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For Immediate Release

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Des Moines Art Center asks “What would you do if you had the entire museum to yourself?”

DES MOINES, IOWA (August 2018) – In honor of the 20th anniversary of the Art Center’s free admission program, the museum is launching something big to honor members’ dedication to making art accessible to everyone. **My Museum Monday** is an experience available to active members of the Art Center that allows individuals access to the museum when it is closed to the public. Beginning Monday, October 15, 2018, members will have the opportunity to spend time alone in the museum (accompanied by a member of the Art Center staff) in an entirely unexpected way. The member will select a three hour block of time to visit, beginning at 9 am, and ending by midnight.

Process: Current or new Art Center members apply by describing what they would like to do during time alone in the museum. To be considered, the experience must be related to the Art Center’s mission and may not violate the museum’s regular visitor policies. Interested members may apply via the Art Center’s website at desmoinesartcenter.org. Members must read and sign a disclaimer outlining museum guidelines in order to submit their application. The application period closes on Monday, September 3.

Participants selected for a My Museum Monday experience must be willing to have their experience shared in marketing campaigns and on social media.



A member reflects on Gene Davis’ *Red Screamer*, 1966

Questions regarding the application process may be directed to Social Media Manager Megan Bannister at mbannister@desmoinesartcenter.org or 515.271.0320. Questions regarding Art Center membership may be directed to Membership Manager Julia Mason Gray at jmgray@desmoinesartcenter.org or 515.271.0327.



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Des Moines Art Center

Recognized by international art critics as a world-class museum in the heart of the Midwest, the Des Moines Art Center, an AAM-accredited institution, has amassed an important collection with a major emphasis on contemporary art. The collection's overriding principle is a representation of artists from the 19th century to the present, each through a seminal work. This accounts for an impressive collection that ranges from Edward Hopper's *Automat* to Jasper Johns' *Tennyson*, Henri Matisse's *Woman in White*, Georgia O'Keeffe's *From the Lake No. 1*, Francis Bacon's *Study after Velázquez's Portrait of Pope Innocent X*, Bill Viola's *Ascension*, and Cecily Brown's *Half-Bind*.

The Art Center's physical complex marries with the collection for a totally integrated experience. The collection is housed in three major buildings, each designed by a world-renowned architect—Eliel Saarinen, I. M. Pei, and Richard Meier. With the exception of special events, admission to the museum is free.

In September 2009, the John and Mary Pappajohn Sculpture Park opened in Des Moines' Western Gateway Park. Philanthropists John and Mary Pappajohn provided funding for and donated 29 sculptures by internationally acclaimed contemporary artists to the Des Moines Art Center. The collection of sculptures by such artists as Louise Bourgeois, Deborah Butterfield, Willem de Kooning, Mark di Suvero, Olafur Eliasson, Keith Haring, Ellsworth Kelly, Yayoi Kusama, Jaume Plensa, Richard Serra, and Joel Shapiro is the most significant donation of artwork to the Art Center in a single gift in the museum's history. The Pappajohn Sculpture Park is a collaboration of the Pappajohns, the City of Des Moines, the Des Moines Art Center, and numerous corporate and private donors.

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