

Director's Circle Summer/Fall 2026 Calendar

IN THE GALLERIES

State Fairs: Growing American Craft
August 22, 2025 – Sep 7, 2026

Justin Favela: Capilla de Maíz
August 22, 2025 – Sep 7, 2026

Nick Cave: Mammoth
February 13, 2026 – January 3, 2027

Much Here Is Beautiful: Photography Surveys of the U.S. Bicentennial
September 18, 2026 – April 18, 2027

Handwork: Contemporary Craft at the Renwick Gallery
November 13, 2026

JUL

11 Saturday | 11:30AM

*Celebrate 20 years of the **Luce Foundation Center** in a day-long event featuring selections of programs and activities from across the Center's 20-year history.

21 Tuesday | 1:30PM

Director's Circle members are invited to attend the first day of the **International Nineteenth-Century Studies Association** lecture series, cohosted by SAAM in the McEvoy Auditorium. Scholars from around the world will present new research on their respective topics. Reach out to SAAMRSVP@si.edu for more info.

25 Saturday | 11:30AM

***SAAM Arcade** is back! Independent developers showcase the art of digital game creation. This year SAAM is partnering with Girl Scouts of the USA and focusing on women creators leading in the game design field.

Time to Renew?

Don't miss out! Be sure your membership is up-to-date. Your membership dues help SAAM fulfill its mission all year long.

Online: <https://americanart.si.edu/support/directors-circle>

Phone: 202-633-8420

Mail: Smithsonian Institution
Smithsonian American Art Museum
PO Box 418320
Boston, MA 02241-8320

AUG

18 Tuesday | 4:00PM

***Converse with a Conservator:** Materials of the State Fair - Objects Conservator Leah Bright and Dorothy Cheng will talk about what it takes to care for a sculpture made of butter, seed art, hair wreaths etc.

SEP

17 Thursday | 7:00PM

Director's Circle members are invited to join fellow supporters, Commissioners, and friends of the museum to celebrate *Much Here is Beautiful: Photography Surveys of the U.S. Bicentennial* at our **opening reception**. Enjoy food, drinks and a first look at SAAM's newest exhibition - part of the museum's gift to the nation for the 250th anniversary. Invitation to follow under separate cover.

* = public program. For further details and a list of all upcoming SAAM public programs, please check our online calendar
<https://americanart.si.edu/search/events>.



Oct

21 Wednesday | 6:00PM

Private curator-led tour of *Much Here is Beautiful: Photography Surveys of the U.S. Bicentennial*. Join John Jacob, McEvoy Family Senior Curator of Photography and Krystle Stricklin, Assistant Curator of Photography for an after-hours tour. Invitation to follow under separate cover.

24 Saturday | TBD

***Nick Cave: Mammoth Performance**
Step into a living landscape of sound, movement, and imagination as SAAM presents a one-day-only performance of *Nick Cave: Mammoth*. In Cave's elaborate, sculptural mammoth structures, performers will dance to a live score by acclaimed improvisational jazz musician Kahil El'Zabar in the Kogod Courtyard. Registration opens on September 24 on SAAM's website.

Get Crafty

Sign up for one of our popular workshops or Handi-Hours. RSVP online or reach out to SAAMRSVP@si.edu for help reserving your spot.

Sep 12 - SAAM x Art All Night

Sep 27 - Beyond the Studio Workshop: Moss Art with Daphne Lee of Potahto

Oct 18 - Beyond the Studio Workshop: Paper Quilling with Ashley Chiang

Nov 1 - Beyond the Studio Workshop: Embroidery with Capital Stitch Co

Nov 17 - Handi-Hour

Nov

7 Saturday | 7:00PM

Lunder Conservation Center 20th Anniversary Private Reception.
Director's Circle members are invited to a private reception along with SAAM leadership to celebrate 20 years of the Lunder Conservation Center. Invitation to follow under separate cover.

8 Sunday | 7:00PM

Director's Circle Dinner: SAAM's annual evening honoring our most dedicated supporters. This year's dinner will also serve as our 2nd Floor Reinstallation celebration. The evening will include a preview of our newly installed second-floor galleries of 18th to early 20th century American art and a featured conversation with acclaimed historian David Blight and Senior Curator Eleanor Jones Harvey. Invitation to follow under separate cover.

12 Thursday | 7:00PM

Director's Circle members are invited to join fellow SAAM donors, Commissioners, and friends of the Renwick to celebrate *Handwork: Contemporary Craft at the Renwick Gallery* at our **opening reception**. Invitation to follow under separate cover.

Dec

8 Tuesday | 6:00PM

Member exclusive - **Annual New Acquisitions Panel.** Hear from SAAM curators and be among the first to learn about the newest additions to SAAM's collection, how the pieces came to the museum, and how they make SAAM's collection a more valuable resource for visitors, scholars and the nation. Invitation to follow under separate cover.

16 Wednesday | 5:30PM

Meet the Staff: Director's Circle members are invited to an informal gathering to meet Lynda Hartigan, the Margaret and Terry Stent Director and learn more about her career leading up to her new role leading the museum. Invitation to follow under separate cover.

Image Credits (Top to Bottom): Penny Wolin, *Jackalopes*, *Cowboys and Coalmines: A Photographic Survey of Energy Development in Wyoming* (detail), 1979, gelatin silver print. Albert Bierstadt, *Among the Sierra Nevada, California* (detail), 1868, oil on canvas.

