



Museum Notes

A Publication for Members of the NIU Art Museum

Welcome to our newest Members!

New Members

Robert Banke
Donna Benson
Vivian Bandy
Donna and
Edward Flanagan
Paul and Kit Kassel
Carol Luc

Renewals

William and
Rivka Baker
Michael and
Elaine Bennett
Jo Burke
Peggy Burke and
Ed Wietecha
Rudolph and
Ingeborg Bisanz
Deborah and
Colin Booth
Ken and
Penny Cameron
Richard and
Thecla Cooler
Jan Devore
Patricia Faivre
Ann Fricke
Patricia Galvan
Stephen and
Deborah Haliczer
Teresa Iversen
Mary Lincoln
Gretchen and
Charles Moore
Nicholas Noe
Juliann Olsen
Patricia Perkins
Beth and
Harvey Plotnick
Morley and
Maureen Russell
Linda Schwarz
Ivan and Judith Shils
Sally Stevens
Larry Charles and
Emmylou Studier
Johanna and
Philip Vandrey

NIU ART MUSEUM



NIU School of Art and Design Faculty Biennial Exhibition

Rotunda and South Galleries

Show continues January 16 – February 23, 2018

Presented every two years, this exhibition features recent artwork and scholarship by faculty and teaching staff from all divisions of the NIU School of Art and Design and highlights the artistry, research, and world-class instruction found at NIU. Continued page 2.

Recent Show Highlighted Gifts to the Collection

An exhibition of recent gifts to the NIU Art Museum Collection featured work by Paul Cézanne, Sue Coe, David Driesbach, John Fraser, John Himmelfarb, Howard Hodgkin, Mauricio Lasansky, and Andy Warhol, to name a few. The exhibition offered a diverse range of artistic styles, from quietly meditative to satirically pointed. It was impressive indeed to look around the North Gallery and see a sample of what represents the most recent 5 years of growth for the Collection. Works came from private collectors, alumni, corporations, foundations, and the artists themselves. ■



Top: Exhibition graphic: Steve Quinn, Design, and Frank Trankina, Gestural Abstractions, NIU School of Art and Design. Bottom: Installation view from New to the Collection: Recent Acquisitions.

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Subscribe to the museum's email announcements to stay informed between newsletters.

To sign-up, visit niu.edu/artmuseum/about/contact-us.shtml

Confirm your subscription by clicking the link in the confirmation email.

Groundless

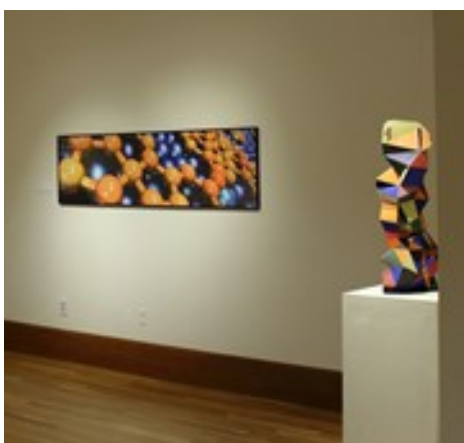
February 9 - May 18, 2018

A multi-media installation by artist Sarah Ahmad juxtaposes patterns found in nature and in the cosmos with South Asian architectural patterns from her native region of Lahore, Pakistan. She creates narratives of transcendent identity and cosmic unity within the context of harmonious realities in a global age of conflict. The gallery is offered as a space of refuge, contemplation, hope and renewal. Sponsored in part through the Barbara Cole Peters Fund for the NIU Art Museum.

Please call for appointment to view between February 24 and March 25 while other exhibitions are being installed.

Faculty Exhibition continued ...

The biennial also represents the breadth of the arts programs and disciplines offered within the School of Art and Design. Visitors and students are able to see the caliber of artistic and scholarly output of these talented individuals in the Museum's galleries outside of the traditional classroom or studio space. Work and research of over thirty faculty and teaching staff are represented and includes: Art and Design Education; Art History; Ceramics; Drawing; Fibers; Illustration; Metals and Jewelry; Painting; Photography; Printmaking; Visual Communications; Sculpture; and Time Arts. ■



Reclaimed Baggage

March 27 - May 18, 2018

Migration and globalization play a pivotal role on the formation of identity. Despite overwhelming pressure on women to be the transmitters and upholders of culture, migration is an opportunity for reinventing one's self as one navigates a new cultural landscape. Group exhibition of artwork by South Asian American women curated by Nirmal Raja.

Public Reception March 29, 5 - 6:30 p.m. NIU Art Museum with panel discussion 6:40 - 8 p.m., Altgeld 315.



Above: Pallavi Sharma. *Carry On*. Found suitcase, soil and barley grass. n.d. Courtesy the artist.

2017 Illinois Association of Museum Awards

The Illinois Association of Museums annually recognizes and celebrates the finest in Illinois museums with best practice awards in exhibitions, printed publications, special projects and building site preservation. Peter Olson, who attended the annual conference in October, accepted an Award of Merit for the Museum's 2017 spring exhibition "*What a Frightful Spectacle!*" *The Lithographs of Honoré Daumier* and also an Award of Excellence for the Museum Studies student-curated exhibition *A Tale of Donkeys and Elephants: Satire with the Wink of a Fox*.

Curated by students Zachary Bishop, Amy Caponigro, Millicent Kennedy, Victoria Likeum, Hannah Palsa, Zheng Zhong, and Anna-Marie Zurlinden, *Donkeys and Elephants* surveyed the history of political satire in the U.S. from Benjamin Franklin to *Saturday Night Live*. Reviewers noted the use of multiple media, a write-your-own-caption interactive and the show's topical relevance.

Of the exhibition curated by Olson reviewers commended the Art Museum's use of the Charlie Hebdo tragedy as inspiration for the Daumier project, "Examining the parallel between today's satirists and one of the greatest of all times, Honoré Daumier, has strong appeal."

Olson said of the recognition, "Many people put a lot of time, a lot of smarts, a lot of talent and a lot of heart into these exhibitions. These awards recognize their contributions, which were above-and-beyond what any sane person would expect. I think together we raised the bar a couple of notches."

The Art Museum along with Museum Studies Instructor Peter Van Ael collaboratively work together with students to develop their own group-curated exhibition giving them a hands-on learning experience in a museum setting while curating, producing, and planning their exhibition. ■

Photo page 8.

Museum Staff

Jo Burke, Director
 Peter Olson, Assistant Director
 Stuart W. Henn, Coordinator
 Marketing and Education

Graduate Assistants

Millicent Kennedy
 Zeinab Saab

Museum Assistants

Isabel Angulo
 Jamie Arntzen
 Sudeep Chandra
 Avery LaPlante
 Olivia Monteiro
 Ari Norris
 Sarah O'Heron
 Elizabeth Russo

Exhibition Advisory Committee

Michael Bennett
 Mary Glynn Boies
 Nina Rizzo
 Diane Rodgers
 Peter Van Ael


Education Advisory Committee

Joshua Anderson
 Cynthia Hellyer-Heinz
 Kryssi Staikidis

If you are interested in joining the Museum's volunteers contact the Museum to share your talents!

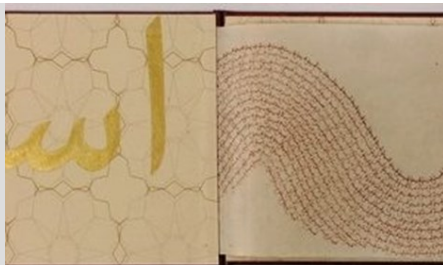
Visit niu.edu/artmuseum
 Phone: 815-753-1936
 Email: artmuseum@niu.edu

Receive our email updates by visiting our website:
niu.edu/artmuseum/contactus.

 Friend us on Facebook

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 @NIUArtmuseum

Parking is available in the Carroll Ave Visitor's Pay Lot and metered spots in front of Altgeld Hall. Campus parking is free on weekends and after 5 p.m. weeknights.



Staff Announcements

Illinois Association of Museums

Peter Olson travelled to Mt. Vernon, Illinois to attend the IAM's annual awards ceremony in October. There he accepted two awards, see *2017 IAM Awards* on page 8 for details. While at the conference, Olson also co-chaired a presentation session with Peter Van Ael titled *Forging Lasting Relationships Through Museum Studies Exhibitions* that explored how the NIU Museum Studies Program built lasting relationships with other area museums, which serve as lending institutions and as hosts for the program's traveling exhibitions.

Huskie Spotlight

Museum Graduate Assistant Zeinab Saab was highlighted in the university's *Huskie Spotlight*. To learn more you can read the full online feature at niu.edu/spotlight/student/zeinab.shtml. Recently, Saab's work was exhibited at Abecedarian Gallery in Denver, Colorado in the group exhibition *Artists' Book Cornucopia VIII*. The 26 artists represented the diversity of art and craft in book arts and included a wide variety of media, scale and functionality. Her bound book, *No Answer*, was awarded the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library Purchase Award and will join the collection there. Congratulations!

Above: Zeinab Saab, *No Answer*, 2017 edition of 1. Bound book. (6 x 12 x 35 in.). Courtesy Abecedarian Gallery.

Right: Sheila Pinkel, top: *Ilex Optical Co., Wide Open*, 2011. NIU Art Museum Collection, 2017.218, bottom: *Leica Summilux-M lens*, 2011. NIU Art Museum collection, 2017.216. Both are Archival ink jet prints. (20 x 20 in.). Gifts of the artist, member of The Museum Project.



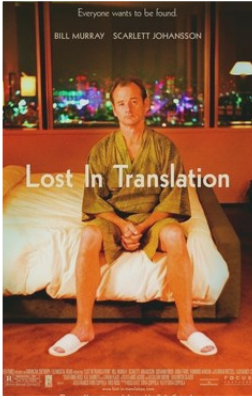
Collection Spotlight

If you saw our fall exhibitions you are familiar with this archival ink-jet print from artist Sheila Pinkel, but you may have missed that it was part of a recent gift to the NIU Art Museum Collection from the artist along with three other ink jet prints from the same series. The subjects of Pinkel's photographs fit well with the exhibition

of vintage and historic cameras as she explores lens refractions that result from scanning each lens on a flatbed scanner. Pinkel's use of digital equipment to scan, record and print these images expands on the traditions of camera-less photography creating a print from digital image technologies without the use of a camera. Much of her photographic work includes light sensitive emulsions, photosensitized materials and xeroradiography. The Museum of Contemporary Photography categorized her body of work as being concerned with the unseen—to make visible the invisible.

Pinkel started this series in 2011 when she noticed what appeared to be extreme differences between the refractions of various lenses. "I was especially interested in the potential of the scans to reveal the optical structure of the lenses and lens coatings. As I scanned I found that sometimes I could recognize the manufacturer of the lenses from the resulting refractions." She has scanned lenses from cameras of prominent photographers including Man Ray, Ansel Adams, Edward Curtis, Dimitri Baltermants and Paul Outerbridge. "I found extreme differences between refractions in lenses used at the beginning of photography in the 19th century and lenses subsequently developed in the 20th century." ■

Public Programming



Film Screening and Discussion

**Lost and Found:
Lost in Translation and
Finding a Way**

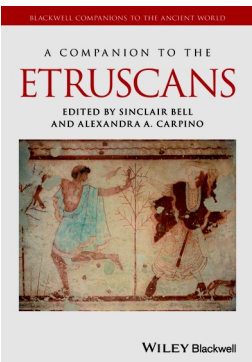
Thursday, January 18,
6:00-8:45 p.m., Art Building 102
Nina Rizzo, Associate Professor,
Fine Arts Studio, Painting



Informal Gallery Talk

**A Guided Tour
of the Sketch Book**

Thursday, January 25, 5:10-5:50 p.m.,
NIU Art Museum Gallery
Michael Barnes, Professor, Fine Arts
Studio, Printmaking



**The Ancient Etruscans:
A Very Short Introduction**

Tuesday, January 30,
5:10-5:50 p.m., Altgeld 125
Sinclair Bell, Associate Professor,
Art History



**Flesh into Word:
Is David Salle
Angela Carter's
'Moral Pornographer'?**

Wednesday, January 31,
5:10-5:50 p.m., Altgeld 125
Sarah Evans, Associate Professor,
Art History

American painter, print maker and stage designer David Salle at his studio on 5th Ave. on December 11, 1981 in New York City. © Getty Images.

**New Methodologies in
Design Culture: Reading
Signs and Symbols in
Visual Landscape**

Monday, February 5,
5:10-5:50 p.m., Altgeld 125
Rebecca Houze, Professor,
Art History

NEW MYTHOLOGIES IN
DESIGN AND CULTURE

READING SIGNS AND

SYMBOLS IN THE

VISUAL LANDSCAPE

REBECCA HOUZE

BLOOMSBURY



Faking Newtonian Physics for Art

Tuesday, February 6, 5:10-5:50 p.m., Altgeld 125
Bart Woodstrup, Associate Professor, Design and
Media Arts, Time Arts



**Raphael's School of Athens -
They've been wrong for 400 years**

Thursday, February 8, 5:10-5:50 p.m., Altgeld 125
Mary Quinlan, Professor, Art History

Above: Bart Woodstrup, *Active Fire*. Software and Data Visualization, 2017. Next page top: John Siblik, *Rainbow Bridge with Xi'An University students*. Documentation, 2017. below: Christine LoFaso, *Winding Cloth for Sappho*. Roman loom and weights, 2017.

For questions or more information on the events at the NIU Art Museum please phone 815-753-1936 or email the Education Coordinator at shenn1@niu.edu.



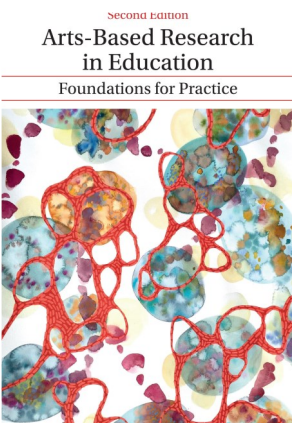
Public Sculpture as Public Dialog

Thursday, February 15, 5:10-5:50 p.m., Altgeld 125
John Siblik, Director, School of Art and Design



Winding Cloth for...

Tuesday, February 20, 5:10-5:50 p.m., Altgeld 125
Christine LoFaso, Professor and Division Head, Fine Arts Studio, Fiber



Edited by
 Melisa Cahnmann-Taylor
 Richard Siegesmund

Scholaristry: Arts-Based Research in the Social Sciences

Thursday, February 22,
 5:10-5:50 p.m., Altgeld 125
Richard Siegesmund,
 Professor, Art
 Education & Design

Visit our website for added
 events

niu.edu/artmuseum/events



Wednesday, February 28, 2018

Art Institute of Chicago's *India Modern*

View the AIC's exhibition *India Modern: The Paintings of M. F. Husain*, a prominent 20th-century Indian artist that helped develop modern Indian art. Celebrating India's rich and diverse history, the eight triptych panels on view at the AIC are the last works of Husain's unfinished commission when he passed in 2011. Prior to our visit to the museum we will enjoy the multicultural sights and tastes of West Devon Avenue and the blending of Asian ethnicities found there. Choose to dine on Indian cuisine at local restaurant in the area and then spend some time exploring the Mughal Bakery for sweets, the Patel Brothers Indian grocery or the India Book House for a little cultural diversion.

RSVP by 02/23. Departure 9:30 a.m. Expected Return 6:30 p.m. Price: NIU Art Museum Members \$25; Non-Member Adult \$35; Non-Member St/Sr \$30. Ticket price includes transportation. Meals and incidentals not included. AIC Admission on your own (AIC Members free; IL residents \$22 Adults, \$16 St/Sr).

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Roger Brown Study Collection

Visit Chicago Imagist artist Roger Brown's home and studio in the Lincoln Park neighborhood. One of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago's Special Collections the home is a museum, archive, studio, and study center that cares for the interpretation and preservation of Brown's collection and estate. Learn about his career, his collection of tribal and unconventional artists, as well as other Imagists' work. All are maintained in the setting of his studio and home preserved with his Ford Mustang still parked in the garage. Enjoy lunch in the neighborhood at the distinctly Chicago Goose Island Brewpub.

RSVP by 03/16. Departure 9:30 a.m. Expected Return 5:30 p.m. Price: NIU Art Museum Members \$40; Non-Member Adult \$50; Non-Member St/Sr \$45. Ticket price includes transportation, admission and guided tour. Meals and incidentals not included.

Above: M. F. Husain. *Hindu Triad*, 2008–2011. Usha and Lakshmi N. Mittal. Photo © The Victoria and Albert Museum, London. Right: Interior Roger Brown Home and Studio. Care of Libraries and Special Collections, SAIC.



Pre-registration and payment required for all Get-on-the-Bus excursions. To sign-up, please contact the NIU Art Museum by phoning 815-753-1936. Payment may be made with cash, check made out to NIU, or major credit card over the phone.

Our Volunteers

For their assistance over the past few months our special thanks goes to:

Gary Burchett for A.V. speaker repair; mailing assistance and food preparation for the first fall reception; Assistant Professor Jessica Labatte, Division of Design and Media Arts, Photography and Assistant Professor Michael Rea, Division of Studio Arts, Sculpture for their marvelous curation of our Fall, 2017 exhibition, *Objectifying the Photograph*. Both feet-on-the-ground curators, Jessica shuttled visiting artists to and from the airport, returned artwork over state lines and documented the show; Michael shared his tools, construction expertise, good humor and muscle to help us install the wall-breaking artwork; **Sophia Varcados** for catalogue design; **Larry Gregory** for his presentation on antique cameras; Associate Professor Steve Quinn, Division of Design and Media Arts, Visual Communications for design of the Faculty of School of Art and Design exhibition graphics and to Professor Frank Trankina, Division of Studio Arts, Painting, for his graphic abstractions. Seeing Frank paint with a broom was quite a sight!

Below top: Frank Trankina paints the title wall of the Faculty Exhibition;
bottom: Labatte and Rea discuss the exhibition at the opening reception.



Exhibitions

Artwork and scholarly research on loan from NIU School of Art and Design faculty and teaching staff including: Michael Barnes; Wes Beeler; Sinclair Bell; Justin Bitner; Todd Buck; Billie Giese; Ola Giza; Cynthia Hellyer-Heinz; Rebecca Houze; Joseph Insley; Katie Kahn; James Kearns; Yih-Wen Kuo; Jessica Labatte; Christine LoFaso; Kimberly Martens; Jamie Obermeier; Mary Quinlan; Steve Quinn; Michael Rea; Nina Rizzo; Stephanie Sailer; Kurt Schultz; John Siblik; Richard Siegesmund; Geoffrey Smith; Perrin Christian Stamatis; Ben Stone; Johnathon Strube; Frank Trankina; Peter Van Ael; Shei-Chau Wang; and Bart Woodstrup.

Support

The exhibitions and programs of the NIU Art Museum are sponsored by part by the Illinois Arts Council Agency; the Dean's Circle of the College of Visual and Performing Arts; and the Friends of the NIU Art Museum.

Annual Members

Thank you for your generous commitments!

Sponsor Members

Michael Barnes
Rudolf and
Ingeborg M. Bisanz
Peggy Burke and
Ed Wietecha
Susan Carter and
Robert Sabin
John and Nancy Castle
Patricia Faivre
Donna and
Edward Flanagan
Lesley Gilbert
Stephen and
Deborah Haliczzer
Stuart Henn
Steven A. Johnson
Ronald Klein
Jerry and Miriam Meyer
William (deceased)
and Josephine Monat
James and Dianne Moss
Nicholas Noe
Mary Olson
Pete Olson
Mary Quinlan-McGrath
Brian Reis and
Mary E. LaClair
Patricia Perkins
Maureen and Morley Russell
Dan and Virginia Seymour
Terri Smialek
Sharon Tourville
Patricia Vary
Lynne Waldeland

Patron Members

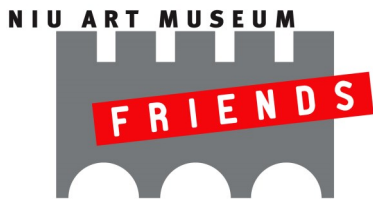
Doug Baker and
Dana Stover
Michael and Elaine Bennett
Mary Glynn and John Boies
Deborah and Colin Booth
Jo Burke
Natalie Calhoun
Richard and Thecla Cooler
Norden Gilbert and
Ben Thomas
Richard F. Grott
Janet Hathaway
Anne C. Kaplan
Paul and Kit Kassel
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Robert J. Fleisher
Catherine Raymond and
Alan Potkin
Sally Stevens

Benefactor Members

Jerry and Annette Johns
Kathleen and Richard Katz
Barbara and John Peters

Thank you for your
continued support.

*Membership renewal notices are
not mailed. Please check if your
membership card is expiring
soon and renew today!*



BECOME A FRIEND!

Engage and benefit from a closer connection with the arts! Enjoy early-bird announcements, discounts, and members' only events. Take satisfaction in your vital commitment to support our exhibitions, programs and the preservation of our collection. Join Now!

If you are already a current member, please share this form with a friend. Thank you.

Friends Level

Individual \$25 / Dual \$45 (2 people, one address) / Student \$10 / Senior \$15 / Dual Senior \$25 (2 seniors, one address)

Sponsor \$100

Choice of **one** Sponsor Collector Print Series:

Sidney Chafetz, *Public Servant*
 William Daley, *Untitled (sketches for ceramics)*
 David Driesbach, *The Pied Piper*
 Larry Gregory, *Conkles Hollow, Ohio*
 Peter Olson, *Hummingbird Nebula*
 Charlotte Rollman, *Hopkins Park, DeKalb*
 John Pittman Weber, *Distant Soweto*

Patron \$250

Choice of **one** Patron Collector Print Series:

Renie Adams, *Point of View*
 Michael Barnes, *Sideshow*
 David Driesbach, *Opening Night*
 Carl Hyano, *Sushi Trinitron*
 Ben Mahmoud, *Night Garden*

Benefactor \$500

Choice of **one** Benefactor Collector Print Series:

Susanne Doremus, *Sea Fall*
 Jay Ryan, *The Squadron on Patrol*

Membership Level Benefits

	Friend	Sponsor	Patron	Benefactor
Choice of one Friends of the NIU Art Museum premium	■	■	■	■
Priority registration and discounted fees on museum activities	■	■	■	■
Printed mailing of exhibition announcements	■	■	■	■
Special members-only previews, receptions, bus trips and special events	■	■	■	■
20% discount on NIU Art Museum catalogues	■	free	free	free
Subscription to <i>Museum Notes</i> members' newsletter	■	■	■	■
Recognition in <i>Museum Notes</i>		■	■	■
Name engraved on Membership Plaque in Museum			■	■
Private tour (options available)				■



YES! I want to **Join** **Renew** at the indicated level below: *Students and Seniors please enclose copy of current I.D.*

Individual \$25 / Dual \$45 (2 people, one address) / Student \$10 / Senior \$15 / Dual Senior \$25 (2 seniors, one address)

Sponsor \$100 Patron \$250 Benefactor \$500 I would like to help with an additional donation of \$ _____.

Please keep my premium and use my entire gift for programming and collection care.

Premium Selection _____ Print Series Selection _____

E-mail _____

Name _____

Payment

Address _____

Check enclosed payable to NIU Art Museum for \$ _____.

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Please charge: Visa Mastercard Discover Amer Exp Expiration _____

Phone _____ Mobile _____

Account number _____

I am interested in volunteering for:

Baking/Receptions Housing artists/scholars overnight Gallery Attendant/Information Desk Researching Get-On-The-Bus Trips Other _____

Serving on an Advisory Panels: (Area of Interest: Events Fundraiser Education/Outreach Exhibitions Collections)

Return this portion to the NIU Art Museum, Altgeld 116, 1425 W. Lincoln Highway, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115

IAM Exhibition Awards and Grant Award



Illinois Association of Museums' Awards

Pete Olson accepts an Award of Merit from IAM President Karen Everingham at the annual conference held in October.

See story page 2.

Illinois Arts Council Agency Grant Award

We at the museum are humbled and honored to share the recent announcement that we have been awarded \$8,200.00 in general operating support from the Illinois Arts Council Agency. Peer-reviewed by arts organization, gallery and museum directors, curators, and educators, the IACA Visual Arts Grants go a long way in enabling us to enrich our program offerings in service to the NIU campus and the region.

Serving Campus and Community by Balancing Traditional and Contemporary Art to Explore the Connections Made through Visual Culture.

The NIU Art Museum is located on the first floor, west end of Altgeld Hall, located on the corner of College Avenue and Castle Drives on the main campus of Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, IL.

The exhibitions and programs of the NIU Art Museum are sponsored in part by the Illinois Arts Council Agency; the Friends of the NIU Art Museum; and the Dean's Circle of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, NIU Foundation.



NIU Art Museum
 Altgeld Hall 116, First Floor, West End
 1425 W. Lincoln Hwy.
 Northern Illinois University
 DeKalb, Illinois 60115
 815-753-1936
 Gallery Hours:
 Tu, W, F 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Th Noon - 7 p.m.;
 Sun Noon - 4 p.m.; and by appointment for group tours.
niu.edu/artmuseum

