

DAVID
OWSLEY
MUSEUM OF
ART BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021



FROM THE DIRECTOR

The 2020-21 academic year marks a period of continuity and change as the museum works to preserve valuable legacies and invite a wider variety of perspectives into the collection. As part of our efforts to build a more inclusive museum, expect to see an increase in images of, and art by, people of color and women in the galleries. For example, despite limited budgets and the pandemic, in the 2020 calendar year the museum only purchased works of art by Black artists, including a flag painting by June Edmonds and a resplendent sculpture by Richard Hunt.

Our exhibition lineup also reflected these priorities with the Fall exhibition *20/20: Twenty Women Artists of the Twentieth Century*. Celebrating the centennial anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment, which granted many women the right to vote in the United States, *20/20* presented the opportunity to display a rich array of works by women artists from the museum's collection. These included art by lesser known and famous women, such as Winifred Brady Adams, Betty Esman, Perle Fine, Grace Hartigan, Margo Hoff, Lee Krasner, and Joan Mitchell; Indiana's first licensed female architect Juliet Peddle; photographers Berenice Abbott, Margaret Bourke-White, Imogen Cunningham, and Eva Rubinstein; sculptors Harriet Frishmuth

and Toshiko Takaezu; as well as modern and contemporary artists Judy Chicago, Jenny Holzer, Judy Ledgerwood, Irene Rice Pereira, Lorna Simpson, and Kara Walker.

Because of limited in-person attendance during the pandemic period, the exhibition was also presented through 360-degree visits on the museum's website and became the subject of a Virtual Museum Experience with videos, educational resources, and more. Both online resources will remain available for students, faculty, and the public through the following year. 2020 was also the year in which DOMA benefactor Sharon Seager inaugurated a fund to support the acquisition of art by or about women.

In the Spring of 2021, DOMA hosted a blockbuster exhibition *POP Power from Warhol to Koons: Masterworks from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation*, introducing one of the largest private holdings of contemporary prints and multiples to Muncie and East Central Indiana. *POP Power* explored the work of Pop artists Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein next to that of their present-day, Neo-Pop heirs, including powerhouses such as the American Jeff Koons and his English counterpart Damien Hirst. By offering *POP Power* at Ball State, DOMA demonstrated a

commitment to the display of postwar American and international contemporary art, showcasing many of the most popular artists of the second half of the 20th and the early 21st centuries.

Despite masking and COVID-19 protocols on campus, DOMA, its staff, and its visitors showed remarkable resilience and a desire to experience works of art firsthand, with all the intellectual stimulation, emotional insights, and solace it provides during times of crisis. We remain grateful to the museum's many supporters who sustained us throughout the year, particularly those who joined the virtual Art in Bloom fundraising event (including over 400 people that visited the museum in person during the Art in Bloom weekend exhibition).

DOMA made strides in demonstrating its efforts to change old paradigms by normalizing the inclusion of historically marginalized voices into its galleries and exhibitions. While we empathize with those who have fallen ill or suffered losses over the past year, we also know that we have a bright and more equitable future ahead of us.



Robert La France
Director of the David Owsley Museum of Art



MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

MISSION: The David Owsley Museum of Art cultivates lifelong learning and recreation in the visual arts through its collection of original works of art, engaging exhibitions, and educational programs for the university community and other diverse audiences.

*(As adopted by the Ball State University Board of Trustees;
December 19, 2008)*

VISION: To educate, inspire, and connect people through the David Owsley Museum of Art's global art collection. *(April 2019)*

The David Owsley Museum of Art is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) and a member of:

- Association of Academic Museums and Galleries (AAMG)
- Association of Midwest Museums (AMM)
- Association of Art Museum Curators (AAMC)
- Midwest Art History Society (MAHS)



Front cover: detail

***Rising Sun*, 1915**

Adolph Alexander Weinman

American (1870-1952)

bronze cast about 1917-37

Frank C. Ball Collection, gift of
the Ball Brothers Foundation
© the artist's estate

1995.035.171

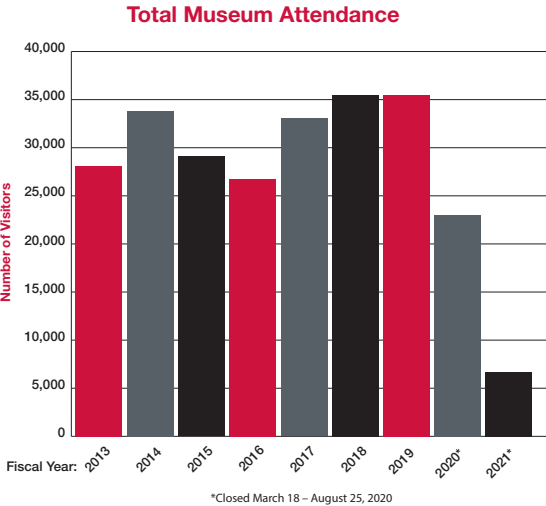
ABOUT THE DAVID OWSLEY MUSEUM OF ART

The David Owsley Museum of Art (DOMA) is an 85-year-old university art museum that houses a world art collection with more than 11,000 objects representing civilizations from six of the seven continents. DOMA balances exciting contemporary and historical art exhibitions with engaging displays of the permanent collection in a rich, educational environment that serves both the university and the East Central Indiana region.



MUSEUM ATTENDANCE

The annual, in-person museum attendance in FY2021 was just 6,703 visits, a number severely limited by the museum's closure due to the COVID-19 crisis in 2020 and visitor hesitation while the nation recovered in 2021. Online activity on the museum's website, however, increased significantly and registered 21,968 visits by 12,732 users. The most utilized portion of the website was the collection search page with 9,285 pageviews for an average time on page of nearly 5 minutes, followed by 7,377 views of DOMA's exhibitions page. Many of DOMA's web visitors were from the 18-24 age group in Muncie, indicating heavy website use by Ball State students.



EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

DOMA fulfils its educational mission by embracing both a local campus audience as well as K-12 students and lifelong learners throughout the region. Pandemic-related restrictions in 2020-21, including but not limited to the museum's closure during the Summer of 2020, remote university classwork, and the cancellation of most K-12 field trips and in-person classes, all affected the museum's educational and outreach programming. For example, the COVID crisis cut the overall number of preregistered K-12 tours to less than 10% of the 2019 figures, as only 253 K-12 students and teachers physically visited DOMA in just 13 groups.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

With limited in-person attendance and guidelines prohibiting large groups in 2020-2021, DOMA staff quickly pivoted to offering new digital content, online tours, virtual meetings and events. For example, Director of Education Tania Said led a team to create a Virtual Museum Experience that enhanced the exhibition *20/20: Twenty Women Artists of the Twentieth Century*. This interactive prototype is a digital experience packed with short videos, information, and viewer reactions to works of art that remains available on the museum's exhibitions page bsu.edu/doma/exhibitions (past exhibitions tab).

The following are a few highlights of DOMA's community engagement activities for 2020-21.

MAJOR PROGRAMS

- Quad Bash: University students and community members enjoyed activities for the kick-off of the Fall semester. (in-person, outdoors)
- Online Final Friday, *Persist and Resist*: Members of the public and the Ball State community attended a live virtual event of speakers and an online dance party. The event featured PechaKucha speakers from the Ball State and Muncie communities. (online)
- Online Express Talks: *New Views of Art by Women in the Collection* and *A Triangle Becomes a Pentagon*: Works of art selected and presented by Denise Mahoney, collection manager and registrar. (online)
- Edmund F. Petty Lecture: Virtual lecture by art collector and entrepreneur Jordan Schnitzer discussed the *POP Power* exhibition and the activities of his family foundation. (online)
- Art in Bloom: Annual fundraising event including a ticketed virtual preview party followed by two days of floral displays in the galleries. Seven floral designers participated in 2021. (online and in-person event)

RECURRING PROGRAMS (including Wellness Programs)

- DOMA Art Alliance Programs: Monthly virtual programs featuring a guest speaker. (online)
- Mindfulness in the Museum: *Meditation and Laughter Yoga*: Videos, recorded in the galleries with Dr. George Wolfe, were released online on September 18 and November 13. Live laughter yoga sessions with Cindy Cash were offered via Zoom on October 16 and December 11. (online)
- DOMA internship program: Three cohorts of DOMA Ball State student interns worked during Summer, Fall, and Spring sessions. (in-person)

OFFSITE AND VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

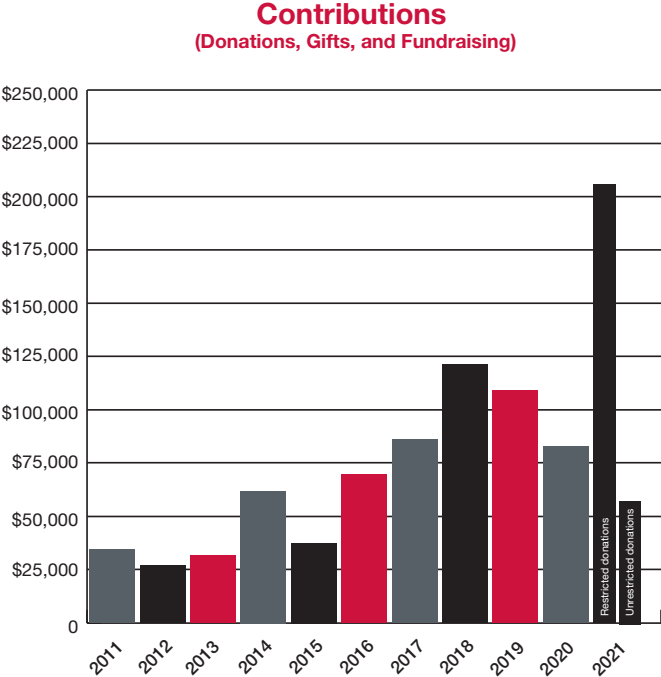
- Educator Exhibition Overview for the Fall exhibition: A virtual introduction to *20/20: Twenty Women Artists of the Twentieth Century* with DOMA director Robert La France. (online)
- Educator Exhibition Overview for the Spring exhibition: A virtual introduction to *POP Power from Warhol to Koons: Masterworks from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and his Family Foundation* with DOMA director Robert La France. (online)

OFFSITE AND VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

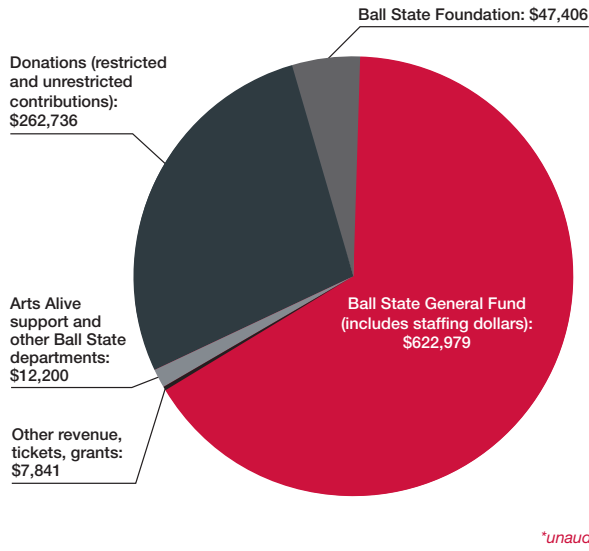
- Owsley Moments: Vivid descriptions of artwork in DOMA's collection, produced for radio listeners throughout the state. (on air and online)
- Virtual Docent's Choice Tours: Virtual Docent's Choice Tour Presentations, each featuring three works of art in the collection. Researched and narrated by docent volunteers. Two videos were published to DOMA's Vimeo account during the fiscal year: *Pushing Boundaries* and *Powerful Beliefs*. (online)
- Docent Spotlight Videos: A series of four videos, each profiling a student or community member docent who explains their role at DOMA. Docents: Barbara Alvarez Bohanon, Emma Cieslik, Sigrid Koehler, and Bea Sousa. (online)

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

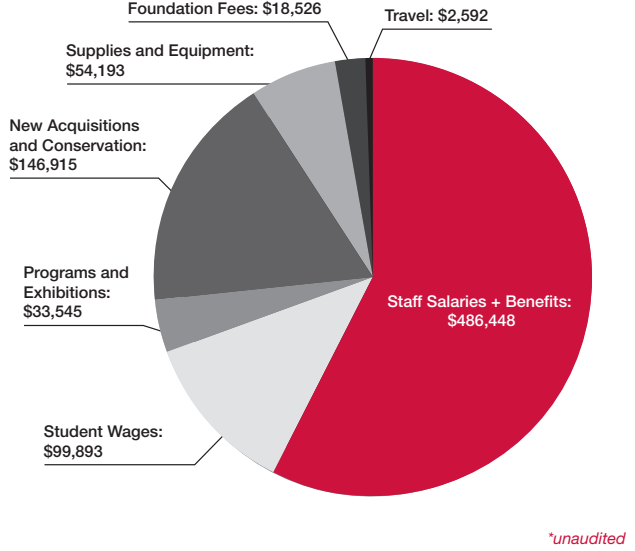
In fiscal year 2020-2021, DOMA's collection received support from generous contributions earmarked for specific new acquisitions. A significant restricted donation from Andrew and Sharon Seager enabled the planning of a corridor renovation project that will see completion in FY2022. COVID-19 continued to impact fundraising, but thanks to the museum's Benefactors, Friends, and Art Alliance groups – as well as the return of a hybrid-style Art in Bloom – the museum received more than \$57,000 in unrestricted donations.



FY2021 Income by Source (\$949,081)*



FY2021 Expenses by Type (\$842,112)* *Figures exclude maintenance, utilities, insurance, and overhead paid by Ball State University.*

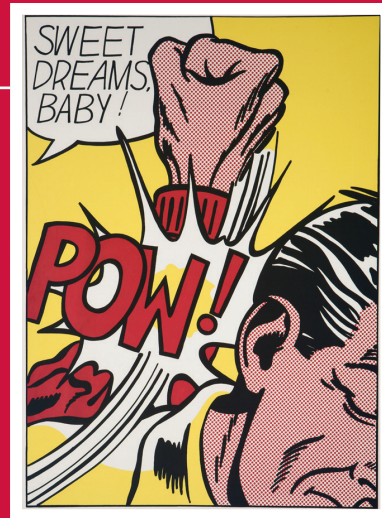




20/20: Twenty Women Artists of the Twentieth Century

David Owsley Museum of Art, Muncie IN
September 24–November 25, 2020 (closed early due to Covid 19)
114 objects from the permanent collection
4 loans from the Andrew Seager Archive of the Built Environment,
Ball State University

Toshiko Takaezu, American (1922–2011), Moon Pot, 1980s, stoneware, pink and black glazes, Gift of the Artist 2006.013.005.

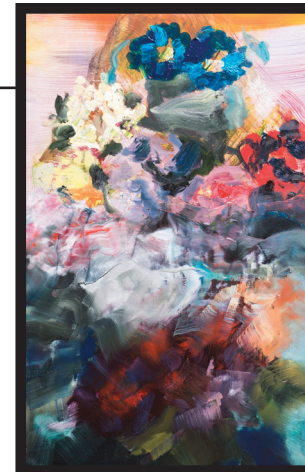


POP Power from Warhol to Koons: Masterworks from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation

David Owsley Museum of Art, Muncie IN
February 25–May 16, 2021

114 objects, organized by the Taubman Museum of Art, plus one object from DOMA's permanent collection

Roy Lichtenstein, American (1923–1997). Sweet Dreams, Baby!, 1965, published 1966, from 11 Pop Artists. Screenprint. David Owsley Museum of Art, Purchase: Friends of the Museum 1970.002.000 © Estate of Roy Lichtenstein.



Morgan Everhart: Flesh and Bloom

David Owsley Museum of Art, Muncie IN
May 14–June 26, 2021

1 object on display in DOMA's galleries, accompanied by an online exhibition installed within a virtual recreation of DOMA's special exhibition galleries

Morgan Everhart, Closer, clearer, no sir, nearer, 2018, oil on panel, © Morgan Everhart; Courtesy of YCG Fine Art.



The Sistine Chapel Trilogy

David Owsley Museum of Art, Muncie IN
June 3–September 3, 2021

Three-volume, elephant portfolio-sized publication of text and color plates.

Michelangelo, Scenes from the Book of Genesis, The Creation of Adam. Detail of the face of God. © Vatican Museum.

EXHIBITIONS
2020-2021

NEW ACQUISITIONS AND LOANS TO THE COLLECTION

FY 2021 Acquisitions	
Purchases	19
Gifts	12
FY 2021 Loans to the Collection.....	4
Total:	35



SELECTED ACQUISITIONS



Gloria Victis!, 1872
 Antonin Mercié
 French (1845-1916)
 bronze, cast after 1879
 Gift of David T. Owsley via the Alconda-Owsley Foundation in honor of Robert G. La France
2020.009.000



Construction Workers, Philadelphia, about 1945
 Dox Thrash
 American (1892 – 1965)
 oil on board
 Purchase: Ball Brothers Legacy Endowment
2020.010.001
 © Artist's estate



Narasimha Disemboweling the Demon King Hiranyakashipu, about 1760
 India, Himachal Pradesh, Pahari Kingdom of Chamba
 opaque watercolor and gold on paper
 Gift of Ramesh Kapoor in Memory of his wife Urmil and son Vineet Kapoor
2020.011.000

SELECTED ACQUISITIONS



***Daphne's Defense*, 2020**
Richard Hunt
American (born 1935)
bronze, 1/3
Purchase: Museum of Art Alliance and Ball Brothers Legacy Endowment
2020.018.00
© Richard Hunt



***The Purple Iris*, 1893-1899**
Julian Alden Weir
American (1852-1919)
oil on canvas
Gift of Mrs. Mildred Merritt
2020.021.000



***Girl in Blue (Niña en azul)*, about 1968**
Gustavo Montoya
Mexican (1905-2003)
oil on canvas
Purchase: Sharon Seager Women's Art Fund
2021.001.000
© artist's estate



***Northern Wall #2*, 1966**
Dorothy Dehner
American (1901-1994)
bronze with brown patina
Purchase: Restricted gift of David T. Owsley; Sharon Seager Women's Art Fund; and Margaret Ball Petty Fund
2021.002.000
© Dorothy Dehner Foundation for the Visual Arts



***Mother and Nursing Child*, about 1900**
Western Africa, Côte d'Ivoire, Akan people, Anyi group
wood, glass beads, and organic material
Gift of David T. Owsley
2021.006.000

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS AT DOMA FY2021

The museum benefited from the work of more than 30 paid student assistants and interns throughout the year. Over the Fall and Spring semesters, DOMA's graduate assistant contributed to the museum's daily operations and design work, while dozens of graduate and undergraduate student employees served as gallery attendants, visitor assistants, curatorial and research assistants, exhibition and art handling assistants, and education team members.

In addition, the continued generosity of Bona Dillon Press supported a partnership between CCIM and DOMA for a graduate student in the digital storytelling program to produce innovative video works. In 2020-2021, Graduate Assistant Garrett Looker produced 360-degree views of DOMA galleries and the *20/20* exhibition to provide website visitors with detailed museum experiences from home.



DOMA student employees Emily Reuben and Sam Wilderman produced several informative videos such as this one, featuring Griffin Green and Hannah Sprenger.



360-degree view of *20/20: Twenty Women Artists of the Twentieth Century* by Garrett Looker.



STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS 2020–2021

MUSEUM STAFF

Robert La France, Director
Cathy Bretz, Education
Coordinator
Rachel Buckmaster, Assistant
Director
Noelle Giuffrida, Assistant
Curator of Asian Art
Denise Mahoney, Registrar and
Collection Manager
Tania Said, Director of Education
Randy Salway, Exhibition
Designer and Preparator

STUDENT ASSISTANTS AND INTERNS

Emma Cieslik
Dylan Claude
Marie Dickison
Aerin Goldman
Griffin Green
Brenna Haley
Lilly McClung
Emily Reuben
Hannah Sprenger
Sam Wilderman

STUDENT GUARDS AND VISITOR ASSISTANTS

Emma Andersen
Molly Arent
Winry Bartosz
Bradford Brevard
Natalie Cangiano
Rylan Capper
June Cooper
Daryl Crum
Christina Ellett
Kaylee Ferguson
Olivia Henderson
Brennan Hill
Janee Johnson
Micaela Knox
Logan Lemaster
Carmia Lowe
Nora Martin
Nicolle Murrugarra
Erica O'Connor
Bailey Planton
Clay Reber
Jasmine Romero
Audrey Schiffli
Dorothy Schmok
Abby Specht
Audree Speicher
Mackenzie Summers
Austin Whaley

COMMUNITY DOCENTS

Barbara Alvarez Bohanon
Vernon Bedel
Shannon Bryan
Ellen Buchanan
Sandra Dueker
Margery Frank
Jean Gadziola
Monica James
Sigrid Koehler-Wilkins
Joan Malje
Linda McCaw
Oscar Nuñez
Jim Rhinehart
Richard Ruh
Andrew Seager
Bea Sousa
Janet Stratton
Annemarie Voss
Mark Whitney

STUDENT DOCENTS

Emma Cieslik
Molly Hollcraft
Micaela Knox
Brendan Kogiones
Abigail Rosenow

FRIENDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Jim Gooden, Chair
Mary Foster, Vice Chair
Sandra McCallister, Secretary
Members at-large:
Sigrid Koehler-Wilkins
Karen Moorman
Joe Trimmer
Sue Whitaker
Jeanne Zeigler

Ex officio members:

Rachel Buckmaster,
Assistant Director, DOMA
Seth Beckman, Dean,
College of Fine Arts
Amanda Court, Director of
Development, College of Fine Arts
Carey Fisher, Co-President,
Muncie Art Students League
Jean Gadziola, President,
DOMA Art Alliance
Robert La France, Director, DOMA
Jean McCauley, Co-President,
Muncie Art Students League
Deanna Zimmer, Assistant Director of
Leadership Annual Giving, Ball State
University Foundation



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The information presented here, correct at the time of publication,
is subject to change. 1128362-21 mc



Memorial to the Grandchildren of Queen Victoria, about 1878
Jules Dalou, French (1838-1902)
bronze, cast before 1905
David T. Owsley Collection L2009.009.087