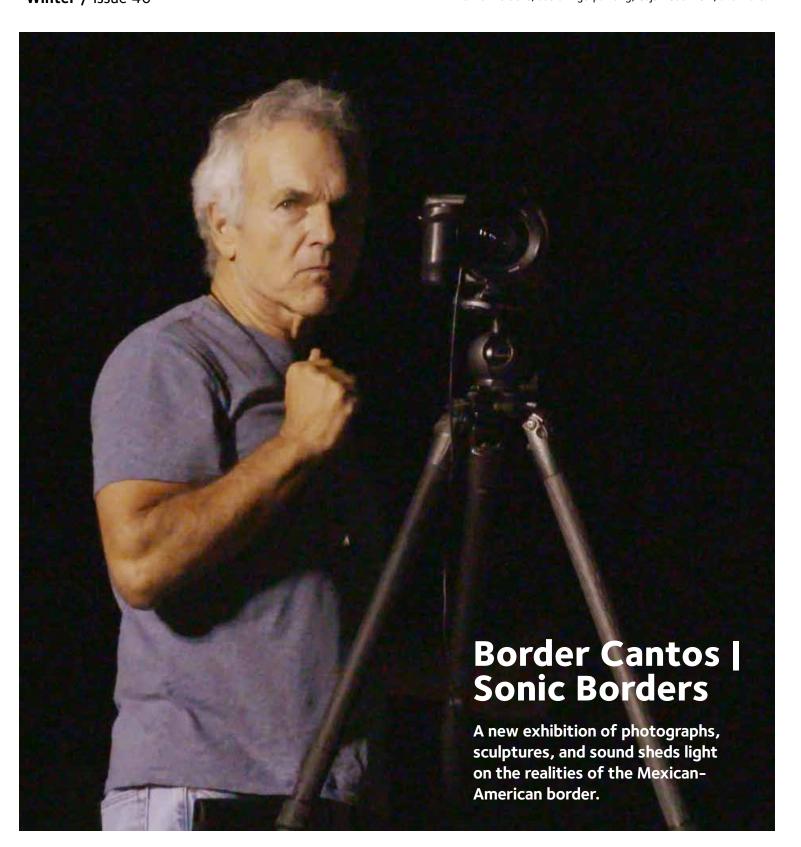
Views from the SAT MUSEUM Winter / Issue 46

Inside!

A bygone landscape Check out a new addition to the permanent collection.

Mark your calendars

New exhibitions, adult fingerpainting, Cajun Cook-Off, and more!





AT ORA ORTHOPEDICS, WE PRACTICE THE ART OF RESTORING MOVEMENT.

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Winter / Issue 46

Design by The Numad Group

Published throughout the year at no charge for members, friends, and people interested in the museum.







Grand Lobby at the Figge Art Museum

THE CURRENT Lowa

is the exclusive hospitality sponsor for the Figge Art Museum

Hours

See website to confirm hours. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday Noon-5 p.m. Sunday

Facility rentals 563.345.6657

Wheelchairs available ASL interpreters upon request

Admission

\$10 adults; \$6 seniors and students with ID; \$4 children ages 4-12; children under age 4 free AAA members save \$2

Free admission

Thursday evenings from 5-8 p.m. Seniors first Thursday of the month Active U.S. Armed Forces and their families

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Cover Image:

TOWN ARTS PRODUCE STATE HISTORICA COUNCIL DWA SOCIETY OF KINN

Nogales border at night, 2016. Courtesy Will Hart.

From the Director



The Quad Cities community is no stranger to bridging borders. Whether we're crossing city, county, or state lines, we know how to come together to work, play, and build a region where everyone's goals can become realities.

But there are some borders we don't always see—either because they lie far away from us or because they aren't visible on any map. Part of the Figge's work is presenting world-class exhibitions that broaden our view of our world, fostering empathy and understanding for those whose lives seem remote from ours, literally or figuratively.

Our upcoming exhibition *Border Cantos* | *Sonic Borders*, which you can read about in more detail in the pages that follow, is one example of this work in action. Through photography, sculpture, and sound, artists Richard Misrach and Guillermo Galindo shed light on the lives of the thousands of people who cross the Mexican-American border each year in search of brighter futures. By engaging with these artworks and the stories they tell, we have the chance to reflect on the immigration stories that are part of our histories and grow our capacity for compassion for anyone in our community whose backgrounds or experiences don't match our own.

Exhibitions aren't the only way the Figge bridges borders though. We also do it through our outreach programs, which bring art beyond the museum's walls and into local schools, libraries, homeless shelters, and the juvenile detention center. These programs don't just break down the divide between art and those who may not have access to it. They also help equip students with the skills, from collaboration to critical thinking and creative expression, that will support them in pursuing their own goals—and that will contribute to a more connected, welcoming, and inclusive region.

From exhibitions to outreach, your support makes this work possible. After all, it's only by joining together that we can create a community where *all* of our perspectives, needs, and interests have a place. As we renew our commitment to our mission this new year, thank you for sharing in that vision.

Michelle Hargrave, Executive Director and CEO

4 Upcoming exhibitions

Making it palpable

February 19-June 5, 2022

Border Cantos | Sonic Borders

Katz Gallery

Border Cantos | Sonic Borders humanizes the Mexican-American border, inviting visitors to engage with the complex—and often misunderstood—experiences of those seeking a better life in the United States. Spanning photography, sculpture, and sound, the exhibition offers the Quad Cities community a vital opportunity to come together with empathy, understanding, and connection.

Border Cantos | Sonic Borders is organized by Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas. Support for the national tour of Border Cantos | Sonic Borders is provided by Art Bridges.

Art Bridges

At the Figge, contributing sponsorship by Tom and Brooke Terronez Out of sight, out of mind?
With stories from the MexicanAmerican border not always
part of the daily news cycle, the
lived realities of the thousands
of migrants seeking a better
life in the United States often
go unknown, unacknowledged,
or unconsidered by many in the
Quad Cities community.

Border Cantos | Sonic Borders, a new exhibition opening February 19 at the Figge, brings some of those narratives to light.

making it human



Richard Misrach, born 1949, Wall, Los Indios, Texas, 2015, printed 2017, From an edition of 5, Pigment print, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas, Photo: Courtesy the Artist

collaboration between American photographer Richard Misrach and Mexican-American artist and composer Guillermo Galindo, *Border Cantos* | *Sonic Borders* explores the complexities of the southern border through photography, sculpture, and sound, inviting us to bridge boundaries and initiate important conversations.

"To me, the work I do is a means of interpreting unsettling truths, of bearing witness, and of sounding an alarm," Misrach told the Aperture Foundation in an interview. "The beauty of formal representation both carries an affirmation of life and subversively brings us face to face with news from our besieged world."

Both artists address fraught topics touching on politics, the environment, and humanitarian issues. Misrach is well known for his expansive images focusing on the ways humans interact with and impact the 6 Upcoming exhibitions

Richard Misrach, born 1949 Wall, Jacumba, California, 2009 El muro, Jacumba, California Pigment print Photo: Courtesy the Artist



natural world, while Galindo is inspired by the Mesoamerican belief that one can bring out the spiritual essence of an object's past. Galindo's 260-minute composition *Sonic Borders*, which can be heard playing within the gallery, employs eight musical instruments the artist created from objects discarded near the border.

Together, the photographs, objects, and sonic composition introduce distinct yet interrelated ways of experiencing the human consequences of immigration policies. By offering evidence of those who have journeyed through the borderlands in pursuit of their hopes and dreams, Misrach and Galindo encourage empathy for the plight of migrants everywhere.

While some may think of the border as a place where politics and culture collide in sometimes tragic ways, this exhibition seeks to share firsthand accounts from the people who have traversed it. "We're artists; we're not politicians," Galindo has said of his collaboration with Misrach. "We want to give people the experience of the border, and to get acquainted with the immigrants' journey. To make it palpable. To make it human."

The Quad Cities community will be encouraged to engage with *Border Cantos* | *Sonic Borders* by sharing experiences, stories, and perspectives of the timely and complex social issue of immigration.

In this way, this exhibition seeks to foster cultural connections and humanize these difficult topics.

"Immigrants have played an important role in the Quad Cities' history, and the region is home to tens of thousands of immigrants, refugees, and migrants today who help support the economy," says Michelle Hargrave, the museum's executive director and CEO. "It is vital we share this exhibition with our community and we hope that through the power of art, we will facilitate greater understanding and empathy and a healthy exchange of ideas among Quad Citizens of all backgrounds."

The Figge's director of education, Melissa Mohr, is looking forward to several interactive public programs accompanying the exhibition. "We want to provide a visitor experience that emphasizes what we have in common," Mohr says.

"We will be collecting messages of kindness from community members and printing them on foam bricks that will be used to build wall structure. Community members will be invited to take out the bricks, read them, and keep them as a connection to the exhibition and to the museum—a connection that is hopefully personally meaningful. It is a way for the community to work together to dismantle a wall that divides us and focus on the messages that unite us."





Companion programs

Thu, Feb 17
Opening Program:
Border Cantos | Sonic Borders
with artist Guillermo Galindo
6:30 p.m.

Join artist Guillermo Galindo for a performance and talk in conjunction with the opening of *Border Cantos* | *Sonic Borders*. Galindo is a Mexican composer, sound artist, visual artist, and performer. His work redefines the conventional limits between music, the art of music composition, and the intersections between art disciplines, politics, humanitarian issues, spirituality, and social awareness.

Thu, Mar 24
Artist Talk:
Border Cantos | Sonic Borders
with artist Richard Misrach
6:30 p.m.

Artist Richard Misrach, one of the most influential photographers of his generation, will give a talk about his work that is featured in *Border Cantos* | *Sonic Borders*.

Sun, May 1 Free Family Day: Live on the Figge Plaza

12 p.m

Join us for a day of family fun related to Border Cantos | Sonic Borders on the Figge's Bechtel Plaza. 8 Upcoming exhibitions

Feb 5-May 8, 2022

Simple Pleasures: The Art of Doris Lee

Gildehaus Gallery and Third Floor Gallery

Born in Aledo, Illinois, Doris Lee was one of the most recognized artists in the country during the 1930s and 1940s and a leading figure at the Woodstock Art Colony. In response to the rise of abstract expressionism, Lee deftly absorbed artistic innovations into a continuation of her own visual style. Now, a new exhibition of her body of work, Simple Pleasures, reveals her remarkable ability to merge abstraction with the appeal of the everyday, offering a distinctive visual identity that successfully bridged various artistic "camps" that arose in the post–World War II era.

Simple Pleasures presents the first major critical assessment of Lee's works and will include over 70 works by the artist spanning the 1930s through the 1960s from both public and private collections. The exhibition features paintings, drawings, prints, and commercial designs in fabric and pottery. A selection of ephemera, such as product advertisements by companies that commissioned images from Lee, will also be included. A richly illustrated, full-color catalogue with four essays accompanies the exhibition and will be available in the museum store.

Simple Pleasures: The Art of Doris Lee is organized by The Westmoreland Museum of American Art and co-curated by Barbara L. Jones, Chief Curator of The Westmoreland, and Melissa Wolfe, Curator of American Art, Saint Louis Art Museum. The exhibition is generously supported by The Henry Luce Foundation, The Barrie A. and Deedee Wigmore Foundation, The Richard C. von Hess Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, The Fine Foundation and the Hillman Exhibition Fund of The Westmoreland Museum of American Art

Supporting sponsor: The Molyneaux Family in memory of Dan A. Molyneaux





This winter and spring, get ready for exciting new exhibitions that shine fresh light on a major artist, celebrate amazing local art, turn a lens on the Figge's ever-evolving photography collection, and more!



The Violinist, 1950, Oil on canvas, Collection: Mr. and Mrs. Roger D. Turner, © Estate of Doris Lee, Courtesy D. Wigmore Fine Art, Inc.

Feb 26-May 15, 2022

42nd Rock Island Art Guild Fine Arts Exhibition

Fourth Floor Gallery

The Rock Island Art Guild Fine Arts Exhibition has been organized by the Guild since 1970 and hosted for the last six years by the Figge Art Museum. This year, artists living within 200 miles of the Figge working in any medium, including sound, performance, video, painting, sculpture, and works on paper, were invited to apply and submit up to three works for consideration. Susan Watts, owner and director of Olson-Larson Galleries in Des Moines, selected the works for the exhibition and chose this year's award winners. Awards for first and second place, the Sally MacMillan Watercolor Award, the Founder's Award, the Zeivel Harris Sculpture Award, and the Honorable Mention Award will be presented on March 3. There will also be a new \$300 New Media Award presented to an artist working in video, sound, or digital art. Don't miss out on the opportunity to help select the People's Choice Award and Children's Choice Award winners. Come cast your vote for your favorite work!

This exhibition is made possible through the generous sponsorship of the Rock Island Art Guild.



Mar 26-July 3, 2022

New Photography

Lewis Gallery

The Figge's amazing photography collection continues to grow with the addition of important works by some of the most significant photographers of our time. The *New Photography* exhibition series provides a brief survey of the collection's growth and permits us to share with the Quad Cities community some of our newly acquired gems.

This spring, *New Photography* will feature the work of such acclaimed 20th-century masters as Douglas Prince and Terry Evans as well as recent works by Cara Romero, Victoria Sambunaris, Johnnie Chatman, Rebecca Norris Webb, and Karin Apollonia Müller. From the real to the surreal, the exhibition will highlight photography's continued ability to engage, inform, and amaze.

May 20-July 10, 2022

Corn Zone

Mary Waterman Gildehaus Gallery

This Figge visitor favorite features a "corn field" installation of oversize blown glass ears of corn carefully suspended from the museum's ceiling with rope. The exhibition explores the fragility of glass, the story of corn, and contemporary issues in farming, including genetic modification. Meilahn's bright and cheerfully colored art tells a farming story, both fruitful and dangerous, and underscores the significance of agricultural science in modern farming.

Companion programs

Thu, Feb 3 Opening Program: Simple Pleasures: The Art of Doris Lee

6:30 p.m.

Learn more about this exhibition through a conversation between co-curators Barbara Jones and Melissa Wolfe.

Thu, Mar 3 Rock Island Art Guild Fine Arts Exhibition Opening Celebration and Award Presentation

6:30 p.m.

Celebrate the opening of the *Rock Island Art Guild Fine Arts Exhibition* alongside some of the featured regional artists and juror. Join in the excitement as this year's prize winners are announced!

Thu, Mar 10 Exploring the Archives: Doris Lee 6:30 p.m.

Virtually explore the Doris Lee archive at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C.

Thu, Mar 31 and Thu, April 28 Artist Talk: Rock Island Art Guild Fine Arts Exhibition

6:30 p.m.

Join us for presentations and performances from a selection of artists featured in the *Rock Island Art Guild Fine Arts Exhibition*.

Left to right Victoria Sambunaris, American, born 1964, *Untitled, (Farm with workers)*, Jacumba, CA, 2010, chromogenic print, gift of the artist, 2021.5.4, Image © Victoria Sambunaris, courtesy of the artist Michael Meilahn, American, born 1945, Nick Nebel, American, born 1939 *Corn Zone*, 2007, blown glass, polyester rope and video projections with sound, purchased through an anonymous gift in honor of Thomas Gildehaus (Figge Art Museum supporter and member Board of Trustees 2003–2009, 2011–2014 and Board President 2005–2009), 2009.3.a-bb Installation view of the *41st Rock Island Art Guild Fine Arts Exhibition* in 2020 at the Figge Art Museum







10 Staff spotlight

Meet outreach and community engagement coordinator Laura Wriedt

In this staff spotlight,
Laura Wriedt shares her
thoughts on how outreach
makes an impact, what
she's looking forward to
this winter and spring,
and why she's excited
about our new outreach
program for at-risk
students at Rock Island
High School.



Almost a decade ago, Laura joined the Figge to continue the Big Picture program. Today she's the museum's outreach and community engagement coordinator, a position that enables her to share her passion for education while connecting students to the importance of art.

It's hard to believe it's been nearly 10 years! What have you learned working at the Figge?

Art is truly in all aspects of life. I love enlightening students to how art ties into history, science, math—all subjects. Most importantly, students understand that art is a safe yet powerful form of expression.

How do you approach outreach in the Quad Cities community?

I cannot tell you how many times teachers worried about certain students with behavior issues acting out during a visit— and it always ended up that those were the exact students who embraced the lesson the most. There is something that "clicks" when we give permission for individuals to be creative in a safe environment.

In understanding this, it's important to identify areas of need within the community where we can make this happen beyond the classroom. I'm always willing to investigate the issues in our community to see how art can bring a healing component to resolve them. Social justice programs, programs serving those in compromised living situations, programs for individuals with a disability—they all matter.

What art connections will you focus on through outreach as we delve into upcoming exhibitions?

Our education team has come up with innovative ideas to bring awareness to immigration issues through *Border Cantos* | *Sonic Borders*. Ideas like building a "welcome wall," as opposed to one that creates a barrier, is something that we can bring into classrooms. Participants will have opportunities to share some of their own personal stories or experiences they have witnessed in relation to border issues. It's my hope that this exhibition will lead those we reach through the Big Picture program to acknowledge the hardships of those right here in our own community and help grow compassion and empathy.

What impact do you hope the Figge's outreach programs will have on participants?

I want each and every person I see in outreach to understand that whatever it is they have to contribute artistically is valid. A creative mind shapes who we are, so it's important to let go of worry or judgment. When they feel stuck, I tell students to pay attention to their "art-brain" for the answers. So many of us are programmed to follow one prescribed way of approaching creativity because it feels "safe." Artists are people who let go of the idea of being judged from the outside and celebrate a passion, no matter what it stirs up.

The Figge is a place where there will always be an opportunity to ask and learn about why art happens. I have experienced this firsthand in our pilot program at Rock Island High School. Students who have been identified as at risk of dropping out are learning about current issues like immigration and how artists create a voice for their passions. With outreach visits twice a week, these students are discovering new art mediums and exploring how different art styles speak to their interests. We do art journaling and introduce them to working artists to demonstrate the importance of getting to know what motivates us as creative people. Every month, students come to the Figge to do something hands-on and behind-the-scenes in our studios. So far, this program has been transformational. Already, we are seeing the outcomes we hoped for: an increase in student attendance and engagement—and a positive step toward a brighter future.

Albert Bierstadt, American, born Germany, 1830-1902, *Bison Approaching a Water Hole*, circa 1860, oil on paper on canvas, gift of Jane and George Vieth, 2021.3



When the bison still roamed

Experience the grandeur of the West—and a reminder of the devastating legacy of manifest destiny.

The Figge is pleased to announce the acquisition of *Bison Approaching a Water Hole* (circa 1860), a painting by the German-born American painter Albert Bierstadt (1830–1902). Bierstadt's name is synonymous with grand, breathtaking paintings of the American wilderness. Glaciered mountain tops, shimmering lakes, and vast canyons populate the most famous of his works, many of which took their inspiration from his travels in the American West, including an 1859 U.S. Government survey to the Wyoming and Oregon territories to chart a proposed route for the Union Pacific Railroad.

The painting is a gift of Jane and George Vieth, Davenport residents and long-time museum supporters. Jane's mother received it from another Davenport family, John (Johann) and Hulda (Johanna) Kohrs, relatives of Conrad Kohrs, the "Cattle King" who ranched in the protected valleys of western Montana. During his life, Kohrs amassed a fortune and, in addition to the Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site in Deer Lodge, Montana, owned a palatial home in Helena.

Sadly, cattle effectively replaced the majestic bison like those in this painting, which were brought to near extinction in the 1870s. Beginning in the 1860s, bison were hunted for sport with the tacit support of the U.S. Army as a means of settling what General Philip Sheridan termed the "vexed Indian question." By depriving Native Americans of an important food and spiritual resource, the way was made for the expansion of the railroads and settlement of the prairies and plains. The West's fragile and complex history, largely glossed over by Hollywood, can be glimpsed in paintings like this one.

By the time of his death, Bierstadt's art had fallen out of favor, the grandest of his paintings being too "theatrical" for contemporary tastes, which had shifted, somewhat ironically, toward the European preference for more colorful, impressionistic landscapes. Visitors can see *Bison Approaching a Water Hole* in the museum's permanent collection galleries beginning in early March 2022.



14 Calendar of events

Mark your calendar

Say, have we met before? That's right, it's our can't-miss recurring events! Explore one or all of these tried-andtrue Figge favorites.

Thursdays at the Figge

Sponsored by Chris and Mary Rayburn

Thursdays at the Figge offers free admission from 5 to 8 p.m., with in-person or virtual program offerings. Explore creativity in all forms by listening to featured artists, curators, scholars, and community partners. Check online for the format each week. While all programs are free to attend, space is limited for in-person offerings. For virtual offerings, registrants will receive an e-mail with a Zoom link two hours prior to the program, or individuals can use the direct link provided for each program on the Figge website.

See calendar for dates

Monthly Film Series

This spring, the Figge presents a series of award-winning independent films about the arts. Featured films are honored as examples of great filmmaking and acknowledged for their excellence in cinematic storytelling with limited or no distribution.

Every other Friday, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Figure Drawing

\$15 per session; bring your own supplies

Learn figure drawing by practicing your skills and adapting to change in these facilitated (not instructed) classes. Bring your own supplies; all non-toxic and non-photographic media are

Selected Saturdays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Happy Little Trees

\$30 per session; supplies included

Want to paint picturesque landscapes like the ones Bob Ross taught? At Happy Little Trees, learn to make a painting in one sitting using water-based oil paint.

See calendar for access dates

Family Day Your Way: Virtual Family Days and in-person events

Join in the fun with these family-flexible enrichment experiences. This year, expect a variety of free family options, including Virtual Family Days, free Admission Days, and free Family Workshops. Your free online registration allows your family to choose their way to play. Check the calendar for specific dates.

First Thursday of every month

Free Senior Day

The first Thursday of every month is Free Senior Day at the Figge! All seniors receive free admission and 10% off purchases at the Museum Store. Check the event calendar for optional tours and films.

The cArt!

Find the Art Cart in selected galleries throughout the year for in-depth conversations about art! Books, objects, gallery games, and information, along with a trained docent, will be available for guests to explore art topics in new ways. Check the online calendar for times.

Plan your next trip
to the Figge around
these openings,
classes, tours,
and other unique
events. All times
listed are central
time zone. Program
and event changes
may occur;
view updates
and register at
figgeartmuseum.org.



Thu, Feb 3 Wine and Art: Paint Pouring

6–8 p.m. \$20; all supplies included

Thu, Feb 3 Opening Program: Simple Pleasures: The Art of Doris Lee

6:30 p.m

Learn more about this exhibition through a conversation between co-curators Barbara Jones and Melissa Wolfe.

Fri, Feb 4 Figure Drawing

5:30–8:30 p.m. \$15 per session; bring your own supplies

Sat, Feb 5
Exhibition Opens: Simple
Pleasures: The Art of Doris Lee

Thu, Feb 10 Film: Finding Vivian Maier 6 p.m.

Sat, Feb 12 Happy Little Trees

10 a.m.–12 p.m. \$30 per session; supplies included

Thu, Feb 17
Member Opening:
Border Cantos | Sonic Borders
5-6:30 p.m.

Thu, Feb 17
Opening Program:
Border Cantos | Sonic Borders
with artist Guillermo Galindo
6:30 p.m.

Fri, Feb 18 Figure Drawing

5:30–8:30 p.m. \$15 per session; bring your own supplies

Sat, Feb 19 Exhibition Opens: Border Cantos | Sonic Borders

Sat, Feb 19 Pet Portrait Painting

10 a.m.-3 p.m.

\$65 / \$50 for members; supply list online

Capture the spirit of your beloved pet! Learn to render an accurate likeness following a simple, fool-proof sketching method. Then, explore the connection between emotion and color to create your pet's unique portrait in acrylic paint.

Sat, Feb 26 Exhibition Opens: Rock Island Art Guild Fine Arts Exhibition

Sat, Feb 26 Free Family Day: Virtual or In-Person

Featuring artist Doris Lee and the *Rock Island Art Guild Fine Arts Exhibition*. Register for an in-person family art activity in the studios at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., or noon—or register for virtual access and get a free admission pass to visit the museum at your leisure.

Sponsored by Eye Surgeons Associates

16 Calendar of events



Mar

Thu, Mar 3 Wine and Art: Adult Fingerpainting

6–8 p.m. \$20; all supplies included

Thu, Mar 3 Opening Program: Rock Island Art Guild Fine Arts Exhibition

6:30 p.m.

Fri, Mar 4 Figure Drawing

5:30–8:30 p.m. \$15 per session; bring your own supplies

Tue, Mar 8-29 Painting 101: Down on the Farm

6-8 p.m.

\$95 / \$80 for members; supply list online

Draw from a cast of farm critters to create humorous "up-close-and-personal" acrylic paintings. Working from photos, each class will inspire your drawing and painting skills!

Thu, Mar 10 Exploring the Archives: Doris Lee

5:30 p.m

Virtually explore the Doris Lee archive at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, DC.

Sat, Mar 12 Happy Little Trees

10 a.m.–12 p.m. \$30 per session; supplies included

Tue, Mar 15
Exhibition Opens: Mississippi
Valley Quilters Guild Exhibition

Thu, Mar 17 Film: *Pina*

6 p.m.

Fri, Mar 18 Figure Drawing

5:30-8:30 p.m.

\$15 per session; bring your own supplies

Thu, Mar 24
Artist Talk:
Border Cantos | Sonic Borders
with artist Richard Misrach
6:30 p.m.

Thu, Mar 31 Artist Talk: Rock Island Art Guild Fine Arts Exhibition

6:30 p.m.



Fri, Apr 1 Figure Drawing

5:30–8:30 p.m.

\$15 per session; bring your own supplies

Thu, Apr 7 Wine and Art: Learn Silk-Painting Basics

5-8 μ.III.

\$20; all supplies included

Thu, Apr 7 University of Iowa Dance Company

6:30 p.m.

Sat, Apr 9 Happy Little Trees

10 a.m.-12 p.m.

\$30 per session; supplies included

Thu, Apr 14

Films: Cavedigger, Which Way Is the Front Line From Here?

6:30 p.m.

Fri, Apr 15 Figure Drawing

5:30-8:30 p.m.

\$15 per session; bring your own supplies

Thu, Apr 21 Woodstock Artist Celebration

6:30 p.m.

Thu, Apr 28 Artist Talk: Rock Island Art Guild Fine Arts Exhibition

6:30 p.m.

Fri, Apr 29 Figure Drawing

5:30-8:30 p.m.

\$15 per session; bring your own supplies

Sat, Apr 30 + May 7 Silk-Painting Workshop

10 a.m.-3 p.m.

\$115 / \$100 for members; \$20 materials fee

Use the silk-painting serti technique—similar to batik—on a habotai silk square to create a beautiful watercolor-style silk painting.

May

Sun, May 1 Free Family Day: Live on the Figge Plaza

12 p.m.

Featuring the exhibition

Border Cantos | Sonic Borders.

Thu, May 5 Wine and Art: Maypole and Mead

6-8 p.m.

\$20; all supplies included

Sat, May 7 Happy Little Trees

10 a.m.–12 p.m.

\$30 per session; supplies included

Sun, May 8 Exhibition Closes: Simple Pleasures: The Art of Doris Lee

Thu, May 12 Film

6 p.m.

Fri, May 13 Figure Drawing

5:30-8:30 p.m.

\$15 per session; bring your own supplies

Sun, May 15 Exhibition Closes: Rock Island Art Guild Fine Arts Exhibition

Sun, May 26 Opening Celebration: College Invitational

6:30 p.m.

Fri, May 27 Figure Drawing

5:30-8:30 p.m.

\$15 per session; bring your own supplies







Special events,







Tue, Mar 1 Cajun Cook-Off

5-8 p.m.

Let's get ready to eat! The Cajun Cook-Off is back and ready to spice things up! Join us for some Fat Tuesday shenanigans at the Rhythm City Casino's Event Center. Guests are invited to sample Cajun-inspired dishes from some of the best Quad Cities-area chefs, all in support of the Figge Art Museum. Sign up at figgeartmuseum.org to join the fun! If your are a chef interested in participating in Cajun Cook-Off, please contact Natalie Dunlop at 563.345.6651.

Sun, Jun 26 Art at Heart Gala

Join us for one of the best events in the Quad Cities to support arts education programs and outreach. The 15th annual Art at Heart Gala will include delicious food, friends, and fun as well as an opportunity to bid on original art works and experiences during the live auction.

education

Brand Boeshaar Scholarship Program

Since 2000, the Brand Boeshaar Scholarship Program has awarded more than \$850,000 to graduating seniors in eastern lowa and western Illinois who wish to pursue fine arts, design, or art education in college. To be considered for one of four prestigious \$12,000 scholarships, applicants must submit a completed application, high school transcript, two letters of support, and a portfolio of 12 works. The program is funded by the Brand Boeshaar Foundation Fund, managed by the Figge Education Department, and administered by the Quad Cities Community Foundation.

Applications and letters of support must be submitted by Saturday, March 5; portfolios may be submitted Friday, March 4, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., or Saturday, March 5, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Contact Heather at haaronson@figgeartmuseum.org with questions.

Mobile audio tour

The Figge mobile audio tour is designed to deliver behind-the-scenes content and facts about hand-selected works right to your cell phone, tablet, or computer. Over 100 stops are available! To participate, simply visit figge.oncell.com, dial the tour number 563.424.3397, or scan a QR code next to the art objects.

Guided tours

Taking a tour of the galleries with an experienced docent is not only a great conversation starter but also a wonderful way to gain new insights into the art around you. Make sure to check out the public tour schedule—or contact Heather at haaronson@figgeartmuseum.org to schedule a private tour for your group.

Jan 29-May 15, 2022

Young Artists at the Figge

Mary Waterman Gildehaus Community Gallery

Elementary art students from eight area school districts will have artworks featured in the 2022 *Young Artists at the Figge* exhibitions. In their artworks, students show how important creativity continues to be amid the ongoing challenges of the pandemic. Whether students are wearing masks or having limited interactions, there are countless therapeutic benefits to creation. *Young Artists* exhibitions are sponsored in part by the Brand Boeshaar Foundation Fund, the Hubbell–Waterman Foundation, and the Scott County Regional Authority.

Stop by our community gallery to experience incredible art by students from these local school districts:

Jan 29-Feb 6

Muscatine

Sponsor: Kent Corporation

Feb 12-20

Moline

Sponsor: Tom and Brooke Terronez

Feb 26-Mar 6

Bettendorf

Sponsor: GreenState Credit Union

Mar 12-20

Geneseo

Mar 26-Apr 3

Pleasant Valley

Sponsor: GreenState Credit Union

Apr 9-17

North Scott

Apr 23-May 1

Davenport

May 7-15

Rock Island-Milan

Sponsor: Mark and Deborah Schwiebert



20 Donor spotlight

Growing the endowment

Figge outreach reaches new heights

Through our donors' generous contributions, the Figge was able to partner with Spring Forward last summer to create special art kits for at-risk students in Rock Island and Milan. The kits provided art materials and access to fun instructional videos to 4,000 students—almost double the number served last year and far exceeding the number the museum engaged through similar programs before the pandemic.

"The Rock Island-Milan School District is extremely fortunate to have the outstanding partnership of the Figge Art Museum," said assistant superintendent Kathy Ruggeberg, Ph.D. "Throughout the years, the partnership has grown to include students of all ages. We are lucky to have not only field trip opportunities but also additional resources through out-of-school-time learning, in-class art lessons, art-enhanced curriculum development, the Young Artists Exhibition, and now a partnership with the Figge to use art to increase graduation rates for our high school students. The staff at the Figge are so responsive and creative."

Thanks to the generosity of the Moline Foundation, the impact of the Figge's mission will go further in our community, especially with our partners in Illinois. That's because we had the opportunity to be part of the foundation's 2021 match challenge—a 2:1 match toward our endowment!

Figge's

Lead match contributors

The Moline Foundation and the families who came together to double the match are ensuring that the Quad Cities is a culturally connected community.

- Mark and Deborah Schwiebert
- · Kevin and Jane Koski
- · Ann L. Koski
- Whitey's Ice Cream— Jeff and Jon Tunberg
- · Jon and Michelle Tunberg
- · Brian and Diana Lovett

The Moline Foundation was established in 1953 to encourage philanthropy and create opportunities to improve the quality of life for present and future generations in the Quad Cities area and surrounding region. With this mission in mind, the foundation generously created its match challenge for the sole purpose of helping grow endowment funds that serve the community's needs in perpetuity.

"We are tremendously appreciative of contributions to this initiative to ensure our community can experience the power of art through world-class art exhibitions, educational programs, events, and more," said Michelle Hargrave, the Figge's executive director and CEO. "We are grateful to several Illinois families and businesses who have chosen to elevate this magnificent opportunity by becoming lead contributors making gifts totaling \$20,000, doubling our impact."

The Figge's education programs serves over 50,000 individuals each year, with 52% in Iowa and 48% in Illinois. These important programs benefit over eight school districts, eight higher-educational institutions, and over 40 other educational partners, including the Scott County Juvenile Detention Center, the homeless shelter, Spring Forward, and many others.

Endowment support ensures the museum can continue even during challenging times—to provide high-quality and accessible art education programs that encourage creativity, teach problem-solving, spark cultural connections, support critical thinking, and promote empathy in a safe environment.



22 Events spotlight

Caught on camera

(Below) *Children and Puddles* by John Paul Thomas was auctioned during the the Art Off the Wall live auction (Top right) Silent auction items for the 2021 Art Off the Wall event (Bottom right) Catrina Contest participant for the Day of the Dead family day event held in October















(Top left) St. Anthony's Danza Asuncion Aztec Dancers at the Day of the Dead Family Day event
(Bottom left) La Catrina brought to us by Mercado on Fifth
(Top right) Jim and Michelle Russell announce their \$20,000 donation to launch the Art Diversity and Equity Fund
(Bottom right) Guests participate in the silent auction at the Art Off the Wall event held in November

24 Memberships

Building a strong foundation together

Carlie Allison, the Figge's new membership coordinator, shares her perspective on why membership matters.



As a native of the Quad Cities, I have always valued having a museum like the Figge in our community. It's special to be able to experience well-known works of art just minutes from where I live!

The arts are one of the most vital aspects of a community's growth—they promote what is special about us locally and connect us to one another around the globe. Membership to the Figge is the foundation for providing more opportunities to help our area thrive.

Figge members enjoy a number of benefits, from exclusive events and previews to discounts on classes and in the Museum Store. More importantly, though, membership to the Figge directly supports the Figge's outreach to local schools, homeless shelters, detention centers, and more. It also provides necessary resources for the museum to bring exciting and diverse exhibitions to the Quad Cities.

Being a member of the Figge is a great way to be a part of something that makes a difference. I'm looking forward to getting to know the Figge's current members and seeing them connect with others, learn from the various member programs we offer, and celebrate the arts in all forms.

I also hope to continue building awareness of the benefits of Figge membership through our partnerships with organizations across our community. I want to welcome new and diverse voices, not only in our exhibitions but also among our members, so we can continue bringing art and people together in creative ways. Not a member? Join today at www.figgeartmuseum.org!

Carlie Allison, Membership & Database Coordinator

We love our members

Depending on the membership level you choose, your benefits include:

- · Unlimited free admission to every exhibition
- Admission to over 1,000 arts, cultural, and historic institutions across the country
- · Recognition in the annual report
- Exclusive access to exhibition previews, artist talks, and museum events
- Free guest passes
- · Discounts to the Museum Store

Become a member today!

- 1 Renew or join at www.figgeartmuseum.org
- 2 Call 563.345.6638

Thank you for supporting the Figge—and world-class art right here in the Quad Cities!

"I hope to continue building awareness of the benefits of Figge membership through our partnerships with organizations across our community. I want to welcome new and diverse voices, not only in our exhibitions but also among our members, so we can continue bringing art and people together in creative ways."

Make the Museum Store a part of every visit!







Every visit to the Figge is different. With over 20 changing exhibitions each year, there's always something new to see and do.

And that's true whether you're strolling the galleries or shopping in the Museum Store! There, you'll find everything from handmade jewelry and art-inspired umbrellas to unique clothing, and much more. Special keepsakes inspired by the exhibitions on view are the perfect way to remember your visit.

With all proceeds directly supporting the Figge, visitors can feel good about giving back to the community with each purchase. Plus, Figge members receive 10% off in the Museum Store. All merchandise is tax-free, and free gift-wrap is available all year round!



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COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF GREATER DES MOINES BASTER FAMILY FUND
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