



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Family Day celebrates blockbuster baseball exhibition
February 24 at Dubuque Museum of Art**



Red Ruffing's fastball grip by William C. Greene, c. 1938,
courtesy of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum

Daylong festival of programming celebrates the opening of 4 exhibitions at DuMA

DUBUQUE, Iowa, February 16, 2024—*Picturing America's Pastime A Snapshot of the Photograph Collection at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum* opens Saturday, February 17, and continues through June 16 (Father's Day) in the Falb Family Gallery.

Explore the cultural history of America through the lens of the sport's greatest photographers. This landmark exhibition arrives from the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, NY. 51 photographs span the years 1866 to 2012 and reflect some of the most memorable moments in baseball and American history. Highlights include Babe Ruth, Roberto Clemente, Ty Cobb, Jackie Robinson, Shoeless Joe Jackson, Lou Gehrig, Dorothy Kovalchick, and Yogi Berra.

"Baseball and photography grew up together," says Tom Shieber, Senior Curator at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, "While it may be cliché to say that a picture is worth a thousand words, it is also an understatement. They are really worth much more. Images tell stories that go well beyond words. And the honesty and immediacy of a very special type of image—the photograph—makes for a unique relationship between the picture and the history it records."

DuMA's Curatorial Director Stacy Peterson adds "From the grandeur of the early game to the vibrancy of today's sport, every facet of our national pastime has been captured in sepia, color, and black-and-white. The

Hall of Fame’s collection is the world’s premiere repository of baseball photographs. We are excited to bring these images to our community and connect them to Dubuque’s baseball history.”

When preparations for the exhibit began in 2012, the Hall of Fame’s curatorial team faced the daunting task of selecting highlights from a collection of over 350,000 images. The team embraced the challenge and worked diligently for months. The difficult process reinforced just how impressive the Hall’s photo archive is. After culling the images, curators rigorously researched each photograph. Many of the images had never been thoroughly examined, and that work revealed undiscovered details.

Gary Stoppelman, Executive Director of the Dubuque Museum of Art shares “There is a candid photo of Lou Gehrig taken by an unknown photographer. The Iron Horse smiles with his teammates in the clubhouse. He’s just returned from Mayo after being diagnosed. A teammate’s hand rests on his shoulder. The subtlety of that gesture is equally as powerful as the grit of Ty Cobb sliding into third base as captured by Charles Conlon, Don Sparks’ photo of Roberto Clemente looking over his shoulder, or William C. Greene’s image of Jackie Robinson opening a door marked ‘Keep Out.’”



Like ghost players in the movie, the Chicago White Sox and New York Yankees enter the field through the corn for the first-ever MLB at the Field of Dreams game on August 11, 2021. (Photograph by Stephen Gassman, *Dubuque Telegraph-Herald*, August 11, 2021)

Picturing Dubuque Baseball is a companion exhibition that reveals the story of the Dubuquers who helped shaped the Major Leagues.

Did you know that one of the first-ever baseball tournaments in history was played in Dubuque in 1865? Or that the second-ever professional baseball league, the Northwestern League, was co-founded by a Dubuquer in 1879. Dubuque baseball historian John Pregler curates over 100 images, newspaper clippings, and artifacts, like a locally-owned World Series ring, that tell the story of Dubuquers’ role in our national pastime.

“Dubuque’s baseball history is American baseball history,” says Pregler. “Early twentieth-century sports writers refer to Dubuque as an early cradle of baseball—ultimately giving rise to the ghosts of baseball’s past at the Field of Dreams in a sea of corn 25 miles west of Dubuque.”

Explore images of the 1879 Dubuque Reds, the first Northwestern League Champions, a team that included two future baseball Hall of Famers. Learn about the meetings at the Hotel Julien that led to the creation of the American League. Explore the career of Clarence “Pants” Rowland, World Series-winning manager of the 1917 Chicago White Sox. See Hall of Famer Urban “Red” Faber shaking hands with New York Yankee Babe Ruth on “Red” Faber Day at Comiskey Park in Chicago. Follow the growth of twentieth-century minor league baseball in Dubuque from the 1903 Dubuque Shamrocks of the Three-I League to the 1976 Dubuque Packers of the Midwest League, including “Dubuque’s Ambassador of Baseball” Johnny Petrakis and four-time World Series Champion Bruce Bochy.



E. E. Kono, *Kimon Ox*, 2021, *Clytemnestra*, 2023, and *Kimon Tiger*, 2021, courtesy of the artist.

Dubuque artist E. E. Kono connects ideas across time and cultures with solo exhibition

February 24 – June 16

Kris Mozena McNamer Gallery

E. E. Kono returns to DuMA with *Drift: Recent Works*, a solo exhibition of paintings made with traditional techniques like egg tempera and silverpoint that explores history, myth, and legend. Kono is inspired by the Driftless Area. For her, the region is defined by a river that links the land to the sea and the complex past to a shifting present. Ancient limestone bluffs are scattered with fossils from a prehistoric sea and dotted with effigy mounds shaped like bears, birds and serpents by Eastern Woodland Natives. Growing up in such a place taught Kono to perceive the world as full of connections and layered meanings that drift between cultures and time.

Kono studied art history at the University of Iowa in Iowa City and the University of Hull in Kingston Upon Hull, England. Her work has been exhibited in notable venues, including La Luz de Jesus in Los Angeles; Modern Eden in San Francisco; Riverside Art Museum in Riverside, California; and Beinart Gallery in Melbourne, Australia. Additionally, she is an award-winning author and illustrator with over a dozen books published by major trade houses. Her book illustrations are in the collection of the Mazza Museum in Findley, Ohio.

Student Exhibition provides a reason for hope

Brightening the gray winter days with youthful creativity, the citywide K–8 exhibition features two and three-dimensional artwork by elementary and middle school students, chosen by their teachers. Installed by art students from Dubuque Senior High School.

“The annual K–8 exhibition curated by students from Senior High is a symbol of hope each year,” remarks DuMA’s Director of Creative Learning, Margi Buhr. “It reminds me of the importance of lifting up every voice because the power, creativity, and sensitivity of the work of these young artists and curators so impresses me each year.”

Brad Manternach, District Mentor and Visual Art Instructional Support Lead, Dubuque Community Schools acknowledges the valuable opportunities the exhibition provides. “**This exhibit not only celebrates the artistic achievements of our students but also highlights the importance of fostering a love for the arts in our community,**” says Manternach. “**Join us in applauding the vibrant colors, imaginative expressions, and unique perspectives that these young minds bring to the forefront.**”

Lori Lahey, art teacher at Resurrection and St. Columbkille Elementary adds, “The students get very excited to learn that they will have a piece of their art displayed in a real art museum. They are very proud and enjoy sharing their art with their family and friends. As a teacher, I get excited to see our students sharing their

artwork with the community and enjoying work of all the other student artists throughout all of Dubuque. It is a great experience for all. “

The public is invited to meet the student artists at a free reception on Thursday, March 7 from 4 – 6 pm.



Fans at the All-Star Game by unidentified photographer, July 30, 1962. Courtesy of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

FAMILY CELEBRATION Saturday, February 24

10 am – 1pm, families and fans of all ages are invited to celebrate the opening of *Picturing America's Pastime: A Snapshot of the Photograph Collection at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum*. Sample a ballpark frank from Hot Diggity Dogz, design your family's baseball cap sponsored by 1-800-Tshirts.com, and tour the exhibitions.

4 pm, Dubuque artist E.E. Kono discusses the work in her solo exhibition, *Drift: Recent Works by E. E. Kono*. Inside the gallery, Kono shares how landscape, history, and myth inform her approach to creating new work using traditional techniques like egg tempera and silverpoint. A reception follows in the lobby.

All family celebration programs are free with Museum admission. Free for members, youth 18 and under, active military members, veterans, and their families with a military or veteran ID or to those receiving food assistance (SNAP benefits) who present their EBT card. Adults are \$8, seniors \$7, and college students \$5.

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About the Dubuque Museum of Art

The Dubuque Museum of Art (DuMA), founded in 1874 and accredited by the American Alliance of Museums in 2004, is Iowa's oldest cultural institution. Named a national affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution in 2016, DuMA's mission is to create engaging art experiences that excite, inspire, and connect our community. The Museum is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm and Sunday from 1 pm to 4 pm. More information can be found at dbqart.org.

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