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Pensacola Museum of Art Celebrates 60 Years in 2014

Pensacola, FL – The Pensacola Museum of Art (PMA) is planning an entire year of celebration in 2014, commemorating our 60 year history in Pensacola. We've planned events, big and small, to happen throughout the year with the goal of engaging the community, giving back, and celebrating the history of the Museum.

A bit of history first:

In 1954, members of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) envisioned a venue to exhibit traveling art exhibitions, offer art classes for both children and adults and to provide meeting space for members of the community as well as a venue for lectures, films and other cultural presentations. Joining with others in the community who shared this vision, they formed the Pensacola Art Association.

When the City of Pensacola replaced the City Jail in 1954, the Pensacola Art Association sought to secure the building. The Spanish Revival structure was well-suited to become an arts center. The jail was already fireproof, secure and centrally located in Pensacola's historic downtown district. The City agreed to lease the jail for \$1 a year and the Art Association's board members transformed the former jail cells into exhibition spaces. The Art Association (which became the Pensacola Museum of Art in 1982) purchased the building in 1988.

Over the past 60 years, the Pensacola Museum of Art (PMA) has presented hundreds of exhibitions and thousands of educational opportunities, becoming the foundation for the visual arts in our community. As Pensacola continues to evolve as a dynamic cultural hub in Florida's Northwest region, the PMA plays an ever greater role in offering quality visual arts experiences and arts education, now serving nearly 100,000 patrons annually.

The Museum's Permanent Collection comprises 19th and 21st century works by Alexander Calder, Andy Warhol, Pablo Picasso, Leonard Baskin, Salvador Dali, Thomas Hart Benton, Louis Comfort Tiffany, Käthe Kollwitz, John Marin, Miriam Schapiro, Fairfield Porter, Alex Katz, Lynda Benglis, Milton Avery and many more. The Museum also owns decorative arts collections of European and American glass and African art.

Important Upcoming Events and Exhibitions:

Exhibitions:

February 21- April 5: Figures to Fur: Passions of a Private Collector (Selected works from the Peyroux, Gillmore and Meacham Collection)

April 10- May 31: Kevin Boldenow: Black and White Photography

May 3- August 8: Art of the Brick: LEGO sculpture by Nathan Sawaya

June 6- July 26: 60th Annual Members' Show

August 1- October 11: Private Walls III

August 15- October: 19: Guild Hall: An Adventure in the Arts (Selections from the permanent collection)

October 17- November 29: Creativity vs. Fear: Kim Howes Zabbia

Events:

February 18: Have a Heart for Art at Pensacola Country Club

February 21: Gallery Night, museum open until 9pm

March 14: Gallery Night, museum open until 9pm

March 16: Opera talks with the Pensacola Opera: Cinderella, 3-5pm

March 24: "The Art of Yoga" with Nancy LaNasa, 5:30pm

April 4: Gallery Night, museum open until 9pm

May 16: Gallery Night, museum open until 9pm

May 17-18: Art in the Park in Seville Square, 10-5pm

June 20: Gallery Night, museum open until 9pm

July 18: Gallery Night, museum open until 9pm

August 15: Gallery Night, museum open until 9pm

September 18: Suite Soiree (ticketed event)

September 19: Gallery Night, museum open until 9 pm

October 17: Gallery Night, museum open until 9 pm

November 21: Gallery Night, museum open until 9 pm

December 19: Gallery Night, museum open until 9pm

Museum hours are Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Saturday 12:00-5:00 p.m. The Museum is closed Sundays and Mondays. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students, seniors and active duty military. Children under 5 are free. Tuesdays, admission is free to the public. For more information about the Museum call (850) 432-6247, visit the website at pensacolamuseumofart.org or log on to Facebook at facebook.com/pensacolamuseumofart

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