

DuMA

FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER

ARTHUR GEISERT

TALL AND NOT-SO-TALL TALES





Sections

- 3 Director's Corner
- 4 Development
- 6 Fall Exhibitions
- 9 Recent Acquisitions
- 10 Biennial Recap
- 11 Education

Featured

ARTHUR GEISERT

Children's book author and artist Arthur Geisert is featured in a new exhibition highlighting his boundless imagination and humor.

ALEC EGAN

Los Angeles based artist Alec Egan explores nostalgia and memory in his latest series of contemporary oil paintings.

DUBUQUE CAMERA CLUB

The Dubuque Camera Club presents themes of "reflection" in the 7th annual exhibition of photographs by club members.

MARK CHAMBERLAIN

A series of photographs taken by the late California photographer and Dubuque native returns home.

Cover Credit: Arthur Geisert, composite details from *Pumpkin Island* and *Thunderstorm*



Save ▶ Borrow ▶ Invest ▶ Insure ▶ Trust

Director's Corner

Earlier this year, we hosted two museum directors visiting on behalf of the American Alliance of Museums (AAM), our national accreditation partner since 2004. For perspective, AAM accreditation supports everything from our ability to borrow artworks and attract traveling exhibitions, to our competitiveness for grants and gifts. Fewer than 10% of museums, nationally, have attained this designation.

Following their visit, during which AAM met with our Board, staff and partners to assess our overall performance and role in the community, we learned that DuMA was awarded reaccreditation! In its letter, AAM commended the museum on "its thoughtful approach to diversity, inclusion and accessibility" and "exemplary collections management" practices. AAM added that the museum is "undeniably a cornerstone of its community"—a sentiment we could not be more proud of.

Adding to the excitement, we are pleased to open a new, family-oriented exhibit highlighting the boundless imagination and humor of author and artist Arthur Geisert in the galleries this fall (see pg. 6). Geisert's works are among the museum's most prized collections, thanks to generous donations over the years from the families of Arthur and Bonnie Geisert, Bob and Dr. Barbara Sullivan Woodward, and Jack and Mantea Schmid.

Finally, we look forward to a new series, called "The City Speaks", in September (see pg. 11). Billed as a "festival of the humanities", The City Speaks seeks to bring people together for short, thought-provoking talks that connect the arts and humanities to topics of local and international relevance. A call for nominations went out to community partners in July, and a list of speakers and topics will be announced in late August.

See you at the Museum,



David Schmitz
Executive Director
563.557.1851
dschmitz@dbqart.org



Arts and Healing Update

As part of its ongoing efforts to address brain health and healing through the arts and humanities, DuMA entered into a partnership and pilot project this spring with Hillcrest Family Services and Creative Adventure Lab. The project was developed and led by psychiatrist Roger D. Shafer, MD and Geri Shafer, MA, arts management consultant, with the ongoing support of Hillcrest staff.

Over six weeks, participants ranging in age from 13-17 visited the museum and Creative Adventure Lab where they created expressive images using Tilt Brush by Google, a virtual reality program. As part of the clinical process, students responded to six different emotions with measurable outcomes that demonstrated an increase in self-esteem.

Paint The Town!

45TH ANNUAL GALA, AUCTION AND RAFFLE

Friday, November 8, 2019, 5-9 pm | Hotel Julien Dubuque

Please join us for an extraordinary evening of art and entertainment benefitting the Dubuque Museum of Art and celebrating the impact of the arts in our community.

FEATURING:

- Cocktail hour and silent auction
- Live auction featuring works by leading artists, dining experiences, travel opportunities, and gift packages
- Live entertainment
- Grand Prize Raffle drawing for \$10,000

Tickets \$100 per guest. All proceeds benefit museum programs.

For more information, tickets, and event updates, visit dbqart.com



Corporate Member Profile: Prudential Retirement



Arts Smarts Students visit artist Donna Gibson's studio.

From exhibition sponsorships, to underwriting free admission to the museum on Thursdays and for children 18 and younger every day, Prudential Retirement has been a generous community partner for nearly two decades.

Julie Steffen, a marketing and operations professional with Prudential, has been an integral part of establishing this relationship. Now, as President of DuMA's Board of Trustees, her role is more impactful than ever.

What inspired Prudential to become a corporate sponsor?

The idea was to leverage the company's talent and philanthropy to help both our employees and the communities where we live. The DuMA was one such opportunity.

Why has Prudential continued to support the Museum?

DuMA serves a diverse population. We wanted to help remove barriers that may have prevented access to its programming and resources.

What do you find most beneficial about Prudential's relationship with the Museum?

Helping to keep DuMA affordable for families. On any given day, there are always new hands-on activities and educational opportunities for people of all ages.

- DuMA welcomed **Barbara L. Barton** as its new Director of Advancement on April 1, following an extensive search.
Barb comes to DuMA from MercyOne Dubuque Medical Center, where she served as wellness coordinator and, previously, as director of major and annual gifts. Barton has more than 20 years of development experience and is active in local and national philanthropic organizations. Barb and her husband, Tom, have two children, Matt and Katie.
- Marketing and Engagement Manager Kay Schroeder will serve on a panel at the 2019 Iowa Museums Association conference in Fort Dodge, October 8-9.
- Executive Director David Schmitz was among approximately 40 museum leaders selected to participate in the 2019 Getty Leadership Institute, held at Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, California in June.
- The Board of Trustees welcomed five new directors at the annual meeting in May:
Dr. Stephanie Dalton, DDS Great River Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
Michael Donohue U.S. Bank
Maureen Quann City of Dubuque
Cheryl Syke Medical Associates
Renee Tyler City of Dubuque



Barbara L. Barton
Director of Advancement
563.557.1851
bbarton@dbqart.org

Memorial Gifts

The following donors made gifts in memory of Grace Elizabeth Carling-Kelly between June 1 – July 31, 2019:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Susan Barstow | James A. Miller |
| Terry Carling-Kelly | Todd Mitchell |
| Darryl W. Cole | Gwen Moore |
| Megan Dannenfeldt | Amy Neiss |
| John J. Danneman | Ulyana Stebelska and Yaroslav Nakonechnyy |
| Mary Donaldson | John and Jolene Neuhalfen |
| Barbara L. Fox | N. P. H. S. Class of '81 |
| Jay Hefel | Dalia Nunez |
| Honkamp Krueger & Co. | Bradley Peck |
| Nick Lamagna | Daniel and Chris Prellwitz |
| Olivia McLaurine | Gina and Robert Swenson |

You Did It!

In early June, we invited our members and supporters to participate in a matching gift program called Birdies for Charity, sponsored by the Principal Charity Classic. Our goal was to raise \$10,000 by July 15 to receive a 10% matching gift. Because of your generosity, we raised over \$18,000 and are welcoming 26 new members into the DuMA family. Thank you!





SPONSORED BY:



James B. and Melita McDonough
Foundation

Mosaic Lodge #125

The Schoen Family Charitable Trust

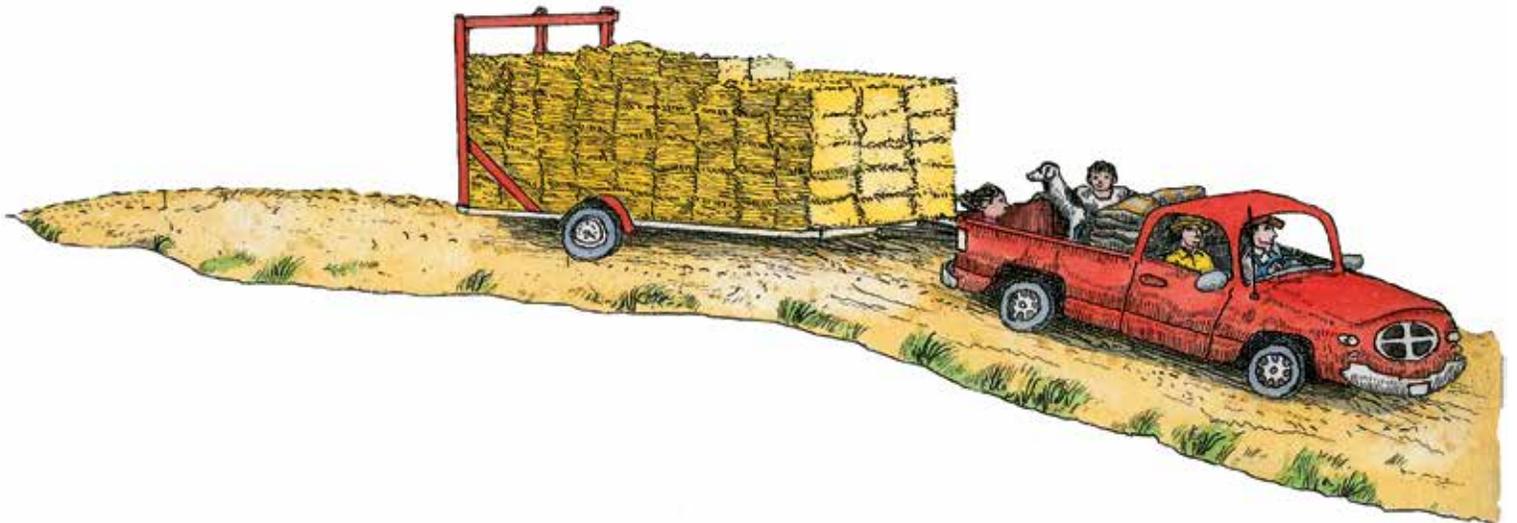
MEMBER RECEPTION:
September 27, 2019, 5-8 pm

Arthur Geisert: Tall and Not-So-Tall Tales

FALB FAMILY GALLERY
September 21, 2019 – January 5, 2020

The Dubuque Museum of Art is pleased to present a new exhibition highlighting the boundless imagination and humor of children's book author and artist Arthur Geisert.

Opening this fall, the DuMA will present the original illustrations from Geisert's latest work of fiction, *Pumpkin Island*, published by Enchanted Lion Books, along with illustrations from his 2013 work *Thunderstorm*. The exhibition will bring the wondrous worlds of Geisert's books to life with more than 60 hand-colored etchings (including one that is over 30 feet long), plus preparatory drawings and copper plates. The original works will be complimented by a video and hands-on activities for children and families.





DuMA has enjoyed a long relationship with Geisert, whose complete works are among the museum's most prized collections. Through the generosity of the Jack and Mantea Schmid Family, Bob Woodward, Arthur Geisert and Bonnie Geisert, the museum acquired all of the artist's prints, books and etching plates more than a decade ago—an archive that expands with each new publication.

In *Pumpkin Island*, a small town is overrun by sprawling pumpkin vines that remarkably sprout from a little island in the town's river. Like all of his books, and the tradition of narrative illustration Geisert belongs to, *Pumpkin Island* combines the artist's recognizable artistic style, use of imagery to create a narrative, and unique sense of humor to draw children as well as adults into the story.

In *Thunderstorm*, the minutes tick away as a tornado roars through the countryside upsetting a peaceful day for the human and animal families in its path. The hills and valleys of rolling farmland go on and on through *Thunderstorm* making readers feel as if they are traveling along a country road on a stormy afternoon.

These are the fantastic and familiar stories Geisert spins in his newest tall and not-so-tall tales. No matter how extraordinary, Geisert's stories maintain an air of possibility and authenticity due in part to the inspiration he draws from the people, animals, and landscapes around him.

Arthur Geisert is the author of more than two dozen books, three of which have been awarded The New York Times Best Illustrated Children's Book Award. Born in Texas and raised in Los Angeles, Geisert relocated to Bernard, Iowa in 2007 and today makes his home and studio in Elkader, Iowa.

Above and right: Arthur Geisert, *Pumpkin Island* (detail), 2018, hand-colored, copper plate etching on paper, courtesy of Jack and Mantea Schmid Family.

Left: Arthur Geisert, *Thunderstorm* (detail), 2013, hand-colored, copper plate etching on paper, courtesy of Jack and Mantea Schmid Family.

RELATED PROGRAMS:

Dupaco Community Day

Saturday, October 12, 10-4 pm

Junior Dead Artist

Beatrix Potter

Featuring Cathy Goodman

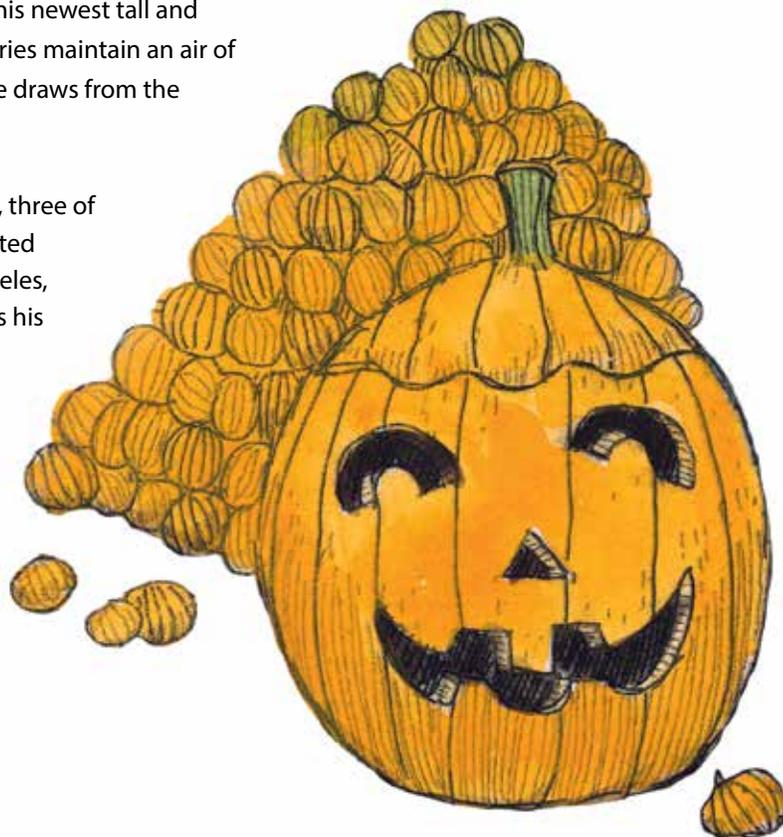
Modeled on the popular Famous Dead Artist programs, featuring a family friendly artist.

October 12 Second Saturday 1 pm

Gallery Talk

Sunday, October 13, 1 pm

A conversation with Art Geisert and Louise Kames



Alec Egan: The Living Room

KRIS MOZENA MCNAMER GALLERY | August 10 - October 20, 2019



California-based artist Alec Egan explores nostalgia and memory in his latest series of contemporary oil paintings. Motifs including books, flowers, floor boards, and wallpaper designs—similar to those found in his grandparent's home—repeat throughout his artworks, which often combine a central painting surrounded by smaller compositions.

By repeating and layering similar elements across the body of work, Egan's works achieve a rhythmic connection and call to mind the uncertainty of childhood memories, where a familiar place or object may be remembered in several ways.

Born in Los Angeles, in 1984, Alec Egan received his B.A. in 2007 from Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio and his M.F.A. in 2013 from Otis College of Art and Design in Los Angeles. Egan has been included in numerous group and solo exhibits and is represented by Anat Ebgi Gallery in Los Angeles.

Sponsored by



Cottingham & Butler

TRAPPIST CASKETS

New Melleray Abbey | Est. 1849

Alec Egan, *Living Room*, 2019, oil and flashe acrylic on canvas, 96x72 inches, collection of Tim Walsh and Mike Healy.

Reflections

DUBUQUE CAMERA CLUB ANNUAL EXHIBITION

September 21 – November 10, 2019

The Dubuque Camera Club explores themes of "reflection" in the 7th annual exhibition of photographs by club members. Reflection can have different meanings – a mirror-like surface or the thoughtful contemplation of the past. To capture reflection requires patience and luck but the results, especially mirror-like surfaces, can be breathtaking. Curated from over 70 submitted images, DUMA Curator and Registrar Stacy Peterson selected a group of photographs that represents not only the range of the theme but also the skill levels of the club members.

This annual exhibition celebrates the Dubuque Camera Club, where a group of individuals that have a similar creative interest can gather to practice, learn, and have fun. In this way, the club offers a valuable experience to all of its members, whether seasoned professional or casual hobbyist.

More information about the Club can be found online at: dubuquecameraclub.com

8 dbqart.com Fall 2019



Ronald Tigges, *Blue Moon on the Mississippi*, photograph on aluminum, 18x12 in.

Dubuque Passages Returns Home

Recent Acquisitions

In early 2019, DuMA learned about a collection of black and white photographs taken by the late California photographer and Dubuque native Mark Chamberlain. Titled *Dubuque Passages*, the series of 28 original photographic prints presents a portrait of life in Dubuque and the surrounding areas in the early to mid 1970s.

Chamberlain described how the series began, "Having started a new life in the promised land of Southern California, I often returned to Dubuque, Iowa to visit family, friends and the river but began to see my own roots with fresh eyes." He added, "from the perspective of California, Dubuque seemed quaint by comparison and out of step with the coming new age. I prowled the Tri-State area hoping to preserve not just the features of the landscape and inhabitants, but to record a sense of my own vanishing past. The title *Dubuque Passages* really became a metaphor for the Midwest, and reflected the nostalgia of my youth."

Chamberlain became interested in photography while stationed in Korea during the Vietnam War. According to the artist, *Dubuque Passages* marked "my first major body of work after returning from the military" and further explained in a letter to a friend, "I was fortunate just to survive two years of active duty during a very bizarre era. Fortuitously, I picked up a camera as a means of focusing my attention and observations while maintaining a certain objective detachment, but also providing a way to share my views with others. I came to embrace the power of the photograph to communicate ideas, not just to convey images of things or activities."

After Chamberlain passed away from cancer in April 2018, the owners of the collection desired that the works "return home" to Dubuque to preserve and share his legacy and accomplishments with future generations.

DuMA is proud to add this series to the collection and plans to exhibit the works in the future.



Upcoming Winter Exhibitions

Molly Wood: *The Poison Garden*

November 2 - January 12, 2020

Totalitarianism Seen Through Metaphors: Paintings by Ioana Mamali

November 11, 2019 - January 5, 2020

Mark Chamberlain, Untitled, 1970s, b&w photograph, 6x9 inches, Gift of Liz Goldner and Susan Chamberlain, T2019.24

Mark Chamberlain, Untitled, 1970s, b&w photograph, 6x9 inches, Gift of Liz Goldner and Susan Chamberlain, T2019.20

Mark Chamberlain, *Van Buren St*, Iowa City, IA, 1976, b&w photograph, 6x9 inches, Gift of Liz Goldner and Susan Chamberlain, T2019.16

2019 DuMA Biennial in Review

May 18 - September 8, 2019

SPONSORED BY



DuMA members, exhibiting artists, and guests turned out in June to celebrate the opening of the 2019 DuMA Biennial. Juror Sarah Humphreville of the Whitney Museum of American Art selected 60 artworks, created by 39 regional artists, for the exhibition.



DuMA Biennial

2019 AWARD WINNERS:

1st: Rachel Merrill 2nd: Donté K. Hayes 3rd: Elizabeth Eagle



The Glab Family Art Studio was a buzzing place this summer, as we welcomed an inquisitive and energetic group of summer art campers to explore the theme of Art in Nature. The evocative light of Thomas Paquette's Mississippi River landscapes, and the wildly unexpected creativity of the DuMA 2019 Biennial exhibition provided artistic inspiration.

John Swartwout's miniature construction workers' giant cake was overwhelmingly a favorite! Campers also had the opportunity to visit the Dubuque Arboretum and Botanical Gardens and Swiss Valley Nature Center. At the Arboretum they rambled through the rose garden, sampled mint in the herb garden, and fed the koi in the Japanese garden before playing with watercolors and creating a multi-media collage. At Swiss Valley, we talked about our favorite native birds before creating them out of air-dry clay. Taking a hike, campers looked closely at the rainbow of colors in nature, and then discussed how the nature center's murals and dioramas perfectly brought together art, science, and education.

– Hana Velde, Lead Teaching Artist



ADULT PROGRAMS:

ARCHITREK: Ale & Architecture Tours
E. 22nd Street | September 17, 6 pm
Loras College | October 17, 6 pm

LUNCH AND LEARN

Impressionism and Post-Impression
Sr. Joan Lingen, BVM, Ph.D.
Oct. 10 and 17, 12:15 – 1:00 pm

FAMOUS DEAD ARTIST

Georgia O'Keefe & Alfred Stieglitz
Featuring Lenore Howard and Doug Donald
Saturday, December 7, 7 pm and
Sunday, December 8, 1:30 pm



DUBUQUE MUSEUM OF ART PRESENTS

THE CITY SPEAKS

a festival of the humanities

SEPTEMBER 22-29 2019

Visit dbqart.com for speakers, dates and times.

Featured Talk



Magdalena Gómez
SEPTEMBER 22, 1 pm
award-winning performance
poet, playwright and performer

In partnership with
Dubuque International Day of Peace





DUBUQUE
museum
 OF **art**

DUBUQUE MUSEUM OF ART
 701 LOCUST ST.
 DUBUQUE, IA 52001

AN AFFILIATE OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION



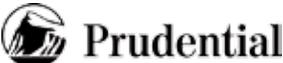
TIMELESS. TIMELY. ENGAGING.
 SINCE 1874

HOURS
 T / W / TH / F 10 AM - 5 PM
 S / S 1 PM - 4 PM

OPERATING SUPPORT GRANTS PROVIDED BY



FREE THURSDAYS AND EVERY DAY
 FOR 18 & YOUNGER, COURTESY OF



STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE MOST RECENT NEWS
 AND EVENTS BY FOLLOWING US AT DBQART.COM
 OR ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

