

# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR AND THE PRESIDENT

2012 was one for the Art Center's record books. Many departments realized their best performances in recent memory. The tour program served more individuals in 2012 than ever before, and the Museum Shop and the Restaurant had their best years yet. Our outreach efforts were successful in adding new opportunities to impact the lives of young people throughout the metro. Only one year in the Art Center's entire history had higher total attendance; our new branding efforts are working. In addition, memberships in the Art Center as well as in Art Noir, the Art Center's young professional group, are at record numbers. Financially, the Art Center is on solid ground; 2012 was the eighth straight year with a positive budget variance. Strong development efforts and a philanthropic community make this possible.

Exhibitions presented artworks from the permanent collections in thematic presentations, works by lowa artists, and projects by artists of our time such as Miguel Angel Rios, Thomas Demand, Tony Feher, and Leslie Hewitt. The Art Center commissioned Hewitt to create a new filmic installation in conjunction with the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago and the Menil Collection, Houston. One of the highlights of the year was our presentation of Jackson Pollock's *Mural*, in collaboration with the University of Iowa Museum of Art.

Community collaborations continued in a rewarding way with the Des Moines Symphony, in which the Symphony commissioned the composer Steve Heitzeg to create a musical score in response to works of art in the Pappajohn Sculpture Park. This composition premiered at the opening concert of the Symphony's 75th anniversary season. Images of the sculptures were projected above the orchestra during the performance. Excerpts from the score will be available soon on the cell phone tour of the sculpture park.

The Art Center added 115 works of art to the permanent collections through gifts and purchases in 2012. Many were extraordinary examples of work by Modern and contemporary artists.

Highlights include pictures or objects by Jean-Michel Basquiat, Alexander Calder, Paul Cézanne, Adolph Gottlieb, Mark Grotjahn, Leslie Hewitt, Danny Lyon, Joan Mitchell, Jackson Pollock, Andy Warhol, and Ai Weiwei, among many others. We thank our many patrons for making this possible.

Please join us for more *entirely unexpected* adventures in 2013.

Jeff Fleming / DIRECTOR

Jim Hubbell / PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Yasuo Kuniyoshi, American, born Japan, 1889-1953 Amazing Juggler, 1952 Oil on canvas 64 3/4 × 39 5/8 inches Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections: Purchased with funds from the Edmundson Art Foundation, Inc., 1954.24





Still from Standing Here, 2010 Mixed media sculpture with video / 10 minutes 48 seconds Courtesy of the artist

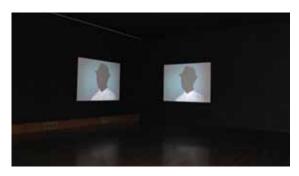
Kate Gilmore, American, born 1975



June 22-September 23, 2012 / Print Gallery Organized by the Des Moines Art Center

# **Single-channel 3: Time and Circumstance Part 2: Mark Newport**

August 3-October 28, 2012 Lower Meier video gallery Organized by the Des Moines Art Center



# **Untitled (Structures): Leslie Hewitt** and Bradford Young

September 21, 2012-January 27, 2013 Anna K. Meredith Gallery Organized by the Des Moines Art Center

# The Whole World Was Watching: Civil Rights-Era **Photographs from the Menil Collection**

September 21, 2012-January 6, 2013 Lower Meier galleries Organized by the Menil Collection, Houston

# **Iowa Artists 2012: Print**

October 5, 2012-January 13, 2013 Print Gallery and Blank One Gallery Organized by the Des Moines Art Center

# **Thomas Demand: Animations**

October 25-December 9, 2012 I. M. Pei galleries and Levitt Auditorium Organized by the Des Moines Art Center



# HORNET'S NEST: ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONISTS ON PAPER

Jackson Pollock American, 1912-1956 Untitled, c. 1944-1945, printed 1967 Engraving and drypoint on white Italia paper 15 1/2 x 22 3/4 inches Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections: Purchased with funds from Jeanne and Richard Levitt, 2012.9

> MIGUEL ANGEL RIOS: WALKABOUT Visitors examine the work of artist Miguel Angel Rios.

# **Miguel Angel Rios: Walkabout**

February 2-April 22, 2012 Anna K. Meredith Gallery and Lower Meier video galleries Organized by the Des Moines Art Center

## **Delicacies**

February 10-June 17, 2012 / Print Gallery Organized by the Des Moines Art Center

# **Sideshow: Artists and the Circus**

February 10-April 22, 2012 / Blank One Gallery Organized by the Des Moines Art Center

## **Jackson Pollock: MURAL**

April 5-July 15, 2012 / Blank Two Gallery Organized by the Des Moines Art Center in conjunction with the University of Iowa Museum of Art

# **Single-channel 3: Time and Circumstance** Part 1: Kate Gilmore

April 27-July 29, 2012 / Lower Meier video gallery Organized by the Des Moines Art Center

# **Tony Feher**

May 11-September 2, 2012 Anna K. Meredith Gallery, Blank One Gallery, I. M. Pei building, Lower Meier galleries Organized by the Blaffer Gallery at the University of Houston



# 1115 NEW ACCESSIONS

The Art Center accessioned 115 works of art into the permanent collections in 2012. These works were acquired through bequests, gifts, and purchases. Through the bequest of David and Liz Kruidenier, the Art Center received major artworks by Jean-Michel Basquiat, Alexander Calder, Adolph Gottlieb, Joan Mitchell, and Andy Warhol, among many others. Other gifts included an array of photographs and prints from American and European Modernist and contemporary artists from Sally Strauss and Andrew Tomback, Keith Shaver, and the Art Center Print Club. Through the generosity of donors, the Art Center was able to purchase iconic prints by Paul Cézanne as well as Jackson Pollock. In addition, the Coffin Fine Arts Trust allowed the acquisition of major contemporary works by Leslie Hewitt and Mark Grotjahn. These additions to the collections are made possible through the generosity of many supporters.



Leslie Hewitt (American, born 1977)

# Untitled (Sudden Glare of the Sun) 2011

Digital C-print in custom birchwood frame / 49 3/4 x 63 1/2 inches Purchased with funds from the Coffin Fine Arts Trust; Nathan Emory Coffin Collection of the Des Moines Art Center, 2012.1.a-.b

1 Jean-Michel Basquiat (American, 1960–1988) Untitled 1984

Acrylic and oilstick on canvas /  $42 \times 40$  inches Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of David Kruidenier, Jr. Estate and Elizabeth S. Kruidenier 2002 Revocable Trust, 2012.2



2 Alexander Calder (American, 1898–1976)

Holey Red 1960

Painted sheet metal and steel wire / 62 x 43 inches Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of David Kruidenier, Jr. Estate and Elizabeth S. Kruidenier 2002 Revocable Trust, 2012.3

Adolph Gottlieb (American, 1903-1974)

#### Blue and Green on Blue-Black 1965

Oil on canvas / 60 × 48 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of David Kruidenier, Jr. Estate and Elizabeth S. Kruidenier 2002 Revocable Trust, 2012.4

Joan Mitchell (American, 1925-1992)

# Untitled 1968

Oil on canvas / 20 x 17 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of David Kruidenier, Jr. Estate and Elizabeth S. Kruidenier 2002 Revocable Trust, 2012.6

3 Joan Mitchell (American, 1925-1992)

# Between 1985

Oil on canvas / 51 x 35 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of David Kruidenier, Jr. Estate and Elizabeth S. Kruidenier 2002 Revocable Trust, 2012.7

Andy Warhol (American, 1928-1987)

# Jackie Diptych 1964

Synthetic polymer paint and silkscreen inks

on canvas / 20 x 32 1/4 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of David Kruidenier, Jr. Estate and Elizabeth S. Kruidenier 2002 Revocable Trust, 2012.8

Jackson Pollock (American, 1912-1956)

**Untitled** c. 1944–1945, printed 1967

Engraving and drypoint on white italia paper

15 1/2 x 22 3/4 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Purchased with funds from Jeanne and Richard Levitt. 2012.9

Miguel Angel Rios (Argentinian, born 1943)

# Medium cut out drawing 2011

Paper / 47 1/2 x 78 3/4 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of the artist, 2012.11



Jacques Villon (French, 1875-1963)

# Les Cartes (The Cards) 1903

Etching, drypoint, and color aquatint on paper 13 1/2 x 17 1/2 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of David Kruidenier, Jr. Estate and Elizabeth S. Kruidenier 2002 Revocable Trust, 2012.20

Miriam Schapiro (American, born 1923)

# Children of Paradise 1984

Color lithograph with collaged fabrics and papers 31 7/8 x 48 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Pamela Bass-Bookey and Harry Bookey, 2012.21

James Turrell (American, born 1943)

#### Between Blue 1996

Hologram, glass, steel, and light fixture / 70 x 17 x 17 inches Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Sharon and Kyle Krause, 2012.23.a-.c

Luc Tuymans (Belgian, born 1958)

### Giscard 2004

Lithograph / 10 3/4 x 16 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of the Des Moines Art Center Print Club in honor of Kim Finley, 2012.24

4 Mark Grotjahn (American, born 1968)

### Untitled (Full Color Butterfly 43.50) 2012

Color pencil on paper

85 3/4 x 47 3/4 inches

Purchased with funds from the Coffin Fine Arts Trust; Nathan Emory Coffin Collection of the Des Moines Art Center, 2012.25

David Hockney (British, born 1937)

#### Blue Hang Cliff 1993

23-color lithograph and screenprint / 22 7/8 x 29 7/8 inches Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of David Kruidenier, Jr. Estate and Elizabeth S. Kruidenier 2002 Revocable Trust, 2012.37

Roy Lichtenstein (American, 1923-1997)

# Modern Head Relief 1970

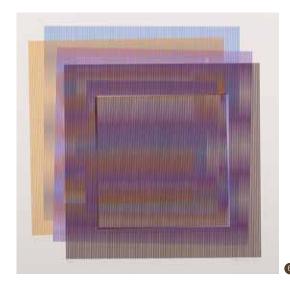
Brass / 24 x 18 x 1/2 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of David Kruidenier, Jr. Estate and Elizabeth S. Kruidenier 2002 Revocable Trust, 2012.49

Pablo Picasso (Spanish, 1881-1973)

# Woman Lamp 1955

Ceramic with clay slip incised / 14 x 9 x 6 inches
Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of
David Kruidenier, Jr. Estate and Elizabeth S. Kruidenier 2002
Revocable Trust, 2012.50





Ai Weiwei (Chinese, born 1957)

# Kui Hua Zi (Sunflower Seeds) 2009

Hand-painted porcelain / Dimensions vary
Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Purchased with
funds from the Edmundson Art Foundation, Inc., 2012.76

Paul Cézanne (French, 1839-1906)

Les baigneurs, petit planche (Bathers [small plate]) 1897 Lithograph in green, yellow, pink, blue, and black on chine volant Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Purchased with funds from Harry Bookey and Pamela Bass-Bookey, 2012.77

6 Carlos Cruz-Diez (Venezuelan, born 1923)

# Couleur additive, Serie de 2 (Additive Color, Series of 2)

1981 / Serigraph on paper 31 5/16 x 31 9/16 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Sicardi Gallery, 2012.78

Carlos Cruz-Diez (Venezuelan, born 1923)

# Couleur additive, Serie de 2 (Additive Color, Series of 2)

1981 / Serigraph on paper 23 3/8 x 31 7/16 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Gift of Sicardi Gallery, 2012.79

Danny Lyon (American, born 1942)

19 prints from "The Bikeriders" series, 1963–1966, printed 2008 Silver gelatin prints / Various dimensions

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Gifts of Andrew Tomback and Sally Strauss, 2012.86-.104

Danny Lyon (American, born 1942)

Big Barbara, Chicago 1965-1966, printed 2008

Silver gelatin print / various

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Gift of Andrew Tomback and Sally Strauss, 2012.98





# 22,255 TOUR PARTICIPANTS

**22,255** people were served by the tour program in 2012, the highest number in recent history. As part of the record-breaking total, nearly 5,800 people toured the John and Mary Pappajohn Sculpture Park, representing a 21% increase over 2011.

Included among the thousands of people participating in guided tours were more than 6,400 fourth grade students from Des Moines, Indianola, Saydel, Southeast Polk, Waukee, and West Des Moines Public School Districts. In 2012, the Art Center covered the cost of transportation for these districts through the generous support of Prairie Meadows; John Deere; American Enterprise Group, Inc.; Hy-Vee, Inc.; Casey's General Stores, Inc.; West Bancorporation; and Target.



Guided tours, led by 55 specially trained volunteer docents, engaged people of all ages in conversations about the permanent collections, special exhibitions, and architecture. The docents aim to engage visitors and empower them by teaching strategies to interpret works of art on their own. The Art Center's docents collectively donated more than 4,100 hours of service in 2012, including touring and training. The docent corps welcomed 17 new members and recognized four retirements from the program. The docents traveled to Minneapolis to experience four outstanding art museums: the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Weisman Art Museum, Museum of Russian Art, and Walker Art Center, where the docents absorbed the Cindy Sherman exhibition and accompanying lecture.

# LECTURES

Eleven varied lectures were presented at the Art Center in 2012 serving more than 1,200 people. Des Moines audiences heard artists Miguel Angel Rios, Tony Feher, and Leslie Hewitt speak about their work; the Pulitzer prize-nominated author and critic Michael Kimmelman delivered the twenty-third installment of the Fingerman Lecture, speaking about the role of criticism and the issues facing cities at a time when society and the global economy are rapidly changing; Professor Henry Adams gave the lecture, "The Jackson Pollock Code" in tandem with the Art Center's hosting of Pollock's painting Mural; composer Steve Heitzeg shed light on how a musician interprets visual artwork into melodies and chords on the occasion of a commissioned symphony inspired by the John and Mary Pappajohn Sculpture Park; and Dr. Gerald O'Grady reminded us of the important events and lasting contributions of the civil rights movement with a lecture in support of the exhibition The Whole World Was Watching: Civil Rights-Era Photographs from the Menil Collection.



Film still from Pollock, starring Ed Harris as Jackson Pollock

# **20** FILMS

# Twenty films were presented at the Art Center in 2012, with 2,125 people attending.

In usual fashion, the film festivals were the most popular events. Making its 12th appearance in Des Moines, the Black Maria Film Festival drew more than 300 people to the two-day screening. For the third year in a row, the Manhattan Short Film Festival drew a standing-room only crowd for both of the Art Center screenings. This festival presents 10 short films to audiences around the world for one week only. Audiences vote on their favorite films at the conclusion of each screening, votes are tabulated, and a grand prize winner is announced. Des Moines has a two-win and one-loss record for predicting the Festival's overall winner.

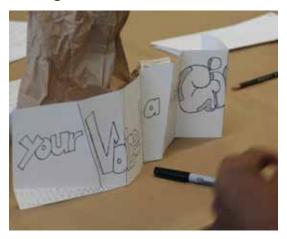
Each season of the year also focused on different cinematic themes. The winter film series made use of the circus theme led by the exhibition *Sideshow:*Artists and the Circus. During July, audiences watched films about art and artists, in which Pollock starring Ed Harris was screened as well as Portrait of Wally, a documentary about Egon Shiele's painting of the same name, and the long legal battle between an Austrian museum and a Jewish family from whom the Nazis seized the painting in 1939. In the crisp days of fall, guest film curator Dr. Gerald O'Grady organized a series of important civil rights era films that were at times challenging, yet inspiring to watch.

# GALLERY

# Twelve gallery talks through the year served nearly 450 visitors.

The largest crowds in 2012 flocked to hear Art Center Director Jeff Fleming and University of Iowa Museum of Art Director Sean O'Harrow talk about Jackson Pollock's painting *Mural*. The annual *Iowa Artist* exhibition gallery talks were also well attended events with the artists' families and friends joining the Art Center's familiar faces. Six of the 27 artists featured in the show were invited to speak about their work: Alison Filley, Mollie Goldstrom, Louise Kames, Shawn Reed, Grant William Thye, and Rick von Holdt. Lastly, the Art Center introduced a new program that combines a yoga practice followed by a gallery talk. Offered twice in 2012, the events proved a great way to introduce art to new audiences.

# High School Days



In conjunction with the Art Center's outstanding permanent collections and The Whole World Was Watching exhibition, nine area high schools, totaling 161 students, participated in two High School Days programs. The students who explored the permanent collections considered the question, "As technology becomes more engrained in our lives, will artists address landscape paintings as they have in the past?" These students created landscape paintings using easels and interference paint. The Whole World Was Watching exhibition addressed the complex issues of the civil rights era through documentary photography. The students participated in writing exercises that asked them to respond to the imagery in the photos. U.S. history teacher Canada Snyder stated her students "learned so much more about the civil rights era than I could ever teach them in a classroom setting. They could better understand the meaning of freedom so dear to many... It was so great to have this experience with my students and to see the learning take place firsthand."



# 4-H Students Experience TONY FEHER

Students attending the annual 4-H Youth Conference in Ames traveled to Des Moines in the summer of 2012 to take part in a tour and art project presented in conjunction with the *Tony Feher* exhibition. The students toured the exhibition and the permanent collections and then created projects using repurposed materials.

# Celebrating Earth Artists

International Baccalaureate junior and senior students from Central Academy learned about earth artists in October. The students viewed the documentary *Rivers and Tides: Andy Goldsworthy Working with Time* at the Art Center, and learned about other artists that work with the earth during a lecture by Museum Education and Docent Program Manager Jennifer Cooley. The students then ventured into Greenwood Park and created artworks using only natural materials found in the park and photographed their creations. The project culminated with a photography exhibition in the halls of Central Academy.



# Urbandale High School 3D Art Students Create Sculptures using the Pappajohn Sculpture Park as Inspiration

Emphasizing real world experience, Chris Kimble, 3D art teacher at Urbandale High School, created a final assignment for the 2011–2012 school year where each student created an artwork in response to a specific sculpture in the Pappajohn Sculpture Park. In constructing the final model, the students were encouraged to use the methods and materials introduced throughout the semester to build a scale model of the larger piece they envisioned. Like a real world call for entries, students built a small-scale model and wrote an artist statement that indicated why their sculpture would be a meaningful addition to the community. The students presented their work to classmates, teachers, and community judges, and winners were determined. Congratulations to Cole Jeanblanc with *Reaching Out*, inspired by Louise Bourgeois' *Spider*, and Kenzie Knight with *Dance of Life*, referencing Keith Haring's *Untitled (Three Dancing Figures, version C)*.



# CREATIVITY DAY: Stimulating Young Artists

Offered in conjunction with the Des Moines Symphony's 75th Anniversary and the Pappajohn Sculpture Park, first- through fourth-grade students from Perry Elementary School participated in *Creativity Day*, a multi-sensory program at the Art Center. The students created art projects that related to sculptures in the park, creatively moved their bodies to the commemorative symphony composed by Steve Heitzeg, and used various types of drums to generate beats inspired by sculptures in the park. The students' visits culminated in a sack-lunch picnic in the sculpture park.



# EARTH DAY at the Pappajohn Sculpture Park

Earth Day 2012 was celebrated at the Pappajohn Sculpture Park. The Art Center partnered with art students from Grandview University to provide drawing lessons for families using the sculptures as inspiration. Participants also learned about the earth through an interactive quiz and enjoyed refreshments.



# Popular Music Historian Michael Lasser Talks About the Early Days of Rock 'n Roll

Michael Lasser, music historian and host of National Public Radio's Fascinatin' Rhythm, visited Des Moines in 2012 in celebration of the Art Center's hosting of Jackson Pollock's painting Mural. Lasser posited that the paintings of the Abstract Expressionists, like those by Pollock and William de Kooning, were hot, strident, and in the viewer's face, and thus more similar in tone to the music of rock and roll verses jazz, with which the movement is more commonly associated. As Lasser said, it was "hot music and hot art." A first for Art Center audiences, Lasser's narrative was punctuated with live music (verses recordings) of early songs from rock and roll, performed by local band, Bob Tyler and the Reckless Hearts for a group of 175 toe-tapping fans. Lasser also visited two senior residency centers, Wesley Acres and Deerfield Creek, and gave similar lectures.



# **AUDIO TOURS**

The Art Center expanded its cell phone tour to include the permanent collections in 2012. More than 2,250 unique callers listened to recorded content about the Pappajohn Sculpture Park and the permanent collections.

# Family of Jackson Pollock Holds Family Reunion at the Art Center

Second cousins of noted artist Jackson Pollock held a family reunion at the Art Center on June 16, 2012. Nearly 40 descendents of Pollock's mother's side of the family visited the museum to see his painting *Mural*, hear a lecture by Director of Eduction Jill Featherstone about his life and the lasting significance of his work, and to watch the film that Hans Namuth made of Pollock capturing his innovative painting technique. The family rounded out their day with a picnic and trying their hands at making "drip" paintings in the style of their famous relative.

RIGHT Creativity Day participants move to commemorative symphony inspired by the Pappajohn Sculpture Park.



The Art Center's community outreach program reached the lives of over 170 at-risk youth in 2012. Art education is used as a tool to help youth acknowledge their unique identities and use artistic expression to overcome adversity and establish a sense of self-worth.

# Children and Families of Iowa / District Wide Classroom

serves 15–20 youths who reside in Children and Families of Iowa (CFI) group homes and attend District Wide Classroom through the Des Moines Public School District. The students spend two and half hours a week during the school year participating in studio classes at the Art Center. This program serves students in grades sixth through twelfth who need intensive behavioral and academic support to help them reach graduation. The studio art curriculum is an interdisciplinary approach, integrating studio art, academic subjects, and museum visits. This program serves as credit towards graduation. Attendance for this program was 540.

The Art Center provided art activities for 34 pre-adolescent youths and teens throughout the year at

# Youth Emergency Services and Shelter (YESS).

YESS provides emergency shelter, respite, and counseling for children from birth through age 17.

One of 35 Oakridge Neighborhoood Services students who participated in the Art Center's summer FDI Jamp.



# Merrill Artists and Brody Artists Program

enriched the lives of 15 students from Merrill Middle School and 12 students from Brody Middle School. Each school attended an eightweek after school program designed to keep the youth engaged in positive activities after school and promote creativity. Curriculum is inspired by work in the permanent collections and is meant to augment the assignments provided in the traditional classroom. The annual attendance for this program was 162.



# Casady Alternative Center / Girls Program

meets the educational needs of young women in grades sixth through eighth who require intensive academic and behavioral instruction. Sixteen students visited the Art Center six times throughout the academic year. Each visit consisted of a trip to the museum and a corresponding studio project. Attendance for this program was 84.

During the summer, the Art Center provided art classes to 35 students in grades kindergarten through fourth, who were participants in **Oakridge** 

# **Neighborhood Services'**

EDUcamp. Each art activity was inspired by an age appropriate book in an effort to promote literacy. Attendance for this program was 75 and included two trips to the museum.

Thirty-eight mentors and youth from **Mentor Iowa** attended an afternoon of shared fun which included lunch, a museum visit, and related studio activity. Mentor lowa is dedicated to providing trained, volunteer mentors to abused, neglected, and delinquent children who are under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court in Polk County. This organization provides guidance to children in need of assistance to enhance their selfesteem, stability, and give them a chance for a positive future.

# 3,117

# CHILDREN AND ADULTS ATTENDED CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Studio Programs offered 334 classes, workshops, and day camps over the course of three trimesters, with enrollment reaching 3,117 children and adults in the community. Attendance for these classes totaled 18,164. The Art Center's vital scholarship funds enabled 201 children and adults to partake in classes. In sum, 75 elementary, middle, and high schools from the Des Moines Public School District and West Des Moines Community Schools had scholarship recipients.



In addition to class attendance, the lives of 240 children and adults were impacted by Studio Programs both on- and off-site. Sixty-three middle school students from St. Augustin Catholic School visited the Art Center weekly to participate in art classes for school credit. Attendance for this program totaled 1,797. Six firstand second-year medical students from Des Moines University enrolled in 'Introductory Figure Drawing' and six more students enrolled in 'Anatomy of Figure Drawing.' These classes are designed specifically for medical students to hone their observation skills and improve hand-eye coordination, an integral expertise for future doctors. Attendance for Des Moines University student programs totaled 132. Sixty students from Beaver Creek Elementary School in Johnston participated in an off-site summer class and 37 students from Des Moines Public School's Central Academy participated in a raku workshop with ceramics instructor Nancy Briggs.

During the summer, the Art Center collaborated with the Blank Park Zoo, swapping instructors for each organization's classes. Zoo students made unique animal-inspired art and Art Center students were visited by some of the zoo's favorite creatures. This program expanded the Art Center's reach by 74 students.



Impact of Art celebrates the visual arts accomplishments of the students from all 14 West Des Moines Community Schools and recognizes scholarship recipients from their school district. Attendance for this program included students, teachers, and families and totaled 403. Art Sampler is a free community event for families to participate in art activities and view demonstrations, meet instructors, and learn about classes. Attendance totaled 225 for this event. Six student art exhibitions (children and adult) were displayed in the Adrienne and Charles Herbert Galleries and accompanying reception attendance drew 626 people. Attendance for Nurturing a Student's Vision at the Des Moines Arts Festival totaled 11,621. More than 100 students from Central lowa Metro League attended an event that consisted of an exhibition of student artwork, a museum visit, and studio activities.



CLASSES, WORKSHOPS, AND DAY CAMPS TOOK PLACE THIS YEAR In January, artwork was gathered for a spring fundraiser, Art Crazy. Due to the overwhelming generosity of Des Moines residents, an incredible array of artwork was collected, with more than 700 works of art donated. During this three-day event, which was held at an off-site location on Ingersoll Avenue (thanks to building owner Mike Simonson), a steady stream of customers arrived ready to buy. More than \$70,000 was raised.

In the spring, a festive reception was held in honor of Jackson Pollock's MURAL, on loan to the Art Center from the University of Iowa Museum of Art. A lively crowd of members, dignitaries, and government officials enjoyed a first look at this much talked-about work before it opened to the public and was on display for several months, attracting record crowds.

Summer on the Hill continued in June, July, August, and September with the Free Flicks series on Thursday nights and the First Friday musical series. At Free Flicks a movie trivia contest was offered before the showing of Harold and Maude; a Marilyn Monroe look-alike contest before Some Like It Hot; and a contest to recreate the activities in Ferris Bueller's Day Off before the screening of that film. As part of the First Friday music series, on a 104-degree day, local favorite Faculty Lounge played in the outdoor courtyard to a packed crowd. Despite the grueling heat and humidity, a Conga line formed to dance around the reflecting pool.

visitors over the course of the year, providing a venue to not only socialize but to meet the artists, view their work, and participate in a tour of the exhibitions.

**Exhibition preview parties** attracted nearly 1,000



The 2012 annual gala in September honored Liz and David Kruidenier, and the art collection they bequeathed the Art Center. Lisa Kruidenier served as honorary chair and Susan Knapp and Caroline Levine as co-chairs. A stunning tent was erected by the Goldsworthy Cairns in Greenwood Park for the event, and nearly 300 people shared memories and stories of the extraordinary generosity of the Kruideniers and their enduring influence on the cultural landscape of Des Moines.

**Unexpected events** were held throughout the year, including a Salsa dance lesson night in celebration of Valentine's Day, and a Kentucky Derby Party that featured mint juleps, Southern-inspired food and music, and a Derby hat contest. Prizes were awarded for most creative, most elegant, and largest hats. Guests arrived beautifully attired with lovely hats and gowns and seersucker suits, and the event attracted a broad demographic of attendees, ranging in age from 20-90 (a 90-year old woman won the most creative hat, which she had handcrafted with hundreds of rose petals). "Tis the Season" was the theme for the annual holiday event. Well-known jazz musicians Max Wellman and Tina Haase Findlay drew in crowds to hear them sing holiday favorites. Children created musical instruments and holiday ornaments in the studios and everyone enjoyed complimentary hot cocoa and other refreshments in the main lobby.

On a musical note, 2012 was the final season for the On Stage chamber music series. Gilda Biel, organizer of the series, brought a roster of exceptional musicians to the Art Center for 14 seasons. Funding from Sue and Buz Brenton, along with a devoted cadre of serious chamber music followers, made the series possible. And the Bryant Park Quartet made a return engagement at the Art Center. This incredibly gifted string quartet from New York has developed a loyal following in Des Moines due to the musical seminars they present at various schools throughout the community and the free concert they perform at the Art Center each year.

The **facility rental program** continued to grow in 2012, seeing numerous wedding receptions and private, non-profit, and corporate groups renting the Art Center's lobby, courtyard, and auditorium. In the fall, the Art Center hosted an open house for event planners throughout the city to encourage use of the museum for their clients and related events. Rental clients included Des Moines Metro Opera; DuPont Pioneer; Flamenco Ballet Group from Miami Beach; Founders Garden Club; Gateway Dance Theatre; the Greater Des Moines Community Foundation; Iowa Arts Council; Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, which premiered the documentary film on Ding Darling, editorial cartoonist and conservation activist; Iowa State Bar Association; Kemin Industries; Kum and Go; Meredith Corporation; Nexus; Pella Corporation, which hosted guided tours and a dinner for 100 architects from around the country; Principal Financial Group; University of Iowa Foundation; and Wells Fargo Advisors.

1000

**VISITORS** 

**PREVIEW** 

**PARTIES** 

**ATTENDED** 

**EXHIBITION** 

DES MOINES ART CENTER

# MEMBERSHIP INCREASE

Membership saw an increase of 5% from 2011 to 2012, signaling the vitality of the Art Center's programs.



Art Noir fun!



# 2012 was another banner year for the Art Center's member affiliate, Art Noir.

In addition to returning favorites like HUE and Holiday Studio, the group organized programs on how to begin an art collection as a young professional and understanding photography. In September, members of Art Noir, the Des Moines Symphony, and the Young Professionals Connection attended an informative event with Director Jeff Fleming, featuring original music from the Des Moines Symphony's commissioned work, *Symphony in Sculpture*, followed by a tour of the Pappajohn Sculpture Park. And in October, the group staged the Pollock Ball, celebrating the artistic legacy of Jackson Pollock following the exhibition of *Mural* at the Art Center in April.

**Print Club** flourished in 2012 with engaging programming around Print Gallery exhibitions, demonstrations of printing techniques, and the annual commissioned print, created by lowa artist Ignatius Widiapradja. Print Club also visited several artist studios in Iowa City in April and the Midwest Art Conservation Center, galleries, and museums in Minneapolis in November. Members of Print Club continued giving back to the Art Center as well, through the annual gift print and print conservation gift programs.

Members also participated fully in discussions around the Art Center's collections and exhibitions through **Members' Book Club** and member-only programs and events.

Most importantly, in 2012, Art Center members contributed to the life and longevity of the institution through their charitable giving, volunteerism, and advocacy of the Art Center's mission.



Print Club members took a road trip to lowa City to vist the studio of Mauricio Lasansky.

# **Museum Shop**

The Museum Shop experienced another year of record sales. The shop continued to sell a wide range of unique and unexpected merchandise, including books, children's toys, home décor, jewelry, accessories, catalogs, and merchandise related to the museum's exhibitions and collections. The Museum Shop also coordinated merchandise with the Jackson Pollock Mural exhibition to great success. This, combined with the Holidays in July sale, contributed to the shop's most successful summer to date.



# Art Center efforts to be good stewards of the environment:

The Environmental Services
Department partnered with
Hillyard, a cleaning and
custodial supplies company
based in Urbandale, to conduct
an extensive training program
for staff on operating a Green
Program. The 'Green Cleaning'
training considers both the
environmental impacts, and
cost savings associated with
using green cleaning products.

The Art Center's partnership with local company, Recycle Me lowa, has reduced trash collections throughout the museum's facilities and administrative offices.

E-membership renewals have reduced the Art Center's renewal mailings by 14% annually. Reductions in printed marketing materials have resulted in less waste.

Thank you to the following donors who have made significant financial contributions to the Des Moines Art Center over the past 25 years. Gifts were contributed to Art Center campaigns, the free admission program, annual operating support, conservation, art acquisition, programs, and more.

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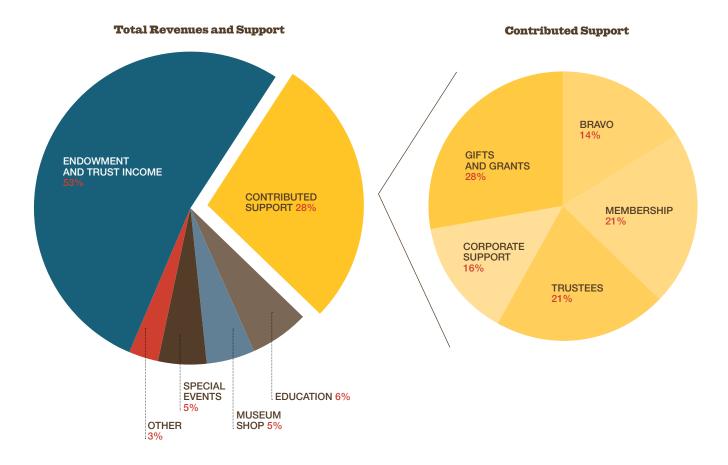
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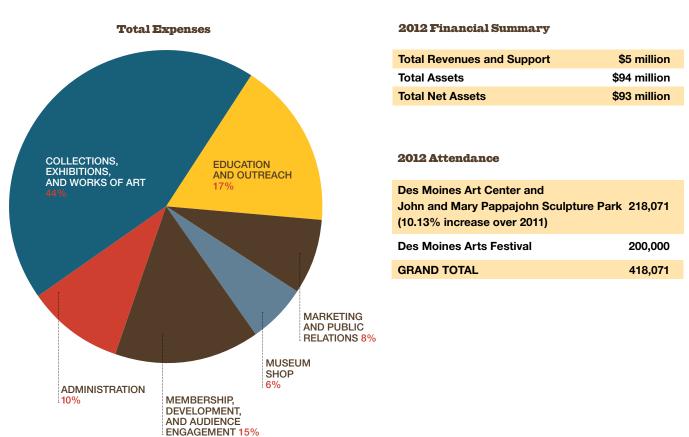
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A view of the Pappajohn Sculpture Park through Keith Haring's Untitled (Three Dancing Figures, version C) 1989.

the work in the park.

The John and Mary Pappajohn Sculpture Park

continues to welcome visitors from around the world to downtown Des Moines. Art Center docent-led tours and free cell phone tours provide information about