

# DuMA

SUMMER 2023





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## Exhibitions

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### DuMA BIENNIAL 2023

Sixty-five works by 65 artists are represented in DuMA's tenth Biennial, a competitive, juried exhibition that offers both the state of the arts and the art of our state(s).

### RACHEL DEUTMEYER: *EVERYTHING FADES*

A photographer raised in Dubuque County exhibits meditations on change and memory in her first solo show at the Museum.



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Support provided by the Iowa Arts Council, a division of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Dubuque Museum of Art activities are made possible through the City of Dubuque's Arts and Culture Operating Support grant program.

Cover: Linda Lewis, *Growth Depends on Strong Roots*, 2021, stoneware, 22x12x16 in., courtesy of the artist.

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# Wonderland

Dear Members,

This spring, curators from all three high schools installed back-to-back exhibitions of work by students representing every neighborhood in Dubuque. The eloquence, thoughtfulness, and creativity of these young people renewed my optimism and inspired me to wonder. I just couldn't imagine myself—even now, after a professional life spent in art museums—creating works of such insight.

This summer, we are taking that energy and focusing on making the Museum an even more dynamic and participatory space. The season begins when we open the tenth DuMA Biennial (see page 6). The Biennial is an exhibition occurring every other year that takes us deep into the hearts and minds of the region's artists. Just as with our Dubuque students, there is a vast well of creativity and expression around us that deserves to be seen and celebrated. This year you'll be able to meet our featured artists at our opening Summer Artists Garden Party on June 17, but you'll want to return many times to take in the varied and inspiring work by area artists. Exhibitions like our Biennial—dynamic, multivocal, fluid—represent the museum we are in the process of becoming.

In that spirit, I also invite you to take a fresh look at some old favorites. To ensure that our public always has access to *Appraisal* and *Victorian Survival*, we will shift our collection highlights in the Randall Lengeling Gallery from the second floor to the ground floor. We will then move the Kris Mozena McNamer Gallery to the second floor, where it will create tighter relationships between temporary exhibitions. I look forward to welcoming you to these new spaces and especially to hearing your feedback.

Each time you visit, you'll experience something new, something that I hope will inspire your wonder, just as our students have inspired mine.

Gratefully,



Gary Stoppelman  
Executive Director  
563.557.1851 x112  
gstoppelman@dbqart.org



# On The Move

The next time you visit the Museum, the permanent collection will greet you on the first floor.



Local schoolchildren take in Grant Wood's *Appraisal*.

*Photo: Dubuque Community School District*

Starting this summer, the Museum's collection gallery on the second floor will become the new space for smaller temporary exhibitions, while the first floor gallery, which has traditionally been a rotating gallery space, will now house works from the permanent collection.

The two galleries are similar in size, so this swap is not about gaining (or losing) space. Instead, it is a signal of how we are starting to think in new ways about using the collection and interpreting exhibitions. Moving the

collection to the first floor makes it more easily accessible to all visitors as it becomes the natural first stop on a tour through the Museum. Our front desk staff and docents who welcome visitors are excited to have the collection nearby as it makes it easier for them to share highlights about works on view, particularly when other galleries are undergoing installation. Though temporary exhibitions change throughout the year, the collection gallery will always remain open and unaffected by installations in other galleries.

Another important aspect of this shift is being able to better frame temporary exhibitions. These exhibitions often share thematic connections like experimentation, regional contemporary art, and even nostalgia. Now that we will have temporary exhibitions in adjacent galleries on the second floor, we can more effectively highlight those connections and relationships, which will in turn allow us to explore broader integrations and provide a deeper experience for visitors.

# Taking Care of Business



DuMA is happy to welcome Keith Ahlvin as our new Business Manager. Keith comes to us from the Dubuque Community YMCA/YWCA, where he was the Chief Financial Officer for more than five years. There Keith played a key role in overhauling the organization's structure, staffing, and finances, including serving as the HR director for more than 200 employees. Importantly for DuMA as the Museum prepares for its new chapter, Keith also has experience with fundraising and capital campaigns.

Keith is currently pursuing an MBA with an emphasis in finance from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, and he has a BA from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. Despite his experience as a financial officer, his passion has long been the arts, and he has served as the technical director for not one but two theaters: the River Center/Adler Theater in Davenport and the Grand Opera House in Dubuque.

"I wasn't looking for a career change when I came across the Museum's posting, but when I saw it I felt like it was written specifically for me. I have really missed working in the arts and am grateful to get to be a part of an organization that is on the cusp of tremendous growth—not just physically but also in the impact we will be able to have for decades to come."

SAVE THE DATE

DUBUQUE MUSEUM OF ART **GALA**  
**GROUND BREAKING**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023



# DuMA<sup>2023</sup> biennial

JUNE 17–OCTOBER 8, 2023

FALB FAMILY GALLERY

**The biennial—a major contemporary art exhibition held every other year—is one of the oldest institutions in the modern art world, with its origins floating in Venice, Italy, in 1895.** That Venice Biennial or “Biennale,” which continues today, remains a focal point of the contemporary art calendar, and it became a model for a kind of exhibition that now takes place in more than 300 cities and institutions around the world, including at the Whitney Museum of American Art (since 1932), in São Paulo, Brazil (since 1951), and in Istanbul (since 1987).

Biennials are juried, which means that the works of art included on view were chosen by a curator or curatorial team from a wide field of submissions. Unlike art fairs, biennials are not part of the art market; the works in a biennial are not displayed for sale. Instead, a biennial is a competitive showcase or snapshot of contemporary artistic practices and a chance for an artist’s work to be seen on a prominent stage.

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*Left:* Kristin Quinn, *Estivant Pines*, 2021, oil on panel, 24x20 in., courtesy of the artist.

*Right:* Bill Mitchell, *Catastratagrophic 2*, 2023, books, clay paint, epoxy, glass, steel, rammed earth, and wood, 66x21x13 in., courtesy of the artist.







The DuMA Biennial was founded in 2003 and is open to both established and emerging contemporary artists who are at least 18 years old and live within a 200-mile radius of Dubuque. DuMA opened a Call for Entries in December, giving artists three months to submit up to three new works through an online portal. All regional artists are invited, including previously selected artists, and DuMA sends submission information to other regional arts organizations as well as college and university art departments. DuMA also publishes this information on its social media platforms and website. All of the submitted works are then turned over to a juror for a final selection; this year's juror is Pamela Caserta Hugdahl of the Rochester Art Center in Rochester, Minnesota (see page 9).

The ethos of the DuMA Biennial—to reflect a moment in time, celebrate regional talent, and continue to build an artistic community—will be celebrated on our Opening Day, Saturday, June 17. Starting that day and through the coming months, visitors will be able to witness how the enormous changes in our social, cultural, and political environment emerge in the art created today by the artists among us.

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#### OPENING CELEBRATION

SUMMER ARTISTS GARDEN PARTY

**Saturday, June 17 / 5–8 pm**

See page 12 for details

SPONSORED BY:



## FEATURED ARTISTS

### Illinois

Elisa Ahmer, Leaf River  
Marcia Babler, Libertyville  
Maureen Bardusk, Galena  
Dan Brinkmeier, Mount Carroll  
Patrick Carr, Evanston  
Liz Chilsen, Forest Park  
Wendi Dibbern, Galena  
Darlys Ewoldt, Chicago  
Tim Hutchings, Peoria  
Scott Mossman, Chicago  
Louise Pappageorge, Chicago  
Jessie Rebik, Galena  
Michele Thrane, Arlington Heights  
Kathy Weaver, Chicago  
Amber Williams, Rock Island  
David Zahn, Moline

### Iowa

Alexandra Ackerman, Iowa City  
Troy Aiken, Dubuque  
Judy Bales, Fairfield  
Steve Banks, Davenport  
Jennifer Bates, Cedar Falls  
Monica Correia, Iowa City  
Rachel Daack, Dubuque  
Maggie Douglas, Des Moines  
Elizabeth Eagle, Dubuque  
Douglas Flugum, Cedar Rapids  
Jan Friedman, Iowa City  
Andonia Giannakouros, Dubuque  
Jenny Harms Link, Asbury  
Celine Hartwig, Iowa City  
Stina Henslee, Dubuque  
Mary Jones, Indianola  
Anita Jung, Iowa City  
Louise Kames, Dubuque  
Alda Kaufman, Dubuque  
Ellen Kleckner, Cedar Rapids  
Dalton Leisen, Dubuque  
Linda Lewis, West Des Moines  
Kay Meyer, Des Moines  
Lily Nesta, Dubuque  
Kristin Quinn, Davenport  
Catherine Reinhart, Ames  
Levi Robb, Des Moines  
Paul Rung, Durango  
Michael Ryan, Cedar Rapids  
Steve Sinner, Bettendorf  
Priscilla Steele, Marion  
Dawn Wohlford, Bettendorf  
Peter Xiao, Bettendorf

### Wisconsin

Todd Barnett, Madison  
David Barnhill, Malone  
Victoria Bein, Edgerton  
Amy Carani, Monroe  
Tony Conrad, Appleton  
Doug Fath, Madison  
Kristine Hinrichs, Milwaukee  
Michael Knapstein, Middleton  
Pat Kroth, Verona  
Bill Mitchell, Lancaster  
Ken Oppriecht, Stoughton  
Ann Orlowski, Madison  
Sara Risley, Milwaukee  
John Swartwout, Wisconsin Rapids  
Lauren Venable, Pleasant Prairie  
Charles Wickler, Waukesha



David Zahn, *Symmetry*, 2021, cast aluminum, 20x26x7 in., courtesy of the artist.





## MEET THIS YEAR'S JUROR



Pamela Caserta Hugdahl has been the executive director of the Rochester Art Center since June 2020, following positions at the Port Washington-Saukville Arts Council in Port Washington, Wisconsin; the Cedarburg Art Museum in Cedarburg, Wisconsin; and more than thirteen years at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, a hotbed of contemporary artistic practice.

At the Rochester Art Center, Hugdahl has

encouraged a robust and divergent slate of exhibitions that have included *Homecoming Queen*, which featured the garments of *RuPaul's Drag Race* sensation Utica Queen; *The Human Scale*, guest curated by Hair + Nails Gallery of Minneapolis; and *Walk With Us*, co-curated by Zoe Cinel and John Schuerman. She has also brought the Rochester Art Center in as a partner with Franconia Sculpture Park on the 4Ground Midwest Land Art Biennial. Over the course of her career, she has worked with such notable contemporary artists as Della Wells, Pedro Reyes, David Bowen, Danh Vo, and Cindy Sherman.

### Juror's Statement

*"An astounding 543 works of art in virtually every media—from quilting to digital arts—by 176 artists were submitted to the DuMA Biennial 2023. I wanted to represent as many different artists as I could, but the artworks have to fit into DuMA's galleries, so I had to be judicious about the number (and sizes!) of works I could select. I was surprised to see similar themes emerge so strongly from such a wide and broad group of artists: the interconnectedness of all things, focus on the environment, conscious and subconscious references to puzzles, and the topics of labor and toil. There were also quite a few works that referenced or rely on electricity, which seemed unusual. The inspiring submissions demonstrated a broad range of ideas, themes, and media coming out of the region, which I believe will come through strongly in this year's Biennial."*

# Rachel Deutmeyer: *Everything Fades*

JUNE 24–OCTOBER 15  
KRIS MOZENA MCNAMER GALLERY

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## ARTIST TALK

**Saturday, June 24 / 1:30 pm**

See page 12 for details

**Photographer Rachel Deutmeyer found that you can't go home again—but that inaccessibility became a route to this powerful visual meditation on loss, change, and memory, on view from June 24 to October 15.** Deutmeyer, an assistant professor of photography at Carson-Newman University in Jefferson City, Tennessee, had originally set out to explore the small town in Dubuque County where she was raised, but she found she was unable to access the center of her memories: her childhood home. This absence rendered her familiar surroundings foreign, and the house became, in her project, a symbol of what we lose in the passage from youth to adulthood.

The 15 works on view momentarily suspend a landscape in constant change. Spring buds, shadows, sunlight, butterflies, and multiple exposures of the exteriors of houses photographed across the Midwest become reflections of not only the inexorable passage of time but the wavering quality of memory itself. "I edited and sequenced the images to construct a narrative that references a bygone time in my own life," she wrote, "but they also address collective ideas of home, family, and loss," a sentiment that turns this highly personal project into a universal one.

Deutmeyer's work was first exhibited at DuMA in the 2019 Biennial, making *Everything Fades* both a homecoming and an evolution. "Change is often slow and unnoticed until it suddenly feels permanent and inevitable," she reflected. "I found beauty in things that were changing, as we are all changing."

"DuMA has been a source of inspiration throughout my creative career. I visited many times as a university student, was happy to be included as an artist in the 2019 Biennial, and am so excited to share a solo exhibition of photographs at the Museum this summer. The project relates to my own experiences growing up in Dubuque County, so it's a special opportunity to share images at DuMA that are inspired by and reflective of the local community."







*Above: Rachel Deutmeyer, E. 9th Street, 2021, archival inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 20x24 in., courtesy of the artist.*

*Left: Rachel Deutmeyer, Alley behind Locals, Summer 2021, 2021, archival inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 24x20 in., courtesy of the artist.*

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Rachel Deutmeyer is an artist and educator living in East Tennessee. Her photography-based art explores inconsistencies of memory and connections to place beyond tangible perception. Abstractly tied to childhood memories and the significance of motherhood, Deutmeyer's work reflects lived experiences as places of joy, sorrow, contemplation, and peace.

Raised in eastern Iowa, Deutmeyer graduated with a BA in Graphic Design from Ashford University and an MFA in Integrated Visual Arts from Iowa State University. Her artwork has been featured in more than 40 regional and national exhibitions. Deutmeyer currently teaches photography, theory, and history as Assistant Professor of Photography at Carson-Newman University in Jefferson City, Tennessee.



# Events and Programs

## ANNUAL MEETING

**Wednesday, May 24 / 6:30–7:30 pm**

Free with registration

At the 2023 DuMA Annual Member Meeting, we'll be celebrating our programs and volunteers, introducing new staff members, previewing upcoming activities, and voting for our Board officers. Attend in-person or view on our website. Please register at [dbqart.org](http://dbqart.org).

## JUNETEENTH WALKING TOUR AND RECEPTION

**Sunday, June 18 / 1 pm**

Free with admission

The Dubuque County Historic Preservation Commission and the Dubuque Branch of the NAACP lead a presentation and walking tour of Dubuque's Black history followed by a reception. Please RSVP at [Dubuquecountyiowa.gov](http://Dubuquecountyiowa.gov).

## ARTIST TALK

**Saturday, June 24 / 1:30 pm**

Free with admission

Photographer Rachel Deutmeyer offers her thoughts on her exhibition *Everything Fades* and what it means for a Biennial artist to have a solo show.

## GROUNDBREAKING

**Dubuque Museum of Art Gala**

**Friday, September 29**

Save the date to celebrate groundbreakers of the past, present, and future as DuMA approaches its 150th anniversary and announces plans for monumental expansion.

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## LAST LOOK

**Closing June 4**

*Bill Farrell: Investigations with Clay*

Falb Family Gallery

A survey exhibition of the work of the pioneering ceramic artist.

**Closing June 25**

*Tibi Chelcea: Randomly Accessed Memories*

Kris Mozena McNamer Gallery

At the intersection of computer engineering, textile manufacturing, and Romanian culture.

# DuMA Biennial 2023 Programs

## BIENNIAL OPENING DAY

**Saturday, June 17 / 10 am–4 pm**

General Admission

Be the first to see the dazzling scope of regional creativity—65 works by 65 artists—selected by Biennial 2023 juror Pamela Caserta Hugdahl in DuMA's biannual "state of the arts" exhibition.

## SUMMER ARTISTS GARDEN PARTY

**Saturday, June 17 / 5–8 pm**

\$15 members

\$20 adults

\$10 under 21

Free for 1874 Society

Admission includes one drink

Toast the beginning of summer and celebrate the 65 artists in the 10th DuMA Biennial. This show is so big that we'll have to close down 7th Street. We'll announce awards amidst an evening of revelry with creature comforts provided by food trucks, a bar featuring beer and wine, and a dj. Tickets are available at [dbqart.org/summerparty](http://dbqart.org/summerparty).

## IN CONVERSATION

**August 5–6 / 10 am–4 pm**

Free

This festival of short panel conversations explores the arts in Iowa in collaboration with DBQ Fest and the Iowa Arts Council.

## RELATED PRESENTATIONS

**Mobile Touch Gallery**

**June 16–October 8**

Free with admission

The Mobile Touch Gallery offers a brand new sensory approach to art exhibitions in which guests are invited to explore the materials and objects used by Biennial artists through touch.

**Artist Videos**

**June 16–October 8**

Free with admission

Go behind the scenes with the artists and juror of the DuMA Biennial 2023 in this series of short videos that take visitors inside one of the Museum's largest exhibitions. The videos are on view at the Museum as well as on our website, [dbqart.org](http://dbqart.org).



## ArchiTREK

The ArchiTREK program is intended to foster an appreciation for and excitement about Dubuque's historic resources by deepening our connection to place and highlighting the importance of design even in utilitarian structures. The programs, a partnership with Heritage Works, offer tours of local sites and underscore the importance of Historic Design, Historic Environments, Historic Neighborhood Culture, Local Lifeways, and Historic Buildings. The programs also focus on cultural resources and how they fit into the historic milieu. Please register for all programs at [dbqart.org](http://dbqart.org) or call the Museum at 563.557.1851 for questions or help with registration.

### BEER AT THE GEHLEN BARN

**Friday, June 16 / 6 pm**

\$20 for members of DuMA and Heritage Works  
\$25 for guests

Meet at Gehlen Barn  
101 Main Street, St. Donatus

A tour through Gehlen Barn, Iowa's oldest standing barn, built in 1839 in St. Donatus/Luxemburg, Iowa. The barn has been rehabilitated and turned into a taphouse that carries local Iowa beers, and it has just started brewing its own beers this year. The charge for this event will include both food and a drink ticket. As a special bonus, the Jacquie Miller Duo will also be performing at the barn on this evening.

### CRAFT OF BREWING

**Wednesday, July 12 / 7 pm**

\$20 for members of DuMA and Heritage Works  
\$35 for guests

Meet outside the Novelty Ironworks Building  
333 East 10th Street, Dubuque

An "Ale and Architecture" tour, starting in Dubuque's Millwork District and working our way to Jubeck New World Brewing. We will do a walking tour of the neighborhood and hope to coordinate with our friends at each of the breweries in the Millwork and Upper Main neighborhoods.

*Check our website for details on upcoming tours.*

### AUGUST

#### 11th Street Neighborhood Block Party

A walking tour of the 11th Street neighborhood, discussing its architectural design and history.


### SEPTEMBER

#### En Plein Air

A walking tour in conjunction with the Bluff Strokes Plein Air painting event.

### OCTOBER

A tour celebrating the fall harvest and foliage.



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Photo: Dubuque Community School District

**Thanks to our generous donors and dedicated staff and teachers, DuMA's educational efforts now reach students from kindergarten to twelfth grade.** From tours for second graders to the high school exhibition at the Museum, DuMA has created multiple age-appropriate paths for students to become acquainted with the visual arts and the Museum. "We at the Dubuque Community Schools are so proud of the partnership that we have with the Dubuque Museum of Art," said Brad Manternach, District Mentor and K-12 Visual Arts Instructional Support Leader in the Dubuque Community School District. "It's vital to the work we do as art teachers in helping our students develop the skills to be independent artistic thinkers." This spring, both DuMA and the schools celebrated the return to in-person programs for the first time since the COVID pandemic.

Arts Trek, which began in 1997, brings second graders to the Museum for a tour and a hands-on arts activity. This spring, DuMA hosted more than 800 students from 34 classes, many of them on their first field trips. Administered with the Dubuque Community Schools, Arts Trek has been so successful that DuMA will be piloting the program for seventh graders this fall. In this expanded version, students will be visiting several arts venues—including DuMA—for exposure to different sites and modes of expression.



"I loved how they had a lot of beautiful art at the Museum. I also loved how the artists were creative with their paintings. I didn't expect my cardinal painting to be put in the Museum, but it was exciting hearing the news. I enjoyed making the cardinal."

— Claire Kirby, 3rd Grade, Resurrection School



Equally popular are the two—now annual—student exhibitions, one for K–8 students and the other for high schoolers. The K–8 exhibition took place in March and featured 75 works of art by students from the Dubuque Community and Holy Family schools, installed at the Museum by photography students from Dubuque Senior High School. "It was very exciting to be a part of the K–8 art exhibition," said art teacher Lori Lahey from the Holy Family Catholic Schools. "I loved being there with my students and seeing their excitement when they saw their art hanging for the first time at the Dubuque Museum of Art."

After the K–8 exhibition, students from all three Dubuque high schools took over the walls for their own show, which ran from April 5 to May 16. DuMA will be expanding this high school exhibition to include instruction for portfolio building for budding artists and opportunities to meet with representatives from college art programs around the Midwest.

This summer DuMA will also be preparing an "onramp" for kindergarten and first grade students. Arts Trek 2.0 is a series of videos for art teachers designed to introduce students to art museums. These videos, presented by students themselves, will cover the ABCs of art museums—what they are, what you can do in an art museum, who works in an art museum, different ways to interact with art—and will eventually be expanded for older students.

## S is for Support

DuMA would like to thank the members and donors whose support turned these programs from proposals to works of art on the walls and students in the galleries. We look forward to building upon the experiences described here to creatively engage even more young people in the future. If you would like to lend your support and invest in educational opportunities at DuMA, please consider making a gift by using the included envelope, visiting us online at [dbqart.org/donate](http://dbqart.org/donate), or scanning the QR code below. To learn more about our outreach, please contact our Director of Advancement, Emma Stapleton, at 553.557.1851 x110.





DUBUQUE  
**museum**  
OF **art**

AN AFFILIATE OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

DUBUQUE MUSEUM OF ART

701 LOCUST STREET

DUBUQUE, IOWA 52001

[dbqart.org](http://dbqart.org)

The background of the lower half of the page is a detailed artwork by Priscilla Steele titled 'Magnum Amaryllis (detail)'. It features a dense, layered composition of various flowers and leaves in shades of green, brown, and orange, rendered in a mixed media style with visible textures and overlapping elements.

# Summer Artists *Garden Party*

**SATURDAY, JUNE 17**

Toast the beginning of summer and the 65 artists from across the tristate region at the opening of the 10th DuMA Biennial. This show is so big that we'll have to close down 7th Street. Tickets include one drink.

See page 12 for details and tickets

Priscilla Steele, *Magnum Amaryllis* (detail), 2022, mixed media on paper, 52.5x27.5 in., courtesy of the artist.