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## January - March, 2012, Events at Plains Art Museum

**Fargo, N.D.** – Plains Art Museum, accredited by the American Association of Museums, presents a full slate of exhibitions, activities, and related events for early 2012. Please call (701) 232-3821 for registration or event details.

### Exhibitions and Related Events

**January 29 – May 6, 2012. *Art on the Plains XI: A Regional Juried Exhibition.*** Plains Art Museum is thrilled to present *Art on the Plains XI: A Regional Juried Exhibition*, which features work from 48 established and emerging visual artists working in the region, with representatives from North Dakota, Minnesota, Montana, South Dakota, and Nebraska. *AOP* strongly represents contemporary practice in our region and the exhibition will feature work of all media, particularly photography, sculpture, and installation art. The year 2012 marks the 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this celebration of regional art.

The Museum invited Hesse McGraw as this year's juror. McGraw is the chief curator of exhibitions and projects at the Bemis Center of Contemporary Arts in Omaha, Neb. He is a curator, writer and artist. Prior to joining the Bemis Center, he worked as the assistant director of Max Protetch gallery in New York City. He was the founding director of Paragraph, a contemporary art gallery operating under the non-profit Urban Culture Project in downtown Kansas City, Mo., where he also served as senior editor of *Review* magazine.

- **Saturday, January 28, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.** Preview opening reception for *Art on the Plains XI*. Gallery talk by juror Hesse McGraw at 8 p.m. Music by Pavlov's Daughter. Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar. Admission is free for Museum members, \$10 for nonmembers.
- **Sunday, January 29.** *Art on the Plains XI* opens to the public.

**February – March, 2012. *The Missfit Cup Liberation Project.*** With the Missfit Cup Liberation Project, artist Michael J. Strand has asked participants to bring their favorite rejected cups to the Museum, which he will then trade for a new hand-thrown cup to replace it. Their cups will then reside alongside 99 other rejected cups as a collection of the best of the worst, a collectively curated orphanage of castoff cups.

- **February 10, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. *The Space Between: Art and Humanity.*** Michael J. Strand will discuss his current and recent projects which inquire about the potential of the "space" between object and humanity. It is in this space, where work is acquired and/or encountered that art finds a new voice and meaning, and with it increases the potential for the arts in the 21st century. Free and open to the public.

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**February 10 – March 3, 2012. Vote for Your Favorite S.P.A.C.E. Sculpture.** 3...2...1...liftoff! Each spring, the Museum pairs up with students from an FM campus in the creation of a sculpture for our outdoor sculpture pad. Student proposals will be displayed in our Atrium and voted on by visitors, and the winning design will be given the go-ahead to place their sculpture on the pad for the summer season. This year, students from NDSU will be proposing designs under the supervision of Associate Professor of Art David Swenson. Keep an eye on our blog at [plainsart.org/weblog](http://plainsart.org/weblog) to see and vote for the proposed designs online.

**February 16 – June 3, 2012. Jubileum! Illustrations by Amy Jo Hendrickson Flattum.** A designer and printmaker, Hendrickson Flattum blurs the lines between high art and commercial art. Her humor runs through highly detailed and well-executed illustrations. This new body of work, entitled *Jubileum!* (a Norwegian word for anniversary or celebration) focuses on her Scandinavian upbringing and heritage through the medium of contemporary illustration and printmaking. A special designed print titled *Greetings from Fargo* will be created specifically for this show.

**March 1 – April 1, 2012. School Spirit: Celebrating Youth Art Month.** Join us as we recognize the next generation of artists. March is Youth Art Month, a national observance emphasizing the value of art education for all children and encouraging support for quality school art programs. Enjoy the School Spirit exhibition and celebrate the work of hundreds of young artists from schools across the region.

**March 19 – April 2, 2012. The Birdhouse Project.** The birdhouses are back! Check out the innovative birdhouse designs of second-year NDSU architecture students in this limited run exhibition. Each student is given the name of a prominent architect and a species of bird or bat from our region, then takes on the assignment of creating a birdhouse in the style of the architect that will serve the unique needs of that bird species.

**Through April 15, 2012. Birch Bark, Clay, Pixels, Paint.** *Birch Bark, Clay, Pixels, Paint: New Work in the Permanent Collection*, presents a selection of works that are new to the collection and as diverse as the title suggests. Since 2007, hundreds of works of art have been donated to the Museum, and several new pieces have been acquired through Museum purchases or commissions. *Birch Bark, Clay, Pixels, Paint*, will display 50 of these works, including the first digital art in the Museum collection, Minnesota State University Moorhead Professor Henry Gwiazda's video piece *Claudia & Paul*, a doll's house, consciousness. Other works include an innovative birch bark collage made by the father and son team Pat and Gage Kruse of the Minnesota Mille Lacs Reservation, showing an abstract starburst design.

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## Social/Activities/Education

**Let's Move at PAM.** Plains Art Museum joins with the national *Let's Move* campaign, begun by First Lady Michelle Obama and adopted by the American Association of Museums (AAM) and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The goal is healthier Americans through eating better foods and getting more exercise.

- **Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m., January 24 – February 28. Artful Yoga at PAM.** \$10 per class/\$5 for PAM members. Shake off the winter blahs by starting your Thursday with a gentle yet invigorating beginner's yoga class in our sunrise-lit 3<sup>rd</sup> floor open space. Bring a mat. Jan Knoedel serves as the main instructor for the class. Jan Knoedel is a certified yoga instructor who has taught varied levels of yoga for more than eight years.

**Kid Quest.** Saturdays, 10 a.m. – noon. This popular and free experience is perfect for families. Enjoy fascinating hands-on gallery activities. Preregistration is required. Register at [plainsart.org/learn](http://plainsart.org/learn) or call 701.232.3821 ext. 101.

- **February 4. Furious Felters.** Get your craft on like the artists of *Unglued*, a unique craft fair that will take over the Museum on Saturday, February 25. Cut and glue zig zags, lace, polka dots and all sorts of fabric textures and patterns to create a fabric landscape.
- **March 10. Back by Popular Demand: The Great Art Free For All!** Yes! This month you get to do it all! You select your supplies and create your own art ideas.

**Classes for Adults.** Visit [plainsart.org/learn](http://plainsart.org/learn) or call (701) 232-3821 to register.

- **Digital Photography for Beginners. Five Saturdays, 1 – 3 p.m., January 21 – February 18.** \$80 for members, \$88 for nonmembers. Many of us have digital cameras, but don't really understand how to use them to get great photographs. This course will teach you how to use camera settings, composition, and subject matter styles to get the best photos for a variety of situations in several settings. Bring your own digital camera, any type will suffice. Ages 18+.

**Art for Two.** Workshops for an adult and a child (age 5 - 12) to enjoy creative time together. \$22 for members, \$25 for nonmembers. Call (701) 232-3821 or visit [plainsart.org/learn](http://plainsart.org/learn) to register.

- **My Personal Piggy Bank. Saturday, February 11, 2 – 4 p.m.** Get your personal finances in order through art! Participants will create a unique, recession-proof piggy bank using paper maché and collage techniques.
- **Your Own Storybook. Saturday, April 14, 2 – 4 p.m.** You and your child will create his/her own version of a favorite story or fairytale in a one-of-a-kind art book.

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**About Plains Art Museum**

Plains Art Museum is located at 704 First Avenue North. It is accredited by the American Association of Museums and is a nonprofit, regional fine arts museum with plans to significantly expand its programs through its "Little artist in all of us" campaign. The campaign is raising funds for the Creativity Center for Lifelong Learning which includes the Fingerprints Interactive Education Gallery and working with Fargo Public Schools and other educational entities to build teaching studios. The campaign is also strengthening operations by enhancing the Museum's endowment and visitor services.

Museum programs are made possible, in part, by major funding from members of the Museum, The FUNd at Plains Art Museum, the cities of Fargo, Moorhead and West Fargo through the Arts Partnership, The McKnight Foundation, the Minnesota State Arts Board through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature, the North Dakota Council on the Arts through an appropriation by the North Dakota State Legislature and a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. More information is available at 701.232.3821 or at [www.plainsart.org](http://www.plainsart.org).

**Images available upon request.**

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