In 2015–16, the staff at the David Owsley Museum of Art (DOMA) continued to build on success. We furthered the university’s goal of becoming more student focused by establishing a new record for student visits. We also increased the museum’s reach to host K-12 school groups from 14 different Indiana counties. And we offered a wide variety of exhibitions of both regional and global art paired with exciting events.

DOMA’s impact is demonstrated throughout this report in charts, images, and text. What a report can’t show, however, is how first-hand experiences of art through the permanent collection, exhibitions, and events can change public attitudes and awaken students’ minds. In 2015–16, a dedicated director of education (Tania Said) and education program coordinator (Cathy Bretz) enabled encounters between visitors and art, aided by a docent corps of 29 community members and students that registered 1,088 hours of volunteer work.

As in previous years, in 2015–16 DOMA experienced a period of growth fueled by David T. Owsley’s many donations, long-term loans, and promised endowment. To these treasures, we must add significant gifts by a variety of donors, including the museum’s Benefactors, sponsors of the annual fundraising event Art in Bloom, and the Friends of the Museum, whose generosity enriches cultural life at Ball State University and in the city of Muncie.

A modest expansion of the museum staff, through the addition of a registrar and collection manager (Rebecca Vaughn) as well as an administrative coordinator (Shannon Bryan) helped the museum to manage a backlog of acquisitions and an increase in events. The recent hire of an assistant director (Rachel Buckmaster) now permits the museum to operate at a new level on par with its peer group.
2015–16 introduced a full cycle of exhibitions installed by DOMA’s trusted exhibition designer and preparator (Randy Salway). Two shows in the fall of 2015 featured local curators and selections from the museum’s collection. The first, With Watercolor: Content via Technique, was guest curated by artist Brian Gordy, who illustrated the elements of transparent watercolor painting with examples and through a live artist demonstration to a full house in Recital Hall. In the second, Prof. Sawrie provided insights into DOMA’s photography collection and employed the exhibition as a teaching tool for Ball State University students. In the spring of 2016, the exhibition 1 in 3: What Does It Take for You to Be Outraged? from the World Bank Art Program in Washington D.C. marked a new collaboration between DOMA and an international art-collecting institution. The exhibition displayed works created by contemporary, emerging artists from around the globe that confronted the worldwide epidemic of gender-based violence. Accompanied by a presentation by Curator Marina Galvani and two performances of the one-act play Neda Wants to Die, the exhibition and programming opened up new avenues for engagement with students from the Multicultural Center and Women’s and Gender Studies, faculty in disciplines ranging from sociology to studio art, and community groups, from shelters to the Islamic Center of Muncie. Today, as in 2015–16, DOMA’s goal is to educate, connect, and engage with students, faculty, and community as a gateway to the world of art.

Sincerely,

Robert G. La France
Director

MISSION STATEMENT

The David Owsley Museum of Art cultivates lifelong learning and recreation in the visual arts through its collection of original works of art, engaging exhibitions, and educational programs for the university community and other diverse audiences.

As adopted by the Ball State University Board of Trustees; December 19, 2008

ABOUT THE DAVID OWSLEY MUSEUM OF ART

The David Owsley Museum of Art is an 80-year-old university art museum that houses a world art collection with over 11,000 objects representing civilizations from six of the seven continents. DOMA balances exciting contemporary and historical art exhibitions with engaging displays of the permanent collection in a rich, educational environment that serves both the university and the East Central Indiana region.
In order to fulfill its educational mission, DOMA has become increasingly student-focused and improved engagement with both Ball State University students and Indiana K-12 schools. In the academic year 2015-16, 8,637 people (mostly students) visited in 247 groups, establishing a new record.

Indiana K-12 student visits also reached a new record in 2015-16:
- A total of 3,022 Indiana K-12 students visited for pre-registered school group tours in 2015-16, representing a total increase of 1,388 (46%) over the previous year.
- 2,307 Indiana K-12 students visited the museum for tours led by DOMA staff and docents, an increase of 989 over last year.
- 715 Indiana K-12 students visited the museum for tours led by a teacher, an increase of 417 over similar “self-guided” visits last year.

In 2015-16, students from 28 schools in 14 Indiana counties visited the museum, extending Ball State University’s educational impact by attracting several public and private K-12 schools for the first time.

More than half (4,661) of group visits were by Ball State University students attending tours guided either by DOMA’s staff and docents or led by Ball State University professors. In addition, Ball State University students account for thousands more individual visits that cannot be accurately separated from the museum’s total attendance.
Burris Laboratory School
Indiana Academy
East Washington Academy
Grisson Elementary
Mitchell Elementary School
Muncie Central High School
Northside Middle School
Delta Middle School
Jay County High School
Eastbrook High School
Frankton High School
East Elementary School
Riverview Middle School
Monroe Central Elementary
Northside Elementary School
Tri Senior High School
Knightstown High School
Riley Elementary School
Sand Creek Intermediate School
Avondale Meadows Academy
Charles Fairbanks Elementary

Ball State University, Delaware
Ball State University, Delaware
Muncie Community Schools, Delaware
Muncie Community Schools, Delaware
Muncie Community Schools, Delaware
Muncie Community Schools, Delaware
Muncie Community Schools, Delaware
Delaware Community Schools, Delaware
Jay School Corporation, Jay
Eastbrook Community Schools, Grant
Frankton-Lapel Community Schools, Madison
South Madison Community Schools, Madison
Huntington Community Schools, Huntington
Monroe Central School Corporation, Randolph
Blackford County Schools, Blackford
South Henry Corporation, Henry
Charles A. Beard Corporation, Henry
New Castle Community Schools, Henry
Hamilton Southeastern Schools, Hamilton
Public Charter School, Indianapolis
Indianapolis Public Schools, Marion

Hoosier Academies M.S.*
St. Mary’s Catholic School
Whitewater Career Center*
Anderson Elementary School*
Anderson High School*
Highland Middle School
Manchester Intermediate School*

Virtual Charter School, Marion
Private School, Rush
Fayette County School Corporation, Fayette
Anderson Community Schools, Madison
Anderson Community Schools, Madison
Anderson Community Schools, Madison
Manchester Community Schools, Wabash

*First recorded visit to DOMA
While student visits increased in 2015-16, total museum attendance decreased slightly from the previous year. Neither fiscal year (FY) 2015 nor FY2016 rivaled the museum’s high attendance in FY2014, the year of the reopening after a major expansion, which was accompanied by a marketing campaign. The minor decrease in FY2016 reflects a national trend of reduced visits to many art museums outside of major cities, and can hopefully be reversed through a more aggressive marketing strategy. Budget restrictions may limit marketing efforts to social media and other low-cost approaches to spreading the word about the museum’s major virtues: free admission and an encyclopedic collection of global art.

*FY2014 includes attendance for the grand reopening of the galleries in the fall of 2013.
In fiscal year 2014-15, DOMA achieved a new record for cash contributions. Major donors and support groups, such as the Benefactors and Friends of the Museum, helped to lift the total to nearly $70,000. The successful second annual Art in Bloom fundraising event alone netted over $10,000 for programs, acquisitions, and conservation projects.

The effective management of expenses has permitted the museum to expand the size and scope of exhibitions and related programs, maximizing the impact of philanthropic support.

In addition, Ball State University has wisely invested in museum staffing in order to create a safe and secure museum environment that lays the foundation for the continuous development of the museum as both a university and community resource.
FY2016 Income by Source ($870,791)

- Ball State General Fund (includes staffing) ($704,153)
- Donations (includes Friends & Alliance) ($64,646)
- Ball State Foundation (programs, acquisitions, etc.) ($47,158)
- Support from other BSU departments, Sursa exhibitions fund, etc. ($31,834)
- Other gifts, event sponsorship, and exhibition revenue ($23,000)

FY2016 Expenses by Type ($857,889)

- Staff Salaries and Benefits ($463,052)
- Student Wages ($135,825)
- Programs, Exhibitions, Purchases ($153,735)
- Supplies ($86,783)
- Travel ($18,494)

Figures exclude maintenance, utilities, insurance, and overhead paid by Ball State University.
Art in Bloom 2016

The second annual celebration of art and flowers attracted more than 200 visitors for its signature opening event and public exhibition, increasing DOMA’s regional visibility and raising funds for acquisitions, conservation, and programs.

Participants:
Judy Benken, Normandy Flower Shop, Inc., Muncie, IN
Jasmine Farris, JP Parker Flowers, Indianapolis, IN (Gold Award)
Lisa Pritchett, Dandelions Flowers and Gifts, Muncie, IN (Silver Award)
Steve Strange, Buck Creek in Bloom, Yorktown, IN (People’s Choice Award)
David Strohmeyer, The Empty Vase, Indianapolis, IN
Jackie Turner, The Flower Bin, Inc., Muncie, IN

Judges:
Jo Ellen Meyer’s Sharp, Indianapolis, IN
Kari Geary, Fort Wayne, IN

Benefactors:
Cecil and Barbara Alvarez Bohanon
Waldo Beebe
Melissa and Jeff Daniels
Ann Johnson
Sandra and Eric Kelly
Fred Meyer
Patricia Schaefer
Carol and Joseph Trimmer
Sue and Don Whitaker

Presenting Sponsor:
The Sursa-Griner Group
ArtsAlive! College of Fine Arts, Ball State University

Friends:
Jennifer Bott and Phil Repp
Sheila and Thomas Bracken
Mary Foster and Tom Clark
The Honorable Sue and Dr. Paul Errington
Carey and Jud Fisher
Nancy and David Galliher
Indiana Trust & Investment Management
Barbara and Carl Schafer
Vera Mae’s Bistro
Major loans of works of art to national and international institutions that increase the museum’s visibility and reputation:

Dixon Gallery and Gardens, Memphis, TN | 07/27/14–10/05/15
loan of painting to the exhibition Charles Courtney Curran: Seeking the Ideal.

Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis, IN | 11/08/14–03/29/15
loan of painting to the exhibition William J. Forsyth: Only the Strong Persist.

Cheongju International Craft Biennale, Korea | 09/16/15–10/25/15
loaned works selected for display in this international design exhibition; sculptures from DOMA’s exhibition Anders Ruhwald: One Thing Follows Another (And You Make It Happen).

Museum of Craft and Design, San Francisco, CA | 09/26/15–03/27/16
traveling exhibition Without Camouflage. Dafna Kaffeman. Silvia Levenson. Organized by DOMA.

Château de Fontainebleau, France | 10/17/15–01/26/16

Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, IN | 10/24/15–02/14/16
loan of print series to the exhibition Gustave Baumann, German Craftsman – American Artist.

LOANS FROM THE COLLECTION

NEW ACQUISITIONS

FY2016 Acquisitions (59 donations and 6 purchases): 66
FY2016 Loans to the collection from David T. Owsley: 45
Total: 111

SELECTED NEW ACQUISITIONS AND LONG-TERM LOANS

Donations and Purchases:

Portrait of Constance-Marie Charpentier, née Bondet (1767–1849), about 1808
Joseph Chinard
French (1756–1813)
plaster
Gift of David T. Owsley via the Alconda-Owsley Foundation and Museum Purchase
2016.005.000

Head of an Old Man, about 1879
Frank Duveneck
American (1848–1919)
oil on canvas
Gift of Allen W. Bernard
2015.025.001

Large Typewriter, 2003
William Kentridge
South African (born 1955)
sugar-lift aquatint and drypoint, ed. 20/40
Friends of the Museum and Museum of Art Purchase
2015.005.000

The Large Miseries of War (Les grandes misères de la guerre), 1633
Jacques Callot
French (1592–1635)
etching, third state (set of 18)
Museum Purchase
2016.002.001.001-018
Loans to the Permanent Collection from David T. Owsley:

**Panel of Offering Goddesses**, 14th century
Central Tibet, Ming Dynasty (1368–1644)
gilt copper alloy with inlaid semiprecious stones
David T. Owsley Collection
L2015.011.002

**Bentwood Serving Dish**, early 20th century
North America, Canada, Pacific Northwest Coast, Haida Culture
wood with bone inlay
David T. Owsley Collection
L2016.005.000

**Portrait of King George III (1738–1820)**, about 1800
William Beechey
British (1753–1839)
oil on canvas
David T. Owsley Collection
L2016.008.000

**Pendant Masks**, 19th–20th century
Unidentified African Artist
West Africa, Ivory Coast, Baule people
gold alloy
David T. Owsley Collection
L2015.013.001-002

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**Panel of Offering Goddesses**: This intricate panel features offerings to a goddess, characteristic of the Ming Dynasty's artistic expression. 

**Bentwood Serving Dish**: A culturally significant piece from the Haida people of the Pacific Northwest Coast, featuring bone inlay work.

**Portrait of King George III**: An iconic representation of the British monarch, created by the renowned artist William Beechey.

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**Pendant Masks**: These masks, crafted by an unidentified African artist, exemplify the artistic heritage of the Baule people in West Africa. The gold alloy work is particularly noteworthy.
STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS 2015–2016

Robert La France, Director
Rachel Buckmaster, Assistant Director
Carl Schafer, Associate Director
Tania Said, Director of Education
Cathy Bretz, Education Program Coordinator
Rebecca Vaughn, Registrar and Collection Manager
Randy Salway, Exhibition Designer and Preparator
Shannon Bryan, Administrative Coordinator
Joshua Vance, Administrative Coordinator
Steve Talley, Photographer
Katie King, Information Coordinator

*new staff in 2016

Student Assistants and Interns
Cassi Amman, Collections Intern
Hailey Beard, Public Relations Intern
Trevor Campbell, Education Intern
Kyrra Cleveenger, Education Intern
Kayla Gurganus, Curatorial Intern

Caitlin Harrison, Collections Intern
Taylor Rose Henderson, Exhibitions Intern
Joe Kaplan, Graduate Assistant
Regan Kelly, Program Assistant
Felicia Konrad, Collections Intern
Katie Norman, Preparator Assistant
Josh Olson, Preparator Assistant
Mikel Prater, Office Volunteer
Lily Rawson, Graduate Assistant
Mackenzie Robinson, Collections Intern
Michael Sales, Office Assistant
Lauren Sherwood, Interpretative Assistant
Sierra Trowbridge, Education Intern
Ashley Vanderveerde, Collections Intern
Caitlyn Walter, Collections Intern
Noelle Wiegand, Collections Intern

Student Security Guards
Anthony Amore
Hannah Bovino
Juan Castillo
Marilyn DeWeese
Mae Dickinson
Jane Duckworth
Margery Frank
Jean Gadziola
Ed Hale
Sigrid Koehler
Joan Malje
Diana Miller
Ulyana Morton
Bonita Musal
Robert Pinger
Kent Shuff
Jennifer Williams

FRIENDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Fred Meyer, Chair
Brad LaTour, Secretary

Members at-large:
Barbara Alvarez Bohanon
Melissa Daniels
Mary Foster
Jim Gooden
Ann Johnson
Patricia Schaefer
Kent Shuff
Don Whitaker
Jennifer Williams

Ex officio members:
Robert La France, Director, DOMA
Sarah Jenkins, President, DOMA Alliance
Jean McCauley, President, Muncie Art Students League
Robert Kvam, Dean College of Fine Arts

Student Docents
Emma Rogers
Nick Sanchez
Justin Schiess
Alexander Smith
Corey Standifer
Kyle Tison
Jacob Wardell
Sam Wiser

Student Docents
Emily Dykstra
Dakota Hall
Regan Kelly
Anna Muckenfuss
Charlie Schaefer
Sierra Trowbridge

Community Docents
Barbara Alvarez Bohanon
Catherine Bretz
Christina Coelho
Nathan Deardorff

Designer: Regan Kelly, Graduate Assistant, Emerging Media Design and Development, Ball State University