

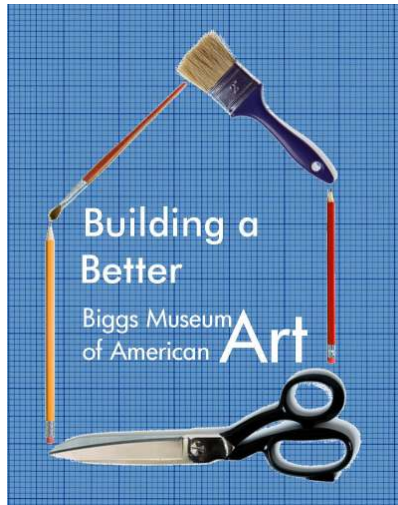
Biggs Museum of American Art

For Immediate Release
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302.674.2111 ext. 105

Media Contact
Sarah DiMondi
sdimondi@biggsmuseum.org

The Biggs Museum is 406 Federal Street

Ceremonial Key Presentation with the Biggs Museum & the State of Delaware
to be held Wednesday, February 17, 2010.



Dover, DE (January 20, 2010) – The Biggs Museum of American Art is pleased to announce a strengthened partnership with the State of Delaware to assume full use of the building at 406 Federal Street on Legislative Mall in Dover, Delaware. This opportunity has increased the size of the Museum by over 7,500 feet, greatly expanding the Museum’s public and exhibition space on its prominent site in the heart of downtown, historic Dover. A Ceremonial Key Presentation with Governor Jack Markell and several State-elected officials will commemorate this expansion and partnership on Wednesday, February 17, 2010, beginning at 9 a.m., at the Biggs Museum.

The original trust agreement between the State of Delaware and the Museum Founder Sewell C. Biggs was signed in 1989, creating a public-private partnership. In 1994, renovations to the Old Elections Building in Dover, creating a State-owned public building in which the Biggs Museum of American Art resided on the second and third floors and the State of Delaware operating a Visitor Center on the first floor. On January 9, 2010, the Biggs Museum began occupying all three floors of the building on 406 Federal Street. The Visitor Center relocated to the Archives Building in next to Legislative Mall in 2009 and is

now operating under a new name as the First State Heritage Park Welcome Center and Galleries.

The Biggs Museum, a private, not for profit, 501(c)(3) organization, will remain a full and active member of the First State Heritage Park, and the State of Delaware will continue to serve as the owner and landlord of the Biggs facility.

The Biggs Museum Board of Trustees and staff are currently in the preliminary planning phase for Museum renovations and expansions. With the local expertise of Homsey Architects, Inc. and Paragon Engineering and the goals to create a cultural institution comprised of galleries and public spaces of diverse scale and proportion and to support a vibrant public institution that contributes significantly to the economic vitality of the community, the Biggs Museum is diligently working to transform the building on 406 Federal Street, a prominent site in downtown Dover, and the overall Museum experience.

“As an institution and as a community we have much to celebrate. The Biggs Museum will continue to evolve to meet the needs of the community and its visitors from around the country and the world. We look forward to harnessing this opportunity, presented by the State of Delaware, with pioneering spirit to grow this organization,” said Linda A.K. Danko, Director of the Biggs Museum.

The Biggs Museum invites representatives from the media to attend the Ceremonial Key Presentation, to be held Wednesday, February 17, 2010 at the Biggs Museum on 406 Federal Street, Dover, Delaware, beginning at 9a.m. Invited dignitaries include Governor Jack Markell, Secretary of State Jeffrey Bullock, Director of Historical and Cultural Affairs Timothy Slavin, Representative Bradford Bennett, Senator Brian Bushweller, City of Dover Mayor Carleton E. Carey, Sr., Representative William J. Carson, Senator Bruce Ennis, and Representative Darryl M. Scott. Other expected attendees include, the Choptank Foundation Board of Trustees, Biggs Museum of American Art Board of Trustees, Biggs Museum Administrative Staff, and Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs Administrative Staff. Special remarks will be made from Governor Jack Markell, Secretary of State Jeffrey Bullock, Biggs Museum Board President C. Terry Jackson, and Biggs Museum Director Linda Danko. If you plan to attend this presentation, please RSVP to Biggs Museum Marketing Coordinator Sarah DiMondi by e-mail at sdimondi@biggsmuseum.org.

About the Museum

The Biggs Museum seeks to serve a diverse public as a regional museum of fine and decorative arts, made from 1700 to present, representing the State of Delaware and the surrounding Mid-Atlantic region. The Biggs Museum engages audiences through a compelling program of temporary exhibitions and programming. The Biggs Museum encourages the development of creativity and an appreciation for art by offering a comprehensive slate of educational programming for all ages. The Biggs Museum of American Art is a private, non-profit 501(c) (3) organization.

Hours of Operation: Tuesday through Saturday; 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Sunday; 1:30 p.m. until 4: 30 p.m.

Admission: Biggs Museum is free to the public year-round. Fees may apply to certain programs and special events.

The Biggs Museum of American Art

406 Federal Street

Dover, DE 19901

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www.biggsmuseum.org

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