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**Good Things Come in Small Packages  
at Racine Art Museum**

Racine, WI February 16, 2016

Thanks to the generous gifts of donors and supporters, the Racine Art Museum owns over 9,000 pieces, crowning it as America's largest collection of contemporary craft. Open at Racine Art Museum, February 19 - June 4, 2017, **Small Gifts from Big Donors** focuses on the small-scale gifts of significant donors to RAM's collection. The museum's collection would not be where it is today were it not for their combined generosity.

"Collectors donate and purchase artwork with the generous goal of gifting their acquisitions to their favored museum," quotes RAM Executive Director and Curator of Collections Bruce W. Pepich. "As many institutions are persistently strapped for funds, these gifts allow museums to build their collections and direct funding to community art education programming and growing audiences."

The collectors honored in this exhibition series include Dale and Doug Anderson, Devra Breslow, Gail M. Brown, David and Jacqueline Charak, Camille and Alex Cook, Lloyd Cotsen, Robert W. Ebendorf and Aleta Braun, Daniel Greenberg and Susan Steinhauer, Jane and Arthur Mason, Donna Moog, Donna Schneier and Leonard Goldberg, and Donald and Carol Wiiken. Throughout 2017, selections from their gifts will be featured, with four donors represented at a time.

These donors, and many more, appreciate the respect and attention that a public collection is able to provide. This exhibition aims to thank all of those who make RAM's important holdings possible. "There are many other influential donors who actively support RAM by making contributions of objects and we are grateful to them all," says Pepich. "Attracting collectors is about gathering talented and generous

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individuals to your museum, and developing ongoing, beneficial relationships. By working together, collectors and museums enhance their mutual strengths and further advance the field of contemporary craft."

This exhibition is made possible at Racine Art Museum by: Platinum Sponsors - Karen Johnson Boyd and William B. Boyd, Windgate Charitable Foundation; Diamond Sponsor - Osborne and Scekcic Family Foundation, SC Johnson; Gold Sponsors - Herzfeld Foundation, Johnson Bank, National Endowment for the Arts, W.T. Walker Group, Inc.; Silver Sponsors - Andis Foundation, Racine Community Foundation, Real Racine, Runzheimer International Ltd, United Way Racine County, Wisconsin Arts Board; Bronze Sponsors - CNH Industrial, EC Styberg Foundation, Educators Credit Union, In Sink Erator, The Norbell Foundation, Orkney Springs Retreat, Ruud Family Foundation, Southern Connecticut Polymer Clay Guild, 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 – 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 \$5 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.