MAY 3rd—HELP US #SaveTheFrenchFries
As the season changes from winter (mild as it may have been) to spring, I find myself reflecting on the idea of change. Here at your art museum, we are embodying that change in a number of ways. We will bid farewell to Pop and the All School exhibit, and unveil String Theory and the latest iteration of Watercolor USA. Our Musgrave Wing continues to receive upgrades to its lighting system that will better illuminate our permanent collection. Additionally, we have added new pedestrian walkways that connect the Museum grounds to National Avenue. Meanwhile, tireless volunteers from the Evergreen Garden Club are hard at work beautifying the Museum’s planting beds. It is with great pride that I announce the departure of Museum Assistant Rachel Johnson, to head the Lake Region Heritage Center in North Dakota. As Rachel transitions into her new leadership role, we will be welcoming Springfield’s entrepreneurial community into the Museum’s auditorium and Community Room every Wednesday morning for their innovative programming and networking events through 1 Million Cups Springfield. Our auditorium is a true asset that allows us to build on our role in the community beyond the exhibition of art objects. I want to thank members of the Southwest Missouri Museum Associates and the citizens of Springfield for making its construction possible in the 1970s. Their foresight allows this space to function not only as a part of our history, but as an exciting new vehicle for partnerships that will help drive our future expansion. I invite you to join us soon at the Springfield Art Museum.
Recent Acquisitions

In June, fiber artist Anne Lindberg will install *tilted sky* in the King Gallery. This installation, composed of Egyptian cotton thread, will span nearly the full length of the barrel vault in gradated shades of color. The artist’s vision is that the piece will feel like a “cloud of color” hovering just above the viewer’s space and pulling your eye up.

Additionally, this work will pay tribute to the many contributions of gallery namesake Samuel O. King. King was an incredibly active part of the Museum for many years. Lindberg’s recent exhibitions include the Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, and the Contemporary Art Center, Cincinnati.

The Museum commissioned the piece and is acquiring the completed work; it will remain on exhibit long term. “It has been one of my long term curatorial goals to re-imagine this particular gallery in the Museum,” Curator Sarah Buhr notes. “Lindberg’s work is ethereal and magical, and has the potential to provide a contemplative and transformative space.”

Renderings of the piece *tilted sky*, commissioned by the Museum from artist Anne Lindberg, to be installed in June 2016.
Give Ozarks is a 24 hour online telethon style fundraising event hosted by The Community Foundation of the Ozarks. In its inaugural year, 150 nonprofits participated and raised over $1 million for project-specific support, general operating support, or the creation of endowments. The second annual Give Ozarks Day will take place on Tuesday, May 3rd.

This year, the Springfield Art Museum will be participating seeking project-specific support for the restoration of John Henry’s Sun Target II, better known by the moniker the “French Fries,” and several works by Ernest Trova on the Museum grounds. Sun Target II was acquired by the Museum in 1980 with assistance from the Missouri Arts Council and the Ola E. McAdoo bequest. It has since become a defining piece of Springfield’s cultural landscape and its local identity. After three decades of outdoor public display, the iconic work is in need of both preservation and conservation work by art handling experts. Mr. Henry was consulted on and approved a plan to restore Sun Target II. Proper stewardship of this important sculpture will ensure that it can be enjoyed for another three decades, and beyond!

Give Ozarks utilizes the online platform Cause Momentum to manage fundraising campaigns. The Museum successfully used this platform in 2013 to acquire the Portrait of Lewis Allen Dicken “LAD” Crenshaw by George Caleb Bingham. That project exceeded not only fundraising goals, but friend-raising expectations. We anticipate another successful campaign given the community building aspects of the project and the generosity of supporters like you.

Tag your memories, photos, and selfies with Sun Target II on social media with #SaveTheFrenchFries to help us raise awareness. Stay tuned for ways you can be involved in Give Ozarks Day by signing up for our E-News blasts on www.sgfmuseum.org.
1 Million Cups is a program of the Kauffman Foundation aimed at educating, engaging, and connecting entrepreneurs and the people that they serve. The program is predicated on the idea that communities are built, transactions are made, and innovation and creativity happen over a million cups of coffee. 1 Million Cups is active in over 80 communities and Springfield boasts the third largest program nationwide.

For three years, 1 Million Cups Springfield has been housed at the eFactory, delivering free public programming every Wednesday morning from 9-10 AM with coffee provided by Brick & Mortar Coffee. Two early stage start-ups present their companies to a diverse audience of peers, mentors, educators, and advisors. These sessions provide entrepreneurs with a venue to inform, network, and receive support, as well as provide future entrepreneurs with models for success, innovation, best practices, and pitfalls to avoid.

This process is all about engagement, innovation, and problem-solving which align naturally with Springfield's creative community. As such, 1 Million Cups Springfield organizers approached the Springfield Art Museum, when their success meant that they were increasingly constrained by the available space at the eFactory. Beginning April 6th, we will host their programs in our 400 seat auditorium and Community Room.

This will allow 1 Million Cups Springfield to continue to grow their efforts at highlighting and driving the entrepreneurial efforts right here in our own backyard. Conversely, it will drive a large, sustained audience to Springfield’s oldest cultural institution every Wednesday. More philosophically, it draws out and solidifies the connections between art, creativity, innovation, business, education, and entrepreneurship that have a demonstrated positive effect on our local job market and economy.

We invite you to join us on a Wednesday morning to take in a program. Follow us @sgfmuseum on social media for more information about weekly presenters.
String Theory: Textiles from the Permanent Collection
On April 30th, the Springfield Art Museum will open its latest exhibition, String Theory: Textiles from the Permanent Collection, co-curated by guest curators Museum Registrar Greta Russell and Museum Assistant Rachel Johnson.

Textiles have been used to create a myriad of objects over time and across various cultures. String Theory uses textiles, prints, paintings, fashion plates, and textile working tools and equipment from the Springfield Art Museum’s permanent collection to compare and contrast pieces from around the world. These 80 pieces showcase the diversity of objects that people construct with fibers - from wall hangings to wedding dresses - and offer a glimpse into the culture that created each piece. These cultures, although separated by time and geographic location, have constructed textiles in remarkably similar ways to create vastly different objects.

This theme is explored by the comparison of various objects throughout the exhibit. These explorations include a 17th century French tapestry juxtaposed with a 20th century Navajo rug produced as a souvenir. While the outward appearance of these two pieces is markedly different, the weave construction is the same. An 18th century robe à l’anglaise, a Civil War-era wedding dress, and a 19th century Chinese Ji Fu court robe are all constructed of sewn blue silk, yet are distinctly unique. A hand-knotted Turkish Prayer Rug by an unknown creator can be seen next to a machine-knotted rug designed by Henri Matisse. “This exhibit strives to highlight the range of textiles housed in the Museum’s permanent collection,” notes Johnson. “Many of the weavers, knitters, and dressmakers remain unknown but represent American, European, Peruvian and Chinese cultures just to name a few.”

In order to best highlight the versatility of fiber arts, String Theory divides works into the following six categories: spinning, knit and crochet, embroidery and beadwork, weaving, sewing, and quilting. This exhibition includes a host of related public programming which is free to enjoy and requires no advance registration.

**Spinning, Weaving, and Dyeing Demonstrations**
July 9th: Witness the historical techniques used to create pieces on exhibit.

**Knit Nights**
First Thursday evening of the month, starting June 2nd: Textile artists, home knitters, crafters, and crocheters are invited to work on knitting projects, share knowledge, and chat about the craft.

**Gallery Talks**
August 4th & October 11th: Co-curator Greta Russell will speak about exhibit themes, construction methods, and materials used in exhibit pieces.

*The exhibit includes a free gallery guide, as well as a hands-on educational area.*

The Museum acknowledges the generosity of the planning committee, sponsors, and many donors to the 99x Party in 2014, whose contributions allowed for the conservation and preservation of many of the items that will be on view in String Theory. Thank you for your support!
This year I have enjoyed attending meetings with some of our twenty-seven different art groups. What a delightful experience getting to know our more than five hundred members. Many of our groups, such as L’Art, have been meeting together for more than 50 years. The diversity of these many groups are what makes our organization so interesting. The names of our groups are suggestive of what inspires them as they continue to explore the arts in and around Springfield. Visual Artists, Theatre Appreciation, Creative Crafts, American Arts and even ART-garFUNkles are just a few. Call the SMMA office in the Springfield Art Museum (837-5700) to find when and where our different groups meet and I am sure you will find one that would interest you. Our groups include men and women, some meeting in the daytime and some in the evening. For busy employed members, we offer a group that meets only three times a year in the evening. If you and a group of friends want to meet together, we welcome the idea of you creating your own group and meeting times. We seek your help in promoting and supporting the Springfield Art Museum and art in southwest Missouri.

Since my last newsletter article, SMMA has lost two very dear members. Carolyn Fay, President of SMMA from 1955-57 and a member of two groups, Twentieth Century and Theatre Appreciation, passed away on December 27, 2015. Carolyn had been Chairman of the Museum Shop and many of you knew her from the long hours she spent there. Ann Wilbur, who had been serving as a member of the current Board of Trustees, was on our Financial Committee and a member of Collective Crafts, passed away on December 24, 2015. I attended both of these women’s memorial services and they were not only loved by their families but also by their communities. We will miss them. Judy Vanderbilt was elected to serve out the remainder of Ann Wilbur’s term as Trustee. We welcome Judy to our Board.

Geranium Chairman Linda Peacock opened the geranium sales season with news of hanging baskets this year in addition to the individual plants and popular patio pots. We also still have some of our pecans available. Our Pecan Sales Chairman Beverly Steelman has now discounted the pecans ($8 a sack). Call the office (837-5700) to order. The geraniums and pecans, along with The Museum Shop, are our ongoing fundraisers for SMMA and we appreciate your support for these projects.

At a recent SMMA Board meeting, Museum Educator Kate Baird shared
a PowerPoint presentation about Placeworks, an Arts initiative of the Rural Schools Partnership. The Board approved donating $2500 to fund field trips to the Museum from rural schools. The Board also approved a donation of $1000 to fund a pilot program at the new Fairbanks Community Center. Our Board approved a $350 donation to purchase replacement books for the SMMA Book Nook in the Museum. We are proud of all that we do for the children of Springfield and southwest Missouri in furthering their interactive arts instruction.

Many thanks go to Vice President Karen Sweeney and her Honor’s Banquet Committee Members Joyce Jones, Helen Phillips and Linda Conrad for all their hard work on our March 30, 2016, “Ocean Mysteries” Banquet. SMMA members enjoyed a wonderful lunch at Ocean Zen and were entertained by a dance team from Evolution Arts.

Ways and Means Chairman Carol Pyles is planning a trip to Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas to visit Frank Lloyd Wright’s Bachman-Wilson house. A Fisk Coach will be leaving from the Museum at 8:00 am on June 8 to travel to Bentonville, Arkansas. Men and women are welcome and being a member of SMMA is not required. The cost will be $65. Reservations may be made by calling our SMMA office (837-5700) by May 25.

Dues for the 2016-2017 will be collected at the Annual Meeting on May 25. Give thoughtful consideration to the North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) membership. Join SMMA at the $100 NARM level, then simply present your current card to any participating NARM institution to receive free admission, discounts at museum shops and discounts on concert/lecture tickets. NARM has over 750 arts, cultural, and historical institutions. Some area NARM members include Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art and The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, and in St Louis, The Contemporary Art Museum, Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum and The Saint Louis Art Museum. Other benefits of the NARM SMMA membership include discounts in The Museum Shop and on SAM Museum art classes. Don’t wait—join SMMA today!

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**SMMA Announcements 2nd Quarter 2016**

**Donations** Eclectics, Cabool

**Memorials** Carolyn Fay, Janet Maggard, Helen Paine, Pat Thompson, Ann Wilbur, Carolyn Yates

**Speaker Gifts** Decor Feminique

**Board of Trustees Meeting**
Wednesday, April 27
Coffee 9:30, Meeting 10 AM

**SMMA’s Annual Meeting**
Wednesday, May 25
Coffee 9:30, Meeting 10 AM

**Trip to Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art and Frank Lloyd Wright’s Bachman-Wilson House**
Bentonville, AR. Wednesday, June 8
Coach departs 8 AM and returns 6 PM
$65 Paid reservations must be received in the SMMA office by May 25

**The Museum Shop**
Has delicious, nutritious pecans on sale for $8.00!

**Watercolor USA 2016 Opening Reception**
Sponsored by SMMA
Friday, June 3, 2016
5:30 – 7 PM
MARY SUE HOBAN  FOSAM PRESIDENT

Greetings all. As spring and summer bloom around us, I love to get out and enjoy the sights of Springfield. Our neighborhoods are full of color and activity. The Museum’s colorful new outside banners add to the excitement. Inside the Museum, the treats for the eye continue with the annual All School show and the new POP exhibition.

It’s a great time to take a walk with a friend. Go directly to the Museum, or make a stop at the beautiful Xeriscape Garden on National Avenue or visit Phelps Grove Park. When you get to the Museum, don’t forget to sample the dynamic, interactive activities available in the Family Art Lab, supported by FOSAM. We are happy to make this creative experience available free for visitors of all ages to enjoy.

In March, we were delighted to participate in the appearance of author Stephanie Storey, as she visited the Museum to speak about her novel Oil and Marble. It was great to make it possible for her fans to purchase a signed copy of her book and generate funds for FOSAM. Thanks to Barnes & Noble for their willing partnership for this event.

February brought another terrific installment in our popular ArtTalk series. Compliments go to Sandra Letson and Michele Breshears for a great program. They, and I, want to recognize FOSAM member and former Director George Deatz for supporting the series by creating topnotch press releases. Way to go, George! George also keeps FOSAM’s Facebook page lively. He does a great job connecting our community with interesting news and creative people, including Museum and FOSAM events. We encourage you to visit our page, like it and contribute your interests and ideas.

With the change of seasons, come other changes. We say thanks and farewell to Directors Corinna Baban, Leaster Gibson and Katie Steinhoff. I hope each knows what a valuable contribution they made. On a personal note, I especially enjoyed working with Leaster on our innovative It’s A Hit! Live Art at Hammons Park event, which was just one of his many good ideas. We look forward to their continued support of the Museum community and FOSAM.

If you are looking for a way to participate at the Museum, I encourage you to consider FOSAM. Our members and Directors have an opportunity to make a terrific impact on our entire community. If you have ideas, talents or time to contribute, we’d love to hear from you at fosam.spfd@gmail.com.

Putting together your summer plans? Remember that FOSAM members always save 20% on Museum classes. Members at the Sustaining level and above receive the great benefits of NARM (North American Reciprocal Museum). NARM benefits include free or reduced admission, along with discounts at gift shops and events at more than 600 museums across the US and Canada. Your FOSAM membership could be just the thing to make your summer memorable.

I thank you again for your support as the Museum and FOSAM collaborate to bring art and our whole community closer together.
Calendar of Events

APRIL

SPRING ART CLASSES FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN BEGIN
Tuesday, April 5 – May 28
www.sgfmuseum.org or (417) 837-5700 to register.

1 MILLION CUPS
Wednesdays, beginning April 6, 8:30 – 10 AM
www.1mcsfg.com for more info.

POP FAMILY ART WORKSHOP
Saturday, April 9, 10 – 11:30 AM
www.sgfmuseum.org or (417) 837-5700 to register.

SLOW ART DAY 2016
Saturday, April 9, 11 AM

THE ELECTRIC GARDEN OF OUR MINDS
Closes Sunday, April 17, 2016

BIG READ 2016: HANK THE COWDOG IN CONCERT
Thursday, April 21, 7 – 8:15 PM
www.thelibrary.org for more info.

STRING THEORY: TEXTILES FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION
Saturday, April 30 – October 16
Eldredge and Spratlen Galleries

MAY

GIVE OZARKS 2016
Tuesday, May 3, All Day
Help us #SaveTheFrenchFries by participating in this 24 hour online fundraising event.

FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK SHUTTLE
Friday, May 6, 5:30 – 9 PM
Enjoy free shuttle service from the Museum to downtown Springfield’s First Friday Art Walk.

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

CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION
Saturday, May 7, 5:30 – 8:30 PM
Join Grupo Latinoamericano for free festivities.

ALL SCHOOL EXHIBITION
Closes Sunday, May 8
Weisel, Kelly, and Courtyard Galleries

JUNE

STRING THEORY: KNIT NIGHT
Thursday, June 2, 5:30 – 6:30 PM
Free, no registration required.

FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK SHUTTLE
Friday, June 3, 5:30 – 9 PM
Enjoy free shuttle service from the Museum to downtown Springfield’s First Friday Art Walk.

WATERCOLOR USA 2016
Saturday, June 4 – August 28
Opening Reception: Friday, June 3, 5:30 – 7 PM
Exhibit and reception generously sponsored by Southwest Missouri Museum Associates.

SUMMER ART CAMP SESSIONS BEGIN
Tuesday, June 7 – July 29
www.sgfmuseum.org or (417) 837-5700 to register or for more info.

SIVA CURRENTS ARTIST TALK
Thursday, June 16, 6:30 – 8 PM
Auditorium
Artist Ian Giles presents and leads a discussion for Drury University’s Summer Institute for Visual Arts.

SIVA CURRENTS ARTIST TALK
Thursday, June 30, 6:30 – 8 PM
Auditorium
Artist Mary Walling Blackburn presents and leads a discussion.
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.sgf museum.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.

FREE