

GAMG 2012

Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries Newsletter

VOLUME 33 • ISSUE 3 • SUMMER 2012

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President's Message

Catherine M. Lewis, Ph.D.



Dear GAMG Members,

This spring has proven to be a busy conference season, and there is a lot of energy and excitement in the fields of museum studies and public history. The National Council of Public History held their annual meeting (in partnership with the Organization of American Historians) in April in Milwaukee. A number of scholars and museum professionals from around the nation, including some GAMG members, attended. Though we faced chilly spring weather in the Midwest, we enjoyed a number of useful sessions. Many were focused on using new technologies, and the Wednesday before the conference, NCPH and OAH hosted a THATCamp (The Technology and Humanities Camp) for participants.

The following week, the American Association of Museums hosted "Creative Community," the annual meeting in Minneapolis-St. Paul. It was one of the most engaging and exciting AAM meetings in recent memory. AAM has really been focused on internationalizing the profession, and the large number of global visitors was a nice addition. There were dozens of thought-provoking sessions, many that allowed participants to learn what was new and innovative in the field; others allowed us to reflect on why we do what we do. A session entitled "Mistakes Were Made: Sharing Cringe-Worthy Examples," on the final day of the conference was quite notable. It was a rare chance for museum colleagues to talk about what did not work. There were no case studies worth emulating, here. Humor and audience participation made it a useful session and a chance to truly share some of the mistakes we make as we try to care for and interpret our collections and serve diverse audiences.

I am encouraged by all of this good work and believe that this positive energy will carry over to GAMG's 2013 conference at the Georgia Museum of Art in Athens. Jenny Goldemund is working hard to craft an engaging program, and I encourage each of you to consider proposing a session. The only way we become a stronger profession is by working with and learning from each other. We have a lot of talented professionals in Georgia, and this year we hope to see you all in Athens.

Warm regards.

Catherine M. Lewis, Ph.D.

Executive Director, Museums, Archives & Rare Books

Director, Museum of History and Holocaust Education

Kennesaw State University



Michele Rodgers

I recently attended the Georgia Head Start Association's conference and was able to meet with many of the 400 plus attendees from throughout the state. I shared with each of them the GAMG brochure/map that was produced in 2007 and encouraged them to seek out museums in their region and build partnerships with these institutions.

Many attendees were not aware that numerous Georgia museums and galleries have educators on staff and have developed age appropriate, curriculum-based programs for children. Additionally, GHSA members were surprised to learn that most museums can take programs to schools if the schools are unable to get students to the museum.

Thanks to Ramona Warren at GHSA, who invited GAMG to have a presence at the conference, many of these Head Start instructors now have museums and galleries on their radar. Now it is up to you, our members, to respond when Head Start teachers call, or better yet, pick up the phone and call them first. Let's get those kids introduced early on to the wonderful collections Georgia's museums and galleries offer!

NEWS YOU CAN USE!



MUSEUM TRUSTEE ASSOCIATION

**BRINGING MUSEUM LEADERS TOGETHER TO EXPLORE
ISSUES THAT MATTER**

Consider joining the Museum Trustee Association, The Network for Informing, Advising and Inspiring Museum Trustees. We want to share our monthly newsletter with all your museum trustees. If we don't have a current roster for your institution, please email it to president@mta-hq.org. MTA keeps these names and email addresses confidential of course.

Please visit the Museum Trustee Association's website for more information:
www.mta-hq.org

ART BEYOND SIGHT AWARENESS MONTH

October 2012



Art Beyond Sight Awareness Month is an initiative of Art Beyond Sight / Art Education for the Blind, a small New-York based non-profit whose mission is to bring the arts and culture to all.

The Awareness Month is a time when museums, performing arts centers, galleries, libraries, arts organizations, schools and service groups join together to call attention to the benefits of making the arts and art-making activities accessible to all. Over the years,

the number of participating organizations has grown from 30 to 250, forming a dynamic international community, where exchange and dialogue have helped improve successful programming for people with disabilities.

Follow the link below to see some of the organizations.

<http://www.artbeyondsight.org/change/aw-participants.shtml>

During Awareness institutions can learn about other each other's programs and techniques, educate their staff, and urge the board to provide funding for future programming for people with disabilities.

Organizations that have programs in place generally host

special verbal description or touch tour(s) and/or programs in October, recognize outstanding docents or educators with Art Beyond Sight Awareness Month awards, organize special activities (field trips, art-making workshops) and special exhibitions. You can find suggestions and ideas at:

<http://www.artbeyondsight.org/change/aw-celebrate.shtml>

(You are also welcome to contact us directly if you wish to discuss your project).

During the Awareness Month, your staff can take part in our Telephone Crash Course Conference.

<http://www.artbeyondsight.org/change/aw-crashcourse.shtml>

When available, details of educational events will be posted on our Web site at

<http://www.artbeyondsight.org/change/aw-calendar.shtml>

Art Beyond Sight & The Metropolitan Museum of Art

will be holding their Fourth Multimodal Approaches to Learning Conference

October 26 to 28, 2012

Take advantage of the early bird registration **NOW!!!**

The offer is valid until June 30, 2012. Do not wait too long.

Registration form, program and other details can be found on the conference blog:

<http://artbeyondsightconference.blogspot.com/>



Please feel free to contact Marie Clapot, Project Coordinator/Educator at aeb@artbeyondsight.org if you have any questions.

NEW GAMG MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

The Hudgens Center for the Arts is dedicated to bringing art lovers, leaders and learners together through quality Programs and Exhibits. Founded in 1981 as the Gwinnett Council for the Arts, we have grown, evolved and changed into the Hudgens Center for the Arts. With a new mission and new direction, we are focusing on our core business, a fine arts center, and our vision is to be the premiere regional center for the arts and culture that engages the community, enriches our lives, and the lives of our children. Through our mission, which informs all of our decisions, we are positively impacting our children, ourselves and our community.

Located in Duluth, Georgia, The Hudgens offers comprehensive Visual Arts Initiatives which brings art to the community and the community to art.

- The Hudgens Prize-We secured private funding for, developed and successfully conducted a statewide visual arts competition with prize of \$50,000 in 2010 and held a solo exhibition for the winner Gyun Hur in 2011.
- Visual Arts Exhibit Schedule and related programming We host 4-5 exhibition cycles per year in 5 gallery spaces. Selected pieces from our Permanent Collection are on display in the Rowe Promenade year round with interpretive material for all ages. In the past year we have had exhibits ranging from Folk Art to Printmaking to Photography, Pottery and more all with companion programming. Through artist's lectures and curators talks, we are engaging and educating the community. In an effort to make the arts accessible to all, we offer Free Family Days when we waive admission charges and offer hands-on, fine art experiences for people of all ages.
- Year-Long Schedule of Classes — There are year round 8-week sessions of classes for adults and children, as well as a growing number of one day workshops to fit with people's busy schedule.
- Summer Art Camp—We offer a variety of summer camps for different ages and interests.

- Children's Art Zone: This delightful interactive space has projects geared to each exhibit and is primarily for 3-11 year olds.
- Gift Shop: The Gift Shop is directly related to our mission by bringing together an amazing array of works by local artists for sale to the public.
- The AI Weeks Sculpture Garden: It is a beautiful space, recognized by the Audubon Society, which is a perfect spot to enjoy nature, to be inspired to do art, and to have lunch.

With an emphasis on Community Arts Initiatives, we are pleased to offer the following:

- The 3 L Project-Working artists go into Title One Middle Schools and conduct a math/art project for all 6th graders. The National Endowment for the Arts supported this as a pilot program in 2011.
- Gwinnett County Public Library-We received an honorable mention at ArtWorks Vision Awards for our Community Partnership with the Library System.
- In 2012, we announced three new programs designed to serve different underserved populations
 1. smART-A scholarship program which provides a 9 month intensive art program for selected High School students School level. Participation is based on need and teacher recommendations.
 2. The Healing Arts - An art program for cancer patients and their caregivers.
 3. The Power of Art- A Social Service/Art Partnership with nonprofits and social service agencies and provide on-site art instruction for children/youth in the respective programs. The Gwinnett County Children's Shelter is our first partner agency.
- Cultural Diversity -We continue to

celebrate our diverse community though the development of classes taught in other languages (Korean) complimented by exhibitions featuring artists from Korean with remarks in Korean and English.

- Creative Enterprises -We partner with this nonprofit to offer free admission to their clients and we also sell work from Creative Enterprise artists in our gift shop

In 2012, The Hudgens received the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce Pinnacle Award for Nonprofits and Teresa Osborn was recognized by ArtWorks Gwinnett! with the Community Impact Award as Arts Leader. The Hudgens has three full time staff- Teresa Osborn, Executive Director; Angela Nichols, Director of Education and Programs and Vernon Smith, Ceramic Studio Manger; five part time staff and is governed by the Board of Directors.

In addition to GAMG, The Hudgens is a member of: Georgia Art Network, Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce, CEO Roundtable, ArtWorks Gwinnett and AtlantaPlanit Art Lives Here.



Contact Teresa Osborn at 770-623-6002 or tosborn@thehudgens.org. The website is www.thehudgens.org.

IMTAL-AMERICAS 2012 CONFERENCE

AUGUST 17-19, 2012



“Expanding the Museum Stage”



Hosted by the Atlanta History Center
and ImagineIt! Children's Museum

Register Now at <http://www.imtal.org/atlanta2012>
or email conference@imtal.org.

INTERACTIONS WITH ART

By Carissa DiCindio, curator of education, and Melissa Rackley, curatorial assistant, Georgia Museum of Art

Art museums can be intimidating to visitors who do not have a lot of experience with art. The education department at the Georgia Museum of Art has been looking at ways in which we can facilitate dialogue and interactions with art in the galleries for our visitors. We have developed three new programs to help visitors get to know the works in our galleries through discussions and activities.

We began Artful Conversations last year and offer it as a public program once a month. The 45-minute sessions each focus on a single work of art and are designed to promote discussion among visitors looking at the work together. Visitors use their observations and knowledge, along with information provided by the facilitator of the dialogue (DiCindio), to develop their own interpretations of the works. Each conversation turns into a unique experience constructed from the perspectives of the participants. Artful Conversations work particularly well with university students, who can make connections between the material they learn in courses and the works of art.

Two other programs are designed to reach younger audiences. Gallery Games is an interactive gallery tour offered to children ages 7-11. The goal of the program is to engage children with works in the museum's collection through lively discussion and hands-on activities. Each session is different and focuses on a variety of themes and techniques. One of its many benefits is the confidence children gain in their own ideas about works of art and their place in the museum community.



GMOA Teen Studio is a program aimed at teen audiences, a demographic that has been difficult for us to reach. Each session focuses on a different exhibition, beginning with a gallery talk led by museum staff. Participants then work on a related art project taught by a local artist. Visitors attending the first GMOA Teen Studio looked at *Pattern and Palette in Print: Gentry Magazine and a New Generation of Trendsetters*. Teens visited the exhibition with the curator of *Pattern and Palette* and then worked with a local fabric designer to print their own tote bags.

We hope that these programs will appeal to new visitors who may not have thought of the museum as a place for them and that returning visitors will find new ways to make connections with works of art. We want the galleries of the Georgia Museum of Art to be a dynamic place where visitors can talk and interact with art, and these programs are designed to inspire visitors to share their ideas and make connections between the works of art and their own lives.

GAMG



2012

Georgia Association of Museums & Galleries
c/o Michele Rodgers, Administrative Director
P.O. Box 2133
Marietta, GA 30061

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NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS SINCE MARCH 2012

Institutional

6th Cavalry Museum
Arabia Mountain Heritage Alliance
Blue & Gray Museum
Calhoun/Gordon Arts Council
Coastal Georgia Historical Society
Colquitt County Arts Center
Davenport House Museum
Elachee Nature Science Center
Elberton Granite Museum & Exhibit
Fort Valley DDA/Main Street
Heritage Station Museum
Hickory Hill, a Watson-Brown Fnd. Historic Home
Historic Banning Mills
Hudgens Center for the Arts
Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace
Laurens County Historical Society
Lowndes County Historical Society
Lucy Craft Laney Museum
Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art
Marietta Fire Museum
Marietta Museum of History
Michael C. Carlos Museum
Museum of Colquitt County History
Northeast Georgia History Center at Brenau Univ.
Rose Lawn Museum
Shields Ethridge Heritage Farm

Ships of the Sea Maritime Museum
Smyrna Historical & Genealogical Society
Telfair Museum of Art
The Marsh House Museum
Thronateeska Heritage Foundation
Troup County Archives
Tunnel Hill Historical Foundation
Ty Cobb Museum
Uncle Remus Museum of Eatonton, Inc.
Washington County Historical Society

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GAMG

INFORMATION ON BECOMING A MEMBER

Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries is comprised of more than 200 members including individuals, businesses and art, history, natural history, and science museums.

We are open to all non-profit museums, galleries, history centers, science museums and museum associations dedicated to the development and implementation of professional museum practices.

If you are interested in becoming a member or are interested in the exceptional benefits GAMG has to offer, please visit:
www.gamg.org for more information.