MAGNETIC WEST
The Enduring Allure of the American West
JUNE 27-SEPTEMBER 20, 2020
Find the Figge! Look for the building   hidden in this newsletter. Stop by the Museum Store and tell us where you found it to enter into a drawing to win a fun Figge prize.

Views from the FIGGE
JULY - AUGUST 2020 • Issue 40
Published four times a year at no charge for members, friends, and people interested in the museum. Postage paid at Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52401 and additional mailing offices.

Figge Art Museum
225 West Second Street
Davenport, Iowa 52801-1804
563.326.7804
www.figgeartmuseum.org

Grand Lobby at the Figge Art Museum

THE CURRENT
is the exclusive hospitality sponsor for the Figge Art Museum

HOURS
Reservations encouraged
10 a.m.–5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday
10 a.m.–8 p.m. Thursday
Noon–5 p.m. Sunday

Café reservations and facility rentals
563.345.6657

FREE SENIOR DAY
Free admission first Thursday of each month

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 5–8:30 p.m.
Seniors first Thursday of the month
Active U.S. Armed Forces and their families

Wheelchairs available
ALS interpreters upon request

HOME IN A DAY
OUTPATIENT TOTAL JOINT REPLACEMENT

The surgeons at ORA Orthopedics specialize in outpatient total joint replacement surgery. As the largest and most advanced provider of orthopedic care in the Quad Cities, our fellowship-trained, board-certified physicians are redefining the experience for patients who need total joint replacement.

With new advances in surgical techniques and personalized care focused exclusively on you, you can now walk out of the surgical center the very same day and recover in the comfort of your own home. Learn more at qcora.com.
From the Director

2020 is a year of two significant milestones for the Figge. In May, we made our final payment on our construction debt for our beautiful building, and in August, we will celebrate the 15th anniversary of the opening of that new space to the public. At the beginning of the year, the staff and I began making plans to mark these momentous events as well as for our 2020 programs and outreach, however, it soon became clear we would have to restrategize due to COVID-19.

The Figge staff quickly pivoted and adapted to this crisis. We immediately created and redirected resources to our Virtual Museum and social media, where Figge audiences everywhere were able to enjoy educational, entertaining, mindful, and engaging activities from the comfort and safety of their homes. Although we have now reopened our doors, our online outreach will continue and will move forward synergistically with our onsite programming. Please check our website for more details on these offerings.

Our plans for our 15th anniversary have likewise shifted to an online platform, and over 15 days, from August 6-21, we will offer unique virtual experiences, such as studio visits with artists, family art activities, private tours, classical concerts, art talks, a mortgage burning, and much more. In this way, we can bring our entire community together in a safe way to celebrate some of the Figge's triumphs and highlights from the past 15 years.

What we have accomplished since 2005 and during this unprecedented period is only possible because of you. We at the Figge are so grateful to be part of a community that cares and understands the importance of our mission of bringing art and people together. Our Board of Trustees, volunteers, members, and all of you have stepped up and contributed your precious time and financial support, enabling us to continue to enrich the lives of those in our community and beyond and to provide interactions with art, connections with each other, learning opportunities, and respite during an anxious time. Thank you for making this impact on our region and keeping your Figge strong.

Michelle Hargrave
Executive Director

Visitor Experiences

Policies for Visitors
We are closely monitoring COVID-19 and taking precautions as necessary. Check www.figgeartmuseum.org for updates and detailed guideline for visitors.

- Masks are required for all visitors age 3 and older. Masks must be worn over mouth and nose.
- Children under 12 must stay with parent(s) or guardian(s) at all times.
- Please use the hand sanitizing stations on each level and wash hands frequently.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Observe posted signage throughout the museum with instructions for your health and safety.
- Please practice social distancing during your visit by keeping 6 feet between you and other guests.

THE FIGGE AT 15

AUGUST 6-21, 2020 Celebrate the Figge's 15th anniversary with 15 days of fun including an online performance by classical pianist Julian Gargiulo, Caribbean cooking class, family scavenger hunt, tour of the John Deere art collection, studio tour of Hot Glass, and much more! See a complete listing of events and register at www.figgeartmuseum.org.

Program and event changes may occur; view updates at www.figgeartmuseum.org
Organized by the Figge Art Museum, Magnetic West features more than 150 photographs by some of the most renowned photographers of the 19th and 20th centuries. Picturing the West as a metaphor for promise and peril, the exhibition explores issues of identity, implications of living in a changing landscape, and the centrality of Indigenous and immigrant communities to the essential dynamism of the region. Including images made by artists from the United States and abroad, the exhibition expands the dialogue of how our view of the West has evolved from the 19th century to today.

Assembled from many public and private collections, the exhibition includes important works by Robert Adams, Edward Burtynsky, Laura Gilpin, Zig Jackson, Elaine Mayes, Wendy Red Star, Cara Romero, Victoria Sambunaris, Wim Wenders, and many others. The exhibition will appear at the Sioux City Art Center October 24, 2020, to January 17, 2021. A catalogue will be published in conjunction with the exhibition.

Contributing Sponsors:
Constance Bosson Runge
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Modern Woodmen

Cara Romero, Chemehuevi, born 1977, 17 Mile Road, 2019, Archival pigment print, Private Collection, © Cara Romero, image courtesy of the artist

About Face: Contemporary Ceramic Sculpture
JUNE 20-AUGUST 30, 2020 | FOURTH FLOOR GALLERY

About Face: Contemporary Ceramic Sculpture examines the lineage and influence between the revolutionary generation of ceramic artists working in the figural genre in the 1950s and 1960s and artists working today. Through their work, these artists use the human form as a vehicle to explore issues relating to the body, various social and cultural concerns, and concepts relating to the female/male gaze.

Organized by the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Montgomery, Alabama

Kurt Weiser, American, b. 1950, Random House (Globe), 2017, porcelain, glaze, china paint, and metal, Image courtesy of the artist and Ferrin Contemporary, North Adams, Massachusetts, © Kurt Weiser
Throughout his long artistic career, local artist Rob Lipnick has developed a unique system of iconography. The symbols in his ceramics link his work to Jewish tradition, popular culture, and his personal experiences. This exhibition will feature Lipnick’s most recent body of work, which consists of large abstract ceramic assemblages that challenge the viewer to discern meaning from their emblematic forms. These works alongside Lipnick’s more familiar ceremonial objects will provide insight into his artistic practice.

Contributing Sponsors:

Rob Lipnick, American, b. 1958, Arrangement, 2020, glazed ceramic, © Rob Lipnick, 2020, image courtesy of the artist

MEMBER EVENT

6:30 p.m. Saturday, September 5
Members-only virtual tour of Rob Lipnick’s studio, led by the artist. Please contact Tessa Pozzi at tpozzi@figgeartmuseum.org to reserve your spot.


Didier William: Lakou
Living Proof Exhibit: A Visualization of Hope

SEPTEMBER 24-DECEMBER 6, 2020 | MARY WATERMAN GILDEHAUS COMMUNITY GALLERY

The passion, courage, and talent of cancer survivors who use art to celebrate and reflect upon survival are showcased in this exhibit. The artworks vary widely in their media and stylistic approaches yet coalesce around the theme of hope. The exhibition is in collaboration with the non-profit organization Living Proof Exhibit. To learn more about Living Proof Exhibit, visit www.livingproofexhibit.org.

Brand Boeshaar Scholarships

The results are in for this year’s recipients of the prestigious $12,000 scholarships for students majoring in art, art education, design, or architecture. The program is funded by the Brand Boeshaar Foundation Fund, managed by the Figge Education Department, and administered by the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend.

2020 Recipients

Lillian L. Brand Scholarship Maggie Borata, Central DeWitt High School
Isabelle M. Brand Scholarship Lena Dybro, Davenport Central High School, Creative Arts Academy
Lucille Brand Boeshaar Scholarship Lucas Teasdale, Davenport Central High School, Creative Arts Academy
William Brand Boeshaar Scholarship Hope Van Patten, Davenport Central High School, Creative Arts Academy

Honorable Mention

Don Heggen Memorial Scholarship Fund Recipients ($500 each)
Gracie Miller, Assumption High School
Sophie Curtis, Pleasant Valley High School

Join Us in the Figge’s Virtual Museum

At the heart of all Figge programs is the belief that art has the power to transform lives, especially during times of crisis and uncertainty. We hold this belief near and dear as we navigate programming and redefine what it looks like to bring art and people together when we can’t always be together in person.

Many of the programs that we have developed have been repackaged over the past few months of transition—we hope you enjoy the assortment of offerings now available through the Figge’s Virtual Museum. As we can, we will continue to host modified programs in the museum, such as in-person, small-group classes, like figure drawing sessions that will start up again on Fridays in August. For programs that must accommodate larger groups of people, we will continue to host them online until we determine it is safe to conduct them in person at the museum.

Trust me, we are as eager as you to gather together in person so we can pick up where we left off. Until that time, please join us and experience the transformative power of art as we continue to look, learn, create, discover, and play together!

Melissa Mohr
Director of Education

Full program listings and up-to-date information can be found at www.figgeartmuseum.org.

Thursdays at the Figge has moved online! Programs are still free but registration is required and space is limited. Sign up today to reserve your spot!

All Virtual Thursdays at the Figge take place at 6:30 p.m. CST. Upon registration, you will receive an e-mail that includes the link to join through Zoom.

Virtual Artist Talk: Andy Abeyta, July 23
Virtual Curator Talk: Vanessa Sage, July 30
Virtual Artist Talk: Rob Lipnick, August 13
Virtual Artist Panel: August 20
Virtual Artist Panel: September 3
Virtual Artist Talk: Monica Correia, September 10
Virtual Artist Talk: Wendy Red Star, September 17
Virtual Artist Celebration: Living Proof Exhibit, September 24

As programs and events are rescheduled, changes may occur. For the latest updates, visit www.figgeartmuseum.org.
In March, the governor ordered museums and many other businesses across Iowa to temporarily close in order to contain the spread of COVID-19. The Figge Art Museum was no exception. Figge staff created a Virtual Museum to bring art to the community in a new and innovative way.

The Virtual Museum offers exhibitions, tours, artist series, art education lessons, and activities that are available through the convenience of the Figge’s website. The museum’s mission remains top priority by entertaining, educating, and inspiring virtual visitors in the comfort of their own homes.

Here’s our virtual impact since March 17:

- **17,335** Mobile Audio Tour participants
- **16,000** Visits to our Virtual Museum on our website
- **17,307** Followers of virtual content on Facebook (12,109), Twitter (2,792), and Instagram (2,406)
- **1,000** Views of Virtual Museum videos
- **229** Percent increase of people reached on our social media platforms
- **202** Percent increase of social media post engagements
- **22** Art games and activities introduced on our website for adults and kids
- **9** Percent increase in our email click rate by our 6,873 subscribers
- **3** Virtual exhibitions

Program and event changes may occur; view updates at www.figgeartmuseum.org
Philanthropy

My Museum: The Figge is Important for a Vibrant Community

HUNT AND DIANE HARRIS

Hunt and Diane Harris have been members of the Figge Art Museum since the opening of the building in 2005. “A vibrant community needs a strong base of cultural amenities. The Figge is one of the best regional museums in the country. It is an attraction and center of arts learning in the Quad Cities and an important draw for those looking to move to our area,” commented Hunt.

Over the years Hunt and Diane have attended many special exhibitions and events at the Figge. “We enjoy viewing the changing exhibitions and attending programs at the Figge. Our favorite exhibitions are French Moderns, Monet to Matisse, 1850–1950 and The Art of Architecture: LEGO sculptures by Adam Reed Tucker | Photographs by J. Hunt Harris II,” said Hunt.

Hunt currently serves on the Figge’s Board of Trustees as treasurer and chair of the Finance Committee. He also serves on the Executive and Governance committees and is the incoming chair of the Development Committee. “I enjoy seeing and learning about great art and value the interaction I have with staff, fellow board members, and committee members,” he said.

As a trustee of the board and incoming development chair, Hunt recognizes the importance of supporting a cultural amenity like the Figge. “There are so many worthy organizations in the community that it is hard to know what to support. Diane and I try to balance our giving between important areas of educational, human services, and cultural organizations. We believe this is the best way we can support a vibrant community,” he said.

This belief is what has motivated Hunt and Diane to invest in the Figge to continue to enrich the lives of the people in our community through the power of art.

Membership

The Figge is committed to bringing art and people together, and we can’t do it without you! Members provide critical support for our programs and outreach, all while enjoying unlimited visits; discounts to the Museum Store, café, and classes; and exclusive events, such as the annual member dinner, the Red, White, and Boom Watch Party, and these Fall programs:

Rob Lipnick Virtual Studio Tour and Q&A
4-5:30 p.m. Saturday, September 5
Free; registration required
Take a virtual tour of Rob’s studio and learn about his processes. Enjoy an informative Q&A session following the tour.

Wine & Art: Finger Painting (Members-only)
Thursday, September 10

We offer memberships with NARM benefits, which provide you with free admission to nearly 700 museums across North America!

Celebrate 15 Years at the Museum Store

Find unique gifts exclusive to the Figge at the Museum Store. Everyone will appreciate the collection- and building-inspired favorites that support the museum and local artists.

NEW ARRIVAL

Glow-in-the-Dark Jewelry
Lamp-worked by hand from Krista Bermeo in Indiana; these pieces glow like fireflies! | $30–$60
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Dennis and Pat Miller Estate
Bernadette Murphy
Martha Neal
Henry and Linda Neuman
Old Towne Bakery
Palmer Hills Golf Course
Sandy and Sandra Partridge
Beth Peters and
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Quad City River Bandits
Quad City Storm
Quad City Symphony Orchestra
Susan Quail
Rhythm City Casino, Davenport
River Action, Inc.
River Music Experience
Lloyd and Betty Schermer
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Rick and Nancy Seidler
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Sipp’s Restaurant
Skin Dimensions Day Spa
Small Town Pastry
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