkosky, Rachel Thomann, and Dan Wolfe.



ART IN BLOOM
APR 26-30, 2023
Karen Archer, Chair
Rockford Art Museum was in full bloom during this four-day event and its Preview Party as select works of art from our Permanent Collection were creatively interpreted through flowers and other organic material by talented local designers.

FASHION IN BLOOM:
COCKTAILS + LIVING COUTURE
APR 28, 2023
RAM partnered with local floral designers and Rockford boutique, B Jones, to present this popular fundraising event during Art in Bloom. Committee: Sarah Axelson, Jordan Calgaro, Bridget Finn, Julie Humpal, Carrie Johnson, Dana Martin, Liz Schaer, and Karen Sletten.

WOMEN'S ART BOARD LUNCHEON
FEATURING JENNY RIDDLE
DEC 8, 2023
Dana Martin, Chair
This signature fundraiser features a live performance by Jenny Riddle based on the book *Mozart's Women*. The event also includes a silent auction, raffle, and lunch held this year at Prairie Street Brewing Company in Rockford. Committee: Rhonda Arends, Sarah Axelson, Anne Boccignone, Diane Jaroch Cain, Susan Carlin, Charlene Dunn, Liz Dickinson, Marti Frantz, Carrie Johnson, Nancie King Mertz, Janet Moore, Leanna Reidy, Nancy Shannon, and Holly Squicciarini.

Fashion in Bloom (photo by Albert Riley Jr./Cheeks Photography)

Flower Bomb promoting In Bloom week



YEAR IN REVIEW 2023



COLLECTION

In the past year, Rockford Art Museum has acquired and added 21 new works to the Permanent Collection. Recently accepted or accessioned works are listed below.



George J. Robertson (American born Scotland, 1810-1894)
Portrait of Eunice Hicks Manny, n.d.
Portrait of Jane M. Robertson, n.d.
oil on canvas

Alan Shields (American, 1944-2005)
Home Route, 1986
paper collage, print
Gift of Betty Cleeland

Buzz Spector (American, b. 1948)
Manuscript (Mother), 1995
altered book
Gift of Betty Cleeland



Barbara Rossi (American, 1940-2023)
suite of 14 prints
Gift of Barbara Rossi and Kohler Foundation, Inc.

Sarah Krepp (American)
Endless List: #192, 1992
mixed media, canvas, steel
Gift of Betty Cleeland

Tom McHale (American, b. 1949)
Flow #7, 2021
pen and ink
Dean Alan Olson Purchase Award

Nereida Patricia (American, b. 1996)
Colored People's Time (Change, Parity, Time Reversal), 2023
glass beads, glass dust, acrylic, oil, cement on wood panel
Rockford Art Museum purchase

2023 COLLECTION EXHIBITIONS
ANDERSON GALLERY

NEW ACQUISITIONS
MAY 19-NOV 5, 2023

FUZZY LOGIC
JUL 14-NOV 5, 2023



IT IS OUR MISSION TO **FOSTER CREATIVITY**
AND **BUILD COMMUNITY** THROUGH VISUAL ARTS.

Contribute to our Annual Fund by scanning the QR code, visiting rockfordartmuseum.org/annual-drive or send a check to Rockford Art Museum, 711 N Main St. Rockford, IL 61103.



EXHIBITION

Feature exhibitions are organized by Rockford Art Museum Executive Director and Chief Curator Carrie Johnson. This year's feature exhibitions were sponsored by Rockford Area Arts Council, Mac's Moving and Storage, Beall's, Rockford University, Kjellstrom Family Foundation, Lisa and Mark Lindman, Dean Alan Olson Foundation, Wells Fargo Advisors, Scott Snyder, and the Illinois Arts Council Agency.

OUTER HARMONIES
FEB 3-MAY 28, 2023

Outer Harmonies presented thirteen groups of work from Rockford Art Museum's acclaimed Permanent Collection. These themed groupings showed similar explorations of subject matter representing the museums five focus areas. The themes and subject matter examined in this exhibition were: Americana, home, eroticism, the apocalypse, the psychological nature of cartoons, horses, oddities, pairs, portraits, politics, scale, meta, and the evolution of the human figure in art.



Installation view: *Outer Harmonies*

LIFE-THE PAINTINGS OF DEBORAH NEWTON
APR 21-JUL 9, 2023

This retrospective featured a broad and carefully-curated collection of original works from six decades of Deborah Newton's artistic venture, which continued through her final days. Guest curated by Joseph Zimmer.

KEN HOFFMAN: 10 MORE AND BIGGER
MAY 19-OCT 15, 2023

As an Illinois artist for more than 50 years, Hoffman is perhaps best known for his humorous and colorfully painted and collaged portraits of humanlike animals. With such a long history of an incredibly productive creative process, it is well deserved that Hoffman has been hailed as one of the Midwest's premiere expressionist painters. Guest curated by Scott Snyder.



Installation view: *Ken Hoffman: 10 More and Bigger*

CONSTANT PRESSURE: A VISUAL EXPLORATION OF IDENTITY, ACTIVISM, AND COLLABORATION
JUN 9-NOV 12, 2023

Constant Pressure: A Visual Exploration of Identity, Activism, and Collaboration was an assembly of artists whose work has impacted Fatherless along their journey. The artwork is a reflection of engagement, community, and the democratic nature of printmaking itself. Featured artists included Aida Wilde, Atlan Arceo-Witzl, CHema Skandall, Fatherless, Ganzeer, Jesse Shaw, Liz Born, and Nicole Marroquin.

MADE IN THE MIDWEST: ANGELINA DIANA
JUL 21-NOV 5, 2023

Inspired by the complexity and density of networks in nature, this Elgin, Illinois painter creates abstract environments by amassing colorful, textural marks between layers of epoxy resin. Curated by Frances Downey.

82ND YOUNG ARTIST SHOW
HIGH SCHOOL: MAR 5-APR 2, 2023
YOUTH: APR 16-MAY 14, 2023

The choice to make the Young Artist Show a part of the museum's annual exhibition schedule reveals the museum's understanding of the dynamic role that art experiences and art education play in the lives of young people. Since its inception, the Young Artist Show has evolved and grown to become a Rockford tradition. Today, the popular exhibition bears a reputation of excellence, expanding from its modest local beginnings to become a regional show featuring students from public, private, parochial and home-school settings. It is consistently Rockford Art Museum's most popular exhibition of the year. The Young Artist Show was sponsored by Kjellstrom Family Foundation and Women's Art Board.

EDUCATION

In 2023, we were excited to see Rockford Art Museum's educational programming grow with new partnerships and engaging collaborations. Alongside old favorites, our programming has expanded to offer new workshops by local artists and lots of outreach to local schools and community groups. For the third year we partnered with Rockford Symphony Orchestra to present music and art in our galleries. We love partnering with our friends in the community!

So many kids this year have learned to draw fun characters in our **Cartoon Club** programs offered for ages 6+. Thanks to generous funding provided by Rockford Public School District's "Live, Learn, Play" program, RAM was able to partner with Rockford Symphony Orchestra and Rockford Dance Company to present two, week-long camps for rising third graders in the RPS district. The 'World Explorers Summer Arts Camp' was created to connect students to rich and diverse musical and artistic communities. We were also able to offer various **Summer Camps** taught by local artist Jenny Mathews.



Summer Camp

We were happy to welcome two students as Museum Assistants as part of our **internship program**. Our Museum Assistants gained experience in educational programming, exhibit preparation, and customer service in RAM's museum store.

This year we were able to partner with Community Foundation of Northern Illinois to provide a private art experience to a seventh grade student through the **Deborah L. Newton Legacy Project**. The selected student was provided a full day of instruction on various mediums with a local artist.

For adults, we have brought back our monthly **figure drawing** sessions and unique **workshops** led by local artists, including watercolor and drawing. Our **Studio Artists** group, led by local artist Jasmina Jovanovic, has remained popular, as well as our **gallery walks, lectures, and Coffee with the Curator** series.



Gallery Walk

The **82nd Annual Young Artist Show** finally returned to normal this year with an incredible selection from area schools. The opening events for high school and youth welcomed nearly 1,400 people, with over 3,500 people attending these very popular exhibitions! The **Creations by Kids** tent at Greenwich Village Art Fair this year was a hit, with over 500 crafts created.

We are so thankful for the support we have received through grants and from community members. Your support allows us to create dynamic, accessible, and engaging educational programming. Special thanks to the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois, Illinois Arts Council, Illinois State Credit Union, Johnson Family Foundation, Kjellstrom Family Foundation, and Women's Art Board for education support this year.



Young Artist Show Opening