The annual PreK Family Fest was held March 18, 2018 at FWMoA. This free event was targeted to Fort Wayne Community Schools PreK students and their families to enjoy art creation stations and a gallery scavenger hunt. Throughout the school year, the Children’s Education Department serves 1,200 preschool students with developmentally-appropriate museum experiences. Thanks to major funding from Lincoln Financial Foundation, Wells Fargo, and the Flora Dale Krouse Foundation, children’s programming is free for students at most Northern Indiana schools.
Dear Friends,

If art is the universal language of the heart, “the feels” were strong inside our building all year. In this time of too much talking and not enough listening, the voice of the artist, and the private experience of the art-lover became even more vital and precious.

If you visited the Fort Wayne Museum of Art this year, you know that this tranquil and beautiful space is sacred. Sometimes our grand hall and galleries are raucous and brimming with fellow art lovers. Other times, a patron may enjoy a silent stroll through the galleries to contemplate alone. Both ways, this museum is always alive and ready to offer you an unforgettable experience.

As we set our sights toward the future, the Board of Trustees and Museum staff take our responsibility seriously. We will continue to surprise and delight our visitors. We will strive to pursue new and diverse audiences. We will maximize the opportunities that this incredible public asset provides. Lastly, we will be ever grateful to our donors and supporters for partnering with us to protect, celebrate and grow this sacred place.

Catherine Hill
Chair, Board of Trustees

Charles A. Shepard III
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The FWMoA Mission
The Fort Wayne Museum of Art will collect, preserve, and present American and related art to engage and educate broad and diverse audiences throughout the region to add value to their lives.

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**Our Vision for the Future**

To be the best nationally-accredited Art Museum of our size, while serving the broadest array of constituencies in northern Indiana.

**What We Value Most**

Believing that art is a meaningful part of our lives, we value:

- INCLUSIVENESS • DIALOGUE
- EDUCATION • SOUND STEWARDSHIP

**Strategic Goals**

1. Expand the public’s understanding and appreciation of American and related art.
2. Increase the size and diversity of the Permanent Collection.
3. Be a vital and welcoming arts institution of the community.
4. Advance toward a 2.2 million dollar operating revenue budget.
5. Meet or exceed benchmarks to be competitive with comparable peer museums.

The **2018 Chalk Walk** was held July 14 and 15 for over 200 artists to turn Main Street into the colorful canvas of the city. While some of the participants have artistic backgrounds, many chalkers have no formal art training. This makes their creations that much more impressive, executed in the blistering heat on an unforgiving surface.

Photo by Kevin R. Mullet
### Financial Snapshot

#### Our 2017-2018 Revenue and Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>$291,997</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
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<td>Government Support</td>
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<td>Earned Income</td>
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<td>Memberships and Individual Gifts</td>
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<td>Exhibition and Event Sponsorships</td>
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<td>ARTrageous Gala and Auction</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
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<td>Exhibitions</td>
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<td>Education</td>
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<td>Marketing</td>
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<td>Community Events</td>
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<td>Administration and Operations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,954,590</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Finance Committee of the Board voted to allocate the operating surplus of $62,388 to the museum’s Facility Plant Fund.

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#### Collations

- **4,549** Objects in the permanent collection
- **93** Accessions into the permanent collection
- **5,115** Students toured the museum
- **112** Tours given by the Children’s Education Department
- **14** Collaborations with regional organizations
- **1,056** Student works on display in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards
- **67** Off-site visits to deliver classroom programming
- **17,625** Total students reached in local classrooms
- **108** Mentions in local media
- **15** Mentions in national media
- **2,392** Works of unique art and fine craft sold in the Paradigm Gallery
- **63** Local artists represented by the Paradigm Gallery

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In September of 2017, FWMoA commissioned two murals by contemporary artists, one by Yis “Nosego” Goodwin for a children’s audience near the Learning Center, and the second by Michael “St. Monci” Moncibais in the soaring Madge Rothschild Memorial Atrium (shown).

St. Monci hails from Rochester, New York and was raised in Puerto Rico. His work is often distinguished by abstract compositions of architectural and graphic elements. His mural at FWMoA is a study of the interaction of line and shape while giving those elements the illusion of movement and spatial depth. His two-part mural complements the abstract sculptures in the Rothschild Memorial Atrium, such as those by John Newman and Lyman Kipp.
Peter Bremers, one of the leading figures in contemporary kiln cast glass, unveiled two new series, *7 Bodies* and *Perception*, that made their American debut at FWMoA in November of 2017. Each series embodies Bremers’ exploration of human existence as a dual experience of perceiving the world and living as a creative entity in this lifetime and beyond.

From the collection of the Kennedy Museum of Art, Ohio University, came *The Giants of Jazz* by photographer [Herman Leonard](https://www.hermanleonard.com). Portraits of the jazz greats Louis Armstrong, Miles Davis, Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Charlie Parker and Frank Sinatra set the mood in this striking observation of jazz society.

Our summer hit was *Kirsty Mitchell’s Wonderland*, one of the first presentations of this fantastical photographic series to American audiences. For nearly a decade, Mitchell developed this deeply personal work as a way to cope with the loss of her late mother by remembering the stories and fairy tales her mother told her. Trained as a fashion designer, Mitchell created elaborate costumes and props to compose astonishingly beautiful, evocative scenes in the lush English landscape.
What we’re most proud of this year:

Collection Acquisitions

This year, we acquired 93 objects for the permanent collection. Other purchases or donations from this year are awaiting the formal acquisition process practiced by collecting institutions. Notable acquisitions include:

**John Ottis Adams**, *Brookville*, ca. 1900, oil on canvas. Gift of Lorraine Davis.


What we’re most proud of this year:
Programming and Partnerships

In September 2017, we collaborated with the Language Services Network to develop bilingual tours in Spanish and Burmese for the national initiative Welcoming Week. The success of this collaboration led to an ongoing partnership with LSN to create bilingual tours on a regular basis at FWMoA.

The annual Día de los Muertos exhibition moved into a formal gallery space for the first time, elevating the community-created altars as works of art. Additionally, Karla Zepeda, associate professor of Spanish at Purdue Fort Wayne, gave a public lecture on the cultural context of Day of the Dead, which we live-streamed on Facebook for broad audiences across Northern Indiana.

In November, we teamed up with Green Hair Revolution for The Art of Hair, an event to help people explore and celebrate what it means to embody natural beauty. The event included a guest appearance by Angelica Sweeting, founder of Naturally Perfect Dolls as seen on ABC’s Shark Tank.

In recognition of the 30th Anniversary of the AIDS Memorial Quilt in 2017, we displayed 6 blocks of the traveling Quilt in partnership with the Positive Resource Connection for nearly a week after World AIDS Day.

After a groundbreaking exhibition exploring the impact of disabilities on art in 2017, we developed a partnership with The League to create tours and hands-on experiences for people with low or no vision. The new program, EnVision, adapts traditional sight-based gallery tours to emphasize sensory language that does not rely on visual descriptors, with hands-on opportunities whenever possible.

Driven by the public’s desire to engage with our permanent collection, we developed Print Room Talks to connect people with works on paper in the intimate environment of the Print and Drawing Study Center. Led by Curator of Prints and Drawings Sachi Yanari-Rizzo, this program engages people with small groupings of works on paper united by various art historical themes.

Now in its second year, the Museum Studies program in partnership with the University of Saint Francis School of Creative Arts continues to prepare students for a career in museums. Courses are offered by USF Faculty on campus and by FWMoA professional staff on-site, combining an academic foundation with hands-on experiences and applied learning.
We wanted to leave a legacy, and we felt that our modest finances could benefit the Fort Wayne Museum of Art. We love how unique and interesting exhibits keep arriving. Recently, we have enjoyed guitars, studio glass, Day of the Dead art, album cover art and modern photography, and we are thrilled how the museum keeps making amazing acquisitions. We love the art education talks, as we enjoy adding to our limited knowledge of art. And we adore the quarterly parties, as they are a great way for us to entertain our friends and interest them in one of Fort Wayne’s treasures. It was ridiculously easy to add the Fort Wayne Museum of Art to our will, and we hope you’ll consider adding them to your legacy, also!

Brenda and Steve Fishbaugh

We love this museum: its mission, its art, its people. Won’t you join us as a Thieme Society member?

Sharon and Ben Eisbart

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- Mr. Larry Selvick
- Ms. Linda A. Shafer
The 2018 ArtRageous Gala and Auction was held March 2 to a sold-out crowd. The annual event raises essential funding for FWMoA’s core programming and operations, and this year’s event revenue reached a record amount thanks to new strategies in partnership with David Goodman of Auction Results. At the Gala, FWMoA awarded the Theodore Thieme Award to Eric Doden for his leadership in economic development and its impact on the arts.
Donors to the Annual Fund

$25,000
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Mr. and Mrs. Todd Stafford
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Tomlinson
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Wilson

*Denotes deceased individuals
Michael Greene, docent since 2013
Michael gave 42 tours during the 2017-18 school year, more than any other current docent! He learned of the program through a friend on staff and was at first hesitant to become a docent as he had no experience working with children. Michael was a student at the Fort Wayne Art School and received a BFA from IU, then worked for many years in material and inventory control, not using his degree until five years ago when he joined the docent corps. Although very generous with his time and talent, Michael sometimes feels selfish in his motivations: “I’m kind of doing this for myself! It gives me a good feeling to be able to do it. I’m learning a lot. It’s giving me, actually, some confidence about being able to teach and communicate with a great variety of people. I thoroughly enjoy it. Obviously, it’s for the kids too, but I get something from it personally. It’s for my mental health!”

A memorable tour experience: “A couple weeks ago, as we were leaving, the teacher said to me that several of the kids said this was the greatest thing they’d ever done. They had so much fun! And that feels good. I wasn’t even sure that they were catching it. They didn’t say a word on the tour! I had to drag every single word out of them, but after it was over, I had five kids standing around me. They had all kinds of questions!”

Susan Elser, docent since 2013
Susan has always been interested in art, and although she’s worked on television and theater productions, she confesses she knew nothing about visual art before becoming a docent but learns something new with each tour. Upon retiring, she vowed to never watch television during the day, so she began seeking out ways to stay busy and contribute to the community. She also reads for the Audio Reading Service at the Allen County Public Library and is active at her church. As a docent, Susan hopes to inspire more curiosity and discovery in the children she works with, but sometimes finds the interactions with the adults on her tours even more rewarding, hopefully inspiring return trips from people who are often first-time visitors.

A memorable tour experience: “I had one little girl on a tour. We were looking at the Faith Ringgold print To Be or Not to Be Free with the story around it. That was literally my first tour when that was up. There is just something about it that brings me to tears when we talk about it and we read it, and I try to get the kids to put themselves in that situation. We were moving on, and this one little girl just stood there and looked at it. I had to go back and get her! I’ll always remember that because of how it held her. It meant a lot to me that she took that time to look at it.”