

# A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



“What an incredible time to be joining the team!” This has been the consistent message that I’ve received since moving to Kearney and taking on the role of executive director with the Museum of Nebraska Art. I can feel the excitement for what’s to come for the Museum and for our community, and I share in the enthusiasm as it’s part of what drew me to move here.

It can’t be understated how significant this time is for the history of MONA. The physical expansion of the building represents not only a substantial change in our capacity for story telling and preservation, but it also increases the potential for impact that the museum can make in the arts realm. This facility will be a state-of-the-art building, with amazing capabilities to showcase Nebraska art and history, and to preserve it for several generations to come.

It will make the MONA a much stronger conduit for Nebraska artists, and a standard bearer for arts exhibitions across the region.

In my twenty plus years in professional museums, I have held the role of educator, cultural programs leader, and museum administrator, for museums in my hometown of Kansas City, to Colorado, and South Dakota. In that time, I have led the efforts to renovate, reimagine, and reinvigorate arts, culture, and history for many communities. With the experience of numerous renovations, capital campaigns, and projects to enliven public support, I’ve now come to Kearney to ensure that this project ignites the creative spirit and support of this community. It is my goal to see that the new MONA builds a direct connection to the citizens of Kearney and will be a symbol of pride for all Nebraskans.

Through immersive programs and incredible exhibitions, the voices of Nebraska art will be put in the forefront. Our MONA team will seek to be a conduit from Nebraska arts and artists to the world. We will also seek to showcase the diversity of Nebraska art, where historically underrepresented voices will have the opportunity to join in the greater conversation of art in the State, from modern Indigenous artists, to up and coming contemporary talents. Programs at the MONA will be focused on inclusivity and will center around the concept of arts for everyone, so that students from classrooms across Nebraska will be able to experience the joy of creating art. Our programs already make it possible for students of all ages, adults, senior citizens, people of various backgrounds and demographics, people of different disabilities and challenges alike, and all Nebraskans to participate in the creative conversation of human expression. The new MONA will truly be for everyone.

We all share in the excitement of what our new facility will mean for the MONA, for Kearney, and for Nebraska. I am humbled each day to be leading the team at MONA, and excited to soon enough share with the world all the work being done to celebrate the history of Nebraska art. Together, we will chart a course for the future of art preservation and exhibition in the State. We thank you for your continued support, and look forward to opening our doors again soon, and introducing the world to the new Museum of Nebraska Art.

Andrew L. Dunehoo  
Executive Director

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MUSEUM OF NEBRASKA ART  
2401 Central Avenue  
Kearney, NE 68847



Front Image: Katharen (Kat) Wiese, *Reflections on Power*, 2018 , draft one lithograph on hand dyed paper (AP), Gift of Anne Burkholder, Museum of Nebraska Art

**MUSEUM**  
news  
WINTER 2024



## CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

With the expansion almost enclosed, finish work on those interior spaces will soon begin. This marks another significant milestone in the building's construction, signifying both progress and the transition to the final stages of the project.

The metal panels used on the exterior of the expansion are made of NedZinc, a proprietary product fabricated in the Netherlands. The panels are made of rolled titanium zinc, a reliable metal alloy that has been used as a building material for centuries. With a lifespan of 75+ years, zinc's matte brushed surface is not only an aesthetic choice, but also a sustainable choice in materials. The manufacturer notes that in addition to having a long service life, more than 95% is collected and recycled again after use.

The glass for the curtain wall was supplied by Tri-County Glass local to Kearney, Nebraska. The panes are triple-glazed for optimal insulation and energy efficiency throughout the year, which is another element of sustainable construction in MONA's expansion project.

Perhaps not as exciting as the façade work, vital infrastructure to the new and existing building has been completed, such as ductwork for heating and cooling and the beginning of the building's electrical infrastructure. In addition, the parking lot concrete has been poured, with hardscape concrete to follow in the warmer weather, likely in the early spring, which we hope is right around the corner!



## UPCOMING CLASSES!

Register online at [mona.unk.edu](http://mona.unk.edu) or, contact the Museum at 308-865-8559

### ARTisTRY Adult Workshops

MONA offers a series of adult workshops for you to "try" your hand at a variety of mediums. Classes are held in partnership with Trails & Rails Museum at 710 W. 11th St., Kearney. Class size limited to 20.



#### Fundamentals of Pencil Drawing

This class is for all skill levels. Learn about the tools of the trade and the essential art of shading to create depth and dimension.

Tailor your experience:

- Start with a lightly sketched template to focus on shading
- Sketch and shade your own creation

**Taught by Christine Brown & Becky Puls**

**Wednesday, March 27, 2024 | 1:30–3:30 p.m.**

Cost including supplies - \$20 MONA members | \$25 non-member  
Registration closes Wednesday, March 26, 2024



#### Watercolor Workshops

Lois Smith takes you through the wonderful world of watercolor with confidence! Learn the principles of design, color, value, composition and the mechanics of watercolor.

#### Watercolor Basics

**Wednesday, April 24, 2024 | 1:30–3:30 p.m.**

Registration closes Wednesday, April 17, 2024

#### Creating Depth with Unity and Color

**Wednesday, May 15, 2024 | 1:30–3:30 p.m.**

Registration closes Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Cost including supplies – \$35 MONA members | \$40 non-member  
Cost If bringing supplies – \$25 members | \$30 non-member



### ART on Tap

Join MONA for a fun evening and "tap" into the creative fusion of art and beer while unleashing your inner artist using this unique medium. You don't have to be a beer enthusiast to savor the experience of painting with beer.

#### Upcoming Classes:

**Wednesday, March 13, 2024** | First Street Brewing Company | Hastings, NE

**Saturday, April 6, 2024** | Lost Way Brewery | Holdrege, NE

Cost \$45 per participant. Payment due upon registration.  
All participants must be 21 or older. All supplies are provided.

## CURATORIAL SPOTLIGHT



Albert Rothery, born in 1851 into a manufacturing family near Poughkeepsie, New York, initially delved into trade skills before his artistic talents were recognized and nurtured. In his youth, Rothery was guided by artist Louis Rondel of Vassar College, who was mostly known for still life oil painting.

Seeking opportunity, Rothery and his wife moved to Omaha, Nebraska, where he remained until his death in 1915. Once in Omaha, his artistic journey thrived. Working

primarily with oil paint but also exploring crayon, pastels, and watercolors, he found the most commercial success with his flower still lifes and commissioned portraits. As an active member of the community, he co-founded the Omaha Sketch Club, taught at the Omaha Art Institute, and held membership with the Western Art Association. The latter part of Rothery's career was marked by a fifteen-year tenure as art editor for *The World-Herald*, now known as the *Omaha World-Herald*.



Images: Albert Rothery  
*Untitled (pink roses)*, c. 1900, oil on panel  
*Untitled (still life with vase, jar, and carnations)*, c. 1900, oil on canvas  
Gifts of Bruce Frasier, Museum of Nebraska Art