



DAVID
OWSLEY
MUSEUM OF
ART BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL
REPORT
2023-2024

FROM THE DIRECTOR

The David Owsley Museum of Art experienced several firsts during the academic and fiscal years 2023-2024. The academic year launched in the Fall semester with *Rising to the Surface: Paintings by Debbie Ma*, the New York-based artist's first one-person show. Viewers will remember how Ma's contemporary non-objective abstractions conveyed a sense of order, balance, and dynamism across shimmering sculptural surfaces of marble dust. Simultaneously in the Brown Study Room, the museum displayed its first in-house exhibition of Asian art called *Fibers of Being: Textiles from Asia in the David Owsley Museum of Art's Collection*. The exhibition featured a colorful array of fabrics normally preserved in storage to prevent their fragile dyes from fading. During the Spring semester, DOMA hosted the blockbuster exhibition *Beyond the Medici: The Haukohl Family Collection*, dedicated to the magnificent art of the Baroque period from Florence, Italy. In another first, DOMA invited the Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra to Ball State's Sursa Hall for a spectacular performance of European Baroque music to accompany the paintings and sculptures in the exhibition.

Throughout the year, DOMA continued its tradition of offering free or discounted programs to Ball State students and the public. Where else can you experience a first-person encounter with a contemporary artist, bring the young ones to Kids Make Art, party with the in-crowd at a Halloween DOMA After Hours, and practice Mindfulness in the Museum—all for no cost? Even Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra tickets were either free for students or tremendously discounted for the public.

And DOMA's signature weekend-long Art in Bloom event—including the gala reception on Saturday night—remains free and open to families and visitors from throughout the region.

We are also proud to announce that the museum's namesake benefactor, David T. Owsley, made a generous financial contribution in FY 2024 that greatly multiplies the museum's endowment funds. This new gift provides for acquisitions, conservation, exhibitions, and related expenses to keep the museum operating for generations to come. In addition, a future project to expand the museum's galleries, education spaces, storage, and offices into the entire Fine Arts Building became a major funding opportunity in Our Call to Beneficence: The Campaign for Ball State University (inaugurated in October 2023). The expansion will help the museum to better connect with and serve students, faculty, and community.

Finally, in FY 2024, DOMA welcomed its first Security and Office Manager, Michael Duquette. This newest member of DOMA's outstanding team manages the museum's everyday security protocols. With a fortified staff and a positive outlook, the museum's future has never shone brighter than today.



Robert G. La France

Director of the David Owsley Museum of Art





DOMA staff, clockwise from top left: Robert G. La France, Randy Salway, Michael Duquette, Rachel Buckmaster, Savannah Calhoun, Maureen Nicholson, Cathy Bretz, and Maria VanVreede

ABOUT THE DAVID OWSLEY MUSEUM OF ART



The David Owsley Museum of Art (DOMA) is an 88-year-old university art museum that houses a world art collection with more than 11,000 objects representing all 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.

MISSION STATEMENT

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 STATEMENT

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:

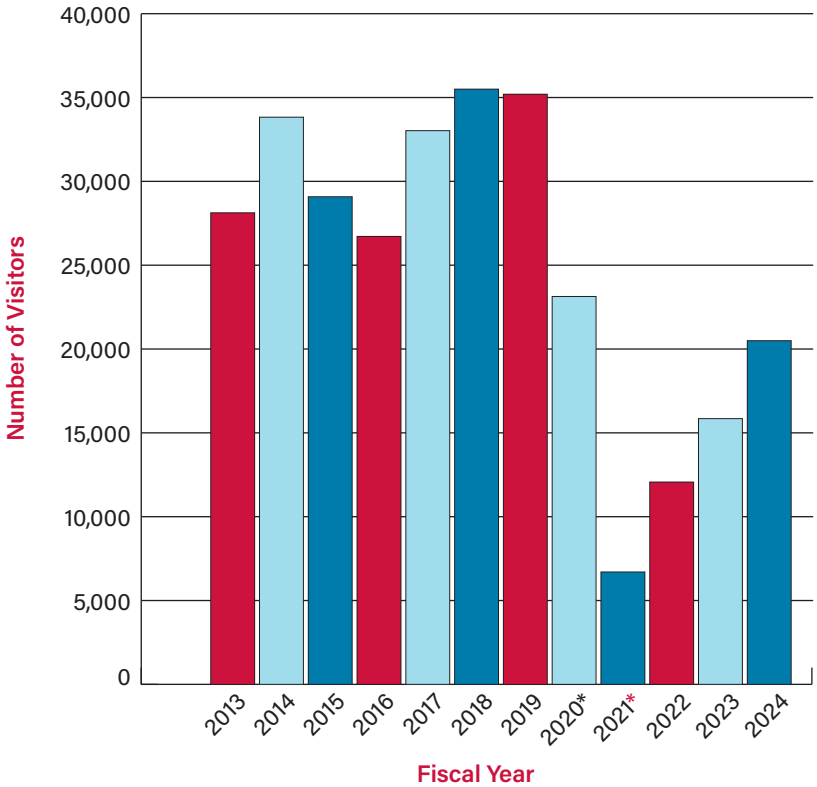
- Association of Academic Museums and Galleries (AAMG)
- Association of Midwest Museums (AMM)
- Association of Art Museum Curators (AAMC)
- Midwest Art History Society (MAHS)

MUSEUM ATTENDANCE

The annual in-person museum attendance from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 was **20,500** visitors—a 29% increase over last year—as the museum continued its post-pandemic recovery. Attendance received a boost from nearly 8,000 visits to the *Beyond the Medici* exhibition, which was extended from its planned mid-May closing through late June.

Website engagement nearly doubled the previous year’s statistics, with more than 44,343 views by about the same number of users (13,178 in FY 2024 vs. 12,722 in FY 2023). The many repeat web visits are likely the result of increased student queries and collection database consultations—as the collection search was the second most visited web address (after the landing page), and website hits spiked in October and March (about mid-semester). The museum’s main digital audience was from Muncie, followed by Indianapolis, Chicago, and New York. For the first time since the museum began keeping digital statistics, most web visitors accessed the site using a mobile device (54.3%) rather than a desktop computer (44.6%), with very few resorting to a tablet.

Total Museum Attendance



*Closed March 18, 2020 | *Closed July 1—August 25, 2020



EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

DOMA fulfills its educational mission by embracing a local campus audience, K–12 students, and lifelong learners throughout the region. One measure of educational impact includes preregistered group tours and class visits guided by DOMA staff and gallery guides, or led by Ball State University professors, external educators, and community members. These organized visits represent a growing number of people engaged in direct encounters with works of art in the galleries. In FY 2024, DOMA hosted 246 preregistered groups for guided and self-guided tours, consisting of 7,072 visitors.

PRE-K AND K-12 STUDENTS

This year’s total number of preregistered school and homeschool tour groups remains nearly identical to last year’s, at an impressive 70 groups consisting of 2,668 students, teachers, and chaperones. The groups came from 35 schools and four homeschool organizations originating in 13 counties across mostly East Central Indiana (Allen, Delaware, Fountain, Grant, Hamilton, Henry, Jay, Kosciusko, Madison, Marion, Randolph, Ripley, and Wayne counties), plus one high school from Cook County, Ill.

1. Attica Elementary School	14. Knightstown High School	27. Shenandoah High School
2. Batesville Middle School	15. Longfellow Elementary	28. South View Elementary
3. Burris Laboratory School	16. Monroe Central Elementary	29. Sts. Joan of Arc and
4. Canterbury School	17. Monroe Central Jr./Sr. High School	Patrick School
5. Cowan Elementary School	18. Muncie Central High School	30. Tenth Street Elementary
6. Destiny Christian Academy Central	19. NEIGHBORS: A Greater Fort	31. Tri Elementary School
7. Eager Explorers Homeschool Co-op	Wayne Homeschool Community	32. Upland Homeschool Co-op
8. East Washington Academy	20. North View Elementary	33. Wapahani High School
9. Greenfield-Central High School	21. Northside Middle School	34. Warren Central High School
10. Grissom Elementary	22. Paramount Brookside	35. Wawasee High School
11. Heritage Hall Christian School	23. Queen of Angels School	36. Wes-Del Elementary
12. Indiana Academy	24. Redkey Elementary	37. West Jay Elementary
13. Julian High School	25. Rooted Homeschool Co-op	38. West View Elementary
(Cook County, Ill.)	26. Selma Middle School	39. Yorktown High School

BALL STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

The total number of preregistered group visitors includes 3,413 Ball State students and professors in 34 groups, representing seven colleges across the entire campus. This number was nearly the same as last year (3,493 in FY 2023), demonstrating the consistent use of the museum for University teaching purposes. Ball State courses that engaged with the museum include:

College of Fine Arts

- School of Art
 - ACR 221: Metals: Introduction
 - ADS 101: 2D Foundations Studio
 - ADS 102: 3D Foundations Studio
 - ADS 441: Research and Professional Practices
 - AFA 101: Drawing Studio
 - AFA 202: Drawing: The Figure
 - AFA 217: Painting: Watercolor
 - AHS 100: Introduction to Art
 - AHS 101: Introduction to Art History: Global Traditions
 - AHS 201: Art Criticism & Meaning
 - AHS 230: Ancient Art
 - AHS 291: Arts of China
 - AHS 292: Arts of Japan
 - AHS 302: Special Topics
 - ART 601: Critique Seminar
- Theatre & Dance
 - THEA 232: Acting for the Preprofessional
 - THEA 329: Costume History
 - THEA 336: Studio 3

Honors College

- HONR 100: Freshman Seminar
- HONR 199: Contemporary American Civilization
- HONR 201: Inquiries in the Earliest Cultures to 500 CE
- HONR 202: Inquiries in Cultures from ca. 500 CE to 1800 CE
- HONR 203: Inquiries in Cultures from ca. 1800 to the present
- HONR 390: Special Topics

Miller College of Business

- Applied Business Studies
 - FASH 260: History of Fashion
 - HOSP 262: Facilities Planning, Layout and Design
 - HOSP 287: Introduction to Event Management
- Economics
 - ECON 201: Elementary Microeconomics

Teachers College

- College Mentors for Kids
- Elementary Education
 - EDEL 102: Transdisciplinary Learning

College of Health

- Counseling Psychology, Social Psychology, and Counseling
 - PSYS 326: Psychology of Diversity

- Nutrition & Health Science
 - HSC 160: Fundamentals of Human Health
 - HSC 388: Organization and Administration of Public Health
- Graduate Student Wellness Initiative

College of Sciences & Humanities

- English
 - ENG 103: Rhetoric and Writing
 - ENG 285: Intro to Creative Writing
 - ENG 308: Intro Poetry Workshop
 - ENG 307: Fiction Writing
 - ENG 310: Introduction to Screenwriting
 - ENG 346: 19th Century Literature
 - ENG 407: Advanced Fiction Workshop
 - ENG 410: Advanced Screenwriting
- History
 - HIST 151: World Civilization 1
 - HIST 496: Modern China, 1600 to present
- Philosophy and Religious Studies
 - RELS 208: The Qur’an
- Sociology
 - SOC 100: Principles of Sociology
 - SOC 328: Globalization–Costa Rica Field Study
- Geography & Anthropology
 - GEOG 121: Geography, Culture, and Diversity
- Modern Languages & Classics
 - CC 201: Cultural Life in Ancient Greece
 - CC 202: Cultural Life in Ancient Rome
 - CC 301: Classical Lit. in English Translation

- CC 305: Classical Mythology and Theory
- GER 101: Beginning German 1
- GER 201: Intermediate German 3
- GER 302: German Composition
- LAT 101: Beginning Latin 1
- SP 302: Spanish Composition and Grammar
- Environment, Geology, & Natural Resources
 - NREM 392: Environmental Interpretation

College of Architecture & Planning

- Urban Planning
 - CAP 101 / 161: Env. Design and Planning 1 / Design Communications Media 1
- Architecture
 - CAP: Jump Start Program
 - CAP 101: Environmental Design and Planning 1
 - CAP 102: Design Studio
 - ARCH 302: Architectural Design
- Construction Management & Interior Design
 - IDES 100: Intro to Interior Design
 - IDES 314: Lighting Technology

Other

- IEI (Intensive English Institute)
 - IEI 180: Cultural Experiences
- Office of the Registrar
 - Staff visit

SMART AND THE MCS PARTNERSHIP

In FY 2024, DOMA resumed its popular SMART (School Museum Art Readiness Tour) program, a partnership with the Muncie Community Schools (MCS) that had been interrupted by the pandemic and paused during the recovery period. SMART provided curriculum-based tours for all fifth-grade classes at MCS, amounting to 394 students from all six Muncie elementary schools. This year’s program posed the question, “How do artists express their identity through art?” The tours used works of art to spark dialogue about relevant topics that foster critical thinking. The students’ visit to the museum (including engagement with chaperones and docents, guided looking sessions, lunch, and a free bag with branded art supplies) was later followed by an art-making activity in the classroom. The SMART program was made possible by a generous grant from the Ball Brothers Foundation and help from participating MCS visual arts teachers.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In addition to its utility as an educational tool for Ball State students and faculty, DOMA is a community resource and a point of pride for the city and region.

- Open five days a week throughout the year; Tuesday–Friday, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Saturday, 1:30–4:30 p.m. (closed for university holidays)
- Free entrance (paid parking on weekdays; free parking available on weekends)
- Two to four public exhibitions annually

The following are a few highlights of DOMA's community engagement activities for FY 2024, consisting of **38** public programs with **2,566** visitors:



MAJOR PROGRAMS

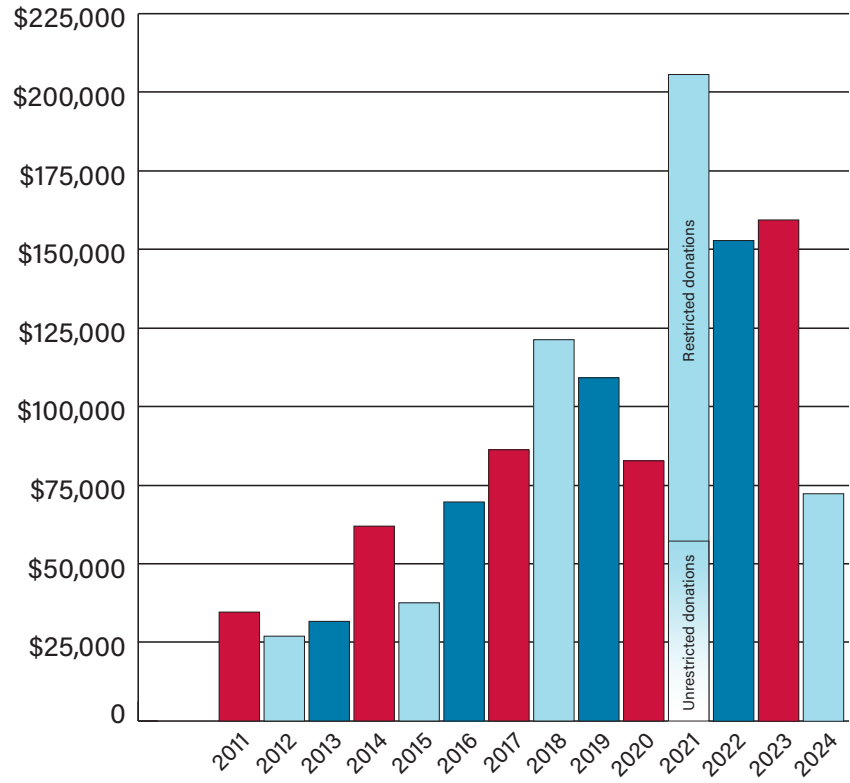
FALL SEMESTER			SPRING SEMESTER		
Date	Program	Attendance	Date	Program	Attendance
8/26/2023	Muncie Memory Spiral event	55	2/7/2024	DOMA Alliance Program - Baroque music with Dr. Stephen Campbell and Dr. Cara Chowning	35
9/13/2023	DOMA Alliance program - Dr. La France and Maria VanVreede	49	2/10/2024	Docent's Choice tour: The Moments Before with Mya Whitis	21
10/1/2023	Happy Little Fest Outreach	21	2/16/2024	Mindfulness in the Museum with George Wolfe	10
10/2/2023	Educator Exhibition Overview	16	2/24/2024	Workshop: Dramatic Allegorical Portraits	7
10/6/2023	Mindfulness in the Museum	5	2/26/2024	Educator Exhibition Overview	14
10/11/2023	DOMA Alliance program - Debbie Ma	40	2/29/2024	Music in the Museum: Baroque and Beyond — A Community Concert	60
10/12/2023	Arts Alive Presents Debbie Ma	69	3/6/2024	DOMA Alliance program (lunch and tour of Beyond the Medici)	39
10/14/2023	Partial Solar Eclipse Event Outreach	64	3/15/2024	Mindfulness in the Museum with George Wolfe	10
10/14/2023	Docent's Choice tour: Major Schools of Architecture as Seen in DOMA's Collection with Andy Seager	8	3/16/2024	Docent's Choice tour: Shawna Hayes	18
10/21/2023	Kids Make Art at DOMA	54	3/23/2024	Writing in the Galleries: Icons, Angels, and Allegories	13
10/27/2023	DOMA After Hours	226	3/28/2024	Music in the House of Medici with the Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra	310
11/1/2023	DOMA Alliance Program - student assistants who worked on Fibers of Being	18	4/6/2024	Kids Make Art at DOMA	44
11/3/2023	Mindfulness in the Museum	4	4/10/2024	DOMA Alliance Program [Frank Lacapo (Florentine Baroque)]	28
11/4/2023	Docent's Choice tour: Costume History with Shannon Bryan	7	4/11/2024	Music in the Museum: Harmonic Convergence — A Symphony of Art, Verse, and Song	45
11/8/2023	Sashiko Workshop	21	4/13/2024	Docent's Choice Tour: Halle Pressler	12
12/1/2023	Mindfulness in the Museum	3	4/19/2024	Mindfulness in the Museum with the Ball State University Counseling Center	10
12/2/2023	Docent's Choice tour: Italian Paintings with Dom Caristi	12	5/8/2024	DOMA Alliance Program (Carl Schafer, Gordy Fine Art and Framing)	26
12/2/2023	Holiday Community Open House	277	5/18/2024	Art in Bloom (Saturday)	600
12/13/2023	DOMA Alliance Program - Barbara Schafer	27	5/19/2024	Art in Bloom (Sunday)	288
Semester Total		976	Semester Total		1,590

Grand Total Attendance: 2,566

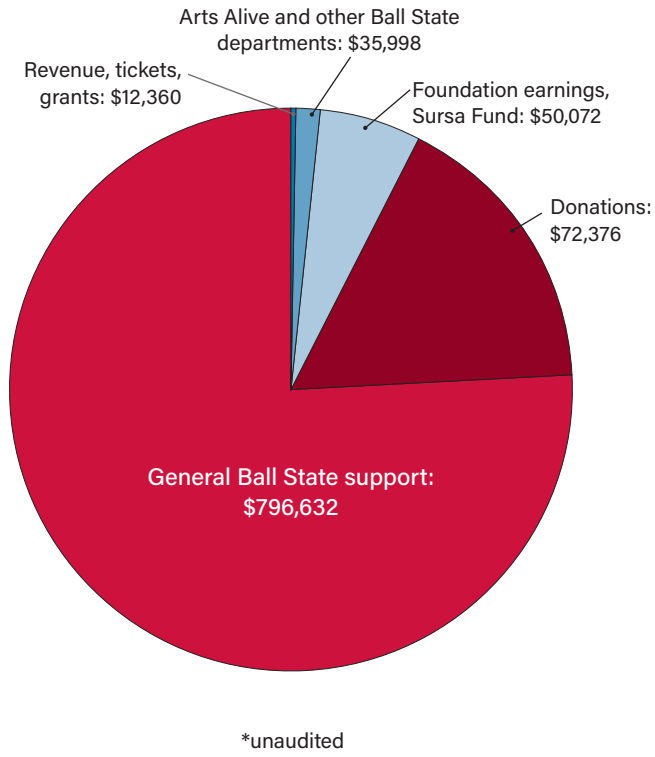
FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

In fiscal year 2023-24, DOMA's collection received continuing support from generous contributions earmarked for new acquisitions and care of the collection. Thanks to the museum's benefactors, friends, and Art Alliance groups—as well as a community open house for Art in Bloom—the museum received steadfast support from more than 150 donors, including nearly 50 participants on One Ball State Day alone. To cap off a successful year, a landmark gift of \$4.6 million from DOMA's namesake benefactor established the David T. Owsley Fund, an endowment that will support the museum's collection, exhibitions, publicity, scholarships, and curatorial assistantships in perpetuity. This fund, managed by the Ball State University Foundation, is expected to begin generating earnings for the museum's use near the end of FY 2025.

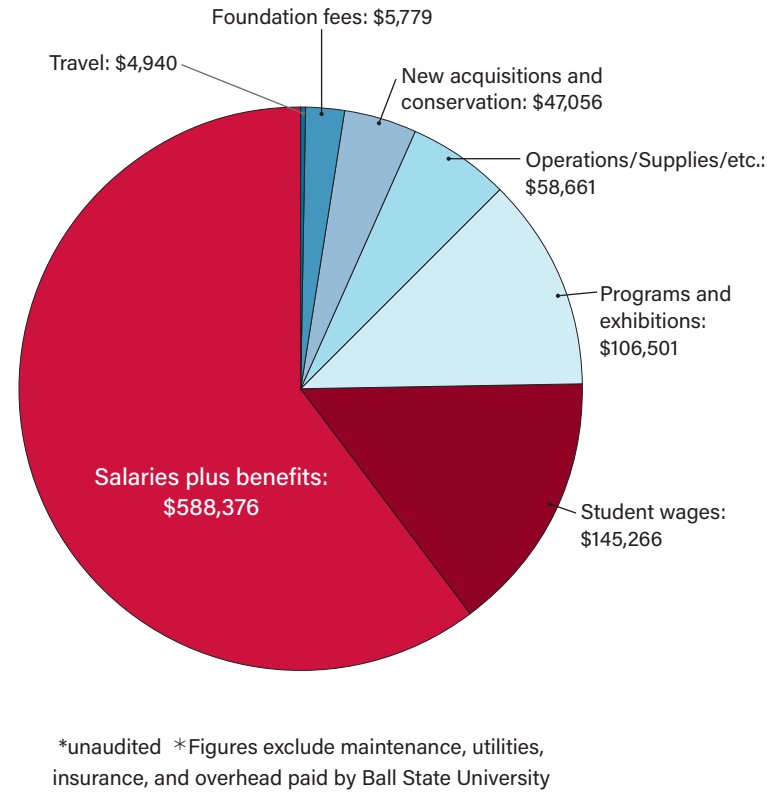
Contributions (Donations, Gifts, and Fundraising)



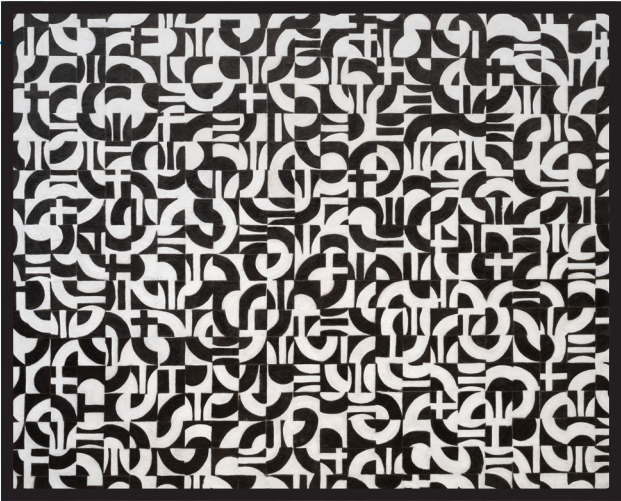
FY2024 Income/Earnings by Source: \$967,438*



FY2024 Expenses by Type: \$956,579**



Rising to the Surface: Paintings by Debbie Ma
September 28, 2023–December 21, 2023



Debbie Ma, American (born 1957), *Social Fabric*, 2019, marble dust on canvas © Debbie Ma.

Fibers of Being: Textiles from Asia in the David Owsley Museum of Art Collection
September 28, 2023–December 21, 2023



Woman's Informal Surcoat, 1850–1900, blue satin ground embroidered with satin, seed, and couching stitches with multicolored silk floss, China, Qing dynasty (1644–1912), Gift of Daniel Jarrett Hathaway, 1937.500.095.

Beyond the Medici: The Haukohl Family Collection
February 22, 2024–June 29, 2024



Onorio Marinari, Italian (1617–1716), *Madonna and Child*, oil on canvas, 33.5 x 29.5 in., Haukohl Collection. Photo Credit: MNHA/Tom Lucas.



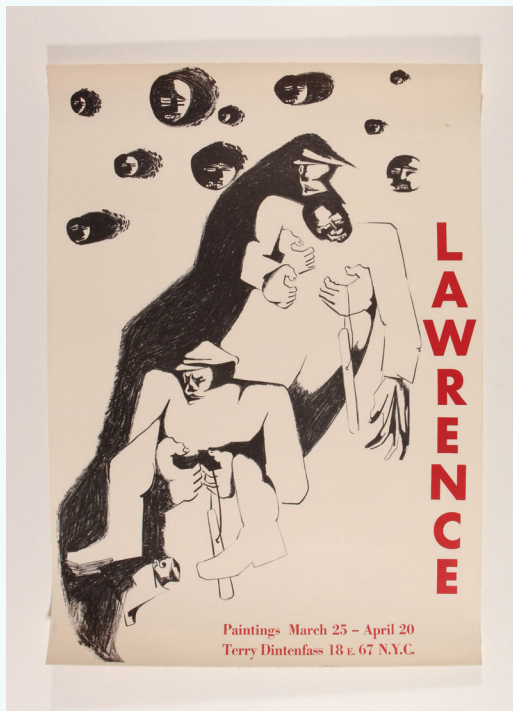
NEW ACQUISITIONS AND LOANS
TO THE COLLECTION

FY2024 Acquisitions (21 gifts, five purchases) . . .	26
FY2024 Loans to the collection	6
Total	32



Study for the Portrait of Mme. E. H. Bense
(aka, Lady at the Window), 1912
William Merritt Chase, American (1849–1916),
born in Indiana
oil on canvas, 20 1/8 x 16 1/8 in.
Purchase: Friends of the Museum and restricted
gift of David T. Owsley
2023.011.000

July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024



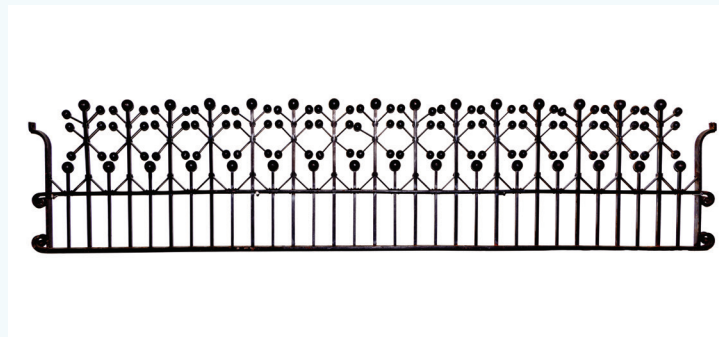
Two Rebels Exhibition Poster, 1963
Jacob Lawrence, American (1917–2000)
 lithograph
 Purchase: Museum of Art Endowment Fund
2023.010.002



Penny Teapot v6, 2020
Stacey Lee Webber, American (born 1982)
 pre-1982 pennies with brass accents
 Gift of the artist in honor of Patricia Nelson,
 emeritus professor
2023.008.000



Vase (Shape 2749), 1928
Elizabeth Barrett, American, (active 1924–1948)
 Rookwood Pottery, American, Cincinnati, OH
 (1880–1967; 2004–)
 Porcelain, Later Mat / Mat Moderne glaze line
 Purchase: Restricted gift of Allen Bernard
2023.009.000



Elevator Transom from the Chicago Stock Exchange Building, 1893
 Designer **Louis Sullivan**, American (1856–1924)
 Designer **Dankmar Adler**, American born Denmark (1844–1900)
 Manufacturer **Winslow Brothers Company**, Chicago, Ill., 1887–1921
 iron, cast and forged
 Purchase: Andrew Seager Art Fund
2024.002.000



Green Slice from the Disk Series
Fred Eversley, American (born 1941)
 acrylic polymer
 Dr. Chris Stack Collection
L2023.004.000



Bizen Flower Vase with Ears
Kakurezaki Ryūichi, Japanese (born 1950)
 Stoneware
 Jing Chang Collection
L2024.001.000

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS AT DOMA FY2024

In addition to serving as a resource for academic study and research, DOMA continued to provide career-related experience to dozens of student employees. Paid interns and assistants contributed valuable efforts toward collections management projects, curatorial research, educational programs and materials, and exhibition design and installation. More than 40 student guards gained experience relevant to a variety of fields by assisting visitors, covering the museum's front desk, and providing important feedback regarding museum navigation, security, signage, and protocols.



Left, top: Education assistants Milo Hardison and Teagan Hayes staff a DOMA booth at community event

Left, center: Education assistant Olivia Miller leads a museum tour

Left, bottom: Curatorial assistant Natalia Latham in the *Fibers of Being* exhibition

Above: Student guard Chase Eggeman and PR assistant Taylor Hamblin learn about the collection

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS 2023-24

MUSEUM STAFF

Robert La France, Director
Cathy Bretz, Education Coordinator
Rachel Buckmaster, Assistant Director
Michael Duquette, Security and Office Manager
Noelle Giuffrida, Assistant Curator of Asian Art
Maria VanVreede, Registrar and Collection Manager
Maureen Nicholson, Curator of Education
Randy Salway, Exhibition Designer and Preparator

STUDENT GUARDS AND VISITOR ASSISTANTS

Elijah Ahmed
Madisyn Andrews Moreno
Anna Bauer
Jasmine Bennett
Abigail Brandenburg
Annie Brazel
Elizabeth Breedlove
Trinity Bundy
Odin Burris
Ellie Chandler
Sophie Clore
Thatch Cook
Amelia Dorsey
Chase Eggeman
Samantha Elfreich
Aaron Franklin
Chrissy Habeshy
Elizabeth Hahn
Ab Harris
Lauren Henriques
Mars Hunter
Kyle Lawvere
Sophia Lenger
Sam Lewis
Regan Lindall
Declan Murphy
Daniella Neise
Maleyah Nowell

Quinton Pacheco
Kylie Parcher
Emily Pax
Megan Pax
Alex Price
Lex Roberts
Sam Ruby
Hannah Schneider
Lilliana Sensibaugh
Simone Shine
Kaitlyn Spoerner
Josie Sprenger
Marcus Stach
Jasmine Stallings
Felix Tew
Vivian VerHulst
Mya Whitis
Brooke Wilcox
Makayla Woods

STUDENT ASSISTANTS AND INTERNS

Blake Chapman
Lea Diedicke
Nate Durnell
Taylor Hamblin
Milo Hardison
Brooke Hartman
Shawna Hayes
Teagan Hayes
Levi Jones
Olivia Miller
Kennedy Moore
Tatum Mulholland
Halle Pressler
Tori Smith
Abbigail Tuttle

GALLERY GUIDES

Barbara Alvarez Bohanon
Catherine Bretz
Shannon Bryan
Melanie Cabak
Dom Caristi
Michael Duquette
Kim Kirby
Sigrid Koehler-Wilkins
Christine Lussier
Linda McCaw
Richard Ruh
Andrew Seager
Bea Sousa
Kate Thorson
Mark Whitney
Alaina Wieseke

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GUIDES

Amelia Dorsey
Shawna Hayes
Teagan Hayes
Eilish Kelly
Olivia Miller
Cain Martin
Halle Pressler
Andrew Simmons
Lucy Smith
Emma Snoeberger
Mya Whitis

FRIENDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

Ex officio members
Rachel Buckmaster,
Associate Director, DOMA
Seth Beckman, Dean,
College of Fine Arts
Michael Carey, Director of
Development, College of Fine Arts
Sandra Kelly, Co-President,
Muncie Art Students League
Karen Moorman, President,
DOMA Art Alliance
Robert La France, Director, DOMA

DOMA BENEFACTORS

1816 Wealth Management of
Raymond James
Thomas Adams
Hazel Carter Amos
Joan and Stefan Anderson
Barbara and Cecil Bohanon
Boyce Systems
James Gooden
Debbie and Stan Griner
Sir Mark Fehrs Haukohl
Edward Hale
Nancy Keilty

Sandra and Eric Kelly
Nancy Millard
Karen and Jay Moorman
David T. Owsley
Patricia Pelizzari
Sally Rice
George Screes
Bea and Lynn Sousa
Ann Stack
Annemarie Voss
Sue and Don Whitaker





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UNIVERSITY

bsu.edu/DOMA

The information presented here,
correct at the time of publication,
is subject to change. MC-66761-24