We hope that it communicates who we are and aspire to be as an organization. In preparation for this effort, we pored over our collection, sought feedback from the community, and worked with staff and board to discover who we are as a museum. We then engaged Schilling/Sellmeyer & Associates to produce the design. A few notes on our new logo—we wanted something colorful and fun but also something that would reflect an appropriate level of sophistication and gravitas. The logo places “art” at the center of the Museum’s identity and is indeed a work of art harkening to the works of 20th Century abstract artists like Frank Stella. We hope that our logo will provide a graphic trigger that will make all who see “art” on a sign or poster think of the Springfield Art Museum. The tagline “Enjoy, Learn, Create” describes in very basic terms ways to interact with the Museum. You might simply enjoy an exhibition on a rainy Sunday afternoon; you might learn more about art through the Museum’s publications, lectures, or other programs; or you might sign up for a class and create your own artwork. On another level, the tagline is also an invitation for greater involvement. You might enjoy the fruits of our mission as an audience member; you might choose to learn more about our organization and then take an active role in helping us create its future by giving your time, talents, or treasure as a volunteer, docent, board member, or donor. We are very excited and hope that this new logo is the first step in making sure that our “hidden gem” of a museum no longer remains hidden!
The Springfield Art Museum is pleased to announce an ambitious and exciting exhibition schedule through June 2017! This coming fall will feature a major traveling exhibition of prints, video, and other work by Kara Walker. This exhibition, titled “Emancipating the Past: Kara Walker’s Tales of Slavery and Power”, is organized by the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, University of Oregon, Eugene. It will be on display from September 12, 2015 – January 3, 2016. This exhibition will be followed by “The Electric Garden of our Minds: British/American Pop” organized by the Springfield Art Museum which will include a comparison of American Pop Art to its British roots through works by Andy Warhol, Robert Indiana, and Eduardo Paolozzi. This exhibition will be developed from the Museum’s Permanent Collection as well as the collection of Wes and Missy Cochran of Lagrange, GA. From May to October 2016, the Museum will show its collection of historic textiles, which includes dresses, coverlets, quilts and other objects. To round out this exciting schedule, the Museum will host “American Impressionism: The Lure of the Artists’ Colony,” a traveling exhibition organized by the Reading Public Museum in Reading, PA. This exhibition will be on display from April 8 – July 22, 2017. We hope you will join us for these exciting exhibitions.

If you’d like to be involved in any of these exhibitions through sponsorship, please contact Nick Nelson, Museum Director at (417) 837-5700 or nnelson@springfieldmo.gov.

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**NOW**

**FOUR BY FOUR: MIDWEST INVITATIONAL**
November 22, 2014 - March 15, 2015
Weisel and Kelly Galleries

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**NEXT**

**SPRINGFIELD ALL SCHOOL EXHIBITION**
March 21 – April 26, 2015
Weisel, Kelly, and Courtyard Galleries

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**Our Mission** The Springfield Art Museum is dedicated to enhancing the education and documenting the diverse cultural heritage of the people of southwest Missouri, through the collection, preservation, and exhibition of art objects.
FOUR BY FOUR: MIDWEST INVITATIONAL
Ongoing - March 15, 2015
Weisel and Kelly Galleries
The biennial Four by Four 2014: Midwest Invitational Exhibition is intended to recognize and encourage artists working in all media who reside in the four-state region of Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Kansas.

REGIONAL ARTIST SHOWCASE
Ongoing – February 9, 2015
Sky Gallery, Springfield-Branson National Airport
This exhibit, located in the Sky Gallery at the Springfield-Branson National Airport, is a collaboration between the Springfield Art Museum, the Springfield Regional Arts Council, and the Springfield Branson National Airport. Includes work by four artists: Michael McClure, Alicia Farris, Larry Carver, and Sarah Jones.

ART CLASSES FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN BEGIN ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2015
Please visit www.sgmuseum.org or contact Kate Baird, Museum Educator, at (417) 837-5700 or kbaird@springfieldmo.gov to register or to get more information.

ARTIST TALK WITH EMILY WOOD
SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 11 AM
Emily Wood, one of the artists included in the Four by Four: Midwest Invitational Exhibition, will speak about her work. Ms. Wood represents Arkansas in the exhibition.

FAMILY DAY
Saturday, January 24, 10 AM – 12 Noon
Join us for children’s art activities. Admission is free!

FEBRUARY

ARTIST TALK WITH MARK COWARDIN
Saturday, February 7, 11 AM
Mark Cowardin, one of the artists included in the Four by Four: Midwest Invitational Exhibition, will speak about his work. Mr. Cowardin represents Kansas in the exhibition.

ARTIST TALK WITH DENNY SCHMICKLE
Saturday, February 21, 2 PM
Denny Schmickle, one of the artists included in the Four by Four: Midwest Invitational Exhibition, will speak about his work. Mr. Schmickle represents Oklahoma in the exhibition.

ARTIST TALK WITH SAGE DAWSON
THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 5:30 PM
Sage Dawson, one of the artists included in the Four by Four: Midwest Invitational Exhibition, will speak about her work. Ms. Dawson represents Missouri in the exhibition.
A CALL FOR ART!

In addition to the wonderful exhibitions mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, the Museum is organizing an exhibition featuring art on loan from local collectors. While this show will take place in 2018, it takes a significant amount of time to organize an exhibition like this, so we are starting exploratory work now. We hope to identify important works and collections that can be shared for the cultural and educational enhancement of our community.

An important goal of the Museum is not only to celebrate artists, but also collectors whose passion for art makes our community a richer, more beautiful place to live. If you own works of quality that you would be willing to share with our community through this exhibition, please contact Sarah Buhr, Curator of Art, at (417) 837-5700 or sbuhr@springfieldmo.gov.

SPRINGFIELD ALL SCHOOL EXHIBITION
March 21 – April 26, 2015
Weisel and Kelly Galleries
This exhibition features works by K-12 students.

FOR MORE EVENTS, JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST OR VISIT:
WWW.SGFMUSEUM.ORG

Children learning during the Museum’s most recent Family Day.
Every March, the Springfield Art Museum does something remarkable and unprecedented for an organization of its size. It turns over major gallery space to student artists from across our community to show their best work in the annual Springfield All School Exhibition. Most museums, even those half the size of the Springfield Art Museum, relegate artwork by children and students to the education wing or a special gallery away from the “real art.” This act of placing student work in the primary gallery space makes a powerful statement regarding education as a priority for our museum. It should also be noted that this exhibition has been going on for decades. The All School Exhibition has become a tradition stretching back generations. The Museum places a high value on education because we believe that art belongs at the center of a child’s education, not the periphery. While it’s certainly true that kids enjoy making art and it allows them the opportunity to express themselves, these are not the only—or even the primary—benefits that art offers. Observing, discussing and making art are incredibly effective ways to teach the skills that we most want our children to develop for success in the 21st Century. Problem-solving, risk-taking, critical thinking, failing and then trying again, collaborating, refining an idea and having empathy for others are just a few of the habits that children develop through serious engagement with art. Furthermore, students who struggle academically and socially often become successful learners and thinkers through art. You can come and see for yourself as children wonder, explore and create in our galleries and classrooms. The Springfield Art Museum is an extraordinary place to learn! The All School Exhibition will be on display through April 26, 2015. The exhibition begins each March as March is Youth Art Month.
Above: Springfield students display their work in the All School Exhibition in 1978.

Color photos courtesy of Aaron Scott.
News from the SMMA Board

It has been 68 years since our original members deeded the Art Museum over to the city of Springfield and incorporated as a separate organization called Southwest Missouri Museum Associates (SMMA).

Happy New Year! It is hard for me to believe that it is 2015. It has been 68 years since our original members deeded the Art Museum over to the city of Springfield and incorporated as a separate organization called Southwest Missouri Museum Associates (SMMA).

We have a long history of interesting accomplishments since then as our members have shared their time and many talents as volunteers and contributors to the Museum. They have had money raising events of all kinds: a Tops for Talent show, progressive coffees, bus and plane trips, craft bazaars, garage sales, puppet shows, card parties, fashion shows and luncheons, geranium and pecan sales, and last year a Gala! They have also staffed and furnished the Museum Gift Shop, and each individual Art Group has had their own money raising projects and contributed to the Museum.

I think a particularly interesting time in our history was in 1973 when a decision was made to build the auditorium. This was made possible by an agreement of the SMMA Board with the Springfield Art Museum Board. Mr. Keith Davis, who was with the Empire Bank, and on the City Art Board, agreed to loan the Board of Trustees of SMMA $170,000.00 at 7% interest with a guaranteed payment of $25,000.00 a year to pay for the construction. The City contributed some revenue sharing funds but most of the cost was raised by SMMA. The total construction cost was $389,000.00. Ellie Stocker and Nancy Aton remember calling on the bankers in town. Some of them did not know there was an art museum in Springfield.

The building of the Auditorium was completed February 7, 1975 and SMMA provided a new Baldwin Grand piano for the opening. Gary Ellison presented a musical program. On September 15, 1979, in connection with the Springfield Sesquicentennial, the SMMA auditorium was dedicated and presented to the City of Springfield in a special ceremony in the auditorium.
SMMA was able to pay off the remaining $17,000.00 on the bank loan that year. What an amazing accomplishment!

This year our Fall Fashion Show was great fun and so successful! We all owe a special thank you to Sonya Wise and all her committee members. With Kirk Elmquist as MC, the live auction, our art groups contributing silent auction items, Nick Nelson serving wine, Bucky Bowman in charge of the beautiful and handsome models…...it was a fabulous event! You can see pictures on our website artmuseumassociates.org. Everyone loved the Petra Ballet and tango dancing!

The Museum Shop sales have been wonderful! The shop always looks beautiful, but especially so during the holidays! We need to give Mary Lee Marsh and all her volunteers a round of applause! As a special thank you to the volunteers who work in the shop they get 20% off merchandise on the day they work. New Spring items will be coming in soon.

Brenda Stiles and her committee are busy planning a Breakfast at Tiffany’s event at the Ramada Plaza Hotel Oasis Convention Center for our Extension Club members. It will be on Monday, March 23rd at 10:30 a.m. in the Maui Room. This is the time of year when we get to meet with all our Extension Club members. I hope many of you will join us in honoring them.

The next Executive Committee meeting is January 21st and the Board meeting is January 28th. Vice President Brenda Stiles will be presiding as I will be in Hawaii visiting my son. I look forward to seeing you all in March.

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**SMMA Announcements**

**1st Quarter 2015**

**SMMA’s Extension Brunch**

Breakfast at Tiffany’s

will be held at 10:30, March 23, 2015

at the Oasis Convention Center

tickets available through the SMMA office

**SMMA’s Fresh Pecan Fundraiser**

Is underway in the Museum Shop

and the SMMA office

**Memorials**

Amateur d’Art

In memory of Jack Preston

In memory of Laura Preston

**World Arts**

In memory of June Palchef

**Beau Vivant**

In memory of Bonnie Nibert

**Speaker Gifts**

American Arts

Creative Crafts

**SMMA Board Meetings**

Wednesday, January 28, 2015

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

9:30 Social, 10:00 Meeting
Greetings all. I hope you are enjoying a happy, healthy and art-filled New Year. As we wait for Spring, I can’t think of a nicer way to spend a dreary day than to visit the Museum. It’s a great time to see familiar favorites and discover something new. It can also be a great time to take an art class and take advantage of the 20% discount you enjoy as a Friend of the Springfield Art Museum.

I’m pleased to open this update by announcing the election of three new Directors to FOSAM’s Board. We are delighted to welcome Jayme Gibson, Leaster Gibson and Terry Stoops, whom you may already know for their broad community work. All joined the Board in November and will serve terms through June 30, 2015. Many thanks to Kaye Foster-Gibson for encouraging her family to formalize their support for the Museum and join her on our Board. What a terrific way to honor Bill Foster, who was a longtime supporter of the Museum and the people of Springfield. Thanks once again to Betty Shook for bringing their energy and talents to FOSAM.

FOSAM has continued to move ahead with our initiatives to support the Museum in three major areas: Collection, Education and Events. All of our funds come from member dues and money raised through events. In the Collection area, we’re partnering with the Museum to contribute a work in memory of Mary Lou Kayes, a real dynamo and longtime Friend and Museum supporter.

You may have already enjoyed one of the Education initiatives funded by FOSAM: the new visitor activity bags. On your next trip to the Museum, stop in at the Education Center in the Foyer Gallery and use one! Anyone looking to capture a child’s interest will find something fun and creative. And, while designed primarily for youngsters to use as they explore exhibits, these bags can spark the imagination of visitors of all ages. Kudos to Museum Educator Kate Baird for creating a great experience and FOSAM Director Luci March for her design work. We look forward to supporting many other new projects in Education.

In the Event arena, FOSAM was pleased to sponsor Four by Four: Midwest Invitational. It has been exciting to experience this new twist on the established idea of featuring artists from Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas. I know I’ve enjoyed bringing friends and neighbors to see this vibrant show, which has been surprising and delighting viewers. Whether or not you had a chance to meet the four artists at the opening reception in November, I encourage you to come hear them speak at their gallery talks in early 2015.

Outside the Museum, our free Art-Talk series continued on December 2 at the Brentwood Library. We thank
Kate Baird, Museum Educator, for her thoughtful insights about the impact art education can have for children and our entire community. I know everyone who attended – including yours truly -- enjoyed Kate’s hands-on exercises in interpretation. Thanks to Sandra Letson for putting together this event. It was a great break from the holiday rush. ArtTalk will continue in 2015, featuring local artists and advocates speaking about their work, sometimes with a hands-on creative experience. We are pleased to be able to open ArtTalk so that members can bring any number of guests. Keep an eye on our website for details on the next events.

Looking ahead, we hope you will join us for our monthly free, guided tour of the Museum and a selected exhibition. Bring family, a friend, a neighbor – young or old – and join us. We alternate between Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoons, and the newest dates and destinations will be listed on our website. On the social front, Friends continue to enjoy our casual gatherings at Galloway Grill. We hope you’ll bring a friend and join us for an evening with art-minded folks. Drop in on the fourth Tuesday of each month, starting at 6:00 pm for a cash bar.

We’re always looking for ideas from members, and want to know what you enjoy. Your input is already helping shape the slate of activities, special events and fundraising we’re putting together for this year and next. If you have ideas for experiences you’d like to see us offer, please send an email to fosam.spfd@gmail.com or click the link on our website.

Please visit our website www.artmuseumfriends-spfd.org and LIKE us on Facebook for the newest information on our expanding list of activities and events. We’d also love to hear from you with your ideas for fun and fundraising. I thank you again for your support as the Museum continues to evolve and FOS-AM works to bring the Museum and our whole community closer together.
ADMISSION IS ALWAYS FREE!

Monday: Closed
Tuesday & Wednesday: 9AM - 5PM
Thursday: 9AM - 8PM
Friday & Saturday: 9AM - 5PM
Sunday: 1PM - 5PM

We are closed on city and National Holidays

Call 417-837-5700 to schedule tours, receive information on exhibits and classes, or visit us on our website at www.sgfmuseum.org

If you are moving, please notify the Museum, SMMA, and FOSAM. Bulk mailings, such as the Newsletter, cannot be forwarded or returned to the sender.

City of Springfield Art Museum
1111 East Brookside Dr.
Springfield, MO 65807-1899
return service requested