

HEALING ARTS

featured in the **Munroe-Meyer Institute**



LETTER FROM DIRECTOR OF MUNROE-MEYER INSTITUTE

The Munroe-Meyer Institute (MMI) is a place for healing — not only physically, but also emotionally — for our patients, clients and families. In the institute’s holistic approach to healing, the importance of art is not underestimated.

Art helps everyone who enters our doors as they strive to reach their full potential. It lifts spirits and creates feelings of wonder and joy.

Our new facility was created with this in mind. Art abounds at the new home of the MMI, and in this brochure, we showcase some of our favorite pieces — the magnificent kinetic sculptures that greet our visitors, the stunning photographs of landscapes, the splendid paintings of renowned artists and the marvelous pieces of mixed media artistic creations.

These artworks and the others you will find throughout MMI remind our patient families, visitors and providers alike that we all share a common set of values, and art is way to come together to celebrate our humanity.

Welcome to the Healing Arts collection at MMI. Let your spirit soar with us!

Karoly Mirnics, MD, PhD
Director, Munroe-Meyer Institute
UNMC



LETTER FROM DIRECTOR OF HEALING ARTS

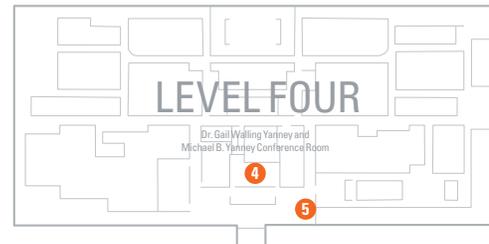
The field of arts in health care has been expanding for the past 25 years. Today, approximately half of all accredited health care institutions in the United States offer arts programs. Having art as part of the design of a building creates a compassionate, supportive and inspirational environment for all who may be patients, as well as families, caregivers, staff and visitors.

Through artistic and aesthetic experiences, the Healing Arts Program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) recognizes that the arts are intrinsic to wellness and healing. This rapidly growing field integrates a variety of art forms into the health care and community settings for therapeutic, educational and expressive purposes.

As the executive director of the Healing Arts Program at UNMC and Nebraska Medicine, I'm very proud to be a part of a community that takes the holistic approach to healing: mind, body and soul. This brochure takes you through the highlights of the permanent art collection at MMI. It was an honor to collaborate with the staff at MMI to find artworks that not only honored their mission but enhanced the environment where they provide critical services to their patient population. The goal of the artwork commissioned and selected for MMI is to be inviting, joyful, whimsical, accessible and exciting for all ages and development levels. As the building's theme is "soaring," the artwork reflects that in its subject matter focused on grasses, flowers, insects, birds and clouds.

Amy E. Jenson
Executive Director, Healing Arts Program
UNMC/Nebraska Medicine

MAP OF FEATURED ARTWORKS



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JOEL AMIT

Flying Love, 2019

Located on Level Two

Joel Amit was born in Jerusalem, Israel in 1982 and has been painting, sculpting and designing from a young age. His passion for creating influenced him to study architecture at the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design in Jerusalem, where he graduated with honors. Following Amit's studies, he relocated to the Negev desert, where he experimented with a wide range of building materials. Amit's interest in new materials did not stop there, and soon he began imagining ways to utilize small scraps of unclaimed metal in large-scale structures and projects. Over time, Amit developed his extraordinary style that he is known for today.

Amit starts each of his sculptures by creating a detailed drawing and rendering of his ideas. The details are mapped out for each composition, including the positions of each individual metal component along with the color composition and location of each splatter of paint that adorns much of his work. Every piece of metal has a different shape, and each are individually manipulated by hand to give each composition life. As the light changes, each metal shape casts a unique reflection against the baseboard to give his seemingly stationary sculptures a sense of movement and fluidity. The small metal components that make up *Flying Love* are raised from the background at varying heights in order to give the three-dimensional illusion of butterflies swarming. Through his techniques, Amit achieves a sense of depth in space that exceeds the layers of simple painted metal. It is as though the butterflies will disperse at the slightest touch and take to the air.

For more information on Joel Amit, visit gefenfineart.com





MICHAEL FORSBERG

Blazing Star and Tallgrass, Audubon Spring Creek Prairie, near Denton, Nebraska, 2017
Agate, Agate Fossil Beds National Monument, Nebraska, 1997
Monarch Highway, Audubon Spring Creek Prairie, near Denton, Nebraska, 2020
Blue Creek, Nebraska Sandhills, Garden County, Nebraska, 2005

Located on Level One in the Warren G. Sanger Conference Center

Michael Forsberg is a Nebraska native whose 25-year career as a photographer and conservationist has been dedicated to wildlife and conservation stories in North America's Great Plains, once one of the greatest grassland ecosystems on Earth. These four photographs are from the Great Plains of Nebraska. Forsberg's images have been featured in publications including *Audubon*, *National Geographic*, *Nature Conservancy* and *Outdoor Photographer* magazines.

In 2011, Forsberg co-founded the Platte Basin Timelapse project (PBT) in partnership with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) and Michael Farrell Photography and Fine Art. Today, it operates as a long-term multimedia documentary project to inform scientific research, build education content and tell stories of a Great Plains watershed in motion. A documentary film for PBS, titled *Follow the Water*, based on the project and Forsberg's travels across the Platte Basin watershed, was released on PBS nationally in 2019.

In 2017, Forsberg received the Ansel Adams Award for Conservation Photography from the Sierra Club in Washington, D.C., and the *Environmental Impact Award* from the North American Nature Photography Association. Also in 2017, his image of sandhill cranes on the Platte River was selected to illustrate USPS's Forever stamp celebrating Nebraska's 150 years of statehood.

Forsberg serves as faculty at UNL and is a Fellow with the Center for Great Plains Studies and the Daugherty Water for Food Institute. He is also a Senior Fellow with the International League of Conservation Photographers and represented by the National Geographic Image Collection.

For more information on Michael Forsberg visit michaelforsberg.com

ANTHONY HOWE

Soar, 2017

Generous Gift in honor of Ruth Scott

Located outside on the southeast corner of the Munroe-Meyer Institute

Waterfall, 2018

Gift of Bob and Myrna Krohn

Located outside the main entrance of the Munroe-Meyer Institute

Washington-based artist Anthony Howe has mesmerized viewers for nearly a decade with towering kinetic sculptures that twist and turn with hypnotic motion. Weighing hundreds of pounds, the hefty artworks are activated with even the slightest breeze and resemble otherworldly organisms, four-legged creatures and mechanisms as they coil in the wind. Characterized by an aesthetic of harmonious moving shapes and an unparalleled elegance of line, these works seem to come alive when the wind rises. Elements flutter, whirl and twirl in mesmerizing movements that highlight Howe's expert ability to convey effortless motion through meticulous engineering and crafting. Because his sculptures move with such fluidity, they appear to float in the wind.

These kinetic sculptures are made from stainless steel and fiberglass, which are bent, contorted and hammered into lightweight curvilinear pieces. Howe's creative flair, combined with an evident knowledge of physical and mechanical engineering, generates highly suggestive works of art that express, in a contemporary way, that yearning for life inspired by the harmony of nature and its fundamental forces.

Howe notably designed the cauldrons and an accompanying kinetic sculpture for the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio, Brazil.

For more information about Anthony Howe visit howe-art.net





ANDREW PETERS

All Hallows Eve, 2019

Located on Level Four in the Dr. Gail Walling Yanney and Michael B. Yanney Conference Room

Andrew Peters' paintings are the result of a life spent in nature. Growing up in Council Bluffs, Iowa, he often went hunting and fishing with his father in the Missouri River Valley. At nearby Fontenelle Forest, he was mentored in ecology by naturalist James Malkowski. He drew birds from life and Audubon prints. Peters earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Iowa State University in wildlife biology with a minor in art. After graduation, he began a freelance career painting birds and won the Iowa Duck Stamp competition at the age of 22, which launched his fine art career. The Joslyn Art Museum provided Peters with his earliest art lessons and the complete collection of original watercolors by Karl Bodmer, which kindled his passion for travel and painting onsite. His plein air paintings faithfully capture light and beauty from life. Peters' paintings have been exhibited in the Cincinnati Museum Center, the Autry Museum, the Denver History Museum, the National Museum of Wildlife Art, the Joslyn Art Museum and the National Cowboy Museum.

For more information about Andrew Peters, visit andrewpetersart.com



JENNIFER RADIL

Phoenix Ascendant, 2021

Commissioned in memory of Bruce A. Buehler, MD

Located on Level Four

Jennifer Radil is a mixed media artist working out of her studio in North Downtown, Omaha. For Radil, creating art is about connecting with nature, celebrating the handmade process and experiencing a sense of wholeness. In an increasingly noisy world, she seeks balance and quietude in her expressions.

A Nebraska native, Radil completed her graduate studies in art therapy at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. In 2018, she completed her first artist residency at the Santa Fe Art Institute. Radil is honored to create an artwork for MMI, having worked as a teaching artist at MMI and experienced its inclusive and engaging atmosphere. As an artist with a disability, she finds it especially meaningful to have her art featured here..

In *Phoenix Ascendant*, a phoenix is pictured mid-flight. The phoenix's story of continuous renewal is a powerful one, and its flaming wings signal that the magical bird will soon be engulfed in fire. Across cultures, the phoenix is described as brilliantly colored, and its teal, blue and violet feathers contrast the radiant fire and red and maroon plumes of smoke in the background. Handmade paper and vintage map fragments, a signature of Radil's work, are collaged into the feathers. The layers of materials and forms merge, creating a tapestry.

For more information on Jennifer Radil visit jenniferradilstudio.com





CALMAN SHEMI

Butterflies Parade, 2020

Located on Level One

Calman Shemi was born in Mendoza, Argentina in 1939. Upon graduating from the School of Sculpture and Ceramics in Mendoza, he began working in ceramics and sculpture. At age 20, Shemi immigrated to Kibbutz Carmia, where he lived and worked for the next 20 years, working as a sculptor with wood and clay. Though sculpture dominated his early artistic career, in 1977 Shemi began challenging himself with new artistic mediums and methods, focusing on painting. He has since developed several original techniques of painting, including “lacquer paintings,” “soft paintings” and “window paintings.” Over the last two decades, Shemi has had more than 70 solo exhibitions in the United States, Belgium, Spain, Germany, Japan, France and the Middle East.

Butterflies Parade is an example of Shemi’s lacquer painting technique. This artwork is composed of colorful paints on a metal panel with an understated ivory background. After the paints were completely dry, Shemi applied layer after layer of lacquer to the surface to give it a glowing effect. Between each coat of lacquer, he hand polished the piece to make the surface shine. Shemi’s artwork is a celebration of color, expression and innovation.



THERMAN STATOM

Volar a la luz (Flying to Light), 2021

Located in the atrium

This suspended sculpture consists of a flock of 28 brightly colored birds that are made of plate aluminum. Statom considers this work to be a three-dimensional painting. Each bird was painted individually by the artist. Multiple surface treatments and techniques of painting, sandblasting, anodizing and grinding were utilized on the coloring of the birds, and no bird is pigmented or surfaced the same. Statom instills light, reflection, color and the movement implied by a flock's substructure to engage the viewer in an instinctive interaction of discovery and imagination.

Born in Winter Haven, Florida in 1953, Statom spent his adolescence growing up in Washington, D.C. His interest in the arts grew from a fondness of painting, and he began to investigate ceramics at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD). However, after an experimental glass blowing session with Dale Chihuly, he was soon hooked on the spontaneity of glass blowing and its limitless possibilities. Statom went on to pursue studies at Pilchuck Glass School during its inaugural year, completing a BFA in 1974 from RISD, and later studied at the Pratt Institute of Art & Design. In his later career, Statom has been focused on the importance of educational programming within the arts. His inclusion in the collection at the MMI has led to a relationship with its recreation therapy department. At MMI, he guides art workshops with clientele to inspire creativity and self-discovery regardless of inhibitions and limitations.

For more information on Therman Statom visit thermanstatom.com





Dali' Arena Serie Blanca #8



Dali' Arena Serie Blanca #9

THERMAN STATOM

Dali' Arena Serie Blanca #9, 2009 – 14

Dali' Arena Serie Blanca #1, 2009 – 14

Dali' Arena Serie Blanca #8, 2009 – 14

Dali' Arena Serie Blanca #4, 2009 – 14

Dali' Arena Serie Blanca #12, 2009 – 14

Given in honor of Sarah Bay Yale by The Healing Arts Committee 2021

Located on Level Two, Holland Foundation Early Intervention Wing waiting room

Therman Statom is an Omaha sculptor, glass artist and painter. He is most notably known as a pioneer in the contemporary glass movement. These five works are from his *Arena Blanca* series of constructed box-like paintings. Statom created these works through the technique of gluing glass plates together. Sandblasted surfaces become a canvas for spontaneous paintings of vibrant colors, which take nuances from Abstract Expressionism and concepts of Minimalism. A master of assemblage, he simultaneously incorporates blown-glass elements and found objects to create juxtaposition and unique combinations.

Statom's professional career includes exhibitions at major American and international museums. He has also completed public commissions in Los Angeles and San Jose, California, and has work in numerous collections, among them the Afro-American Museum, Los Angeles; Detroit Institute of Fine Arts; Toledo Museum of Art; Oakland Museum, California; High Museum of Art, Atlanta; and Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

For more information on Therman Statom visit thermanstatom.com

SAGE VAUGHN

Nebraska Wildflowers, 2021

Purchased in accordance with Nebraska's 1% for Art Program

Located on Level Three

Sage Vaughn is an American artist best known for his graphic, collage-like paintings. Born in Oregon but raised in the San Fernando Valley, Vaughn first learned to draw with the help of his father, a commercial artist for Disney. He creates narratives through overlaying depictions of the natural world atop vast settings. Vaughn's work incorporates aesthetics common in street art, such as drips, spraying and stencils. Largely self-taught, his work has been featured in exhibitions in New York City, Geneva, London, Los Angeles, and Belgium. Vaughn's works can be found in the collections of Facebook, Amazon, Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and the University of Oregon.

In *Nebraska Wildflowers*, the surreal landscape utilizes the mechanism of perspective and detail to evoke within the viewer a sense of altered awareness. The subtle illusion of distance is created through poured layers of crystal-clear resin. The minutia of endless detail mimics the countless fascinating features of being present and perceptive in a natural setting. Interspersed among the vast variety of wildflowers are certain species endemic to the Nebraska environment: 17 wood roses, three cone flowers, four mexican hats, 22 prairie cone flowers, 12 sunflowers, and four Queen Anne's laces. There are also 23 different mushrooms, two snails and a mouse. These synthesized elements simulate a feeling of pastoral vastness juxtaposed by the interior setting.

For more information on Sage Vaughn visit sagevaughn.com





SAGE VAUGHN

Ring Cycle, 2021

Purchased in accordance with Nebraska's 1% for Art Program

Located on Level Two

Inspired by Wagner's monolithic work, *The Ring Cycle*, this piece of the same title takes distinct natural elements and composes something synthetic. This new creation radiates more power than the individual parts alone. In the first act of *The Ring Cycle* opera, a dwarf dives to the bottom of the Rhine River and steals gold from the Rhine maidens. From the gold, he forges a ring that all the characters fight, love and die over for the remaining 28 hours of the performance. In this work, wildflowers and butterflies are forged to create a similar form. The beauty and fragility of these elements circle, intending to draw the viewer in.

For more information on Sage Vaughn visit sagevaughn.com



LISA WORRALL

A Place Where Everyone Belongs, 2020
Gift of the Munroe-Meyer Institute Guild

Located on Level One Recreational Therapy

Lisa Worrall is a greeting card designer, a paper artist and owner of Iddy Biddy Boo Design. A proud Nebraskan, she retired from teaching after 36 years in the classroom, teaching special education and first grade. A self-taught artist, in 2008 Worrall began experimenting with cut paper for a Christmas card design. It was so well received that she developed a unique cut-paper style. Worrall is inspired by special people, places and moments in her life.

While in high school, Worrall worked as a volunteer at Camp Munroe. That experience shaped her life and inspired her to work with people with disabilities. This hand-crafted shadowbox demonstrates Worrall's love of color, contrast and texture. The portraits in this work were created from photographs of individuals from MMI and students from Worrall's teaching career. It also features flowers created by MMI recreational therapy clients at workshops with Worrall. Worrall hand painted the frame with a whimsical and colorful design.

Worrall's Iddy Biddy Boo Design greeting cards and other artwork can be found at gift shops and specialty stores around Omaha, and her work has been shown at North Carolina's Biltmore Estate. Prints and cards of this artwork are available for sale in the MMI gift shop.

For more information on Lisa Worrall visit iddybiddyboodesign.com





Gabriel Boylan / Meghan Stevens, *Pinus Strobus 1 & 2*



Kristin Pluhacek, *Peony Explosion*



Thomas Prinz, *Blue Orange Blue 1*



Karen Kunc, *Fire Formed, River Washed*

FEATURED NEBRASKA ARTISTS

The collection of works at MMI features several Nebraska artists, including Dan Boylan, Gabriel Boylan, Joseph Broghammer, Dan Crane, Betni Kalk, Karen Kunc, Kristin Pluhacek, Thomas Prinz, Jeffrey Spencer and Meghan Stevens. These artists were chosen as they reflect the unique art community of Nebraska and for their representations of the natural world. Each of these artists embodies a distinct form of expression. Ranging from realism to abstraction, some of the works feature the artists' signature subjects, while other works reflect new explorations by the artists. Together these artworks of landscapes, flowers, trees, birds, insects, water, seasons and nature provide inspiration and calm.



RECREATIONAL THERAPY AND ADVOCACY OF THE ARTS GALLERY

Located on Level Two

The gallery located in the pool and gym overlook showcases artworks created by clients participating in MMI Recreational Therapy and Advocacy of the Arts programs. The Recreational Therapy Department uses play, recreation and leisure activities to improve physical, cognitive, social and emotional functioning. Advocacy of the Arts is an arts-based advocacy and independent living skills program for transition-aged students and young adults. Having an outlet to participate in the arts provides inclusive and accessible leisure activities that are important to health and wellness and transform the lives of individuals with disabilities and complex health care needs.



HEALING ARTS PROGRAM

Mission

The Healing Arts Program engages patients, caregivers, staff and students to heal through the arts.

Vision

The Healing Arts Program's vision is to:

- Educate and build community awareness encompassing the arts, health and medicine
- Create an environment promoting healing and humanizing the hospital experience by providing visual, performing and therapeutic arts experiences
- Integrate and enhance our evidence-based experiences within UNMC/Nebraska Medicine through the arts

If you would like more information about the Healing Arts Program at UNMC/Nebraska Medicine, please visit NebraskaMed.com/Healingarts or email healingarts@unmc.edu

MUNROE-MEYER INSTITUTE

Mission

To be world leaders in transforming the lives of all individuals with disabilities and complex health care needs, their families and the community through outreach, engagement, premier educational programs, innovative research and extraordinary patient care.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Your thoughtful consideration of a gift to support the UNMC/Nebraska Medicine Healing Arts Program and the Munroe-Meyer Institute is greatly appreciated.

To make a donation, please visit

- nufoundation.org/FPBCCHealingArts
- nufoundation.org/give/university-of-nebraska-medical-center/munroe-meyer/

Or send your check, made payable to
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