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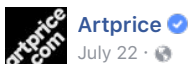
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Wisconsin museum elevates contemporary crafts

Ten years ago, collector Donna Moog offered the Racine Art Museum a gift it could not refuse: 250 teapots. During the next 10 years, her gesture evolved into a signature collection for the contemporary crafts museum. With 8,000 pieces of work from national and international artists, the RAM holds the largest and most significant collection of contemporary crafts on the continent.

The RAM teapot collection, now numbering 400, is the largest in the United States. It is one of the many reasons 50,000 visitors step through the front door of the Racine, Wis., museum each year.

Another is the opportunity to witness the museum's mission to elevate the nature of craft to fine art. Dedicated to dispelling the difference between fine arts and crafts, and between the artist and the craftsman, the RAM presents work from artists that create meaningful statements in craft media — ceramics, fibers, glass, metals, polymer and wood — alongside paintings and sculpture.

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