

NBMAA
2022 Summer Newsletter



GREETINGS,

Upon arrival in Connecticut this spring, my family and I were delighted by the abundant arts and culture opportunities available in the immediate Hartford Region and throughout the state. With so many venues concentrated in this one geographic area, families can effortlessly piece together myriad summer itineraries in their own backyard.

We here at the New Britain Museum of American Art are celebrating the Summer of the Family, full of arts-related fun, including Art Summer Nights and Summer Art Adventures (a late-summer half-day camp). We

are thrilled to once again welcome families for free as part of the Connecticut Summer at the Museum initiative, with the support of Connecticut Humanities and the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of the Arts, which also receives support from the federal ARPA.

As Members, you often share fond memories of bringing your children and grandchildren to the Museum, and many of you remember coming here as a child. Thank you for being a Member, and I hope you find opportunities this summer to share our galleries with this next generation—instilling a love of the arts into their hearts and exposing them to new perspectives.

We are continuing our goal of building Museum Membership this year. Members are a vital part of the Museum's success, and I thank each and every one of you for your support. I ask you to encourage your peers to consider becoming Members along with gifting family Memberships throughout the year.

In addition to the wonderful community and family programs, there are many learning opportunities for adults this summer, including a robust list of lectures, classes, social events, and live musical performances inspired by the special exhibition *30 Americans*, which we are honored to present through October 30.

Whether you are creating lasting memories with your family or igniting your own creativity with adult educational programs, I look forward to seeing you all taking full advantage of the many offerings at the Museum this summer.

Brett Abbott
Director and CEO

IN MEMORIAM

Eileen Barriere, longtime Member and former volunteer
Ann A. Dawson, former Member and docent
Ben Esselink, longtime Member and donor
Fred Graze, longtime Member and donor
Richard W. Hines, longtime Member and donor
Herbert Hirsch, longtime Member
Kenneth Jacobson, former Member
Dr. Charles S. Kahn, longtime Member and former docent and volunteer
Jervis D. Kester, former Member and donor
John R. Langton, former Member
Jim Link, longtime Member and donor
Sergio Monteserin, longtime Member
Lois K. Penney, former Member and donor
Hedda Reichlin, former Member
Hans Stargardter, former Member
Jeremy Zwelling, longtime Member

NEW BRITAIN MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART

04 | EXHIBITIONS:

30 Americans

American Realism Today

Mildred Thompson: Cosmic Flow

BEING SEEN: People and Places in American Art, 1960s to Today

Permanent Collection Spotlight: Faith Ringgold

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EXHIBITION SUPPORT

30 Americans is organized by the Rubell Museum.

Support for *30 Americans* is provided by Irene and Charles J. Hamm, Edward C. & Ann T. Roberts Foundation and Logan Milliken, Peter Rogers, and the Bristle Cone Pine Foundation.

Additional exhibition support is made possible by Tania and Steve Weiss. Support for the exhibition's curatorial team is provided by Susan and John Rathgeber, Claudia I. Thesing and Linda Cheverton-Wick and Walter Wick.

30 Americans programming is made possible by Jay and Allison Bombara, Dona and Michael Cassella, Bradford Korder, Nancy Stuart, Neal Freuden, and John and Brenda Manning.

Generous in-kind support from Thomas Mach Interiors

Cover: Detail of right panel of MICKALENE THOMAS, *Baby I Am Ready Now*, 2007, Diptych, acrylic, rhinestone and enamel on wooden panel, 72 x 132 in. (182.9 x 335.3 cm) overall; 72 x 60 in. (182.9 x 152.4 cm) left panel; 72 x 72 in. (182.9 x 182.9 cm) right panel, Courtesy Rubell Museum, Miami

Our thanks to the following NBMAA supporters:



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30 AMERICANS

NOW THROUGH OCTOBER 30, 2022

STITZER FAMILY GALLERY, ROBERT &
DOROTHY VANCE GALLERY, RICHARD AND
VIRGINIA MCKERNAN GALLERY



Drawn from the acclaimed Rubell Museum in Miami, Florida, *30 Americans* showcases works by some of the most significant artists of the last four decades, including Jean-Michel Basquiat, Mickalene Thomas, Kara Walker, Hank Willis Thomas, and Kehinde Wiley.

This groundbreaking exhibition tells the story of Black humanity through the gaze of contemporary Black artists. Dating from the 1970s to the 2000s, the extensive group of paintings, drawings, collages, photography, portraiture, sculptures, installations, and performance artwork addresses over 200 years of American history and considers the powerful influence of artistic legacy and community across generations. The exhibition invites us to confront the complexities of individual and collective self-making; explore the transformative paths of self-determination and self-healing; reclaim dignity and liberation of the Black body and Black sexuality; and reframe the past, present, and future of African-descended people through wonder and imagination.

Curated by scholars Dr. Dann J. Broyld, Provost Nicole Stanton, and Dr. Brittney Yancy, the exhibition is a catalyst for community and conversation, and engages active collaboration with Museum staff and a *30 Americans* Community Advisory Group comprised of local community members.





Left: Kehinde Wiley, *Triple Portrait of Charles I*, 2007, Triptych, oil and enamel on canvas, 82x96in. (208.3x243.8cm) overall; 82 x 45 in. (208.3 x 114.3 cm) each, courtesy Rubell Museum, Miami

FEATURED ARTISTS

Nina Chanel Abney
John Bankston
Jean-Michel Basquiat
Mark Bradford
Nick Cave
Robert Colescott
Noah Davis
Leonardo Drew
Renée Green
David Hammons
Barkley L. Hendricks
Rashid Johnson
Glenn Ligon
Kalup Linzy
Kerry James Marshall

Rodney McMillian
Wangechi Mutu
William Pope.L
Rozeal
Gary Simmons
Xaviera Simmons
Lorna Simpson
Shinique Smith
Henry Taylor
Hank Willis Thomas
Mickalene Thomas
Kara Walker
Carrie Mae Weems
Kehinde Wiley
Purvis Young





Tim Hoffman, *Home By The Sea*, 2021, Oil on canvas, 66 x 96 inches

AMERICAN REALISM TODAY

SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 - JANUARY 1, 2023

William and Bette Batchelor Gallery, Alix W. Stanley Gallery, and P.B. Stanley Gallery

In 2018, the New Britain Museum of American Art presented a retrospective of paintings by Neil Jenney (b. 1945, Torrington, CT) that explored the artist's unique and influential brand of realist painting, steeped in the landscape, people, and pastimes of America. Now, four years later, Jenney returns to the NBMAA as artist-curator of the Museum's forthcoming exhibition *American Realism Today*—the first survey of contemporary American Realism made by the current New York scene in over half a century. The exhibition encompasses more than 50 paintings, sculptures, and works on paper by a network of 21 artists working across generations, including Robert Lobe, Kathleen Gilje, Joseph McNamara, Faith Ringgold, and many others. Featuring depictions of the landscape and everyday life, *American Realism Today* celebrates the rich tradition of Realist art in America while reflecting the innovative spirit of our contemporary times.



Kathleen Gilje, *Mona Lisa, L.H.O.O.Q., Restored*, 2015 Oil on canvas, 40 7/8 H X 31 3/8 inches

NEIL JENNEY:

The most important figure in post-WW2 contemporary American realism was a man named Ivan Karp (1926-2012). When Norman Mailer decided to create a weekly newspaper in 1955 in NYC called the *Village Voice*, his choice for its art critic was Ivan Karp. And when Leo Castelli opened a gallery off Madison Avenue at East 77th Street, he chose Ivan Karp as his top lieutenant and guiding force. Karp proceeded to organize a stable of little-known talents such as Jasper Johns, Robert Rauschenburg, Roy Lichtenstein, James Rosenquist, and Andy Warhol.*

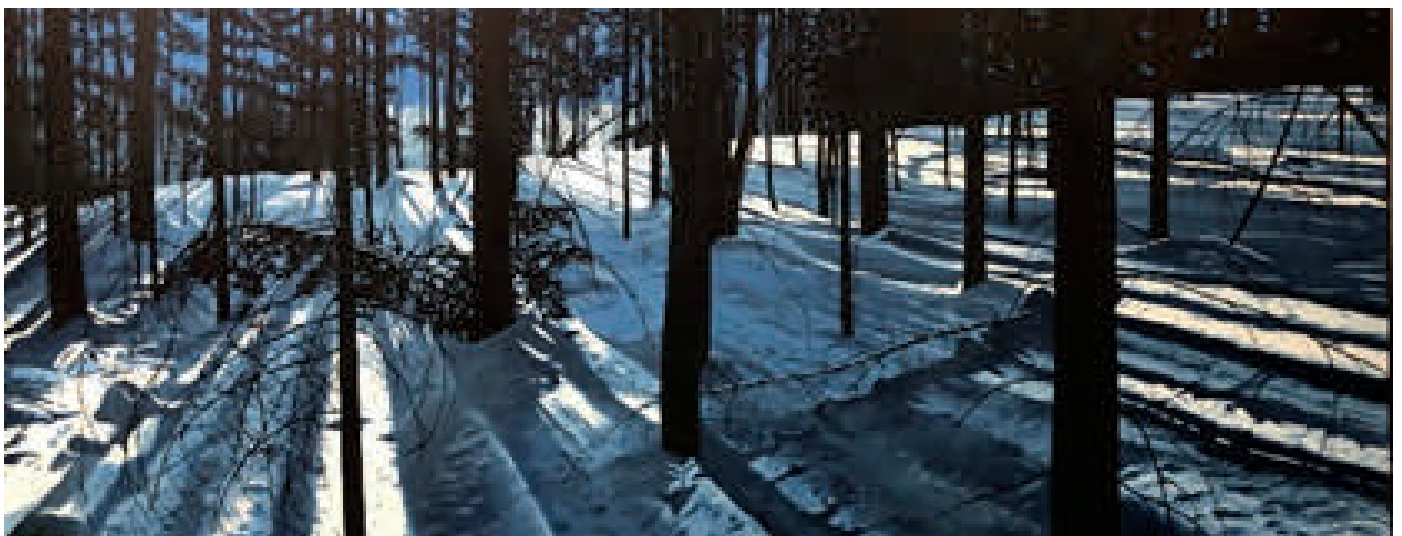
Karp explained their productions to the world as “The Popular Movement.” This unifying term was his alone. It gave context to the then dominating and opposing force of Abstract Expressionism. He offered a thoughtful validity to its being. This logic impressed the few active but timid collectors of Abstract Expressionism to embrace the possibility of taking a chance on this “Popular Stuff.” A courageous and confident collector and NYC taxi cab magnet named Robert Scull realized that Karp was right in his thinking and jumped in wholeheartedly, as did the architect Phillip Johnson, who proceeded to purchase and then donate Andrew Warhol’s possibly greatest work, *The Gold Marilyn Monroe*, to The Museum of Modern Art. The dispersal, at auction, of the Scull collection in 1973 was a most pivotal event, as it was

purchased by West German Collectors. This international approval and transaction immediately validated “Pop Art” as the real thing and proved contemporary American realism was a wise investment.

In 1969 Karp decided to leave Castelli and set off on his own downtown—a radical move at the time—and called his gallery the O.K. Harris Gallery after his first storefront gallery, which opened in the summer of 1963 at Provincetown, Massachusetts. (The storefront came with a sign that said “O.K. Harris”). The O.K. Harris Gallery found its permanent location on the first floor at 383 West Broadway. This space was a “Block Through” with four separate addresses, 69-71 Wooster Street and 383-385 West Broadway. 200 feet long by 55 feet wide, equaling 11,000 square feet, it was the largest art gallery of the 20th century. To fill such a space required four separate shows every month. Karp still holds the world record for most shows ever given at a single location. Ivan Karp died in 2012, and the gallery closed in 2014. Some of his biggest stars moved to the 4th floor of 383 West Broadway and showed at the West Broadway Gallery until it closed in 2020.

Ivan Karp’s legacy reaches down to this exhibition through the inclusion of artists he discovered or that were part of the extended network of artists affiliated with the West Broadway Gallery.

*Born Andrew Warhola Jr., the artist changed his name to Andy Warhol in 1949, upon moving to New York.



Charles Yoder, *Rhythm in Blues*, 2013, Oil on canvas, 36 x 84

MILDRED THOMPSON: Cosmic Flow

MAY 19, 2022 — NOVEMBER 27, 2022

Low Illustration Gallery

Mildred Thompson (1936-2003) was fascinated by micro- and macrocosmic worlds of particles, energy waves, stars, and planets. Inspired by physics, mathematics, music, and astronomy, she sought to represent natural phenomena through a distinctly unique language of abstraction. Her dynamic mark-making, color, and compositions visualize the force of unseen energy and forms in the universe, as reflected in this suite of 14 prints, on view at the NBMAA for the first time ever.

Thompson's career spanned half a century, from the 1950s to the early 2000s, during which she developed her visionary and expressive style in a large body of paintings, drawings, prints, and sculptures. Born in Jacksonville, Florida, and educated at Howard University in Washington, D.C. (1953-57), she spent much of her adult life teaching, traveling, and exhibiting in Germany and France. In 1985, Thompson



AT THE DELAMAR

Concurrent with *Mildred Thompson: Cosmic Flow*, the NBMAA is thrilled to present *Glass Impressions: Vitreographs from the NBMAA* at the Delamar West Hartford. *Glass Impressions* features a suite of vitreographs—prints produced with a glass plate—by acclaimed artists Clarence Morgan, Judith O'Rourke, and Therman Statom. Dazzling in color and dynamic in composition, these vibrant works that reflect aspects of our world are drawn from the collection of the NBMAA and are on view for the first time ever.

returned to the U.S. and spent the last 15 years of her life in Atlanta, Georgia, where she taught at several colleges, served as the associate editor of *ART PAPERS* magazine, and produced accomplished bodies of fine art and music.

These captivating prints were produced in 1993 during an artist's residency at Littleton Studios, North Carolina, where Thompson experimented with vitreography, a process that uses a glass plate to produce a printed image. Through forms and colors that convey velocity, density, energy, and dynamism, Thompson depicted her personal interpretation of scientific phenomenon and systems—or as she described, “what goes on beneath the earth and things of the atmosphere.” Several works titled *Helio-Centric* refer to planetary revolution around the sun. Others, entitled *Wave Function*, refer to the wave characteristics of a particle, as described in quantum mechanics. Finally, her richly hued print, *Particles*, refers to both micro- and macrocosmic elements: while astronomers associate particles with stars in the night sky, physicists associate them with electrons—the smallest elements that make up an atom.

These works, as well as more than 700 additional vitreographs, were donated to the NBMAA by Judith O'Rourke, an associate at Littleton Studios for seventeen years and an important artist in her own right.

Mildred Thompson, *Helio-Centric*, 1993, Vitreograph print from glass plates, 30 x 24 in. (image) 40 x 30 in. (sheet), Gift of Judith O'Rourke, 2012.50.79



Martine Gutierrez, *Neo-Indeo, Cakchiquel Calor, p34 from Indigenous Woman*, 2018, C-print mounted on Sintra, 54 x 36 in. (137.2 x 91.4 cm), Jane and Victor Darnell Fund, 2021.11

BEING SEEN: PEOPLE AND PLACES IN AMERICAN ART, 1960s TO TODAY

ON VIEW
NOW

Alix W. Stanley Gallery and Mary and George Cheney Gallery

Featuring bold and visionary works from the 1960s to the 2010s, this installation explores depictions of people and places in America through a range of mediums, including sculpture, print, collage, photography, and painting.

Coming of age in the mid-1900s during the Civil Rights Movement, groundbreaking artists including Romare Bearden, Elizabeth Catlett, Jacob Lawrence, Faith Ringgold, Betye Saar, and Jaune Quick-to-See Smith create work that brings awareness to struggles in American life while also celebrating the rich diversity of their cultural heritage. Using collage, assemblage, and abstraction to fragment their compositions, these artists imbue their works—and the people and places depicted—with a sense of tension and transformation.

More recent artists Martine Gutierrez, Rashaad Newsome, and Iké Udé confront ongoing conversations about race, gender, and identity in the U.S. through

cross-cultural lenses. Their glossy color-saturated works resemble fashion photography or advertisements. While rooted in contemporary visual culture, their images also pay homage to the legacy of one's ancestors and cultural origins.

In the adjacent galleries, works by leading artists Carrie Mae Weems, Radcliffe Bailey, Hernan Bas, and others, address notions of visibility and invisibility of American people and history. Their striking images bring experiences of historically marginalized or oppressed peoples into focus and acknowledge legacies of individual and collective struggle and resilience in America. These themes are powerfully embodied in Faith Ringgold's iconic print series *Declaration of Freedom and Independence*, 2009, on view in full at the NBMAA for the first time ever.

Together, these important works challenge and inspire ideas about what it means to be an American today.



Faith Ringgold, *Declaration of Freedom and Independence*, 2009, Silkscreen, Paul W. Zimmerman Purchase Fund, 2021.5

PERMANENT COLLECTION SPOTLIGHT

FAITH RINGGOLD

Faith Ringgold's iconic print series, *Declaration of Freedom and Independence*, 2009, is currently on view in full at the NBMAA for the first time ever. Ringgold is best known for her vibrantly colored scenes that often depict complex and controversial subject matter from American history and politics. Born in 1930 in Harlem, New York, Ringgold grew up in the creative and intellectual context of the Harlem Renaissance. Inspired by her contemporaries, including writers, musicians, and artists, she is widely recognized for narrative works that, as she describes, "tell my story, or, more to the point, my side of the story," as an African American woman.

Declaration of Freedom and Independence consists of six colorful prints with accompanying printed text passages. Each frame contrasts idealized narratives, such as the statement that "all men are created equal," with the artist's own perspective as a Black woman acknowledging the racism, gender bias, and racial discrimination that have been present throughout American history. The first image, *All Men Are Created Equal*, depicts King George III of England towering over his subjects on the left, while on the right, a ship sails for America, tightly packed with enslaved Africans. The stark contrast between these images exposes the

hypocrisy of the title phrase: colonial Americans who sought freedom from the tyranny of monarchy did not extend that freedom to everyone.

In the second image of the series, entitled *And Women?*, Ringgold juxtaposes portraits of two leading activists for women's rights: on the right, an image of Sojourner Truth is overwritten with the text of her speech "Ain't I a Woman?" which advocated for voting rights and gender equality. On the left, an image of Abigail Adams is overwritten with the text of a letter to her husband John Adams, imploring him to consider the rights of women while drafting the Declaration of Independence.

To illustrate this series about the Declaration of Independence's claims that all men are created equal, Ringgold describes, "I had to create a truth I could believe in"—one that revealed both the hypocrisy and contradictions of our nation's founding principles. "My intention in these illustrations is to tell the story of the forefathers' declaration of independence from the British, along with the... struggle for freedom and equality that one day we hope will become an undeniable reality."

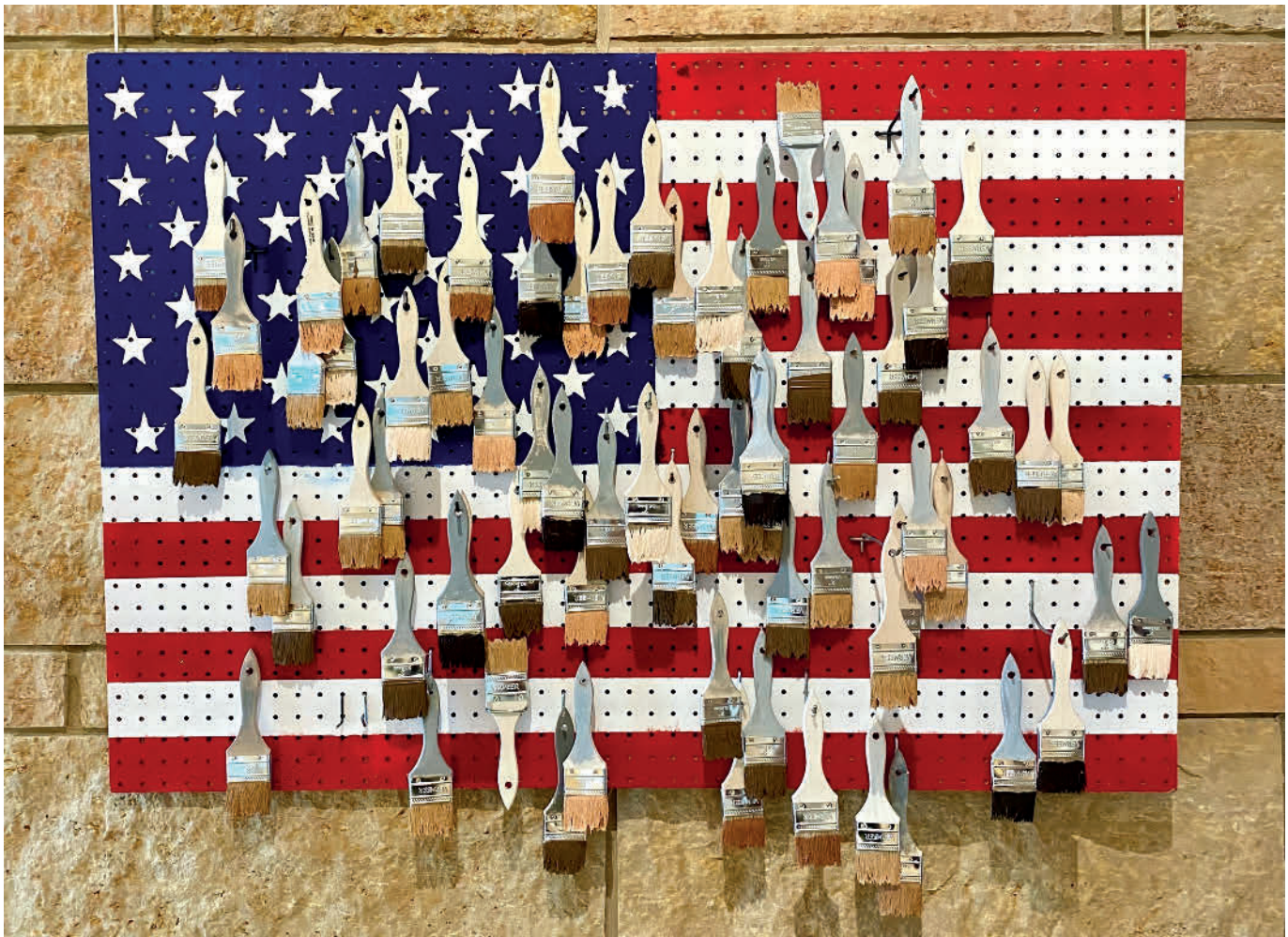
NOR'EASTER

AUGUST 11, 2022 — AUGUST 28, 2022

William L. and Bette Batchelor Gallery

Opening Reception and Awards: Sunday, August 14, 12:30-2 p.m.

The Annual Juried Members Exhibition is the New Britain Museum of American Art's opportunity to expose contemporary visual arts to a wide audience. This prominent showcase in the Northeast region highlights the exceptional work of emerging and established artists in all media. This year's juror is Anna Swinbourne, PhD, Executive Director and CEO of Hill-Stead Museum in Farmington, CT.



Paul Baylock, *American Pegboard*, Mixed media, 2021



EDUCATION AND
COMMUNITY

Children, Families, & Community

This summer, we are thrilled to offer an exciting variety of educational programs for all ages and abilities. Discover a new creative outlet in one of our studio classes, frolic with friends and family at Art Summer Nights, engage your child in an art-focused summer camp, and enjoy the wide array of events related to the special exhibition, *30 Americans*. We look forward to welcoming you and your family to the studios this summer to create and experience art.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

SUMMER ART ADVENTURES

Beat those late-summer doldrums with half-day summer camps for ages 6-9. Weekly three-day sessions will introduce your kiddos to diverse works of art in the Museum's collection while they embark on scavenger hunts to explore galleries, make their own artwork, and play games outdoors on the Museum's beautiful grounds.

9 a.m.-12 p.m.

**Price: Members \$45/day;
non-Members \$60/day**

*Package discount for three days
Members \$120; non-Members \$165*

\$10 sibling discount

*Scholarships available for New Britain
Residents through support from
American Savings Foundation*

Print Palooza | Week 1 - July 26, 27, 28

Make your own prints inspired by artists Faith Ringgold, Romare Bearden, and Mildred Thompson. Explore different printmaking techniques and discover connections between art and music.

Sculpture Spectacular | Week 2 - August 2, 3, 4

Get three-dimensional! Create your own Chiluly bottle sculpture to hang in your home, make fantastic mixed media animals, and design a colorful wall sculpture inspired by artist Eva LeWitt.

Curator Camp | Week 3 - August 9, 10, 11

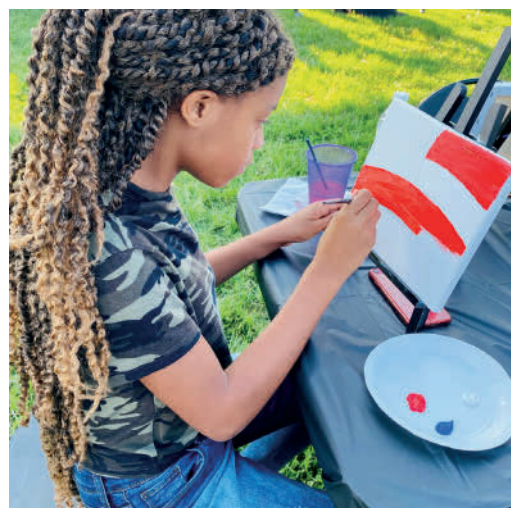
Design and make your own bench inspired by the many wonderful benches throughout the galleries, make paintings to match your benches, and then curate your own mini exhibition to share with friends and family.

ART SUMMER NIGHTS

These special Thursday evening events will have something for everyone to enjoy! Live music, vendors, lawn games, artist talks and demonstrations, and hands-on art making.

July 21, 4-8 p.m.
August 18, 4-8 p.m.

Free Admission





Mickalene Thomas, *Portraits of Quanikah*, 2006, Fifteen panels, acrylic, rhinestone and enamel on wooden panel, 70x126 in. (178.8 x 320 cm) overall; 24 x 20 in. (61 x 50.8 cm) each, Courtesy Rubell Museum, Miami

ADULT STUDIO

PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS WITH PETER GLASS | Digital Photography 1 (Beginning)
July 9, 16, 23, 2-4 p.m.

PASTELS WITH MARY BETH SASSO
July 8, 15, 22, 29 and August 5 and 12, 12-2:30 p.m.

ADULT STUDIO WORKSHOP | SKETCH WITH THE MASTERS
Sunday, July 10, 12:30-3:30 p.m.

GRAPHIC ART THERAPY
Sundays, July 17, 24, and 31, 1-2 p.m.
Sundays, August 7, 14, 21, and 28, 1-2 p.m.



ARTIST TALKS AND WORKSHOPS | *30 AMERICANS*

Dr. Brittney Yancy Conversation with Andre Rochester
Thursday, July 7, 6 p.m.

Tea and Tarot Boutique
Thursday, July 21, 4-8 p.m.
Thursday, August 18, 4-8 p.m.

Artist Talk & iPad Drawing Workshop with Raheem Nelson
Thursday, July 28, 5-8 p.m.

Artist Talk with Corey Pane
Friday, August 5, 6 p.m.

Live Art Demonstration with Corey Pane
Thursday, August 18, 6 p.m.

Paint Night with Posh Paint
Thursday, August 18, 5-6 p.m.
Thursday, October 6, 6-7 p.m.

MUSEUM UNWRAPPED | Artist Talk with Lauren Clayton
Sunday, September 18, 1 p.m.

MUSEUM UNWRAPPED | Poetry Reading by Frederick-Douglass Knowles II
Sunday, October 2, 1 p.m.

MUSEUM UNWRAPPED | Artist Talk with Pierre Sylvain
Sunday, October 16, 1 p.m.

TOURS

WALK-IN TOUR | *30 Americans* Special Exhibition
Sundays at 1 p.m. | September 25 – October 30

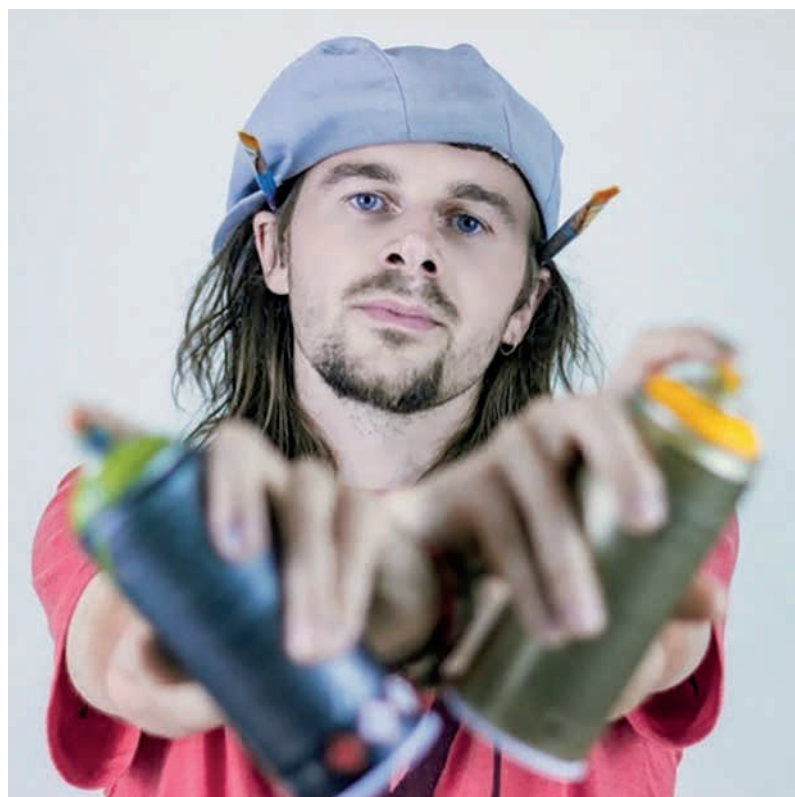
TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY | Featuring Virtual Talk with Radcliffe Bailey and Hands-on Art Making
Tuesday, August 23, 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

NBMAA Education Department presents a half-day Professional Development program for educators across Connecticut in conjunction with our special exhibition, *30 Americans*.

\$45 per teacher for full program

Registration includes the Virtual Artist Talk (\$15 ticket FREE to you!)

Register by emailing **Jasmine DeJackome**
dejackomej@nbmaa.org





DEVELOPMENT

Membership

There are so many opportunities for Members to increase engagement with the Museum. In August, talented NBMAA Member-artists will be featured in the annual *Nor'Easter* juried exhibition. We also look forward to the return of your favorite gala, *The Art Party of the Year*, on October 22.

We greatly appreciate the continued support of our Members. The NBMAA is committed to growing our Membership base in the coming year. Please encourage your friends and colleagues to become Members and consider purchasing a gift Membership this year.

Top: Edeltraud Huller, *Untitled*, 1987, Inkjet print, 17 x 11 in., Gift of Eileen Shekosky, 2011.93.14

the 20th annual ART PARTY of the year

THE ART PARTY OF THE YEAR

Save the Date for the *20th Annual Art Party of the Year* on Saturday, October 22, 2022. After a three-year hiatus due to the pandemic, the event committee—being led by event chair Suzanne Jill Levy—is hard at work planning an exciting event to support the Museum! This year, we will honor Marendra Brown-Stitzer and Todd Stitzer for their generous support of the NBMAA.

HONORING DONA V. CASSELLA

The NBMAA is proud to announce that Dona V. Cassella, Chair, Board of Trustees, has recently been awarded the Museum's Hyland Medal. The Hyland Medal was established to celebrate the contributions and years of excellence of NBMAA Director Emeritus Douglas Hyland upon his retirement in October 2015; and it was later awarded to Kathryn Cox in 2017. The Board of Trustees voted to recognize Dona with this extraordinary honor as she served as Interim Director of the NBMAA from July 2021–February 2022 throughout the Director search process. Through a fundraising appeal, over \$20,000 was raised in Dona's honor for the Hyland Medal Fund, an endowment fund that supports the salary of the NBMAA Director.



Left to right: Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees Kay Knight Clarke, Chair of the Board of Trustees Dona V. Cassella, and Director and CEO Brett Abbott at the John Butler Talcott Society Director's Dinner.

EYES ON PLANNED GIVING: A Development Director's Tale – Ala the Shoemaker's Kids Who Had No Shoes



A confession! I am the development director who pitched planned gifts but had no planned gift herself. For background, I worked for the NBMAA for 26 years over my 32-year museum career—the last 14 as director of development—and hosted many a Heritage Society Brunch honoring those who have signaled their bequest intentions. I retired five and a half years ago and was elected to the board October 2021.

As a new trustee, I decided to focus on promoting bequests and planned gifts. Why? Because I've realized how impactful they are. Just look at the NBMAA history: John Butler Talcott's two deeds of trust establishing the first acquisition fund in 1903, the 1934 Landers House bequest, and the more than 270 others totaling \$15 million in cash and over 1,200 works of art. Impactful for sure.

So, with a Heritage Society Brunch looming in the end of April, I realized I had to get off the dime. I called my financial advisor, made the NBMAA the beneficiary of my IRA, and within three minutes was an NBMAA planned giver. Three minutes!

What took me so long? Here are my excuses: My husband Bob and I had old wills needing updating, but we just procrastinated. We had no children which might have forced the issue, and we had financial arrangements in place to provide for either of us. But nothing was decided after both of our deaths. And who wants to talk about that?!

Then life got in the way. My husband developed Alzheimer's and declined over two years. I took over everything in our household. I felt like a human ATM machine spewing out mountains of cash for aides as the weeks went on, and then I faced the need for a memory care facility at upwards of six figures a year. Needless to say, I was not thinking about making a planned gift. Bob died October 2, 2020,

and then his memorial service, probate, and a period of listlessness ensued—all in the midst of a pandemic—until I got the call to consider joining the board. Brain re-engaged!

When I finally made my planned gift to the NBMAA, which has meant so much to me, I was nevertheless surprised by the immense satisfaction I experienced. And I was gratified that I was able to make what for me was a personally significant gift that would not have been likely during my lifetime. This is often the case.

So, the moral of the story is: the time will come when it is right for you to make your estate plans, and we hope those will include the NBMAA. You will feel great satisfaction when you do it, joining the long list of those who came before. And your gift will be greatly appreciated and will support any myriad of Museum activities: exhibitions, programming, collections, reaching underserved communities, technology, general operations, you name it.

To that end, the Development staff stands ready to help you and your financial advisors craft a gift that is both meaningful to you and helps the Museum fulfill its mission. A win-win. Please consider reaching out to us during this process by contacting Amanda Shuman-Bisson, Associate Director of Development, at (860) 229-0257, ext. 246 or shuman-bissona@nbmaa.org. Any questions for me? Amanda can put us in touch.

CLAUDIA THESING, PH.D., TRUSTEE

Newest Happy Member of the
Heritage Society

THANK YOU

The New Britain Museum of American Art is proud to serve thousands of students and educators each year thanks to the generous support of the partners that provide funding for school visits, educator resources, and Creative Caring Kits. We are grateful to the following funders for their support:

Tinty Foundation
SBM Charitable Foundation
Webster Bank
Duncaster
Ion Bank Foundation
Plainville Community Fund at the Main Street Community Foundation
Burlington Community Fund and the James R. Parker Trust at the Main Street Community Foundation
Elizabeth H. Norton Trust

Additional thanks to the following supporters of our educational programs: Stanley Black & Decker; American Savings Foundation; Community Foundation of Greater New Britain; Greater Hartford Arts Council; The Jack Warner Foundation; and Legrand Wiremold Charitable Contributions Committee.

Are you interested in learning more about ways you can support the NBMAA's educational programs?

Contact Amanda Shuman-Bisson, Associate Director of Development, at (860) 229-0257 ext. 246 or shumana@nbmaa.org



CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

Reward your employees with a full year of free admission to the NBMAA and more. The NBMAA offers Corporate Memberships that are tailored to companies of all sizes and include free admission for staff members, recognition opportunities, rental benefits, and more!

For more information about Corporate Membership at the NBMAA and how to give your employees the Museum experience, please contact Amanda Shuman-Bisson, Associate Director of Development, at (860) 229-0257 ext. 246 or shumana@nbmaa.org

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AS OF JUNE 2, 2022

Corporations

Assured Partners Northeast
BonneeWeintraub
Delamar West Hartford
Hartford Steam Boiler, Inspection & Insurance Co.
Law Office of Kevin C. Ferry, LLC
Stanley Black & Decker

Colleges/Universities

Central Connecticut State University
University of Hartford

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT



GARY
KNOBLE

Since retiring as Vice President of Data Management at The Hartford Insurance Group in 2006, I have devoted much of my time to an exploration of the rich history of the art of the Hartford area. Largely because of its inland location, the city's strong industrial base escaped damage during the Revolution and the Civil War, making Hartford one of the wealthiest cities in the country at the end of the 19th century. This wealth attracted many artists and resulted in some of the county's earliest art institutions. Daniel Wadsworth, then one of America's wealthiest men, opened the Wadsworth Atheneum in 1844. It is the oldest public art museum in the country. The School of the Decorative Art Society of Hartford, now named The Hartford Art School at the University of Hartford, was founded by a group of Hartford's leading women and began art classes in 1878, making it the third oldest art school in the country still in existence. It was preceded only by the Art Students League in New York City in 1875 and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston in 1876.

As a relatively small city, Hartford can boast of having hosted a large group of outstanding diverse artists, such as Ralph Earl, Alvan Fisher, John Trumbull, Frederick Edwin Church, Dwight Tryon, William Merritt Chase, Robert Vonnoh, Louis Orr, Lillian Wescott Hale, Laura Wheeling Warner, Charles Ethan Porter,

Evelyn Longman Batchelder, Alexander Calder, Milton Avery, Sol LeWitt, and of course the inimitable Chick Austin, to name just a few.

I was honored and delighted when Douglas Hyland asked me to join the NBMAA Collections Committee in 2014. I joined the Board of Trustees in 2018. While my lifelong interest in art goes well beyond the art of Hartford and the Americas, I see one of my major roles at the Museum as being an advocate for local artists, past and present. Given the quality of this art, we never need fear being labeled provincial.

I am proud, excited, and humbled to be a part of the family of artists and art lovers who are so devoted to this unique museum.

LIVE MUSIC SCHEDULE

Walnut Hill Jazz Series

Presented in partnership with the Hartford Jazz Society, we return for our 5th year! This annual jazz series is made possible in 2022 by generous funding from the Charles Parker Trust for Public Music Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee.

All tickets are \$10. Doors open at 6 p.m., performance at 6:30 p.m.

Wine & beer available for purchase. Complimentary snacks provided.

6:30 PM | Sylvia Bonney Halcyon Lounge

Zwelakhe-Duma Bell le Pere Quintet
September 21

Trevor Davis Dixieland Affair
October 12

Theresa Wright & The Distinguished Gentlemen
November 16

Jen Allen Trio
December 14

Fryderyk Chopin Society of Connecticut

Internationally renowned pianists present the works of Fryderyk Chopin and other musical masters.

3:00 PM | Stanley Works Center

Evren Ozel
September 25

Sonja Fräki
October 23

Ann Schein
November 20

For detailed information, please visit the website of our program partners, the Fryderyk Chopin Society of Connecticut: www.chopinsocietyct.org/new-index

Attending Concerts in Stanley Works Center at the NBMAA

Concert seating is first come, first served on day of show (effective June 1, 2022), and seating capacity is limited to 120. Pre-registration will no longer be available.

Concert attendees must register at the front desk upon arrival. Museum Members are free, and Museum guests are welcome with purchase of an admission ticket.

All shows begin at 3 p.m.; doors to event space will open at 2:30 p.m., and masks are highly recommended inside the auditorium during the performance.

Sunday Music Series

The NBMAA's longstanding monthly concert series, featuring local & regional performances from a variety of musical genres.

3:00 PM | Stanley Works Center

La Hot Jazz & Company
July 10

Le Hot Club Guitar Duo, featuring David Giardina & Frank Varela
August 7

Jenny Lind's America, 1850-1852
September 11

Coloratura soprano Zoe Vandermeer will sing and play the Welsh Triple Harp, featuring music that the "Swedish Nightingale" sang on her famed American Tour in 1850, which was promoted by Connecticut's own P.T. Barnum. Music by composers Donizetti and Chatterton will be interspersed with anecdotes of the life and times of Jenny Lind.

Zoe Vandermeer is a prize-winning graduate of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and performs internationally, including her debut at Carnegie Hall in 2014.

Art Happy Hour

Enjoy cocktails, live music, and activities on Thursday nights all summer long, with a front-row seat to the best view of Walnut Hill Park.

Live Music Schedule: (In case of inclement weather, call ahead! Most nights, we can move the party indoors!)

5:30 PM | Pritchard Family Terrace

Sal Basile
July 7

Ramblin' Dan Stevens
July 14

Sarah Hanahan Jazz Quartet
July 21

Martin Piggot
July 28

Joe Grieco
August 4

Brian MacDonald Duo
August 11

Dr. Violin!
August 18

Brian MacDonald Duo
August 25

MIDSUMMER MUSIC SERIES 2022

Presented in partnership with the Polish American Foundation of Connecticut, this brand-new series features the classical talents of regional performers.

All tickets are \$10. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., performance at 6 p.m. *Wine & beer available for purchase.*

Concert seating is first come, first served on day of show and seating capacity is limited to 80.

JULY 6: "SUMMER ROMANCE"

Corbin Beisner & Veronika Schreiber will present classical, romantic, and soulful compositions for piano and violin. Featuring works by **Dvorák, Schumann, Chopin, and Franck.**

JULY 20: "FROM BROADWAY TO THE MET"

Opera highlights from smash productions like **"Merry Widow," "Porgy and Bess," "Carmen," "Samson and Delilah,"** and other Broadway hits by **George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Rodgers & Hammerstein, and more.**

Featuring **Monika Krajewska, mezzo-soprano, and Natasha Ulyanovsky, piano.**

AUGUST 3: "A NIGHT OF J.S. BACH: SIX SONATAS FOR VIOLIN AND HARPSICHORD"

Composed during Bach's years as Capellmeister (1717–22) at the court of Prince Leopold of Anhalt-Cöthen. In 1774, Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach wrote "the six [sonatas for violin and obbligato harpsichord] are among the best works of my dear late father...they sound very good even now, and give me much pleasure, despite their being over 50 years old."

Featuring **Veronika Schreiber, violin, and Gregory Hayes, harpsichord.**

AUGUST 17: "BEETHOVEN SONATAS"

A solo performance by **Corbin Beisner** on piano. Witness the heroism and tragedy of Ludwig van Beethoven in three of his most moving piano sonatas: **"Pathétique," "Tempest," and "Appassionata."**

AUGUST 31: "MUSICAL VIGIL FOR PEACE"

Sacred music selections that span the centuries, including a recently recovered 15th c. **Ukrainian Orthodox Chant.** Works by composers Bach, Barber, Strauss, and Durufle.

Featuring **Karolina Wojteczko, Mezzo-Soprano, and Julian Revie, Piano/Organ.**

FIRST FRIDAY

Our signature social event, featuring live music, art, food, spirits, and good friends. New Britain's Best Happy Hour, since 1995!

Check website for updated COVID requirements.

**Mask requirements, vaccination requirements and capacity limits are subject to change in Summer/Fall 2022.*

Members \$7; non-Members \$12

Cash bar available; access to Museum galleries is included with your ticket.

Event doors will open at 5:30 p.m.

Eight to the Bar

July 1

The Miles Elliot Experience

August 5

The Cartells

September 2



MUSEUM SPOTLIGHT



A



B



C



D



E

A. International Colour Consultant Thomas Mach discussing fresh new color choice for the in the Chase Family Gallery

B. NBMAA Trustee Emerita Dr. Linda Powers Tomasso conducting a very artful science experiment and presentation about the calming, stress-reducing effects of art

C. Manager of School Services and Adult Tour Programs Jasmine DeJackome and Coordinator of Community Partnerships & Outreach Stephanie Strucaly install student artwork for hundreds of New Britain and Berlin school families

D. *30 Americans* curators (L to R) Dr. Brittney Yancy, Provost Nicole Stanton, NBMAA Associate Curator Lisa Williams, and Dr. Dann J. Broyld workshoping the exhibition layout

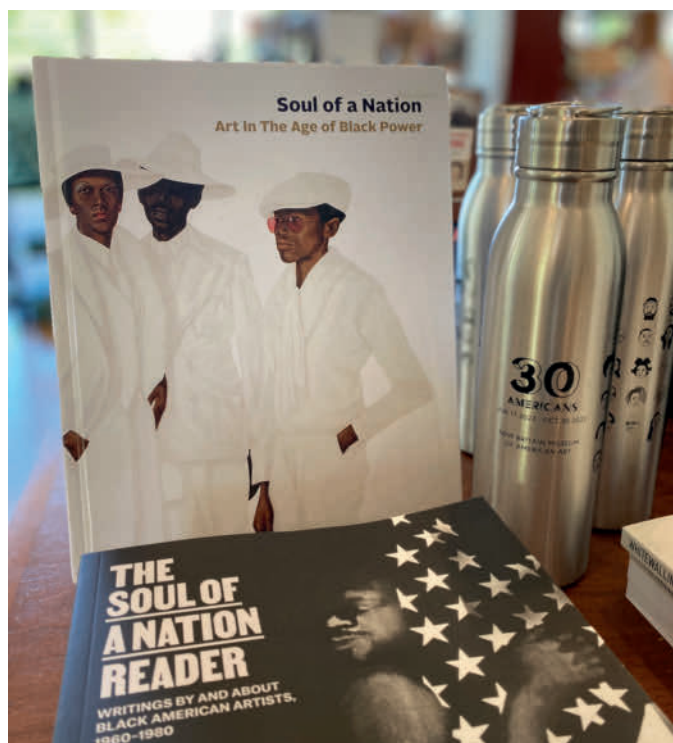
E. Artist Rashmi Talpade and NBMAA Coordinator of Adult Education Programs Nicole Hooks contribute to mural project *Piecing Together a New Britain Story*



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SEE WHAT'S NEW IN STORE FOR SUMMER

The Museum Store is stocked with lots of new summer items. Kitchen utensils and aprons are available for your summer cookout shenanigans; fun hair accessories and hats will keep you cool in the heat; and sturdy floral tool bags and kneeling pads are perfect for your time spent in the garden! There is also a variety of special exhibition merchandise for *30 Americans*, including uniquely designed T-shirts, water bottles, postcards, mugs, sketch books, and journals. More *30 Americans*-related items will be revealed throughout the summer.

Members double discount days will be announced throughout the year for Members to enjoy 20% off all of their Museum Store purchases. It's our way of saying thank you for being a Member and for your love of the Museum.

Children (under 18) and one caregiver each are FREE all summer thanks to the CT Summer at the Museum initiative. Visit CTSummerMuseums.com for details.



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GENERAL ADMISSION

\$15 for Adults
\$12 for Seniors
Children under 18 free
Members FREE
Thursday admission is \$5 after 5 p.m. every week.

MUSEUM HOURS

Monday: CLOSED
Tuesday: CLOSED
Wednesday-Sunday
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Thursday: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

SATURDAY ADMISSION

Free from 10 a.m. to noon thanks to support from the American Savings Foundation.

MUSEUM CAFE

Tuesday-Sunday
9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
featuring local New Britain fare.

ACCESSIBILITY

Please inquire at the Front Desk for any assistance you may require. We are wheelchair accessible and have two wheelchairs available free of charge.

DIGITAL

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