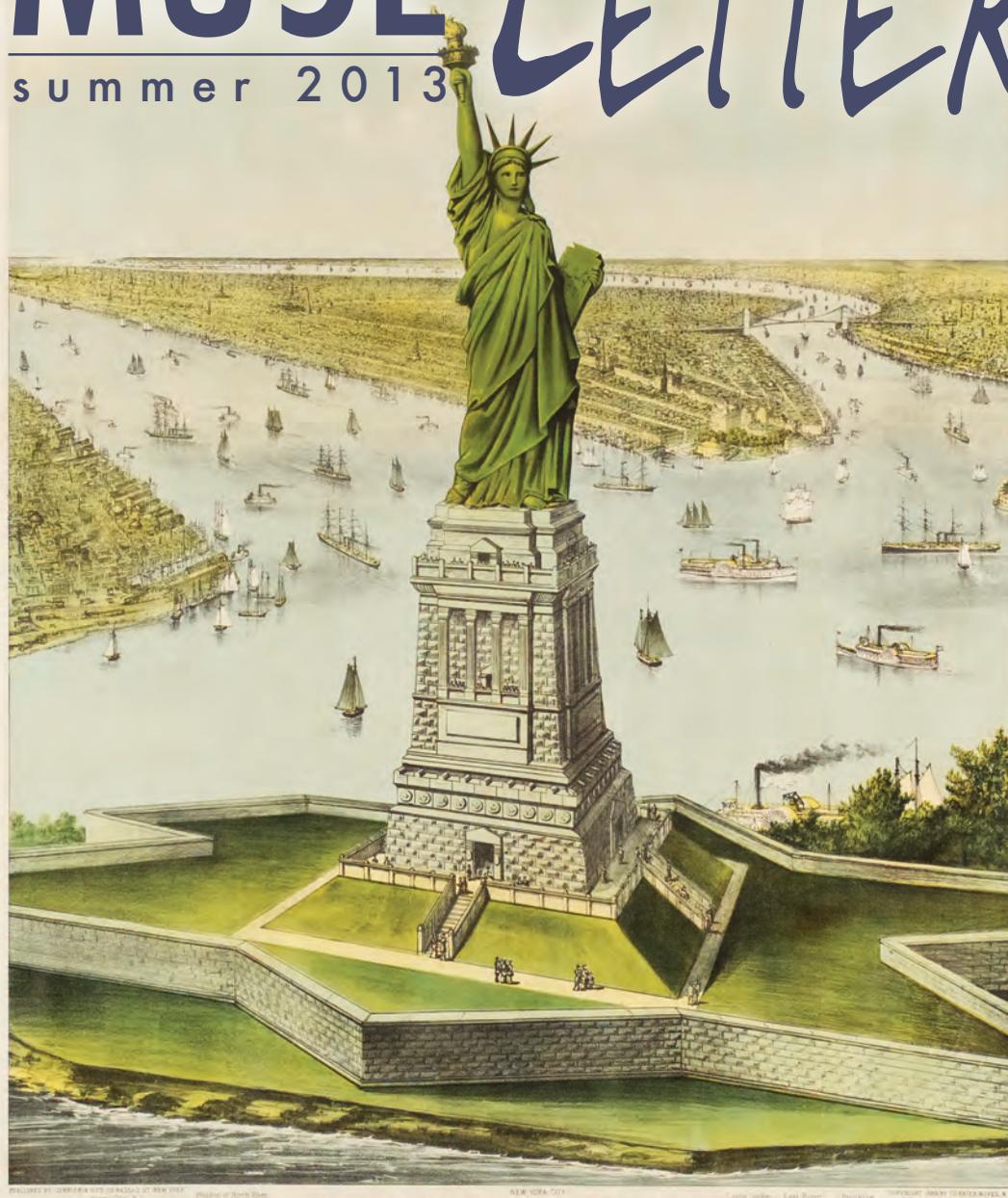


MUSE LETTER

summer 2013



THE GREAT BARTHOLDI STATUE.
LIBERTY ENLIGHTENING THE WORLD.
THE GIFT OF FRANCE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.
ERECTED ON BEDLOE'S ISLAND, NEW YORK HARBOR.

The statue is of copper-bronzed, 142 ft in height, and is to be mounted on a stone pedestal 150 ft high, making the extreme height 292 ft. The torch will display a powerful electric light and the statue thus present by night, an exceedingly grand and imposing appearance.

Museum News & Collection Connection Page 2 Exhibitions Programming Page 3
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Image: The Great Bartholdi Statue, 1885, Nathaniel Currier & James Merritt Ives,
hand-colored lithograph, Michele and Donald D'Amour Museum of Fine Arts

Biggs Museum
of American Art
SUMMER 2013



Left to right: Marcia DeWitt, Governor Jack Markell and Biggs Museum Director Linda A.K. Danko

MEET NEW BOARD PRESIDENT

Marcia DeWitt

In March, the Biggs Museum of American Art welcomed new Board President Marcia DeWitt of Rehoboth Beach, who was appointed by Governor Jack Markell. Attorney and Entrepreneur, Marcia DeWitt, founded GuilfordPare Ltd. (formerly the Guilford Group Ltd.), a workers' compensation and disability management firm serving national and international clients. DeWitt established GuilfordPare as a highly successful and sought after business resource for helping companies and non-profits save millions of dollars in workers' compensation/disability costs. Prior to founding GuilfordPare, DeWitt was the Executive Director of Harbor Holdings, Ltd., where she oversaw the profitability and strategic direction of Harbor Health Systems of Baltimore. Marcia also serves on the boards

in leadership positions of more than 20 educational, arts, and cultural organizations. Marcia DeWitt succeeds C.Terry Jackson, II (Biggs Museum Board President 1996 - 2013).

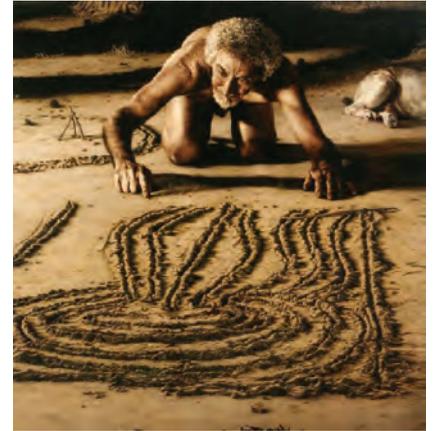
And You Thought We Were Done?

In June, the Biggs Museum began its third and final phase of The New Biggs capital renovation project.

Phase Three of Construction begins. For the past two years, visitors have witnessed a profound interior transformation as the Museum completed the first two phases of the project. During phase one, the first floor became an active cultural attraction with expanded exhibition galleries, technology-enhanced programming areas, and the Delaware By Hand local artist gift shop. Phase two renovations then updated the permanent collection galleries on the second and third floors with new architectural colors, enhanced LED lighting and a focused timeline display. Now, under construction until October, the Biggs Museum's visitors will soon enjoy a new entrance! The museum will have a redesigned entrance to accommodate a three-story glass sculpture atrium. Once construction is complete, upon entering this new gallery the size and scope of the museum's permanent collection will be easily viewed by visitors. The museum is actively selling space within its community-based art tile project, Hanging at the Biggs (featured on the back cover), to grace the new entrance. Furthermore, the staff are beginning plans to commission the museum's first site-specific art installation for the new sculpture atrium. Stop in and see the progress during this exciting time!



COLLECTION CONNECTION



Following the retirement of C. Terry Jackson, II the museum's Board President of seventeen years, the Board of Trustees selected an object to add to its permanent collection in honor of his service. The painting selected was a work by the figural painter Lisa Bartalozzi, entitled *Scratching the Dirt* (2007). Bartalozzi's painting, a seminal example from her current Wisdom Series, references a paragraph from the biblical *Book of Wisdom* regarding the femininity of divine power and the stages of man's life on earth. The artist is a graduate of the University of Delaware and Washington University. She paints full time from her Newark, Delaware studio. The artist's works are featured at many American institutions including the University of Delaware, the Arnot Museum of Art and the Arkansas Art Center. Bartalozzi first exhibited at the Biggs Museum in conjunction with her 2005 Master's Fellowship Award from the Delaware Division of the Arts. Her work quickly became a favorite of the museum's staff as well as Terry Jackson. Acquisition of *Scratching the Dirt* fulfilled Jackson's hope that an example of her work be added to the Biggs Museum's collection.

Special Thanks: Poole Challenge

Last year, Richard and Elizabeth Poole launched a special challenge to Richard's fellow Trustees, agreeing to donate \$25,000 to the Capital Campaign if the Board of Trustees collectively donated \$25,000. In May, the Board of Trustees completed this challenge and The Poole's fulfilled their donation of \$25,000 to the Campaign. The Biggs Museum would like to extend a very special thank you to Richard and Elizabeth Poole and to the Board of Trustees for their generosity during this challenge that collectively raised \$50,000.

KENDALL MESSICK HONORED BY LEGISLATORS AND GOVERNOR

In April, the Delaware House, Senate, and Governor Markell honored Kendall Messick, creator of *The Projectionist*, for outstanding achievement in the arts.

This special acknowledgement coincided with *The Projectionist* exhibition at the Biggs Museum, which was on display from March 1 – June 23. This nationally and internationally acclaimed exhibition drew in thousands of visitors, both new and returning, to the Museum. The Biggs Museum staff and Trustees would like to congratulate Kendall Messick on this honor.



Governor Jack Markell honoring Kendall Messick

THE LEGACY OF CURRIER AND IVES: SHAPING THE AMERICAN SPIRIT

The colorful and nostalgic works of Currier and Ives are easily recognizable and some of the iconic pieces evoke notions of a less complicated past. The Biggs Museum's exhibition *The Legacy of Currier and Ives: Shaping the American Spirit*, on view from July 4-October 27, will display the wide variety of prints produced by Nathaniel Currier and James Merritt Ives. The subjects captured in the work of this competitive and influential printmaking firm depict a bustling American culture.

These savvy businessmen established their reputation as pictorial journalists, illustrating the breaking news of the day. Over time, they branched out to create decorative images of all aspects of American life including festivals, domestic life, religion, labor, urbanism, education, race relations and politics. In business for over seven decades, Currier and Ives documented the American people during some of this country's most tumultuous periods including the Civil War and the Industrial Revolution. Their production of thousands of hand-colored lithographs chronicled the American spirit of the 1800s, securing their reputation as "Printmakers to the People".

The Legacy of Currier and Ives features 64 prints from the collection of the Michele and Donald D'Amour Museum of Fine Arts in the Springfield Museum in Massachusetts. The show will open to the public, free of charge, during downtown Dover's 4th of July celebrations. Please look below for details regarding the wide variety of public programs associated with this important exhibition. Program topics include: the history of political cartoons, printmaking workshops, notes on collecting Currier and Ives prints and even a special member's only lecture with *Legacy* curator Julia Courtney. This exhibition has been made possible by the National Endowment for the Arts, Delaware Division of the Arts, and the Delaware Humanities Forum.



Awful Conflagration of the Steam Boat Lexington in Long Island Sound, 1840, Nathaniel Currier, hand-colored lithograph, Michele and Donald D'Amour Museum of Fine Arts

Currier & Ives Lecture Series

Event: History, Evolution and Impact of Political Cartoons

Saturday, July 13, 4:00 to 5:00pm

Free

Political cartoonist Rob Tornoe's lecture will focus on the history, evolution, and impact of political cartoons in America as well as discuss the main elements of political cartoons that help viewers understand the meaning behind them, including inspiration, symbols and allusions.

Members Lecture: More than Nostalgia: The Surprise of Currier & Ives

Sunday, July 21, 1:30 to 3:30pm

Free for members, \$30 for not-yet-members

Julia Courtney, Curator of Art for the Springfield Museum of Fine Arts in Springfield, MA, which is home to the country's only permanent museum gallery devoted to the works of Currier & Ives, will discuss the exhibit *The Legacy of Currier & Ives* and surprising revelations that reach beyond bucolic images that were produced during the 73 years the firm was in operation.

Lecture: The History of Collecting Currier & Ives-The Best 50

Saturday, September 14, 4:00 to 5:00pm

Free

Dr. Donald Cresswell, co-owner of The Philadelphia Print Shop, Ltd., will address the appreciation, connoisseurship, and collecting of antique prints.

Lecture: The Message is the Medium: The Changing Landscape of Public Storytelling

Saturday, August 3, 1:00 to 2:00pm

Free

Dave Burriss, president of Burriss Digital will address social media, political blogging and the ever-changing landscape of the media.



Central Park. The Drive., 1862, Nathaniel Currier & James Merritt Ives, hand-colored lithograph, Michele and Donald D'Amour Museum of Fine Arts



DELAWARE **Humanities** FORUM
Connecting people, cultures and ideas.



special events & education



The Biggs Museum offers three, family-friendly monthly programs in addition to presenting a collection of fine and decorative art to the public year-round and free of charge.

First Friday

On the first Friday of every month, the Biggs Museum, along with several other members of the Dover arts community, serves as one of the venues for downtown Dover's *First Friday* program. First Friday brings the public downtown on the First Friday of every month to enjoy local art venues and activities. The Biggs Museum provides a free, family-friendly programs. First Friday programs include lectures, curator-led tours, interactive activities, first look parties, and live performances.

Biggs Kids and Mini-Masters

Biggs Kids and Mini-Masters are free drop-in programs open to the public and are held at the Biggs Museum in the *Child HELP Studio*. *Biggs Kids* is held the first Saturday of every month for children ages 5-10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. *Mini-Masters* is held the Wednesday after the first Friday of every month for children ages 3-5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Biggs Museum provides innovative and unique art activities that inspire creativity, strengthen the desire to learn, and increase self-esteem. *Biggs Kids* and *Mini-Masters* offer children another approach to experience education in a safe, positive and creative atmosphere. Pre-registration is no longer required. Please note the time change for these programs. We hope to provide high quality educational programming to a larger number of children with expanded hours of operation.

BMAA T I M E L I N E

JULY

4 EXHIBITION OPENING: "The Legacy of Currier & Ives: Shaping the American Spirit"

9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

This program is free to the public.



6 BIGGS KIDS — 10 MINI MASTERS

10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

13 LECTURE: History, Evolution and Impact of Political Cartoons

4:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m.

Rob Tornoe's political cartoons appear in *the Dover Post, the News Journal, the New York Times, the Washington Post, and on WHYY, MSNBC, ESPN and NBC's "Meet the Press."*

While many of the images produced by Currier & Ives reflect the social trends and attitudes American culture during the nineteenth century, political cartoons found in the same newspapers would make a much bolder statement. These often funny graphic illustrations would convey opinions and commentary on current events and politics. A cartoonist would use caricatures to convey parody and exaggeration. This program is free to the public.



21 LECTURE: More Than Nostalgia: The Surprise of Currier & Ives

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Known as "Print makers to the People" Currier & Ives brought affordable art into ordinary American homes in the 19th century and established a foundation for the nation's contemporary mass media. Although today's audiences associate Currier & Ives prints with scenes that include sleigh rides to grandmother's house, portraits of historical figures, and the heroic acts of firemen, not all of the prints produced by the firm were flattering portrayals of country scenes or American heroes. A number of Currier & Ives prints illustrate how American attitudes about race, class and gender evolved over the nineteenth century. Viewed within a larger framework, these lesser-known prints are a window into the past which teach valuable lessons about how Americans have redefined themselves in response to ongoing social change. This program is free for members.

AUGUST

3 LECTURE:

The Message is the Medium: The Changing Landscape of Public Storytelling

1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

A lecture with Dave Burris, President of Burris Digital, a digital media firm, and co-founder and publisher of MilfordLIVE.com, an online news website serving Milford, DE, will address social media, political blogging and the ever-changing landscape of the media. Currier & Ives belonged to the era of traditional mass media when newspaper production was based on a group of small, centrally located reporters, editors and illustrators. The paper was sent from one source and received by a large audience elsewhere. The digital age of mass media which was introduced and perpetuated by the internet increased the convenience of distribution by providing audiences with the ability to access news at their leisure with computers and smartphones. It also created the opportunity for audiences to share ideas and opinions by creating websites, uploading videos, posting photographs and through blogs, Facebook and Twitter. This program is free to the public.

O F E V E N T S SUMMER 2013

10 Healthy in the HeART of Delaware

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Healthy in the HeART of Delaware is a collaborative event with Kent Kids (a division of Nemours Health and Prevention services), that promotes healthy lifestyles and art education. Activities will include drawing a healthy choice and constructing a duct tape frame for the artwork, tours of the Biggs Museum, playing hopscotch or 4 square, jumping rope to music, listening to a story and moving with the words, a performance by break dancers and singers from Lake Forest school district, as well as yoga, Zumba, ballet, and karate. This free program is open to children of all ages.

24 WORKSHOP: Creation of Subtractive Monotype with Gabriel Jules

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

During a workshop with artist Gabriel Jules, participants will have the opportunity to learn about the process of monoprinting while creating a subtractive monotype. While Currier & Ives successfully utilized the process of lithography to produce thousands of prints over the course of seven decades, many printmakers found other methods more appealing. Monoprinting, also known as the most painterly method among the printmaking techniques, is essentially a printed painting. The appeal of the monoprint is in its spontaneity and its combination of printmaking, painting and drawing mediums. They can be extremely simple or complex, representational or abstract. Program fee: \$15.



SEPTEMBER

14 LECTURE: The History of Collecting Currier & Ives-The Best 50

4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

In 1932, a panel of 12 Currier & Ives experts and collectors selected a group of what they considered to be the “Best 50” Currier & Ives prints. For fifty days, these prints were illustrated and described in the New York Sun creating an instant market for the selected prints. In 1988, “A New Best 50” was selected by members of the American Historical Print Collectors Society. *Currier & Ives: The New Best 50* was published in 1990 with all of the new “best” prints



illustrated in color and with an analysis of the differences between the original and new lists. Dr. Donald Cresswell, co-owner of The Philadelphia Print Shop, Ltd., will address the appreciation, connoisseurship, and collecting of antique prints. Dr. Cresswell purchases, sells and appraises antique prints, and has lectured around the country on many related topics, including Currier & Ives, and has appeared as an expert print appraiser on “Antiques Road-Show.” Dr. Cresswell will discuss the process involved in evaluating works of art based on the style and technique in order to attribute authorship, validate authenticity and appraise quality. He will also explore the differences between the original and new lists. An exhibition of Currier and Ives prints from The Philadelphia Print Shop, Ltd. will be on view prior to the lecture starting at 1:00 p.m. This program is free to the public.

ArtVentures Summer Camps

DRAWING AND CARTOONING

Date: July 8-12

Time: 9 a.m. – 12 noon

Price: \$125 Family Members/\$150 Not-Yet Members

Children Ages 5-10

Description: Try your hand at expressing yourself with pen and ink drawings, comic books, cartooning and illustration. Participants will have fun exploring mediums such as pencil, chalk pastel, charcoal, ink and more! Things may get messy so be sure to wear old clothing.

PUPPET PIZZAZZ

Date: July 15-19

Time: 9 a.m. – 12 noon

Price: \$125 Family Members/\$150 Not-Yet Members

Children Ages 5-10

Description: Discover the exciting world of puppetry! Participants will explore different puppetry styles including finger puppets, hand puppets, rod puppets and shadow puppets. Throughout the week we'll create puppets, decorate a stage and learn to bring imaginary characters to life. The week culminates with a theatrical puppet show created specifically for friends and family. Things may get messy so be sure to wear old clothing.

COLOR EXPLOSION

Date: July 22-26

Time: 9 a.m. – 12 noon

Price: \$125 Family Members/\$150 Not-Yet Members

Children Ages 5-10

Let's get messy with paint! Participants will apply paint, pigment and color to paper and canvas using everything you can think of. We'll explore new painting techniques such as splattering, dripping and sponging while learning about mark, line, shape, space, value, and composition. Things are sure to get messy so be sure to wear old clothing.

These camps fill up fast! To register, visit biggsmuseum.org or call (302) 674-2111 ext. 101.





Gala: An Affair with the Arts



Costume Designer Gina Scarnati



Golf Tournament



Gala: An Affair with the Arts



Gala: An Affair with the Arts



Golf Tournament



Golf Tournament



Gala: An Affair with the Arts



Hair Affair

Special Thanks: Draper Holdings Charitable Foundation. The Biggs Museum would like to extend a special thanks to Tom Draper and the Draper Holdings Charitable Foundation for their generous donation of \$10,000! This donation was presented to the Biggs Museum during the 2013 Gala: *An Affair with the Arts*.



Hair Affair



Hair Affair



Birthday Party at the Biggs



Want to see more photos from Biggs Museum programs and special events? 'Like' us on Facebook. Search 'Biggs Museum of American Art.'

LUCKY NUMBER 13?

The annual Award Winners exhibition, now in its thirteenth year, is a group show of the Individual Artist Fellows of the Delaware Division of the Arts (DDOA). DDOA's annual Fellowship prizes are awarded to artists in all disciplines including visual, literary, and performing art. The winners, (listed below) selected by the Delaware State Arts Council are selected from over a hundred entries. Each year, in a partnership with the DDOA, the staff at the Biggs Museum invites the Award Winners to participate in a group exhibition honoring their combined accomplishment.

The artists will furnish materials to be displayed within the museum's permanent collection galleries on the second floor from August 2 through October 13, 2013. Contemporary visual arts, literary samples, musical recordings and video installations will be placed throughout the Biggs's historic collections to emphasize aesthetic contrasts and conceptual similarities. The opening of this exhibition will take place during the First Friday on August 2, from 5-7 p.m. Additionally, a Governor's Fellowship Award Ceremony is scheduled for September 14 from 11 a.m. – 1p.m. This exhibition is made possible by the generous support of the Delaware Division of the Arts.

The 2013 Award Winners are:

Linda Blaskey, Lincoln
Established Fellow in Poetry
Alex Buckner, Wilmington
Emerging Fellow in Dance Choreography
Teresa Clifton, Milford
Emerging Fellow in Fiction
Anne Colwell, Milton
Established Fellow in Fiction
Scott Davison, Wilmington
Established Fellow in Jazz Performance
Knicoma Frederick, Wilmington
Emerging Fellow in Folk Art

Jerry Gordon, Wilmington
Emerging Fellow in Painting
Anne Jenkins, Milford
Established Fellow in Folk Art
André Jones, Wilmington
Emerging Fellow in Playwriting
Ramona Long, Newark
Established Fellow in Creative Nonfiction
George Lorio, Dover
Established Fellow in Sculpture
Michele McCann, Newark
Emerging Fellow in Folk Music

James Augustine Mercante,
Wilmington
Established Fellow in Solo Recital
Aina Nergarrd-Nammack, Lewes
Established Fellow in Painting
Karin Snoots, Harbeson
Established Fellow in Painting
Marjorie Weber, Lewes
Emerging Fellow in Creative Nonfiction
William Wolff, Bear
Emerging Fellow in Photography



images by Karin Snoots (top) and Aina Nergarrd-Nammack (bottom)

Delaware By Hand: Thumbs Up

The Biggs Museum's new resident-based artist membership, Delaware By Hand (DBH), is heading into a second year of success! The museum recently hosted nearly a third of the 150 artist membership in its annual fine arts-and-crafts sale in Lewes over Memorial Day weekend on Saturday, May 25. Approximately 2000 visitors came to the show!

Upcoming DBH Retail Opportunities – Artist Membership Benefits

Did You Know?

The Delaware By Hand retail store at the Biggs features a rotating inventory of locally produced art - everything from ceramics to photography and from furniture to prints. 25% of all DBH retail sales within the gift shop support educational programs at the Biggs Museum. On November 2, 2013, over 40 Delaware By Hand members will be featured in the annual Holiday Market at the Biggs Museum. Don't miss the new DBH Member Spotlights which are month-long exhibitions featuring artists working in our own backyards. DBH Member Spotlights will open on the first Friday of June, October and February. Stay tuned for the newly produced DBH studio tour brochure and map with contacts for most of its members later this year.

ARTIST CORNER



Biggs Museum of American Art

CONTACT & INFORMATION

THE BIGGS MUSEUM
406 Federal Street
Dover, DE 19901
Tel: (302) 674-2111
Fax: (302) 674-5133
admin@biggsmuseum.org
www.biggsmuseum.org

FREE General Admission for All Ages
Open Tuesday – Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Museum closed Mondays
Museum open on select Holidays

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #87
Dover, DE

BIGGS MUSEUM STAFF

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Director

Ryan Grover

Curator

Rebecca Cooper

Education & Programs Manager

Stephanie Fitzpatrick

Development & Marketing Manager

Ellen Arthur

Museum Manager

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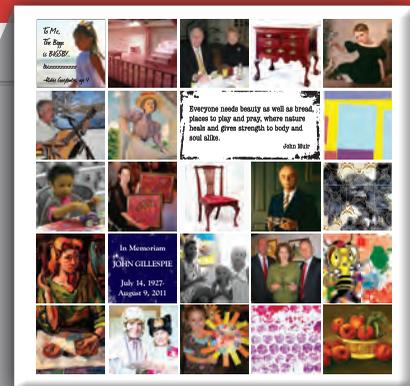
L.D. Shank

Timothy A. Slavin

Georgeanna L. Windley

George C. Wright, Jr.

Hanging at the Biggs



Your photography or art can become a permanent part of the Biggs Museum! Purchase a 4"x4" square for \$50, and it will be added to the plexiglass banners hanging in the Biggs Museum artium. It's a easy, fun way to support your museum!

YOUR art.
YOUR Museum.

BUY ONE NOW!

BIGGS MUSEUM PROGRAM REGISTRATION:

All events and programs are held at the Biggs Museum, unless otherwise noted. Pre-registration and pre-payment (where applicable) are required for all programs and events. Pre-registration can be completed by phone at (302)674-2111, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or online at www.biggsmuseum.org.

For more information on the Biggs Museum Program Cancellation and Refund Policy, please visit www.biggsmuseum.org.