



MOUNT HOLYOKE  
COLLEGE ART MUSEUM

2016-2017

# ANNUAL REPORT





## THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

College class visits  
**172**

College student visits  
**2,882**

Objects pulled for classes  
**985**

Faculty seminar participants  
**40**

K-12 student visits  
**522**

Sightlines Tour attendees  
**238**

New gallery labels  
**492**

Total attendance  
**10,864**

Acquisitions  
**995**

Student employees  
**24**

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Last year was a notable one for the Mount Holyoke College Art Museum, marking our 140th anniversary. To celebrate this milestone, the Museum unveiled an ambitious year-long exhibition, *140 Unlimited: Recent Acquisitions in Honor of the Mount Holyoke College Art Museum's 140th Anniversary*. From a 2nd-century CE Roman gold coin to a large contemporary work by ceramic artist Mark Hewitt, the range of such plentiful and generous gifts from our loyal supporters considerably deepened the encyclopedic breadth of our collection.

Thanks to the largesse of our donors, we were able to incorporate into our *140 Unlimited* exhibition more works by women and artists of color, as well as more objects from non-Western cultures. In doing so, we were able to better reflect the great diversity of our student population. Maintaining the variety of works on view is only achievable through changing exhibitions and permanent collection rotations. This continuing endeavor is made possible by the Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation, which awarded the Museum its three-year *Diverse Voices* grant in June 2016. The grant has also provided more opportunities for working beyond our gates and welcoming K-12 groups and members from surrounding communities through new educational programs.

Another highlight of spring 2017 was a special visit to the Museum by the College Trustees. For this event, Acting President Sonya Stephens had requested that we present a demonstration of the object-based learning methods we employ in our well-regarded Teaching with Art program. Through two brief back-to-back sessions offered by Museum staff in collaboration with professors Renae Brodie (biological sciences) and Desmond Fitz-Gibbon (history), we were able to successfully showcase how teaching with objects sparks real curiosity and fosters authentic learning. Trustees left with a richer understanding of our Teaching with Art program, and it was a sincere honor to highlight the meaningful work we do.

I must also acknowledge the dedicated and tireless leadership of Ellen Alvord '89, Weatherbie Curator of Education and Academic Programs, who served as Interim Director after the departure of my esteemed predecessor John Stomberg. It is with much pride and honor that I close my first Director's Report. I look forward to writing many more and sharing the exceptional work that the Museum staff does every day for our students, faculty, and community.

—**Tricia Y. Paik**, Florence Finch Abbott Director



The range of such plentiful and generous gifts from our loyal supporters considerably deepened the encyclopedic breadth of our collection.



## **140 Unlimited: Recent Acquisitions in Honor of the Mount Holyoke College Art Museum's 140th Anniversary**

September 6, 2016–May 28, 2017  
Museum Galleries and Hinchcliff Reception Hall

*This exhibition was made possible by the Susan B. Weatherbie Exhibition Fund, the Joyce Marcus Art Exhibition Fund, and with generous support from Rosamond (Class of 1963) and David Mack.*

## **The Recovered History of Prospect Hill**

October 10–December 18, 2016  
Curated by Robert L. Herbert, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of the Humanities Emeritus and James Gehrt, Digital Projects Lead, DAPS, LITS  
Hinchcliff Reception Hall

*This exhibition was co-sponsored by the office of the President and the Miller Worley Center.*

## **The Legend of the Lares**

January 24–May 28, 2017  
Curated by Taylor Anderson '15  
Anne Greer and Fredric B. Garonzik Family Gallery

*This exhibition is made possible by the Leon Levy Foundation, the Susan Davenport Page and Margaret Page Fales Art Fund, and the Susan B. Weatherbie Exhibition Fund.*



*The Legend of the Lares invited visitors to dive into a little known facet of Roman culture that spanned the geographic and socioeconomic landscape of the empire.*

## SELECTED EVENTS



### **The 2016 Patricia and Edward Falkenberg Lecture “Teaching Museums in the 21st Century: Sharing Collections and Learning with Art”**

Jock Reynolds, The Henry J. Heinz II Director, Yale University Art Gallery  
Thursday, September 15

*Audio-recording available online*

### **Art à la Carte Gallery Talk “Human Images Rise”**

Kimberly J. Brown, Assistant Professor of English and Africana Studies  
Thursday, September 22

### **Art à la Carte Gallery Talk “Prospect Hill: The Recovered History”**

Robert Herbert, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of the Humanities Emeritus  
Thursday, October 13

### **140th Anniversary Bash Friday, November 11**

### **Art à la Carte Gallery Talk “Who is the Boy in the Top Hat?”**

Paul Staiti, Alumnae Foundation Professor of Fine Arts  
Thursday, November 17

### **“The Roman Lares: Gods of the Home and Journey”**

Lecture by Harriet Flower, Professor of Classics, Princeton University  
Thursday, February 2

*Audio-recording available online*

### **Art à la Carte Gallery Talk “140 Unlimited: A Contemporary Look”**

Tricia Y. Paik, Florence Finch Abbott Director  
Thursday, February 16

### **Art à la Carte Gallery Talk “Monsters and the Meaning of a 12th-Century Capital”**

Michael T. Davis, Professor of Art History and Chair, Architectural Studies Program  
Thursday, March 2

### **“A Tale of Two Wolves”**

Photographer Pete Muller in conversation with Dean of Faculty Jon Western  
Co-sponsored with the Department of International Relations  
Thursday, March 30

*Audio-recording available online*

### **Art à la Carte Gallery Talk “The Tale of Genji in Four Seasons: from Cherry Blossoms to Playing in the Snow”**

Sadako Ohki, The Japan Foundation Associate Curator of Japanese Art, Yale University Art Gallery  
Thursday, April 13

### **Season Opening Celebration at the Joseph Allen Skinner Museum Thursday, April 27**

### **Celebrate Spring Family Day Saturday, April 29**

### **Rendered Identities: Springfield Renaissance School Art Show Saturday, May 13**

## **SPRING 2017 SIGHTLINES TOUR SERIES**

**After the Fact**  
Emma Blades '17  
Saturday, Feb 11

**All that Glitters: The Artistic Uses of Gold**  
Mollie Wolhforth '19  
Sunday, Feb 19

**Embedded Meaning: Finding Art within Art**  
Miriam Niedergang '17  
Saturday, Feb 25

**Between this World and the Next: Prophets, Gods, and Mortality**  
Char White '17  
Saturday, Mar 4

**Weaving Narratives: Textiles in Visual Culture**  
Sabrina Smith '17  
Saturday, Mar 25

**Neither Here Nor There: Portals and Possibilities**  
Adele Gelperin '19  
Saturday, Apr 8

**Dream States: Exploring the Subconscious**  
Katia Kiefaber '17  
Saturday, Apr 15

**Celestial Bodies**  
Ivy Armstrong '17  
Saturday, Apr 29



Students in Amina Steinfelds's first-year seminar engage in a close-looking session.

This year represented an exciting phase for the Teaching with Art program, with opportunities to reach out to new audiences and collaborate with both campus and community partners. This past year we worked with 67 faculty members on 95 individual classes from 27 disciplines, for a total of 172 class visits and 2,882 student visits to both the Art Museum and the Skinner Museum. Nearly 1,000 objects were pulled from storage for customized class sessions in the Carson Teaching Gallery as well as other collection galleries.

A few highlights of these class visits include:

Assistant Professor of English and Africana Studies Kimberly Juanita Brown's seminar, "Topics in Africana Studies: Toni Morrison," took advantage of the newly reinstalled galleries for the Museum's 140th anniversary year by exclusively working with the art on view. Students were tasked with looking for analogies between Morrison's discussion of "whiteness and the literary imagination" and the idea of the visual imagination.

Professor of Art History and Chair of Architectural Studies Michael Davis's "Arts of Islam" class visited the

Museum multiple times to study themes of early Islamic coinage, calligraphy, and Persian painting. Building on guided-looking exercises with Museum staff, students were given the opportunity to explore artist techniques through hands-on making. By tracing lines of calligraphic texts themselves, students gained an appreciation of the precision and skill that goes into every calligraphic composition.

Continuing its important collaboration with the First-Year Seminar program, the Museum hosted 11 FYS courses in the fall, directly supporting the College's learning goals, such as thinking critically and evaluating evidence. Assistant Professor of Religion Amina Steinfelds brought her "Reading Closely, Thinking Broadly" seminar to the Museum for two such complementary sessions—the first with an emphasis on honing



Kimberly Brown's seminar discusses ideas of visual and literary imagination in the galleries.

A special thanks to alumnae Harriet Friedlander '52, Betse Gump '56, Chaney Li '69, and Susan Weatherbie '72 for their visionary support of the Museum's Teaching with Art program.



Katherine O'Callaghan's literature class reads an Emily Dickinson Poem aloud in the Skinner Museum.



Michael Davis's "Arts of Islam" students learn about different forms of Arabic calligraphy.

observational skills, and the second on learning to look at objects as primary documents. Both visits enhanced students' close-reading skills, a focus of Professor Steinfel's seminar.

The Skinner Museum continued to inspire faculty and students with its unique collections and displays. 19 Five College classes visited this past year, including Katherine O'Callaghan's "Introduction to the Study of Literature" course, which focused on the theme of haunting and ghosts. Described by one student as a "memory theater," the Skinner Museum was also the backdrop for the class's first group reading of an Emily Dickinson poem.

In addition, we hosted a number of interdisciplinary faculty seminars, including:

**Mary Lee Bendolph and the Legacy of Gee's Bend Quilts with Rubin Bendolph, Jr.**

January 17

**Faculty Seminar with Photographer Pete Muller**

February 3

**Teaching with the Original: Faculty Seminar for Museums and Archives**

February 27, March 22, and May 2

**Talking about Teaching: Object-Based Learning**

April 7

We also completed the first year of the Museum's *Diverse Voices Initiative: The Art of Inclusion*, a three-year program funded by the Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation as well as by generous gifts from individual donors.

Highlights of this year's outreach included: a partnership with the Springfield Renaissance School coordinated by two Art and Community Engagement interns; a collaboration with Mount Holyoke's Community-Based Learning department on a series of campus visits for young mothers enrolled in a high school equivalency program at the Care Center of Holyoke; and customized, interactive tours for 280 Mosier School 3rd graders to the Skinner Museum and 4th graders to the Art Museum led by our Summer Education Fellows.



11th and 12th graders from the Springfield Renaissance School complete a 6-month Museum program on Art and Identity.



2016.11

The Museum added a number of small and large collections to its holdings this year, as well as discrete artworks of remarkable quality and teaching potential. Acquisitions totaled 995 individual objects.

## SELECTED GIFTS

- Two contemporary Diné (Navajo) weavings: a Yeibichai dance scene by Anita Bahe, gift of Rebecca Valette (Class of 1959) and Jean-Paul Valette, and a geometric Two Grey Hills tapestry by Barbara Teller Ornelas, gift of Elwin and Annemarie Sanborn in honor of Loomis Village. 2016.11; 2016.13.
- A collection of ten historical and contemporary ceramics and related materials from the Pueblo communities of the Southwest, gift of Juli Shea Towell (Class of 1955) and Gil Towell. 2016.12.1–10.
- A collection of 20 Mesopotamian cuneiform tablets and an 18th- or 19th-century scroll of the Book of Esther inscribed in Hebrew, transferred from Mount Holyoke's Department of Religion. 2016.14.1-20; 2016.15.



2016.18



2016.17

- Nearly 900 stone tools from early humans, some more than 100,000 years old, transferred from Mount Holyoke's Department of Geology and Geography. 2016.16.1–885.
- A photograph by Michael Wolf (German, b. 1954), *Real Fake Art #46, On Kawara*, \$4.75, 2007, gift of Jennifer Vorbach (Jennifer Josselson, Class of 1978). 2016.17.
- A pastel portrait of Bertha and Clara Levin, ca. 1850, gift of Lilian M.C. Randall (Class of 1950). 2016.18.
- A video installation work by Fabrizio Plessi (Italian, b. 1940), *Cristallo liquido*, 1998, gift of Elizabeth Musser Solway (Class of 1960). 2017.1.
- A group of 30 architectural and object studies attributed to Baldassare Franceschini (Italian, 1611–1690), gift of Thomas Cassirer. 2017.7.1–30.
- An engraving by Jan Saenredam (Dutch, 1565–1607), after Lucas van Leyden, *Jael and Sisera*, 1517–18, gift of John W. Vincent in memory of his mother, Mary Wilson Vincent (née Smith). 2017.9.22
- A calligraphy fan by Zhao Zhiqian (Chinese, 1829–1884), gift of Professor and Mrs. Po-zen Wong. 2017.12.



2017.7.24



2017.8.1

## SELECTED PURCHASES

- A mezzotint by James Tissot (French, 1836–1902), *L'apparition médiumnique*, 1885, purchased with the Elizabeth Peirce Allyn (Class of 1951) Fund. 2017.6.
- A digitized, re-mastered 8 mm film by Ana Mendieta (Cuban-American, 1948–1985), *Siluetas Sangrientas*, 1975, acquired in collaboration with the New Media Arts Consortium with the Art Acquisition Fund. 2017.7.
- Two recent photographs by Pete Muller (American, b. 1982) from his series *A Tale of Two Wolves: On Men and Behavior: Nascent Performance and Sewing Studio* purchased with the Madeleine Pinsof Plonsker (Class of 1962) Fund. 2017.8.1–2.
- A bronze sculpture by Michelle Grabner (American, b. 1962), *Untitled*, 2016, purchased with funds from Susan Abert Noonan (Class of 1982) in honor of her sister, Janice E. Abert (Class of 1982) for all she does for MHC. 2017.13.



2017.13

## **No Limits: The Art of Zao Wou-ki**

The Asia Society, New York City, September 9, 2016–January 8, 2017

Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, ME, February 4–June 4, 2017

Zao Wou-ki (French, b. China, 1920–2013)

*Flore et faune*, 1951

Color softground etching

Bequest of Helene Brosseau Black (Class of 1931)

1991.4.740

## **When in Rome: Prints and Photographs, 1550–1900**

Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA, September 30, 2016–January 1, 2017

Luigi Rossini (Italian, 1790–1857)

*Veduta dell'Arco di Settimio Severo*, 1833 and *Interno del Colosseo Scavato nel 1813, e ricoperto nel 1814*, 1820

Steel faced etchings on paper

Transfers from the Mount Holyoke College Library

1990.9.3-4

Giacomo Lauro (Italian, 1561–1645)

Four engravings from the series *Antiquae Urbis Splendor [The Wonders of Ancient Rome]*, 1612–1641

Gifts from the collection of Louise Fitz Randolph

2013.1.7-8; 2013.1.19; 2013.1.22

## **Mount Washington: The Crown of New England**

Currier Museum of Art, Manchester, NH, October 7, 2016–January 16, 2017

George Inness (American, 1825–1894)

*Saco Ford: Conway Meadows*, 1876

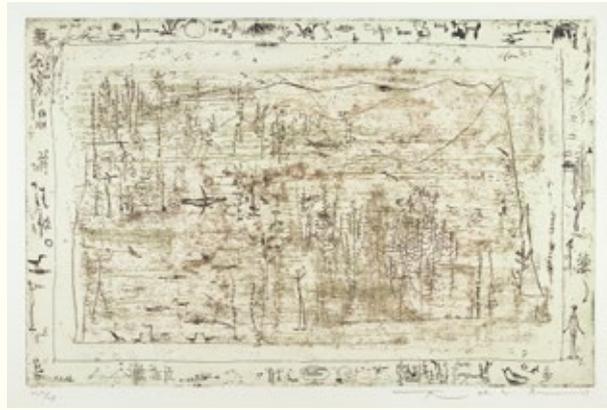
Oil on canvas

Gift of Ellen W. Ayer

1883.55.I(b).PI



1969.17.I(b).OI



1991.4.740

## **Charles Percier: Revolutions in Architecture and Design**

Bard Graduate Center, New York City, November 18, 2016–February 5, 2017

Merry Joseph Blondel (French, 1781–1853)

*Portrait of Louis-Hippolyte Le Bas, Architect*, 1811

Oil on canvas

Purchase with the Friends of Art Fund

1989.2

## **The Temptation of Saint Anthony**

Bowdoin College Museum of Art, Brunswick, ME, December 5, 2016–March 12, 2017

David Ryckaert, III (Flemish, 1612–1661)

*The Temptation of Saint Anthony*, 1649

Oil on copper

Purchase with the Warbeke Art Museum Fund

2009.2.2

Felicien Rops (Belgian, 1833–1898)

*Etude pour la tentation de Sainte Antoine (ou La femme en Croix) [Study for the Temptation of St. Anthony (or woman on cross)]*, 1898

Heliogravure, aquatint, and drypoint on white wove paper

Bequest of Helene Brosseau Black (Class of 1931)

1991.4.328

## **A New American Sculpture: Gaston Lachaise, Robert Laurent, Elie Nadelman, and William Zorach**

Portland Museum of Art, Portland, ME, May 23–September 3, 2017

Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis, TN, October 14–January 7, 2018

Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, TX, February 17–May 13, 2018

William Zorach (American, 1887–1966)

*Child on a Pony*, 1934

Bronze

Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Schafler in honor of their daughter Julie Schafler (Class of 1969)

1969.17.I(b).OI

# ART MUSEUM STAFF

Tricia Y. Paik, Florence Finch Abbott  
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Ellen M. Alvord '89, Interim Director  
(through November 2016) and  
Weatherbie Curator of Education  
and Academic Programs  
Taylor Anderson '15, Art Museum  
Advisory Board Fellow  
Rachel Beaupré, Special Projects  
Consultant  
Linda Delone Best, Collections Manager  
Hannah W. Blunt, Associate Curator  
John Burt, Financial Coordinator  
Dennis Campbell, Museum Guard  
Debbie Davis, Manager of Museum  
Advancement & Finance  
Jackie Finnegan '08, Museum  
Preparator  
Sam Lopes, Curricular Preparator  
Aaron F. Miller, Associate Curator of  
Visual and Material Culture,  
NAGPRA Coordinator  
Jaime Pagana, Education & Curatorial  
Assistant  
Bob Riddle, Contracted Preparator  
Laura Shea '06, Digital Assets  
Coordinator and Museum  
Photographer  
Sue Sormanti, Museum Guard  
Wendy Watson, Curator Emerita  
Kendra D. Weisbin, Assistant Curator of  
Education  
Elizabeth Wood, Sr. Admin. Assistant

## Student Receptionists and Guards

Rida Alam '19  
Miriam Cherayil '18  
Linh Dang '18  
Catherine Garces '18  
Minza Haque '19  
Sophie Le '18  
Mahnoor Malik '17  
Manisha Malik '18  
Topaz Mukulu '18  
Melissa Perez '18  
Sonia Zaib '19  
Umama Zillur '18

## Interns

Pascale Argondizza '17, Harriet '52 and  
Robert Friedlander Research Intern  
(Spring 2017)  
Reagan Brown '17, Harriet '52 and  
Robert Friedlander Education Intern  
Amy Chen '17, Pierre and Tana Matisse  
Foundation Art and Community  
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Jamie Collings '18, LYNK Curatorial  
Intern (Summer 2017)  
Rachel Diana, Special Projects Assistant  
and Skinner Museum Guard  
Adele Gelperin '19, Pierre and Tana  
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Robert Friedlander Curatorial Intern  
Katia Kiefaber '17, Harriet '52 and  
Robert Friedlander Education Intern  
(Spring 2017)  
Emily Lankiewicz '17, John R. Stomberg  
Digital Collections and Photography  
Intern  
Relyn Myrthil '19, Pierre and Tana  
Matisse Foundation Art and  
Community Engagement Intern  
Cassie Peltier '18, LYNK Curatorial  
Intern (Summer 2017)  
Mollie Wolhforth '19, Pierre and Tana  
Matisse Foundation Education  
Fellow (Summer 2017)

## Student Volunteers

Qianzhen Fu '19  
Ally Laforge '16  
Qanitah Malik '17  
Sabrina Smith '17  
Sarah Smith '20

## Student Museum Guides

Rand Abu Al-Sha'r '17  
Ivy Armstrong '17  
Emma Blades '17  
Kristina Bush '17  
Adele Gelperin '19  
Rebecca Grossman '18



Director Tricia Paik and AMAB Fellow Taylor Anderson '15 celebrate the opening of *The Legend of the Lares*.

Katia Kiefaber '17  
Chloe Maurice '17  
Miriam Niedergang '17  
Sabrina Smith '17  
Char White '17  
Mollie Wolhforth '19

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Alumnae Foundation Professor of  
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Curricular Preparator Sam Lopes shows students a medieval musical manuscript page.



## FRIENDS OF ART

The Friends of Art program provides critical unrestricted resources in support of Museum operations. 240 donors made Friends of Art contributions during the 2017 fiscal year. Of these, 11 gave at the Fellow level (\$1,000–\$1,499), 39 gave at the Director's Circle level (\$1,500–\$2,499), 27 gave at the Patron level (\$2,500–\$4,999), and 9 gave at the Benefactor level (\$5,000 and above).

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3rd graders explore the Skinner Museum on a class trip.

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Interns Madeline Ketley '17 (left) and Reagan Brown '17 (right) with Harriet Friedlander '52.



Museum Preparator Jackie Finnegan '08 shows off one of her favorite prints in the collection.





Student guide Emma Blades '17 discusses Oscar Kunath's *He Does Not Return*.

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 Richard & Maureen Turman  
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 Ms. Eve C. Webster  
 Eric Wohlforth & Naomi Youngstein

**Individual (\$30–\$49)**

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 Amy K. Sommer  
 Sally E. Stocking  
 Ms. Alice F. Tetelman  
 Mrs. Miloslava Waldman  
 Mrs. Anne Wuichet Wells  
 Dr. Sarah P. Wise  
 Anne R. Wright  
 Lynn Zimmerman

**Student/Young Alumna (\$10)**

Ms. Yingxi Gong  
 Ms. Maureen L. Millmore  
 Ms. Victoria Schmidt-Scheuber  
 Ms. Larkin F. Turman



**Left:** 4th grade students participate in a close-looking session in the Museum's Renee Cary Gallery. **Above:** Intern Emily Lankiewicz '17 at work on her photogrammetry project.

## RESOURCES

The Museum is grateful for the continued support of its patrons and the foundations who enhanced its programs, projects, and collections with their gifts.

### Special Project Gifts

A special group of supporters stepped forward to provide 48% of the gifts needed to match the Museum's grant from the Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation. Together the grant and matching funds are being used to implement the Museum's *Diverse Voices Initiative: The Art of Inclusion* project. (For more details on this program, see page 7.)

*Diverse Voices Initiative* match partners are:

Leslie D. Dunn '67  
L. Jane Hurt '65  
Rebecca L. Keim '76  
Harriett C. Mathews '50  
Gay Richards Strickler '73

Susan S. '64 and Dennis Sullivan  
Ms. Elizabeth A. Stahl '72  
Susan Hedlund Vicinelli '64 and  
Gaetano Vicinelli  
Ann E. Zelle '65  
Kristin E. Zethren, PhD '66

### Grant Awards

*Andrew W. Mellon Foundation*  
Grant Period: March 23, 2012–August 31, 2020  
Grant Amount: \$500,000  
The Museum continues to benefit from this grant which was matched with a generous donation from Susan '72 and Matthew Weatherbie in 2013, establishing a permanent endowment to support the salary and benefits of the Weatherbie Curator of Education and Academic Programs.

*The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation*  
Grant Period: June 17, 2016–June 30, 2019  
Grant Amount: \$149,385  
This three-year challenge grant will support the *Diverse Voices Initiative: The Art of Inclusion*.

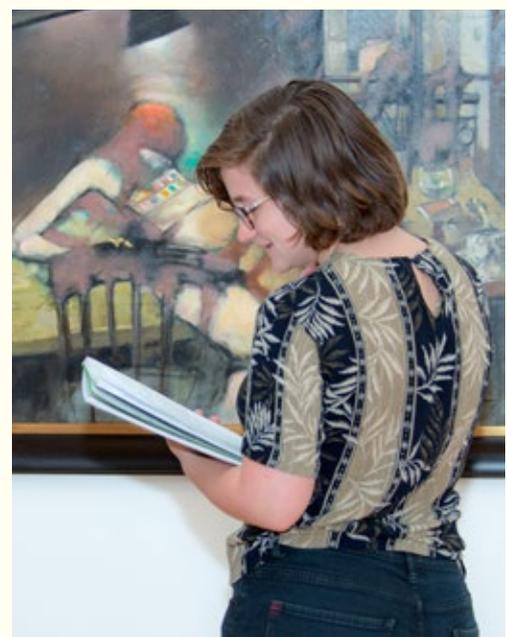
*Leon Levy Foundation*  
Grant Period: June 1, 2017–May 30, 2018  
Grant Amount: \$10,000  
This support will be used for general operating purposes during the grant period.

*Anonymous Foundation*  
Grant Period: October 15, 2013–Ongoing  
Grant Amount: \$5,000  
This grant was awarded to the Museum by an anonymous foundation to support K-12 education programming.

Professor Christine DeLucia leads students in a discussion of a Sioux dress.



A student in an English seminar considers a surrealist self-portrait by Dorothea Tanning.





**Mount Holyoke College Art Museum**

50 College Street  
South Hadley, MA 01075  
413.538.2245  
artmuseum.mtholyoke.edu

**Museum Hours**

Tuesday-Friday 11 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Saturday & Sunday 1-5 p.m.  
Free, open to the public, and fully accessible.

To learn more about MHCAM exhibitions, events,  
and membership visit [artmuseum.mtholyoke.edu](http://artmuseum.mtholyoke.edu).

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