

NEWS

from the Worcester Art Museum

55 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA 01609-3196
Telephone 508.799.4406, Fax 508.798.5646

Allison Berkeley, x3073
allisonberkeley@worchesterart.org

IMMEDIATE



WORCESTER ART MUSEUM RECEIVES \$61,700 MATCHING GRANT FROM MCC

(WORCESTER, Mass., October 11, 2006) – The Worcester Art Museum has received a matching grant of \$61,700 from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. This grant was awarded through the MCC’s Organizational Support Program and it will support the Museum’s commitment to serve a diverse audience with a variety of engaging and enriching experiences “for the benefit of all.”

State grants are awarded through a competitive process. This grant signifies that the Worcester Art Museum provides a high level of quality in its programs, community service and administrative ability. Each year, the Museum attracts over 120,000 visitors to its audience-focused exhibitions and over 45,000 youth and adults through studio- and gallery-oriented classes, tours, lectures, symposia, *Teacher Workshops*, artist-in-residence programs, and off-site outreach and collaborative programs. The Museum’s collection provides a significant and well-rounded resource “to promote art and art education,” an important part of the Museum’s mission. Funding from the MCC’s Organizational Support Program enabled the Worcester Art Museum to leverage over \$123,000 in private dollars.

The MCC has a budget of \$13 million, including \$12 million from the state of Massachusetts and grants from the National endowment for the arts, the Wallace Foundation, and other sources. Its funds reach every community in Massachusetts. The mission of the MCC is to promote excellence, education, access and diversity in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities. The not-for-profit cultural industry has a \$4.2 billion economic impact in the state.

About the Worcester Art Museum

The Worcester Art Museum, which opened to the public in 1898, is world-renowned for its 40,000-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., Third Thursday’s of every month, 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 National Grid). 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.

Electronic images available of the Museum are available.

Editors: Why typeset when you can copy and paste from the web? Find this release online at:
<http://www.worcesterart.org/Information>

#