FRIENDS OF KRESGE ART MUSEUM

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KRESGE Art Museum Staff 2008-2009

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President’s Report

2008-09 began with much promise and hope, as all new years do, with fresh lists of ideas and projects (all to be completed on time and to our satisfaction!). However, the picture soon turned grim. The swift and far-reaching effects of the downturn in our state and national economy caused us to pause and ponder the many ways the good work of Friends and, in particular, Kresge Art Museum, would be affected.

Twilight in the Garden
Since Twilight was held on September 21, 2008, this Friends major fundraising event could not have come at a worse time. However, this was not the case. Sponsorship commitments and auction donations were secured long before the fateful market events, some as early as January, and Twilight attendees graciously bid on items as enthusiastically as in past years. In fact, Twilight proceeds outpaced the year before, netting a record $94,000. A great sigh of relief was felt by the hard-working committee and the sincerest expression of gratitude was expressed toward the sponsors, donors, and guests.

50th Anniversary
Friends appreciated another cause for celebration - the occasion of Kresge Art Museum’s 50th anniversary – celebrated throughout 2009. In acknowledgement of the anniversary, the Friends purchased and unveiled a special new acquisition by Aaron Harry Gorson, Bridge Across the River.

50th Birthday Party
The celebration continued into spring as Karla Dulic and Michael Beebe presented a wonderful birthday party the evening of May 14, held at the MSU Radiology Building and Gardens, replete with MANY outstanding birthday cakes and platters. Of course, these were not to taste but part of the silent auction but not to worry, delicious cake, punch and champagne were served to guests.

50x50
Each quarterly Friends newsletter suggested creative ways, 50 total by the end of 2009, to experience Kresge Art Museum and the benefits of museum membership. Note the suggestions and try them yourself.

Make It a Million
Since the year 2000, board members, docents, the Better Art Museum Committee, East Lansing businesses and our signature event, Twilight in the Garden, have supported the new art museum facility with generous donations. Last year, the Board recognized that almost one million dollars had been raised by Friends and the ‘Make It a Million’ campaign was born. This year, the Board agreed that the $1M goal was, indeed, within reach! The effort must be sustained to reach the mark by Twilight 2009.

Transition Committee
The Transition Committee in March, 2008, spearheaded by Linda Pivarnik, was dissolved and the work of the Committee was moved to the Membership Committee.

Board Transition
The Friends was overseen by Linda Pivarnik for part of the year and then by Co-Presidents Suzanne Brouse and Scott Sowulewski. New members of the board include Rochelle Rizzi, Sarah Shaw, Joyce Banish, and Steve Horne while Mary Joyce Longstaff stepped down as the long-term treasurer.

The Friends Board is grateful for the hard work of the docents and recognizes their dedication and commitment.

The Presidents thank the board members for their support, hard work, fresh ideas and enthusiasm, and willingness to take ownership of the various Friends committees without fail. Recognition goes to Michael Beebe, chair of the Hospitality Committee, Linda Trevarthen, chair of Membership Committee, Madeline Masterson, chair of Trips and Tours. And a final thank you to Scott Sowulewski for chairing Twilight 2008 during a particularly daunting and unprecedented year.

Suzanne Brouse & Scott Sowulewski
Co-Presidents
Director's Report

Midway through 2008-2009 we began the 50th anniversary celebrations of Kresge Art Museum. A new logo, large collection exhibition, significant acquisitions, and a Kresge Art Museum Bulletin published in January, marked the milestone. Celebrations continued with a Friends Birthday Party in May, on-line collection exhibitions, an anniversary wine and will go through the end of 2009. While planning for the future home of the museum in the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum designed by Zaha Hadid was temporarily delayed, it was back on track in the spring. Contractors and consultants were hired and the Michigan architecture firm, IDS, (fresh from completing the University of Michigan Museum of Art's renovation and addition), was given the job of local architect working directly with the London firm. Fundraising for the building continues by University Development while the Friends of Kresge worked on the $1 million goal anticipated to be completed with Twilight 2009.

The year featured art of the midwest in exhibitions that looked back to the last century with regional paintings and Michigan Works Progress Administration (WPA) art, to the contemporary scene (MSU Art Faculty and Michigan Masters). As the economic downturn affected fundraising, donations and grants, like many other museums, Kresge looked to the collection to develop fascinating exhibitions organized by museum staff. We also took the opportunity of the 50th anniversary to make several acquisitions that flesh out the considerable holdings. The extensive winter show showcased how the collection has grown and been strengthened in the past decade. Additionally, we moved into the age of cell phone tours, Facebook, Twitter and other technological approaches to sharing information and getting the word out about the museum.

The first fall show, Artists of the Great Lakes, 1910-1960, consisted of thirty-seven paintings that chronicle life in the upper Midwest in the first part of the 20th century. The subjects were as varied as daily life, industry, history and identity, in locations ranging from water to cities. The paintings were on loan from the Flint Institute of Arts and the show was sponsored by the Program in American Studies, MSU.

In November and December, the Studio Art Faculty Biennial Exhibition was on view. Always a varied show, it featured paintings, sculpture, photography, ceramics and installations by current faculty.

In January the 50th anniversary exhibition consisted of nearly 150 objects in The Kresge Art Museum Collection: Celebrating the 50th. The emphasis was on acquisitions made in the past ten years and ranged across the globe, from China to South Africa, Europe and the United States. The exhibition took over the entire museum. The Old Master section was hung salon style; the central space was awash in landscapes from the 19th through 20th century, with a few Asian examples as well. To coincide with the show, the staff published the Kresge Art Museum Bulletin for the first time in ten years. In addition to commissioned articles by scholars of particular artists, staff members contributed short essays on over 60 acquisitions, and a CD appended to the Bulletin provided acquisition lists. This publication occupied the curators for many months and was a significant feat that now provides scholarly information on objects that were not published before. The exhibition was sponsored by the MSU Federal Credit Union while the Bulletin was funded by support from the Elizabeth Halsted Endowment and the Kathleen D. and Milton Muelder Endowment.

In late March, six students participated in the Master of Fine Arts Exhibition, exhibiting paintings and graphic design, sponsored by the MSU Graduate School. This was followed by the annual Undergraduate Exhibition in April, once again sponsored by the Student Book Store.

The Michigan Masters Invitational opened in May. Curated by April Kingsley and supported by a grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs, it was originally conceived as a show of 20 artists but her research revealed a far larger group of active artists with a national reputation. Paintings and sculpture predominated while duplicative mediums (photography and prints) were omitted. The aim was to feature recent work by 30 artists from all corners of the state. By connecting
with three outdoor sculptures by well-known Michigan artists that are installed on the MSU campus, the show extended beyond the museum’s walls. Visitors came from around the state, especially southeast Michigan where a preponderance of the artists live. In addition to a cell phone tour, the museum produced a 68 page catalogue for the show.

The Works on Paper Gallery was renamed the Perspectives Gallery in 2009 to reflect the broad variety of objects that are often on view in this space. Exhibitions covered many mediums and ideas with smaller shows from the collection that adumbrated the special exhibitions.

The first fall show, Edgar Yaeger Drawings for WPA Murals, 1935-1942 was on display in conjunction with the national celebration of the 75th anniversary of the New Deal. As curator of the exhibition, I drew from the KAM collection and objects ranged from pencil sketches to more detailed finished color studies for Yaeger’s WPA murals executed in Michigan between 1935 and 1942. Drawings for his Public Lighting Commission building in Detroit (1940, destroyed in the 1970s) enabled a reconstruction of his murals, only a part of which (Thomas Edison’s Laboratory, now in the MSU Union) still exists.

In late October, 11 drawings by sculptor Bill Barrett were on view. Barrett’s large bronze Twyla is installed near the Grand River Parking Ramp, one of the Public Art on Campus’s recent commissions. Barrett visited campus in late October and gave a well attended public lecture.

In mid-November From Rags to Riches: The Globalization of Fashion through Print Culture was mounted by students in Professor Louise Siddons’s Curatorial Practices course. This museum studies course focused on the history of prints using the collection to teach curatorial methods and concerns. The 26 students chose the exhibition theme and the objects to raise the question of how fashion has been used to allow people to claim cultural capital through expressions of affluence and multiculturalism. This exhibition was an experiment for the staff in working with an art historian to develop an exhibition from start to finish in the context of the semester-long class. Based on this success, in the spring semester, we repeated the experience with Professor Candace Keller, the African art historian, whose Art and Aesthetics course also developed an exhibition in the Perspectives Gallery. Beyond Beauty: A Contemporary Approach to Aesthetics, on view in late April, explored differing perspectives of the subject that moved beyond the traditional concentration on beauty to consider diverse and controversial ideas as well. Again the KAM staff assisted the students choosing objects, assembling and curating the exhibition from the collection. These were fruitful pilot collaborations that will continue to be fine tuned in the future.

To coincide with the Passover holiday, I curated The Story of Exodus: The Passover Haggadah, an exhibition from the Jewish Heritage Collection, University of Michigan. Over 35 historical and modern Haggadot were divided between Kresge and Special Collections in the MSU Library. As the centerpiece of the Jewish holiday of Passover, the Haggadah is a Jewish religious text that sets out the order of the Passover Seder meal. The exhibition, supported by the College of Arts and Letters, was a collaboration with MSU’s Jewish Studies Program. Professors Ken Waltzer, Ilana Blumberg and Marc Bernstein were helpful content consultants and provided educational lectures and discussions during the show as did Connie Harris, the collector.

Visualizing Architecture: Real and Imaginary Spaces, (May through July) was the culminating curatorial project by intern Tim Methric. He chose the theme and over 20 works of art from the collection to raise questions about how we experience architecture if we haven’t physically experienced the building, how do we visualize spaces we know, and how do we envision architecture that does not, indeed, exist. The objects ranged from ancient coins to old master prints by Piranesi, to a 19th century scale model of the Siena Cathedral that was on display in the Old Master section.

In addition, throughout the year we did several “mini-exhibitions” on the front wall of the museum to acquaint visitors with new acquisitions and visiting artists. These also
provided opportunities for the intern and other students to select and research works from the collection. A highlight was Edgar Heap of Birds’ large wall installation of drawings made specifically for Kresge. It coincided with his artist-in-residence in the Residential College of Arts and Humanities in April. His gallery talk enlightened visitors about his political and social textual art. His related site-specific street signs installed around the Residential College comment about Native Americans in Michigan.

The collection grew in several directions through major purchases made for the 50th anniversary.

- Jan van Goyen, (Dutch, 1596-1656), *Estuary with Row and Sail Boats*, late 1640s, oil on canvas. This marinescape is by one of the greatest 17th century Dutch landscape painters. Considered the coup of the Maastricht Fine Arts Fair in March, where Director Bandes found the painting, it shows the Dutch love of naturalism and pride in one’s surroundings typical of paintings of the time. As such, it contrasts with the classical Dutch landscape painting by Johannes Glauber already in the collection and adds an example of popular subject matter in Dutch painting.

- Alexander Helwig Wyant (American, 1836-1892), *Autumn on Lake Placid*, 1873, oil on canvas, is a quintessential Hudson River School painting. The moody fall landscape with a winding river and suffused light suggests atmosphere and place. As the first American painting tradition, Wyant’s work fills a significant gap in the museum’s holdings.

- Stephen Duren’s *Eucalyptus Abstraction*, 2007, a large oil on canvas landscape, is aglow with amber light and hints of ground, water, mist and vegetation. This painting plus other acquisitions from the *Michigan Masters Invitational* exhibition made by the Friends of Kresge (see below) have helped to expand the holdings of significant Michigan artists.

- Addison Thomas Millar (American, 1860-1913), *An Oriental Shop*, oil on canvas, a painting that represents the influence of Orientalism that was prevalent in many art forms in the late 19th century.


- Additionally, the Detroit Focus 2000 portfolio, two volumes with 39 contemporary photographs, was donated by Michael Sarnacki, the project director.

- A special offer from Landfall Press enabled us to add prints by significant 1980s-1990s artists who had not been represented in the collection or were represented with only one object, including Robert Arneson, Jack Beal, John Buck, Robert Cottingham, Ellen Laynon, David Levinthal, Don Nice, Ed Paschke, and Jack Tworkov.

The Friends funded additional important acquisitions as well:


- Aaron Harry Gorson (American, 1872-1933), *Bridge Across the River*, ca 1903-1921 was unveiled on February 1st and included in the 50th anniversary exhibition. Gorson was known for his moody, tonal depictions of steel mills and the rivers of his native Pittsburgh. Telephone lines, railroad tracks, bridges and the distant steel mills provide a gritty, industrial image typical of Midwest cities in the first half of the 20th century.

- From the *Michigan Masters Invitational*, three contemporary pieces:
  - Larry Cressman, *Depth of Field*, 2007, made of graphite, sticks and monofilament
  - John Stephenson, *Double Cleft*, 1996, glazed terracotta

Loans from the collection included Pat de Groot’s *Venus*, 2006, on view at the Provincetown Art Association and Museum; Alexander Calder’s *Sunrise over the Pyramid*, 1965, lent to the Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park in Grand Rapids.

The availability of the collection database on the Kresge website, launched in January
2008, has made the collection accessible for classes across the campus as well as to scholars from all over the world. Collectors and researchers have been in touch for information on artists in the collection and often we learn more about our artists through these contacts.

Along with the web access, an increasing number of faculty used the collection and exhibitions this year. Professors Louise Siddons’ Curatorial Practices (History of Prints) and Candace Keller’s Art and Aesthetics art history students were frequently in the museum. Their exhibitions are described above.

Various members of the museum staff worked with groups on and off campus to develop programs and joint marketing and publicity projects. On campus, the Cultural Engagement Council (CEC) brings together the directors of all of the cultural units, for example the Wharton Center and the museums as well as academic units such as Theater, Art & Art History, Music, and Student Life, University Outreach and Engagement. A subcommittee, the CEC Communicators, also meets monthly. The Arts & Culture marketing campaign included banners, postcards, ads, and a dedicated website that brought visibility to the cultural enterprise at MSU.

Curator April Kingsley and I serve on the Public Art on Campus Committee (PAOC). Several significant public sculptures were added to the campus and three by Michigan artists (Richard Hunt, Russell Thayer and Charles McKee) were included in the Michigan Masters Invitational exhibition. A walking tour on June 23 of the Biomedical Sciences Building where Hunt’s and Thayer’s pieces are installed was well received and introduced the community to the PAOC program. (More information is available on the web). While the PAOC collection is separate from the museum’s, our staff provides advice on acquisitions and works with artists and is in charge of the inventory of campus art on the MSU website. As well, staff members serve on the University Collections Council that brings together the curators and collection managers of all campus collections. Additionally, the staff is involved with the Museum Studies Program at MSU; I, as co-director of the program; April Kingsley and Cari Wolfe as members of the Advisory Committee. We all mentor students doing internships in the museum.

Once again the museum participated with community organizations in a variety of projects including: World AIDS Day (December 1) events with the Lansing Area AIDS Network; with the help of numerous volunteers, the East Lansing Arts Festival (May 16) organized by the City of East Lansing; Be A Tourist in Your Own Town (May 30) with the Greater Lansing Visitor and Convention Bureau. Programs were offered for MSU Evening College both semesters, Grandparents University, and College of Arts and Letters’ Cool U, and Arts and Letters Weekend at the Grand Hotel. Christine Nichols’s monthly radio interviews on WLNZ have increased our audience. My WKAR interstitials about WPA art on campus done the previous year continued to be aired by WKAR.

The staff assists the Friends in organizing and implementing numerous activities and programs throughout the year that are described in this annual report. Christine Nichols joined the staff in January as Special Events and Communication Coordinator and has worked closely with the Friends to extend the museum’s reach into the community in ways that are not possible for the small staff. My deep appreciation to the Friends board, the docents, the volunteers both new and returning, and especially the staff for making this 50th year a memorable one.

Susan J. Bandes
Director

Docents’ Report

The mission of the Kresge Art Museum Docent Program is to "provide guided tours to engage, educate and enrich the visitor’s experience at the Kresge Art Museum". Through our educational and outreach programs, we create awareness of the Kresge Art Museum as a community resource. In 2008-2009, the docents fulfilled this mission statement by the following means:
Creating and providing museum tours:

- The docents gave 70 museum tours, involving 1888 visitors. Included in this number are 15 “Art and the Humanities” tours for 460 students from Gardner, Pattengill and Otto Middle Schools.
- We conducted tours that were part of the Picturing America Program, an initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Michigan Humanities Council.
- New “Art and the Humanities” tours were developed: African Art, Evolution of American Art and Portraits as Keys to History.
- We created a standardized format for docents to use when developing and writing a new tour.

Expanding our knowledge and sharpening our skills:

- Presentations were given to the docents for the following exhibitions: Artists of the Great Lakes, Drawings by Edgar Yaeger, MSU Studio Art Biennial Faculty Show, 50th Anniversary Show, MFA Exhibition, Michigan Master Invitational.
- Presentations were given to the docents on the following topics: Docenting Techniques; Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS); The 50 Kresge Objects You Need to Know; Overview of the Grand Rapids Art Museum Docent Program; Medieval objects in the KAM collection; Touring Memory-impaired Visitors; Picturing America: The American Experience.
- Docents wrote papers and delivered presentations on several objects in the KAM collection: Margo Smith on Indian Hunters; David Greenbaum on the art of Reginald Marsh; Nell Corkin on Mt. Merino on the Hudson near Olana; Suzanne Brouse on Women Artists in the KAM 50th Anniversary Exhibit.
- Through the work of Manya Constant, docent research papers from past years were compiled and will soon be available to docents on CD.
- The 3rd edition of the docents’ reference manual for the KAM collection, known as The Greenbook CD is near completion; it will have an extensive index and glossary. An inventory list of books, videos and DVDs in the Docent Library was also created.
- We created a standardized format for docents to use when writing and submitting a research paper on an object in the KAM collection.
- We developed and implemented a self-evaluation form for all docents to use after a tour or outreach presentation.
- Using feedback from the 2007 – 2008 training class, we are refining training objectives and revising the training curriculum for use with the next training class.

Taking the Kresge into the community:

- The Community Outreach Committee made 79 presentations to 27 senior facilities in the Greater Lansing area. They offered three different PowerPoint presentations: Artists of the Great Lakes, The American Experience, and objects from the collection in celebration of the museum’s 50th anniversary. We are always asked to return!
- A PowerPoint presentation of the Art in the Humanities tour Age of Exploration was given, in German, to three advanced German classes at Rochester High School by Maria Adleman.
- A PowerPoint presentation of Artists of the Great Lakes was given to a fourth grade class at Willow Ridge Elementary in Grand Ledge by Barb Sukenik and Maria Adleman.

Working to showcase the Kresge as a community resource:

- Docents assisted Cari Wolfe, Assistant Education Curator, with the seminar for 36 teachers on the Picturing America Program.
- A team of docents worked with Cari Wolfe and museum intern, Tim Methric, on creating a program of school visits and museum tours, which directly link academic learning goals with visual art.
- A team of docents volunteered for training for the newly developed ElderHeART program, which offers specialized tours for memory-impaired visitors and their caregivers.
• Docents assisted with museum’s community programs such as Creative Kids Love Your Mom and Love Your Dad card-making, the East Lansing Art Fair art table and the two weeks of summer Art School.

Communicating and Celebrating:
• This year we began an e-newsletter, which contains docent news, a member profile, recommended books and suggested museum trips. We also now have our own docent website!
• Three social events were held. In August 2008, a Welcome Back Coffee to help introduce our newly graduated docents to their tour groups; the December 2008 Holiday Coffee and the June 2009 Luncheon gave us opportunities to celebrate being together.
• This year, we began a recognition program, awarding all docents with service pins to commemorate their years of volunteering. All docents received their first pin at the June luncheon.

None of these accomplishments would be possible without the dedication of our hard working docents! Many thanks to Cari Wolfe and the wonderful 2008–2009 Docent Program Board: Barbara Sjolander, President-Elect and Training/Review Co-Chair; Dot VanLooy, Secretary; Kay Woodring, Program Chair; Darlene Ross, Resource Chair; David and Ruth Greenbaum, Community Outreach Co-Chairs; Maria Adleman and Barb Sukenik, A&H Co-Chairs; Ethel Anthony, Membership Chair; Mary Cullen Training/Review Co-Chair; and Suzanne Brouse, Past President.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karla Dulic
President, Docent Program

Membership Committee Report

This year, Kresge membership mirrored the state of the economy and fundraising at Michigan State University in general:
• Number of members (302) is down (by about 20%).
• Membership revenue ($22,726) is down (by about 20%).
• 23 members downgraded between Jul-Dec 2008, but only 9 downgraded between Jan-Jun 2009.
• The majority of our memberships renew in the fall so the plunge in U.S. financial markets during fall, 2008, during our heavy renewal period, may have impacted renewals.

But as you will see when you read between the lines, and as is evident from the details of the monthly membership renewal reports, we have an amazingly loyal and resilient membership, a membership base that makes deliberate choices to ride out economically hard times for the sake of supporting the arts.

The graph below shows revenue from Benefactor Level and above:
In 2008-09, 118 contributed at or above $100, for a total of $16,266.
In 2007-08, 147 contributed at or above $100, for a total of $19,130.
In 2006-07, 143 contributed at or above $100, for a total of $18,415.


In 2008-2009, we had 41 new members, totaling $1609 in revenue.
In 2007-2008, we had 74 new members, totaling $3054 in revenue.
In 2006-2007, we had 32 new members, totaling $1916 in revenue.

If you just look at the numbers, the picture could look bleak to some, but we mustn't "overlook the forest for the trees." Counting trees is important, but overall forest health may be of greater significance.

Despite the economy, of those who renewed:

In 2008-2009, 19% of our total membership (302) upgraded.*
In 2007-2008, 18% of our total membership (367) upgraded.
In 2006-2007, 12% of our total membership (358) upgraded.
*This is a fabulous percentage.

In dollars, there is some loss but, again, not alarming considering the economy.

One thing is very clear: We have a dedicated and loyal membership. Although times are tough:
- the number of Upgrades is higher than that of three years ago but has waned the past two years partly, we believe, because we did not campaign as strongly for upgrades as we did in 2006-07.
- And, remarkably, not only did the Upgrade breakdown seem to ignore the state of the economy: 24 upgraded between Jul-Dec 2008 and 26 upgraded between Jan-Jun 2009,
- but the percentage of Upgrades (19%) is actually higher than that of the last two years!
- The net gain from Upgrades ($2360) is much higher than the net loss from downgrades ($1665).
- 50 of our members upgraded, with half of these upgrading to the next level and half to the level above. (This is amazing!)
- 32 of our members downgraded, but most of these were minor downgrades compared to their histories of giving and seemed to be a reflection of the economy rather than any dissatisfaction with the organization. (A mere 4 of these were rather large downgrades, resulting in over half the net downgrade loss: $1020).

How do these figures inform and guide us in future planning?

For many years, membership totals have been in the 300-400 range and membership dollars in the $20,000 - $30,000 range.

Over the past 5-6 years, we have discussed ways to jump-start a substantial increase in these numbers. Significant progress has been made in many areas during this time, so the decline we are experiencing in this economically difficult year is not alarming. At the same time, we are ready to take some stronger measures. For 2009-2010, the membership committee is working on a multi-faceted plan for membership recruitment:
1. We have increased the size of the membership committee in order to handle the increased tasks.
2. We are designing a 5-year Membership Campaign which will be built on the results of two forthcoming community focus groups.
3. There will be increased personal follow-up on various recruitment efforts.
   - For example, of the 188 members in our database who have not renewed, half had only been
4. The membership recruitment and renewal letters are being re-designed.
5. There will be stronger publicity regarding the incredible benefits of reciprocal membership at the $100+ levels.

Membership Committee:
- Jacqie Babcock
- Rochelle Rizzi
- Sarah Shaw
- Jordan Sutton
- Linda Trevarthen
- Christine Nichols (ex-officio)

Linda Trevarthan
Membership Chair

**Trips and Tours/2008-2009**

The Trips and Tours Committee headed by Madeline Masterson and aided by staff liaison Cari Wolfe, Assistant Education Curator, was responsible for 5 trips in 2008/2009. The majority of travelers are Friends members.

On October 29, 2008, 50 people traveled to The Museum of Contemporary Art in Detroit, lunched at the Whitney Restaurant and viewed the exhibit *Monet to Dali: Modern Masters from the Cleveland Museum of Art* at the Detroit Institute of Arts. *Profit:* $751

Due to an overwhelming response to the October 29th trip, an identical trip was scheduled on November 12, 2008. Forty-six people participated. *Profit:* $675

On January 28, 2009, 49 people traveled to Flint for a tour of the Mott-Warsh Collection and the exhibition, *Masterpieces of European painting from Museo de Arte de Ponce* at the Flint Institute of Arts. Lunch was in the Isabel room at the FIA. *Profit:* $761

On April 15, 2009, 27 people traveled to the Art Institute of Chicago to view the exhibition, *Becoming Edvard Munch: Influence, Anxiety, and Myth* and dined at Tosí’s in Stevensville, MI. Nonrefundable tickets had to be purchased in advance but cancelling the trip would have resulted in a larger loss on this trip. *Loss:* $1507

On May 13, 2009, 26 people traveled to the Detroit Receiving Hospital to view the extensive art collection. Irene Walt, collections curator, provided a tour. After lunch in the hospital atrium, the day continued at the Detroit Institute of Arts to view the exhibition, *American Chronicles: The Art of Norman Rockwell.* *Loss:* $171

**Total profit for day trips in 2008-2009:** $509

**Special Events**

**Twilight in the Garden, 2008**

The 9th annual *Twilight in the Garden* fundraiser on Sunday, September 21st, at the James B. Henry Center for Executive Development, was extraordinarily successful, netting over $94,000 for the Facilities Fund to build the future Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum. Over 275 guests attended.

The Presto String Quartet, Okemos High School, set the tone for the beginning of the evening, followed by the warm saxophone of George Howard. Plant-scaping from Plant Professionals helped to bring the idea of an autumn “garden” into the Henry Center atrium.

Beautiful ceramic centerpieces, created by students from MSU’s Clay Club (Blake Williams, Advisor), as well as members of the Greater Lansing Potters’ Guild adorned each table. These unique centerpieces were embellished with flowers and greenery selected by Michael Beebe and members of his decorations committee. The centerpieces were for bid, and daruma sculptures created exclusively for the event by sculptor Mark Chatterley were for sale. Many of these items were wildly popular and generated additional sales.
The sit-down dinner followed with welcomes by Kresge Art Museum Director Susan J. Bandes, Friends President Elinor Holbrook and Twilight Chair Scott Sowulewski. Honorary Chairs were introduced: Kim Wilcox, Provost, MSU and Diana Del Buono; Bill and Linda Demmer; and Stella Cash, Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations and Dr. Jerry Cash.

After the close of the silent auction and the dessert course, Sheridan Realty and Auction Company conducted the lively live auction. Both the live and silent auctions featured a generous array of artwork donated by local artists and artisans, in addition to travel, dining, performing arts and sports tickets, jewelry and more. Combined, the auctions generated over $25,000.

We would like to thank the Twilight Committee for months of planning, and the volunteers who helped the day of the event. We also extend our gratitude to the members of the Greater Lansing Potters Guild, MSU Clay Club, Marilyn Mays and the staff of the Henry Center and University Club, and the generous sponsors and auction donors.

**Twilight in the Garden 2008 Sponsors:**

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**Picasso Level**
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Dave Schneider
University Relations Print and Digital Communications

**Volunteer Committee**
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Special thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make this event a success. This included not only the volunteer committee, but members of the CTU, Honors College students, and other helpers on the day of the event. Once again, the dedication and determination of volunteers resulted in an outstanding Twilight in the Garden 2008.

Scott Sowulewski
Twilight Chair

Mariah Cherem
Events & Communications Coordinator

Annual Meeting
The Friends Annual Meeting was held on Oct. 6, 2008, at the new Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce headquarters in the Stadium District Building, located on Michigan Avenue across from the Lugnuts stadium.

Local real estate broker Aaron Hoffman gave a short summary of the numerous exciting development projects taking place in downtown Lansing.

Opening Receptions

Michael Beebe was responsible for the elegant tables with delicious spreads, assisted by Bob Andrews.

50th Anniversary Party
On Thursday, May 14, 2009, 5:30-7:30 p.m., over 100 Friends of Kresge and guests sampled cake and refreshments while touring the blooming gardens outside the MSU Radiology Building. In honor of the 50th celebration, local bakers designed and donated artful, edible masterpieces and the Greater Lansing Potters’ Guild and MSU Clay club designed and donated decorative cake platters. The cakes and platters were offered as part of a silent auction, and new KAM 50th anniversary mugs were sold. The event was free and open to the general public. Karla Dulic and Michael Beebe were event coordinators. Profit: $896

Tasting at Burgdorf's Winery
On Thursday, June 18th, 2009, 27 Friends and friends of Friends gathered outside on a glorious spring evening at Burgdorf's Winery in Haslett, Michigan for a special tasting led by Dave and Deb Burgdorf. Several varieties of wine were tasted and some delicious appetizers sampled as Dave demonstrated the proper way to taste wine. Eight new members joined Friends. Kathy Bossen coordinated the tasting. Profit: $520.00.

MSSA
The Museum Studies Student Association (MSSA) goal is to "act as a bridge between the museums on campus and the Museum Studies Program," as well as to "engage students in the many aspects of Museum Studies through academic exploration, programming and outreach. Over 35 students and others attended a special Valentine cookie decorating party on Thursday, February 12, 2009. The successful promotion for the event was primarily through word of mouth and Facebook event invites.

Cari Wolfe
Assistant Education Coordinator, MSSA Staff Liaison
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9/1/08 – 8/31/09

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***This list covers memberships from September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2009. Donors to the year-end solicitation were listed in the January 2009 Newsletter. Business sponsors of the Twilight in the Garden 2008 were listed in the September and November 2008 Newsletters.