

North Carolina Museum of Art

2110 Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC 27607-6494

www.ncartmuseum.org

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N.C. MUSEUM OF ART TEMPORARILY CLOSING FOR EXPANSION IN 30 DAYS

Current building closes September 7, Park remains open and programs continue in community

RALEIGH, N.C.—Visitors have a month to see their favorite works of art before the North Carolina Museum of Art building temporarily closes beginning Monday, September 7, for approximately seven months. The grand opening of the Museum expansion, a new 127,000-square-foot gallery building for the permanent collection, is scheduled for mid-April 2010.

"We're preparing for a big move, but before the Museum's doors close, I invite you spend some time with us. Enjoy the Restaurant, browse the Museum Store, and spend some time in the galleries with our outstanding collection before it moves to a new home," said Museum Director Lawrence J. Wheeler.

During the seven-month hiatus art handlers will move and install more than 750 works of art into the new galleries. As works of art come off the walls, many will go into the conservation lab to be treated, cleaned, or reframed for their April debut. The lobby area of the current building will undergo renovations as well. For the safety of visitors and protection of the collection, the building cannot remain open during these critical operations.

The Museum is committed to continuing to share art experiences throughout the transition period. The 164-acre Museum Park will remain open and the Museum will present *Museum on the Move*, a series of lectures, films, concerts, family programs, and other offerings in the Park and at venues throughout the Triangle. Arts in the Museum Park, the summer series of movies and concerts in the amphitheater will also continue uninterrupted through the end of September.

"We are thrilled to be entering the final phase of our expansion project, and as we prepare for this grand transformation, we have a unique opportunity to expand our reach by bringing programs to the community and connecting with the people of our state in new ways," said Wheeler.

For more information about the expansion or the North Carolina Museum of Art, visit www.ncartmuseum.org or call (919) 839-NCMA.

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The North Carolina Museum of Art's permanent collection spans more than 5,000 years, from ancient Egypt to the present, making the institution one of the premier art museums in the Southeast. The Museum's collection provides educational, aesthetic, intellectual, and cultural experiences for the citizens of North Carolina and beyond. The 164-acre Museum Park showcases the connection between art and nature through monumental works of environmental art. The Museum offers changing national touring exhibitions, classes, lectures, family activities, films, and concerts.

The North Carolina Museum of Art, Lawrence J. Wheeler, director, is located at 2110 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh. It is the art museum of the State of North Carolina, Beverly Eaves Perdue, governor, and an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, Linda A. Carlisle, secretary. Museum hours are Tuesday–Thursday and Saturday, 9 a.m.—5 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.—9 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.—5 p.m. Closed Monday. Admission to the permanent collection is free. For information, call (919) 839-NCMA, or visit www.ncartmuseum.org.