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### **North Carolina Museum of Art Receives Grant from Duke Energy**

*\$50,000 grant will fund student tours of M. C. Escher and Leonardo da Vinci exhibitions*

**Raleigh, N.C.**—The North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) has received a \$50,000 grant from Duke Energy that will fund student tours of and studio classes related to the Museum’s fall exhibitions [\*The Worlds of M. C. Escher: Nature, Science, and Imagination\*](#) and [\*Leonardo da Vinci’s Codex Leicester and the Creative Mind\*](#).

The grant allows schools in select North Carolina counties to visit the Museum for a free guided tour of either exhibition, or a free tour-and-studio program. The tour-and-studio program is a two-hour program for 4<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> grade students that includes a docent-led tour of *The Worlds of M. C. Escher* followed by an art workshop exploring themes and techniques that relate to the works in the exhibition. The grant also allows the Museum to open one hour earlier on select dates to accommodate the tour-and-studio programs.

Additionally, the grant will fund bus scholarships to transport student groups in select counties to and from the Museum for the exhibition guided tours and workshops.

The tours and tour-and-studio programs will have a focus on STEAM, which integrates the arts into traditional STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) studies.

“The Museum is dedicated to promoting arts-integrated learning, and the upcoming exhibitions of M. C. Escher’s mathematically inspired prints and Leonardo da Vinci’s scientific notebooks are the perfect opportunities to do so,” says Michelle Harrell, the NCMA’s associate director of education. “With this generous grant from Duke Energy, we can invite students from select schools across the state to explore the mathematical and scientific worlds of Escher and Leonardo while using the visual arts to inspire creative thinking and problem solving.”

“We at Duke Energy are proud to continue our long-standing relationship with the North Carolina Museum of Art,” said Mike Hughes, Duke Energy vice president of community relations. “We’re excited to provide students the unique opportunity to experience this hands-on, engaging learning opportunity that brings together art and science.”

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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 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, Lawrence J. Wheeler, director, is located at 2110 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh. It is the art museum of the State of North Carolina, Pat McCrory, governor, and an agency of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Susan Kluttz, secretary.

#### **About The Duke Energy Foundation**

The Duke Energy Foundation provides philanthropic support to address the needs vital to the health of its communities. Annually, the Foundation funds more than \$25 million in charitable grants, with a focus on education, environment, economic and workforce development, and community impact. Duke Energy has long been committed to supporting the communities where its customers and employees live and work, and will continue to build on this legacy.