

NEWS

from the Worcester Art Museum

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GET CREATIVE WITH FRIDAY NIGHT ART ADVENTURES AT THE WORCESTER ART MUSEUM

(WORCESTER, Mass., January 4, 2006) — The Worcester Art Museum puts a new spin on date night this winter with a line-up of Friday evening classes to take with friends or to make new ones.

Nine fun exploratory Friday night offerings complement a broad palette of studio art, art appreciation, computer art—in our brand new computer lab—writing, and literature classes for adults at the Worcester Art Museum. The 10-week winter session begins January 23. The public is welcomed to explore class offerings, meet instructors, watch demonstrations and view student work at an Open House from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 12.

“Every session offers something different... new classes, new partnerships, new credit possibilities,” said Marcia Lagerwey, associate director of education at the Worcester Art Museum. “You won’t find such diverse and unique class offerings at many other places.”

The Worcester Art Museum offers extensive daytime, weeknight, and weekend classes and workshops, providing hands-on art instruction in traditional media such as watercolors, sculpture and photography or delving into more unusual forms of expression. Many classes open cultural doors, such as *The Art of Tai Chi*, *The Many Faces of Rome*, and *Italian: The Language of Art*, and take advantage of the Worcester Art Museum’s world-class collection spanning 50 centuries of art and culture.

An expanded writing and literature program offers many new classes, including *Novel Revision*, *New Frontiers in Art and Writing*, and two day trips, *The Art and History of Textiles* on Saturday, March 25, and *Concord Writers and Thinkers and the DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park* on Saturday, April 29.

An exciting new *Study Abroad* program offers two classes for painters and writers in Greece in 2006: *Landscape Painting in Greece* in May with Kat O’Connor on the Greek island of Skopelos and *Travel Writing in Greece with Nicholas Gage* in September 2006. Nick Gage is the author of the best selling memoir *Eleni*,

and he will take students on a two-week writing odyssey to his family's native village and the setting for his true-life saga.

Complete course listings and registration are accessible on the Museum's website at www.worcesterart.org. Or, call 508-799-4406, ext. 3129 to receive the fall *Classes* brochure. Many Worcester Art Museum classes may be taken for college credit from Becker College, Clark University, Fitchburg State College, Massachusetts College of Art, Quinsigamond Community College and our newest educational partner, Worcester State College—offering credit for Landscape Painting in Greece. Teacher professional development points are offered for all classes. Scholarships are available.

RELATED EVENTS

Adult Open House and Student Exhibition Reception

Thursday, January 12, 5:30–7:00 pm

Come to this celebration of art and find out what's new at WAM! Stop by and meet our instructors, view student artwork from the fall session, discuss your artistic interests and goals, and enjoy light refreshments. Writer Nicholas Gage will be onsite to discuss his study abroad to Greece trip. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn all about the new classes and workshops we are offering this winter/spring session. Learn more by calling 508.799.4406 x3129, or by visiting www.worcesterart.org/Education.

About the Worcester Art Museum

The Worcester Art Museum, which opened to the public in 1898, is world-renowned for its 35,000-piece collection of paintings, sculpture, decorative arts, photography, prints, drawings and new media. The works span 5,000 years of art and culture, ranging from ancient Roman mosaics to Colonial silver, Impressionist paintings and contemporary art. Dedicated to the promotion of art and art education, the Museum offers a year-round studio art and art appreciation program that enrolls over 6,000 adult and youth students each year. Public tours are offered Saturdays at 11 a.m. and Sundays at 1 p.m., September through May. Audio tours are also available in English and Spanish.

Museum hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. (evening hours sponsored by Commerce Bank), and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and full-time college students with current ID, and FREE for Members and all youth 17 and under. Admission is also FREE for everyone on Saturday mornings, 10 a.m.-noon (sponsored by The TJX Companies, Inc. and Massachusetts Electric, a National Grid Company). The Museum is located at 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, Mass., easily accessible from the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90), Route 290 and Route 9. Free parking is available near entrances on Salisbury, Lancaster and Tuckerman streets. For more information, call (508) 799-4406 or visit the Museum web site at www.worcesterart.org.

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