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Artist and Restaurant Pairings Announced for the Party of the Year: *SAVOURing RAM @ 20*

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2023 marks the Twentieth Anniversary of the Racine Art Museum's (RAM's) opening in Downtown Racine, Wisconsin. In recognition of this important milestone, the museum's sensational annual fundraiser, *SAVOUR*, will be held at RAM for the first time in its six-year history. *SAVOURing RAM @ 20* offers the opportunity to party throughout public and private areas of RAM, 441 Main Street, on Saturday, September 23, 5:30 – 10:30 pm. Guests are encouraged to wear their best party attire to coordinate with the celebratory theme.

SAVOURing RAM @ 20 continues the *SAVOUR* tradition of pairing local artists and chefs to highlight some of Racine County's most exceptional creatives. These inventive pairings inspire one another for their offerings and were curated based on various factors, such as the types of work or food created by each participant or personal histories between people. RAM is pleased to announce the 2023 artistic, local team-ups:

- Lisa Marie Barber + TaejaVu's on Main
- Maureen Fritchen + The Maple Table
- Sue Horton + Butcher & Barrel
- Jarvis Lawson + Kouzema 220
- Alex Mandli + Marguerite
- Leslie Perrino + Chit Chaat
- Bill Reid + Joey's Yardarm
- Chris Sklba + Vero



PRESS RELEASE

Participating restaurants will create two delectable dishes for guests to enjoy, including at least one vegetarian option, while artists will craft a specialty art piece to appear as an auction item.

A number of unique offerings will be available to bid on in both a silent and live auction. The silent auction is hosted online and allows for bidding from the comfort of home, whereas the live auction offers paddle-raising excitement and exclusive packages only available to event attendees. Some of the incredible auction items include handcrafted works of art, curated prize packages, breathtaking trips and tours, and several sensory experiences at RAM—such as a popular speakeasy-inspired cocktail party for ten, which includes a visit to the hidden bank vault that infamous American gangster John Dillinger robbed in 1933.

Attendees can also take advantage of unlimited beer, wine, signature cocktails, and non-alcoholic beverages while grooving to the sounds of two talented bands—Kase, a trio combining conventional jazz with contemporary hip-hop influences, followed by The After Party, a premiere cover group performing everything from 60s to 90s to Top 40 pop hits. Guests can also sneak away and spend the night in secret party lounges throughout private areas of RAM, including exhibition preparation rooms and the loading dock.

Additionally, live art-making by artists Veronica Averkamp and Nate Hunter will take place throughout the night—allowing guests to witness large-scale painting and pottery come to life before their eyes.

Honoring the museum's special anniversary and this year's event location, attendees are invited to arrive early at 5:00 pm to receive an intimate, behind-the-scenes glimpse at two new RAM exhibitions—*Collection Focus: Don Reitz* and *Wisconsin Artists: 1960–90*—led by RAM Executive Director and Curator of Collections Bruce W. Pepich.

SAVOURing RAM @ 20 commemorates RAM's success and continued prosperity while helping to support exhibition programming, visual arts education for all ages and abilities, and care for the largest contemporary craft collection in America. Proceeds from this event support valuable programs at both museum campuses, including RAM on the Road and the *SPARK!* memory loss engagement program. Additionally, event proceeds also support local artists and restaurants. Participating artists receive a stipend and a split on proceeds from artwork sold, and participating food vendors receive compensation for their time and expenses.

Further information about *SAVOURing RAM @ 20* and links to purchase tickets to this sensational event are available on RAM's website, ramart.org. Early bird tickets are



PRESS RELEASE

available until September 15, after which they will increase in price until sales end on September 19.

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

The two campuses of the Racine Art Museum—RAM in downtown Racine at 441 Main Street and RAM's Charles A. Wustum Museum of Fine Arts (Wustum) at 2519 Northwestern Avenue—are located in Racine, Wisconsin, a historic community on the shores of Lake Michigan. RAM is home to the largest contemporary craft collection in North America and has a reputation for its award-winning architecture and nationally recognized exhibition program. Wustum is home to the organization's diverse, award-winning art education programs and has presented significant art exhibitions since the 1940s.

Both campuses of the Racine Art Museum are currently operating with limited hours, open Wednesday through Saturday from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. RAM admission is \$10 for adults; \$8 for students and seniors (62 or older); and free for RAM members, children under 12, and active military. Wustum admission is always free. Both museums encourage all visitors and staff who are not fully vaccinated, and those who feel more comfortable wearing a mask, to continue doing so in public areas at RAM and Wustum. Some in-person art classes and workshops at Wustum still require masks, determined on a case-by-case basis.