

RAINY DAY FUN

Art exhibits

Racine Art Museum

RACINE — Racine Art Museum, 441 Main St., presents exhibitions drawn primarily from the museum's extensive and dynamic collection that emphasize ideas behind artwork rather than following strict media categories.

This year marks RAM's 20th anniversary in Downtown Racine. Throughout 2023, visitors are invited to discover inspiring exhibitions and programs that highlight the ways the museum has served its audiences over the last two decades while promising a brighter future.

On the surface, **"Gathering Voices at RAM: 20 Years of Building America's Largest Contemporary Craft Collection"** is a cursory, media-specific look at 20 years of building RAM's collection. Yet, with an emphasis on works acquired in the last five to seven years, the show also highlights more expansive, critical directions take in the future. This show is open through July 15.

On display through Aug. 19, **"Vignettes: Concentrated View of RAM's Collection"** is comprised of several smaller exhibitions of works gathered under various organizing principles or themes — emphasizing specific characteristics of the individual pieces and overall groupings.

On view through Sept. 23, **"Women and the WPA: As Seen through RAM's Collection"** highlights a significant moment in American art and history through works on paper, textiles and other objects associated with the Milwaukee Handicraft Project of the 1930s.

Also on view at RAM through Sept. 23, **"Open Close Back Front: Exploring Contemporary Art Jewelry Design,"** drawn entirely from RAM's growing collection, celebrates contemporary jewelry while emphasizing its consideration from new angles — sometimes literally.

Part of the recently formed RAM Showcase exhibition series, **"RAM Showcase: Four Jewelers and the Artists of Color Acquisition Fund"** is the first show to focus solely on new artists of color in the collection. This exhibition — featuring the work of Lorena Angulo, Tanya Crane, Seulgi Kwon, and Georgina Treviño — is on view through Jan. 13.

RAM is open from noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors ages 62 and older and students 12 and older. There is no fee for children ages 12 and younger and active duty military. Go to ramart.org or call

262-638-8300 for more information.

Wustum Museum

RACINE — Wustum Museum of Fine Arts, a campus of RAM at 2519 Northwestern Ave., offers one of the largest **studio arts programs** in Wisconsin. Artists of all ages are invited to immerse themselves in a weeks-long studio class or enrich an afternoon with a one-day workshop. Class registration is available online at ramart.org or by calling 262-636-9177.

Kids Day kicks off a summer of art at RAM's Wustum Museum from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, June 16. In celebration of the Racine Art Museum's 20th anniversary, families are invited to create a variety of art projects, play art games, and go on scavenger hunts inspired by the past, present, and future — all to create personal, family time capsules. Families will have the opportunity to meet special guest artists from the community, including UW-Parkside artist-in-residence, printmaker Roberto Torres Mata.

Children ages 7-13 will wrap up their creative summer with a week of innovative artmaking where they reimagine what the world will look in the future while exploring a variety of art skills in **Summer Art Camp: Fashioning a Fabulous, Fantastical, and Fun Future**, July 31-Aug. 4. Camp culminates with Gallery Night at 4 p.m. Aug. 4, where family members are invited to view all the imaginative art created throughout the week.

Opening June 14, **"Futures Reimagined: RAM Community Art Show"** invited local artists to share their ideas about what a potential future — realistic or fantastical, possible or impossible — could look like. "Futures Reimagined" is organized with Scott Terry of Mahogany Gallery in Racine and is inspired by the theme of Mahogany Gallery's second annual Wisconsin Black Art and Culture Expo, "Black Futures." This community exhibition will be on display through Aug. 5.

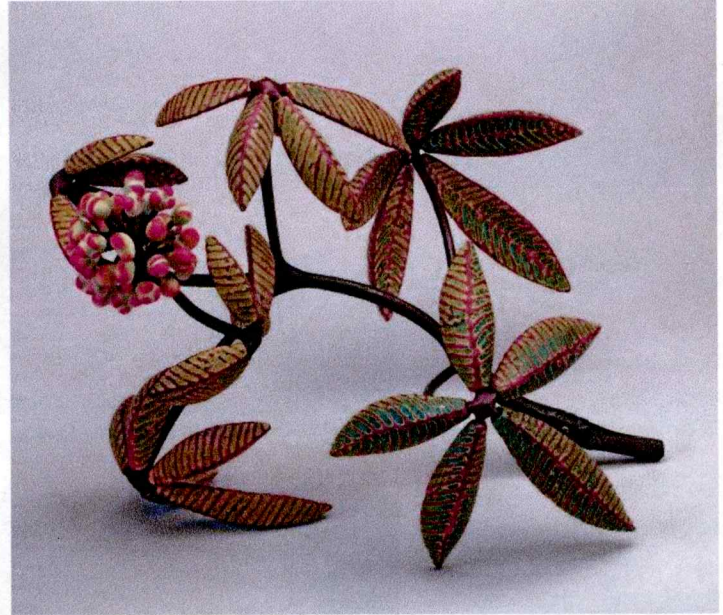
Wustum is open from noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. There is no admission fee.

OS Projects

RACINE — **"Grammar Lessons,"** an exhibition of recent paintings and drawings by Lisa Englander, is on exhibit through July 15 at OS Projects, 601 Sixth St. The artist will also give a talk about her work at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, June 24.

Englander's shamelessly decorative art-

Please see **RAINY**, Page 38



JON BOLTON

"She's Coming Out" by Michael Sherrill is one of the art pieces in "Gathering Voices at RAM: 20 Years of Building America's Largest Contemporary Craft Collection."

Italian Festival 2023

July 28th, 29th & 30th



Scan for
details



romalodge.com

7130 Spring St
Racine, WI

Music, Food,
Fun, Cafe Roma, Raffle,
Vendor/Craft Fair & Kids Games

Rainy

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work features obsessive patterning, elaborate colorations and simplified ornamentation. Her paintings are visually organized in musical fashion, with sections of color meeting, connecting and abruptly stopping before migrating to a different area of the work like riffs in a jazz composition. Painted areas enunciate and restate themes, while intersecting planes of minutely scaled patterns shade and shadow each other to create complex, imaginary spaces.

In "Grammar Lessons," Englander investigates the scope and subtleties of a monochromatic palette. She creates rich black paintings in which no black paint is used as well as vivid works in multiple shades of a single hue. Her paintings — all executed freehand — are made from watercolor washes which can be layered up to 30 times to generate the depth and luminosity of color the artist seeks.

"Grammar Lessons" also finds Englander returning to her love of drawing, inspired by a discarded vintage copy of Owen Jones' pioneering work, "The Grammar of Ornament," first published in 1856. The book features 100 color plates of objects and patterns from around the world and throughout history, along with propositions about proportions, colors and rules of abstraction.

Englander has long subscribed to Jones' argument that one of humankind's universal qualities is the desire to make beautiful things. The artist has also shared Jones' comprehensive global approach to ornament and beauty, with its focus on pattern and decoration, throughout her career. In "Grammar Lessons," Englander revisits her early explorations of Jones' visual research by using printed images from the book as the starting point for a new series of elaborate multi-media collages she debuts in this exhibition.

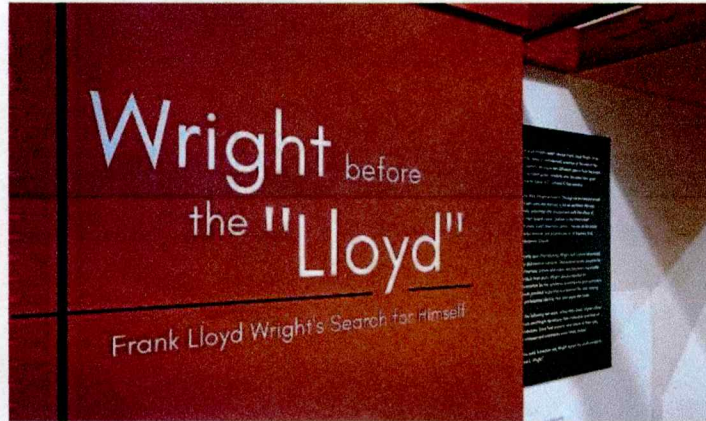
Englander will be at OS Projects from noon to 5 p.m. Fridays (excluding June 2) to speak with visitors about her work. The gallery is also open from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and by appointment; go to osprojects.art.

Racine Heritage Museum

RACINE — "Wright Before the 'Lloyd,'" a new exhibit at the Racine Heritage Museum, 701 Main St., is now open. It highlights the young Frank L. Wright and his friend Cecil Sherman Corwin, the forgotten architect and mentor who did much to shape him into the architect we know as Frank Lloyd Wright.

The exhibit is curated by Tim Samuelson, the City of Chicago's cultural historian emeritus.

It is comprised of his extensive collec-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The sign for the new 'Wright Before the 'Lloyd'' exhibit at Racine Heritage Museum, 701 Main St.



RAM PHOTO

Berenice Abbott created this silver gelatin print in 1935 of Henry Street looking west from Market Street from the "Changing New York" series. It's part of the "Women and the WPA: As Seen through RAM's Collection" exhibition at RAM.

tion of early Wright architectural salvage, drawings and images. The exhibit, on the museum's main floor center and north galleries, runs through Dec. 30, 2024.

Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. There is no admission fee; donations are accepted. The museum, built as a Carnegie Library in 1904, is a historically preserved building and is not ADA accessible. For more information, call 262-636-3296 or go to racineheritagemuseum.org.

seum.org.

Kenosha Public Museum

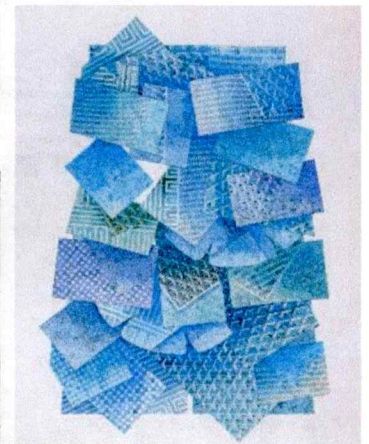
KENOSHA — The Transparent Watercolor Society of America's exhibit is on display at the Kenosha Public Museum, 5500 First Ave. The show features paintings from top watercolor artists, working in a wide range of styles.

The group's annual national juried exhibition is a summer staple at the Kenosha museum and it's available to view at no charge



KENOSHA NEWS FILE PHOTO

The Kenosha Public Museum showcases the Transparent Watercolor Society of America's annual national juried exhibition through Aug. 6.



JON C. BOLTON

"Amur" by Lisa Englander, 2023.

through Aug. 6.

Paintings from transparent watercolor artists from across the country are showcased. Works include a wide variety of subjects, from landscapes and portraits to abstracts.

Transparent Watercolor Society of America is a national organization "devoted to advancing the stature of transparent watercolor as a major expression and to foster its appreciation."

According to TWSA: All watercolor pigments applied in a transparent manner allow light to penetrate the layers of glazes and reflect back through the pigments from the paper below. The whites are brilliant paper left unpainted. This light, reflecting off the white of the paper, makes the medium work. No white paint is accepted.

Artists are required to preserve the white of the paper's surface wherever a white statement is intended.

To learn more about TWSA, go to watercolors.org.

The museum is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. There is no admission fee.