

NEWS -

New Staff:



Pictured: Amanda Feusner (left) and Regina Lynch (right)

MEET AMANDA⁻ AND REGGIE

Amanda Feusner: Assistant to the Director/Office Manager

Amanda Feusner, the Biggs Museum's new Assistant to the Director and Office Manager, joins the Biggs staff after a short time as an Assistant Manager at White House Black Market, where she held several responsibilities involving finance, sales, and staff management. Before her time in sales, she served as an Administrative Support Specialist at the Defense Department, during which she systematized the payroll structure, managed the Division Director's calendar, and dealt directly with Senior Department of Defense officials. She is also a deeply committed mother to her four-year-old daughter. She is thrilled to be on board to keep our operations running efficiently!

Regina Lynch: Curator of Education Fellow

Regina Lynch is returning to her Delaware roots as a member of the team at the Biggs. She comes to the museum most recently from the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens in California where she worked with high school volunteers and family programs. Prior to her work on the West Coast she worked at Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library coordinating their adult programming as part of their Public Programs Department. Regina earned her B.A. in Art History and Theatre from Marymount Manhattan College and her M.A. in Art History from Temple University. She's excited to get to work expanding our educational programming both at the museum and online!

Letter from the Director

Dear Friends,

It has been an exciting—amazing — time at the museum since the opening of *Illuminating the Word: The Saint John's Bible* on December 4th. The exhibition, which was extended by popular demand through April 24th, saw unprecedented attendance at the Biggs. Thousands of visitors, adults and children from every walk of life were inspired by its beauty and amazed by the sheer scale of the project; A project with over 1,000 pages of illuminated manuscript, 70 of which were on display in our galleries. There was remarkable appreciation of *The Saint John's Bible* as an extraordinary example of the book arts, undoubtedly the most important project of its kind in over 500 years. Similarly, people familiar with the Bible's message were captivated by the illuminations depicting, in very modern terms, the imagery this timeless book. We are pleased that so many of you had the opportunity to visit the exhibition. We were delighted to be able to provide copies of *The Saint John's Bible* books and cards relating to the exhibition in our shop, and will continue to carry *The Saint John's Bible* merchandise at the museum in the weeks to come. If you missed the show, I encourage you to visit our web site and to enjoy the documentary film on *The Saint John's Bible*, available there for a short time.

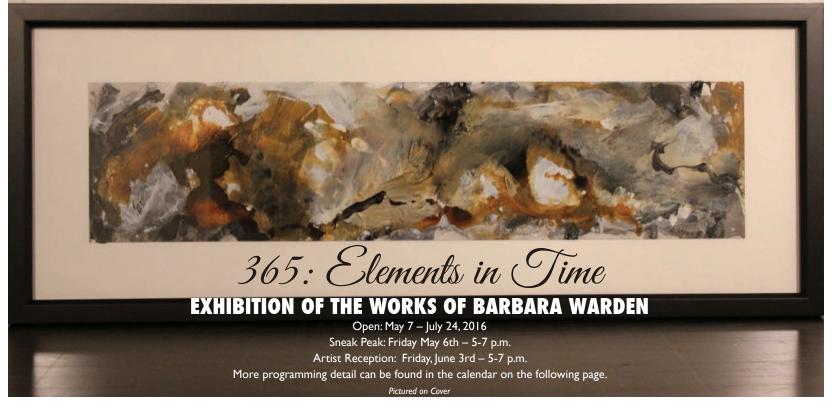
Another recent achievement of note is the acquisition and reunion of the two Charles W. Peale portraits showcases in depth on page seven of this newsletter. It points out a fundamental responsibility that museums have, not only to exhibit, but also to preserve objects of importance. The opportunity to unite a pair of portraits by a renowned painter separated for 23 years was an opportunity that might never come again. Together they were the work of art, but separated, the art was incomplete. Thanks to the vision of our Collection Committee and the Biggs Board, and with the help of our friends at the Choptank Foundation, we were able to address our fundamental role as a museum, to preserve for future generations, a unique and fragile piece of our cultural and creative American heritage.

I also just want to thank all of you who have so generously contributed to the museum through annual fund, grants, or special events over the past year. We have also attracted many new members this year and welcomed membership renewals. To all of you we are most grateful. The Biggs Museum is your museum, and it exists solely through the generosity of the Delaware community. Thank you and visit often.

Sincerely,

Charles Allan Guerin Executive Director

Qual A Juni



Some of the earliest artists' depictions of the passage of time are allegorical figures of a wizened man with a long silvery beard, often winged, holding an hourglass. This imagery most likely originates with Classical depictions of Chronos, the Greek titan known as the Lord of Time. Artists have used this archetype to influence public perceptions of wisdom, knowledge and appreciated death while reinforcing the notion that the subject of time should be left in the hands of people old enough to have appreciated its powerful effects first-hand. Barbara Warden has embraced this responsibility with her latest and perhaps most ambitious artistic project to date in the Biggs Museum's exhibition 365: Elements in Time.

Having enjoyed success as a contemporary fiber artist, lobbyist, freelance photographer, and arts instructor, Barbara Warden returned to her art school interest in what she describes as the "immediacy of drawing" and devoted the full calendar year of 2015 to create visual representations of the concept of time. Each day, she sat in front of a blank sheet of paper and began her exercise with a single gesture of her hand across the page. From that unique daily gesture, a technique associated with expressionist art forms of the 20th century, entire configurations of abstract forms were layered and scraped away using many tools such as graphite, color pencil, charcoal, paint, crayon, oil pastel and machine stitches. Each drawing session could last between 3 to 8 hours. She challenged herself to draw at least one composition each day. This ritual of disciplined daily practice resulted in a large body of more than 350 individual

Warden has been working with themes of time for several years. Invited into a group exhibition at the Biggs Museum in 2012, she used the photographic notion of capturing a quick "moment in time" to dictate the pace and complexity of her abstract drawings. Barbara broke the picture plane of her work into grids to dedicate prescribed periods of time to each section. Each moment was memorialized in a sparing number of strokes across her compositions.

In 2015, these reflections on time shifted to her observations of impermanence. As she worked through the year, she realized that her drawings were largely examinations of natural elements such as bone, ice, stone and wind that demonstrated the visual effect of time. Ice melts, bone decays, stone erodes and wind dissipates. Although highly abstracted to emphasize line, depth, texture and especially the rhythmic repetition of individual forms, much of Barbara's drawings reflect landscape, still life and figurative studies. Barbara's

explorations of elements through time were not linear, as she often returned to her artistic subjects each time discovering new effects she wished to record. Through her examinations of the corporeal, the artist discovered new conceptual themes that tied importantly to her notion of time including chance, fragments and memory-while each drawing is a complete work, some works pieces are more complex recreation of the artists individual elements and are often larger and framed.

While few of Barbara's works are individually titled with anything more complex than an inventory number, the artist has discovered literary quotations that offer a relevant context for her artistic themes and groupings. These phrases often display a very human subtext of mortality and

interconnectedness. In this light, Barbara's works, just like her artistic themes, become deeply personal metaphors for the effect of time upon the body, soul and its environment.

The exhibition, 365: Elements in Time, will be on view in the Founders Gallery of the Biggs museum of American Art from First Friday May 6 through July 25, 2016. A reception to meet the artist, Barbara Warden, will be held in conjunction with an opening reception for the Biggs Shot juried photography competition on First Friday, June 3, from 6-8pm. On June 11, Barbara Warden will also lead a workshop to encourage participants to experiment with many different materials (reservations are required). For more information, see the museum's website at www.biggsmuseum.org or call 302.674.2111.





special events&education



May:

Biggs Kids (Ages 5-10) – May 7th **Mini Masters** (Ages 3-5) - May 11th All day

Price: Free with adult admission

To complement the feature exhibit of drawings by Barbara Warden, and to coincide with Delaware's Dover Day celebration, we're inviting our Biggs Kids to be inspired by Delaware landscapes and portraits of Delawareans from our collection and draw their favorite place or person in Delaware.

June:

Biggs Kids (Ages 5-10): June 4th Mini Masters (Ages 3-5): June 8th All day

Price: Free with adult admission

Harness the power of the sun! Come to the Biggs and make sun "photographs" with light sensitive paper and native Delaware plants

July:

Biggs Kids (Ages 5-10): July 2nd and 4th

NO MINI MASTERS

All day

Price: Free with adult admission Celebrate America's past! Be inspired by our historic, hand-carved eagle, and make your own eagle using a tracing of your hands!









M&TBank

Delaware by Hand

Members' Day Outdoor Show Saturday, May 28th

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

Zwaanendael Park, Lewes

Price: Free

Kick off your summer with the Delaware by Hand Members' Day Outdoor Show at Zwaanendael Park in Lewes, DE. Nearly 50 Delaware By Hand artists will display furniture, wood, metal, glass, ceramics, photography, fiber, sculpture, baskets, prints, jewelry and paintings for sale.



Art Ventures

Summer Camps!

Register soon!

Camps sell out fast! Call (302) 674-2111 ext. 110 or visit www.biggsmuseum.org to register

special events&education

Artist Reception: 365: Elements in Time & Biggs Shot

Friday, June 3rd

5-7 p.m.

Meet the artists and enjoy refreshments.



A Drawing Workshop with Barbara Warden

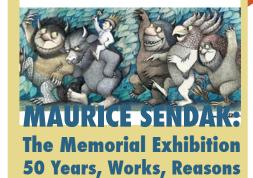
Saturday, June 11th

Price: \$30/\$25 for members (includes supplies)

Join featured artist Barbara Warden for a walkthrough of her exhibit, 365 Elements in TIme, which features daily drawings done over the course of a year in various kinds of media, including paint, ink, graphite, pastel, and Sharpie markers. This workshop will focus on Warden's expansion of the definition of drawing to include these varied materials and participants will get the chance to try their hand at some of her drawing techniques. Pre-registration is required.

DROP-IN ANYTIME!

Make your mark at the Biggs! To coincide with Barbara Warden's exhibit of drawings in multiple media, we invite visitors of all ages to experiment with paint, graphite, ink, and pastels and take or contribute a drawing inspired by the show.



July 30 - September 11, 2016

The Biggs Museum is proud to partner with the Dover Public Library to feature the work and biography of one of America's most beloved children's authors and illustrators, Maurice Sendak. Know principally for his publication and now a major motion picture, Where the Wild Things Are, this exhibition spans the career and work of this visionary artist. The exhibition will be accompanied by a variety of both scholarly



and family friendly programming hands- on activities. Stay tuned, more information will be in the summer Museletter and posted online at

www.BiggsMuseum.org.

SUMMER ARTVENTURE **CAMPS**

Registration Now Open! Price: \$150 per camper, per week (\$125 for members)

Young artists ages 6 to 9 can spend a week in July at art camps designed to inspire creativity. Each camp will be led by museum staff in the Child HELP Foundation Gallery Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. Children will explore the museum during these camps and discover many different types and styles of art such as painting, sculpture and drawing. Please make sure children wear old clothing and bring a snack each day. Pre-registration is required. Be sure to register early, these camps fill up fast!

COLOR EXPLOSION!

Monday, July 11 – Friday, July 15, 2016 9 a.m. – noon

Let them spend a week at the museum exploring color. Campers will get a chance to try out some very colorful art projects of their own!

BIGGS(S) EARTH

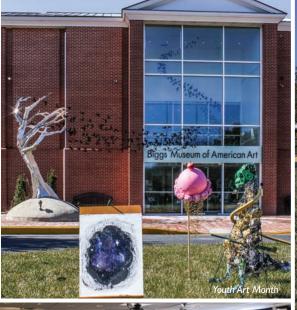
Monday, July 18 – Friday, July 22, 2016 9 a.m. – noon

If your camper is a future ecologist, botanist, or zoologist, then this session is for them. Send them to the Biggs to learn about the plants and animals depicted in our collection and the different ways people use natural resources to create art and furniture. Each day campers will create a different eco-centric craft!

ME, MYSELF, AND I

Monday, July 25 – Friday, July 29, 2016 9 a.m. – noon

Let your camper have some "me time" with a week at the Biggs. This week campers will learn about the people and places that were important to the artists in our collection by looking closely at their artwork. Then, they'll get a chance to write their own biography, create self-portraits, and portray the people and places that are important to them.























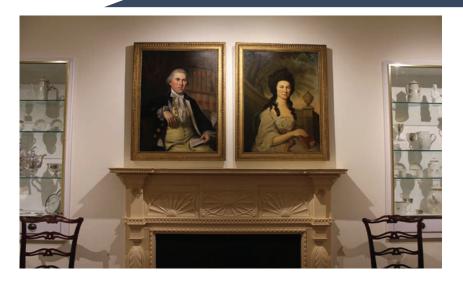






Want to see more photos from Biggs Museum programs and special events? 'Like' us on Facebook.
Search 'Biggs Museum of American Art.'

Collection Connection & Events

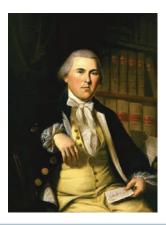


hakespeare once said, "The course of true love never did run smooth," and such is the case with a pair of lovers who have just been reunited in the Biggs Museum's permanent collection. The newest acquisition of a portrait by renowned artist Charles Wilson Peale depicts Mrs. Jane Hunter Ewing and is a companion piece to our Peale portrait of Jane's husband, Maskell Ewing. The dual portraits were commissioned and created in 1787 and 88 and for centuries they were passed down through generations of the Ewing family. In 1992, however, the portraits were separated at auction. The Biggs is now thrilled to be able to reunite this pair after over two decades of separation.

During their lifetimes, the Ewings lived in homes in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, where they raised five children. Their final home, in Villanova, Pennsylvania, stood on what is now the campus of Villanova University. Maskell Ewing made his living as a lawyer, a fact which is referenced in his portrait through the presence of - among other objects - a book of New Jersey Laws and a letter addressed to Ewing from fellow lawyer W.C. Houston. To the right side of the painting, there also sits a group of papers referencing the year 1787, which was the year of the second sitting of the New Jersey Assembly, for which Ewing served as a clerk. This date also references the date of the painting, and the year in which Maskell and Jane were married.

Certain aspects of Jane's portrait may also reference this time in the young couple's marriage. The inclusion of delicate, white flowers on her bodice may reference her virtuous nature and position as a young wife, and Peale's portrayal of Jane holding her place in a book is most likely a reference to her education and upbringing. Additionally, Jane's elaborate dress and hair are both appropriate to the mainstream fashions of the 1780s and probably signify her place in high society.

The addition of Jane's portrait to the Biggs permanent collection offers a fascinating look at the many lives and roles paintings can have throughout their existence. At the time of their creation, the works represented the social position and marriage of their sitters, as well as the artistic achievement of Charles Wilson Peale. For generations after Maskell and Jane's deaths, they signified the Ewing family's heritage and importance in the Delaware Valley. And now, having been returned to one another, the pair of paintings represent the power and responsibility American Art institutions like the Biggs have to tell and preserve the stories of our nation's past.





See the video about this piece at www.BiggsMuseum.org.



Call for Photographers: BIGGS SH

Deadline Extended to May 6, 2016

The Biggs Museum of American Art has extended the deadline for application to the Biggs Shot 2016 Regional Photography Competition due to a change in its exhibition schedule. This juried competition will feature the work of professional and emerging photographers, working and/or living in the Mid-Atlantic region (open to artists from Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Washington DC, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey).

This year's juror is the Biggs Museum's newly appointed Executive Director, Chares A. Guerin. Biggs Shot will be his official introduction to the exceptional talent of Mid-Atlantic photographers and Charles brings his own photo credibility to the competition. In addition to arranging and curating numerous exhibitions of world-class modern and contemporary photographers, including Ansel Adams and Edward Weston, Charles Guerin was the Acting Director of the Center for Creative Photography in Tucson, AZ in 2002. He also arranged the gift of the George Stephanopoulos Family Collection of photography to his previous employer, The Hyde Collection in Glenn Falls, New York.

Winning images, selected from digital submissions, will be featured in a 2016 museum exhibition and the best in show will win a \$1,500 purchase prize.

> For more details or to apply visit, www.BiggsMuseum.org

Biggs Shot Updated Competition Timeline

Application deadline: May 6, 2016 • Notification by: May 13, 2016 Winning artists responsible for delivering their works: May 28, 2016 Exhibition Dates: June 3 - Sept. 25, 2016

ANNUAL REPORT/ROLL CALL

The Biggs Museum Board of Trustees and Staff extend their deepest appreciation to the following individuals from fiscal year July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015 for their support of the museum through membership. Membership supports the resources needed to produce and promote the highest caliber of informative, inspiring, and thought-provoking exhibitions and educational programming within the museum.

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Mrs. Gabriel Jules Zepecki

*deceased

Fiscal Year End Financial Report (July 1, 2014- June 30, 2015)

Thank You!

fiscal year 2014-2015

Special thanks to the following grant funders who directly supported exhibition or educational programs at the Biggs Museum between July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015.

Delaware Division of the Arts **Delaware Humanities Forum** Donald and Martha DeWees Foundation Edgar A. Thronson Foundation Kent County Fund for the Arts **PNC Bank Foundation** The Virginia and Tom Gossage Foundation Mid-Del Charitable Foundation Nancy Carol Willis Wilmington University **WSFS** Bank Martha and Willis Weldin



Pictured (left to right): Josh Twilley and Rosemary Twilley (Kent County Fund for the Arts), and Biggs Museum Executive Director Charles Guerin.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR END JUNE 30, 2015

	(with Summarized Totals for year end 2015)*					
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	totals 2015	totals 2014	
PUBLIC SUPPORT, GAINS & REVENUE:						
Contributions	352,812	_	_	352,812	347,036	
Capital project	_	10,493	_	10,493	126,248	
Exhibition	51,206		_	51,206	26,719	
Grants	169,758	104,200	_	273,958	91,260	
Schoonover Fund	_	6	_	6	3,582	
DE Sampler					35,641	
In-kind contribution	405,323	_	_	405,323	389,458	
Investment income (net investment of \$38,770 and \$32,686 in 2015 and 2014, respectively)	5,222	_	55,747	60,969	60,969	
Membership dues	23,620	_	_	23,620	24,505	
Program fees	15,531	_	_	15,531	13,576	
Products	6,748	_	_	6,748	4,802	
Museum facility rental	5,814	_	_	5,814	3,368	
Realized gain (loss)	_	_	305,534	305,534	462,662	
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(7,123)	_	(218,517)	(225,640)	(12,364)	
TOTAL	1,029,531	114,699	136,426	1,280,656	1,577,462	
Special events	117,887	_	_	117,887	89,936	
Less: Direct expenses	(51,012)	_	_	(51,012)	(57,248)	
TOTAL	66,875	_	_	66,875	32,688	
Net assets released from restriction: Satisfaction of program restrictions	350,803	(289,010)	(61,793)	_	_	
TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT, GAINS AND REVENUE EXPENSES:	1,447,209	(174,311)	74,633	1,347,531	1,610,150	
Program services	1,173,261	_	_	1,173,261	1,028,499	
Support services:						
Management and general	138,614	_	_	138,614	116,599	
Fund raising	34,474	_	_	34,474	28,927	
Total Support Services	173,088	_	_	173,088	145,526	
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,346,349	_	_	1,346,349	1,174,025	
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	100,860	(174,311)	74,633	1,347,531	1,610,150	
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	2,107,535	292,449	3,631,805	6,031,7894	5,595,664	
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$2,208,395	\$118,138	\$3,706,438	\$6,032,971	\$6,031,789	

*Full audit report available upon request.

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

(June 30, 2015 and 2014)*

ASSETS	2015	2014
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	614,975	\$943,000
Short-term Investments		
Accounts receivable	22,327	32,744
Pledges receivable	25,250	73,978
Prepaid expenses	3,207	3,644
Inventory	2,654	818
Total Current Assets	668,413	1,054,184
Noncurrent Assets:		
Noncurrent Pledges receivable	3,938,960	20,450
Noncurrent Investments	1,531,394	3,546,829
Equipment & Improvement		1,459,344
(Net of accumulated depreciation of \$202,329 and \$155,105))		
Total Noncurrent Assets	5,470,354	5,006,173
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 6,138,767	\$6,060,357
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	88,080	5,745
Accrued expenses	7,407	11,045
Deferred revenue	3,950	10,450
Payroll tax liabilities	6,359	1,330
Total Current Liabilities		28,568
Net Assets:		
Unrestricited	1,743,043	1,636,900
Unrestricited - board-reserve	465,352	470,635
Temporarily restricted - capital project	71,413	244,81
Temporarily restricted - DE Community Foundation endowment	11,718	11,973
Temporarily restricted - Schoonover Fund	12,910	12,904
Temporarily restricted - endowment	10,837	22,75
Permanently restricted - endowment	3,706,438	3,631,80
Total Net Assets	6,032,871	6,031,789
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$6,138,767	\$6,060,357

^{*}We have attempted to make this list accurate and complete; any omission or errors are regretted. Please notify the museum at (302) 674-2111 with any corrections.

THE NEW BIGGS

The New Biggs Capital Campaign was completed in 2015. Thanks to the support of hundreds in the community, the museum was able to exceed its goal and raise \$2 Million throughout the course of the campaign. This list gives special recognition to those individuals and organizations who generously donated to name galleries throughout the capital campaign. For a complete list of capital campaign donors visit the Biggs Museum and view the updated donor recognition in the museum!

Named Galleries:

The Elisabeth S. and Richard E. Poole Sculpture Atrium The Richard and Virginia Appleby American Glass Gallery Child HELP Foundation Studio Marcia and Henry DeWitt Federal Gallery

Frank E. Schoonover Gallery of American Illustration Loockerman Bradford Family American Baroque The Choptank Foundation Gallery

Donors to the Permanent Collection

January - December 2015

Mr. Edward R. Burka Ms. Diane L. Colgan Mr. Carson Zullinger Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Schoenhals Chazz and Susan Salkin The Estate of Richard E. Poole Col. Kenneth P. and Regina I. Brown Ms. Grace Hess The Richard B. Taylor & David A. Taylor Family



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

ADMISSION:

General Admission: \$10.00 Members: Free

Seniors(60+): \$8.00

Children 12 & under, and students: Free Active military & family with ID: Free First Sunday of every month: Free Companions or care persons of people with disabilities are free

Free Admission on select Downtown Dover Festival Days (ie: Dover Days, 4th of July). For questions, please call.



Exhibitions and programming are made possible, in part, by a grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency dedicated to nurturing and supporting the arts in Delaware, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts.

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HIGHMARK, 🍄 🛡



from 6-11 P.M.



HARVEST RIDGE

FOR TICKETS VISIT BIGGSMUSEUM.ORG OR CALL 302-674-2111

SATURDAY, MAY 14TH, 2016

















