

The Yellowstone Art Museum exhibits, interprets, collects, and preserves art, with an emphasis on Montana and surrounding regions, for the enrichment, education, inspiration, and enjoyment of all.

VISION STATEMENT

To become an extraordinary cultural destination for creative exchange and growth.

CORE VALUES

We value ART.

We value imagination and the passionate education of enthusiastic and curious minds of all ages.

We value a diverse community that cherishes its memories and aspires to an exceptional future.

We value a place to live that is enhanced through engaging art of uncompromising quality.

ADMISSION

Members always free. \$6 adults, \$3 students with I.D. and children 6–18, children under 6 free, \$4 discount rate (please inquire) First Saturday Dollar Day–\$1 admission on the first Saturday of each month.

HOURS

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays, 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Sunday, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Closed Mondays

ADDRESS

401 North 27th Street, Billings, Montana 59101 406-256-6804 www.artmuseum.org

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executive director's report for the year 2014-2015

The year 2014-2015 was rewarding in many ways. We completed our yearlong celebration of the YAM's 50th anniversary (2014), enjoying excellent media coverage, strong community support, and exhibitions and programs as diverse as the many people who crossed our threshold. We opened diverse and exciting exhibitions, and again served thousands of children and adults in our art education programs.

We could not be more grateful to the artists, donors, volunteers, members, and visitors who are both the reason and the means by which the staff accomplished these goals. During our anniversary year, we learned much about the contributions of many individuals, couples, and groups to this institution and to the arts environment in Montana. We were delighted to share our enthusiasm with individuals who had been involved from the first days and learn from them. In addition to ongoing exhibitions, art education programs, and art-related special events—all of them amplified during our celebratory year—the YAM hosted a sold-out anniversary gala in November 2014 and introduced a commemorative book about our history. Every one of the Yellowstone Art Center / Museum's directors contributed to the book. Further, we were honored to host several of the former directors at the gala, as well as Robert Fehlberg, architect of the jail building renovations for the original Yellowstone Art Center.

Record-breaking crowds enjoyed our galleries during the year, many of them first-time visitors who were inspired to take in the sheer fun of The Art of the Brick®. While here, they discovered how much they enjoyed the other exhibitions we had to offer, Boundless Visions and T.L. Solien: Toward the Setting Sun. Membership grew and an ever-increasing number of visitors found out for themselves that the museum is an inviting place for curious minds of all ages. They discovered that contemporary art is exciting, diverse, fun, and thoughtprovoking. Exhibitions of a more historic nature, such as Ride 'Em: The Art of Will James also offered their surprises as we reintroduced the familiar within new contexts. It was a busy year with more than half of our temporary exhibitions curated in-house, drawing from the YAM's own permanent collections and private lenders. We hosted over 40,000 onsite visitors, a record by a large margin. A further 18,000 benefited from outreach programs, Summerfair, and other offsite offerings.

The YAM was proud to host the 47th annual Art Auction and the 36th annual Summerfair, and both events succeeded on all fronts: they were crowd-pleasing, involved hundreds of artists and craftspeople, and they raised crucial funding for exhibitions and art education

year-round. We look around us and witness the emulation of these events across the region and know that our long experience continues to ensure that the YAM's events are the best events of their kind.

Thanks to these activities and the museum's loyal supporters, we again ended the year in good financial shape. Our extended community continues to offer its vote of approval for our programs, and we in turn contribute through our programs to a vibrant city cultural life and an expanded good reputation for Montana's fine artists. We continue to be grateful to every citizen of Yellowstone County and to the Montana Arts Council. In 2014-2015, we completed a three-year grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services and we were awarded a grant from the federal National Endowment for the Humanities. Combined support from these public sources represented about 12% of the YAM's operating revenue in fiscal year 2014-2015. Our sound financial condition also owes a great deal to endowment growth, with about 8% of 2014-2015 operating revenues coming from our own managed funds. In the pages that follow, you will find the names of those who have made our audience experiences possible, and we ask you to join us in extending your thanks to those whom you may know.

As we continue our investigations of the ever-changing "now" that is contemporary art, we will remain focused on our mission statement's directive to enrich, educate, inspire, and provide enjoyment for everyone.

Robyn G. Peterson Executive Director





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We acknowledge the services of staff members working an on-call or temporary basis, or through employment service agencies:

Jeff Berke Nick Lamb Greg Lucas



national council

The YAM's National Council comprises artists, collectors, and authors who represent the Museum on a national level and support its mission and goals.

John Buck
Deborah Butterfield
Abe Hays
William I. Koch
Louise Menk
Carla O'Rorke
Joseph Poindexter
Jaune Quick-to-See Smith
Mark Stevens

exhibitions in 2014-2015

The YAM's 50th anniversary celebration continued and concluded in 2014-2015, capped by diverse exhibitions that resulted in record attendance. The exhibition calendar was greatly enriched by the participation of many private lenders, including other museums, artists, and collectors. Further, we enjoyed several opportunities to place the permanent collections in new contexts.

Exhibition Season Sponsor



With the continuing annual support of U.S. Bank—which supports the YAM's entire year of temporary exhibitions—the museum debuted nine larger temporary exhibitions and one smaller scale exhibition. Six of these were curated by the Yellowstone Art Museum and shown exclusively to Billings audiences; the titles of these exhibition are in **green**. We continued to tell the story of art in Montana through the lens of our permanent collection in Boundless Visions. Finally, we managed the tours of three traveling exhibitions to museums in Montana, Idaho, and Colorado: Edith Freeman's Montana Seasons, Hallowed Absurdities: Work by Theodore Waddell, and "A Lonely Business": Isabelle Johnson's Montana.



exhibiting the permanent collection



Boundless Visions

Ongoing

Featuring works from the permanent collections, this exhibition continued to provide a flexible framework for the exhibition of our diverse holdings. The themes within the exhibition were supplemented by works from private lenders and artists. This year, the YAM debuted an Adopt-an-Artwork program, a new way for donors to show their support for their favorite works in the permanent collection.

For the ongoing support of this exhibition, we thank: David Orser and Ossie Abrams

Adopt-an-Artwork support:

Kevin Red Star's The General, adopted in honor of Walt and Mary Peet

temporary exhibitions



T. L. Solien: Toward the Setting Sun

September 16, 2014 – January 4, 2015

This traveling exhibition from the Plains Art Museum, Fargo, North Dakota, featured fifty-seven collages and paintings by T. L. Solien, an upper Midwestern artist of Scandinavian descent who had formerly taught at MSU-Bozeman. His dense, stylized figurative works drew from his own past and ancestry, which he reprocessed into a fresh examination of both Moby-Dick and American pioneer narratives. Solien's art explored ideas of struggle, adversity, personal demons, quests and discovery, and related universal issues.

EXHIBITION SPONSORS

Supporting sponsors Anonymous Anne Dietrich

Contributing sponsor Robyn G. Peterson

The Art of the Brick®

September 4, 2014 – January 4, 2015

Nathan Sawaya's sculptures made of LEGO® toys were an instant hit with audiences of all ages. One of the six versions of this show that are traveling worldwide, the thirty-two sculptures that came to Billings emphasized Sawaya's latest interest in human figural compositions. The Art of the Brick® broke previous YAM attendance records for a single exhibition, with 22,998 attending over the fourmonth run. The YAM's education staff supplemented the exhibition with hands-on LEGO® stations, which saw non-stop use.



EXHIBITION SPONSORS:

Gold Brick sponsors Aaron and Shanna Sparboe

Red Brick sponsors First Interstate Bank Mary Alice Fortin Foundation Sanderson Stewart

Yellow Brick sponsors Carol, Matt, and Michelle Brosovich ExxonMobil The Joy of Kids J.R. and Amy Reger Tourism Business Improvement District

White Brick sponsor Bricks and Minifigs

...and...the Grandparents' Group of twenty-one donors (individuals and couples)







The YAM is grateful to our Business Members whose category of support contributes to the YAM's temporary exhibition program: Sanctuary Spa & Salon, Sanderson Stewart, and Stockman Bank.

Forward Facing: A Look at Portraits by Twentieth-Century Masters

September 22, 2014 - October 23, 2014

This small but choice exhibition was possible in Billings courtesy of an anonymous collector of fine European art. Five paintings and one sculpture by Aristide Maillol, Henri Charles Manguin, Amedeo Modigliani, and Pablo Picasso encapsulated the early twentieth-century's radical new approaches to the human figure.

EXHIBITION SPONSORS

Anonymous

Radiance: Art from the Michael Ovitz Family Collection

November 24, 2014 – April 5, 2015 Audiences enjoyed five wall-filling works by Modernist masters Robert Mangold, Richard Pousette-Dart, Jack Tworkov, and Christopher Wool.

EXHIBITION SPONSORS

The Michael Ovitz Family

Art Auction 47

January 22, 2015 – March 7, 2015 See **page 17** for a full description of Art Auction 47.



Ride 'Em: The Art of Will James

March 26, 2015 – June 14, 2015

Drawn almost exclusively from the YAM's vast permanent collection of James-related art and memorabilia, *Ride 'Em* showcased oils, works on paper, historic photographs, books, ephemera, and personal possessions of James's such as saddle and chaps. A loan of historic photographs from Kenneth Schlenker enriched the selection. The YAM was pleased to collaborate with the Bureau of Land Management, which had recently restored one of James's cabins at the Four Dances recreation area. Local artist Mike Caskey led a *plein air* painting workshop at the cabin. The exhibition was accompanied by a new brochure about James and the extensive James collection at the YAM by Associate Curator Liz Harding.

EXHIBITION SPONSORS:

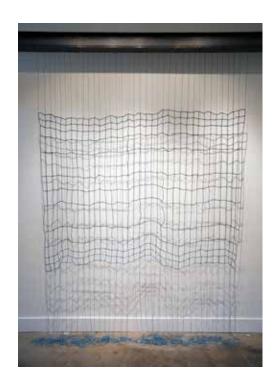
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David and Cynthia Hummel
Thomas Minckler and Abigail
Hornik

Additional support Patrick and Rebecca Houghton



The YAM is grateful to our Business Members whose category of support contributes to the YAM's temporary exhibition program: Artcraft Printers, Hilltop Inn, Riversage Billings Inn, and Wells Fargo Bank.





Floyd D. Tunson: Son of Pop

March 26, 2015 - June 14, 2015

The YAM was honored to host this exhibition from the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center. The twenty-nine paintings and twenty-seven sculptural and mixed media works in this exhibition were visually high-powered and elicited prolific and thoughtful visitor responses. Colorado-based artist Floyd Tunson, a former university art faculty member, addressed race, identity, and cultural belonging. Tunson's work referenced comics, current events, art history, and literature. Dr. Leanne Gilbertson from MSU-Billings presented an illuminating lecture to accompany this exhibition.

EXHIBITION SPONSORS

Title sponsor Anonymous Supporting sponsors
David Orser and Ossie Abrams
Carol and Jim Spielman

Lead sponsors John W. and Carol L. H. Green Diane Boyer Jerhoff

The Weft of Time, Border to Border

May 20, 2015 – September 6, 2015

This exhibition offered a selection of works illustrating the physical and metaphorical ideas of interweaving and time. It included two never-before-exhibited tapestries by Kiki Smith, works by Saul Steinberg, and a Mark Rothko. These works were placed into regional context alongside textile works by Brooke Atherton and Jennifer Reifschneider, and thematically related art from the permanent collection by Barbara Cooper, Fernanda d'Agostino, Robert Rauschenberg, and Jaune Quick-to-See Smith.

EXHIBITION SPONSORS

Members of the Yellowstone Art Museum

The Other Side of Midnight: Paintings and Prints by Adolf Dehn

June 25, 2015 - September 27, 2015

Watercolors and prints by Adolf Dehn provided a rich opportunity to take a fresh look at mid-twentieth-century American art and the evolving social scenes that informed active artists such as Dehn, who was well known across the U.S. in his lifetime. Dehn's favored subject matter—the Harlem jazz scene, tropical venues, and the upper Midwest—were all well represented. The exhibition was accompanied by a gallery brochure by Senior Curator Bob Durden. A three-evening jazz music series featured The "Do-Ohs," Philip Aaberg, and the Alex Nauman Trio.

EXCLUSIVE SPONSOR

Joseph S. Sample



SPECIAL PROGRAM SPONSORS

The Michael and Karen Fried Community Education Fund Humanities Montana

The Botanical Series: Photographs by Gerald Lang and Jennifer Anne Tucker

June 25, 2015 - October 18, 2015

Drawn from the permanent collection of the University of Wyoming Art Museum, this exhibition featured forty ultra high-resolution scans of wild and cultivated plants. These intensely detailed images formed the foundation for a number of accompanying programs, including a reading by poet Cara Chamberlain, a walk-and-talk at the Audubon Conservation Center with Rocky Mountain College botanist Megan Poulette, a public discussion forum about cannabis, and a lecture on renowned naturalist and explorer Alexander von Humboldt presented by Dr. Helga Aurisch. The YAM's education staff built a children's garden at the Visible Vault including plants illustrated in Lang and Tucker's work.

EXHIBITION SPONSORS

Lead sponsors Laurence and Ruth Martin

Supporting sponsors
Anonymous
The Michael and Karen Fried Community Education Fund
David Orser and Ossie Abrams

Contributing sponsor Frances Oakland



artinaction

Art in Action

June 25, 2015 - September 27, 2015

Art in Action was a crowd-sourced gallery experience. The "exhibition" opened with an empty gallery equipped with rolls of colored paper, scissors, and an idea. The idea was Henri Matisse's Jazz series of collages. Within days, the walls were filling with publicly contributed collaged elements, growing through September into an exuberant explosion of forms and colors, all contributed by visitors. A webcam allowed the public to monitor the gradual transformation of the gallery. Conceived by Senior Curator Bob Durden, the Art in Action series will continue in years to come.

EXHIBITION SPONSORS

Lead sponsors Dr. Stephen and Marilyn Kramer

Supporting sponsors Anonymous David Orser and Ossie Abrams

Additional support Acorn Technologies, Inc.

the permanent collection

The Yellowstone Art Museum's permanent collections grow through the generosity of donors. Donors may provide works of art or funds to acquire works of art. The YAM added twenty-two works to the permanent collections from five individuals and families. Some of the works accessioned in 2014-2015 were from a large gift received in 2005 from Joseph and Holly Poindexter to augment the existing Poindexter Collection; the process of reviewing this large gift to make accession recommendations began in 2012-2013 and will take several years to complete.

ACCESSIONS TO THE PERMANENT COLLECTION

,	
2014.010.001	Earl Biss, The Spotted Shirt, 1980, oil on canvas, 9.5 x 19.5 inches, gift of Jann and Allan Knapp
2014.010.002	Earl Biss, Rendezvous at the Lake, 1978-1979, oil on canvas, 28 x 60 x 2 inches, gift of Jann and Allan Knapp
2014.011.001	Clarice Dreyer, A Swan Song, 1985, cast aluminum and enamel paint, 60 x 138 x 48 inches, gift of Theodore
	Waddell and Lynn Campion
2014.011.002	Gordon McConnell, Points in Space, 2012, acrylic on canvas panel, 18 x 24 inches, museum purchase funded by
	Theodore Waddell and Lynn Campion
2014.012.001	James Cuchiara, Untitled (#33), March 1959, 12 x 18 inches, Poindexter Collection
2014.012.002	James Cuchiara, Untitled (#35), February 1959, 12 x 18 inches, Poindexter Collection
2014.012.003	James Cuchiara, Untitled (#36), February 1959, 12 x 18 inches, Poindexter Collection
2014.012.004	James Cuchiara, Untitled (#37), February 1959, 12 x 18 inches, Poindexter Collection
2014.012.005	James Cuchiara, Untitled (#38), January 1959, 11 x 17 inches, Poindexter Collection
2014.012.006	James Cuchiara, Untitled (#42), February 1959, 11 x 18 inches, Poindexter Collection
2015.001a	Victo Ngai, The Sighting, The Search, The Meeting: A Romance, 2014, holiday card, 5.25 x 5.25 inches, gift of
	Gwen and Peter Norton
2015.001b	Yuko Uchikawa, Kevin Sommers, and others, Once Again, But Different This Time; The Canasta Edition, 2014,
	mixed media, 5 x 3.75 inches, gift of Gwen and Peter Norton
2015.002.001	Jon Lodge, Quasi Nebulae No. 1, 2004, machine compressed and cut chemical transfer paper, glue, gesso,
	graphite on aluminum, 16 x 16 inches, gift of John W. and Carol L. H. Green
2015.002.002	Jon Lodge, Control Panel for Choreographic Lighting (pattern, sequence, sync and intensity), 1999, glue (boiled
	animal substances), gouache, gesso on aluminum, 21.375 x 25.625 inches, gift of John W. and Carol L. H. Green
2015.003.001	George Spaventa, Figure #4, 1963, watercolor on paper, 9.5 x 13.5 inches, Poindexter Collection
2015.003.002	George Spaventa, Red Figure, 1962, oil on paper, 20 x 30 inches, Poindexter Collection
2015.003.003	George Spaventa, Untitled #7, 1964, oil on paper, 16 x 24 inches, Poindexter Collection
2015.004.001	Robert Helsmoortel, Untitled, undated, oil and plaster on canvas, 78 x 51 inches, Poindexter Collection
2015.004.002	Carl Robert Holty, Green Yellow & Cinnamon, 1960, oil on plywood, 12 x 9 inches, Poindexter Collection
2015.004.003	Lattanzi, Untitled, oil on board, 1959, 51 x 74 inches, Poindexter Collection
2015.004.004	Lattanzi, Untitled, oil on fiberboard, 1960, 48 x 72 inches, Poindexter Collection
2015.004.005	Helene McKinsey, Beached Sun, undated, oil on canvas, 22 x 24 inches, Poindexter Collection
2015.004.006	Helene McKinsey, Epoch, undated, oil on canvas, 28.5 x 26.5 inches, Poindexter Collection
2015.004.007	Jules Olitski, Bridge of Gov. Wentworth, undated, plaster and pigment on canvas, 14 x 18 x 1.5 inches, Poindexter
	Collection
2014.009	Wesley Anderegg, The First Human Clone, acquired by gift from the artist

DEACCESSIONS

1988.000 Marcia Selsor, Foreboding Vessel, 1987, porcelain, 13 x 20 inches, museum purchase

LOANS TO AND FROM THE YAM

Incoming loans or permanent collection works exhibited in temporary exhibitions

- Boundless Visions, 47 objects from the permanent collection*, six objects from six lenders
- Art Auction 47, 194 objects
- Twelve objects from two special lenders
- Floyd D. Tunson: Son of Pop, 39 objects from one lender
- Ride 'Em: The Art of Will James, 82 objects from the permanent collection*
- The Other Side of Midnight, 31 objects from one lender
- The Weft of Time: Border to Border, five objects from the permanent collection* and seven objects from three lenders
- Vantage Point, one object from one lender
- The Botanical Series: Photographs by Gerald Lang and Jennifer Anne Tucker, forty objects from one lender

Total number of objects borrowed for temporary exhibitions in 2014-2015 was 171 + Art Auction 47.

THE YAM'S EXHIBITIONS ON THE ROAD

- Edith Freeman's Montana Seasons completed its statewide tour at the Charles M. Bair Family Museum, Martinsdale, Montana, in the fall of 2014*
- Hallowed Absurdities: Work by Theodore Waddell, thirty objects from one lender, traveled to the Art Museum of Eastern Idaho, Idaho Falls, Idaho; and the Fort Collins Museum of Art, Fort Collins, Colorado (the presentation in Colorado was augmented by five Theodore Waddell paintings from the permanent collection)*
- "A Lonely Business": Isabelle Johnson's Montana, sixteen objects from the permanent collection* traveled to the Charles
 M. Bair Family Museum, Martinsdale, Montana, in the spring of 2015
- * Asterisks refer to works from the permanent collections.

Total number of objects from the permanent collection featured in exhibitions in 2014-2015 was 180.

OUTGOING LOANS

- Borrowed by the Federal Courthouse, Billings, Montana: fifteen objects from the YAM Community Collection
- Borrowed by the Yellowstone County Commissioners: three objects from the YAM Community Collection
- Borrowed by the University of New York, Buffalo: one painting by Robert De Niro, Sr. from the permanent collection*

LONG-TERM INCOMING LOANS

Fourteen works were renewed on long-term loan from seven private individuals and organizations.



John W. and Carol L. H. Green with artist Floyd Tunson

Local artist Neil Jussila examines T. L. Solien's collages.

educational programming for children, families, and the community

"The students really enjoyed being able to interpret the paintings and develop their own 'story.' Native cultures and environmental impacts tie in with various science and social studies areas. I always enjoy the Suitcase Program. Thank you!"

—Central Heights sixth grade teacher

We began this year in July, the middle of our 50th anniversary year of 2014. It had already been a year full of celebration and events, and we were looking forward to continuing. We started the school year with the blockbuster exhibition of Nathan Sawaya's LEGO® sculptures. The Art of the Brick®. We had hoped that this exhibition would meet our expectations of increased visitation and it did. Fortunately, the education department and volunteer docents were prepared. We began by building three different sized "LEGO®" tables and wall mounts in order to give our small and tall visitors a space to exercise their own creativity. How exciting to witness the awe in thousands of children's eyes reflected in the eyes of their parents, grandparents, and teachers! One of the peripheral results of the increased visitation was the added traffic for our other major exhibition, T. L. Solien: Toward the Setting Sun. This visually and intellectually stimulating art introduced a generation of Billings children to Herman Melville's Moby-Dick and to the potential of visual art to be influenced by literature.

As a complement to the 50th anniversary gala celebration in November, the education department put together a smaller event to honor a group of people who have consistently supported and encouraged the art education of children and adults for the past fifty years. We hosted a Docent Tea. We scoured our records and sent invitations to as many present and past docents as we could find. China, linen, and a vast array of tea and specialty goodies prepare by our own Raven's Café d'Art elicited rave reviews from hat-wearing docents.

This year also marked the twentieth anniversary of Linda Ewert's tenure at the Yellowstone Art Museum, an occasion celebrated at the downtown Kibler & Kirch offices owned by trustee Jeremiah Young. Looking back over her twenty years, Linda noted that it was astonishing and rewarding to recognize all of the excellent and timely exhibitions the museum has hosted. She recalled the electrifying explorations of subjects from Dr. Seuss, Russian painting, Will James, and Andy Warhol to our own Montana masters

"We could not have asked for more. The institution continues to provide a provocative exploration of what has happened and what is happening in the art of today, while celebrating the place that artists and art hold in our culture. Not only do we provide a venue to ensure its future but we present a proactive and committed approach to art education. Our school programs continue and evolve each year. The children in outreach programs exhibit the same excitement

when we visit them as when they visit us. The kids of Yellowstone and the surrounding counties understand who owns the Yellowstone Art Museum—they do."

The Montana Women's Prison program continues to be supported in full by a grant from the Tippet Rise Fund of the Sidney E. Frank Foundation. This program involves the YAM coordinating two two-hour classes by a different artist every other month for approximately twenty women. This program is valued by all who participate. The art that is created—and perhaps even more importantly the processes involved—are meaningful on many different levels. Making choices, problem-solving, and finishing a project are all important skills that art teaches in a non-judgmental setting. The celebration of creating is an occurrence we take for aranted but the value of it is demonstrated in these classes.

Senior Art Connection tours continue to draw visitors from our area's assisted living facilities. These experiences, designed and championed by docent Karen Fried, have become meaningful to both the beneficiaries and the docents who lead the tours. Warm hospitality and a newly added option to make art afterward in the Education Studio complete the experience.

In the spring, Education Director Linda Ewert served her first stint as a peer reviewer of museum grants given by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. The process is time-intensive but a fascinating exercise in seeing the range of projects undertaken by museums across the country. Linda's involvement gave the YAM the advantage of seeing the extent of competition for the very grants that have been such a boon to our own museum.

At the Annual Art Auction and throughout the year, the education department has been the recipient of thousands of dollars from hundreds of donors. A named endowment fund established last year in honor of Yellowstone Art Museum founding volunteers Jack and Eddi Schiltz will add to the support the education programs receive. These gifts are given with a clear understanding of the importance of art education, and the difference it can make in a child's or a community's life. We have truly been sustained by the community around us, and we have grown together to become something to be proud of.



YAM Docents

32 meetings a year, average of 25 docents

Art Suitcase Program

82 combined classroom presentations for 3,673 children

Museum Tours

160 children's tours for a total of 3,575 children 26 adult tours for about 300 adults

Senior Art Connections

Docent Second Saturdays: Art for Kids 8 classes per year, averaging about 30 kids each

Regional Field Trips

The docents visited the Waterworks Art Museum in Miles City to fire raku pottery

Young Artists' Gallery Exhibitions

The YAM hosted nine exhibitions of student work from the following schools and children's organizations. The total number of participants includes adults who attended exhibition receptions.

Senior High School, Billings, MT Hardin 6th grade, Hardin, MT Shepherd High School, Shepherd, MT Billings Public Schools (middle schools, 8th grade) Billings Public Schools (5th grade elementary) Head Start, Billings, Laurel, and Lockwood, MT Big Horn School District, Crow Agency, MT Greybull High School, Greybull, WY Crow Agency, Crow Agency, MT

Other:

Wendy's Day
The Stars Align at YAM, collaborative Native
American program
HRDC Early Childhood Training
Teachers' workshops
YAM Camp
Teen Ambassadors
Friday Family Fun Nights

Education Program Support

The YAM's pre-K through 12 art education programs, both onsite and outreach, enjoy support from new and longstanding supporters.

Major funder for 2014-2015
Tippet Rise Fund of the Sidney E. Frank Foundation

Supporting sponsors Institute of Museum and Library Services Dr. Michael Lawler Tim and Trish Matteson Phillips 66 Wendy's of Montana Wyo-Ben, Inc.

Additional support Riverstone Health

Cost-sharing partners
Billings School District
Crow Agency Elementary
Hardin School District
Head Start
Shepherd High School
United Way

By the Numbers: On-site Contacts

Tours Children's tours Adults accompanying tours Total	3,575 664 300 4,539
Young Artists' Gallery exhibitions attendance	1,316
Other Programs and Special Art Education Days	
Wendy's Free Day The Stars Align at YAM, collaborative Native American program HRDC Early Childhood Training Teachers' workshops YAM Camp Teen Ambassadors Friday Family Fun Nights	
Total	2,177
On-site contacts:	7,357

By the Numbers: Off-site Contacts

Outreach (includes programs combining multiple outreach and on-site visits)	
Crow Agency 3rd, 4th, 5th grades	2,203
Shepherd High School	60
Head Start, Joliet, and Red Lodge	20
Care Academy (numbers included above)	
Downtown Strawberry Festival and HarvestFest	90
Summerfair children's area	534
Montana Women's Prison	114
Youth Partial Hospitalization Program	18
School Art Suitcase Program	3,673
Off-site contacts	6,712
GRAND TOTAL OF EDUCATION CONTACTS	14,069



Docents

Without a devoted and informed corps of docents, no art museum's education programs can succeed. The YAM acknowledges the generous gift of time and expertise offered by these docents: Bill Anderson Edward Barta Terese Blanding Stacie French Karen Fried Lisa Hall Mary Beth Helgeson Joan Heser Jane Indreland Judy Johnson Ann Jones LaFawn Kleinsasser Sue Lane Bess Lovec Trish Matteson Jean Mehlhaff Linda Merchant Davi Nelson Eloise Oviatt Jean Posusta Ginnie Pueringer Bob Rickels

Susan Santala Lori VanSky Schmidt † Kenneth Smith Lori Smith Linda J. Snider Brownie Snyder Mary Alice Spencer Carol Spielman Debbie Tierney Kristi Tolliver

educational programming for adults, including teachers

Experience Art Workshops

Workshops for adults continued in 2014-2015, appealing to diverse lifelong learners. Topics included bleach-discharging on fabric and paper, zombie makeup, paper marbling, journal-making, chalk pastels, precious metal clay, and landscape and wildlife photography. Instructors included Brooke Atherton, Mike Caskey, Kelly Everitt, Susan Germer, Charlene Magargal, Susan Seilstad, and David Shumway.

Visible Vault Studio

The opportunity to watch and speak to an artist at work continued in the Gary and Melissa Oakland Artist-in-Residence Studio at the Visible Vault. The year began with Bently Spang, a northern Chevenne performance and mixed media artist. During his time in the studio, Bently worked on a series of drawings that came into being out of a family misfortune, the loss of his parents' home to fire. Bently was followed by Louis Habeck, whose work is dominated by sculptures of imaginary creatures. Louis focused on a work much larger than his home studio could accommodate and he assisted in many ways with YAM events. Both artists hosted informal drop-in visitors and regular school tours, giving of themselves and benefiting in turn from the insights of new acquaintances.

Distinguished Speakers Series

Our series of programs for adults continued, with most of the offerings relating to a current temporary exhibition. To those of our presenters who were able to donate their expertise, we extend our sincere thanks. In addition to lectures, this series includes film screenings, book-signings, discussion forums, and special participatory programs designed for our adult audiences.



Zombie makeup workshop with Kelly Everitt

July 31, 2014

Book-signing and talk by Carol Bradley, presenting her book Last Chain on Billie

Presented in conjunction with Face to Face, Wall to Wall

August 14, 2014

Marilyn Lysohir, sculptor "Personal Reflections" Presented in conjunction with Face to Face, Wall to Wall

August 21, 2014

Scott Fife, sculptor "Reclaiming the Portrait" Presented in conjunction with Face to Face, Wall to Wall

September 7, 2014

Book-signing and slide presentation by Idaho photographer Leland Howard, photographer/author of the book Eastern Montana

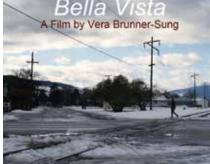
September 13, 2014

Rossella Vasta, painter and mixed media artist "Transforming Mind Patterns and Sound Waves to Visual Art^a

October 9, 2014

T. L. Solien, collage and mixed media artist Artist's talk presented in conjunction with T. L. Solien: Toward the Setting Sun





over photo for Bella Vista film screening

Book about Kevin Red Star's new work



Plein air workshop at the Will James cabin

October 16, 2014

Screening of National Geographic's "Ultimate Factories" episode about LEGO® toys Presented in conjunction with The Art of the Brick®

October 31, 2014

"YAM Haunted History," two tours of behind-thescenes areas of the building, presented by YAM staff members Kelly Everitt and Chuck Randall

March 27, 2015

Floyd Tunson, painter and sculptor Artist's talk presented in conjunction with Floyd D. Tunson: Son of Pop

April 23, 2015

Screening of Bella Vista, a new film by Vera Brunner-Sung

May 7, 2015

Jen Macy, Bureau of Land Management archaeologist, presented a program about the restoration of the Will James cabin on BLM land.

Presented in conjunction with Ride 'Em: The Art of Will James

May 21, 2015

Robert E. Jackson, photographer and photo collector "Snap: The Lost and Found in Vernacular Photography"

May 22, 2015

Book-signing and presentation by Kevin Red Star, on the occasion of the new book about his work, Kevin Red Star

June 6, 2015

Painter Mike Caskey led a plein air workshop at Will James cabin site on BLM land.

Presented in conjunction with Ride 'Em: The Art of Will James.

June 11, 2015

Dr. Leanne Gilbertson, Montana State University-Billings, lectured about Pop art and culture. Presented in conjunction with Floyd D. Tunson: Son of Pop.

celebrating fifty years

Anniversary Challenge Grant

A \$100,000 challenge grant from anonymous donors was secured by the December 31, 2014 deadline, bringing in over \$200,000 in gifts from new donors to endowment in addition to the challenge grant. Gifts of all sizes helped the YAM leap forward in its endowment fundraising goals.

Billings Gazette Artist Features

The popular series of articles about artists represented in the permanent collection continued into early 2015, resulting in an unprecedented twenty-six front-page features in the *Billings Gazette*. Each was researched with care by staff writer Jaci Webb and is a fine resource about the artists.

Fiftieth Anniversary Support

Ambitious exhibitions, additional programs and events, and other anniversary initiatives were made possible by many generous donors.

Premier 50th Anniversary Annual Sponsor

Riversage Billings Inn and Hilltop Inn

50th Anniversary Heritage Sponsor

BNSF Railway Foundation

50th Commemorative Publication Sponsor

Henry Luce Foundation

50th Anniversary Exhibition Season Sponsor

U. S. Bank

50th Anniversary 50 Years of Excellence Sponsor

Charles M. Bair Family Trust

Golden 50th Anniversary Sponsor

David Orser and Ossie Abrams

Yellowstone 50th Anniversary Sponsor

The Billings Gazette

John W. and Carol L. H. Green

U. S. Bank - supporting the 50th commemorative book

Yellowstone County - supporting the 50th anniversary book

50th Anniversary Banner Sponsor

American Title & Escrow

Community Free Days July 1 through December 31, 2014:

Riversage Billings Inn and Hilltop Inn Day, Saturday, July 19 Sponsored by Riversage Billings Inn and Hilltop Inn

Educators' Free Day, Saturday, October 4

Native American Heritage Free Day, Friday, November 28

Donors to the "Plus 50" Endowment Drive

Throughout 2014, donors responded to our appeal to add \$50 to their membership renewals. These additional gifts were directed toward the YAM's endowment. We acknowledge the following gifts through the entirety of 2014:

Bruce and Susan Barrow

Ronald and Jeanne Bender

Joanne Berghold

Dr. Brian Bross and Bonnie Daniels

Virginia Bryan

Becky and Andy Carroll

Marty and Mary Lee Connell

Dr. Gordon and Dodie Cox

Ray and Dorothy Curtis

Liza Dada

Dr. Joseph Dillard and Stella Fong

Karen Dooley

Sherri Eastman

Linda Eckhoff

Leila Farnum

Kay Foster and Mike Mathew

Alice Gordon and Paul Grmoljez

Paul and Dona Hagen – Legacy Society

Hardy Construction

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Ted and Bess Lovec

Lisa Malody and Laurence DeBoer

Robert and Sharon McDermott

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Rachel Schaffer

Eddi Schiltz †

Corby Skinner

Mary Alice Spencer

Loris Toole

Christine Twito

Ragan Volk

Paul and Betty Whiting

Joan and Bill Wilson

Charles A. Wittman and Pat Payne



celebrating 50 years continued

50th Anniversary Gala November 7, 2014

An elegant gala dinner capped the 50th anniversary celebrations. Honored guests included Robert Fehlberg, architect of the original Yellowstone Art Center renovations, and his wife LaDonna. We were also pleased to host past executive directors David E. Nelson, John A. Armstrong, and Donna M. Forbes. At the gala, we unveiled Yellowstone Art Museum: Fifty Years, a commemorative book reviewing our history, with contributions by Executive Director Robyn G. Peterson and all six of the institution's former directors.

Premier sponsors:

Deborah Anspach and Dr. John Hanson First Interstate Bank Linda Shelhamer and Stephen Haraden

Lead sponsors

Bob and Shari Dayton
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Additional Commemorative Publication Sponsors

A.D. Creative Group Artcraft Printers Donna M. Forbes

50th Anniversary Advertisers

Thomas Minckler Fine Arts Sanctuary Spa & Salon Wyo-Ben, Inc.

Names in italics indicate a gift fully or partially in-kind.



Happy 50th anniversary to the Yellowstone Art Museum!

special museum events

The YAM participated in ArtWalk, the Strawberry Festival, Alive after 5, a concert at Josephine Crossing, and other downtown and citywide events. The YAM is an active site for daytime, after hours, and weekend facility rentals. In addition to hosting small events throughout the year, the YAM coordinated the following two major events:

47th Annual Art Auction

March 7, 2015

The Art Auction is the leader among the many events that emulate it. In 2015, the event was a resounding success, benefiting artists, the YAM, and the YAM's art education programs. The selection was juried by Eric Wimmer, Curator, Nicolaysen Art Museum, Casper, Wyoming.

Gross revenue: \$383,313

Net raised for exhibitions and education: \$159,817 Artists: 162 artists provided 57 live auction works, 6 Quick Draw works, and 137 silent auction works

Attendance: 445

ART AUCTION SPONSORS

The Oakland Companies

Lead sponsors:

Intermountain Distributing

Supporting sponsors: Corning Companies Galusha, Higgins and Galusha, P.C. Yellowstone Surgery Center

Community sponsors:

Montague's Jewelers Stillwater Mining Company

Contributing sponsors:

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ART AUCTION ADVERTISERS

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Linda J. Snider

Kevin Stenberg

Stillwater Mining Company

U. S. Bank

Wyo-Ben, Inc.

Yellowstone Bank

Yellowstone Surgery Center

Summerfair

July 12-13, 2014

Gross revenue: \$87,963

Net raised for exhibitions and education: \$40,393

Total number of vendors:

104 of whom 93 were artist vendors

Estimated attendance: 9,250

SUMMERFAIR SPONSORS

Lead sponsor:

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Red Robin

Riversage Billings Inn and Hilltop Inn

Shaggy Dog Pet Grooming

Stillwater Mining Company

Time Out Sports Wyo-Ben, Inc.

Selected Other Events

Alive after 5 hosted in the YAM parking lot, July 3 2014

Bridal Fair, September 21, 2014

Paint 'n' Sip with Carol Welch, October 10, 2014

Past and Present Docent Tea, October 18, 2014

Winterfair, December 5-6, 2014

Paint 'n' Sip with Carol Spielman, January 29, 2015

Valentine's Date Night, February 14, 2015

Wendy's Free Day, April 11, 2015

Paint 'n' Sip with Jon Lodge, April 24, 2015

Blooms 'n' Bubbles with Katie Bennett,

June 2, 2015

ArtWalk, five times throughout the year

Jam at the YAM, approximately monthly

SPONSORS OF OTHER EVENTS

Allied Waste

Holiday Station Stores

Jon Lodge

McCall Development Carol Spielman

Wendy's of Montana Italics indicate in-kind sponsors.



expansion campaign

The Yellowstone Art Museum's Expansion Campaign—begun in 2006 with multiple capital, special project, and endowment goals—has, over time, evolved to become an ongoing campaign to build endowment for the future. In 2014-2015, the Campaign continued to benefit from the groundswell of support that the YAM enjoyed throughout the 50th anniversary year. We are thrilled that a growing number of donors see the benefits of a strong endowment.

To illustrate the growing impacts, observe the growth in the YAM's endowment funds as well as the growth in the revenue available to support the museum's operations:



The donor wall in the entry of the Visible Vault

	December 31, 2005	December 31, 2007	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2011	December 31, 2013
dowment fund narket values	\$319,466	\$620,428	\$1,098,748	\$1,593,456	\$2,962,028
	FY 2006-2007	FY 2008-2009	FY 2010-2011	FY 2012-2013	FY 2014-2015
Total endowment evenue in support of operations	\$7,400	\$10,959	\$18,802	\$66,263	\$112,529

From supporting operations at a level less than 1%, endowment has grown to provide 8% of the YAM's operating budget. With great optimism, we aspire to one day see at least a quarter of our operating budget covered by endowment revenue. We cannot offer enough thanks to the donors who have to date given us this critical kind of ongoing support that helps to sustain our core programs through both good and challenging times.

Two new named funds were formalized in 2014-2015. The Lloyd Shelhamer Memorial Endowment was established by the children of Lloyd Shelhamer to support the exhibition of the Montana-based permanent collections. The Al and Jayne Winegardner Fund for Exhibitions was established by the Winegardners' children to support temporary exhibitions of Montana artists' work. All of the YAM's named funds remain open to new gifts.

Gifts to all phases of the Campaign are cumulative. Several donors augmented their prior years' gifts and have moved up on the donors lists provided below as well as the Campaign's donor wall in the vestibule of the Visible Vault. We warmly thank them and all of the more than 650 Expansion Campaign donors.

We are pleased to steward the following named funds, established as of June 30, 2015:

Endowment Fund	supports general operations
Next Generation Education Fund	supports outreach and on-site children's art educational programs
Exhibitions Fund	supports curation and installation of temporary exhibitions, including publications and adjunct programs
Will James Endowment Fund	supports the conservation, care, exhibition, and interpretation of the Will James Collection
Miriam T. Sample Contemporary Art Preservation Fund	supports the conservation, care, exhibition, and interpretation of the Montana Collection
Patricia Etchart Docent Endowment	supports docent training opportunities
Wendy's of Montana and McDonald Family Art Education Fund	supports art education for children
Edna Marie and John M. Schiltz Children's Art Education Fund	supports art education for children
Lloyd Shelhamer Memorial Endowment	supports the exhibition of the Montana-based permanent collection
Al and Jayne Winegardner Fund for Exhibitions	supports temporary exhibitions of Montana artists' work

expansion campaign donors

The following list reflects cumulative giving to the Expansion Campaign since its launch in 2006 through June 30, 2015. Names in italics indicate a gift fully or partially in-kind.

Over \$1,000,000

Charles M. Bair Family Trust

\$500,000 - 999,999

William I. Koch Miriam T. Sample † Kresge Foundation

\$250,000 - 499,999

M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust David Orser & Ossie Abrams

\$100,000 - 249,999

Bruce Anderson † Milan † and Cynthia Foster John W. and Carol L. H. Green Henry Luce Foundation The McDonald Family and Wendy's of Montana Gary and Melissa Oakland Linda Shelhamer and Stephen Haraden

\$50,000 - 99,999

Anonymous Institute of Museum and Library Services Mary Louise Menk Dr. Donald & Carol Roberts Linda J. Snider David Stensrud

\$25,000 - 49,999

Anonymous BNSF Foundation Dr. John and Patricia Burg Kris and Larry Carpenter, Sanctuary Spa, and The Joy of Living Dr. Ralph and Sheryl Costanzo Anne Dietrich First Interstate Bank and the First Interstate Bancsystem Foundation Dona and Paul Hagen Jack † and Susan Scott Heyneman and the Homer A. and Mildred S. Scott Foundation Gareld and Barbara Krieg Jon Lodge Ted and Bess Lovec

Montana State Department of Commerce (TIIP grant) Susan Shelhamer Stuart and Marie Simonsen Harriett † and Edson † Spencer Stillwater Mining Company Wells Fargo Yellowstone County

\$10,000 - 24,999

Anonymous Dr. Hewes and Susan Agnew Bill and Sandy Anderson Jim and Claudia Baker David and Jinx Brown Dr. F. Douglas and Karla Carr Bruce and Mary † Crippen Robert and Shari Dayton Eide Bailly, LLP Patricia † and Leonard Etchart, and the Etchart Family Fanwood Foundation and Mark Stevens Fred and Rose Marie Fleischmann Kay Foster and Mike Mathew Hancock Enterprises

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Gifts up to \$250

We gratefully acknowledge over 400 additional Expansion Campaign donors who have made gifts up to \$250. Because a portion of upper-level membership dues helps build the YAM's endowment, many of our Campaign donors have helped us make progress through their personal or business membership contributions. All Campaign giving is cumulative. Donors may move up on the list through additional gifts and upper-level memberships.

Legacy Society

The Legacy Society honors those who have remembered the Yellowstone Art Museum in their estate plans and who wish to encourage others to do the same. The Yellowstone Art Museum acknowledges and honors those friends of the YAM who have made a commitment to ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy the visual arts of Montana and the northern mountain-plains region through excellence in exhibitions and art education programs.

Don and Marilyn Floberg Paul and Dona Hagen Ted and Bess Lovec Bev and Sig Ross

Former employee, docent, and Legacy Society member Lori VanSky Schmidt passed away during the year 2014-2015. Her bequest of personal property was gratefully received by the YAM and, when it is liquidated, the proceeds will augment the Next Generation Education Fund.

volunteers

Volunteer Group	Number in Group	Total Hours	Total Value
Board of Trustees (includes emeritus)	30	868	\$20,832
Docents	34	1,812	\$39,864
Teen Ambassadors	16	167	\$1,670
Art Auction	112	329	\$5,922
Summerfair	81	472	\$8,496
Curatorial support	17	310	\$6,820
All other	68	691	\$12,438
Consideration			£07.042





YAM Teens volunteering at Art Auction 47

president's awards for service to the arts

In July 2014, the President of the Board of Trustees was pleased to bestow awards on individuals and organizations who demonstrated extraordinary or longstanding support for the arts and for the Yellowstone Art Museum.

PHILANTHROPISTS OF THE YEAR Cynthia Foster

CORPORATE PHILANTHROPIST OF THE YEAR Riversage Billings Inn and Hilltop Inn

DOCENT OF THE YEAR

Jean Mehlhaff

EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR **Delores Pease, Hardin Middle School**

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR Carol Spielman

ARTIST OF THE YEAR **Bob Barlow**





Artist John Polock speaking at the annual members' meeting



Carol Spielman



Jean Mehlhaff



Delores Pease and Linda Ewert



yellowstone art museum comparative statements of financial position YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014

		6/30/2015		6/30/2014
ASSETS				
	Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 807,713		\$ 818,288
	Receivables	104,040		526,995
	Inventories	4,304		4,304
	Prepaid expenses	 38,962	_	35,999
	Total Current Assets	955,019		1,385,586
	Long-term receivables	480,592		81,370
	Endowment	3,178,197		3,112,022
	Property and equipment	 6,172,989		6,357,610
	Total Noncurrent Assets	9,831,778		9,551,002
TOTAL ASSETS		\$ 10,786,797	=	\$ 10,936,588
LIABILITIES				
	Accounts payable	\$ 42,355		\$ 31,038
	Accrued payroll	36,420		39,302
	Deferred revenue	179,962		237,022
	Current portion of long-term debt	15,000		20,000
	Obligations under split-interest agreements	9,112		9,112
	Total Current Liabilities	 282,849	-	336,474
	Obligations under split-interest agreements	237,715		237,964
	Notes payable	28,101		43,101
	Total Noncurrent Liabilities	 256,816	_	281,065
TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$ 548,665	_	\$ 617,539
NET ASSETS				
	Unrestricted	\$ 6,906,428		\$ 7,117,154
	Temporarily restricted	507,023		515,390
	Permanently restricted	2,824,681		2,686,505
		 	-	
TOTAL NET ASSETS		\$ 10,238,132	_	\$ 10,319,049
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		\$ 10,786,797	=	\$ 10,936,588

yellowstone art museum audited statements of activities YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014

		2015	2014
REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT			
	Admissions	\$ 63,329	\$ 43,203
	County appropriations	152,181	148,647
	Other government support	49,530	67,824
	Grants and donations	500,368	471,346
	Investment income	151,751	459,081
	Membership dues	103,022	76,097
	In-kind donations	128,928	73,697
	Consignment gallery	21,522	8,933
	Special events	388,017	327,500
	Gifts to endowment & annuities	138,176	325,392
	Rental income	39,593	41,427
	Other income	137,426	81,872
TOTAL REVENUES, GAINS, & OTHER SUPPORT		\$ 1,873,843	\$ 2,125,019
EXPENSES			
	Programs	\$ \$1,331,260	\$ 1,262,178
	Development	121,715	157,027
	Expansion campaign	51,775	45,101
	General and administration	447,713	332,730
		 1,952,463	 1,797,036
	Art purchases	2,300	4,200
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 1,954,763	\$ 1,801,236
NET OPERATING GAIN/(LOSS)		\$ (80,920)	\$ 323,783



support and membership

Annual Operating Support

The following donors provided support in addition to membership or gifts to the YAM's Expansion Campaign. See pages 26-29 for membership contributions. Please see pages 19 for a list of Expansion Campaign donors since the Campaign's launch in 2006 through June 30, 2015.

Names in **boldface** indicate gifts of \$1,000 or greater. Names in green indicate gifts of \$5,000 or greater. Names in italic indicate an in-kind gift.

Three anonymous donors

An anonymous donor

Alpha Massage

American Title & Escrow

Artcraft Printers

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