

**North Carolina Museum of Art Announces Return of Art in Bloom,  
Presented by PNC Bank, March 15–19, 2023**

Annual fundraiser features over 30 art-inspired floral installations



**Raleigh, NC** – The North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) will again host its popular floral fundraiser Art in Bloom, presented by PNC Bank, March 15–19, 2023. The five-day event will feature more than 30 imaginative floral arrangements, offering visitors a unique way to connect with art through floral interpretations of the Museum’s latest acquisitions and visitor-favorite works from the newly reimagined People’s Collection in West Building. Guests will be greeted by a large welcome installation by Heather Ann Miller of Eclectic Sage and several large-platform floral displays based on the theme Cinematic, highlighting representations of music, theater, dance, and film featured in the People’s Collection.

Beyond the scope of the floral displays in West Building, the five-day fundraiser will include floral-inspired workshops, lectures, and special surprises in the Museum Store. The Museum will offer extended hours and expanded food options. Visitors may enjoy inventive small bites and Southern-inspired entrées from Chef Rick Sloan at the newly remodeled NCMA Café in West Building.

In the days leading up to Art in Bloom, presented by PNC Bank, the Museum will organize floral installations and a scavenger hunt. Additional information regarding the scavenger hunt and floral installations is forthcoming.

PNC Bank returns as the founding presenting sponsor of Art in Bloom. “As the NCMA’s largest annual fundraiser, Art in Bloom is vital to helping the Museum deliver programming and exhibitions that are both compelling and accessible throughout the year,” said Jim Hansen, PNC regional president for Eastern Carolinas. “All of us at PNC recognize the NCMA’s significant cultural and educational contributions to our local communities, and we are pleased to continue our support for this meaningful event.”

### **Admission**

During the five days of Art in Bloom presented by PNC Bank, tickets are required for admission to the Museum’s West Building, where the floral installations will be featured. East Building and the Ann and Jim Goodnight Museum Park will remain open and free to visitors.

Tickets for members are on sale now, and tickets for nonmembers go on sale at 10 am, Wednesday, February 1.

Ticket pricing is as follows:

- \$30 Members
- \$33 Nonmembers
- Free for children 6 and under

Tickets are available at [ncartmuseum.org/bloom](http://ncartmuseum.org/bloom) or by emailing [help@ncartmuseum.org](mailto:help@ncartmuseum.org).

*Related events, including select workshops, presentations, and other special programs, will be ticketed separately (see Related Events below).*

### **Hours**

During the five days of Art in Bloom presented by PNC Bank, the Museum’s West Building will operate on a special schedule, as follows:

- Wed., March 15, 9:30 am–4 pm (doors close 5:30 pm)
- Thurs., March 16, 9:30 am–5 pm (doors close 6:30 pm)
- Fri., March 17, 11 am–8 pm (doors close 9:30 pm)
- Sat., March 18, 9:30 am–8 pm (doors close 9:30 pm)
- Sun., March 19, 9:30 am–5 pm (doors close 6:30 pm)

East Building galleries are open 10 am–5 pm, Wednesday through Sunday. *Michael Richards: Are You Down?* in East Building will be on view and free to the public during this time.

### **Getting to the Museum**

Parking is available on the NCMA campus. During this popular event, visitors are encouraged to carpool or take public transportation via GoRaleigh bus route 27. Information about the bus is available on GoRaleigh's website. The NCMA is also home to a Cardinal Bikeshare station.

### **Dining and Shopping**

#### **NCMA Café**

West Building

Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday, 9:30–5 pm

Friday, 10:30 am–8 pm

Saturday, 9:30 am–8 pm

Classic British tea menu and champagne and canapés menu feature an artful collection of savories, tea sandwiches, floral-inspired cocktails and exquisite pastries. By reservation only. The Museum closes 90 minutes after the last seating.

#### **East Café**

East Building, Level C

Wednesday–Sunday, 10 am–4 pm

Floral-inspired barista-crafted coffee beverages, sandwiches, salads, made-to-order items from the grill, cold drinks, wine and beer. Indoor and patio seating.

#### **Museum Store**

West Building

Opens at 9:30 am Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday

Opens at 11 am Friday

The Museum is excited to welcome visitors back for another traditional retail experience featuring classic floral-inspired gifts such as candles, puzzles, scarves, and artwork, as well as a selection of artful merchandise from new artists and artisans.

### **Garden Guides**

Daily, 2–4 pm

Volunteer gardeners, who will be wearing white Ask Me badges, will be located throughout the galleries to answer questions about the flowers and engage in conversation.

### **Related Events**

Separate tickets required. Visitors can buy tickets for events online at [ncartmuseum.org/bloom](https://ncartmuseum.org/bloom) or by emailing [help@ncartmuseum.org](mailto:help@ncartmuseum.org).

#### **March 15, 2023**

##### Zoe Webster Floral Demonstration with Steve Taras

Noon–1:30 pm

\$27 Members, \$30 Nonmembers

Art in Bloom favorite Steve Taras, owner of Watered Garden Florist, leads this engaging and dynamic demo featuring gorgeous blooms from near and far. Steve's signature style is a crowd-pleaser and full of all the creative ways to bring flowers into a home. A handful of arrangements will be given to audience members at the end of the program.

Sensory Journey through Flowers with Katie Stoudemire

3:30–4:30 pm

\$18 Members, \$20 Nonmembers

This event is intended for adults who are blind, low vision, or have a learning need that would benefit from a sensory-style experience. Registration includes a drink, snack, and other sensory objects to help deepen the connection to the floral arrangement. Audio description, ASL interpreters, and captioning are provided. For ages 16 and up.

Mindful Museum: Virtual Slow Art Appreciation Art in Bloom Edition

7–8:30 pm

Free with registration

Slow art is a growing movement to mindfully observe and communally appreciate art. During this special Art in Bloom edition, participants are guided through a brief centering practice followed by an intentional observation of a floral design and its paired artwork. Sharing and discussion are encouraged. For ages 16 and up.

Art in Bloom presented by PNC Bank Designer Opening Reception

7–9 pm

\$72 Members, \$80 Nonmembers

Welcome to our indoor garden! Attendees will have the opportunity to talk with the designers who bring the Museum to life, ask them about their interpretations, and congratulate the winner of the Director's Choice ribbon, announced at 8 pm. Each ticket includes light snacks, beer and wine, and a specialty cocktail.

**March 16, 2023**

The Symbolism of Flowers with Patricia Savage

10 am–noon

2–4 pm

\$75 Members, \$80 Nonmembers

Since antiquity, flowers have been used in paintings to symbolize feelings, power, and historical and political events. In this session, participants will first study the symbolism of flowers within paintings using the Museum's collection before painting flowers using watercolor.

Lunchtime Presentation with Brie Arthur: Inspiring Combinations for Every Garden

Noon–1:30 pm

\$18 Members, \$20 Nonmembers

Join local horticulturist Brie Arthur for an informative and energetic presentation that will make any level of gardener feel like an expert. Arthur shares a wide variety of plants that are beautiful and bountiful through the growing season. Based on her 20 years of experience, she covers sun to shade, dry to wet conditions, and a wide selection of flowers, shrubs, herbs, and everything in between. After learning about all the possibilities, everyone will leave excited for the season ahead!

**March 18, 2023**

Layers of Color: Watercolor Pouring with Ryan Fox

10 am– 4 pm

\$90 Members, \$99 Nonmembers

This one-day workshop teaches participants the technique of pouring diluted watercolor directly on paper. Pouring creates a wide range of colors and amazing blending effects. Through instructor demonstration, participants will learn about masking, wetting techniques, using gravity to mix a limited palette, and preserving the transparency of layers. All levels are welcome, including first-time watercolorists.

**March 19, 2023**

Creative Processing in Bloom

2–3:30 pm

Free with registration

Reflect together on big (and sometimes tough) ideas about the world and ourselves through art. Explore the power of nature in this workshop that includes guided group conversations with an expressive arts therapist, mindfulness exercises, and hands-on art making to process emotions. This workshop focuses on bonsai as a way to explore how harmony and balance play a role in our lives. Participants will examine how this ancient art's contemplative purpose allows them to reflect on feelings and aspirations for balance in their own lives by creating tree sculptures from art materials. All materials for the hands-on portion of this workshop are provided.

**Live Music Daily**

West Building

FREE with Art in Bloom ticket

**Wed., March 15, 3–5 pm**

**Thurs., March 16, 3–5 pm**

Monica (Hye-Bin) Song—French, Japanese and original compositions on piano

Song is an award-winning pianist who has performed throughout the US and abroad. She has also appeared as a piano soloist with many orchestras, including several in St. Louis. She works at Duke University as a choral accompanist and departmental pianist and as a pianist/piano faculty at Meredith College and Community School of Music.

**Fri., March 17, 6–8 pm**

Smitha Prasad—Carnatic music of South India

Carnatic classical vocalist Prasad again graces us with a presentation of compositions and improvisations with traditional instrumental accompaniment in one of the two main classical music traditions of India.

**Sat., March 18, 6–8 pm**

**Sun., March 19, 3–5 pm**

Sayeh Ensemble—Persian classical and Sufi music

Established in Boston in 2010, Sayeh Ensemble performs at Art in Bloom during the Persian Nowruz (New Year) weekend. Sayeh's mission is to introduce the profound and elegant beauty of Persian music to both Iranian and non-Iranian audiences. For these performances, Sayeh celebrates Sufi spirituality and the important role of women in this tradition.

## **Accessibility**

The Museum aims to create a welcoming environment for all visitors by providing the widest possible access to our building. For questions about accessibility needs, please contact Molly Hull at [mhull@ncartmuseum.org](mailto:mhull@ncartmuseum.org).

Proceeds from Art in Bloom support Museum programming and exhibitions and benefit the NCMA Foundation, Inc.

###

## **About PNC Bank**

PNC Bank, National Association, is a member of The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (NYSE: PNC). PNC is one of the largest diversified financial services institutions in the United States, organized around its customers and communities for strong relationships and local delivery of retail and business banking, including a full range of lending products; specialized services for corporations and government entities, including corporate banking, real estate finance, and asset-based lending; wealth management; and asset management. For information about PNC, visit [pnc.com](http://pnc.com).

## **About the North Carolina Museum of Art**

The North Carolina Museum of Art's collection spans more than 5,000 years, from antiquity 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 including North Carolina artist Thomas Sayre's *Gyre* (1999), the inspiration behind the NCMA logo mark. The Museum offers changing special exhibitions, classes, lectures, family activities, films, and concerts.

The Museum is located at 2110 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh and is home to the People's Collection. It is the art museum of the State of North Carolina, under the auspices of Governor Roy Cooper; an agency of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, guided by the direction of Secretary D. Reid Wilson; and led by Director Valerie Hillings.