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For Immediate Release

Contact: Barbara Briggie-Smith

Tel: 515.271.0343

E-mail: bbsmith@desmoinesartcenter.org

Des Moines Art Center announces grant award from the W.T. and Edna M. Dahl Trust

DES MOINES, IOWA (October 2015) – The Des Moines Art Center is pleased to announce it has received a grant award of \$25,000 from the W.T. and Edna M. Dahl Trust to conserve and preserve an environmental sculpture owned by the Art Center, *Greenwood Pond Double Site* (1989-1996), by American artist Mary Miss, a leader in the field of public art. The Dahl gift will go towards the renovation of Phase 6 of the project—the renovation of the water level elevation platform. Phases 1-5 have been completed.

This environmental sculpture is particularly noteworthy not only in that it is the first urban wetlands project in Iowa and first in the nation, but also because it is one of the few large scale permanent public projects created by the artist. Sited in a city park—Greenwood Park—behind the Des Moines Art Center, the sculpture underlines the community-based nature of the work.

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 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 have provided funding for and donated 28 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, Olafur Eliasson, Keith Haring, Ellsworth Kelly, Jaume Plensa, Richard Serra, Joel Shapiro, and Mark di Suvero, is the most significant donation of artwork to the Art Center in a single gift in the museum's history. The Pappajohn Sculpture Park was created in collaboration with the Pappajohns, the City of Des Moines, the Des Moines Art Center, and numerous corporate and private donors.

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