Wright Museum of Art

Mission Statement

As a teaching museum, the mission of the Wright Museum of Art advances the educational goals of Beloit College. Our principal purpose is to provide the college and local community with diverse opportunities to appreciate, interact with, and understand the visual arts through exhibitions, collections, and programming. The Wright promotes experiential learning through an engagement with art that is both visual and tactile. It also endeavors to promote a critical reading of art as it shapes our cultural and intellectual history.

In Our Galleries

First George S. Parker Exhibition: Looking Ahead

This year marks the inaugural George S. Parker Exhibition featuring the exhibition Looking Ahead: Portraits from the Mott-Warsh Collection. Looking Ahead, curated by Camille Ann Brewer, includes works from artists such as Chuck Close and Robert Mother Thorpe. Looking Ahead will open on November 20. The George S. Parker Exhibition Fund will bring noteworthy traveling exhibitions to the Wright Museum biennially. In the interval years, Beloit College faculty working together with their students will curate an exhibit that draws upon the Wright’s collections. Fran Abbate has been nominated as the 2014 George S. Parker Faculty curator.

The Prints of George Bellows

President Emeritus Victor E. Ferrall, Jr. and his wife, Linda Smith, are loaning over twenty prints from their collection of the artist George Bellows for exhibition in the fall. This exhibition coincides with a retrospective showing of the artist at the National Gallery in Washington D.C.

Mellon Labs Across the Curriculum Initiative: Faculty and Students Curate Exhibits

Professor Chuck Lewis’s English class From Grit Lit to the Ashcan School taught in the Fall 2012 and Professor Natalie Gunner’s philosophy and religion class Objects of Devotion taught in the Spring 2013 will use the Wright Museum’s collection as a means of moving beyond the classroom and texts. Over the course of the semester, faculty members will work with Beloit College students, integrating works from the Wright’s collection into their studies. The final project of these classes will be an exhibition mounted in the North Gallery of the Wright Museum.

Beloit and Vicinity

Congratulations to the participants of the 55th annual Beloit and Vicinity Exhibition. Betsy Benes took the Juror’s Award, receiving a solo show during this spring’s exhibition. Nancy Fong was awarded third place. Beloit undergraduate Jonathan Stone won the emerging artist award, and Michael Julian won second place as well as the People’s Choice Ballot. Check our website for images of these winning works.

Notes from the Collection

A Donation of German Expressionism Art

The Wright Museum of Art curates a small collection of art by German Expressionists, including Kathe Kollwitz, George Grosz, and Max Beckmann. This collection was recently augmented by a series of works from the Marvin and Janet Fishman collection. These recent additions include works by Karl Hoitz, Hans Riel, Bauer-Pezellen, and Kathe Lowenthal. This donation was secured through the generosity of the Fishman family of Milwaukee.

German Expressionism was a modernist movement that developed in Germany and Austria during the early parts of the 20th century. Among the recent acquisitions from the Fishman collection is the print Waisenkinder by Tina Bauer-Pezellen, dated 1930. In this print, pictured here, the artist showed the devastating effects of war as two orphaned children stand silently amidst a forest of gravestones. Waisenkinder and its companions will significantly enhance the Wright’s collections.

IMLS Grant Brings Two Painting Conservators to Campus

This summer the Wright Museum received a grant from the Institute of Museums and Library Services, which brought two painting conservators to campus. David Marquis and Joan Gorman from the Midwest Conservation Center of Minneapolis spent a week in Beloit assessing the Wright Museum’s collection of 200 oil paintings. As part of the grant, the Wright Museum sponsored a Conservators talk at the Vision Beloit Center, where David Marquis and Joan Gorman spoke to Beloit community members about caring for their heirloom collections. The Wright was assisted this summer by three interns. Jessica Johnson a senior.

Wanda Hollensteiner Conservation Fund

This year’s conservation piece is a work by Henrik Mayer (1908-1972) entitled Picnic on the Allegheny from 1937. Henrik Mayer was an American painter. This early work by Mayer captures a dramatic moment, when a group of Sunday picnickers find themselves interrupted by an approaching summer storm. Picnic on the Allegheny will be traveling to the Midwest Conservation Center to be cleaned and repaired, and will return to Beloit at the end of January in anticipation of the annual Wanda Hollensteiner Conservation Fund Lecture.

Conservator Discovers Gem in Collection

During the IMLS assessment, MACC conservator David Marquis from the Midwest Art conservation Center experienced a moment of déjà vu. There was something familiar about Rest on the Flight to Egypt, a piece attributed to Van Oosten, a student of Paul Brill. Marquis had seen this work before. As Marquis inspected the work he became certain that this work showed the hand of the teacher. After confering with the curator of the Minneapolis Institute of Art, Marquis felt confident enough to claim that the technique, distribution of icons, and even the medium (oil paint on a copper plate) were all indicative of the hand of Paul Brill. Marquis concedes that the work may be a collaborative effort between Brill and Rottenhammer, Brill’s finest student. The Wright Museum of Art’s Rest on the Flight to Egypt, as it is turning out, may just be the work of the master, not the student.

A New Face at the Wright

Craig Hadley, who had worked at the Wright Museum since 2009, returned to his hometown in Indianapolis, Ind., where he now serves as curator of art at DePauw University. After a lengthy search, the Wright Museum has successfully hired James Pearson from North Carolina. James brings his expertise in 19th and 20th century American art, after receiving his M.A. in art history from Stony Brook University in New York. Look for James on Wisconsin Public Television’s University Place Presents, where he will be talking about the Wright’s upcoming exhibitions.
Exhibition Schedule:

**Representing Time**  
August 26 to November 13

**Take Care: Biomedical Ethics**  
August 12 to October 11

**The Prints of George Bellows**  
September 13 to November 4

**Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition**  
November 15 to December 12

**Looking Ahead**  
November 18 to January 22  
Reception on Thursday, Nov. 29

**American Realism**  
November 29 to February 3

**Yuyanapq: Para Recordar, The Shining Path**  
January 10 to March 1

**Artletics**  
March 13 to March 30

**Senior Art Exhibition**  
April 12 to May 12

**56th Beloit and Vicinity Exhibition**  
June 11 to July 22

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**Wright Museum of Art**  
Beloit College  
700 College Street  
Beloit, Wisconsin 53511

**Exhibitions Calendar 2012 - 2013**

**Autumn 2012**

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**Inside:**

First George S. Parker Exhibition

The Prints of George Bellows

Mellon Labs Across the Curriculum Initiative

IMLS Grant Brings Two Painting Conservators to Campus

2012 Beloit & Vicinity Winners

Hollensteiner Conservation Fund

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**Gallery and gift shop hours:** Tuesday - Sunday, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.