University Art Collection
Strategic Plan
2009-2014
University Art Collection
Strategic Plan - Overview

About the Collection
From its modest beginnings in the 1960’s, the Wayne State University Art Collection has grown from 127 objects to include nearly 6000 works of art. A majority of the Collection represents works by Michigan and regional artists from the mid-to-late 20th century, including significant gifts from the James Pearson Duffy collection of over 1500 works predominately by artists of the ‘Cass Corridor’, sometimes referred to as Detroit’s first avant garde. Also included in the collection are ethnographic objects from Africa and South America; a large collection of late 20th c. contemporary prints, sculptures and paintings by nationally and internationally known artists from the Eugene Applebaum collection (exhibited at the Applebaum Pharmacy Building); artworks by Wayne State University faculty and alumni and an important collection of large-scale public sculptures. A growing aspect of the collection is work by African-American artists such as Romare Bearden, Sam Gilliam, Tyree Guyton, Jacob Lawrence, Al Loving, Howardena Pindell, Hughie Lee Smith and Larry Walker.

The current, total monetary value of the entire collection is unknown. The figure for 2008 gifts to the Collection totals over $400,000 – a stellar year. A professional art appraisal of thirty public sculptures valued at $1,547,000 was performed in 2008 and funded through a grant from the Community Foundation for SE Michigan. A 1999 gift of art from Eugene Applebaum installed at the Applebaum Pharmacy Building was appraised at $500,000 at the time of that gift. Including two recent professional appraisals of selected works in the Collection totaling $460,000, the documented insurance values total nearly three million dollars ($3,000,000). There remain hundreds of additional works of art for which current appraised values are uncertain or unknown.

The university’s enduring philosophy is that pieces in the collection appear throughout the campus – in signature buildings, libraries, the medical complex, meeting rooms, the President’s office and residence, and on the university’s malls and lawns. Integrated into public spaces, the collection embraces and enhances the everyday lives of people on campus and in the surrounding communities.

Core Values/Principles of the University Art Collection (UAC)

The work of the UAC is guided by our belief that the Collection…

- provides an integral, approachable and authentic art experience to all students, faculty, staff and visitors to WSU
- offers the WSU campus and regional communities the opportunity to encounter and engage with art through exhibitions, research/scholarship, campus installations and outreach
- adheres to the ethical principles and best practices in the field including the acquisition, care, preservation and advancement of the UAC
- supports and enhances Wayne State University, Detroit and Michigan’s reputation as a cultural and artistic center
Mission

The Wayne State University Art Collection exists within the context of the university’s overall mission to discover, examine, transmit and apply knowledge that contributes to the positive development and well being of individuals, organizations and society. A great university strives to challenge the imagination and the Wayne State University Art Collection is a primary resource in the creation of this environment by providing provocative and stimulating surroundings where students, faculty, staff and visitors can encounter great works of art.

The Wayne State University Art Collection serves as an important educational resource where the campus community can not only view important examples of genres, experiments and works of local historical interest, but can also access them as artists, critics and scholars.

Through the acquisition, exhibition, care and preservation of original works of art the Wayne State University Art Collection encourages an awareness and appreciation of the visual arts, contributes to the aesthetics of our beautiful urban campus, educates and inspires our community, and reinforces Wayne State University and Detroit’s standing as a center for artistic expression.

Vision for the Future

The Wayne State University Art Collection envisions a future in which the Art Collection contributes profoundly to the quality of campus life through the exhibition of original works of art which inspire and enhance the daily experience of students, faculty, staff and visitors.

Through personal encounters and web-based technologies the Collection is a valued educational resource to both local and global communities enlivening public discourse, promoting intellectual inquiry, and increasing cultural awareness of our university and our region.
University Art Collection (UAC)
Strategic Plan – Goals and Objectives 2009 – 2014

I. Share the resources of the UAC in support of the teaching and research missions of the university

A/ Partner with other Colleges, Departments and organizations to support the research and teaching missions of the university through study groups and special projects

1. Create an undergraduate or graduate research award/internship for work with the UAC
2. Coordinate projects or ‘gallery talks’ with at least one other university college, department or organization for each UAC exhibition
3. Collaborate with WSU Library Services to create a ‘Cass Corridor’ digital archives

B/ Increase access to and visibility of the UAC to a broader, global community by utilizing web-based technologies

1. Create a web-site for the UAC within 3 years
2. Curate an on-line exhibition highlighting the ‘Cass Corridor’ within 3 years
3. Curate rotating special on-line exhibitions from the UAC within 5 years
4. Build relationships with other organizations and institutions by sharing information, establishing links with partner institutions and expanding our outreach

C/ Highlight works from the UAC by seeking external exhibition venues and creating alliances with other institutions and organizations

1. Coordinate one exhibition per year with the Elaine L. Jacob and/or Art Department galleries
2. Loan works from the UAC to 2-3 off-campus exhibitions per year
3. Organize traveling exhibitions every 5 years

D/ Organize and sponsor special UAC events on campus for students, faculty, staff, alumni and visitors

1. Plan receptions and interpretive talks
2. Integrate the UAC into established programs (e.g. student/parent/faculty/staff campus orientation, Detroit Orientation Institute (DOI), Detroit Festival of the Arts, etc.)
II. **Expand and enhance the financial, physical and intellectual resources of the UAC**

A/ **Develop a Fundraising Plan with priorities and possible funding sources**

1. Seek gifts through grants, foundations, endowments, contributions and on-line gifts
2. Secure funds for conservation projects
3. Fund traveling exhibitions
4. Fund publications

B/ **Enlist volunteers to serve as advocates and supporters of the UAC**

1. Establish a ‘Friends of the WSU Art Collection’ group
2. Increase docents for ‘ArtWalk’ tours and other projects (e.g., student/faculty/staff orientation, student-led campus tours)

C/ **Attract gifts of significant works of art**

1. Host one event each year for past and potential donors of gifts of art (hosted by ‘Friends of the WSU Art Collection’)
2. Focus on acquiring the best work including the ‘Cass Corridor’ art movement
3. Build a donor base of planned and promised gifts

D/ **Establish a conservation program**

1. Create an ‘Adopt a Painting’ fundraising project highlighting the Gamble restoration as inspirational focal point
III. Increase awareness of and respect for the UAC and build relationships through university PR and community outreach

A/ Campus installation

1. Provide labels and interpretive materials for all art installed on WSU campus
2. Create UAC liaison for each building, college, department or unit
3. Develop and promote a rotation policy to protect artwork installed on campus from preservation issues such as deterioration from light, heat, humidity, etc.

B/ Utilize WSU web-site

1. Create ‘Picture of the Week’, by posting on WSU web-site, weekly images and interpretive information on a work from the UAC
2. ‘Interactive’ ArtWalk tour permanently posted on WSU main web-site

C/ Promote the concept of one university art collection

1. Send memos to all Deans, Colleges, Department Heads and Units introducing the UAC Coordinator, advising on the APPM and offering services from the UAC

D/ Market the UAC through established foundations and city organizations

1. Increase UAC and ‘ArtWalk’ tours utilizing UCCA, tourism bureaus, etc.

E/ Produce a PR/Donor/Critics list

1. Send out regular press releases announcing special gifts, grants, events and exhibitions
IV. Secure permanent funding to support the UAC

A/ Secure additional Staff to support the UAC

1. Advocate for a permanent additional staff position ($14,000)
2. Advocate for continued year-round funding for student assistants (Art Activity Awards, work-study, etc.)

B/ Operations

1. Work to secure a permanent annual operating budget from the university in the range of $65-75,000.00 to address ongoing expenses like costs for preservation, annual maintenance contracts for public sculptures, software and equipment

C/ Create a Prioritized Plan for Physical Plant enhancement

1. Expand and centralize the UAC storage into one practical and functional facility
2. Install proper security, safety and climate controls
   a. Card-swipe security system hard-wired to public safety
   b. Appropriate fire suppression system
   c. UV filtering over all light fixtures
   d. Humidity/flood monitoring system hard-wired to public safety
3. Create stations within storage area to facilitate
   a. study and research groups
   b. clerical and computer work
   c. photography
   d. inventory
   e. treatment and preparation space
4. Acquire tools and equipment
   a. Matting and framing equipment
   b. Non-ozone producing Fax, Xerox and laser printing machines
   c. Conservation supplies and storage furniture
   d. Wall mounted photographic copy stand
UAC Timeline 1965-1985

1965
Keast - WSU President

1968
127 items
Women of Wayne fund inventory project, formalizing WSU Art Collection

1971
Gullen - WSU President

1972
245 items

1978
Bonner - WSU President

1982
Adamany - WSU President

1984
Public Sculpture group formed
Active collecting by Bilaitis

1982
Adamany supports collection purchase
1986: School of Fine & Performing Arts

1989: College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts

1988: Bilaitis becomes Associate Dean

1991: Engler elected Gov.

1994: Second Duffy gift of art

1996: Old Main renovations

1997: Reid - WSU President

1998: Elaine L. Jacob Gallery

1999: ‘Up From the Streets’ Duffy collection exhibition at Elaine L. Jacob Gallery

2000: Funding for half-time staff person

2001: Bilaitis retires

2002: Funding for half-time staff person

1992: First Duffy donation of seminal ‘Cass Corridor’ art

2000 items

First publication on collection

Photos and database started
UAC Timeline 2005-2010

2007
‘Rex Lamoreaux Collects’ exhibition at Comm. Arts Gallery
Sandra Schemske, Art Collection Coordinator, starts
UAC Committee forms
Community Fdn. for SE MI grant - $125,000

2008
Noren - WSU President
Duffy gift - 1500 ‘Cass Corridor’ pieces
Conservation Assessment
Performed docent tours and ‘ArtWalk’ self-guided brochure created
Jacob Lawrence - ‘Legend of John Brown’ traveling display begins

2009
‘Time and Place: Art of Detroit’s Cass Corridor from the Wayne State University Collection’ exhibition at Elaine L. Jacob Gallery
Wayne State UAC Committee
Sharon Vasquez*, Dean, College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts, Committee Chair
Deborah Brazen, Architect/Engineer II, Design and Contracting Services
Andrea Roumell Dickson*, Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff, Administrative Operations
Joan Ferguson*, Assistant Dean, College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts
Christiane Joost-Gaugier*, Department Chair, James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History
Lisa Baylis Gonzalez*, Director, Elaine L. Jacob and Art Department Galleries
Roger William Kempa, Assistant Vice President, Cash Management and Investments
Sandra Schemske*, Art Collection Coordinator
Lisa Shrader*, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the President

Strategic Planning Executive Committee
Jeffrey Abt, Associate Professor, James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History
Julianne Bjarnesen, Senior Development Officer, Development and Alumni Affairs
Jerry Herron, Dean, Irvin D. Reid Honors College
Ronna Rivers Featherstone, Rivers Conservation & Preservation Services LC

Strategic Planning Facilitator
Hal Stack, Director, Labor Studies Center

*These individuals also served on the Strategic Planning Executive Committee

Images - Cover, left, top to bottom:
“Portrait of Clarence Hilberry”
Wilbert, Robert J. (b. 1929)
1964, Oil on Canvas, 48 x 36 in
Gift of Alumni Association, 1964

“Wound Up”
Gray, Cleve (1918 - 2004)
1989, Acrylic on Canvas, 55 x 70 in
Gift of CVS Corporation, 1999

“Time and Place” exhibition
Elaine L. Jacob Gallery, 2009

Cover, right:
Tyree Guyton’s “Invisible Doors” sculpture being installed outside Welcome Center, 2007

Page one, left to right:
“To the people he found worthy of his trust, he communicated his plans”
From “The Legend of John Brown”
Lawrence, Jacob (1917 - 2000)
1978, Serigraph, 13 1/2 x 20 in
Purchase - Office of the President, 1994

“Untitled”
Chatelain, James (b. 1947)
1975, Oil on Canvas, 16 1/2 x 16 1/2 in
Gift of James Pearson Duffy, 2008

Page two, left to right:
“Portrait of Rex Lamoreaux”
Aro, Mary (b. 1929)
1986, Watercolor, 30 1/4 x 22 3/4 in
Purchase, Lamoreaux Incentive Fund, 1986

Bedu Mask
Nafana Tribe
1950, Carved and Painted Wood, 48h in
Gift of the Sellers Family in memory of their grandfather, Charles W. Sellers, M.D., 2000

“Untitled”
Nobili, Louise Jansson (1917-2004)
Oil on Canvas, 96 x 96 in
Bequest of the Estate of Marco Nobili, 2006

Page three, left to right:
Women of Wayne Alumni Association led ArtWalk with artist Sergio DeGuisti

“Untitled (Swordfish)”
Newton, Gordon (b. 1948)
1983-84, Paint, canvas, found objects
67 1/8 x 106 x 24 1/2 in
Gift of James Pearson Duffy, 1992

Page four, left to right:
Art conservator
Conservation and Museum Services

“Breakwater”
Lee-Smith, Hughie (1915 - 1999)
1964, Oil on Canvas, 23 5/8 x 35 3/8 in
Alumni Association Purchase, 1966

Page five, left to right:
“In The Garden”
Bearden, Romare (1914 - 1988)
1979, Lithograph, 28 5/8 x 21 in
Gift of Ronald Stone, 1980

Page six, left to right:
Administrative Suite Reception office

“Self Portrait”
Fraga, Ed (b. 1956)
1982, Oil on Panel, 8 x 7 1/4 in
Gift of Rex Lamoreaux, 2001

Below:
“Dancing Maidens”
Stonorov, Oskar (1905 - 1970)
c. 1960, Cast Bronze
Bequest of Walter and May Reuther, 1971

Design by Daniel Sperry
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