## MUSEUM OF NEBRASKA ART











## **BIG Things are Happening!**

Time marches on and so does the Museum's building project and the Nebraska Marvels Campaign. We are grateful to every one of our supporters for believing in the importance of investing in MONA as we pave the way toward an exciting future.

As a result, this remarkable generosity has put us at approximately 74% of our \$36.5 million goal. While there is still work to do to secure lead gifts, we are energized by the success to date and look forward to moving into the public phase of the campaign.

Speaking of phases . . . Phase one of construction began this spring with a little digging in the garden as it, and the parking lot were removed in preparation for what's to come.

To make the new and renovated buildings as sustainable and energy efficient as possible, the construction crew recently completed the drilling of 24 geo-thermal wells. This well system uses the earth's constant subsurface temperature (with a heat exchanger) to either add or remove heat. This system allows the building climate to be easily controlled through all seasons. Each of the wells are 600' deep. The drilling process was no small task as you never know what lies below the surface.

The next milestone in the construction process will be excavating roughly 9,000 square feet for the foundation of the expansion. Thereafter, the concrete foundation walls and slab will be built to support the mass wood timber structure. The timber structure will be prefabricated by the company Timberlyne, located in Wayne, Nebraska. Not only does timber offer a combination of aesthetics, sustainability, structural integrity and design flexibility, but it is a low carbon alternative to steel, concrete, and masonry. Over time, wood is the only major building material that is renewable, reusable, and sustainable.

From construction, offsite exhibitions, online exhibitions to a night at the movies, MONA staff continues to plan and look for new ways to give you a "dose" of MONA wherever you are. If you'd like to connect with us online explore our virtual exhibition, *The Lives of Objects: Still Lifes from the MONA Collection*. Another option to connect with MONA is through our statewide ARTreach exhibitions. Visit one of the six unique exhibitions on view in Omaha, Beatrice and Nebraska City, all of which are drawn from the permanent collection. For more information, click on the exhibitions field on our website. Lastly, stay tuned for details on our next "Beyond the Lens" film showing on October 13<sup>th</sup> at the World Theatre in Kearney.

While we have said it before, we are grateful to each and every one of our supporters believing in the importance of investing in the Museum and the art of Nebraska.

Sincerely,

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Nicole Herden Executive Director