MFSM Welcomes New Board Member

Kelly Fabiano has served on numerous non-profit boards, including the Saginaw Bay Symphony, Saginaw Art Museum, Town and Campus executive board of Northwood University, and she is active in the Saginaw Diocese. We are delighted to have Kelly on the Museum Board.

Museum Wins Greatest Museum Honor

The annual "Greatest of the Great Lakes Bay" recognition program, sponsored by Great Lakes Bay Regional Lifestyle Magazine, celebrates the people, places, and things within our community that readers nominate as their favorites. The 2010 polling asked readers to nominate their favorites from six categories—Dining Out, Shopping, Services, People, Out on the Town, and Media—and a total of 186 sub-categories. The reader polling concluded in early February with more than 1,500 ballots tabulated. The Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum won "Greatest Museum" honor. Thanks to all of you who voted for the museum.

Results of the polling—with a top pick named in each of the 186 categories—will be published in the May 2010 issue of Great Lakes Bay Magazine. An annual community party celebrating those people, places, and things named as favorites will be held at Midland’s H Hotel, May 20.

Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum
Phone (989) 964-7125 • Fax (989) 964-7221
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Director’s Corner

Marilyn L. Wheaton

The Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum has long sought to make the artist’s work and the Museum known globally. The Museum’s strategic plan calls for the creation of an exhibition of Fredericks’ work that will be available to travel to museums around the country and the world. Toward that end, an exhibition of the artist’s work has been developed.

Over the last year Museum staff have developed Sketches to Sculpture: Rendered Reality, Sixty Years with Marshall M. Fredericks, an exhibition of 36 small bronze sculptures and 36 related drawings and sketches that are housed in the Marshall Fredericks archives at the Museum. The papers of Marshall Fredericks came to the Museum following his death in 1998 and are housed in a temperature and humidity controlled vault in the Museum. The archives consist of 200 linear feet of personal correspondence, day books, military records, project files, subject files, financial records, photographs, clippings and articles, and ephemera. Students, researchers and scholars are welcome to use the archives.

Having an artist’s papers and works of art in a single location is unique and rare. In addition to the project drawings and sketches, the archives houses numerous life drawings that Fredericks created, some as early as 1930.

In January 2012, the exhibition will be available to travel to historical and art museums around the country. A checklist of the works in the exhibition is available. The exhibition rental fee is $5,000 and it may be scheduled for up to four months duration.

In addition to the sculptures and drawings, the exhibition will include a stunning four-color catalogue and an interpretive DVD with excerpts from Marshall Fredericks’ archival videos, making this a memorable and educational experience for all who see it. Catalogue essays are being written by MaryAnn Wilkinson, Mark Coir, Dennis Nawrocki and Joe Becherer, all well known and respected art scholars.

Printing of the catalogue is being undertaken with a generous gift from the SVSU Communications Department. Additional support for the catalogue is needed. We invite you to be a sponsor by filling out the form on page 3 and returning it with your contribution. A contribution of $1,000 or more ensures that your name will be published in the exhibition catalogue and on the DVD.

We are pleased to have assembled such a strong exhibition that demonstrates the relativity of an artist’s early sketches and drawings to a bronze sculpture model. Some of the sketches are pencil on tablet paper, while others are four-color drawings on presentation board.

The exhibition is made possible with generous support from Denis and Madeline Burke, The Jack and Joanne Martin Charitable Foundation, Donald E. and Joanne Petersen, and Robert Sarow. Sketches to Sculpture: Rendered Reality, Sixty Years with Marshall M. Fredericks will be on display at the Museum through June 12, 2010.

Be sure to visit the newly designed blog to stay up to date on Museum events, exhibitions and news.

www.marshallfredericks.com
Or visit the Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum fan page on Facebook
Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum to host Regional Biennial Juried Sculpture Exhibition

The Regional Biennial Juried Sculpture Exhibition will be held at the Museum from July 3 to September 18, 2010. The exhibition is open to living artists working in sculpture who have finished training or formal studies and are residing within 200 miles of the Museum. Sculpture must be entirely original and completed within the last 5 years. Merit awards include 1st place prize $2,500; 2nd place prize $1,250; 3rd place prize $500; and 4th place prize $200. We are excited and honored to have Charles McGee as juror. McGee is a Detroit artist with an impressive 65-year career. He was the recipient of the Kresge Foundation’s first Eminent Artist Award in 2008. Deadline for receiving entries is April 30, 2010. To request a prospectus, contact the museum at (989) 964-7096 or send an email with contact information to ondish@svsu.edu. A prospectus also can be printed from our website at www.svsu.edu/msfm/upcoming-exhibits.html.

Local foundations support biennial exhibition

The Museum’s second Regional Biennial Juried Sculpture Exhibition is supported with a $5,000 grant from the Maxwell Pribil Memorial Fund through Citizens Bank Wealth Management and a $2,500 gift from the Dole-Loesel Foundation. The Museum Board and staff are very appreciative of these generous gifts that support regional artists through the biennial exhibition.

The Regional Biennial Juried Sculpture Exhibition will showcase sculptors whose work is selected by exhibition juror Charles McGee.

Museum staff provides art activity at S. A. I. L. Day

St. Stephen School in Saginaw hosted the 17th annual S. A. I. L. (Science and Art Inspired Learning) Day on March 10 where students from K-8 grades participated in “hands-on” learning experiences. Curator of Education Andrea Ondish and SVSU student Gayle Krause provided a “hands-on” learning art activity for students in 6th grades. This year’s theme was History, Mystery, Mammals, Magic, and More. The museum coordinated a Date Chishulay Chandelier artwork project using painted plastic bottles with the entire 6th grade class participating. The artwork will become part of the school’s permanent décor.

Wheaton joins museum leaders for AAM advocacy day

Some 200 American museum professionals headed the call of the American Association of Museums (AAM) to travel to the nation’s capital on March 2 to persuade members of Congress to support 1) reauthorization of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), 2) increased funding for IMLS, from $35 to $50 million, 3) $180 million appropriation for the (continued next column).

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) awards grant to Museum

The Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum is the recipient of a $6,000 grant from the NEH in support of a conservation assessment of select drawings housed in the Museum Archives. Detailed condition surveys and treatment proposals will identify specific conservation needs.

Elizabeth Buschor, senior paper conservator at the Midwest Art Conservation Center in Minneapolis, MN will spend a week at the Museum in April assessing the condition of drawings in the archives. At the end of the project, the Museum will have a detailed conservation assessment for the drawings, which will provide direction for future conservation efforts, that, when completed, will allow the documents to be exhibited to the public and made available to scholars and researchers.

The project was designated as National Endowment for the Humanities “We the People” project and is being supported in part by funds the agency has set aside for this special initiative. The goal of the “We the People” initiative is to encourage and strengthen the teaching, study and understanding of American History and culture through the support of projects that explore significant events and themes in our nation’s history and culture and that advance knowledge of the principles that define America.

NEH is an independent grant-making agency of the United States government dedicated to supporting research, education, preservation, and public programs in the humanities.

From the Archives

Update on Digitization Project

In July, the Museum received a $33,475 grant to support collection stewardship activities from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). This grant will enable the Museum staff to complete the processing, cataloguing and digitization of its archival collection resulting in a fully searchable, metadata-driven online digital library.

Project staff has contacted the creators of photographs to be used in the digital library, selected open-source software for the project, and uploaded and entered metadata for approximately 2500 photographs. Over the next few months, metadata will be created for the 2500 additional photographs yet to be scanned and Archivist Melissa Ford will create and submit MARC (Machine-Readable Cataloging) records and finding aids to leading national research data bases. The project concludes July 31, 2010. The IMLS is the primary funder for the support for the nation’s 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. It’s mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas.

Photo: Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum Archives

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