In September 2014, La Salle University Art Museum received a major grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for a comprehensive two-year database migration and digital access project. There are two major objectives: to improve collections management processes within the Art Museum, and to make the collection freely available to the public.

The project officially commenced in October 2014. Jonathan Donovan, M.A., was hired as part-time Digital Image Manager to assist in the systematic digitization of the museum’s permanent collection of close to 5,000 paintings, works on paper, and three-dimensional objects. He immediately set about developing training guides for Art Museum student workers in digital photography and flatbed scanning, photo editing, and color matching. As of August 2015, photography of all paintings and drawings is now complete, and the large collection of prints and graphic arts is 75 percent captured. Photography of sculpture and special collections of African, Ancient Greek, Asian, and Pre-Columbian objects will begin this fall.

The IMLS grant project is coordinated by Collections Manager Rebecca Oviedo, M.A. ’15, who is overseeing the conversion and migration of collections records to the new database, Gallery Systems’ EmbARK. She and student workers have been busy conducting a collection-wide inventory, cleanup, and verification of object records, and inputting digital images to the database. Once the project concludes, visitors will be able to go to the Art Museum’s website and search the collection by artist, title, media, etc. This will be extremely useful to La Salle faculty and students, local K-12 educators, and the international museum and scholarly community.

From the Director

The Art Museum has experienced tremendous growth and success since I took the helm as Director near the end of FY11. From FY12 to FY15, the Art Museum’s overall attendance increased from 6,446 to 11,718. Of this total, the number of visiting La Salle classes has grown steadily from 72 (1,582 students) to 99 (1,976 students); and the number of pre-K–12 groups has grown from 54 (1,255 students) to 241 (5,178 students), including 68 groups (2,051 students) participating in the History Hunters Youth Reporter Program, a new partnership with Stenton and Historic Germantown. Thus, in four years, the total visitation has nearly doubled, and the number of school groups has quadrupled. The Art Museum’s highly successful Education and Community Outreach Program advances the University’s mission of social justice by providing free educational opportunities for all individuals, including many underserved low-income schoolchildren and individuals with disabilities. Since FY12, the Art Museum has participated in the Pennsylvania Cultural Data Project and has secured annual grants from city and state government agencies in recognition of our service to public audiences.

The Art Museum’s collection has also grown through gifts and purchases. Since FY12, the Art Museum has received gifts of over 350 artworks and has used gift and restricted endowment funds to purchase over 150 artworks, mostly fine art prints for special exhibitions and artwork to support teaching. In FY14, we implemented a new Adopt An Artwork program, which encourages our supporters to sponsor the purchase of artworks for the collection. In FY15, we established a new endowment fund, the Carolyn K. and Richard F. Barry III, ’64, Art Acquisition Fund, which will support the purchase of modern and contemporary works of art. Also, since FY12, the Art Museum has secured over $100,000 in outside funding to support artwork conservation, and in FY15, the Art Museum received a grant of $76,391 from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services (see adjacent column).

The Art Museum continues to engage both La Salle and public audiences through permanent gallery displays, special exhibitions, public lectures, and educational programs. We appreciate your continued support, and we invite you to join with us in celebrating the Art Museum’s accomplishments. Thank you!
News on Exhibitions

This past year, we presented Hung Liu: Prints and Tapestries, Poetic Visions: Indian Art from the Permanent Collection, and Elizabeth Catlett: Art for Social Justice.

In the coming year, our fall exhibition will feature local African American political collage artist Theodore A. Harris, who will give an Artist’s Talk at 4 p.m. on Sept. 30, followed by the Opening Reception from 5–7 p.m. The 20th Century Hallway will feature prints and drawings by the late Philadelphia artist Julius Bloch. Programming will include a public poetry reading on Oct. 28 at 6 p.m. by M. Nzadi Keita, Ph.D., an associate professor at Ursinus College; and a public lecture about Julius Bloch on Nov. 13 at 1 p.m. by Sharon Musher, Ph.D., an associate professor at Stockton University.

The winter exhibition will showcase American original works on paper from La Salle’s permanent collection and is co-curated by Catherine Holochwost, Ph.D., assistant professor of art history at La Salle. Programming will include a curatorial talk at 4 p.m. on Jan. 20, followed by the opening reception from 5–7 p.m. The 20th Century Hallway will highlight works by Wilfred Jones, an American illustrator active in the first half of the 20th century. Other programming will include a lecture on Violet Oakley presented by Patricia Ricci, Ph.D., an associate professor at Elizabethtown College, on Feb. 11 at 1 p.m.

The spring exhibition will feature contemporary prints that address issues surrounding immigration and the U.S.-Mexico border with an emphasis on multiculturalism and Latino life in the U.S. The 20th Century Hallway will showcase a selection of work by contemporary Texas artist Paul Valadez, MFA. Programming will include a curatorial talk at 4 p.m. on March 16, followed by the opening reception from 5–7 p.m. Stay tuned for more programming as we approach the spring.

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

Conservation Updates

This past year we completed two important conservation projects funded by private foundations. With support from the Stockman Family Foundation, we conserved paintings by Jacob van Ruisdael and Noel Nicolas Coypel on display in our galleries. Funding from the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation allowed us to conserve another 28 Indian miniature paintings, many of which were on display in our winter exhibition of Poetic Visions.

We are very grateful for the ongoing support that we have received from these two foundations in support of our conservation efforts.

Thanks to another generous grant from the Stockman Family Foundation, we are now moving forward with the conservation of 12 American works on paper, most of which will be featured in the upcoming American Originals exhibition. These artworks depict a range of subject matter and techniques, and have various conservation issues, including adhesive tapes and residues, which will be addressed in the project.

We currently have an application pending for additional conservation support. 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.
Education and Community Outreach Programs

This past year, the Education and Community Outreach programs served over 5,000 school children. This was our largest number ever thanks in part to the success of our partnership with the History Hunters Youth Reporter Program! In addition to that partnership, we engaged classes from area schools and summer youth programs through a combination of free year-round, in-gallery, outreach, and multiple-visit programs. It was a very busy year at the Art Museum!

The Elizabeth Catlett exhibition was especially popular and brought new opportunities for educational programming. Visiting groups learned about her commitment to social justice and the challenges she faced as a female African American artist in the 20th century. School teachers were thrilled to bring their classes to see Catlett’s beautiful work and to explore themes of diversity and social justice. Lessons culminated in art-making activities, in which students made their own prints, often with social justice themes. The art and social studies teachers at Central High School developed a particularly compelling lesson plan that encouraged their students to work together across disciplines to create prints addressing what they considered to be the most pressing social justice issues of their generation. The engravings and linocuts that they created were then on display in the Art Museum’s Community Art Gallery throughout the summer. The 28 prints and their label descriptions encouraged the Central students to express a sense of agency for how we can all make positive social changes in the world. The exhibition looked great and was met with lots of praise from our visitors this summer!

In April, we again hosted the annual Archdiocese of Philadelphia High School Art Exhibition in our Community Art Gallery, featuring work by over 200 students from 18 Catholic high schools. The Awards Ceremony in the Dan Rodden Theater was 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 2, 2016.

We look forward to another fantastic year ahead as we continue to grow our Education and Community Outreach programs!

Spotlight on Adult Learners

We are excited to announce an expansion in our offerings for adult learners with special needs. In addition to continuing our collaboration with SpArc Services’ Cultural Arts Center, we will begin a partnership with ARTZ Philadelphia—a small not-for-profit organization that provides opportunities for self expression and for the rebuilding of self esteem to people with memory loss and those who care for them. They offer research-based programs that connect people living with dementia and their care partners with artists and cultural organizations. This fall we became a host site for their popular “Meet Me at the Museum and Make Memories” program. If you are interested in signing up for the program, you can contact Susan Shifrin, Ph.D., Director of ARTZ Philadelphia, at shifrin@artzalz.org.

Spotlight on Events

On May 13, 2015, for the third year in a row, the Art Museum held a special educational event in the Dan Rodden Theater, in conjunction with our spring exhibition. We were so happy to invite Charlotte Blake Alston back to campus this year. To celebrate the themes featured in our Elizabeth Catlett exhibition, she entertained our young audiences with stories and songs of hope and perseverance from the Underground Railroad and the American Civil Rights Movement. Her performance was incredibly inspiring, and the kids just loved it! The assembly was attended by over 275 students and their teachers from partner schools who visit repeatedly each year: Ziegler Elementary, Young Scholars Frederick Douglass Charter School, Logan Elementary, and Julia Howe Elementary.

Spotlight on Awards

We had a very exciting year celebrating our Education and Community Outreach Programs. We are thrilled to announce that Miranda Clark-Binder, M.A., Curator of Education and Public Programs, was the recipient of two prestigious awards!

In May 2015, she received the Brighter Futures Environmental Wellness Award from the City of Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health Intellectual Disability Services for her work with SpArc Services’ Cultural Arts Center. She is also the recipient of the Pennsylvania Art Education Association’s 2015 Outstanding Museum Art Educator Award for her work with all of our visitors to the Art Museum. Congratulations Miranda!
Serving La Salle Students and Faculty

The Art Museum serves as a center for the arts on campus. Close to 2,000 La Salle students visit annually through class visits, most of which are guided by faculty. This past year, there were a total of 99 visiting La Salle classes, including art, art history, Honors, history, American studies, religion, philosophy, nursing/health sciences, political science, business, and First Year Odyssey (FYO).

Art/Health Sciences Collaborations

Each year, over 300 La Salle Nursing and Health Sciences students visit the Art Museum to participate in a scavenger hunt designed to teach health assessments skills utilizing artworks in the galleries. As part of a nursing health assessment course overseen by Patricia Dillon, Ph.D., R.N., associate professor and Director of Graduate Nursing, R.N.–BSN and R.N.–MSN Programs, students work in small groups to analyze paintings depicting emotions such as compassion, pain, and health problems. Students discuss “incorrect” representations of anatomy, and diagnose what is “wrong” in certain compositions. The lesson teaches students to read body language and facial expressions, helping them to better serve patients and their family members.

This past year, students in Associate Professor of Art History Siobhan Conaty’s new “Art and Medicine” course learned about the intersection between these two disciplines. Through a detailed analysis of individual artworks, they developed their visual literacy skills, sharpening their abilities to observe and think critically. These skills carry over into the health care fields, but also serve as practical tools for all fields of study in negotiating our modern world.

La Salle University Art Museum’s partnership with La Salle’s School of Nursing and Health Sciences and the Department of Fine Arts in the School of Arts and Sciences is part of a growing national trend. For a report on how today’s museums are addressing health issues, see aam-us.org/docs/advocacy/museums-on-call.pdf.

Tibetan Monks Visit La Salle

In April 2015, La Salle University’s Diplomat-In-Residence Program presented “Liberation from Suffering: The Sacred Arts of Tibet,” featuring Tibetan monks from the Drepung Gomang Monastery in India. The monks visited La Salle’s campus to engage in interfaith dialogues with students and faculty, and to create a Green Tara sand mandala in the Art Museum’s Renaissance Gallery, as part of a U.S. tour to raise awareness about Tibetan Buddhism and the plight of Tibetan monks today, and also to raise funds to support the monastery. This popular program was co-sponsored by the Art Museum; La Salle’s Concert and Lecture Series; the departments of Religion, Art History, and Philosophy; Student Programming; the La Salle University Book Store; Catholic Studies; and the Theodore Morrow Memorial Fund. We are pleased to announce that the Tibetan monks will return to La Salle University from Oct. 20–27, 2015, and will create a Medicine Buddha healing mandala in the Art Museum for the well-being of His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

Spotlight on Interns

We are pleased to have a Curatorial Intern for the fall semester: Alexis Corey, a senior at La Salle, who is majoring in communication and minoring in art History. Alexis is assisting with the winter and spring exhibitions, researching and writing labels, corresponding with artists, and helping with publicity. She is also gaining experience working on the IMLS project and helping with visiting school groups. Welcome, Alexis!
Dear Art Angels and Friends,

Each year we send out an annual appeal letter asking you to support the Art Museum. We rely on your generosity to help the Art Museum continue its mission to preserve its collections, mount public exhibitions, and provide both the University’s students and the larger Philadelphia community with opportunities to enjoy and learn about art. This year, we are not sending out a separate letter; rather, we are asking you now as part of our newsletter mailing to consider making an annual contribution to the La Salle University Art Museum.

We have accomplished a great deal over the past year. With your support, we have produced quality exhibitions and programs. We have continued our conservation efforts, and we have purchased artworks, which are now available for teaching purposes and for public display in exhibitions. In the coming year, we expect to continue our successful work with La Salle students and faculty, as well as with general public audiences, including special needs groups and underserved school children. We will also continue our successful partnership with Historic Germantown and with Stenton's History Hunters Youth Reporter Program. Finally, with the upcoming completion of the IMLS-funded project, we look forward to sharing our collections online with international public audiences.

All of this is possible because of your tax-deductible contributions to the La Salle University Art Museum. It is your support for the Art Angels Fund, as well as the Brother Daniel Burke Endowment Fund, that allows us to produce innovative exhibitions, to offer free pre-K–12 school programs, and to enrich the lives of La Salle students as well as children and adults in our community. With the Art Angels Fund, your gifts are placed in an unrestricted Art Museum account, which means that we can direct the funds to projects with the greatest needs, such as conservation, exhibitions, and educational programs. With the Brother Daniel Burke Endowment Fund, your contributions are placed in a restricted Art Museum account that generates income to support vital educational needs and operations of the Art Museum. You may also contribute to other named endowment accounts that are restricted for artwork purchases.

Please consider donating to the La Salle University Art Museum again this year. Every bit you give allows us to continue our good work and encourages others to support our exhibitions and educational programs. Please fill out the enclosed reply card and, using the enclosed envelope, send your check to the La Salle University Advancement Office, 1900 West Olney Avenue, Box 809, Philadelphia, PA 19141. Please remember to write “ART MUSEUM” and the fund name on the memo line of your check. You can also make an online donation through the Art Museum’s website or exploreconnect.lasalle.edu/artmuseum.

Alongside our annual appeal, we are also seeking to ensure the future of the Art Museum through the major gifts, including the creation of named endowments and planned giving bequests. If you have the financial capacity to help the Art Museum in significant ways, please contact me at scarborough@lasalle.edu, or Brother Charles Gresh, F.S.C., ’55, at gresh@lasalle.edu. We are happy to help you explore giving options.

With many thanks for your past and future support,

Klare Scarborough, Ph.D.
Director and Chief Curator

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 towards the purchase of specific artworks. Please see the Art Museum’s website for information about this new personalized program of support, lasalle.edu/adoptanartwork.
Publications

We published two exhibition catalogues this past year: Poetic Visions: Indian Art from the Permanent Collection, with essays by Klare Scarborough, Ph.D., and Philadelphia Museum of Art Fellow Mekala Krishnan, M.A.; and Elizabeth Catlett: Art for Social Justice, with essays by Klare Scarborough, Ph.D., and La Salle Assistant Professor Mey-Yen Moriuchi, Ph.D. Both of these books are available for purchase through lulu.com or amazon.com.

We are currently working on two other publications forthcoming in 2015:

Art and Social Change: Essays on the Collection of La Salle University Art Museum, co-edited by Klare Scarborough, Ph.D., and La Salle Associate Professor of Art History Susan M. Dixon, Ph.D., with a preface by Brian A. Goldstein, Ph.D., and essays by Costanza Gislon Dopfels, Ph.D.; Sarah Cantor, Ph.D.; Robert E. Gerhardt, M.D., M.A., ‘66; Susan M. Dixon, Ph.D.; Rebecca Oviedo, M.A. ‘15; Emily Hage, Ph.D.; Klare Scarborough, Ph.D.; Christiane Hertel, Ph.D.; Mey-Yen Moriuchi, Ph.D.; and Thomas Blum, Ph.D.

Barbara Bullock: Chasing After Spirits, edited by Klare Scarborough, Ph.D., with a preface by Leslie King-Hammond, Ph.D., and essays by Klare Scarborough, Ph.D.; Lewis Tanner Moore; William Valerio, Ph.D.; and A.M. Weaver, MFA.

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.

Electronic Communications
Please help us conserve resources. Sign up for our email updates.

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, Ph.D., Director and Chief Curator; Miranda Clark-Binder, M.A., Curator of Education and Public Programs; Rebecca Oviedo, M.A. ‘15, Collections Manager/Registrar

Volunteers
Robert Croker, MFA; Nora Pincus Schwarz

Committee for the Arts
William E. Kelly Jr., J.D., ‘74 (Chair); Brother Brian Henderson, F.S.C., ‘81, M.A. ‘92; Bernadette Mangan, MBA ‘85; Ex Officio: Colleen M. Hanyecz, Ph.D.; Stephen Zarrilli, ‘83; Alice L. Hoersch, Ph.D.; Brian A. Goldstein, Ph.D.; Klare Scarborough, Ph.D.

Advisory Council
Thomas P. Witt, Esq., ‘68 (Chair); Dennis Boylan, ‘77; Paul Brazina, CPA; Brother John McGoldrick, F.S.C., Ph.D., ‘71; Amelia Longo, ’07; John D. Rilling, CPA, ‘87; Nora Pincus Schwarz.

We are seeking to expand our capacity to better serve our growing audiences. To this end, we are enlisting volunteer docents to help with educational programs, particularly with pre-school groups that visit regularly. If you are interested, please contact Miranda Clark-Binder, M.A., at clarkbinder@lasalle.edu to discuss details.