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**PHOTO/VIDEO OPPORTUNITIES**To cover installation of upcoming bouquets, contact Kat Harding

## North Carolina Museum of Art Turns 17 Triangle Trash Cans into Flower Bouquets

Larger-than-life bouquets celebrate flower festival Art in Bloom, presented by PNC Bank, through temporary public art installations in Chapel Hill, Durham, and Raleigh

**Raleigh, N.C.**—The North Carolina Museum of Art is turning trash to treasure—or trash cans to flower bouquets. Ahead of its fifth annual Art in Bloom, presented by PNC, March 21–24, the Museum expands this year's "trash can bouquets" to 17 locations across Chapel Hill, Durham, and Raleigh.

Last year, inspired by Lewis Miller Designs' New York City "floral flashes," the NCMA placed five giant bouquets around downtown Raleigh. With support from PNC, the Museum expanded the public art project to span the Triangle for 10 days, March 6–15. Follow @ncartmuseum on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter for installation information; media can also request complete schedule for on-site installation coverage.

Two bouquets have already popped up at Chapel Hill's Peace and Justice Plaza and the Chapel Hill Public Library, with three more Franklin Street locations planned through Sunday, March 10. The Town of Chapel Hill helped coordinate locations ahead of the town's Second Friday Art Walk and Saturday's UNC-Chapel Hill vs. Duke University basketball rematch in Chapel Hill. Chapel Hill floral designer Amy J. Wurster of Knots 'N Such designed each of the bouquets.

"Art in Bloom encourages visitors to view art through a new lens," said Museum Director Valerie Hillings, Ph.D. "We hope the trash can bouquets also offer a moment of pause and delight ahead of our annual festival of flowers. We are grateful to PNC for their

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tremendous support to bring these installations to more locations in the Triangle."

Five Raleigh locations, including Union Station and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Gardens, and five Durham cans, including at Central Park and the American Tobacco campus, will continue to blossom March 11–15. The City of Raleigh Arts Commission and City of Durham Public Art Program helped place and manage these installations. The NCMA worked with Durham floral designers Pine

<u>State Flowers</u> and <u>Jennifer Wood</u> and Raleigh-based floral designers E. W. Fulcher and Pam Reynolds of Bloom Works and Steve Taras of Watered Garden Florist Studios to create the giant displays.

Art in Bloom features the work of more than 50 floral designers from around the country, including the trash can bouquet creators, putting their creativity to the test to design floral installations based on works in the NCMA's collection.

Also celebrating Art in Bloom, Raleigh ice cream company Two Roosters will debut a custom floral ice cream flavor in its storefront the week of March 17. The flavor will also be featured on the menus of the Museum's Iris restaurant, Sip Café, and Blue Ridge Café during Art in Bloom.

The Museum's 2018 fundraiser was the most successful to date, with more than 18,700 people attending four days of floral exhibitions and sold-out events. Information about Art in Bloom can be found at <a href="mailto:ncartmuseum.org/bloom">ncartmuseum.org/bloom</a>. Proceeds from Art in Bloom support Museum programming and exhibitions and benefit the NCMA Foundation.



## **About the Exhibition**

Art in Bloom is organized by the North Carolina Museum of Art.

If you are interested in documenting the installation of one of these bouquets, contact Kat Harding at <a href="mailto:kharding@ncartmseum.org">kharding@ncartmseum.org</a>.

## **Image Captions**

Trash Can Bouquet at Chapel Hill's Peace and Justice Plaza, by Amy J. Wurster, Wednesday, March 6, 2019.

Trash Can Bouquet at the Chapel Hill Public Library, by Amy J. Wurster, Wednesday, March 6, 2019.
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## **About the North Carolina Museum of Art**

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 South. The Museum's collection provides educational, aesthetic, intellectual, and cultural experiences for the citizens of North Carolina and beyond. The 164-acre Ann and Jim Goodnight Museum Park showcases the connection between art and nature through site-specific works of environmental art. The Museum offers changing national touring exhibitions, classes, lectures, family activities, films, and concerts.

The Museum opened West Building, home to the permanent collection, in 2010. The North Carolina Museum of Art, Valerie Hillings, director, is located at 2110 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh. It is the art museum of the State of North Carolina, Roy Cooper, governor, and an agency of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Susi Hamilton, secretary.