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## **Weisman Art Museum Will Reopen on October 1, 2020**

*Minneapolis, MN, September 10, 2020:* Weisman Art Museum (WAM) will reopen its galleries to the general public on Thursday, October 1. WAM's reopening is aligned with the University of Minnesota's ["Maroon and Gold" Sunrise Plan](#), which will allow increased student access to on-campus facilities and amenities at the end of September.

On March 13, in response to the spread of COVID-19, WAM announced a temporary closure, along with other University of Minnesota buildings and facilities, in accordance with public health guidance from both state and federal agencies. Six months later, the Weisman is eager to welcome visitors back, as soon as they're ready to come pay a visit — reopening the gallery spaces with important safeguards in place to help protect both visitors and staff.

As always, admission is free and open to the public. There is no advance ticket reservation or timed entry required; museum capacity will, however, be limited to 25% or less at all times (no more than 120 people). The galleries will be open, as will the WAM Shop and museum parking garage, but with reduced hours and some new protocols and precautions for staff and visitors. Find details on WAM's website at [wam.umn.edu/visit](http://wam.umn.edu/visit).

### **Health and Safety Precautions**

All staff and visitors over the age of 2 are required to wear a face covering while at the museum; noses and mouths must remain covered at all times. Everyone is expected to keep a distance of at least 6 feet from anyone outside their household group; signage throughout the galleries will help guide visitor flow so that there's enough space to move freely. Visitors are encouraged to use the hand sanitizing stations available throughout the museum and at the entrance to the WAM Shop. High-touch surfaces and public restrooms will be disinfected and sanitized at regular intervals throughout the day.

### **Limited Capacity**

To allow for proper physical distancing, visitor capacity in the museum will be limited to 25% or less at all times. Posted signs will indicate room capacities for individual galleries, elevators,

bathrooms, and the WAM Shop. If visitors come during a particularly busy time, there may be a short wait before entering the museum. Group visits (6+), in-person tours, and classroom visits are not available until further notice.

### **Reduced Hours**

Beginning October 1, the Weisman and WAM Shop will be open Thursday through Sunday, from noon - 5 p.m. There is no timed entry or reservation required to visit. As always, admission is free. All museum entrances will be open.

WAM's team is taking measures to help ensure a safe, comfortable experience for visitors and staff, but assessing the risks of the coronavirus is something that must be done on an individual basis. The Weisman expects visitors to properly wear face coverings at all times, maintain physical distancing, and stay home when feeling unwell. Given the need to limit large in-person gatherings, WAM's student and community programming and arts educational resources will continue to be focused online, at least through December 2020.

### **Exhibitions On View**

#### [\*Harriet Bart: Abracadabra and Other Forms of Protection\*](#)

Through November 29, 2020

Harriet Bart is a pioneering, Minnesota-based artist whose conceptual installations and national and international exhibitions have made unique creative contributions to contemporary American art. Bart's body of work addresses urgent contemporary issues: the devastations of war, the complexities of memorialization, the emotional dimensions of space, and the gendering of labor. This is the first major retrospective exhibition and monograph devoted to her work and career.

#### [\*More is More: The Lyndel and Blaine King Collection\*](#)

Through February 14, 2021

There were few women leading museums in 1981 when Lyndel King became the director of the University Gallery, then housed on the fourth floor of Northrop. Later, she would give an architect by the name of Frank Gehry his first major commission. Over her four-decade tenure as the Weisman's Director and Chief Curator, Dr. King has overseen more than 200 exhibitions. Nothing about her career could be described as typical, and this exhibition follows suit. From a painting by Minneapolis-icon Cameron Booth to a coat that Nancy MacKenzie fashioned from onion net bags and twine—this is a chance for visitors to come view the Kings' eclectic personal art collection for themselves.

#### [\*The Persistence of Mingei: Influence Through Four Generations of Ceramic Artists\*](#)

Through March 21, 2021

Curated by ceramic artist Randy Johnston this exhibition highlights the enduring Mingei ceramic tradition in Minnesota, drawing on the strength of WAM's collection, with additional important pieces lent by collectors and artists. The show pays particular homage to University of Minnesota Regents Professor and artist Warren MacKenzie, who brought

Mingei to the state's cultural scene, and also honors his predecessors, students, and colleagues.

### **About the Weisman Art Museum**

Since its origin in 1934, Weisman Art Museum has been a teaching museum for the University of Minnesota. Today, education remains central to the museum's mission to create art experiences that spark discovery, critical thinking, and transformation, linking the University and the community. The Weisman is located at 333 East River Road, Minneapolis, on the University of Minnesota campus. Gallery admission and membership are always free.

*For additional press images or to arrange an interview contact Susannah Schouweiler, Director of Communications and Marketing, at [susannah@umn.edu](mailto:susannah@umn.edu).*

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