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Recently, with the passage of the Long Range Plan, 2007-2012 by the Board of Trustees, endowment development and program enhancement emerged as the highest priority for the Museum in the next few years. Attention to the quality of the museum experience and shoring up financial resources of the Museum through endowment growth and program enhancement is the next logical and prudent step as the NBMAA fully fills out its new bigger footprint as a mid-size Museum.

For over one hundred years, New Britain Museum of American Art trustees, staff, members, donors and volunteers have been steadily building a stellar and comprehensive collection of the nation's artistic output and providing intellectual access to it through a variety of interpretive and educational programming. With the opening of the new award-

winning Chase Family Building and renovation of the Landers House the Museum now has a physical plant equal in caliber to its collection. Enthusiastically embraced by the public, awarded the Excellence in the Arts award by the State of Connecticut, today the new New Britain Museum of American Art is indeed "Where Art Meets Life."

Here at America's first museum dedicated to American Art, we seek to have a transformative impact on the community and region by providing for incremental improvement in and a margin of excellence in collections, exhibitions, core programs and services all the while providing greater access and increasing the number served. Our vision is for the Museum to be known as one of America's most welcoming, distinguished, dynamic, and educationally ambitious art museums. To help us continue this important work—and to recognize our long history of excellence—the New Britain Museum of American Art has created The Fund for American Art.

Contact Director of Development Claudia Thesing at 860.229-0257, ext. 213 or at thesingc@nbmaa.org for information about participating in The Fund for American Art or you can donate to this fund now through our secure PayPal account.