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**Four Glass Pioneers Featured in  
Upcoming Racine Art Museum Exhibition**

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Open January 26 through August 30, 2020 at the Racine Art Museum (RAM), **Open Storage: RAM Showcases Glass Archives** features the work of four glass pioneers—Dan Dailey, Michael Glancy, Joel Philip Myers, and Mark Peiser—who pushed the medium technically and aesthetically.

Historically, collection-building for museums has gone on behind-the-scenes. In the last decade, more institutions have offered transparency regarding how collections are developed, stored, and conserved. *Open Storage* offers a series of exhibitions that clarify this process by drawing attention to some of RAM’s particular strengths—collecting the work of artists in-depth and establishing archives that further document their working processes and careers. While RAM frequently talks about the importance of gifts from donor’s estates, archive building—both by artists and institutions—is critically important for the field because it offers a more comprehensive look at creative activity.

Arranged as solo showcases, *RAM Showcases Glass Archives* offers opportunities to compare and contrast individual works by each artist. Featuring almost 40 pieces—mainly sculptural vessels—created between 1977 and 2005, the show offers a snapshot of these individual artist's careers, as well as a glimpse of the over 1,000 contemporary glass works in RAM's collection. As a whole, major figures in contemporary glass such

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as these artists moved away from function toward using the material to investigate aesthetic, personal, and social and cultural issues—shaping a field that was just starting to unfold in the last half of the twentieth century.

Reflecting the very experimental nature of the first decades of exploring glass as an art medium, a variety of techniques are represented—some more traditional and some distinct to these artist's individual working styles. For example, Michael Glancy's innovative process, which involves working with glass in a cold state, involves carving, sandblasting, engraving, and electroforming.

Exhibitions at Racine Art Museum are made possible by: Platinum Sponsors — Anonymous, Windgate Foundation; Diamond Sponsors — David Charak, National Endowment for the Arts, Osborne and Scekcic Family Foundation, Ruffo Family Foundation Inc.; Gold Sponsors — Anonymous, Tom and Irene Creecy, David Flegel, Herzfeld Foundation, Racine Community Foundation, Trio Foundation of St. Louis, Twin Disc, W.T. Walker Group, Inc.; Silver Sponsors — A.C. Buhler Family, Andis Foundation, Evinrude Outboard Motors, Lucy G. Feller, Johnson Bank, Dorothy MacVicar, Real Racine, Wisconsin Arts Board; Bronze Sponsors — Andis Company, Educators Credit Union, Eye Care Center of Waterford, Fredrick and Deborah Ganaway, William A. Guenther, Knight Barry Title Group, Norbell Foundation; Media Sponsors — 88Nine Radio Milwaukee, Wisconsin Public Radio.

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Together, the two campuses of the Racine Art Museum, RAM in downtown Racine at 441 Main Street and the Charles A. Wustum Museum of Fine Arts at 2519 Northwestern Avenue, seek to elevate the stature of contemporary crafts to that of fine art by exhibiting significant works in craft media with painting, sculpture, and photography, while providing outstanding educational art programming.

Docent-led contemporary craft and architectural tours of the museums are available. Both campuses of the Racine Art Museum, are open Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, and are closed Mondays, Federal holidays and Easter. RAM is open Sunday Noon – 5:00 pm, while Wustum is closed Sundays. An admission fee of \$7 for adults, with reduced fees for students and seniors, applies at RAM. Admission to Wustum is free. Members are always admitted without charge to either campus.