



# News Release

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## **KRESGE ART MUSEUM TO UNVEIL EXPANSION PLANS**

EAST LANSING, Mich. -- A larger campus home for Kresge Art Museum, funded entirely by private donors and foundations, will be one step closer to reality when expansion plans are shared with the mid-Michigan community next month.

A community unveiling of the plans, with architectural renderings, will take place on Tuesday, April 8, from 5 – 6:30 p.m. at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbott Road. The event is free and open to the public.

It begins with a reception at 5 p.m., followed by the unveiling of the architectural concepts at 5:30 p.m. and a talk by museum director Susan J. Bandes on an upcoming Kresge Art Museum exhibition, "Pursuits and Pleasures: Baroque Painting from the Detroit Institute of Arts" at 6 p.m.

"We began the design phase of the expansion last September with a discussion at Hannah Community Center so the architects could get a sense of the important role the museum plays in our city and region," Bandes says.

"We are very pleased to return to the Hannah Community Center now that we have completed the conceptual phase and are ready to share the proposed design with our supporters."

The expansion concepts were prepared by Hammel, Green & Abrahamson of Minneapolis, Minn., and Duce Simmons Associates of Troy, Mich.

"Our principal designer, Kara Hill, was given the difficult task of using existing space and fitting the building into the surroundings while giving us an unmistakable presence we now lack," Bandes says.

"Her design is exciting and elegant and we are eager to show the community what we hope the museum will look like in the near future."

The expansion will increase the size of the museum from 10,000 square feet to 42,000 square feet.

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The north wing and entrance to the museum on Auditorium Road will feature a glass-walled lobby. The first floor will also include a gallery of works from the permanent collection, a Works on Paper gallery, the discovery gallery, the museum store, an education room, collection storage, a terrace and visitor amenities. An interior ramp will extend from near the entrance along the north side of the museum to the second floor galleries.

The south wing will include a lobby with a view of the river, additional permanent collection galleries, a special exhibition gallery, two terraces and a roof sculpture garden.

The expansion will be undertaken in two stages, and it is anticipated that construction will be completed by 2009, the museum's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The total cost of the project, which will be funded entirely by private gifts and grants, is currently estimated at \$11-12 million. To learn how to contribute to the museum's expansion project, call Susan Bandes at (517) 353-9836.

Kresge Art Museum provides education and aesthetic enjoyment for its diverse audiences. Through collections and exhibitions of art, it offers opportunities for interdisciplinary and cross-cultural interpretations of current and historical thought. By researching, presenting and preserving art from various times and cultures, the museum serves the Michigan State University community and the general public of mid-Michigan and beyond.

For additional information about Kresge Art Museum, please visit [www.msu.edu/unit/kamuseum](http://www.msu.edu/unit/kamuseum) or call (517) 355-7631.

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**NOTE TO MEDIA:** Images of the expansion concepts for publication purposes will be available at the unveiling event or by e-mail after April 8. For more information, contact Julie Thomson, Kresge Art Museum, at (517) 353-9834.

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