



Museum Herald

A PUBLICATION OF THE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM

2014 EDITION

La Salle Joins History Hunters

The Art Museum is a new participant in the History Hunters Youth Reporter Program, administered by Stenton under the auspices of The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. History Hunters is a national award-winning collaborative, literacy-based program closely linked with Philadelphia's public school curriculum guidelines for teaching Pennsylvania and American history. Over the course of the year, 4th and 5th grade Social Studies students mostly from northwest Philadelphia visit historic houses in Germantown, learn about the inhabitants and their stories using diaries and other primary sources, and engage in hands-on activities incorporating reading, writing, art, science, and geography lessons.

Since its inception in 2002, the History Hunters program has involved four historic house sites: Stenton, Cliveden, Johnson House, and Wyck. In summer 2013, Stenton invited La Salle University Art Museum, through its association with Belfield, the retirement home of renowned American artist Charles Willson Peale from 1810-1821, to join as a fifth site. The Art Museum's staff has since worked with Stenton's staff in developing a new lesson on Belfield/La Salle University Art Museum, and integrating a fine arts component (portraiture) into the curriculum. The new lesson was piloted with several school groups in May 2014, and updated student workbooks were published in summer 2014.

Implementation of the expanded program with five historic sites begins September 2014 and is organized chronologically. The lessons at La Salle will take place from December through early March. During a two-hour visit, students will receive a guided tour of the Belfield property; study portraits by artists of the Peale family in the

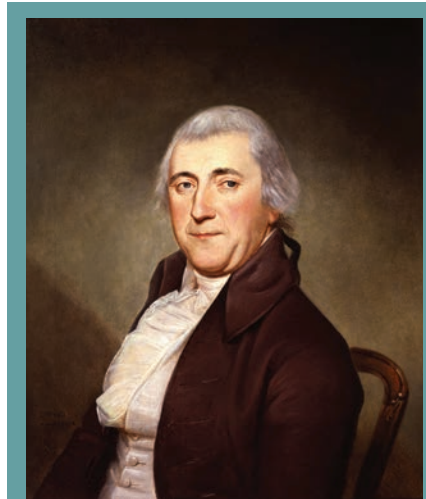


Fourth grade students participating in a History Hunters pilot lesson, May 2014.

Photo: Kelly and Massa Photography

Art Museum's 18th and 19th century galleries; and complete a self-portrait drawing activity.

The inclusion of Belfield/La Salle University Art Museum marks the first major programmatic expansion of History Hunters. In the coming year, the



Charles Willson Peale (American, 1741-1827), *David Gelton*, 1792, Oil on Canvas.

program is also poised for growth in the number of students served. Due to increased demand, participation is expected to reach between 2,500 and 3,000, with a minimum of 1,500 low-income students receiving free bus transportation and program materials to all five sites. The Art Museum is currently seeking to raise funds to contribute to the overall costs of subsidizing the program for needy schools.

Our involvement with History Hunters will effectively double the number of youth visitors to the Art Museum and increase our annual visitation to more than 10,000. Most importantly, the galleries will welcome a new audience of school children who will learn about the rich history of American art within an interdisciplinary Social Studies curriculum.

Adopt an Artwork

Are you interested in having your name or that of a loved one associated with an artwork in the Art Museum's collection? We are grateful to individuals who have made donations toward the purchase of specific artworks. Please see the Art Museum's website for information about this new personalized program of support.

Seong Moy (Chinese/American, 1921-2013), *Bird of Silence*, 1979, Lithograph, Ed. 201/300. Purchased with funds from Thomas Blum.



News on Exhibitions

This past year, we presented *Jeff: Coffins and Cages; Printmakers of the Baroque: 17th-Century Explorations of Space and Light;* and *American Scenes: WPA-Era Prints from the 1930s and 1940s*, which included fine art prints from the Free Library of Philadelphia. We published a catalogue for *American Scenes*, which is available through Lulu.com and Amazon.com; and we are currently working with La Salle Associate Professor of Art History Susan Dixon, Ph.D., co-curator of *Printmakers of the Baroque*, on a catalogue that features research by undergraduate students enrolled in a spring 2014 Baroque art history course.

In the coming year, our fall exhibition will feature acclaimed Chinese-American artist Hung Liu, a professor *emeritus* at Mills College in Oakland, Calif. Liu will come to La Salle to give an Artist's Talk at 4 p.m. on Sept. 17, followed by the Opening Reception from 5-7 p.m. There will also be a public lecture on Nov. 6 by La Salle Professor of History Charles Desnoyers, Ph.D., a specialist on the Chinese Cultural Revolution.

The winter exhibition will showcase Indian miniature paintings from

CURRENT AND UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS FOR 2014–2015:

FALL September 17–December 5, 2014

Hung Liu: Prints and Tapestries

Small European Oil Paintings

WINTER December 17, 2014 –February 27, 2015

Indian Art from the Permanent Collection

Diane Pieri: Phases of the Sun

SPRING March 11–June 12, 2015

Elizabeth Catlett: Art for Social Justice

Mexican Prints of the Taller de Gráfica Popular

La Salle's permanent collection and is co-curated by Mekala Krishnan, the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Fellow in South Asian Art at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Programming will include a Curatorial Talk at 4 p.m. on Jan. 21, followed by the Opening Reception from 5-7 p.m. A complementary exhibition in the 20th Century Hallway will highlight recent mixed media work by local artist Diane Pieri inspired by a voyage to Northern India.

The spring exhibition will feature artworks by Elizabeth Catlett and is co-curated by La Salle Assistant Professor of Art History Mey-Yen Moriuchi, Ph.D., a specialist on Latin American art. Programming will include a Curatorial Talk at 4 p.m. on March 11, followed by the Opening Reception from 5-7 p.m. The exhibition will be accompanied by a selection of Mexican prints in the 20th Century Hallway, produced for the *Taller de Gráfica Popular* (People's Graphic Workshop).

Check our Facebook page and email updates for details about other public programs planned during the coming year.

COLLECTIONS DIGITIZATION PROJECT

This fall we will begin implementation of a collections digitization and access project, which will migrate about 4,000 artwork records from a free outdated database system to a more robust collections management system. After electronic records are moved and new image files are created and added to the system, we will launch a Web kiosk that will give our audiences the ability to search La Salle's art collection and to download images for educational use. While the Art Museum's Web site currently provides public access to images and information for all artworks on display, the project will establish a searchable online interface to records for the entire collection.

Conservation Updates

This past year we completed two important conservation projects funded by the Stockman Family Foundation and the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation. We conserved seven paintings and a total of 26 Indian miniatures.

Thanks to a second generous grant from the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, we are moving forward with the conservation of another group of Indian miniatures in our collection. All of these miniatures are in priority need of treatment to stabilize the artworks.



Rajasthan, Mewar School, *Horse and Rider*, 18th century, Water-Based Paint on Paper, Gift of Dr. Alvin O. Bellak. Conserved with Support from the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation.

Most depict secular and religious scenes rendered by artists working in the Northern Indian painting

schools of Rajasthan and the Punjab Hills during the 18th and 19th centuries. From portraits of noblemen and secular activities, to religious narratives illustrating Hindu Gods and stories, the miniatures portray a range of subject matter and artistic styles. A selection of about 35 Indian miniature paintings from both Carpenter-funded conservation projects will be featured in our winter exhibition (see above info).

We currently have two applications pending with private and government funders for conservation support of paintings and works on paper. We are committed to the long-term preservation and care of artworks in the collection, as we continue to explore funding opportunities to support our conservation needs.



Harriet Cary Peale (American, 1800–1869), *Father's Return*, c. 1850, Oil on Canvas. Conserved with Support from the Stockman Family Foundation and the Art Angels.

Education and Community Outreach Programs

This past year, the Education and Community Outreach programs served about 3,000 school children. We engaged classes from area schools and summer youth programs through a combination of free year-round, in-gallery, outreach, and multiple-visit programs.

The *American Scenes* exhibition was very popular among school children, and brought new opportunities for educational programming. Visiting school groups participated in guided lessons on topics such as WPA-era American history and printmaking. Lessons focused on the different types of prints found in the exhibition and how printmaking became popular during the Great Depression. Art-making activities explored this with an emphasis on relief printmaking using Styrofoam and tempera paint. The students had a great time and everyone got to make their own prints!

In April, we hosted the annual Archdiocese of Philadelphia High School Art Exhibition in our Community Art Gallery, featuring work by more than 200 students from 18 Catholic high schools. La Salle University President Brother Michael J. McGinniss F.S.C., Ph.D., '70, presented welcoming remarks at the Awards Ceremony attended by more than 200 people, including parents, students, teachers, school administrators, and La Salle University leaders. We have already scheduled the next annual Archdiocesan High School Art Exhibition, with the Opening Reception and Awards Ceremony taking place on April 11, 2015.

We look forward to another fantastic year ahead, as we continue to grow our Education and Community Outreach programs, and expand the services we offer with our network of community partnerships. We are excited about our upcoming participation in the History Hunters Youth Reporter Program, which will engage local Social Studies students in our educational programming.

Spotlight on Adult Learners

Adult artists from SpArc Services' Cultural Arts Center (formerly PDDC) created work inspired by their visit to our summer exhibition *Barbara Bullock: Straight Water Blues*. This visit was part of our ongoing Cultural Collaborations partnership. All of the artwork created for the program this year will be featured in an exhibition in our Community Art Gallery in fall 2014.



SpArc Artist at Work, June 2014.

Throughout the year we host a number of college and high school interns. This year we were joined by:

Megan Rankel, La Salle University, Class of 2015
Neda McHugh, Germantown Friends School, Class of 2015
Daniel Saleem and **Mya Smalley**, The Philadelphia Center for Arts and Technology, PCATWorks

We enjoyed working with everyone and wish them the best in their future studies!

Spotlight on Events



Doug Roysdon of Mock Turtle Marionette Theater, May 5, 2014.

On May 5, for the second year in a row, the Art Museum held a special educational event in the Dan Rodden Theater, in conjunction with our spring exhibition. Since portable theatre was so important during the WPA era, this year's event featured Doug Roysdon from Mock Turtle Marionette Theatre presenting *Book, Beast and Puppet*. He performed a delightful show of multiple stories and also brought some historical WPA-era puppets for the students to see. Everyone had a wonderful time! The assembly was attended by more than 275 students and their teachers from partner schools who visit repeatedly each year: Ziegler Elementary, Young Scholars Frederick Douglass Charter School, Logan Elementary, Julia Howe Elementary, and Holy Cross Catholic School.

Recent Staff Changes

We wish our former Curator of Art Carmen Vendelin well in her new position as Curator at the New Mexico Museum of Art. Upon her departure, the Curator of Art position was redefined as a Collections Manager/Registrar, and Museum Assistant Rebecca Oviedo (a candidate for an M.A. in Public History) was promoted into this new position. Additionally, Miranda Clark-Binder's role was expanded as Curator of Education and Public Programs. Along with managing programs for adults, families, and pre-K-12 school groups, she is also responsible for educational services for La Salle faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Finally, we have hired Jo-Ann Psoras as the new Museum Assistant.



ART MUSEUM

1900 West Olney Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
19141-1199 USA

Art Angels and the Brother Daniel Burke Endowment Fund

We would like to thank contributors to the Art Angels Fund for their generous support this past year. Your gifts are placed in an unrestricted account, which means that we can direct the funds to projects with the greatest needs, such as conservation, exhibitions, and educational programs. We would also like to thank contributors to the Brother Daniel Burke Endowment Fund, which generates income to support vital educational needs of the Art Museum. Please contact the Art Museum Director for information about donating to either of these funds, or send your check directly to the La Salle University Advancement Office, 1900 West Olney Avenue, Box 809, Philadelphia, PA 19141, with "ART MUSEUM" and the fund name on the memo line. Another option is make an online donation through the Art Museum's Web site or <http://explorersconnect.lasalle.edu/artmuseum>.

Art Museum Hours

Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday by appointment.

Closed on Fridays from June through August
Please call ahead during summer months and University holidays to confirm hours.

Art Museum Contact Information

Art Museum Phone: 215.951.1221
E-mail: artmuseum@lasalle.edu
Web site: lasalle.edu/museum

Electronic Communications

Please help us conserve resources. Sign up for our e-mail updates at artmuseum@lasalle.edu. Also, let us know if you would like to receive future newsletters by e-mail only.

Admission and Group Tours

Admission is free. Group tours are given by appointment. Please call to make special arrangements for large groups of visitors.

Art Museum Staff

Klare Scarborough, Director and Chief Curator; Miranda Clark-Binder, Curator of Education and Public Programs; Rebecca Oviedo, Collections Manager/Registrar; Jo-Ann Psoras, Museum Assistant

Volunteers

Robert Croker, Nora Pincus Schwarz

Committee for the Arts

William E. Kelly, Jr. (Chair), Daniel K. Fitzpatrick, Brother Brian Henderson, F.S.C.; *Ex Officio*: James P. Gallagher, William Sauter, Alice L. Hoersch, Joseph Marbach, Klare Scarborough

Advisory Council

Thomas P. Witt (Chair), Dennis Boylan, Paul Brazina, Camille DiLullo, Amelia Longo, John D. Rilling, Nora Pincus Schwarz, Robert M. Vogel.



Seated Ganesha, Indian, Vijayanagar period, 15th -16th Century, Bronze. Gift of Ann and Robert Walzer.