What a year! We spent 2023 celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Museum with a variety of events, programs, and exhibitions and could not be more pleased with the support from all who visited and took part in our celebration. Your response was overwhelming!

Our fall exhibition, Van Gogh for All, eclipsed our exhibit attendance records as more than 14,000 people visited the show. Of that number, almost 4,000 were students on field trips. We also had record participation this past fall in our Choctaw Days program and our Very Special Arts Festival. We are fortunate to have many donors support our Adopt-A-Bus Fund, and this past year we assisted 51 schools with $9,775 in bus stipends to bring children to LRMA for our exhibits and programs.

We started the centennial year by adding new outdoor sculptures to the lawn and ended the year by adding two works by prominent local sculptor Jason Kimes to our grounds. These two sculptures were donated by Robert Hynson from the collection of his father, Bobby Hynson, a long-time Museum trustee, who passed away in 2021.

In the midst of our centennial celebration, we had our peer review for national accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums. Less than five percent of museums in our country are accredited, and I am pleased that we have been accredited for another 10 years by AAM. We have held this distinction since 1973, and it is the culmination of efforts by staff and board members to ensure the highest standards in the museum field.

Sadly, we ended 2023 with the loss of two former Board members. Michael Jefcoat was the driving force of our collections committee and acquisitions for almost 40 years. He also took great interest in our beautiful grounds and landscaping. Dr. Eugene Owens served on our Board for almost 25 years serving as an officer and committee chair, and, as a school superintendent, helped guide our education program and school outreach efforts. They will both be missed.

George Bassi

ON THE COVER: artist unknown (India), Soldier’s Quilt, 1850-75, Wool, probably from military uniforms with embroidery thread, rickrack, and velvet binding, inlaid, layered-applique, hand embroidered, image courtesy of the American Folk Art Museum, gift of Altria Group, Inc., photo by Gavin Ashworth
Exhibitions

Handstitched Worlds: The Cartography of Quilts

January 30 - April 24, 2024
Lower Level Galleries

Exhibition generously sponsored by

Community Bank

Wayne Sanderson

Jean Chisholm Lindsey Exhibition Endowment Fund

Like many objects rooted in the everyday, quilts have the capacity to communicate stories about the context in which they were made and used. They represent maps of the quilters’ lives—living records of cultural traditions, rites of passage, relationships, political and spiritual beliefs, landmark events, and future aspirations. In the same way, a map is a pocket-sized abstraction of the world beyond what can be seen; in a quilt, a maker’s choice of fabric and design reveals insights into the topography of her world and place within it.

Handstitched Worlds: The Cartography of Quilts invites viewers to read quilts as maps, tracing the paths of individual stories and experiences that illuminate larger historic events and cultural trends. Spanning the 19th to the 21st centuries, the exhibition brings together 18 quilts from the collection of the American Folk Art Museum, New York, representing a range of materials, motifs, and techniques—from traditional early American quilts to more contemporary sculptural assemblage. The quilts in Handstitched Worlds show us how this often-overlooked medium balances creativity with tradition, individuality with collective zeitgeist.

Handstitched Worlds: The Cartography of Quilts was organized by the American Folk Art Museum, New York and is toured by International Arts & Artists, Washington, DC.

continued on page 4
Since 1961, the American Folk Art Museum has been the leading institution shaping the understanding of art by the self-taught through its exhibitions, publications, and educational programs. As a center of scholarship, it showcases the creativity of individuals whose singular talents have been refined through personal experience rather than formal artistic training. Its collection includes works of art from four centuries and nearly every continent—from compelling portraits and dazzling quilts to powerful works by living artists in a variety of mediums.

International Arts & Artists in Washington, DC, is a non-profit arts service organization dedicated to increasing cross-cultural understanding and exposure to the arts internationally, through exhibitions, programs and services to artists, arts institutions and the public.

Dr. Sandra Sider will present “Centennial to Bicentennial: Quilt-Making in the United States, 1876-1976.” Dr. Sider, a past president of Studio Art Quilt Associates, recently retired after 10 years as curator for the Texas Quilt Museum. She edited Art Quilt Quarterly for six years, and has published numerous articles and books on fiber and textile art for more than three decades. A studio quilt artist since the late 1970s, she focuses on photographic processes in her work, embellished with surface design techniques, including hand embroidery. Her art quilts have been acquired by several museums and corporate collections. She studied photography and printmaking in workshops at the School of Visual Arts (NYC) and Manhattan Graphics Center, and has a master’s degree in art history from the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, and a doctorate in comparative literature from the University of North Carolina. From 2019 through 2022, she taught the History of Textiles course for the MFA Textiles program at Parsons School of Design.
ART TALK

Thursday, March 21
Noon-1:00 p.m.
Beyond the Blanket: Creating Art Quilts

Join distinguished quilter Martha Ginn of Hattiesburg as she shares her work and discusses how traditional quilting techniques can be used to create dynamic works of art.

Lucy Frost (Dubuque, IA), Abraham Lincoln Flag Quilt, c. 1886, cotton with cotton applique and embroidery, image courtesy of the American Folk Art Museum, gift of Florence W. and Joe P. Rhinehart, photo by Gavin Ashworth

Artist Unknown (Virginia), Map Quilt, 1886, silk and cotton velvets and brocade with embroidery, image courtesy of the American Folk Art Museum, gift of Dr. and Mrs. C. David McLaughlin, photo by Schecter Lee

Jerry Gretzinger (MI, NY), Jerry’s Map (E1/N1, Generation 11), 2009-12, felt-tip pen, colored pencil, acrylic, tape, and plastic clippings on cardboard, image courtesy of the American Folk Art Museum, gift of the artist, photo by Adam Reich
The Lauren Rogers Museum of Art is proud to host the *Mississippi Art Colony 75th Anniversary Exhibition* and to share the rich artistic heritage of the Colony.

Beginning at Allison’s Wells in Way, Mississippi in the fall of 1948, the Mississippi Art Colony started a tradition of artists and teachers meeting together to paint, study, and critique one another’s work.

Since its founding, the Colony has met in five different locations within the state: Allison’s Wells (1948-63), Stafford Springs Lodge and Dude Ranch in Heidelberg (1963-70), the Pinehurst Hotel in Laurel (1970-73), Camp Henry Jacobs in Utica (1973-2021), and Lake Tia-O’Khata in Louisville (2021-present).

Curated by Colony members Kim Whitt and Byron Myrick, this exhibition consists of 33 works covering a wide range of media and subject media, and the list of artists includes a virtual “who’s who” of Mississippi artists from the last 75 years.

In Spring, 1948, Mrs. D. C. (Leith) Latimer was strolling the grounds with Hosford and John Fontaine, owners of the resort, and Karl and Mildred Wolfe, well-known artists. Leith Latimer exclaimed “Wouldn’t this be a grand place for an art colony!” All five agreed with enthusiasm, and the project was off and running. Allison’s Wells was indeed a “grand place” for an art colony. A pavilion for painting was available, of course. There was the hotel for housing, with a fine dining room serving delicious food. There was a fish pond, a swimming pool, and horses for riding. The first workshop took place in October of 1948. Director/Instructors included Karl Wolfe, Mildred Wolfe, and Caroline Compton. Twenty people took part in the opening session.

**Mississippi Art Colony**

*75th Anniversary Exhibition*

CLOSING RECEPTION SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2:00 – 3:30 PM, SANDESON GALLERY
LRMA has had a long relationship with the Colony through the decades and has hosted numerous exhibitions—including the 50th anniversary exhibition of the Colony in 1998. Of course, that relationship was the strongest when the Colony was held in Laurel from 1970 to 1973 in the Pinehurst Hotel in downtown Laurel which provided a studio in basement space that had formerly been a rathskeller. More than once there were drop-ins from the alley demanding beer! The city of Laurel was most hospitable, entertaining the artists at wonderful parties and hanging Colony shows at LRMA during this three-year span.

We are grateful to the many lenders to the exhibit and the members of the Mississippi Art Colony, past and present, who helped shape this exhibit and our state’s artistic heritage.
DROP-IN CLASSES

Home School Art

4th Tuesdays – January 23, February 27, March 26, April 23
1:00 - 4:00 p.m. · Museum Annex
Join other home school families for an afternoon of drop-in art adventures in the Annex. From toddlers to teenagers, everyone will enjoy this hands-on art experience. Activities change monthly, are free, and no registration is required.

ARTful Yoga

Wednesdays in April · 9:00 a.m.
FREE · no reservations required
Join us for an artful yoga class and engage in a practice that focuses on relaxation, balance, and strength! Ann Barrow, a certified yoga instructor, will lead each drop-in class. Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable clothes and bring their own yoga mat. Beginners are welcome.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Spring Break Festival

Tuesday, March 19 · 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
This FREE family event features hands-on activities, live demonstrations, interactive art experiences and more!

Chalkfest

Saturday, April 13 · 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Chalkfest is back for its third year! We are closing the street so artists of all ages and stages can drop by and make their mark. Draw a quick doodle or a detailed design to share with the community!

KIDS CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

(advance registration required)

CLAY CREATIONS:
CHILDREN’S POTTERY

Mondays · April 8, 15, 22 and 29
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Grades 3 – 6
$80 members / $100 non-members
Instructor: Jeremy Brooke
Students will discover the basics of hand-building and throwing on the wheel. From learning the fundamentals to exploring underglazes and textures – participants will do it all! No prior experience is necessary, and all supplies are included.
ADULT CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

(advance registration required)

ADULT POTTERY: SLAB CONSTRUCTION

Wednesdays · February 7, 14, 21, 28 and March 13*
5:30 – 7:00 p.m. · Carriage House Studio
members $100 / non-members $120
Instructor: Byron Myrick
Join instructor Byron Myrick to learn the basics of hand-building with clay. Emphasis will be placed on construction procedure, surface enrichment, and glazing techniques. Space is limited and registration is required.
*Class will not meet on March 6.

“GALentines”

PAINTING PARTY

Tuesday, February 13
6:00 – 7:30 p.m. · Carriage House Studio
$25 members / $30 non-members
Instructor: Laura Jones

Grab your girlfriends and join instructor Laura Jones to create an acrylic work of heART! Refreshments and all supplies will be provided.

ONE-NIGHT WATERCOLOR WORKSHOPS

Friday, April 26
Friday, May 31
6:00 – 7:30 p.m. · Carriage House Studio
$25 members / $30 non-members
Instructor: Laura Jones
Looking for a creative night out? Join us for a relaxed and fun guided painting experience. From the set-up to the supplies to the step-by-step instructions, everything you need to confidently create your own original piece of art will be provided. No experience is necessary.

EXHIBIT-RELATED

HANDSTITCHED WORLDS FAMILY DAY

Saturday, February 24
10:00 a.m. – noon
FREE
Join us as we celebrate the Handstitched Worlds exhibit with a fun-filled morning of quilt-inspired art and activities. From hands-on crafts to scavenger hunts, there will be fun for the whole family!

UNRAVELING THE SECRET QUILT CODES

Thursday, February 29
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
$25 members / $30 non-members
Instructor: Doncella Milton
According to legend, safe houses along the Underground Railroad were often designated by a quilt hanging from a clothesline or windowsill. These quilts were embedded with a kind of code, shapes and motifs sewn into the design that delivered critical messages to enslaved people on the run. Join us to learn more about this fascinating piece of history and create your own secret quilt patch. Beginners are welcome and all supplies included.

FIBER ARTS: CREATIVE FABRIC COLLAGES

Friday, March 1
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
$25 members / $30 non-members
Instructor: Laura Jones
Be inspired by the quilts in the Handstitched Worlds exhibit and create a colorful collage with felt and fiber! Join local artist Laura Jones to explore composition and create a unique work of art with fabric, paper, and thread.
Marshall Bouldin (1923-2012) of Clarksdale, Mississippi, was among the elite in portraiture. Recognized internationally for his perceptive eye, disciplined brush, and imaginative backgrounds, he was described by the *New York Times* as one of America’s foremost portrait artists.

Over his more than 50-year career, Bouldin painted more than 800 portraits, and his commissions read like a roster of “who’s who” in government, business, and education, including famous Mississippians Governor William Winter and Senator Jim Eastland as well as national figures President Richard Nixon’s daughters, Sara Lee founder Nathan Cummings, and U.S. Senator Sam Ervin. For years, he had the honor of being the only American selected for exhibitions of the Royal Society of Portrait Painters in London, and his works have hung in the White House as well as prestigious private and public collections throughout the country.

As a contemporary master of portraiture, Marshall passed along his talents to his son Jason who chose to follow in his father’s footsteps. During the summer of 2002, the Lauren Rogers Museum of Art was privileged to organize an exhibition of paintings by Marshall and Jason, who resides in Oxford, Mississippi.

In the early 1970s, Marshall Bouldin left portraiture and oil painting for a brief period to explore watercolor. In 1973, LRMA hosted its first exhibition by Bouldin which included numerous watercolors. In celebration of the artist’s 100th birthday and the 50th anniversary of his first LRMA exhibition, we are pleased to host an exhibit of Bouldin’s watercolor paintings that primarily celebrate the diverse Mississippi Delta landscape. We are grateful to Bouldin’s family for their assistance in organizing this exhibition.
A LOOK INTO SPIRITUAL SKETCHES

Lecture Recital by Dr. Katrina L. Cox
Friday, February 15
6:00 pm
Sanderson Gallery

This performance will inform and entertain local patrons of the arts to experience the traditional African American spiritual in a new way. Composer/Arranger Damien Sneed set ten traditional Spirituals to include genres gospel, Latin, jazz, and blues. Cox completed her doctoral project on this collection and took a deep dive into the historical and musical elements of the settings. She is joined by collaborative pianist Bailey Hinton, a local producer and musician at Heartbeat Studios in Hattiesburg, MS. This is a lecture-recital unlike any other simply because audience participation is encouraged.

GARDEN LECTURE
presented in association with the Laurel Garden Club, a member of The Garden Club of America

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23
10:30 AM
Tickets $30 | Lunch included

CREATING POLLINATOR GARDENS
THAT THRIVE IN SUMMER HEAT

by Dr. Eddie M.L. Smith

From selecting heat-tolerant plants to creating rain gardens, join us as Dr. Eddie Smith, MSU Extension Coordinator for Pearl River County and host of Southern Gardening on MPB, explains how to create a thriving garden made for the Mississippi heat.

to REGISTER · LRMA.ORG or 601-649-6374
NUM BALL

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The Lauren Rogers Museum of Art provides exposure to the visual arts through focused collections, diversified exhibitions, and educational programs; encourages awareness of the aesthetic and cultural values of the visual arts; and seeks to enhance the quality of life in Laurel and Jones County, the state of Mississippi, and the Southern region.

LRMA is a private, non-profit organization operating for the benefit of the public.

HOURS OF OPERATION:
- Tues-Sat: 10 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
- Sunday: 1 - 4 p.m.
- Closed Mondays

ADMISSION IS FREE

LRMA is supported by Memberships, Donations, The Eastman Memorial Foundation, Jones County, Laurel Arts League, Mississippi Arts Commission and The National Endowment for the Arts. This publication is funded in part by a grant from The Mississippi Arts Commission and The National Endowment for the Arts.

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HOW MUCH IS DEDUCTIBLE?
If you have questions concerning the deductible limits of your Museum contributions for IRS purposes including fund-raising events (i.e. Gala), please call the Museum Office.

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LRMA NEWS | 15
More than 300 people attended Heritage Arts Festival in October.

Tommie Rodgers taught weaving techniques during Choctaw Days in October.

Students participated in the selfie station at Van Gogh for All.

AROUND THE MUSEUM

More than 300 students participated in our Very Special Arts Festival in November at the Cameron Center.

Students enjoyed one of the many art stations at the Van Gogh for All exhibit.

Pianist Dr. Christina Mathis with vocalists Jessica Bryan and Cassie Mathis-Taylor perform in concert in September.

Follow LRMA on Facebook at Lauren Rogers Museum of Art and Twitter @LaurenRogersMoA.  
Send your email address to info@LRMA.org if you would like to receive membership e-blasts with updates on events and art classes.