North Wing: Past, Present + Future

Construction work this spring has focused on the renovation and preservation of the Museum’s North Wing, a building with a fascinating history. The building was built in 1925 as Pack Memorial Library and served the community as a library from its opening until a new library was built at 67 Haywood Street in 1978. The building remained mostly vacant until it was renovated for the Asheville Art Museum in 1992 as part of the Pack Place Education, Arts & Science Center. Designed by architect Edward L. Tilton (1861-1933), the building is an excellent rendition of the Second Renaissance Revival style, perhaps the most articulate example of a neo-classical institutional building in Western North Carolina. Tilton was a New York architect of national renown, specializing in designing libraries, museums and educational buildings. The building is included as a contributing building in the downtown Asheville Historic District, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. It is also designated as a local landmark.

To complete the critical work of preserving the architectural features of the building, including the historic windows that look out onto Pack Square, the Museum is working with a team of restoration experts: David Hoggard and Saundra Kenney of Double Hung LLC and Jim Bacon and Tony Williams of Carolina Restoration and Waterproofing, as well as overall construction project leaders ARCA Design; Clearscapes Architecture + Art; and Beverly-Grant.

When the Museum’s construction and expansion project is complete in 2018, the North Wing will house the Museum’s library, education studio, board room and administrative offices — creating a community gathering space that fosters learning and growth.

Spotlight on the Collection

The Museum is thrilled to have recently added to its Permanent Collection 84 works created by celebrated WNC craftsman William Waldo Dodge, Jr. (1895-1971), thanks to a generous Gift of the William W. Dodge family. The Museum’s Collection now includes 100 pieces by Dodge, putting the Museum in a position of being the foremost repository of his work. No other Museum has a Dodge collection this strong.

Dodge was one of the preeminent craftsmen in Asheville in the first half of the 20th century. While recovering from injuries sustained in WWI, Dodge learned the craft of silversmithing. In 1924, he opened his first small silversmith shop in North Asheville where he created sterling silver pieces which bore the mark ASHEVILLE SILVERCRAFT. Dodge’s handcrafted silver became so popular that he built a shop in Biltmore Forest in 1927, which functioned into the beginning of WWII.

Events

Coloring Lorna Halper

JULY 1 – Friday, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Free and open to the public

Let go of your grown-up stress, and tap into your inner child! Join us this First Friday for an all-ages coloring party. We provide templates by Black Mountain College artist Lorna Halper, color pencils, music and light refreshments; just bring your imagination!

Make It Yours: Listening Session

JULY 6 – Wednesday, 3:00 p.m.

Families

AUGUST 3 – Wednesday, 3:00 p.m.

Downtown Asheville Neighbors

Free and open to the public

We want to hear from you! Each month we invite members of the greater Asheville community to participate in the creation of the new Asheville Art Museum by engaging in a dialogue with us.

William Waldo Dodge, Jr., Footed Bowl with Acanthus Leaf Decoration, 1936. Dick Shuford, hammered silver, 6 x 15.5 x 15.5 inches. Gift of the William W. Dodge family.


Cover photo courtesy of David Huff Creative.
Exhibitions

North Wing

Galleries in the North Wing will be open through July 2016, subject to some temporary closures due to the building’s renovation schedule. The Appleby Foundation Gallery is now closed, and will reopen with the New Asheville Art Museum.

Selections from the Permanent Collection: 140 Years of American Art

Second Floor Galleries

The Museum regularly rotates the works on view from its Permanent Collection. This exhibition is curated from a chronological point of view and follows the evolution of American art from the late 19th century to the early 21st century.

Vault Visible: Photographs

Holden Community Gallery

Museum curators have carefully selected various works to demonstrate the scope of the Museum’s photography collection. From an 1865 example of a daguerreotype to an area of the exhibition that focuses on how photographers capture movement, visitors can enjoy an engaging exploration of the photographic process.

Appalachian Innovators: Women Makers in the Southern Highland Craft Guild, 1930–2000

Gallery Six

Explore a significant part of our region’s heritage — female Southern Highland Craft Guild Members from 1930 to 2000. Supported by Blue Ridge National Heritage Area and Jim and Julia Peterson.

East Wing

All galleries and installations in the East Wing will be on view through July 2016, subject to the Museum’s construction schedule.

Vault Visible: Behind the Scenes at the Asheville Art Museum

Main Level

Visitors have the opportunity to view the day-to-day activities of the Museum’s curatorial department as they carry out an inventory of the Permanent Collection, photograph objects, assemble crates and perform conservation treatments. Supported by Midgard Foundation and Jim and Bitty Powell.

Make It Happen

New Media Gallery

Drop in to see short informational films about caring for works of art including art handling and movement, conservation/ preservation, archival methods and more. 

Films

Vault Visible Stories: Visitors learn about silver conservation during one of our Vault Visible Stories from the Vault art breaks.

Installation

View two installations in the East Wing: Creating Place: Wall Drawing #618, one of the more than 600 wall drawings conceived by the artist Sol LeWitt; and Community — an installation by artist Sharon Louden which visually serves as a community of forms interacting with each other.

Public Programs

Art Breaks

Selected Fridays — 12:00 p.m.

Free with membership or Museum admission

JULY 15 + AUGUST 12

Selections From the Permanent Collection:

140 Years of American Art

JULY 29

Make It Speak: Stories from the Vault

AUGUST 26

Repurposed: Found and Recycled Objects in Art

PLEASE NOTE: This program takes place at Western Carolina University’s Biltmore Park Campus (28 Schenck Parkway, Suite 300, Asheville, NC 28803).

Art Travels

JULY 20 — Wednesday, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

An Afternoon at Highwater Clays

members $20 | non-members $30

Join artist and collector Brian and Gail McCartney for a private tour of Highwater’s production facility and warehouse, as well as their personal collection of fine-art ceramics.

Space is limited; pre-registration is required.

Discussion Bound

Discussion Bound takes our annual summer vacation in July and August. We’ll be back on September 13 to discuss Curation: How Creating Took Over the Art World and Everything Else by David Balzer.

Film Screenings

ONGOING

Make It Happen

East Wing | New Media Gallery

Drop in to see short informational films about caring for works of art including art handling and movement, conservation/ preservation, archival methods and more!

AUGUST 5 — Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Nuts!

East Wing | New Media Gallery

Artist and director Penny Lane’s Nuts! is a Sundance award-winning, feature-length documentary about Dr. John Romulus Brinkley, an eccentric genius who built a medical and media empire in Depression-era America. Introduction and QA with Mechanical Eye Microcinema.

In Memoriam

The Asheville Art Museum deeply regrets the loss of longtime Museum members and friends. George Bostic, Philip Broughton, Bob Swan, Patric Mullen and Mern Atwater.

School + Family Programs

Summer Art Camp

It’s not too late to register for our July + August sessions of Summer Art Camp 2016. Space is still available for K-5th and 9th -12th grades. For a complete list of classes offered and registration information check our website at www.ashevilleart.org. Contact Shannon McRorie for more information at 828-253-3227, ext. 124

Tot Time

JULY 19 + AUGUST 16

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. in the Art PLAYce

For pre-school aged students accompanied by an adult

Free with membership or Museum admission

(Children under 5 always free)

Membership

Members are the lifeblood of the Museum family. Membership revenue provides vital support for the Museum’s educational programs and exhibitions and grants you free or discounted access to exhibitions, a wide variety of programs and events, and discounts in the Museum Shop. For information on joining the Museum as a member, please contact jmiller@ashevilleart.org.

Museum Support

The Museum couldn’t do what it does without its generous supporters. For a list of the individuals, organizations and companies who supported the Museum through In-Kind Donations; Gifts; Grants; Annual Fund; and Tributes, please visit www.ashevilleart.org/supporters.