

CANVAS

KNOXVILLE
MUSEUM OF ART



SPRING 2016

knoxart.org



Knoxville Museum of Art
1050 World's Fair Park Drive
Knoxville, Tennessee 37916
865.525.6101 • info@knoxart.org

FREE Admission

Hours

Tuesday-Saturday 10am-5pm
Sunday 1-5pm

Closed

Mondays, New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve

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Canvas

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Free for KMA members
Subscription price is \$15 per year.

Questions?

Contact Angela Thomas, Director of Marketing,
865.934.2034, athomas@knoxart.org

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



JUSTIN FEE

For several years now, an overarching institutional priority of the KMA has been the promotion of our region's art history. It is a long, rich, and fascinating story, with unexpected turns and surprises, vivid personalities, false starts, dead ends, and thrilling achievements. When *Higher Ground: A Century of the Visual Arts in East Tennessee* opened in 2008, no other institution had ever dedicated itself to telling the story of the development and significance of the visual arts here (although the East Tennessee History Center has done a magnificent job of documenting and promoting the broader social, economic, and cultural history of our region, including some of its artists).

When *Higher Ground* opened, our aims were modest, and we just managed to fill the gallery dedicated to the purpose, largely with borrowed works. We had a strong suspicion, however that there might be a lot of material out there we didn't yet know about. We hoped fervently that creating a permanent installation dedicated to the art history of East Tennessee would change local perceptions about the visual arts, send a strong signal that the KMA wanted to be a repository for East Tennessee art, and attract donations and financial support for purchases. We had no inkling that the response would be so powerful and so positive. Since the opening of *Higher Ground*, the KMA has acquired 180 works by artists from or working in our part of the world, largely through gifts, and we continue to discover new artists from our area or artists with strong connections to Knoxville and East Tennessee. The story just keeps getting more and more interesting.

The *Knoxville 7* exhibition opening at the end January is the first harvest of seeds planted in the fertile acreage cleared for *Higher Ground* (if you will indulge some unartfully mixed metaphors) and represents a prodigious curatorial effort. These innovative artists, many of whom were connected to the founding of the art department at the University of Tennessee, introduced modern art to East Tennessee. Remarkably, this is the first time these artists have been brought together since they exhibited as the Knoxville 7 in the mid-twentieth century. Many works in the exhibition have been held locally—and not exhibited publicly—since they were purchased from the artists who created them, and have been loaned or gifted to the KMA. This show will knock you over. Don't miss the preview reception on January 28.

You still have a few weeks to catch the wonderful exhibition at the East Tennessee History Center on Gay Street dedicated to Lloyd Branson, Knoxville's first academically trained artist (although the details of his education are still sketchy) and the city's first full-time painter. Branson was very much a man of the nineteenth century—he was born in 1853—but was a mentor to and advocate for Knoxville's two most important and talented twentieth-century artists, Catherine Wiley and Beauford Delaney (both now prominently featured in *Higher Ground*). We are exceedingly proud that this important exhibition, which travels to the Tennessee State Museum in Nashville this summer, features several Lloyd Branson paintings from the KMA collection. Much of the art of East Tennessee remains to be discovered and collected, and we are just getting started. Stay tuned . . .

The Knoxville Museum of Art celebrates the art and artists of East Tennessee, presents new art and new ideas, serves and educates diverse audiences, enhances Knoxville's quality of life and economic development, and operates ethically, responsibly, and transparently as a public trust.

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Masterpieces from the East Tennessee Artists Now on View in *Higher Ground*

The East Tennessee History Center has loaned four important works by local artists to the Knoxville Museum of Art. Three paintings by accomplished Knoxville Impressionist Catherine Wiley (1879-1958) and one by Knoxville painter C. Mortimer Thompson (1858-1939) are now on display in *Higher Ground: A Century of the Visual Arts in East Tennessee*, the KMA's permanent exhibition of art from our region. All four works are owned by the Calvin M. McClung Historical Collection, East Tennessee History Center. Now visitors to the KMA can enjoy six paintings by one of Knoxville's greatest and most beloved painters. This is the first time the KMA has displayed the work of C. Mortimer Thompson, whose son Jim Thompson went on to become one of the most famous photographers of the Smoky Mountains. The works are filling in for three paintings by pioneering Knoxville artist Lloyd Branson that are included in a Branson retrospective exhibition *Celebrating a Life in Tennessee Art: Lloyd Branson, 1853-1925* at the East Tennessee History Center through January. The exhibition will travel to the Tennessee State Museum in Nashville where it will open in early summer 2016.



Catherine Wiley (Coal Creek, Tennessee 1879-1958 Norristown, Pennsylvania), *Mother and Child*, early 1920s. Oil on canvas, 36 x 48 inches.



Catherine Wiley, *Mother and Daughter in Garden*, circa 1913. Oil on canvas, 23 1/2 x 29 1/2 inches.



Catherine Wiley, *Farmstead*, 1918 or 1919. Oil on canvas, 18 x 22 inches.



C. Mortimer Thompson (Morristown, Tennessee, 1858-1939 Knoxville), *Haying*, 1907. Oil on board, 21 x 27 inches.

Works illustrated are courtesy of the Calvin M. McClung Historical Collection, East Tennessee History Center, Knoxville

Works by Lloyd Branson to be included in *Celebrating a Life in Tennessee Art: Lloyd Branson, 1853-1925* at the East Tennessee History Center, Knoxville and the Tennessee State Museum, Nashville:



Lloyd Branson, *Hauling Marble*, 1910. Oil on canvas, 42 x 61 inches, on loan to the KMA from the McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture, University of Tennessee.



Lloyd Branson, *Going Home at Dusk*, 1892. Oil on board, 43 3/4 x 51 inches, Knoxville Museum of Art, purchase with funds provided by Kay and Jim Clayton, Martha and Jim Begalla, Ann and Steve Bailey, Patricia and Alan Rutenberg, Townes Osborn, and Sylvia and Jan Peters.



Lloyd Branson, *Ellen McClung Berry*, 1920. Oil on canvas, 59 5/8 x 47 1/2 inches, Knoxville Museum of Art, gift of Dr. and Mrs. Aubra Branson.

THE KNOXVILLE 7

JANUARY 29-APRIL 17, 2016

The KMA is proud to organize the first-ever exhibition dedicated to the history and legacy of the groundbreaking artists who worked and exhibited together in the fifties and sixties and eventually became known as The Knoxville 7. These brash, ambitious artists shared the common visual language of Abstract Expressionism, producing what are likely the first abstract art works in East Tennessee and establishing a foothold for modern art in the region. In the early 1950s, C. Kermit "Buck" Ewing, first head of the University of Tennessee's art department, recruited a group of progressive artists—initially Carl Sublett, Walter Stevens, Robert Birdwell—who exhibited actively in Knoxville and throughout the Southeast. They proved highly influential as artists as well as teachers. While Sublett and Stevens shared an exclusive interest in the landscape as a point of reference for their abstractions, Birdwell and Ewing often found inspiration in urban settings and the human figure. Sometimes they exhibited as a foursome and other times as The Knoxville 7 with fellow artists Joanna Higgs Ross, Richard Clarke, and Philip Nichols. This important exhibition brings into focus a richly productive period in the art history of the region and also attests to the depth of the museum's growing holdings of works by Knoxville 7 artists.



Philip Nichols (Freeborn County, Minnesota 1931; lives and works in Knoxville), *Form in Steel*, 1963-64. Welded steel, 30 x 19 x 14 inches, Knoxville Museum of Art, gift of the Sublett Family.

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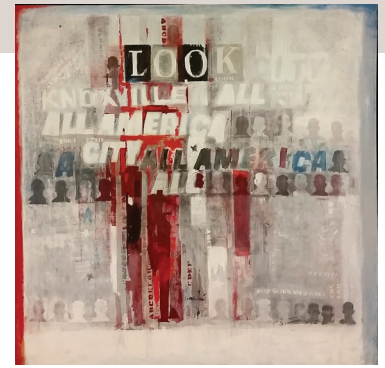
COMING THIS SPRING

Tom Burckhardt: FULL STOP

**Contemporary Focus 2016:
John Douglas Powers**



Joanna Higgs Ross (Nashville 1934; lives and works in Nashville), *Trees and Sky*, 1959. Oil on canvas, triptych, 32 x 95 1/2 inches, Knoxville Museum of Art, gift of Dr. Larry Ray in honor of Joanna Higgs Ross.



COVER IMAGE: Carl Sublett (Johnson County, Kentucky 1919-2008 Union, Maine), *Pop Goes My Easel*, 1963. Oil and graphite on canvas, 53 x 53 inches, Knoxville Museum of Art, purchase with funds provided by the KMA Guild.



Walter H. Stevens (Mineola, New York 1927-1980 Deer Isle, Maine), *Tour Trap*, 1957. Oil on canvas, 48 x 64 inches, Knoxville Museum of Art, gift of the Ewing family in memory of Mary and C. Kermit "Buck" Ewing.



C. Kermit "Buck" Ewing (Bentleyville, Pennsylvania 1910-1976 Bali, Indonesia), *George's--Rich's from Broadway*, 1955. Oil on canvas, 30 1/2 x 40 1/4 inches, Knoxville Museum of Art, gift of the Knoxville Arts Center.



Robert Birdwell (Knoxville 1924; lives and works in Knoxville), *Face of a City*, 1957. Oil on canvas, 32 x 40 inches, Knoxville Museum of Art, gift of the Knoxville Arts Center.



Richard Clarke (Noblesville, Indiana 1923-1997 Knoxville), *Untitled (Maine Coast)*, 1965. Watercolor on paper, 18 x 24 inches, Knoxville Museum of Art, gift of Pam and Scot Reeder.

AT THE KMA

JANUARY

 	<p>Education Gallery Pleasant Ridge Elementary School</p>
 	<p>Alive After Five Aftah Party 6-8:30pm</p>
 	<p>Second Sunday Docent Tour In English 2pm In Spanish 3pm</p>
 	<p>Second Sunday Art Activity Day 1-4pm</p>
 	<p>Adult Workshop "Reflections, Light & Music" Bobbie Crews, Instructor January 12, 19, 26, Feb 2, 9, & 16 10am-1pm</p>
 	<p>Alive After Five Wallace Coleman Band 6-8:30pm</p>
 	<p>Cocktails & Conversation Joshua Bienko, Assistant Professor UT School of Art 5:30-7pm</p>
 	<p>Adult Workshop "Beautiful Vibrant Alcohol Inks" Susan Watson Arbital, Instructor January 20 & 27 10am-1pm</p>
 	<p>Adult Workshop "Mosaics Keepsake Box" Susan Watson Arbital, Instructor January 20 & 27 2-4pm</p>
 	<p>Alive After Five Tennessee Sheiks 6-8:30pm</p>
 	<p>The Knoxville 7 Exhibition Preview Party 6-8pm</p>
 	<p>Alive After Five "Tribute to Classic R & B Hits" with Evelyn Jack & Donald Brown 6-8:30pm</p>

FEBRUARY

 	<p>Education Gallery Pleasant Ridge Elementary School</p>
 	<p>Adult Workshop Clay Sculpture "Mask Making & Face Jugs" Annamarie Gundlach, Instructor February 1, 8 & 15 10am-1pm</p>
 	<p>Dine & Discover Jack Neely discussing <i>The Knoxville 7</i> 12-1pm</p>
 	<p>Alive After Five "Fat Friday Mardi Gras" with Roux Du Bayoux 6-8:30pm</p>
 	<p>Dine & Discover Artist Amy Pleasant 12-1pm</p>
 	<p>Alive After Five The Blair Experience 6-8:30pm</p>
 	<p>Second Sunday Docent Tour In English 2pm In Spanish 3pm</p>
 	<p>Second Sunday Art Activity Day 1-4pm</p>
 	<p>Cocktails & Conversation "Intaglio Prints" by Koichi Yamamoto 5:30-7pm</p>
 	<p>Winter Family Fun Day 11am-3pm</p>
 	<p>KMA Book Club Discussing <i>All the Light We Cannot See</i> by Anthony Doerr 5:30-7:30pm</p>
 	<p>Alive After Five "Wild Women Don't Have the Blues" featuring Crystal Shawanda 6-8:30pm</p>



SPRING 2016

For details visit knoxart.org

MARCH

	1	Education Gallery Carter Elementary School
	5	L'Amour du Vin
	13	Second Sunday Docent Tour In English 2pm In Spanish 3pm
	13	Second Sunday Art Activity Day 1-4pm
	16	Dine & Discover Stephen Wicks on <i>The Knoxville 7</i> 12-1pm
	18	Alive After Five "Ladies of Jazz" featuring Kelle Jolly 6-8:30pm
	22	Cocktails & Conversation Paul Harrill & Darren Hughes "The Public Cinema" 5:30-7pm
	25	Alive After Five TBD 6-8:30pm

APRIL

	1	Education Gallery Carter Elementary School
	5	Cocktails & Conversation Curt Brock, Department Head/Glass Program Appalachian Center for the Arts 5:30-7pm
	8	Alive After Five SoulfulSounds Review 6-8:30pm
	10	Second Sunday Docent Tour In English 2pm In Spanish 3pm
	10	Second Sunday Art Activity Day 1-4pm
	12	Volunteer Appreciation Reception 5:30pm
	13	Dine & Discover Joanna Higgs Ross on <i>The Knoxville 7</i> 12-1pm
	15	Alive After Five TBD 6-8:30pm
	22	Alive After Five The Streamliners 6-8:30pm
	29	Alive After Five Delta Moon 6-8:30pm



JOIN THE KMA GUILD AND BECOME A PART OF SOMETHING GREAT!

For more information or to join, contact Margo Clark at mclark@knoxart.org or 865.934.2033.

UPCOMING GUILD PROGRAMS

January 14, 10:30am
Speaker Steve Cotham on the East Tennessee History Museum Exhibition "Celebrating a Life in Tennessee Art: Lloyd Branson 1853-1925"

February 11, 10:30am
Speaker KMA Curator Stephen Wicks on "The Knoxville 7" exhibition

April 14, 5:30pm
Speaker Marga Hayes on "Art for Healing" at the East Tennessee Children's Hospital

THANKS FOR SPONSORING FREE ADMISSION

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The KMA is pleased to acknowledge the support of the Arts & Heritage Fund. We are grateful to the Clayton Family Foundation, the Cornerstone Foundation, the Haslam Family Foundation, Kim McClamroch, Pilot Corporation, Visit Knoxville, and 21st Mortgage for contributing to this community resource, which supports a wide range of arts organizations and historic sites in our area. The fund is managed by the Art and Culture Alliance of Greater Knoxville.

ACQUISITIONS

AMY PLEASANT



Amy Pleasant (Birmingham, Alabama 1972; lives and works in Birmingham), *When Ruby Met Jim, Part 1 and 2, 2004*. Oil on canvas (diptych), 72 x 60 inches each, Knoxville Museum of Art, purchase with additional funds provided by Patricia and John Pleasant, Pamela and Mark Pleasant, and Suzanne and James Lents in memory of Ruby and James Lents and Ida and John Pleasant.

Amy Pleasant is an Alabama-based contemporary artist whose family roots are in Knoxville. She is known for her delicately rendered figurative paintings that suggest isolated moments in everyday life. Here, the storyboard-like format conveys a loose sequence seen from shifting points of view as if frames from a movie, snapshots from an album, or fragments from memory.

This two-part painting is loosely based on stories the artist's late grandparents told her about growing up in Knoxville's Western Heights neighborhood during the late 1930s—specifically, the events immediately prior to their first meeting. *Part 1* reflects her grandmother's recollections while *Part 2* represents those of her grandfather. The two are shown either watching the other from a distance or being watched. As Amy explains:



Ruby Lents and Amy Pleasant, 2014

"The paintings document the story of my grandparents seeing each other for the first time. In the story that I heard many times throughout my life, Part 1 depicts my grandmother, Ruby Lucille Taylor, watching as Jim walks around town with his sister. In Part 2, my grandfather, James Marcellus Lents, sees Ruby ride the bus with her guitar on her way to sing with Roy Acuff on the

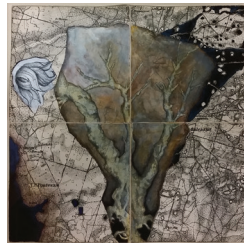
radio station WROL Knoxville. These paintings document the narrative from both perspectives and mark a moment in time very dear to my family's history. I am excited beyond measure to share a piece of their story with the Knoxville community and beyond."

Amy's grandmother, the late Ruby Lents, was able to visit the KMA in 2014 and enjoy the experience of viewing *When Ruby Met Jim, Part 1 and 2* on display in the museum.

In appreciation for the museum's acquisition of *When Ruby Met Jim, Part 1 and 2*, the artist donated one of her large drawings. Drawings are an important part of her artistic production and this work will add further depth to the KMA's extensive works on paper collection.

Works in the Bequest of Arlene Goldstine

Earlier this year, the KMA lost a devoted friend and supporter when **Arlene Goldstine** passed away after a long illness. Goldstine was a true patron of the arts, and was active as a member of the KMA Guild and a founding member of the KMA's Collectors Circle. She was a generous donor and an adventurous collector who favored art filled with bold expressive imagery. Her passion for art in some cases led to lasting friendships with the living artists whose work she collected.



Marcia Goldenstein (Lincoln, Nebraska 1948; lives and works in Knoxville), *Tree Map, 2005* Mixed media on antique maps, 10 3/8 x 10 1/2 inches.



Jonathan Santlofer (New York 1946; lives and works in New York), *Chuck (Close), 1994-95*. Oil, pencil, encaustic, plaster on wood, 48 x 44 x 6 inches.



Pam Longobardi (Glen Ridge, New Jersey 1958; lives and works in Atlanta, Georgia), *Display/Attraction, 1997*. Copper over wood with oil, enamels, 58 x 84 inches.



Robert Van Vranken (Sayville, New York 1960; lives and works in Peacham, Vermont), *Portrait of Eakins' Dr. Gross, 1991*. Oil on plaster and wood, 28 x 28 x 2 inches.



Pam Longobardi, *Animal/Beautiful, 1983*. Color woodblock print on paper, edition of 13 (artist's proof), 11 3/16 x 14 inches.



David Salle (Norman, Oklahoma 1952; lives and works in Brooklyn), *Portrait with Scissors and Nightclub, 1987*. Color woodblock print on paper, 2/100, 24 1/2 x 29 inches.



Arlene Goldstine Conservation Fund

As a lasting way of honoring Arlene's memory, and her passion for the KMA collection, the museum has created the Arlene Goldstine Conservation Fund as a restricted account that provides ongoing financial support for the matting, framing, and care of objects in the KMA collection.

SPOTLIGHT ON PHILANTHROPY

Knoxville Museum of Art members at the Directors Circle level and above gathered in the Ann and Steve Bailey Hall on November 5 for the 18th annual James L. Clayton Award Luncheon to honor Nancy and Stephen Land for their exceptional, longtime support of the museum.

The Lands have made generous personal gifts over more than two decades. Their company, Jupiter Entertainment, produced a feature-length documentary, *Larger Than Life*, about the six-year gestation, fabrication, and installation of Richard Jolley's *Cycle of Life*, the largest figural glass installation in the world, and donated the film to the KMA. They also generously funded The Land Family Sculpture Garden as part of the museum's recent 25th Anniversary Campaign.

The James L. Clayton Award was established in 1998 to recognize the unique contributions Jim Clayton has made to the Knoxville Museum of Art over the history of the museum. The Clayton Award is presented annually to the individual, family, foundation, or business whose support has been both uncommonly generous and sustained.

The event was sponsored by The LAMP Foundation, Schaad Companies, The Trust Company, and All Occasion Catering.

Congratulations to **Nancy and Stephen Land** on receiving the 2015 James L. Clayton Award



l to r: KMA Executive Director David Butler, Stephen Land, Jim Clayton, Nancy Land, and KMA Board Chair Richard Jansen, behind the framed print by Hei Park the Lands received.

JUNE AND ROB HELLER GARDEN

Last year's James L. Clayton Award winners June and Rob Heller continue their generosity to the KMA. Over the past year the Hellers have made a significant multi-year commitment that includes annual financial support, gifts to the endowment, works of art, promised gifts, and planned gifts. In recognition of this extraordinary commitment, one of the largest in the museum's history, the KMA Board of Trustees voted unanimously on July 27, 2015 to designate the North Garden the June and Rob Heller Garden. We are deeply grateful to June and Rob for their generous spirit and their inspiring example.



June and Rob Heller



WINTER FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday, February 20
11am-3pm

Everyone is invited to celebrate with the Knoxville Museum of Art on **Saturday, February 20** from **11 am to 3 pm**. Family Fun Day is jam packed with fun art activities for the kids, artist demonstrations, continuous entertainment on stage, docents in the galleries to talk with guests about the current exhibitions, and fantastic art-making activities inspired by the museum's *Higher Ground*, *Currents*, and *The Knoxville 7* exhibitions.



Support from the Tennessee Arts Commission is critical to the operation of the KMA and other cultural organizations around the state. The funds that the TAC distributes, in turn, come mostly from the sale of specialty license plates. That's why it's important for you to know that **Tennessee Specialty License Plates—which support over 100 different organizations and charities, including the KMA**—are now available as gifts through a new website hosted by the State Department of Treasury office at tngiftcenter.com/giftatag. Each GIFT-A-TAG is good for the purchase of a Specialty License Plate or the personalization of any license plate. GIFT-A-TAG vouchers are \$35 and you can buy as many as you want for your family and friends.

2016 SUMMER ART ACADEMY

Information coming soon!



Registration starts in April for 2016 classes.

Check www.knoxart.org later this spring for more information.

Summer Art Academy 2016 sessions start **June 6 and continue through July 29**. Classes take place in Ann & Steve Bailey Hall and the Kramer Education Center from 9am to 12noon for one-week sessions.

ADULT WORKSHOPS



Reflections, Light and Magic

Bobbie Crews

Tuesdays, January 12, 19, 26 and February 2, 9, 16, 10am-1pm

Members \$150/Non-members \$175

Materials list provided

Explore the extraordinary in everyday life and take your painting skills to a new level. Oil paint allows the artist to push the limits of possibility. Crews' students will find the magic in the everyday and transfer those ideas onto canvas. It's about focusing on the unexpected, then capturing it with light and energy. Learn to bring to life the exceptional qualities that make an exciting and engaging painting jump off the canvas. Learn the intricacies of layering and bring out the reflections and glow of light in faces and other objects the way that Crews captures those nuances in her inspiring antique car paintings, portraits, and other fine works.



Mosaics Keepsake Box

Susan Watson Arbital

Wednesdays, January 20 and 27, 2-4pm

Members \$50/Non-members \$65

Explore the ancient art of mosaics — with a modern twist. Artist Susan Watson Arbital specializes in mixed-media mosaics combining glass, stone, shells, tile, beads, ceramics, etc. In this two-session workshop, students will learn the basics of the direct method mosaic construction by creating a lovely keepsake box. Materials fee of \$15 includes all supplies to complete the project; however participants are encouraged to bring anything they would like to incorporate in their box decoration (i.e., piece of jewelry, broken pottery or glass). Bring a friend! All materials and tools provided.



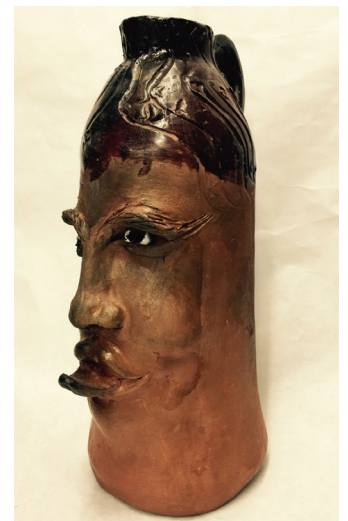
Beautiful, Vibrant Alcohol Inks

Susan Watson Arbital

Wednesdays, January 20 and 27, 10am-1pm

Members \$50/Non-members \$65

Explore the possibilities of this exciting new medium with artist Susan Watson Arbital. Participants will be introduced to five different techniques and create multiple pieces of art during this two session workshop. No previous painting experience is necessary. \$15 materials fee includes all supplies needed.



Clay Sculpture "Mask Making and Face Jugs"

Annamaria Gundlach

**Mondays, February 1, 8, and 15,
10am-1pm**

Members \$90/Non-members \$110

"Face Jugs and Mask Making" as an art form were traditionally hand-made objects. In this workshop participants will use their knowledge of clay and folk art as they create coil pots and add decorative facial features to create a face jug or a mask. Each week there will be artist demonstrations and personalized instruction. All materials and tools and firing included.

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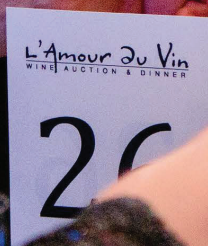
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March 5, 2016



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