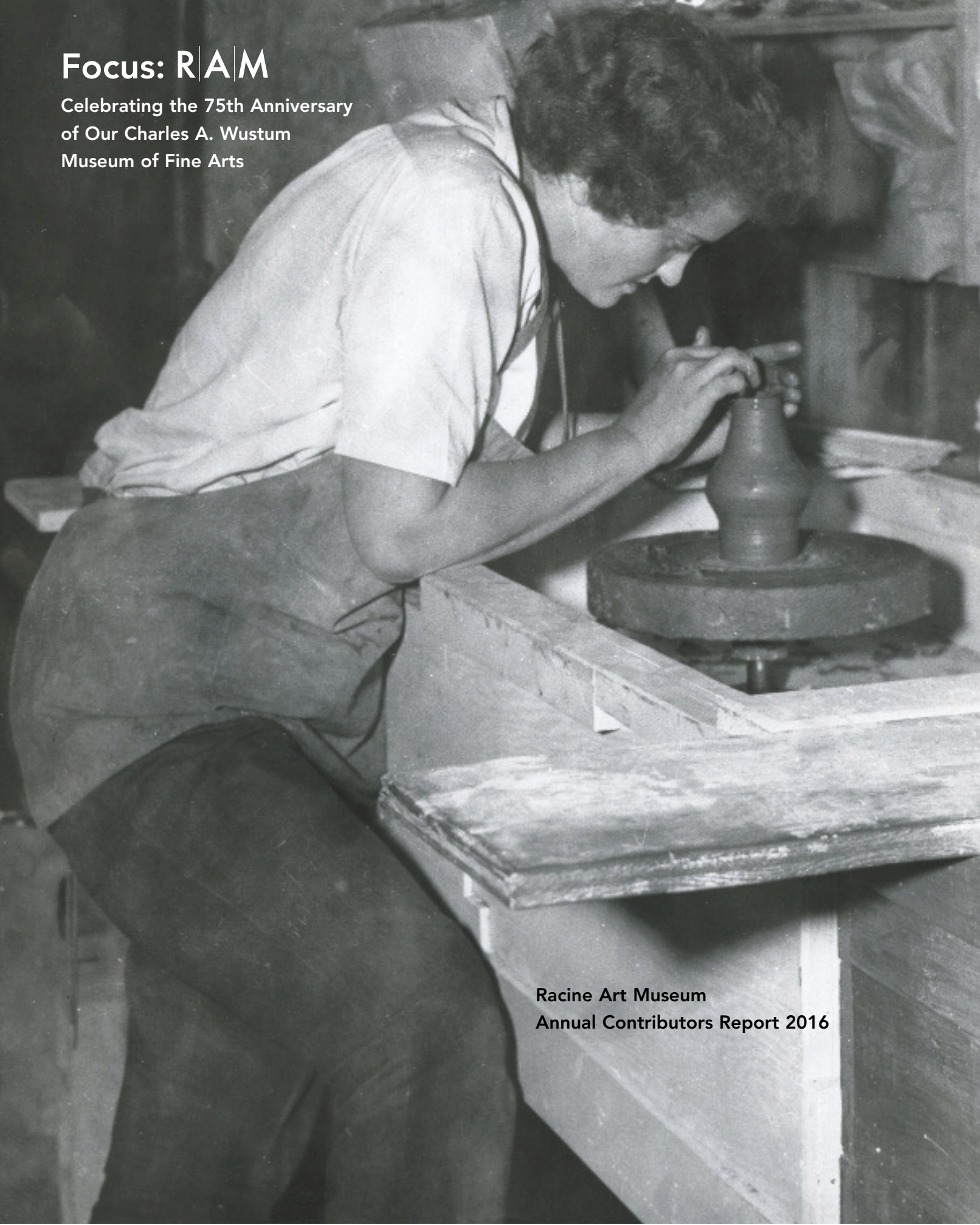


Focus: R|A|M

Celebrating the 75th Anniversary
of Our Charles A. Wustum
Museum of Fine Arts



Racine Art Museum
Annual Contributors Report 2016



Expressing Our Gratitude

A Note of Thanks
from RAM Executive
Director and
Curator of Collections
Bruce W. Pepich

Thank you for your support of RAM in 2016. Your contributions work together to serve the people of this community, the region, and the national field by supporting the museum's mission to serve artists and the general public through programs in aesthetic education. Because of you, **RAM is a recognized center for creativity** for people of all ages and from all walks of life. We are grateful for your cash contributions that make these programs possible but we also thank the volunteers who help us welcome and serve RAM's guests. Gifts of artworks, library books, in-kind services, and materials also make up this important base of support.

We are especially happy to celebrate this year with you as it marks the 75th anniversary of RAM's Wustum Museum campus. There are few Midwestern cultural institutions that have been **consistently providing visual education programs since 1941**. The hardworking people of the area have been active supporters and participants for nearly a century. This speaks eloquently about the community's respect for culture and education. In commemorating this anniversary, we acknowledge and honor the people of Racine who have created and maintained this museum.

The museum's celebrations were recently covered on the popular Milwaukee PBS program *The Arts Page*. RAM's **Watercolor Wisconsin** exhibition, which marks its own 50th anniversary this year, was featured as part of a segment devoted to painting. This annual competition was inaugurated in 1966 to commemorate Wustum's new classroom addition which opened that same year. Over the past 50 years, this exhibition has focused the region's attention on the **talented painters living in Wisconsin** and on the museum as a center for watercolor activity. Using the current competition as a starting point, *The Arts Page* also covered many high points in RAM's 75-year history. This program ran four times during February and can be viewed online at www.milwaukeepbs.org.

Since last November, we have been sharing information about our history and focusing exhibitions on **the people who have helped make RAM and Wustum** what they are today. Thoughtful men and women have made these accomplishments possible through their memberships, contributions, memorials, sponsorships, and estate gifts. They are people who believe in art, the positive benefits of creativity, and helping this community. Thank you for supporting and celebrating RAM's efforts during this significant anniversary year, and as we work together to build the museum's future.

(cover)
Artist, Teacher, and Former RAM Board
Member Sharon Blaesing (1933-2014)
on the Potters Wheel in the Wustum
Ceramics Studio, ca. 1950

(above)
Studio Art Class
at RAM's Wustum Museum

(opposite)
In the RAM Galleries

Each year we recognize the generous donors who support RAM and Wustum through financial contributions. The following pages list those who have contributed to RAM in 2016 through membership, sponsorship, grants, campaigns, employer matched gifts, annual fund, endowments, gifts in honor or memory of loved ones and friends, and fundraising events. All gifts are welcomed with the utmost gratitude. Although we hope this list is complete, if we have missed or misspelled your name, please call Sue Buhler-Maki at 262.619.3539, so we may immediately correct our records. Thank you.

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Your Support Makes RAM Possible

The Story of an Enthusiastic Philanthropist

The Racine Art Museum would not be celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Wustum Museum without the foresight, thoughtfulness, and generosity of community-minded individuals like **Serge E. Logan**. He was the personification of a true philanthropist—a person who gave his time and money to help make life better for the people around him.

Serge E. Logan was born in 1926 and graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Minnesota. In 1950, he joined the staff of *The Racine Journal Times* as a reporter and editor for ten years. He then worked at SC Johnson until his retirement in 1989, holding several positions including Director of Corporate Social Responsibility, Director of Communications, Trustee of the SC Johnson Fund, and Special Assistant to Mr. Sam Johnson. Throughout his working years and long after his retirement, Serge was active in

and supported numerous local organizations, including the Boy and Girl Scouts, Racine Community Foundation, Racine Area United Way, Racine United Arts Fund, Southeast Wisconsin Aviation Museum, and Racine Literary Council. He



was an active

member of First United Methodist Church and was involved with RAM as a long-time supporter, volunteer, Board member, and President. Serge loved Racine and lived as the quintessential example of someone who believed in giving back to his community.

Many years before he died in 2013, Serge created a Revocable Trust that named his family, loved ones, and several organizations, including RAM, as residual beneficiaries. His gift to RAM was a small percentage of his trust, but words cannot convey the remarkable impact it made on the museum's ability to continue its mission of presenting world class exhibitions and award-winning education programs.

There are many ways you can support RAM and Wustum through present and future gifts that will cement your legacy and sustain the museum's exhibitions and programs well into the future for our children, grandchildren, and tens of thousands of visitors each year.

Important information you need to get started is RAM's legal name and Federal Tax ID Number included below.

Racine Art Museum Association, Inc.
39-1018155

Your attorney or financial advisor can explain the tax advantages and help tailor the best plan(s) for your situation.

As RAM continues to celebrate **Jennie E. Wustum's** legacy, and highlight the generosity of people like Serge E. Logan, we also honor each and every one of you listed in this report. Thank you for being a member, volunteering your time, honoring a loved one, donating goods, or providing much needed financial support during the past year.

If you have any questions about supporting RAM, please feel free to contact **Laura D'Amato, Director of Operations and Development** via her direct phone line, 262.898.1412, or email ldamato@ramart.org.

(above)
**Free Museum Tours for
Racine County Schools**
*Go For Baroque: Opulence and Excess
in Contemporary Art*

(opposite)
**RAM Guest Artist-in-Residence 2016
Prince Parise**

Barbara Tober
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Karen Urben
Jim and Cherry Wardrip
Virginia and Dick Wickman
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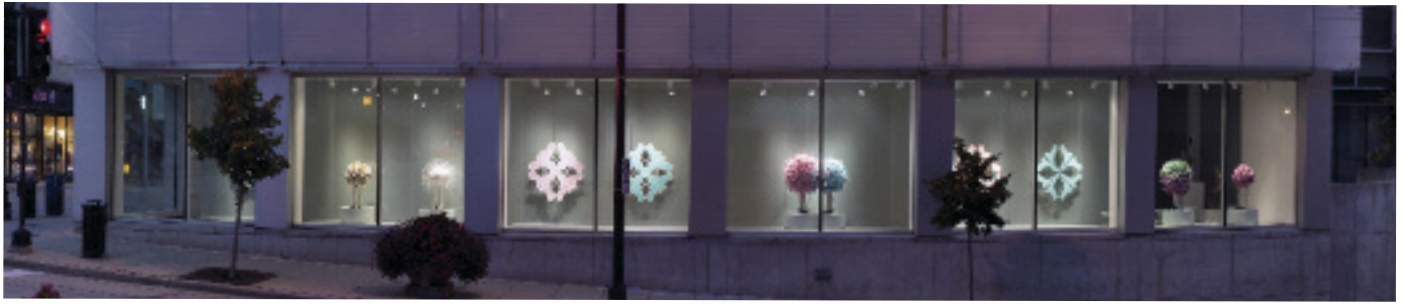
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Diane and Jerry Phillips
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Jessica Calderwood: Fictitious Flora in RAM's Windows on Fifth Gallery

Photography: Jon Bolton

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David and Barbara Houser
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Elizabeth Hunter

***Annual International
PEEPS Art Exhibition at RAM***



Adam Hutler
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Rose Ann Iaconetti
Ron and Judith Isaacs
Barbara and David Isaacson
Annette and Tom Jacobson
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Deborah Keil
Nikki Keland and John Krewal
Carolyn Kenney-Carter
Dennis Kennow
Ann Kerscher
Kewpee Sandwich Shop
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Lynne Kirk
Bernice Kissinger
Kari Kittermaster
Ruth Kjaer

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Lori and Timothy Mai
John and Linda Mallon
Marcia and MJ Malone
Susan Manalli
Audrey Mann
Barbara Manning
Marry Manning
Bob Marcella
Tamara and John Marini

Exhibitions honoring the anniversary of RAM's Wustum Museum of Fine Arts are in full swing with over seven decades of art in the galleries. **Wustum Generations** explores the museum's development through the work of those who have played important roles at Wustum and RAM as artists, teachers, donors, Board members, staff, volunteers, advocates, catalysts for large gifts, benefactors, and donors of significant archives. This exhibition offers all types of work—paintings, silverpoint drawings, jewelry, textiles, ceramics, sculpture, and collage—installed salon style, filling RAM's second floor gallery with art nearly from floor to ceiling.



WPA Art from RAM's Collection features a selection of works on paper and textiles produced by artists and workers of the Works Progress Administration/Federal Art Project that broadly reflects the rebuilding of the U.S. during the Great Depression in the 1930s. These pieces were selected from the 260 that launched RAM's collection, and helped establish the museum's continuing focus on contemporary craft and works on paper.

The other current exhibitions highlight that emphasis. **Variations on a Theme: Teapots from RAM's Collection** offers over 60 teapots by diverse artists in a range of styles. **Small Gifts from Big Donors** is the first of a three-part series that focuses on the gifts of 12 significant contributors to America's largest collection of contemporary craft.



Playing on Wustum and RAM's history with contemporary textile artists, this summer's exhibitions bring fiber-related artworks front and center.

The Box Project: Uncommon Threads, organized by the Cotsen Foundation for Academic Research with RAM, showcases the work of 36 international artists who were challenged to create artworks that fit within a 14 x 14 or 14 x 23 inch box. This dynamic exhibition combines those

"box projects" with large-scale representative works by some of those same artists. In addition, visitors are afforded an illuminating look at process through interviews, material samples, maquettes, correspondence, and concept sketches. Artists include **Mary Bero**, **John Garrett**, **Ana Lisa Hedstrom**, **Helena Hernmarck**, **Kiyomi Iwata**, **Ai Kijima**, **Lewis Knauss**, **Nancy Koenigsberg**, **Gyöngy Laky**, and **Cynthia Schira**.

Recent gifts from RAM's collection continue the fiber theme. A celebrated innovator, **Renie Breskin Adams** explores her dreams and personal history through colorful and humorous stitched narratives. **Collection Focus: Renie Breskin Adams** features over 30 works—embroideries as well as preparatory drawings—that signal the establishment of an archive of her work at RAM. Also breaking boundaries with textiles, the husband and wife team of **Susan Shie** and **James Acord** craft lively quilts that combine fabric, thread, paint, text, and found objects in **Shie and Acord: Recent Acquisitions**.

Current Exhibitions

Wustum Generations
through April 30

WPA Art and Small Gifts from Big Donors
through June 4

Teapots from RAM's Collection
through July 9

Summer Preview

The Box Project
May 21 – August 27

**Collection Focus:
Renie Breskin Adams
and Shie and Acord**
June 18 – September 24

(opposite)

Party on the Pavement at RAM

(above)

**Variations on a Theme:
Teapots from RAM's Collection**
Photography: Jon Bolton

(left)

Mary Bero,

Compendium (detail), 2012-2013
Cotton, linen cord, paper, silk thread, cotton thread, found wooden thread spools, metal wire, metal pins, embroidery floss, and acrylic paint
Cotsen Collection
Photography: Bruce M. White
©Lloyd Cotsen, 2016

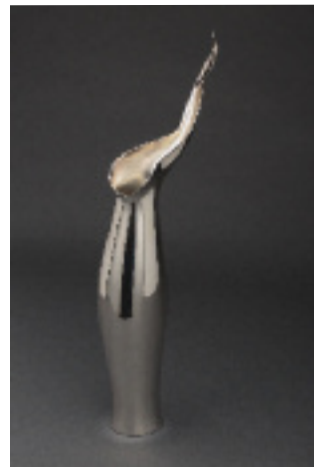
1967 – 2000

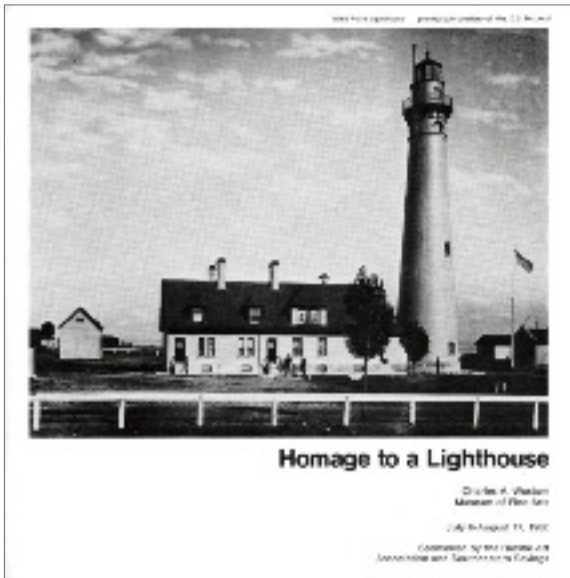
Opening Wustum's classroom addition in 1966 helped celebrate the museum's 25th anniversary and ushered in multiple decades of program expansion. For the first time, the museum had spaces dedicated to education and classes were no longer held in the exhibition galleries. Artist demonstrations, lectures, and other education programs began to draw audiences who grew during the 1970s and 1980s. As an example, the museum's successful Outreach 4 program, staffed by volunteer docents, began in 1984 as our first non-studio educational offering. Since then, it has grown to incorporate a wide range of visual interpretation programs and services for people of all ages.

During the 1980s and 1990s, the museum's collection, education, and exhibition programs grew in tandem. In 1986, Wustum was professionally accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, an honor extended to only 5% of the nation's museums. In 1989, the museum announced its intent to establish a second focus in contemporary craft alongside its existing focus in works on paper. This commitment led to Karen Johnson Boyd's 1991 gift of a major collection of contemporary ceramics, baskets, and jewelry placing Wustum squarely on the nation's cultural map. The media attention this gift received attracted collection donors from across the country. During the 1990s, we created the third most significant contemporary craft collection of any museum in the US. The need to share these works with our audiences was a prime factor that led to the launch of the campaign to build RAM.

In 2000, more than \$10 million was raised to endow and remodel the donated 50,000 square foot M & I Bank building in the heart of downtown Racine to become future home to the museum's growing collection.

Watch for the next installment of the Wustum Museum timeline in the Summer 2017 **Focus: RAM**.





1980

The City of Racine contracts with the Racine Art Association (formed in 1938) to manage Wustum and all of its programming.

A 20-year series of thematic exhibitions, that includes artists from across the US and receives national publicity, debuts with *Homage to a Lighthouse*.

1981

Bruce W. Pepich, who joined the staff in 1974, is named as Wustum's Director.



1982

Wustum begins a formal training program for docents.

1984

Outreach 4, for fourth grade students, becomes Wustum's first non-studio art education program.

1986

Wustum is professionally accredited for the first time by the American Alliance of Museums, making it among only 5% of museums with the honor nationwide.

1986

Local businesswoman Veronica D. Regas makes the largest individual endowment contribution since the museum's opening, adding to Wustum's history of women in prominent philanthropic roles.

1991

After adding a second focus in contemporary craft in 1989, the collection experiences a huge leap forward when it receives a 200-piece craft collection from Karen Johnson Boyd.



RAM Celebrates the Anniversary of Wustum

Bringing Art to Our Community and the World for 75 Years

Timeline:
Second Installment
1967 – 2000

(below left)

Karen Johnson Boyd in Her Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Home Holding a Pot by Beatrice Wood, 2002
Photography: Jon Bolton

(opposite bottom: left to right)

Janis Mars Wunderlich
Family Supports, 2001
Glazed earthenware
Racine Art Museum,
Gift of Veronica D. Regas

Ed Rossbach

Twins, 1988
Bark, cotton rags, and metal staples
Racine Art Museum,
Gift of Karen Johnson Boyd

Chunghi Choo

Peace Lily, 1981
Silver-plated copper, edition 21/35
Racine Art Museum,
Gift of Karen Johnson Boyd

Rudy Autio

Lady, 1980
Watercolor
Racine Art Museum,
Gift of Karen Johnson Boyd

RAM Artist Fellowship Exhibition 2017

Sponsored by Osborne and Sceikic Family Foundation
August 18 – November 25, 2017

Artists **Tim Abel** and **Kristen Bartel** received two of the four **RAM Artist Fellowships** awarded in 2016. With that honor comes a \$2,500 stipend for each recipient as well as concurrent solo shows in the **RAM Artist Fellowship Exhibition 2017** at Wustum in fall 2017. Below, RAM Curator of Exhibitions **Lena Vigna** speaks with Abel and Bartel.

Would you please describe your work?

Tim Abel: I like the surprise of working with and transforming common materials such as paper and plastic shopping bags or packing supplies. I explore a tactile response through sewing—with constant revisions and reworking, the materials lead the making.



How often are you in your studio?

Abel: To optimize work time, my studio has always been part of my living space: converting the dining room into a studio, transforming the front porch, etc. I have also tried to include my oldest son in my work time so he has an easel next to mine or can climb up on to my work table and work/play on one end while I sew on



the other. When possible, he has also been included while installing my large paper works for shows. As a way to be realistic about this ultimate fragmenting of time, I keep a running wall of small works. It could be a fragment of fabric, a photo I found during the day, a small paper collage, or older work that finds resonance. I see this as a gathering practice: it gives me a chance to add a single element and re-arrange or contextualize a larger work. I think of the individual elements as something akin to quilt blocks and the whole arrangement becomes an ever-evolving wall quilt.

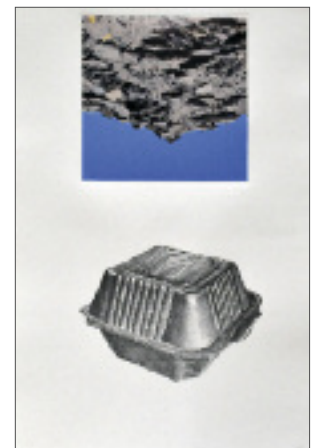
Would you please describe your work?



Kristen Bartel: I use print and digital media to create paper-based works that explore constructs and signifiers embedded in the classic definition of the American Dream...I believe my artwork is about our actions and the implications of those actions. My current research takes a hard look at how we gauge ourselves against one another and the consequences this might have on the landscape (whether preserved or contrived) and climate. I combine all manner of traditional printing techniques with inkjet prints, cyanotypes, and unconventional supports as well as experimenting with motion detection and spatial issues.

Do you work outside of your studio much or at all?

Bartel: My creative practice is front-loaded with fieldwork—looking and thinking and taking “notes” or “sketches” with my camera. This is not usually a forced or planned affair. I travel, hike, mountain bike, canoe, and snowshoe to explore new places—all with my dog Django in tow. I consider these activities very important aspects of my creative practice. Being on a hike clears my mind, and at some point in those “clearings,” I visualize my next project or the solution to a creative problem. This is where the conceptual and aesthetic process of my work typically starts.



(top right)
RAM Artist Fellowship Recipient Tim Abel

(top left)
Tim Abel, Accumulation Wall

(middle left)
RAM Artist Fellowship Recipient Kristen Bartel

(right)
Kristen Bartel, Drive Thru with Asphalt

(opposite)
Fall Family Fun Fest at Wustum

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(above left and below left)
Studio Art Classes at Wustum

(above right)
Sensory Overload: Clothing and the Body



Pirate Party: Steampunk Style at the Racine Masonic Center

Photography: Troy Freund

Dale and Doug Anderson

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Nancy Barnett in memory of James
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Kids Art Class at Wustum



Education New for 2017



For 75 years, **RAM's Wustum Museum** has been known as a local arts incubator and hub for artists of all ages. It is a community resource that provides education programs dedicated to developing creativity and accessibility to the arts for generations of audiences. RAM's Education Department is continuing the tradition of offering interesting programs at both museum campuses and bringing art out into the community.

New this school year, RAM offers an **Afterschool Art Club** at Knapp Elementary—a United Way Community School. These free weekly art-making activities—for grades K-2 or 3-5—present topics that tie directly to the museum's exhibitions and collections, stimulating the creativity of elementary school students. In 2017, RAM will host four free **Family Nights** to encourage

neighborhood and school families to participate in these engaging art events and promote activities with an intergenerational focus.

RAM's Education team is partnering up with Racine's **Origins of Hip-Hop** organizers to create an intergenerational **SPARK!** program that teams young performers, graffiti artists, and contemporary poets with elders experiencing memory loss to explore new methods of creative expression—through contemporary movement, words, and art. This program will be held both on-site at Wustum and at several assisted living facilities in Racine throughout the summer months via **SPARK! on the Road**. Conceived to bridge the age gap, build diverse community relationships, and stimulate multiple senses—this model will be highlighted at the annual **SPARK! Alliance Conference** at the Milwaukee Public Museum this fall.

For more about all RAM Education Programs, visit www.ramart.org/education.

Education Spring 2017 Events

Visit Wustum on Saturday, April 29, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm for the **Get Behind the Arts Studio Tour in Racine and Kenosha**. Meet many of the museum's artist/instructors, and some students, who will be in the studios to talk about their work and demonstrate a variety of techniques, such as enameling, raku firing, and art metals. For the event, Wustum is pleased to welcome **Dee Hutch** and **Willy Reynoso** who are two of this year's RAM Guest Artists-in-Residences, sponsored by an **ArtSeed Grant** from the Racine Arts Council.



On Saturday, May 6—during **Open House Racine County**—Wustum will be going **Full Steam Ahead!** From 11:00 am to 5:00 pm, **RAM Artist Fellowship Recipient Lisa Bigalke** and **RAM Guest Artist-in-Residence Amy Misurelli Sorensen** will lead a group of



printmakers in this crowd-pleasing project. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to see **a steamroller used as a massive, makeshift printing press**. A gathering of well-known local artists will create large-scale relief prints, many of which will be available for purchase that day.

(above)
Kids Art Class at Wustum

(middle)
RAM Artist Fellowship Recipient
Lisa Bigalke in Her Home Studio

(bottom)
Guest Artists-in-Residence
Dee Hutch and Willy Reynoso
at **Origins of Hip-Hop**
Spring 2016 Preview at UW-Parkside



What's fabulous in the **Museum Store**? Everything! The Store is currently featuring the book, *The Dark World of Light*, about internationally acclaimed painter **Karen Gunderson's** journey from Park High School in Racine to her innovative artworks being exhibited in museums from New York to Bulgaria. The book is a **limited edition** of 1,500 signed copies (\$185, \$166 members).

Don't forget **Mother's Day** on May 14! Now at the Store, fantastic micro mosaic and hand blown glass combinations by **Cynthia Toops**

and **Dan Adams** (WA) make perfectly unique gifts. Thousands of tiny slivers of polymer are used to form narrative images that are set in hand wrought silver bezels (starting at \$260). For **Father's Day** on June 18, consider the new products from **Duke Cannon**—tough soaps and hand creams for the roughest knuckles and new travel cologne in tins (starting at \$10).

For more fabulous gifts and handmade items, visit ramart.org/store or call 262.638.8200.



Museum Store

Find Something Fabulous!

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We are grateful for the individuals, corporations, and foundations whose gifts to support specific aspects of the museums' operations will sustain RAM well into the future.

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(above left)

Karen Gunderson,
The Dark World of Light, Abbeville Press

(above right)

Cynthia Toops, *Thursday's Child Brooch*
Polymer and Sterling Silver

(back cover banner)

RAM Collects:
Contemporary Art to Wear at RAM

(back cover above)

Hiroshi Yamano
From East to West, ca. 1990
Glass with gold and silver leaf
Racine Art Museum,
Gift of Dale and Doug Anderson

(back cover below)

Stuart Davis
Seine Cart, 1939
Lithograph, uneditioned
Works Progress Administration (WPA),
New York Federal Art Project (FAP)
Photography: Jon Bolton

Additional photography throughout
by Tricia Blasko, Susan Buhler-Maki,
Maureen Fritchen, and Jessica Zalewski



RAM

Racine Art Museum Association
 441 Main Street, Box 187
 Racine, Wisconsin 53401-0187
 262.638.8300

RAM's Charles A. Wustum
Museum of Fine Arts
 2519 Northwestern Avenue, Racine
 262.636.9177
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Visit Us

Museum Hours

Tuesday – Saturday
 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
 Sunday Noon – 5:00 pm
 Closed Mondays,
 Federal holidays and Easter.
Wustum is closed on Sundays.



Art Exhibitions

At Racine Art Museum

Through April 30, 2017

Wustum Generations

Through June 4, 2017

WPA Art from RAM's Collection

Small Gifts from Big Donors

Through July 9, 2017

Variations on a Theme:

Teapots from RAM's Collection

Through July 23, 2017

Jessica Calderwood:

Fictitious Flora

May 21 – August 27, 2017

The Box Project:

Uncommon Threads

June 18 – September 24, 2017

Collection Focus:

Renie Breskin Adams

Shie and Acord:

Recent Acquisitions

July 16, 2017 – January 21, 2018

Variations on a Theme:

Vessels from RAM's Collection

August 4, 2017 – July 22, 2018

Karen Johnson Boyd:

From the Vault

September 17, 2017 – January 7, 2018

75 at 75: Significant Works

from RAM's Collection

Paul Smith: Masters of Craft

At RAM's Wustum Museum

Through April 22, 2017

Watercolor Wisconsin 2016

April 30 – May 20, 2017

Racine Unified

Student Exhibition 2017

June 2 – August 5, 2017

Racine and Vicinity Show