



Contact: Patti Giordano (585) 276-8932 / pgiordano@mag.rochester.edu
Meg Colombo (585) 276-8934 / mcolombo@mag.rochester.edu

November 2011

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MEMORIAL ART GALLERY FACT SHEET

The Memorial Art Gallery is a major cultural center with an outstanding collection of world art, a year-round schedule of exhibitions and educational programs, an art school and a reference library.

- Collections:** The Memorial Art Gallery is considered one of the finest regional art museums in the country. Its permanent collection of 11,000 works spans 50 centuries of world art and includes important works by Monet, Cézanne, Matisse, Homer and Cassatt. Contemporary masters in the collection include Wendell Castle, Albert Paley and Helen Frankenthaler. Upstairs, see the only full-size Italian Baroque organ in North America, on permanent loan from the Eastman School of Music.
- Founding:** The Gallery was founded in 1913 by Emily Sibley Watson as a memorial to her son, architect James Averell. Given in trust to the University of Rochester, the Gallery is one of the few university-affiliated art museums in the country that also serves as a public art museum. The Gallery is supported primarily by its membership, with additional support from the Gallery's endowment, earned income, the University of Rochester, and public funds from Monroe County and the New York State Council on the Arts.
- Facilities:** To accommodate the growing collections and increased level of activity, the Gallery was expanded in 1926, 1968 and 1987. The most recent expansion added nearly 46,000 square feet of new and remodeled space, increasing exhibition areas by nearly 60 percent.
- Attendance:** Since the opening of the new facility in May 1987, attendance has more than doubled, as has the number of children and adults participating in docent-led tours. During fiscal year 2010–11, the Gallery welcomed 229,918 visitors. Of this number, 13,449 visitors, including 9,256 students in grades K–12, enjoyed docent-led tours of the collection.
- Exhibitions:** In 2010–11, the Gallery offered 15 temporary exhibitions, including four major shows.
- Programs:** The Gallery's encyclopedic collection makes it an invaluable educational resource. Throughout the year, the Gallery offers a full schedule of lectures, concerts, guided tours, family activities, educational programs and art classes. Exhibition preview parties attract up to 1,800 visitors.
- Membership:** With more than 5,000 individual and corporate supporters, the Gallery has one of the highest per capita memberships in the country.

- Volunteers:** In 2010–11, 1,126 volunteers gave 33,823 total hours at the Gallery, one of the highest rates of volunteer participation in the country
- Hours:** Wednesday through Sunday 11 am–5 pm and until 9 pm on Thursday. Closed Mondays, Tuesdays and major holidays.
- Admission:** Free to members, University of Rochester students, and children 5 and under. General admission is \$10; senior citizens and active and reserve military personnel, \$6; college students with ID and children 6–18, \$5. Thursdays from 5 to 9 pm, all paid admissions are half-price, made possible by the ExxonMobil Chemical Company, Canandaigua National Bank & Trust, and Monroe County.
- Cellphone tours:** Director Grant Holcomb has chosen 26 favorite works from the permanent collection for the Director’s audiotour, and chief curator Marjorie Searl leads a tour of the 19th- and 20th-century American galleries. Audio descriptions are also available for the visually impaired. All tours are included in admission, but regular cellphone charges apply.
- Gift shop:** The Gallery Store is open Tuesday–Saturday 10 am–5 pm and until 9 pm Thursday; Sunday 11 am–5 pm. For online shopping and special holiday hours
- Restaurant:** Max at the Gallery is open Tuesday through Sunday; for hours and menus, visit maxrochester.net. Call 473-6629 for restaurant reservations or 697-0491 for information on events catering.
- Art library:** The Charlotte Whitney Allen Library is open to the public for browsing; Gallery members and University of Rochester students and staff may borrow books. The library also includes a state-of-the-art teacher resource center. For hours, call 276-8999, or visit mag.rochester.edu/library.
- Art school:** The Creative Workshop offers year-round art and art history classes for adults, teens and children as young as 2½. For a free course catalog, call 276-8959, or visit mag.rochester.edu/creativeworkshop.
- Special needs:** The Gallery is accessible to the handicapped through the University Avenue entrance. The Director’s Audiotour is compatible with hearing aids and has features for visually-impaired users. The Fountain Court is equipped with audio systems for the hearing impaired; headsets may be obtained from an usher or security guard prior to performance time. The auditorium is equipped with an induction loop system. To arrange for an interpreter, schedule touch tours for the blind, or request a calendar in Braille or text versions, email mmathews@mag.rochester.edu or call 276-8970.
- Website:** mag.rochester.edu

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