Director’s Notes:

“Something I can bring my granddaughter to....” When Barbara Cole Peters created a fund for the NIU Art Museum, she wanted us to be able to “educate, uplift and enlighten in a meaningful way.” Her generous gift allowed us to present “Terrence A. Reese’s Reflections: Intimate Portraits of Iconic African Americans” in 2017; explore several ideas that did not come together in 2018; discuss the possibility of re-relocating Steven Beyer’s “Table of Six Questions” to a more prominent campus site where it could engage through student curriculum and community tours; and has now finally enabled us to host two exhibitions organized and traveled by the National Center for Children’s Illustrated Literature in Abilene, Texas.

With Barbara’s base funding, we could ask several campus and local partners to join us in hosting top public programming related to these shows. We are very excited to present a virtual series of illustrated talks by children’s book expert Leonard S. Marcus in mid-September and to welcome artist James E. Ransome and his wife, author Lesa Cline-Ransome to campus in mid-October (see program schedule on Page 4).

The museum is delighted to also share the news that NIU will be the first Midwest satellite campus for artwork produced by Philadelphia’s Brandywine Print Workshop and Archive, a diversity-driven printmaking studio dedicated to producing the work of underrepresented artists. Special thanks to those who donated auction items and made purchases at our silent auction to diversify the collection, to the support of CVPA Dean Paul Kassel, the NIU Art and Culture Fund, and to our Museum Exhibition Advisory Committee members Richard Siegesmund and Anne Edwards for helping this initiative get its start at NIU. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in the galleries this coming year.

Jo Burke
2. Exhibitions

Fall 2022 Exhibitions:

Golden Legacy: Original Art from 80 Years of Golden Books
South Gallery
Both of these shows are organized and traveled by the National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature in Abilene, Texas.

Everyday People: The Art of James E. Ransome
Rotunda Gallery

Burnishing the Medals of Children's Literature
Hall Case Gallery
This exhibition has been organized by staff members of the NIU University Libraries.

Our Children’s Illustrated Literature Suite was made possible by the Barbara Cole Peters Fund for the NIU Art Museum and will feature framed original artwork and books, some no longer in print.

The internationally acclaimed historian on children’s books, Leonard S. Marcus served as co-curator for Golden Legacy. His “Golden Legacy: How Golden Books Won Children's Hearts, Changed Publishing Forever, and Became an American Icon Along the Way” was the impetus for this exhibition in 2007. It has since been updated with newer illustrators of some of the older classics and will feature a wide-ranging selection of original illustration art by Richard Scarry, Garth Williams, Tibor Gergely, Feodor Rojankovsky, Eloise Wilkin, Alice and Martin Provensen, Leonard Weisgard, Mary Blair and more.

Everyday People is clustered in books about the land, books about famous people, books about family, and classic story retellings. James E. Ransome has illustrated over 60 picture books and is the recipient of the 2018 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor for “Before She Was Harriet.” His books have included the stories of Sojourner Truth, Frederick Douglass, Satchel Paige, Louis Armstrong, the Alvin Ailey Dancers, as well as stories of the use of quilts along the freedom trail and the fight to win access to the ballot box. He is a frequent collaborator with his wife, author Lesa Cline-Ransome, whom he met while both were students at Pratt Institute of Art.

In addition we will be showing Burnishing the Medals of Children’s Literature. This exhibit celebrates award-winning children’s books that honor the frequently forgotten, acknowledge the experience of the traditionally marginalized, and ignite curiosity and empathy in young readers. These works embody an inclusive vision of children’s literature that both nourishes the self and expands a vision of the world.

Upcoming Exhibits
This winter, we are pleased to feature Stories from My Childhood which will be curated from a national artist open call for entry. This exhibit will feature stories of transformative or impactful events from artists’ preteen years via an original work of art and accompanying text and will be open Tuesday, Nov. 29 through Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022 and Tuesday, Jan. 17 through Friday, Feb. 17, 2023.

This spring, we will again be working with the Center for Burma Studies (our rotation schedule was seriously altered by the COVID-19 closures) on exhibitions that explore various perspectives on collecting. The Art of Collecting will explore multiple stories of various encounters of Americans who had lived in Burma from the 1950s through the last couple of decades. Along with this, the museum will host Local Visions II featuring local art and artifact collections borrowed from members of the campus and the community. These exhibits will run from Thursday, March 30 through Saturday, May 27, 2023.

Help — Your Assistance is Needed
In preparation for our fall 2022 Children’s Illustrated Literature Suite, we would like to borrow small-sized tables and chairs for reading setups in the gallery. If your grandchildren live far away or are getting a bit too big and you can lend us furniture for the period of Aug. 22 through Oct. 18, 2022, we would be most grateful. Please contact Jo, jburke2@niu.edu.
Staff Announcements

The Art Museum has recently hired Shelby Holtz as our new program assistant. She is from St. Charles, Illinois and is an alumna of NIU, receiving her B.A. in history with an anthropology minor, and her M.A. in U.S. history with a public history concentration as well as a museum studies certificate. She was also the 2021 Museum Studies Student of the Year. Welcome Shelby!

Results of the Silent Auction

The Art Museum recently hosted a silent auction to diversify the collection from April 5 through May 6, 2022. Much of the artwork for auction was generously donated by faculty and staff here on campus. At the conclusion of the auction, the Art Museum has successfully raised over $4,100. This money, along with funds from the NIU Art and Culture fee will be used to purchase prints made by Black, Latinx, Asian and Indigenous artists from the Brandywine Print Workshop and Archives.

COVID-19 Visitor Updates


Artwork From our Collection Recently Featured on the Cover of the “New Ohio Review”

The “New Ohio Review” is a national literary journal produced by the creative writing program at Ohio University showcasing a variety of genres and writing styles. The cover of Issue 30, published in winter 2022 features Peter Dean’s 1984 lithograph “Summer Interior,” donated to the NIU Art Museum by Jeanne M. Weislow.

The Chicago art collector Weislow donated a collection of prints from the Landfall Press printmaking workshop in Chicago in the mid-1980s that were created as a collaboration between artists and master printer Jack Lemon. Dean was an expressionist figurative painter whose work often dealt with death and politics. Many of his paintings feature swirling compositions, vibrant colors and figures wearing masks or elaborate costumes. Dean co-founded Rhino Horn, a movement meant to break away from abstractionism.

Visit niu.edu/artmuseum
Phone: 815-753-1936
Email: artmuseum@niu.edu
E-news: go.niu.edu/artmuseum-
enews

Friend us on Facebook
Follow us on Twitter @NIUArtmuseum

Parking is available in the Visitor Pay Lot located at 200 Carroll Avenue. Limited metered and accessible parking spaces are available in front of Lowden Hall with accessible aisles and route to Altgeld Hall. Campus parking is free on weekends and after 5 p.m. weekdays in nearby Lots 3 and 14.

To request disability-related accommodations for museum programs, please contact the museum at least one week in advance. Northern Illinois University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

CVPA Arts
Newsletter

niuarts.com/newsletter-opt-in/

Arts Blog

niuarts.com/
Calendar

Virtual Illustrated Lecture Series Presented by Children’s Book Scholar Leonard S. Marcus

Wednesday, Sept. 14 — Virtual Event
Golden Legacy: The Story of the Golden Books

In this richly illustrated presentation, renowned children's book scholar Leonard S. Marcus tells the story of the upstart visionaries who brought together top-flight authors and artists, state-of-the-art printing technology, and savvy marketing to make Golden Books one of America's most trusted and treasured brands.

5-6 p.m. CT; Zoom livestream.

Thursday, Sept. 15 — Virtual Event

Leonard tells the little-known story of tenacious behind-the-scenes female pioneers who seized the day by providing the editorial version for such classics while also carving out an essential place for themselves in a historically male-dominated profession.

5-6 p.m. CT; Zoom livestream.

Sunday, Sept. 18 — Virtual Event
Around the World in 80 Picture Books

Including New York, Beijing, Bratislava and Mexico City, the illustrated children’s book has become a vibrant global enterprise. Illustrated talk by Leonard S. Marcus.

2-3 p.m. CT; Zoom livestream.

Saturday, Sept. 24
Children’s Day — Reading and Illustrating Celebrating the Books on Display

Led by NIU students in the School of Art and Design and the College of Education. Details under development. Preregistration required.

Artist and Author Talks with James E. Ransome and Lesa Cline-Ransome

Wednesday, Oct. 12 — In Person
A Book, A Page, A World: The Artistic Journey of Lesa Cline-Ransome and James Ransome

Collaborators in life and work, Lesa and James share their early beginnings as author and illustrator, the creative process from idea to revision and how they navigate the business of writing and illustrating books for children.

7-8 p.m., Altgeld Hall 125.

Thursday, Oct. 13 — Private
Classroom Talks
Stepping into the Studio: A Visit with Illustrator James Ransome

James will be meeting privately with a beginner illustration class in the School of Art and Design and with a literacy class in the College of Education. He will be guiding a behind-the-scenes look into his studio and step-by-step process of creating his illustrations.

Saturday, Oct. 15
Closing Reception, 1-3 p.m.
Informal artist talk by James E. Ransome, 2 p.m., NIU Art Museum Rotunda Gallery.

Public programs are subject to change, addition and cancellation. Visit online for latest programming details and to register for virtual events, niu.edu/artmuseum/events.

Images courtesy of the artists and Penguin Random House.
Thank You!
Thanks to the staff, students and community volunteers working with the Center for Burma Studies for an excellent and professional job on the installation, deinstallation and public programs they worked on in relation to the fall 2021 exhibit "The Art of Surviving: The Journey of the Karen Refugees in Illinois." Thank you to Carmin Berchililly, Karla Findley, Arkar Kyaw, John Hosta, Chit Wityi Oo, and Professor Catherine Raymond, director for the center and curator for the Burma Art Collection at NIU. Thanks to the staff at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies for their technical and marketing support.

Thank you as well to the NIU faculty, staff and graduate students who generously gave their time and expertise for the public programming related to "Refuge and Refugee." Our thanks to Tony Delfiacco and Andy Dolan; and Sophia Varcados of NIU Marketing and Communications for their patience, talent and skills; Anthropology M.A. candidate Saidouri Zomaya; Professor Abu Bah, Department of Sociology; Professor Heide Fehrenbach, Department of History; and Associate Professor Laura Heideman, Departments of Sociology and Nonprofit and NGO Studies for sharing their expertise; and thanks to artists Yolanda Del Amo, Ramapo College, Mahwah, New Jersey, and Eddy A. López, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania for sharing their insights.

Thank you to the NIU School of Art and Design faculty for loaning their artwork for the extended spring 2022 faculty biennial show. Our thanks to Michael Barnes, Wes Beeler, Sasha Bitzer, Todd Buck, Amy Fleming, Billie Giese, Aleksandra Giza, Cynthia Hellyer Heinz, Joseph A. Insley, Jim Kearns, Jessica Labatte, Kimberly Martens, Helen Nagata, Jamie Obermeier, Heriberto Ponce, Catherine Raymond, Mike Rea, Nina Rizzo, Stephanie Sailer, John Sibilik, Geoffrey Todd Smith, Kryssi Staikidis, Perrin Stamatis, Ben Stone, Frank Trankina, Peter Van Ael, Amanda VanValkenburg, and Shei-Chau Wang. Special thanks to Catherine Raymond, Peter Van Ael and the division of Art Education and Design for getting us open and staffed.

Donor Generosity
Thanks to an anonymous donor from among our friends, the NIU Art Museum will for the first time be able to provide award money for the upcoming national call for entry for its exhibition “Stories from My Childhood” to be on display in spring, 2023. The donor is paying for $2,000 in prize money, $600 for award juror fees, and $1,400 for miscellaneous museum expenses related to the exhibition. We are excited to see the impact that offering awards will have on the reach of our call.

IACA Grant
We are very pleased to announce that we have received a general operating support grant of $8,900 from the Illinois Arts Council Agency for exhibitions, programs and operations during FY2022.

Volunteers
The museum would like to thank Robert Banke and Gary Burchett for their continued support.

Bus Trips – Save the Dates!

Thursday, July 28
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Nick Cave: Forothermore
Museum of Contemporary Art
$$$

Thursday, August 4
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Cezanne
Art Institute of Chicago
$$$

Sunday, August 28
9 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Reopening
Stanley Museum of Art
Iowa City, Iowa
$$$

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JOIN

All gifts sustain and grow opportunities for enrichment and engagement that are free and open to all. Take satisfaction knowing your vital commitment supports our exhibitions, programs and the preservation of our permanent collection.

Membership Levels

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<th>Level</th>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Friend</th>
<th>Patron</th>
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Benefits

- Choice of one "Friend" premium.
- Priority registration and discounted activity fees.
- Printed mailing of exhibition announcements.
- Special members-only previews, receptions, bus trips and special events.
- 20% discount on NIU Art Museum catalogues.
- Subscription to "Museum Notes" newsletter.
- Recognition in "Museum Notes."
- Name engraved on membership plaque.
- Private personal tour (options available).

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Membership

YES! I want to □ Join □ Renew at the indicated level below:  Students and Seniors please enclose copy of current I.D.

□ Benefactor $500 □ Patron $250 □ Sponsor $100 □ Friend select one

□ Individual $25 □ Dual $45 (2 members one household)
□ Senior $15 □ Dual Senior $25
□ Student $10 □ Dual Student $25

I would like to help with an additional donation of $ ____________.

Premiums

- Choice of: Travel mug, ceramic mug or T-shirt*. (Additional $5 for student/senior levels.)

Benefactor

- Choice of one Benefactor Collector Print
- Susanne Doremus, "Sea Fall"
- Jay Ryan, "The Squadron on Patrol"

Patron

- Choice of one Patron Collector Print
- Renie Adams, "Point of View"
- Michael Barnes, "Sideshow"
- David Driesbach, "Opening Night"
- Carl Hayano, "Sushi Trinitron"
- Ben Mahmoud, "Night Garden"

*Subject to print availability.

Payment

Name ____________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________
City __________________________ State _____ ZIP ______
Phone __________________________ Mobile __________
Email ____________________________________________

Payment

Check enclosed $ ____________.
Please charge:  Visa  Mastercard  Discover  Amer Exp  Expiration ____________
Account number ____________________________
Name on card ____________________________
Signature __________________________________________

I am interested in volunteering for:
Baking/Receptions    Housing artists/scholars overnight    Gallery Attendant/Information Desk    Researching Get-On-The-Bus Trips    Other ________________________________
Serving on an Advisory Panels: (Area of Interest:  Events    Fundraiser    Education/Outreach    Exhibitions    Collections)

If you are already a current member, please share this form with a friend. Thank you.
Sustaining Members

Members

Sustaining Members

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Bill and Kathy Scarpaci
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Ivan and Judith Shils
Beverly A. Smith
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Phillip and Johanna Vandrey
Sophia Varcados
Mary Von Zellen and James Nertheimer
Jerrold and Carol Zar

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Lee S. Holt
Jerry and Annette Johns
Anne C. Kaplan
Paul and Katherine Kassel
Richard and Kathleen Katz
Mary Lincoln
Catherine Raymond and Alan Potkin

The support the museum receives through your financial gifts and your enthusiasm for the museum allows us to produce award-winning exhibitions and programs for the university, DeKalb and beyond.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

For those wishing to make certain of our future, please consider donating to the Friends of the NIU Art Museum Endowment Fund care of the DeKalb County Community Foundation dekalbccf.org.
Gail Skudera

Gail Skudera received her BFA in Weaving and Textile Printing in 1975 and MFA in Fiber Arts in 1981 from NIU. As a student at NIU, Skudera was a graduate assistant for the Art Museum when it was located in the Swen Parson Gallery. Since earning her degrees, Skudera has continued to create and exhibit her work both nationally and internationally. She uses woven mixed media often centered around the relationships between people, the environment and the passage of time. The artist’s drawings and paintings are often cut into strips and rewoven, as is implied by the underlying grid structure in this untitled drawing. A sense of balance and stability comes from the regularly and evenly divided squares; yet there is personality in the patterned marks of the artist’s hand.