



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
5 August 2006

ART FOR ALL: MISSOULA ART MUSEUM GRAND OPENING

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
MAM GALLERIES ARE OPEN DAILY NOON - 8PM, IN ADDITION TO SPECIAL MORNING AND EVENING EVENTS.

ART ON VIEW: *MAM Unwrapped* features 200 artworks gifted to the Missoula Art Museum Collection and showcases six state-of-the-art gallery spaces seamlessly winding their way through naturally lit passages, merging the historic Carnegie and the contemporary addition. The inaugural exhibition celebrates the citizens and museum supporters who have labored over the past 31 years to make MAM a professional, accredited facility. *MAM Unwrapped* allows the community to learn about the importance and scope of MAM's permanent art collection, including the Contemporary American Indian Art Collection.

ALL WEEK LONG:

Art & Seek: A Grown-Up Scavenger Hunt!

Creative clues guide you on a dynamic tour of the new MAM. Take an approachable and fun look the MAM Collection, discover architectural intricacies, and absorb thought-provoking facts. Complete the hunt and you will be awarded with an ART4ALL sticker and a chance to win a full collection of MAM exhibition catalogues.

Shoebox Art Space: Self-directed art project in the classroom.

Create your own gallery space using images from MAM's collection or make your own art to hang in your shoebox gallery. All materials provided.

UM Membership Giveaway: University of Montana students can stop by MAM all week long, show their Griz card and have a chance to win one of three \$100 Friend memberships!

Daily Tours led by MAM Staff

Unwrap MAM's special gift to Missoula during one of the daily tours focusing on the new and renovated facility, exhibitions, and permanent collection.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

4PM: Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening.

It's official: Missoula's brand new, amazing, and beautiful contemporary art museum is open to the world! Join the cultural community for a ribbon cutting ceremony with civic leaders, American Indian drumming, and a blessing by Salish Kootenai artist Corwin Clairmont.

6PM: Drop-in Building Tour with MAM Director Laura Millin.

Take a walking journey and learn about how the vision of the new MAM became a reality.

7-10PM: *Unwrapped Party.*

Celebrate the new MAM with a feast for the senses! Help MAM inaugurate Missoula's newest public building with an evening of visual delights, delicious food, and live music.

8PM: *Drop-in Exhibition Tour with MAM Curator of Exhibitions Stephen Glueckert.*

Get inside *Unwrapped*: find out how the featured works are intricately connected to MAM's mission and discover the importance of MAM's young and growing collection to the region.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

10AM-NOON: *Open Studio in the Classrooms.*

Budding artists of all ages: explore charcoal, paint, pastels, color pencils, sculpting wire, and more in MAM's fully-equipped classrooms! All materials provided.

10AM-1PM: *Beauty Ranger Bobby Tilton.*

The Beauty Ranger is patrolling the neighborhood with tips (or citations!) on essential "beauty" requirements.

NOON: *Drop-In Kids Tour with MAM Curator of Education Renee Taaffe.*

For ages 6-12 (parents welcome, too!): Explore the new building and the wonderfully eclectic MAM Collection.

1PM: Art Talk: *A Butterfly Life: Gibson's Carnegie Library for Missoula.*

Rafael Chacón, Ph.D., Professor of Art History and Criticism at UM, discusses the colorful history of Missoula's Carnegie Library. He argues that Gibson's innovative building was not only precedent-setting, but also represents the architect at the height of his career.

4-6PM: Poetry Reading: *MAM Honors Patricia Goedicke.*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17: CLOSED

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

University Day

NOON-1:30PM: *Artist/Educator Brown Bag Lunch.*

Local artists who also teach art to diverse audiences discuss how their own practice as contemporary artists has informed their teaching. Artist/educators include Mike deMeng, Bev Beck Glueckert, Dustin Hoon, Francis Pearson, and Patricia Thornton. Bring your own sack lunch; MAM will provide beverages and plenty of great art.

4PM: *Roundtable Discussion with Artist/Educators*

Explore the individual creativity of MAM Collection artists who are also dedicated to educating a new generation of artists at the UM.

5PM: *Celebration of Art Educators Reception.*

This special event honors all art educators and supporters of art education.

7PM: *Space for Art: The Contemporary Viewing Experience.*

Valerie Hedquist, Ph.D., Professor of Art History and Criticism at UM, explores how MAM's expansion and renovation is part of a national and international flowering of new spaces for art. Through images of innovative museums and architectural projects both newly finished and underway, she introduces us to the work of today's most creative architects.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

7:30-8:45AM: *Good Morning MAMber Yoga.*

A new MAM member benefit and the perfect way to start your day: Breathing and Downward Dog surrounded by contemporary art! Marina Zaleski teaches Hatha yoga for continuing students. Space is limited; please pre-register. \$45/six sessions, Tuesdays, Sept 19-Oct 24. Questions? marina.yoga@gmail.com, 327.0775.

NOON: *Collection Tour with MAM Registrar Jennifer Reifsneider.*

Get under *Unwrapped* with stories about the curious history and exciting future of MAM's permanent collection, and take a behind-the-scenes peek into MAM's new collection vault.

4-5:30PM: *After School Art Fun!*

Embark on a drawing adventure in MAM's new classroom, led by Curator of Education Renee Taaffe. Space is limited; please pre-register. For ages 7-11.

7PM: *Art Talks: Jaune Quick-to-See-Smith, Debra Magpie Earling, and Donna House.*

Gain fresh and challenging insights into contemporary Indian expression with MAM's special guests: internationally-regarded painter and printmaker Jaune Quick-to-See Smith (Flathead/Cree/Shoshone), writer and poet Deborah Magpie Earling (Salish/Kootenai), and the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian landscape designer Donna House (Pueblo.)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

8-9AM: *Coffee Talk with the Missoula Downtown Association.*

Enjoy hot coffee and conversation at this informal gathering of Missoulians. Co-sponsored by the MDA.

11:30-1:30: *Art Associates of Missoula Membership Kickoff Luncheon and Social.*

The AAM is a membership-based organization that is focused on art education. You are welcome to join AAM or drop in just for lunch! \$15 / for more information, email artassociatesofmissoula@yahoo.com.

NOON: *Drop-in Building Tour with MAM Board Member and Art Associate Louise Ross.*

Explore MAM's new facility with one of its current leaders. Ross is also past president of the Art Associates of Missoula and has special insight into the new Art Associates Education Center.

5-7PM: *Art Means Business: A Reception for Missoula Businesses.*

MAM is celebrating a long-standing partnership between arts and business. Meet some of MAM's most devoted business patrons, network with your peers, learn about Missoula's new contemporary art museum and find out how your too can be involved.

7-9PM: *Life Drawing, facilitated by the Pattee Canyon Ladies Salon.*

Draw from a live model in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere. Interested artists of all levels are invited for a special treat tonight only: Members of the Pattee Canyon Ladies Salon, including Nancy Erickson, drop in to offer thoughts and inspiration. \$5. Materials provided.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

10-11:30AM: *Preschool Art Start with Allison DuPuy.*

Help your preschooler discover and explore inner creativity with materials and projects geared just for kids. Space is limited; please pre-register. For ages 3-5.

NOON: Art Talk: *Brown Bag Lunch with Dyna Kuehnle.*

Kuehnle presents a casual talk about her artwork, newly acquired for the MAM Collection. Kuehnle examine ideas about permanence and impermanence in life-size tableaux made of found and cast bronze objects. Bring your own sack lunch; MAM will provide beverages and plenty of great art.

5:30-9PM: *Artini: Pomp. Bring Your Bling.*

MAM's hip, multi-sensory event is going all out in the new MAM! Grab your gown, bring your bling, and find your friends for an evening of film, music, food, and fun. MAM Architect Warren Hampton will give a building tour at 7PM.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

NOON: *Drop-in Building tour with MAM Director Laura Millin.*

Take a walking journey and learn about how the vision of the new MAM became a reality.

4-5:30PM: *High School Art High Jinks with Dustin Hoon.*

High School Students: This excited and enthusiastic young art educator has cooked up a special art project just for you! Regardless of your art experience, you're guaranteed a good time when Dustin helps you delve into your creativity at the new MAM. Space is limited; please pre-register.

7-9PM: *Live Art: Theater and Dance.*

Awaken your senses and discover some of Missoula's best live art with Headwaters Contemporary Dance Troupe and Montana Rep Missoula. Headwaters Dance Co. will present a first draft of their newest acquisition for the Montana Suite Project, *Part II: The Hi-Line* by New York choreographer John Jasperse. Montana Rep Missoula will present cuttings by Wendy Wasserstein's *Heidi Chronicles*.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

10AM-NOON: *Chalk on the Walk facilitated by Tim and Patricia Thornton.*

Create a chalk treasure in downtown Missoula when you use MAM's sidewalks and steps for a canvas! Explore your own imagination or find inspiration in MAM's collection artworks.

NOON: *Drop-in Exhibition Tour with MAM Curator of Exhibitions Stephen Glueckert.*

Discover the driving force behind Montana's contemporary creative culture and MAM's beginnings in this tour focusing on Montana Modernists represented in the MAM Collection.

1PM: *Panel Discussion with Montana Modernists.*

Follow the odyssey of modernism into Montana and its impact on MAM with moderator David Nelson, former Director of the Montana Arts Council and first president of the Montana Art Gallery Directors Association. Panel participants include Lela and Rudy Autio, Gennie DeWeese, and George Gogas.

6PM: *Collection Tour with MAM Registrar Jennifer Reifsneider.*

Get under *Unwrapped* with stories about the curious history and exciting future of MAM's permanent collection and take a behind-the-scenes peek into MAM's new collection vault.

7PM: Film Screening: *Agnes Martin: With My Back to the World.*

View a groundbreaking documentary on the internationally renowned painter, and learn about her from a personal viewpoint during an informal discussion with Wes Mills, an artist represented in the MAM Collection and friend of Martin for many years.

9PM: *Closing Celebration and Outdoor Jam*

Enjoy a grand ending to a grand week celebrating MAM's new era. This final public reception features an outdoor artist jam session with visual artists led by Missoula favorites Beth Lo and David Horgan.