

knoxville
museum
of art

Open your eyes.
Open your mind.

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CANVAS

knoxville museum of art
Fall 2013
www.knoxart.org

artSCAPES2013

Friday, October 11

6pm

Knoxville's premier art auction to benefit the KMA
Held this year at the Knoxville Convention Center

Presented by the Guild of the Knoxville Museum of Art

Visit www.knoxart.org for more information



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

**Closed for Renovations
August 26-November 29, 2013**

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Denise DuBose, Director of Administration

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Canvas

Published three times a year by the
Knoxville Museum of Art © 2013
Kurt Zinser Design, design and layout

Free for KMA members

Subscription price is \$15 per year.

Questions?

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

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http://knoxart.blip.tv

knoxville
museum
of @art

Open your eyes.
Open your mind.



JUSTIN FEE

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As our members and regular readers of *Canvas* already know, and the world is becoming increasingly aware, the Knoxville Museum of Art will soon house the most ambitious and monumental figural glass sculpture anywhere, the work of internationally renowned artist and Knoxville resident Richard Jolley. This dazzling 185-foot-long, 14-foot-high sculpture, titled *Cycle of Life: Within the Power of Dreams and the Wonder of Infinity*, is the generous gift of Ann and Steve Bailey. The eyes of the world will be on Knoxville as art lovers from around the world make the pilgrimage to the KMA to experience this unparalleled masterwork when it is unveiled in the spring of 2014. This is a defining moment and unrivaled opportunity for the KMA and for Knoxville. Installation has already begun, and will continue through winter as we prepare for an exciting week of opening celebrations April 30-May 4, 2014.

The gift of the Jolley sculpture is but the latest in a decades-long legacy of remarkable and generous gifts that have created and sustained the KMA. The largest single gift in the museum's history, by local philanthropist Jim Clayton, led to the construction of the current building, which opened in 1990. The KMA's Clayton Building is a true American masterpiece. As the building nears its 25th birthday and the Jolley unveiling approaches, long-deferred maintenance and cosmetic work is being undertaken, and the museum's landscaping and exterior areas are being upgraded and improved (see renderings of the beautiful new North Garden on the facing page). Thanks to the success of the 25th Anniversary Campaign, this vital work is well underway, and visitors to the museum can already see dramatic improvements to the exterior. This fall, repairs and upgrades to the interior will necessitate closing the building to the public until November 29, 2013, hence the sparsely populated calendar in this edition of *Canvas*.

Cycle of Life stands as a spectacular affirmation of the museum's mission to celebrate the richness and diversity of the visual arts in East Tennessee past and present. *Higher Ground: A Century of the Visual Arts in East Tennessee*, our flagship permanent exhibition, has inspired an outpouring of generosity that has allowed us to make several spectacular acquisitions by homegrown artists such as Knoxville Impressionist Catherine Wiley. To fulfill the parallel mission of presenting new art and new ideas, a new permanent installation, *Currents: Recent Art from East Tennessee and Beyond*, stresses the connection between what happens here and in art centers elsewhere in this country and abroad. A rich mix of temporary exhibitions and education programming complements and supports these core initiatives and serves a broad and diverse audience, particularly young people and underserved populations. To ensure that the KMA is able to build its collection and serve the community with outstanding exhibitions and education programs, the museum needs to create an art acquisition fund and grow its program and operating endowment. Important goals of the 25th Anniversary Campaign include growing the operating endowment and creating a dedicated fund for art acquisitions.

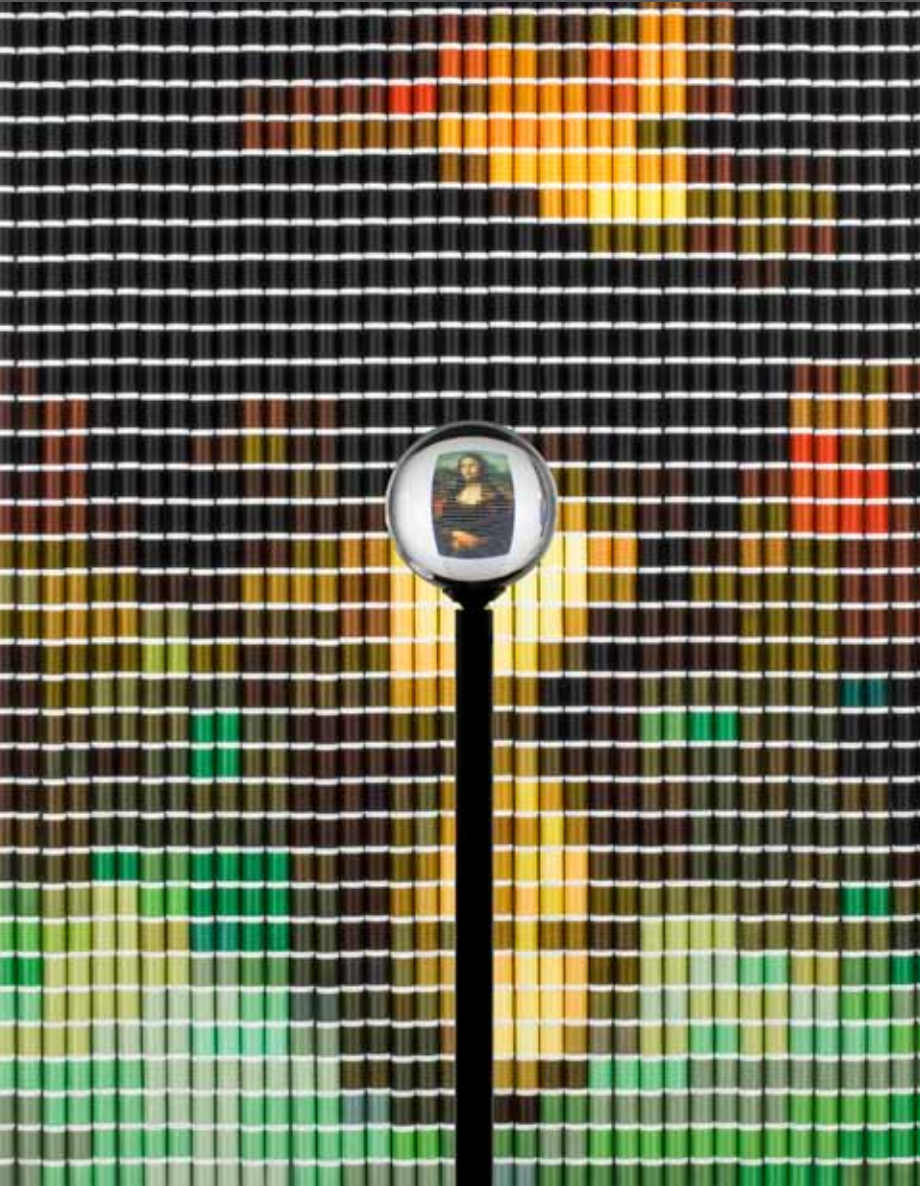
The 25th Anniversary Campaign will get the KMA ready to receive *Cycle of Life* and ensure the museum's success as it enters its second quarter century. Building improvements and exterior enhancements will require nearly \$5 million, while operating and acquisition endowments will require an investment of millions more. As the campaign moves in to its public phase, we hope you will consider joining the many philanthropic families who have made KMA what it is today. An opportunity to invest in the next 25 years and to participate in showcasing the Jolley exhibit to the rest of the world is not something that occurs often.

Now is our time to shine!

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.



NEW ACQUISITIONS



Devorah Sperber (American, born 1961), *After the Mona Lisa 8*, 2010, 1482 spools of thread, stainless-steel ball chain and hanging apparatus, clear acrylic sphere, metal stand, 68 x 47 inches. Knoxville Museum of Art purchase with funds provided by the KMA Collectors Circle, 2013

When the museum reopens in late November, visitors will notice several key acquisitions that will be featured on a rotating basis in *Currents* and *Higher Ground*.

At the Collectors Circle's April 9 purchase event, the group voted overwhelmingly in favor of *After the Mona Lisa 8* by **Devorah Sperber**. Sperber explores the connections between art and technology, and ways in which the visible world is perceived by the human mind. For each of her labor-intensive works, she borrows a well-known image from art history or popular culture, scans it into her computer, and then reduces it to a grid of individual color pixels. The artist then spends hours carefully matching each pixel with a similarly colored thread spool. To the unaided eye, Sperber's thread spool works appear either abstract or upside down. They resolve into something familiar only when viewed through her specially-designed acrylic gazing balls. Through this innovative approach, Sperber calls attention to the powerful hold of iconic images on the mind while creating interactive works of art that comfortably exist between past and present, abstraction and representation, and object and illusion.

#1210610 and *#1211010*, two large canvases by emerging Romanian painter **Leonardo Silaghi** were donated by noted New York collectors Marc and Livia Straus. Silaghi's abstractions powerfully express the chaotic transition of his Romanian homeland from a decaying Communist nation to a contemporary urban society still taking shape. Often using black and white photographs of abandoned Cold War machinery as starting points, the artist launches into large, forcefully executed paintings populated by conveyor belts, vehicles, ductwork, and other industrial debris. Carefully painted shadows and highlights imply that these relics exist in pictorial space, while sweeping brushwork and rugged surface textures shift attention to his dynamic process. A new work by Silaghi, *#1313203*, was also purchased by the museum. The KMA is one of the first American museums to acquire the Romanian artist's work.

Among other recent acquisitions were three objects produced by artists with strong ties to Knoxville. *Untitled*, a wall sculpture from the late 1980s by **Philip Livingston** enhances the KMA's holdings for this long-time Knoxville-based artist and educator. Livingston spent years in Knoxville during the 1970s-1990s as an active member of the UT School of



Leonardo Silaghi (Romanian, born 1987), *#1211010*, 2012, Oil on linen, 79 x 118 inches. Gift of the Marc and Livia Straus Family Collection, 2013



Leonardo Silaghi (Romanian, born 1987), *#1313203*, 2013, Oil on canvas, 90 1/2 x 120 inches. Knoxville Museum of Art purchase, 2013



Leonardo Silaghi (Romanian, born 1987), *#1210610*, 2012, Oil on linen, 75 x 94 1/2 inches. Gift of the Marc and Livia Straus Family Collection, 2013



Philip Livingston (American, born 1941), *Untitled*, 1988, Aluminum, wood, paint, 22 x 23 3/4 x 6 inches. Gift of Lindsay and Jim McDonough, 2013

Art faculty, and is known for his freestanding and wall-mounted sculptures in wood and metal. Despite its modest size, this untitled work fully encompasses Livingston's interests in blending different materials, straddling painting and sculpture, and creating compositions that suggest an architectural context.

Alex McQuilkin is a Brooklyn-based artist whose video work explores the role of stories—both fiction and non-fiction—in shaping belief systems. She is especially interested in how women's experiences are conveyed and interpreted in popular culture through cinema, literature, and the visual arts. In many cases, McQuilkin's videos consist of emotionally-charged excerpts from iconic films spliced with



(left) Philip Nichols (American, born 1931), *Form in Steel #9*, circa 1964, Welded steel, 22 x 9 x 6 inches. Gift of Robert Kohn in memory of Martha Kohn, 2013



Alex McQuilkin (American, born 1980), *Joan of Arc*, 2007, Two channel DVD-R video, 5:35. Edition 3/8. Gift of Richard D. McCrary, Jr.

footage of the artist reacting to the events in the original film. In *Joan of Arc* she responds to Maria Falconetti's memorable lead role in the legendary silent film "The Passion of Joan of Arc" (1928) by Carl Dreyer, and to the film's themes of adolescent desire, faith, and suffering.

Form in Steel #9 is a rare early work by **Philip Nichols**, a veteran Knoxville artist known for his welded steel sculptures resembling architectural structures or mechanical forms of unknown function. He came to Knoxville in 1961 from Michigan as the first sculptor appointed to the University of Tennessee art faculty. A year or so after his arrival, he produced *Form in Steel #9* in his makeshift campus studio on 16th Street. By the early 1970s, Nichols began working in stainless steel for its durability and brilliant finish, and welded steel sculptures from this early period are very rare.

Alice Young Mayo, a portrait drawing by **Edward Harrison Hurst, Jr.** from the 1940s adds to the museum's extensive holdings by one of Knoxville's art prodigies. Hurst trained with legendary painter George Luks at New York's renowned Art Students League even before graduating from high school. Although Hurst returned to Knoxville frequently to display his elegant society portraits and precisely-crafted still lifes, he spent much of his life mingling with wealthy clientele near his studios in New



Edward Hurst (American, 1912-1972), *Alice Young Mayo*, circa 1945, Charcoal on paper, 24 x 18 inches. Gift of Lindsay and Jim McDonough, 2013

York and London. Alice Young Mayo was a prominent Knoxville, a portrait painter, and a personal friend of the artist. She sat for Hurst in his Washington Square studio in New York, during her time in boarding school.

SEPTEMBER 24

KMA Members' Expedition to the High Museum of Art
Travel to see Girl with the Pearl Earring: Dutch Paintings from the Mauritshuis

\$75 per person

Contact Krishna Adams at 865.934.2037 or visit www.knoxart.org/events for more information



COLLECTORS
Circle

OCTOBER 2

Collectors Circle (Members Only) Kick-Off Party
6-8pm
kadams@knoxart.org to make reservation

COLLECTORS
Circle

NOVEMBER 10-13

Collectors Circle Trip to New Orleans
For more information contact Krishna Adams at kadams@knoxart.org

DECEMBER 3

East Tennessee Regional Student Art Reception
6-8pm
Tennessee Theatre



OCTOBER 11

Artsapes Art Auction
6pm
Knoxville Convention Center

Presented by the Guild of the Knoxville Museum of Art



NOVEMBER 29

East Tennessee Regional Student Art Exhibition
Runs through January 12, 2014



DECEMBER 4

Dine & Discover with KMA Executive Director David Butler
12-1pm



DECEMBER 12&13

Holiday Homes Tour 2013

Presented by the Guild of the Knoxville Museum of Art



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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, Cornerstone Foundation, the Haslam Family Foundation, Lucille S. Thompson Family Foundation, Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority, Scripps Network, Visit Knoxville, and 21st Mortgage for contributing to this new community resource, which supports a wide range of arts organizations and historic sites in our area and is managed by the Arts & Culture Alliance of Greater Knoxville.



The KMA thanks First Tennessee Foundation for sponsoring free admission during December 2013

KMA has a Hometown Hero



The museum's very own docent and volunteer Carol Devenski received a Hometown Heroes award from Home Federal Bank in May. The Hometown Heroes awards program recognizes outstanding individuals who provide volunteer services that strengthen our community and improve the lives of others. Carol Devenski has been a volunteer docent for the museum since 2007.

Devenski makes art understandable for all ages, but her heart lies in reaching out to the youngest of visitors, those under 10. As a trained art educator, she knows the power that art can unleash. She is a tireless volunteer, with more than 670 hours of service this past year (nearly four months full-time). She is also an incredible researcher and provides the museum with extensive information on upcoming exhibitions and acquisitions. In her words, "Art matters. Not only is the museum a great place to show art, it's an incredible community resource."

If you would like to become a KMA docent and enjoy enriching the lives of others, contact Krishna Adams at kadams@knoxart.org.

From left, Home Federal Bank Executive Vice President Debra Smith, Home Federal Bank President Dale Keasling, 2013 Hometown Hero Carol Devenski, and KMA Director of Development Susan Hyde.

KMA GIFT SHOP NEW ARTIST PROFILE



Handcrafted jewelry by Asheville artist **Suzanne Q. Evon** is now available in the KMA Gift Shop.

Suzanne Evon studied at Parsons School of Design in New York and continues to explore various metal techniques. Her current body of work combines both gold and silver and includes colored gemstones as well as raw natural stones. Evon finds that by incorporating a variety of methods, she can bring about a richness in texture that gives each piece a unique and timeless quality that goes beyond trends.

For information about this and other local artists, contact the KMA Gift Shop at 865.934.2042 or screswell@knoxart.org

SPOTLIGHT ON PHILANTHROPY

The IRA Charitable Giving Option Extended though December 31, 2013

Last year's "fiscal cliff" law that passed Congress and was signed by the President, formally known as the "American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012", has been extended through the end of 2013. **This IRA charitable giving option allows eligible taxpayers, 70 ½ years or older, to make charitable distributions from their traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA), up to \$100,000, without incurring taxable income that is typical on IRA withdrawals.**

Here is how it can benefit you or someone you know who has an IRA and is over age 70 ½:

Taxpayers who meet the criteria for making direct charitable distributions from their IRA's may realize a substantial tax benefit by taking advantage of this extended opportunity. If you believe that such a gift may be appropriate for you, we encourage you to promptly consult with your tax advisor and IRA custodian, and **we ask you to kindly remember the Knoxville Museum of Art.**

To learn more, please contact:

Susan Hyde, Director of Development
865-934-2045 office, 865-806-7339 mobile
shyde@knoxart.org

QUALIFICATIONS

One must be 70 ½ years old to take advantage of a qualified charitable distribution

Up to \$100,000 cash, of non-taxable income, can go straight back to a charity/charities of one's choice

Must complete by December 31, 2013

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Donor-advised funds and private foundations do not qualify

Distributions may not be used for event tickets

Call for Volunteers



The KMA is looking for volunteers to work in various aspects of the museum. Volunteers are needed to work at the front desk and to help with events such as Alive After Five, exhibition openings, and Summer Art Academy. This past year, volunteers worked the equivalent hours of seven full-time positions. Whether you can volunteer one day a week or one day a month, your commitment to the museum is greatly beneficial and critical to the day-to-day operations.

Additionally, for those who are interested in taking their volunteer opportunities a step further, the museum is always looking for docents to help give tours and to educate youth and adult groups.

If you are interested in volunteering at the KMA, please contact DeLena Feliciano at dfeliciano@knoxart.org.

For docent information, contact Krishna Adams at kadams@knoxart.org.

EAST TENNESSEE REGIONAL STUDENT ART EXHIBITION

This fall is the 8th Annual East Tennessee Regional Student Art Exhibition, November 29, 2013-January 12, 2014, presented by the Tennessee Art Education Association and the Knoxville Museum of Art. All public, private and home-schools in grades 6-12 from 32 counties are invited to participate. The staff of the museum, working in concert with a committee of area art educators, designed this annual exhibition to offer middle and high school students the opportunity to display their talents and be honored for their accomplishments in a professional art museum environment. Last year 880 artworks were submitted from 96 teachers and 325 of those works were juried into the exhibition.

Competition expenses, such as the awards, printing of programs, posters, entry information and jurors' fees are completely funded by local community business, community members, and museum supporters. The Best-in-Show winner receives a purchase award of \$500, and the artwork becomes a permanent part of the collection of James Dodson, on loan to the Knoxville Museum of Art's Education Collection. The Best in Middle School winner receives \$250 and the teacher of the winning students will receive \$100.

Scholarships are awarded to eligible juniors and seniors by colleges and universities from across the nation, which gives them the opportunity to promote their program and attract qualified applicants from a group of highly motivated and talented East Tennessee students. After the closing of the ETRSAE the artworks in the 10 winning categories travel to Belmont University to be in Tennessee's Best of the Best Student Art Exhibition in Nashville.

The reception is Tuesday, December 3, 2013 at the Tennessee Theatre, 604 S. Gay Street from 6-8pm with the awards ceremony starting at 6:45pm. The exhibition will be at the Knoxville Museum of Art.

The East Tennessee Regional Student Art Exhibition is made possible by presenting sponsor Regal Entertainment. Additional sponsors include Emerson Process Management, Home Federal Bank, Carton Service Inc., and the Tennessee Theatre.



Lindsey Orrin, *Untitled*, Best in Show, 2012



Caroline Trotter, *The Closing of Lakeshore: Left Behind*, Best Photography, 2012



Molly Landmesser, *Pomegranate*, Best Ceramics, 2012

THANK YOU TO THE SUNTRUST FOUNDATION KMA PARTNERS WITH TWO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

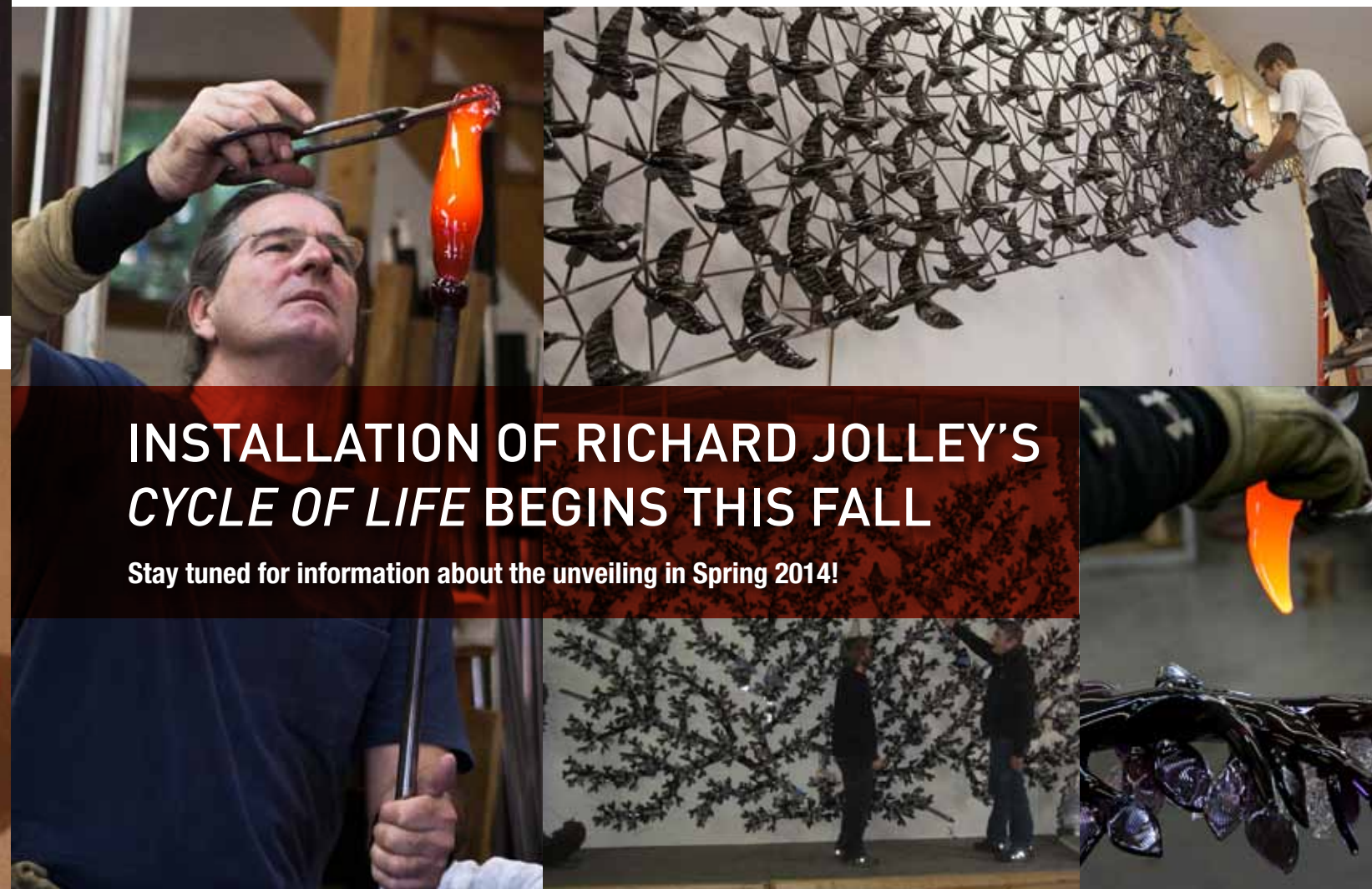
The KMA is partnering with the Community Schools program at Pond Gap Elementary School and Green Magnet Math and Science Academy to provide art and culture appreciation classes to students and their families. The SunTrust Foundation recently made a \$10,000 donation to help fund the program.

The Community Schools program builds on a model that refers to a school that has broadened its mission to meet the needs of all of its students, especially those that are at-risk. The school is used as a hub for community development in the neighborhood it serves, before and after school hours, focusing on areas to improve the lives of children and their families.

KMA's art educators build on and add value to a successful initiative by introducing art education, art-making, and art appreciation. Art and culture classes are offered weekly to K-5 grade students. Classes make use of the museum's well-developed educational resources such as teacher guides, lesson plans, and ART2GO travel cases focusing on the art and artists of East Tennessee and cultures beyond the United States. The KMA is honored to collaborate with these two Community Schools with a learning model designed to improve graduation rates and improve the financial well being for diverse and at-risk students and their families.



From left, Sherry Hensley, Green Magnet Math & Science Academy; Erica Long, Community Schools; Dr. Robert Kronick, University of Tennessee; Rosalind Martin, KMA; Susan Espiritu, Pond Gap Elementary; David Butler, KMA; Shawnda Ernst, Pond Gap Elementary; Rusty Harmon, SunTrust; Angela Conner, SunTrust; Mark Benson, Community Schools



INSTALLATION OF RICHARD JOLLEY'S *CYCLE OF LIFE BEGINS* THIS FALL

Stay tuned for information about the unveiling in Spring 2014!

