



WICHITA ART MUSEUM

MURDOCK SOCIETY



One spring and one winter “house party” are in development for Murdock Society members. These are social gatherings in exceptional private homes and other very special settings. Invitations will arrive with ample advance notice for these two not-to-be-missed soirées.

Murdock Society members also have exclusive entrée to Patron Previews, a special program before each of the Members’ Opening Parties.

Murdock Society membership begins at \$750 annually for an individual and \$1,000 annually for a dual membership. Membership dues are philanthropic (with \$700/\$950 as a charitable tax deduction) and provide generous and vital direct support for museum exhibitions and programs.

WAM | MURDOCK SOCIETY

Murdock Mixology Speakers—Nationally prominent art-world figures give fascinating talks on timely topics. 2020 focuses on the “Behind the Scene with Curators.” Presentations followed by optional dinner.

Murdock Parties—Twice a year at least, Murdock Society members gather at the home of area art collectors or savvy Wichita venues for festive mingling, art appreciation, and laughter.

Murdock Patron Previews—Patron Previews offer special programs with exhibition artists and curators to kick off Members’ Opening Parties.

Murdock Trips—Not-to-be-missed forays to art-world hotspots that include exclusive entrée to spectacular private homes, behind-the-scene tours, discussion with art-world luminaries, exceptional dining experiences, plus the spirited camaraderie of fellow Murdock Society members and the WAM director.

Through generous contributions, the enlightened Murdock Society members proactively enable the Wichita Art Museum to engage the community in meaningful encounters with works of art and make a positive impact on the quality of life and cultural landscape of Wichita and the region.



MURDOCK SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

- ◆ **Individual Patron** \$750–\$2,499
- ◆ **Dual Patron** \$1,000–\$2,499
- ◆ **Benefactor** \$2,500–\$4,999
- ◆ **Director’s Circle** \$5,000–\$9,999

For information regarding major donor levels, please inquire with the museum director.

WICHITA ART MUSEUM

1400 West Museum Boulevard
Wichita, Kansas 67203

For membership information, call 316-268-4921.
wichitaartmuseum.org/murdock

2020

MURDOCK SOCIETY OF THE WICHITA ART MUSEUM





MURDOCK SOCIETY of the Wichita Art Museum

The Murdock Society is the Wichita Art Museum's premier patron group. Wichitans with a curiosity about cultural trends and art-world developments—people who are eager to combine learning with lively socializing—assemble for a variety of Murdock gatherings across the year. Spirited camaraderie pairs with exploring ideas and discovering new artists—all laced with a sense of adventure and levity. A speaker series, house parties, exhibition opening patron previews, and trips comprise the lineup of Murdock Society programs.

INVEST in the ongoing cultural vibrancy of Wichita through annual patron-level membership

The Murdock Society takes its name from the civic-minded and cultured Murdock family of Wichita. Louise Caldwell Murdock left a substantial bequest to establish the Roland P. Murdock Collection in honor of her husband, publisher of the *Wichita Eagle* and prominent city leader. The bequest challenged the City of Wichita to house and maintain the collection devoted to American art, and this inspired act of generosity set in motion the establishment of the Wichita Art Museum. The museum now cares for one of the most distinguished collections of American art, thanks to the forward-looking insight and rare generosity of Louise and Roland Murdock. Today's Murdock Society members, in similar fashion, invest in the ongoing cultural vibrancy of Wichita through annual patron-level membership.



MURDOCK SOCIETY 2020 PROGRAMS

“Behind the Scene with Curators” or “How Things Work” is the 2020 theme at Murdock Society gatherings. Orchestrating a major exhibition that includes art loans and travel from museum to museum is a daunting undertaking. We've invited prominent curators to share the story of an impressive exhibition they've completed or one now in the works. We'll learn about the art as we also hear



about the equal measure of charm and arm-twisting needed to secure the loan of a major painting. Pulling together a major art exhibition is more complicated than one might imagine, and 2020 speakers will share their stories. Don't miss a single gathering as together Murdock patrons meet and mingle with star curators in the 2020 Murdock Mixology series.

Mixology events start with a 5:30 pm complimentary reception followed by a 6:15 pm illustrated talk, and optional dinner at 7:30 pm.

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Thursday, February 13



MURDOCK MIXOLOGY SPEAKER
CATHERINE FUTTER, SENIOR CURATOR OF DECORATIVE ARTS, BROOKLYN MUSEUM
Futter shifted from Director of Curatorial Affairs at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in January 2020 to lead decorative arts at the Brooklyn Museum. Futter will share background on two significant exhibitions she curated. In 2012, she opened *Inventing the Modern World: Decorative Arts at the World's Fairs, 1851-1939*. This mammoth exhibition was years in the making with impressive loans across Europe and the USA. She is now at work on an exhibition about Art Deco in the Midwest, a show that will appear at WAM in 2022.

Thursday, April 30



MURDOCK MIXOLOGY SPEAKER
LAUREN HAYNES, CURATOR OF CONTEMPORARY ART, CRYSTAL BRIDGES MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART
The Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art opens a new, multi-disciplinary center in late February 2020. Called The Momentary, the repurposed factory will house galleries, theaters, studios, an outdoor amphitheater—and a café plus rooftop bar! Haynes is part of the team of curators developing programs for this new extraordinary facility in our region. Let's learn about the making of The Momentary from one of its lead curators. Murdock Society members will travel to see it in early June.

Tuesday, May 30



MURDOCK MIXOLOGY SPEAKER
LINDSAY COOK, VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, VASSAR COLLEGE
Last April, tragedy struck Paris' Notre-Dame Cathedral—one of the world's most beloved buildings—as fire broke out. Experts assessed the damage and contemplated restoration. Previous research inspired hope—the late art historian Andrew Tallon had recently completed a vast scanning project, producing a highly detailed digital record of Notre-Dame. As a special and timely talk, scholar Lindsay Cook will explore this remarkable digital record and its contribution to Notre-Dame's restoration with Murdock members. She is currently

translating Tallon's research into English, and her resulting book, titled *Notre-Dame of Paris Throughout Time*, will be published this spring. Come learn about Notre Dame and the challenge to bring it back to life.

June 5 through 7

Murdock Society Trip to Bentonville to visit the new facility, The Momentary, at the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art.

Thursday, October 22



MURDOCK MIXOLOGY SPEAKER
RANDALL GRIFFEY, CURATOR OF MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART, METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART
Painter, poet, and critic Marsden Hartley lived from 1877 to 1943, and his native state of Maine was a touchstone for the artist at the first and last. For the Metropolitan in New York, Griffey curated a masterful exhibition in 2017 on the last chapter of Hartley's career in Maine. Why did Griffey select the paintings he did, and how did he coax museums and private collectors to lend their prized possessions? A *New York Times* critic lauded this exhibition as an example of “one of the best modern and contemporary shows in town.” Come find out what took place behind the scenes to make that level of excellence happen.

Thursday, November 19



MURDOCK MIXOLOGY SPEAKER
SARAH KELLY OEHLER, FIELD-MCCORMICK CHAIR AND CURATOR OF AMERICAN ART, ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO
From 1925 to 1929, artist Georgia O'Keeffe created a series of paintings devoted to New York's rising skyscrapers. To date, no major exhibition has focused on this intriguing chapter of the artist's career. Oehler at the Art Institute of Chicago is presently working on an exhibition on the subject with an accompanying catalogue and national tour, and Wichita's *1926 East River No. 1* painting will be featured. Come learn about the steps involved to develop this major art exhibition, one that will tap the riches of the Wichita Art Museum collection.