

AW ARTWORDS **SPRING 2024**

**DAVID
OWSLEY
MUSEUM** OF
ART BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY

Vol. 29 No. 2

a newsletter for the Friends of
the David Owsley Museum of Art



IN THIS ISSUE: *BEYOND THE MEDICI*, PROGRAM CALENDAR, NEW STAFF MEMBER, AND MORE.



ARTWORDS

David Owsley Museum of Art

SERVING EAST CENTRAL INDIANA SINCE 1936

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Robert G. La France (RGL)
Maureen Nicholson (MN)

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Aubrey Smith Creative

COVER ART

Giovanni Domenico Ferretti, Italian (1692-1768), *Harlequin and His Lady*, oil on canvas, Haukohl Collection.
Photo Credit: MNHA/Tom Lucas

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◀ Ottavio Vannini, Italian (1585-1644), *The Gathering of Manna (Il miracolo della manna)*, oil on canvas, gift of John W. and Janice B. Fisher, 1988.002.000.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Prepare for a semester of magnificent Florentine Baroque art and European music at the David Owsley Museum of Art. The main exhibition is *Beyond the Medici*, which highlights Florentine Baroque paintings and sculpture collected by Sir Mark Fehrs Haukohl, who generously shared his collection for an American university tour, as explained in detail in this issue of *ARTwords*. At DOMA and Ball State, the exhibition is accompanied by a series of unmissable musical events culminating in a performance in Sursa Hall by the Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra on March 28 at 7:30pm. This central event is free to students and has a subsidized ticket cost of only \$10 for all other community members. In addition, more intimate musical gatherings will be held at the museum and performed by Ball State faculty, students, and community members with free admission for all. If you are curious about Baroque music and visual splendor, this is your opportunity for a truly European experience at little or no cost.

In addition to European painting, sculpture, and music, DOMA offers a diverse array of art from around the

globe and programs for everyone. I encourage you to attend Mindfulness in the Museum sessions, Docent's Choice tours on Saturdays, Alliance Luncheons monthly on Wednesdays (please join!), and DOMA's annual Art in Bloom fundraiser celebrating flowers and art on May 18-19, 2024. This semester we will also re-start the SMART (School Museum Readiness Tours) program for Muncie fifth graders and present a new Kids Make Art afternoon on Saturday, April 6. Please read the articles about these important youth programs in this issue and see the museum's calendar for times and dates.

Finally, we are proud to announce that the project to expand the museum's galleries, education spaces, storage, and offices into the entire Fine Arts Building is a major funding opportunity in Ball State's recently launched *Our Call to Beneficence* campaign. The plan will help the museum to better connect with and serve students, faculty, and community.

Robert G. La France



BEYOND THE MEDICI: THE HAUKOHL FAMILY COLLECTION

This exhibition and related events are made possible by Ball State University's Arts Alive Series, presented by the College of Fine Arts.

Museum hours: Tuesday–Friday, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Saturday, 1:30–4:30 p.m.; closed Sundays, Mondays, and holiday breaks.

▲ From left to right:

Onorio Marinari, Italian (1617–1716), *Madonna and Child*, oil on canvas, Haukohl Collection. Photo Credit: MNHA/Tom Lucas

Vincenzo Dandini, Italian (1609–1675), *Juno*, oil on canvas, Haukohl Collection. Photo Credit: MNHA/Tom Lucas

There are certain areas in the history of European painting about which it is respectable for even the quite knowledgeable devotee of art history to know very little... the native painters of even as famous a city as Florence in the seventeenth century occupy one of these blanks...

-Ellis K. Waterhouse, 1979

Amidst a thriving school of painters and sculptors in seventeenth-century Florence, the renowned Medici family protected and cultivated the arts and sciences.

The Medici sponsored a new musical form, the *recitar cantando* or speaking in song, crucial to the birth of opera. Grand Duke Ferdinando de' Medici promoted Galileo, who first named the moons of Jupiter the Medici planets. Despite these achievements, general surveys of Italian art skip from the Renaissance masters Donatello, Botticelli, and Michelangelo in Florence to the Baroque artists Caravaggio, Bernini, and Borromini in Rome. Spectacular works of Florentine Baroque art are often overlooked, despite their refined combinations of theatrical emotional subjects associated with new musical forms and the meticulous observation of nature linked to advances in science.



◀ Felice Ficherelli, Italian (1605-1660), *St. Sebastian Tended by Saint Irene*, oil on canvas, Haukohl Collection. Photo Credit: MNHA/Tom Lucas



◀ Onorio Marinari, Italian (1617-1716), *Apollo with a Lyre*, oil on canvas, Haukohl Collection. Photo Credit: MNHA/Tom Lucas

Beyond the Medici features works of art from a lost era of extraordinary Florentine art only appreciated by the most discerning connoisseurs. The exhibition presents a selection from the Haukohl Family Collection, the largest private collection of art by Florentine Baroque masters of the late 16th to the early 18th centuries outside of Italy. Assembled over more than 35 years by Houston-based art collector and co-founder of the Medici Archive Project Sir Mark Fehrs Haukohl, the collection includes paintings and sculptures depicting allegories, religious narratives,

tones and rich colorism with figures that fix their gazes on the viewer, inspiring introspective and emotional responses.

Sir Mark and his personal philanthropies have launched an American college art museum tour, including the Rollins Museum of Art in Winter Park, Florida, followed by the David Owsley Museum of Art (DOMA) at Ball State in the spring of 2024, and continuing to the Arthur Ross Gallery at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia in the fall. At Ball State, the exhibition is accompanied



feb 22 - may 19
EXHIBITION

by a musical soundtrack of compositions from the period (curated by Ball State Professor of Music History Murray Steib), along with a series of exceptional musical performances. The largest of the series is by the visiting Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra entitled *Music at the House of the Medici*, which will take place in Sursa Hall on March 28, 2024, at 7:30pm (a pre-concert reception at DOMA offers an opportunity to view the exhibition before the event). We encourage Ball State students and the public to enjoy the art paired with music by Baroque composers as famous as Johann Sebastian Bach, Barbara Strozzi, and Antonio Vivaldi. Also, in conjunction with *Beyond the Medici*, the museum will highlight significant Italian paintings and sculpture in DOMA's collection, including a monumental *Gathering of Manna* by Ottavio Vannini, a *Mystic Marriage of St. Catherine of Alexandria* by Simone Pignoni, and others. All three museum venues are distributing a printed catalogue with illustrations of works on display and explanations of their erudite imagery.

Please join us and bear witness to the beauty of Florentine Baroque art and European music at Ball State in a unique experience made possible by the Haukohl Collection.

-RGL

PROGRAM CALENDAR

FEB

ALLIANCE LUNCHEON AND PROGRAM Wednesday, 12 noon

07

Associate Professor of Music Dr. Stephen Campbell and Assistant Teaching Professor Dr. Cara Chowning will demonstrate the Baroque musical style. Register at bsu.edu/doma/alliance by January 31. Alumni Center

FEB

DOCENT'S CHOICE TOUR Saturday, 2:30pm

10

Join a free public tour of works selected by a DOMA docent.

FEB

MINDFULNESS IN THE MUSEUM Friday, 12 - 1pm

16

Take a midday break with professor emeritus Dr. George Wolfe to experience a form of mindfulness meditation in the galleries. Visit bsu.edu/doma for more information.



Docent's Choice Tour

FEB

EXHIBITION: BEYOND THE MEDICI: THE HAUKOHL FAMILY COLLECTION Thursday

22

Exhibition opens to the public. Visit bsu.edu/doma/exhibitions for information.

FEB

WORKSHOP: DRAMATIC ALLEGORICAL PORTRAITS Saturday, 1:30 - 4:30pm

24

Students in grades 6-8 will use the exhibition *Beyond the Medici* as inspiration as they learn drawing techniques to create their own allegorical portrait with Associate Professor of Art Education Dr. Michael Prater. Free with registration. Register at bsu.edu/doma by February 21.

FEB

EDUCATOR EXHIBITION OVERVIEW Monday, 4pm

26

Ball State faculty and area schoolteachers are invited to a walk-through of *Beyond the Medici: The Haukohl Family Collection* with DOMA director Dr. Robert La France. Register at bsu.edu/doma.

FEB

MUSIC IN THE MUSEUM: BAROQUE AND BEYOND - A COMMUNITY CONCERT Thursday, 5:30 - 7pm

29

Students from the School of Music, Honors College, and the Delaware County community perform works from the Baroque period to celebrate the special exhibition *Beyond the Medici*. Visit bsu.edu/doma for more information.



Music in the Museum

MAR

ALLIANCE LUNCHEON AND PROGRAM Wednesday, 12 pm

06

Explore *Beyond the Medici* at DOMA with director Dr. Robert La France and a behind the scenes look into collections storage. Register at bsu.edu/doma/alliance by February 28. DOMA

MAR

MINDFULNESS IN THE MUSEUM Friday, 12 - 1pm

15

Take a midday break with professor emeritus Dr. George Wolfe to experience a form of mindfulness meditation in the galleries. Visit bsu.edu/doma for more information.

MAR

DOCENT'S CHOICE TOUR Saturday, 2:30pm

16

Join a free public tour of works selected by a DOMA docent.

MAR

WRITING IN THE GALLERIES: ICONS, ANGELS, AND ALLEGORIES Saturday, 1:30 - 3:30pm

23

Join us for a generative writing workshop inspired by DOMA's special exhibition *Beyond the Medici*. Ball State creative writers will offer a series of writing prompts to spark creative ideas and explore the longstanding relationship between text and image. Participants will be invited to share their work during a poetry reading and musical concert on Thursday, April 11. Free with registration. Register at bsu.edu/doma by March 20.

SPRING 2024



program CALENDAR

MAR

28

MUSIC AT THE HOUSE OF MEDICI WITH THE INDIANAPOLIS BAROQUE ORCHESTRA Thursday, 7:30pm

This special performance is in conjunction with the *Beyond the Medici* exhibition. IBO's mission is to perform and promote music of the 17th and 18th centuries using period instruments and historically informed performance practices. DOMA will remain open until 7:00pm for visitors who wish to view *Beyond the Medici* before the concert.

\$10 for general public, faculty, and staff; Free for Ball State students

*Visit bsu.edu/doma for more information.
Sursa Hall, 1809 W Riverside Ave*

APR

11

MUSIC IN THE MUSEUM: HARMONIC CONVERGENCE - A SYMPHONY OF ART, VERSE, AND SONG Thursday, 5:30 - 7pm

Faculty from the School of Music and Honors College perform works from the Baroque period & students from the English Department share poetry inspired by the special exhibition *Beyond the Medici*.

Visit bsu.edu/doma for more information.

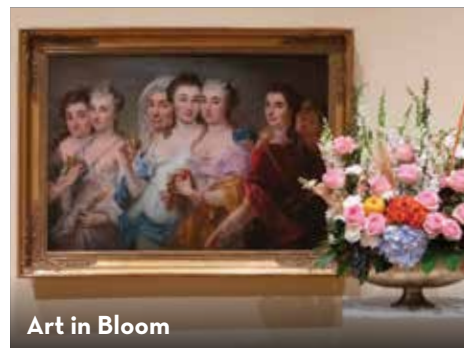
MAY

18 - 19

ART IN BLOOM Saturday, 1-7pm Sunday, 1-5pm

Enjoy a celebration in the galleries with floral interpretations of works of art – plus refreshments, art-making activities, music, demonstrations, and more.

Visit bsu.edu/doma for more information about this free community event.



Art in Bloom

APR

06

KIDS MAKE ART AT DOMA Saturday, 1:30 - 4:00pm

A fun-filled opportunity for families and kids to experience the artworks at DOMA through art-making activities with student teachers from the Ball State Art Education program.

Free with registration. Children must be accompanied by an adult guardian.

Register by April 3 at bsu.edu/doma.



Kids Make Art at DOMA

APR

10

ALLIANCE LUNCHEON AND PROGRAM Wednesday, 12 noon

Ph.D Candidate at Penn State and Ball State Alumnus Frank Lacopo will share his research on the social and cultural contexts of the Florentine Baroque.

*Register at bsu.edu/doma/alliance by April 3.
Alumni Center*

APR

13

DOCENT'S CHOICE TOUR Saturday, 2:30pm

Join a free public tour of works selected by a DOMA docent.

APR

19

MINDFULNESS IN THE MUSEUM Friday, 12 - 1pm

Take a midday break with Ball State Counseling Center for meditative art viewing experiences in the galleries.

Visit bsu.edu/doma for more information.

MAY

08

ALLIANCE LUNCHEON AND PROGRAM Wednesday, 12 noon

Carl Schafer, owner of Gordy Fine Art and Framing in downtown Muncie, will demonstrate the centuries old process of water gilding used to apply gold to frames like those seen in the *Beyond the Medici* exhibition.

*Register at bsu.edu/doma/alliance by May 1.
Alumni Center*

SCHEDULED HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

March 2 - 11, **Spring Break**

May 4, **Commencement**

JOIN THE FRIENDS OF DOMA

Join the Friends of DOMA with a minimum contribution of \$25 at bsu.edu/doma/friends or call **765-285-5242** for more information.

JOIN THE DOMA ALLIANCE

Minimum annual contribution of \$50. Larger donations are encouraged to support exhibitions, acquisitions, and conservation at the museum. All Alliance members automatically become a Friend of DOMA. If you wish to join or attend an Alliance meeting, call **765-285-5242** or register online at bsu.edu/doma/alliance.

\$20 for lunch with pre-registration required; \$5 program fee without lunch; first-time guests free unless registering for lunch.

Programs, correct at press time are subject to change without notice. Call ahead to confirm, **765-285-5242**.

All programs are at DOMA and free unless otherwise noted.



◀ **TOP:** Students from East Washington Academy discussing Joseph Delaney's *Domino Sugar* and how where we live affects our identity.

BOTTOM: East Washington Academy students are exploring how we can analyze a portrait to learn more about the sitter.



staff + education
UPDATES

SMART PROGRAM

With every new year comes new changes. This is certainly the case for DOMA's School Museum Art Readiness Tour (SMART) program. After an almost three-year hiatus due to COVID, SMART has been reimagined for fifth-grade students in the Muncie Community Schools and other districts within Delaware county. The program poses the question: How do artists express their identity through art?

Through guided looking, sketching, and writing activities, students will consider how artists use art to explore identity. Students are encouraged to examine their own personal identity and their identity within their community. Docents use specific works in the galleries as a way for students to explore these thought-provoking concepts. In the artist Swoon's print *Edine*, students are taught how to use visual clues to learn more about the identity of a sitter in a portrait. Joseph Delaney's *Domino Sugar* asks students to think deeply on connections between identity and sense of place. June Emond's *Convictions I* examines our collective identities through the scope of history and *Transformational Seal Mask* by an unidentified artist

of the Yup'ik peoples in Alaska promotes discussions around culture and identity.

These tours use works of art to spark dialogue about relevant topics and foster critical thinking. SMART aims to create a memorable learning experience by giving students more time to look closely at works of art while also engaging with museum staff, docents, and their own chaperones. Students will build a stronger connection to the art because they are able to follow their own individual interests.

This year the program builds on students' museum experience with an art-making activity in their school classrooms. Fifth-grade students will use notes and drawings from their time in DOMA's galleries to inform creative choices while making an "identity mask" that they feel conveys important aspects of their personal identity. DOMA would like to thank the visual arts teachers in the Muncie Community School district for their insights and collaboration. SMART is supported by a generous grant from the Ball Brothers Foundation.

-MN



NEW STAFF MEMBER
MARIA VANVREEDE

Maria VanVreede joined DOMA's staff in March 2023 as Registrar and Collection Manager. In this pivotal role she ensures all works of art are safely stored, displayed, and transported. This involves numerous tasks ranging from monitoring temperature and humidity in storage and gallery spaces to handling insurance and shipping arrangements for all incoming and outgoing artwork.

Maria also manages the considerable documentation, both physical and digital, related to the more than 12,500 objects in the collection. The museum's EmbARK database is ever-evolving as new data is entered and revised—maintaining this information presents an endless challenge. Accomplishing such a long list of responsibilities involves the support of

several student interns and assistants each academic term. In fact, the opportunity to work with students, and be surrounded by art, prompted her to apply for the position.

Before joining DOMA, Maria worked as the Collections Manager at the National Model Aviation Museum for fourteen years. Prior to that, she earned a BA in History from Wilson College in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, and an MA in Museum Studies from Baylor University in Waco, Texas. Outside of work, Maria enjoys volunteering for Project Stepping Stone, serving as treasurer for the Delaware County Historical Society, reading, and spending time with her dog Tate and rabbit Louie.

-CB



INSIGHT: KIDS MAKE ART AT DOMA

As part of the College of Fine Arts, DOMA places importance on our connections and collaborative capacity to provide opportunities for unique learning experiences for university students. Many faculty members across departments and colleges utilize DOMA's collection as a resource through group tours and object viewings for their classes. Associate Professor of Art Education, Dr. Michael Prater, has worked with DOMA to create a more in-depth experience for his students through the family event Kids Make Art at DOMA. This event is an opportunity for families to explore works in DOMA's collection through hands-on art making activities. Art Education students drive this event by developing and teaching art activities that are fun and accessible.

Dr. Prater shares, "the Art Education area of the School of Art really values the opportunity this event provides our student teachers and the children in our community. With the generous support of the David Owsley Museum of Art, we are able to offer rich art-making activities in a low-stress, creative atmosphere. Each event we've had so far has seen greater attendance, and the smiles on the kids' faces as they rush from activity to activity are priceless. Nothing charges an art teacher's batteries, be they new or seasoned, as much as seeing kids excited to make art."

This spring DOMA will hold its fourth Kids Make Art at DOMA event on Saturday, April 6 from 1:30-4pm. Visit bsu.edu/doma for more information and to register.

-MN



▲ Ball State Art Education students demonstrate how to create a Picasso style portrait.



▲ Children and families play with patterns while creating masks.



▲ Families enjoy a "Kids Tour" at DOMA.

SPRING 2024

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Museum Hours

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Saturday: 1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Closed Sundays and Mondays

FREE ADMISSION

2021 W. Riverside Avenue

Muncie, IN 47306

[bsu.edu/doma](https://www.bsu.edu/doma)

765-285-5242

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◀ William Bouguereau, French (1825–1905), *The Assumption of the Virgin, Study for the Dome of the Chapel of the Virgin at the Cathedral of St. Louis in La Rochelle, France*, about 1872–1875, charcoal and oil on paper, mounted to canvas, Purchase: Gift of David T. Owsley and Purchase: The Museum of Art Endowment and Friends of the Museum 2023.001.000

New to the Galleries

The artist created this preparatory oil sketch for the dome of the main chapel in the cathedral in his hometown of La Rochelle, France.

The wedges in the sketch correspond to curved sections of copper sheets that were painted, assembled, and affixed to the chapel's ceiling. In the final work, the artist replaced the Virgin's traditional red dress, symbol of blood and human suffering, with a white garment representing purity and chastity.

Bouguereau was a celebrated academic painter reviled by the Impressionists and avant-garde artists. His idealized, polished images of Renaissance Madonnas and sensuous maidens embodied Victorian taste and proved extremely popular with American collectors.