



# DuMA

WINTER/SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER

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African American Art in the 20th Century



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## Featured

### MADAI TAYLOR

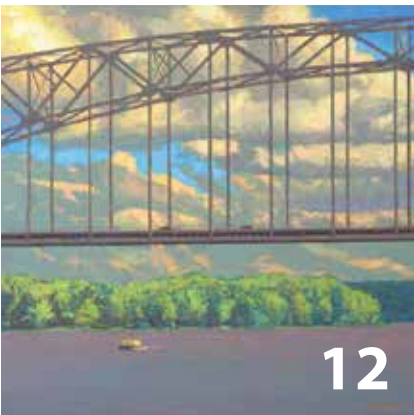
Fort Dodge, Iowa artist Madai Taylor presents a moving series of mixed media works titled *An Elegy to America in Black and White*.

### AFRICAN AMERICAN ART IN THE 20TH CENTURY

This sweeping survey, drawn primarily from the collections of the Smithsonian American Art Museum, reveals the experiences of black artists in America from the Harlem Renaissance through the Civil Rights era and beyond.

### THOMAS PAQUETTE

Contemporary landscape painter Thomas Paquette explores and paints scenes from the entire length of the Mississippi River.



### DuMA BIENNIAL 2019

Founded in 2003 and presented every two years, the DuMA Biennial is a competitive, juried exhibition that serves to recognize the artistic talent throughout our region.

*Cover Photo:* Lois Mailou Jones, *Moon Masque* (detail), 1971, oil and collage on canvas, 41 x 30 1/8 in., Smithsonian American Art Museum. Bequest of the artist, 2006.24.5

*This Page:* Featured image for African American Art: Sargent Johnson, *Mask*, ca. 1930-1935, copper on wood base, 15 1/2 x 13 1/2 x 6 in., Smithsonian American Art Museum. Gift of International Business Machines Corporation, 1966.27.4



An advertisement for the 2019 Winter Arts Snow Sculpting Competition. It features three images of snow sculptures: a figure, a tall, thin structure, and a large, abstract form. The text includes: "THE CITY OF DUBUQUE Masterpiece on the Mississippi", "DUBUQUE museum of art", "Winterfun, Inc.", "SAT. JAN 26TH @ WASHINGTON PARK", "2019 WINTER ARTS Snow Sculpting Competition", and "FREE! 12-4PM".

# Director's Corner

Around this time a year ago, we learned of a new initiative aimed at building bridges between some of our nation's leading art collections and museums like ours. Appropriately named 'Art Bridges', this national effort is the vision of philanthropist and art collector Alice Walton and the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas, which she founded. Six months, many conversations, and a postmarked application later, I was delighted to learn via a phone call that DuMA had been selected as one of Art Bridges' first pilot projects and would receive major funding in support of bringing the exhibition *African American Art In The 20th Century* to Dubuque this spring! This incredible survey of leading African-American artists, which is drawn from the collections of the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C., represents the first complete traveling exhibit to visit DuMA since our affiliation with the Smithsonian three years ago. I would like to extend our appreciation to Art Bridges, Humanities Iowa, and the many individual donors who helped make this project possible.

*African American Art In The 20th Century* will be complimented in the galleries by two other, powerful exhibitions. Be sure to stop in to see Madai Taylor's stirring mixed-media works and the hopeful expressions of those battling cancer in *Living Proof Exhibit A Visualization of Hope* (see pages 6-7).

Our exhibitions are just the tip of the ... snow sculpture ... this winter and spring, however. Starting with the 2nd Winter Arts in the Park event and new youth art classes in January, and continuing through the Annual K-8 Student Art Exhibit in March and April, there is something to delight and surprise all ages at the museum this spring.

See you at the Museum,



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## Staff and Board News

The Dubuque Museum of Art wishes to acknowledge and thank the following members of the Board of Trustees for their service:

Dr. Tom Benda, Jr. – 10 years of service (term ended December 2018)

Rusty Knight – Board President (term ends May 2019)

Stacy Peterson has been promoted to Curator and Registrar.

We would also like to welcome Hana Velde as our new Lead Teaching Artist and Cyndie Nelson as our new volunteer Gift Shop Manager.

**David Schmitz**  
Executive Director  
563.557.1851  
dschmitz@dbqart.com

Photo courtesy of Gail Chavenelle





**Denise and Shayne LaBudda**  
*Members Since 2010*

## Member Profile

### **WHY DID YOU BECOME A MEMBER?**

We became DuMA members as a way to continue our support of arts and continue our exposure to art. When we travel, we visit whatever art museum or other amenity is local. By becoming members it forces us to not take this local resource for granted.

### **WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT BEING A MEMBER?**

We like the First Fridays, artist talks, and the variety of exhibits that have been at the museum.

### **WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT THE MUSEUM?**

The variety and quality of the exhibits. From the current exhibit (Just to Live is Holy), to this year's Handmade and Paper exhibits, and last year's Pop Art, they all provide a local opportunity to view a very high quality of visual art within a specific context, providing an educational element. We're lucky.

### **WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE HAPPEN NEXT?**

We trust David and the museum leadership to continue to offer variety and quality in upcoming exhibits. We believe every opportunity should be taken to educate and inform on the value of art in all our lives: as a society the value of the arts are overlooked if not denigrated. We believe art needs to be made accessible, as an integral part of our lives, not something elitist. Our ancient ancestors created artistic images for a reason. I believe we do it for the same reason. It clearly serves a purpose in our lives and we need to continually engage with art. Continue the educational programs and keep up the good work!



## Community Sculpture Project

A new sculpture by Dubuque native Abigail Hedley was unveiled last fall, as part of the Build a Better Block (BABB) event in Dubuque's Central Avenue Corridor.

DuMA partnered on the project with Dubuque Main Street and the BABB Committee, the Byways of Iowa Foundation, the Northeast Iowa Resource Conservation & Development Council, and the University of Northern Iowa's (UNI) Public Art Incubator.

Hedley, who graduated from UNI with a degree in art in 2018, represents the third generation of her family with ties to the Central Avenue Corridor. Born and raised in the area, Hedley's grandfather and father both started and operated businesses along the historic thoroughfare, which is currently undergoing a renaissance.

Inspired by the past and future of the neighborhood, Hedley looked to nature for forms that would convey a sense of warmth, dynamism, and tradition. Her stainless steel sculpture, titled *Honey*, will be permanently sited at Welu Printing, located at 1685 Central Avenue, in early 2019.



## Thank You

DuMA's 44th Annual Gala, Art Auction and Raffle, held on November 9 at the Hotel Julien Dubuque, attracted more than 230 guests, who enjoyed special performances, art, and décor based on the theme "What Moves You?".

Thank you to the many donating artists, volunteers, businesses and sponsors who gave generously to help make possible another year of museum education and outreach programs.

**SAVE THE DATE: 2019 GALA – NOVEMBER 8**



*Photos courtesy of Ron Tigges, Digital Dubuque*



## Spring Dining Series

**Slow Down Brunch | Saturday, April 6, 2019**

**Muse's Menu | Saturday, June 15, 2019**

For more details and reservations, visit [dbqart.com/events](http://dbqart.com/events).



Madai Taylor, *The Black Holocaust*, (detail) 2016, Iowa earth on roofing paper, 48 x 48 in., collection of the artist

**MADAI TAYLOR**

## An Elegy to America in Black and White

AMUSE BOUCHE BALCONY GALLERY  
**January 25 - April 28, 2019**

**Fort Dodge, Iowa artist Madai Taylor presents a moving series of mixed media works, titled *An Elegy to America in Black and White*, in conjunction with the exhibition *African American Art in the 20th Century*.**

Layers of rich black dirt, cotton rope, and paint on roofing tar paper are the foundation materials used by Taylor to construct this stratified body of work. Using locally sourced soil and gypsum, he achieves a range of tones and textures. Although his images exist within the vocabulary of painting, the works have a strong sculptural aesthetic with visually complex surfaces and powerful symbolism. He calls his artistic process “primitive scripture.” The tactile accumulation of physical earth reveals a bold commentary on modern life built from religious faith.

Taylor felt compelled to create this series in response to the proliferation of senseless violence against young black men in recent years. He sees this as a spiritual problem, as he explained, “Any Christian should see this is deeper than race — this is a spiritual issue. Because anyone that’s a Christian or promotes the love of God has to recognize regardless of race, inhumane treatment of any soul is not showing forth the love that Christ promoted.”

SPONSOR:  
The Elizabeth Firestone Graham  
Foundation

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Taylor was born in Lake Village, Arkansas. In addition to working as a full-time artist, he is also the bishop at Agape Kingdom Dominion Ministries in Fort Dodge. He has exhibited extensively and worked in a curatorial capacity in Iowa, Idaho, Georgia, Illinois, and Arkansas.

RELATED PROGRAMS:

Lunch and Learn with Ron Avery  
and Gail Chavenelle

Friday, January 18, 12:15-1 pm



Top: Tara Moorman, *A Gathering of Shaman*, (detail) watercolor and mixed media, 29 1/2" x 33 1/2", collection of the artist

Mid: Carrol Brandt, *Bluebird*, glass on natural stone, 8" x 8" x 8" stand, collection of the artist

Bottom: Pamela Crouch, *Soar*, (detail) Assemblage, 15" x 10", collection of the artist

## Living Proof Exhibit: A Visualization of Hope

ALICE AND EDWIN HAFEMAN LOBBY  
December 22, 2018 - March 17, 2019

**The Dubuque Museum of Art is pleased to host the *Living Proof Exhibit: A Visualization of Hope*, featuring more than 25 artists, from across the Tri-State region, who have been impacted by cancer.**

The works on display showcase the courage and creative spirit of these who have experienced cancer and reveal the range of feelings experienced during the cancer journey.

The project is in collaboration with the Quad Cities-based non-profit organization Living Proof Exhibit, whose mission is to enrich the lives of those impacted by cancer through the therapeutic benefits of the arts.

Professional as well as amateur artists living within a 200-mile radius of the Quad Cities were eligible to submit work for this juried exhibition, which debuted at the Figge Art Museum in fall 2018.

#### EXHIBITING ARTISTS:

Marla Andich, Karen Austin, Maureen Bardusk, Carrol Brandt, Kent Broadbent, Mary Caravette-Shortridge, Gail Chavenelle, Pamela Crouch, Mary Ellen Cunningham, Bob Esbensen, Laura Goldman Weinberg, Connie Gross, Meg Guttman, Sharon Harmon, Hazel Harris, Mary Jo Hinds, Kay Irelan, Gina Kirschbaum, Sue Lemmon, Julie Mariet-Hast, Tara Moorman, Gerald Podraza, LaNae Ramos, Terri Reinartz, Linda Sykes, and Barbara Untiedt.



#### SPONSORS:

Mercy Medical Center Dubuque  
Paramount Oncology Group  
Schoen Family Charitable Trust  
Theisen's More for Your Community grant program

# African American Art in the 20th Century

From the Collection of the Smithsonian American Art Museum

FALB FAMILY GALLERY

January 19 – April 21, 2019 | Member Preview: Friday, January 25, 5-8 pm | Members Free; Guests \$10

***African American Art in the 20th Century* presents a selection of paintings, sculptures, and prints by thirty-five black artists whose singular expressions reveal the African American experience from the Harlem Renaissance through the Civil Rights era and beyond.**

This period in American history saw tremendous social and political changes. In response, these artists created an image of America that at once recognizes the place of the individual in community and the multivalent nature of American society. Most notably, the exhibition lays out a vision of America from an African American, rather than European, centric point of view.

The artists included in this exhibit embrace both universal themes and specific aspects of the African American experience, such as the African Diaspora and Great Migration, jazz, religion, and the continuing struggle for economic rights and social justice. They work in styles as varied as modern realism, abstraction, and postmodern assemblage of found objects. Their styles combine in the exhibition to create a unique visual experience that vibrates with energetic harmonies of color, line, and texture.

As described in the exhibition catalogue, underlying struggles exist in many of the later works, reflecting conflicts and popular debates in the 1960s and 1970s about the role and responsibility of black artists to address race and heritage in their work.

The artists address a diverse array of subjects. Claude Clark, Ellis Wilson, and Benny Andrews speak to the dignity and resilience of people who work the land. Jacob Lawrence,

THE EXHIBITION LAYS  
OUT A VISION OF AMERICA  
FROM AN AFRICAN  
AMERICAN, RATHER THAN  
EUROPEAN, CENTRIC  
POINT OF VIEW.



Beauford Delaney, *Can Fire in the Park*, 1946, oil on canvas, 24 x 30 in., Smithsonian American Art Museum. Museum purchase, 1989.23

Frederick Brown, and Thornton Dial, Sr. acknowledge the struggle for economic and civil rights. Sargent Johnson, Lois Mailou Jones, and Melvin Edwards address the heritage of Africa, and images by Romare Bearden recast Christian themes in terms of black experience. Hughie Lee-Smith and Hale Woodruff explore beauty in the natural world while Hayden Palmer takes us indoors to an intimate family scene. Finally, three powerful works by Elizabeth Catlett, who studied under Grant Wood at the University of Iowa and was the first woman to receive a Master of Fine Arts degree from the school, explore themes of unity in the black community and honor the poetry of her friend and college roommate, Margaret Walker.

*African American Art in the 20th Century* is organized by the Smithsonian American Art Museum. The C.F. Foundation in Atlanta supports the museum's traveling exhibition program, *Treasures to Go*.

Presenting Sponsor:

Art Bridges





Renée Stout, *The Colonel's Cabinet*, 1991-1994, mixed media: carpet, chair, painting, and cabinet with found and handmade objects, overall: 67 1/2 x 60 x 50 1/2 in., Smithsonian American Art Museum. Museum purchase made possible by Ralph Cross Johnson, 1994.45.1A-MMM, © 1994, Renee Stout

**Exhibition Partners:**

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 **Humanities Iowa**

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Thornton Dial, Sr., *Top of the Line* (Steel), 1993, mixed media: enamel, unbraided canvas roping, and metal on plywood, 65 x 81 x 7 7/8 in., Smithsonian American Art Museum. Gift from the collection of Ron and June Shelp, 1993.47



William H. Johnson, *Sowing*, ca. 1940, oil on burlap, 38 1/2 x 45 3/4 in., Smithsonian American Art Museum. Gift of the Harmon Foundation, 1967.59.1002



Melvin Edwards, *Tambo*, welded (Steel), 1992, 28 1/8 x 25 1/4 x 22 in., Smithsonian American Art Museum. Museum purchase through the Luisita L. and Franz H. Denghausen Endowment and the Smithsonian Institution Collections Acquisition Program, 1994.55, © 1993, Melvin Edwards

**VIRGINIA MECKLENBURG**  
ALICE AND EDWIN HAFEMAN LOBBY  
February 24, 2019 at 1:30 pm



**Virginia Mecklenburg** is chief curator at the Smithsonian American Art Museum. She oversees the museum's curatorial and conservation staffs and its acquisitions and collections programs. She has been a curator of painting and sculpture at the museum since 1979. Her research interests include American art and culture, Ashcan art, New Deal art, American abstraction, pop art and Latino art.

During her career, Mecklenburg has organized more than 25 exhibitions, written on Edward Hopper, Georgia O'Keeffe, John Sloan, and other 20th-century painters for exhibition-based publications as well as for magazines and journals such as *American Art*, *American Art Review* and *The Magazine Antiques*. She has lectured widely and has served on numerous advisory committees.

Mecklenburg received a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from the University of Texas at Austin. She earned her doctorate in art history (1983) from the University of Maryland at College Park.

## Judy Richardson

ROOSEVELT MIDDLE SCHOOL  
March 7, 2019 at 6:30 pm



The Dubuque Museum of Art, in partnership with the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque and Dubuque Community Schools, welcomes civil rights activist, educator, and documentary filmmaker Judy Richardson.

Judy Richardson's experiences with the Civil Rights Movement have influenced her throughout her life. Richardson was on the staff of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in the South, from 1963 to 1966. In 1965 she became the office manager for the successful, first campaign of Julian Bond for the Georgia House of Representatives. Ms. Richardson also organized a residential "freedom school" that brought together young people from civil rights struggles in both the North and South to talk about common concerns and strategies.

In 1978 Richardson entered the world of film. She worked on all fourteen hours of the seminal PBS series, *Eyes on the Prize* (winner of an Academy Award nomination, six Emmys, the highest broadcast journalism awards, and many others).

Richardson and five other female SNCC activists co-edited *Hands on the Freedom Plow: Personal Accounts by Women in SNCC* an anthology that includes the memoirs of 52 courageous women on the front lines of the 1960's Southern Civil Rights Movement. Richardson was awarded an honorary doctorate by Swarthmore College, was a Distinguished Visiting Professor at Brown University, and held a Distinguished Guest Residency in Film at Connecticut College.



Judy Richardson, seated third from right, takes part in a civil rights sit-in in Atlanta, Georgia in 1963. Photo courtesy of Magnum Photos



Top: Thomas Paquette, *Cross Traffic*, (detail) 2017, oil on linen, 30x 34, courtesy of artist

Mid: Thomas Paquette, *Atmospheric Change*, (detail) 2017, oil on linen, 20x 16, courtesy of artist

Bottom: Thomas Paquette, *Palimpsest*, (detail) 2017, oil on linen, 36x 48, courtesy of artist

## THOMAS PAQUETTE

# America's River Re-Explored, Paintings of the Mississippi from Source to Gulf

April 27 - July 28, 2019

Contemporary landscape painter, Thomas Paquette, explores and paints scenes from the entire length of the Mississippi River, starting at its northern Minnesota source to its outflow at the Gulf of Mexico. The resulting collection of paintings provides a contemporary visual travelogue of this important river. Twenty-two of these paintings were selected for the exhibition in Dubuque.

Originally planned as a way to celebrate the National Park Service's centennial in 2016, the project was conceived as a series of paintings of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, the Park Service's seventy-two-mile corridor of river that runs through Minneapolis and St Paul. Paquette's growing obsession with the river kept him going, however, and an additional two thousand miles of Mississippi made its way across his canvases.

Thomas Paquette has lived in five places along the upper Mississippi River. Born in Minneapolis in 1958, Paquette spent his youth living a mile from the mighty river. He later lived in Bemidji, Red Wing, and Winona in Minnesota, and Edwardsville in Illinois. Even now, the great reach of the river's drainage touches the land where he lives, near the start of its easternmost tributary, the Allegheny River. For this project, Paquette took several extended trips in different seasons with the aim of seeing and apprehending as much as possible about the Mississippi.

Paquette graduated from Bemidji State University with a B.F.A. degree in Painting in 1985, and has painted full-time since 1988, when he earned his M.F.A. degree in Painting on full fellowship from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. Paquette's landscape paintings have been exhibited across the United States, and were featured in more than fifty solo exhibitions at prominent art galleries in Chicago, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, New York City, and Washington D.C. Solo museum exhibitions of his work were mounted at Erie Art Museum, Evansville Museum of Art and Science, Georgia Museum of Art, Quick Center for the Arts, The Rockwell Museum, Westmoreland Museum of American Art, and Wildling Art Museum.

SPONSOR:



Cottingham & Butler

America's River Re-Explored was previously exhibited at the Minnesota Marine Art Museum in Winona and the Watermark Art Center in Bemidji. The exhibition is generously sponsored in Dubuque by Cottingham & Butler.

# 2019 DuMA Biennial

Summer Exhibitions

FALB FAMILY GALLERY

May 18 – September 8, 2019

**Founded in 2003 and presented every two years, the DuMA Biennial is a competitive, juried exhibition intended to recognize and honor the artistic talent that exists throughout our region.**

The seventh DuMA Biennial opens May 18, 2019 with what is sure to be a varied and engaging survey of new works from established as well as emerging contemporary artists.

A call for entries opened in December, with a submission deadline of March 14, 2019. Artists 18 years of age or older who currently reside within a 200 mile-radius of Dubuque are eligible to enter.

As a juried exhibition, the selection of a qualified juror is important. Special attention is given to finding talented individuals with a compelling record of studying and presenting contemporary American art.

Past jurors have included: Amanda Burdan, curator of the Brandywine River Museum of Art; Jane Milosch, director of the Smithsonian Provenance Research Initiative; Jim Welu, director emeritus of the Worcester Art Museum; and Olukemi Ilesanmi, then curatorial assistant at the Walker Art Center.

For the 2019 DuMA Biennial, we are honored to continue this tradition with Ms. Sarah Humphreville. Since 2016, Humphreville has served as Senior Curatorial Assistant at the Whitney Museum of American Art, where she previously worked as a Curatorial Assistant.

In her roles with the Whitney, Humphreville has worked with Senior Curator Barbara Haskell on the exhibitions *Grant Wood: American Gothic and Other Fables*, *Stuart Davis: In Full Swing*, *American Legends: From Calder to O'Keeffe*, *Robert Indiana: Beyond LOVE*, *Edward Hopper and Photography*, and *Collecting Calder*. Humphreville earned a B.A. from Cornell University and M.A. from the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University, for which she completed a thesis on Edward Hopper and Dan Flavin. Humphreville has also worked with The Jewish Museum, the Museum of Modern Art, and galleries in New York and Los Angeles.



#### RELATED PROGRAMS:

Sarah Humphreville Gallery Talk  
Saturday, June 8, 2019, 1:30 pm

#### SPONSOR:



Deadline for Entry  
March 14, 2019

[dbqart.com/biennial/](http://dbqart.com/biennial/)





## Looking For Childrens' Art Classes?

### YOUNG AT ART

Come for the art, stay to get messy.

**Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 2-2:45 pm**

### STUDIO ART CLASSES

Classes and workshops in drawing & painting begin

**January 19.** Visit [dbqart.com](http://dbqart.com) for details.

### SPRING BREAK CAMPS

**Monday-Friday, March 25-29**

Grades K-2, 9-11 am (Optional lunch 11 am-Noon)

Grades 3-5, 1-4 pm

Tuition: \$65 Members, \$75 Guests (materials included)

Scholarships available. Visit [dbqart.com](http://dbqart.com) for details.



## Do You Like To Dig Deeper Into Art?

### EXHIBITION LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

A series of lunch & learn talks, held in conjunction with the Dubuque NAACP, to complement *African American Art of the 20th Century*.

**January 25 - February 8 - February 22 - March 22 - April 5 | 12:15-1 pm**

### FILMS

*Colored Frames*, **January 27, 1:30 pm**

Julien Dubuque International Film Festival, **April 24-28**

### ARCHITREK

DuMA & Heritage Works partner to present a series of talks and walking tours of Dubuque architecture

**Four Mounds, Feb. 21**

**Urban Renewal, March 21**

Programs take place in museum lobby, 12:15-1 pm



Photo courtesy of Bob Felderman, General Bob Photography



## Looking For Free Family Fun?

### SECOND SATURDAYS

Enjoy culturally-diverse performing arts acts and hands-on art activities

**Every 2nd Saturday of the Month**

### 2019 WINTER ARTS SNOW SCULPTING COMPETITION

**Saturday, January 26, Noon-4:00 pm**

See snow sculptures, carved by professional artists and student teams, and try your hand at snow sculpting in the family area. Warm up inside the museum with refreshments, art activities, and tours. Free admission.

### K-8 ART EXHIBITION

Celebrate the work of young Dubuque artists

**March 25-April 14**

Opening reception: Thursday, April 4, 5-6:30 pm

### COMMUNITY DAY

**Saturday, April 14, 10 am-4 pm**

Enjoy performances by Turnt Kidz-TK Dance Group, the Dream Center Gospel Choir, and Renee Tyler along with free tours and refreshments.

## Do You Like To Engage with Art?

### FIRST FRIDAYS

Meet up with friends at DuMA and join in the monthly citywide gallery hop celebrating our creative community.

**Every 1st Friday of the Month**

### SLOW DOWN BRUNCH/SLOW DOWN ART DAY 2019

**Saturday, April 6, 11:30-1:30 pm**

Enjoy a laid back meal of southern food from the Flatted Fifth and take time to slow down and look at the museums artwork more in depth.

### EXHIBITION OPENINGS/MEMBER PREVIEWS

**Friday, January 25, 5-8 pm**

*African American Art in the 20th Century*

*Madai Taylor: An Elegy to America in Black and White*

*Living Proof Exhibit: A Visualization of Hope*

**Friday, June 7, 5-8 pm**

*2019 DuMA Biennial*

*Thomas Paquette: America's River Re-Explored*



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