AAMD CELEBRATES ROLE OF ART MUSEUMS IN EDUCATION WITH PUBLICATION OF COMPILATION OF INNOVATIVE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

PUBLIC CAN PARTICIPATE IN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS DURING ART MUSEUM DAY ON MAY 18

New York, NY, April 28, 2014—The Association of Art Museum Directors (AAMD) today released a resource, Next Practices in Art Museum Education, which compiles information on AAMD member museums’ innovative approaches to engaging the public with the arts through diverse learning opportunities. AAMD members will further celebrate the importance of art museum education on Sunday, May 18, during the fifth annual Art Museum Day.

“At their core, museums are educational institutions that play a unique role in complementing and extending their regions’ educational resources for children, students, and adults,” said Chris Anagnos, Executive Director of AAMD. “With the publication of Next Practices, AAMD presents case studies of innovative education programs developed by our members as a resource for the field, educators, civic leaders, and the public. This Art Museum Day, AAMD encourages everyone to discover the wide variety of programs available at your local art museum.”

AAMD’s Next Practices incorporates 100 case studies of the recent and ongoing educational programming that its member museums have designed and implemented. The resource underscores the many forms art museum education can take, and provides practical and inspiring ideas for future programming at institutions worldwide. The case studies include programs that range from: a collaboration between an art museum and elementary school teachers to develop a website to bring more art into the classroom; to a curriculum to engage Pre-K children through diverse arts-integrated lessons; to a Spanish guide for visitors comprising a museum’s local Latino community’s personal interpretations of artworks in its collection. To download a PDF of Next Practices, please click here.

“AAMD’s Next Practices in Art Museum Education takes us beyond proven ‘best practices,’” said Lori Fogarty, Director of the Oakland Museum of California and Chair of AAMD’s Education and Community Issues Committee. “This publication is designed to spark new ideas and create a platform for sharing those ideas, while also providing practical information on how museums can initiate, support, and evaluate new education programs. Education is central to our field, and we are committed to fostering the innovative programming museums develop.”

On May 18, many AAMD member museums will further emphasize the importance of art museum education by offering educational programs and other special initiatives as part of their annual celebration of Art Museum Day. As in past years, participating museums will also offer free admission and/or special discounts. AAMD will encourage public participation by inviting visitors to share their learning experiences through social media platforms with the hashtag #ArtMuseumDay.

Art Museum Day emphasizes the essential role that art museums play in their communities, highlights the value of the visual arts in society, and provides new opportunities for audiences to participate in the wide-ranging programs offered by AAMD member museums. These member institutions—located across the United States, Canada, and Mexico—including regional museums as well as large international museums. International Museum Day is organized annually around the world by the International Council of Museums (ICOM) (http://icom.museum/imd.html), and has been celebrated globally since 1977. AAMD’s Art Museum Day is an opportunity to focus attention on the role of art museums in North America.
Museums participating in AAMD’s Art Museum Day in 2014 include:

Ackland Art Museum  High Museum of Art
Addison Gallery of American Art  Honolulu Museum of Art
Albright-Knox Art Gallery  Hood Museum of Art
Allen Memorial Art Museum  Hunter Museum of American Art
American Folk Art Museum  Indianapolis Museum of Art
Amon Carter Museum of American Art  Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston
Andy Warhol Museum  Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania
Antiguo Colegio de San Ildefonso  Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Arts
Art Gallery of Nova Scotia  J. Paul Getty Museum
Art Gallery of Ontario  Japan Society Gallery
Art Gallery of Windsor  Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art
Art Institute of Chicago  Joslyn Museum of Art
Asia Society Museum  Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art
Asian Art Museum of San Francisco  Kalamazoo Institute of Arts
Aspen Art Museum  Kimbell Art Museum
Baltimore Museum of Art  Laguna Art Museum
Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive  List Visual Arts Center, MIT
Birmingham Museum of Art  Los Angeles County Museum of Art
Boise Art Museum  Lowe Art Museum
Brandywine River Museum of Art  Madison Museum of Contemporary Art
Brooklyn Museum  McNay Art Museum
Burchfield Penney Art Center  Meadows Museum, SMU
Carnegie Museum of Art  Memphis Brooks Museum of Art
Chazen Museum of Art  Michael C. Carlos Museum
Cincinnati Art Museum  Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, Washington University
Clyfford Still Museum  Minneapolis Institute of Arts
Colby College Museum of Art  Mississippi Museum of Art
Columbia Museum of Art  Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth
Columbus Museum of Art  Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts
Contemporary Arts Center  Montreal Museum of Fine Arts
Crocker Art Museum  Morgan Library and Museum
Dallas Museum of Art  Muscarelle Museum of Art, College of William & Mary
Denver Art Museum  Museo Arocena
Des Moines Art Center  Museo de Arte de Ponce
Detroit Institute of Arts  Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico
Dixon Gallery and Gardens  Museo del Palacio de Bellas Artes
El Paso Museum of Art  Museo Dolores Olmedo Patino
Eli and Edythe Broad Museum of Art, Michigan  Museo Franz Mayer
State University  Museo Nacional de Arte
Farnsworth Art Museum  Museo Nacional de San Carlos
Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco  Museo Tamayo
Flint Institute of Arts  Museo Universitario Arte Contemporaneo
Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center  Museum of Arts and Design
Frick Art and Historical Center  Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego
Frist Center for the Visual Arts  Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago
Georgia Museum of Art  Museum of Contemporary Art, Denver
Georgia O’Keeffe Museum  Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Gilcrease Museum  Museum of Glass
Grand Rapids Art Museum  Museum of Latin American Art
Hammer Museum  
Henry Art Gallery  
Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art  

A comprehensive list of participating AAMD member art museums is available on the AAMD website (https://aamd.org/our-members/from-the-field/art-museum-day-is-sunday-may-18). Note that while ICOM’s International Museum Day is formally held each year on May 18, some institutions shift their celebrations to adjacent dates.

The Association of Art Museum Directors, representing 240 art museum directors in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, aids its members in establishing and maintaining the highest professional standards for themselves and the museums they represent. It serves as a forum for the exchange of information and the exploration of ideas, and as a voice with which museum directors may express their joint perspectives and those of their institutions. Further information about AAMD is available at www.aamd.org.

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