



## MMAA CALENDAR

### April 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 Sketch Club

Wednesdays from 10 - 11:30 am

Visit our online store for more information.

### \*April 2

#### Fostering Creativity in the Classroom

Tara Mix, art educator, Elkhart High School, will share insights into her teaching philosophy and how she fosters a creative classroom environment.

### April 7 Art Class - Silly Yarn Monsters!

12:30 - 2 pm, Ages 8-12

Visit our online store for more information.

### \*April 9 A Typical Day in my Classroom

We continue to celebrate Youth Art with Kristin O'Dell, art educator at Northridge High School. Known for her energy and passion for the arts, Kristin brings creativity to life for her students.

### April 9 & 10 3 Panel Watercolor Class

2 days, 3 - 5 pm, Ages 13+.

Visit our online store for more information.

### April 13 Bus Trip to Chicago!

See more information in this issue.

### APR 10, 11, 17, 24 & 25

#### Yoga in the Gallery with Jenny Nolan

Fridays and Saturdays 9:15 - 10:15 am

See more information in this issue.

### \*April 16

#### Teaching, Mentoring & Nurturing Creativity

Wendi Sparks, art educator, Fairfield High School, will provide us with an inspiring look at the next generation of artists.

### \*April 23 Practice What You Preach

Neil Boston will share his experiences balancing teaching and creating art.

### April 23 Art Class - Let's Make

#### Our Own Derby Hat!

5:30 - 7 pm, Ages 21+.

Visit our online store for more information.

### \*April 30 Preserving Your Family Treasures

Michelle Nash, Elkhart County Historical Museum

### May 1, 2, 8, 9 and 15 Yoga in the Gallery

Fridays and Saturdays 9:15 - 10:15 am

See more information in this issue.

## MMAA CALENDAR CONTINUED

### May 6, 13, 20, 27 Sketch Club with Emma

Wednesdays 10 - 11:30 am

Visit our online store for more information.

### \*MAY 7 The Lang Lab Stephanie Rizk, Founder

### MAY 9 47th MMAA Anniversary Celebration

Honoring Tuck Langland. See more info in this issue.

### \*MAY 14 Gallery Talk (TBD)

### \*MAY 21 Why Libraries Matter

Trevor Wendzonka

### MAY 21 & May 28

#### Art Class - My Personal Oracle Card

2 opportunities to take this class! 5 - 7:30 pm, Ages 16+.

Visit our online store for more information.

### MAY 24 & 25 Museum Closed

In Celebration of Memorial Day!

### MAY 27 Art Walk, 5-8 pm

### \*MAY 28 The Egyption Series

Tuck Langland, re-imagining ancient Egypt through a contemporary lens.

### JUN 3, 10, 17 & 24 Sketch Club

Wednesdays from 10 - 11:30 am

Visit our online store for more information.

### \*JUN 4 The Art of the Word

Join poet, author and artist Pam Blair as she explores the power of language and creativity.

### \*JUN 11 The Flower Show

Jennifer Rupnow (Matzke's) will share her expertise in floral design.

### \*JUN 18 Reviving the Classics

Ron Monsma will share how he brings the ordinary to life in his artwork by using techniques guided by the Baroque masters and how his experience as a musician shaped his approach to creating dynamic compositions rich in symbolism and metaphor.

### JUN 18-21 38th Elkhart Jazz Festival

### JUN 24 Art Walk, 5-8 pm

### JUN 25 The Classical Guitar

Join Ethan Stubblefield for an engaging performance.

### JUL 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 Sketch Club

Wednesdays from 10 - 11:30 am

Visit our online store for more information.

### JUL 4 & 5 Museum Closed

In Celebration of Independence Day!

\*indicates a Noon-Time Gallery talk every Thursday at 12:15 - 1:15 pm

For more information on how YOU can become a MMAA Member please visit our website at [www.midwestmuseum.us](http://www.midwestmuseum.us)



## OUR MOST RECENT ACQUISITION!

The Problem We All Live With  
ColloTYPE, Norman Rockwell

The Midwest Museum of American Art is pleased to announce the recent acquisition of a rare colloTYPE of the Norman Rockwell painting, *The Problem We All Live With*, which was published for the first time as a centerfold in the January 14, 1964, issue of *Look* magazine. This painting is considered an iconic image of the Civil Rights Movement in the United States. This acquisition was funded by an anonymous donation.

2ND QUARTER NEWSLETTER - APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2026

## WHAT'S INSIDE

250 Exhibition Featuring Norman Rockwell

Exciting Temporary, Rotating, and Special Exhibits

New Classes - Watercoloring, Derby Hats and Oracle Cards

Sketch Club Every Wednesday!

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Midwest Museum of American Art  
429 South Main Street  
Elkhart, IN 46516

**MMAA**  
MIDWEST MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART

## LATEST NEWS

### Important Updates from the Executive Director

JOIN US FOR NEW EXHIBITS  
& EXCITING PROGRAMS.  
IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT YOUR MUSEUM!

Spring has sprung! This is an exciting time for the MMAA as we continue to embark on our “refresh” which includes remodeling the Kirk Gallery (2nd floor) and rehanging the permanent collection on the 1st floor. On display are some never before seen works from our vast permanent collection. Come and see our new “look.” We also have several temporary, special and rotating exhibits on display this quarter.

Emma Marsh continues to offer art classes for artists of all ages! There is even a Derby Hat class at the end of April! Under the careful curation of Michelle Enfield, our gift shop offers many unique gifts from our local arts community. We have a lively roster of presentors for everyone’s favorite - Noontime Gallery Talks! Visit and participate in the experience of art.

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

### “America’s Promise: Freedom, Dignity, and the Long Arc” A Commemorative Exhibition for the 250th Anniversary of the United States

This exhibition brings together Norman Rockwell’s most enduring moral statements on American life — works that define not just who we have been, but who we aspire to be. At its heart are the celebrated Four Freedoms (1943) — Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Worship, Freedom from Want, and Freedom from Fear — painted during the nation’s darkest wartime hours as a reminder of the ideals worth fighting for.

Alongside them hangs *The Golden Rule* (1961), Rockwell’s luminous gathering of the world’s peoples beneath the words “Do Unto Others As You Would Have Them Do Unto You” — a vision of universal humanity that transcends borders and creeds. The exhibition culminates with “*The Problem We All Live With*” (1964), Rockwell’s unflinching portrayal of six-year-old Ruby Bridges escorted to William Frantz Elementary School.

Together, these works trace a living conversation across two decades: the freedoms proclaimed, the dignity demanded, and the child who walked toward both. As the United States marks 250 years, they ask us the same question Rockwell always asked — are we yet the country we promised to be?

## ON VIEW: Youth Art Exhibit

The opening for the 46th Elkhart County Youth Art Exhibition held on March 8th was a success. On display are 202 works of art from 146 students representing 6 Elkhart County high schools. During the reception we hosted over 300 students, parents, teachers and sponsors and gave away over \$3,600 in cash awards to the students. Cameron Cripe from Fairfield High School received the MMAA Senior Scholarship.

The exhibition is open through April 19. You don’t want to miss it!

### Temporary, Special and Rotating Exhibits on Display this Quarter

FRIDAY, APRIL 24 – SUNDAY, JUNE 7

#### Hoosier Made

This exhibit celebrates the artistic heritage of Indiana by showcasing a diverse collection of works inspired by its landscapes, communities, people, traditions, and ideas. From serene landscapes to contemporary expressions, the artworks in this exhibit highlight the creativity and perspective of artists connected to Indiana.

#### Tuck Langland: The Egyptian Series

Where Tuck reimagines ancient Egypt through a contemporary lens.

#### Mind, Body and Soul

This exhibit highlights art as a universal form of communication, illuminating the many facets of the human experience from joy and connection to loneliness and survival.

FRIDAY, JUNE 5 – SUNDAY, JULY 5

#### Jazzstraction

Immerse yourself in our vibrant exhibit celebrating the spirit of jazz, coinciding with the Elkhart Jazz Fest. This collection features dynamic artworks that capture the rhythm, emotion, and improvisational energy of jazz music, showcasing how visual art and sound intertwine to create a rich cultural experience.

FRIDAY, JUNE 12 – SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

#### Emma Schrock: Folk Memories

Join us for ‘Folk Memories,’ an evocative exhibit by artist Emma Schrock that weaves together nostalgia and storytelling through vibrant imagery. Each piece reflects the rich tapestry of personal and cultural heritage, inviting viewers to reconnect with their own memories and the timeless stories of our shared past.

#### Abstract Women Artists of the 1950s

Explore the groundbreaking contributions of Abstract Women Artists from the 1950s, featuring the dynamic works of Grace Hartigan, Joan Mitchell, and Helen Frankenthaler. This exhibit celebrates their innovative expressions and bold experimentation, highlighting the vital role these artists played in shaping the landscape of modern art.

FRIDAY, JUNE 12 – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

#### The Chicago Imagists: Works on Paper

Exploring the boundary between high art and popular kitsch, this collection highlights the mastery of line and color inherent to the Chicago Imagist circle. Through sketches, watercolors, and lithographs, the exhibit traces the group’s evolution from the ‘Hairy Who’ to an enduring legacy of surreal figuration.

## Yoga in the Gallery

Fridays & Saturdays  
9:15 - 10:15 am



Join Registered Yoga Teacher (RYT) Jenny Nolan at the museum where we will explore movement as art, honoring the present moment and the beauty that is present all around us. All levels are welcome.

\$10 per session.  
Please bring your own mat.

## Upcoming Classes for the Young and Young at Heart

Make a Silly Yarn Monster with vibrant yarn colors, then add a face to make your monster come alive! April 7  
12:30 - 2 pm, Ages 8 - 12

Embrace the drama of storytelling by creating a three-panel wordless narrative in Watercolor. 2 day class, April 9 & 10  
3 - 5 pm, Ages 13+

Let's create a fun, crazy Derby Hat to wear while watching the Kentucky Derby, or to express your unique spirit! April 23  
5:30 - 7 pm, Ages 21+

Make Your Own Personal Oracle Card. It can be filled with symbolism and whimsy. Tarot cards are a form of art that can be both fun and silly, or serious and meaningful. May 21 or May 28  
5:30 - 7 pm | Ages 16+

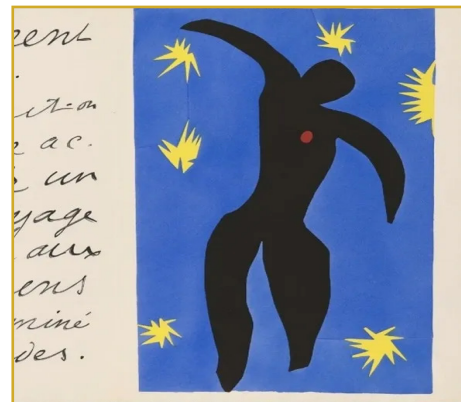
Register Online at:  
[midwestmuseum.org/mmaa-store/](http://midwestmuseum.org/mmaa-store/)

## UPCOMING EVENTS - MATISSE

# Bus Trip to the Art Institute

Join us on Monday, April 13th as we travel to the Art Institute of Chicago to see an engaging exhibit, Matisse's Jazz: Rhythms in Color. In the early 1940s, decades into his artistic career, Henri Matisse (1869-1954) turned his focus to a new medium: cut paper. He had become bedridden and unable to paint following an excruciating abdominal surgery, and cut paper allowed him to continue to create in his relatively sedentary state.

Encouraged by his friend, the book publisher Tériade (the pseudonym of Stratis Eleftheriades), Matisse furthered his exploration of this new technique. He mined his memories of Parisian music halls, the circus, trips to Tahiti, folktales, and mythology, and produced a series of 20 cut-paper maquettes.



Members \$115 // Non-Members \$130  
Register online at: [midwestmuseum.com/mmaa-store/](http://midwestmuseum.com/mmaa-store/)  
LIMITED SEATING

Fee includes: continental breakfast at MMAA, Bus to Chicago, AIC general admission, special exhibition admission, and a return wine & cheese snack. Lunch on your own.



## SAVE THE DATE

# Join us on May 9th for the 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of MMAA Honoring Tuck Langland



This year we will be honoring sculptor, Tuck Langland during the museum's 47th Anniversary Celebration. Tuck's monument-size bronze figures are featured in hospitals, churches, private collections, museums, sculpture gardens, and dozens of other places. Well-known sculptures created by Tuck include the sculptures of Herman B Wells and Ernie Pyle (at IU Bloomington), the statue of Art Decio and his wife, Pat (at Elkhart Civic Plaza), and the sculpture the Muse of Music (at the MMAA).

Appetizers, Wine, Beer, Program and Silent Auction!

Date: May 9, 2026

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Tickets: Members: \$50/ Non-Members: \$60/ Table of 8: \$400

Purchase Tickets Online: [midwestmuseum.org/mmaa-store](http://midwestmuseum.org/mmaa-store)