

Fall 2024

Welcome to an Amazing Season for the Art League and Amazing 100 Year Celebration at the KIA!

The first thing you need to do after reading this is put **save the dates** on your calendar for all the dates in the upcoming Art League lecture series which is described further down in this missive. You will not want to miss any of these exciting lectures.

Be sure get the next two on your must-see list--our lecture at 7pm on September 18 with Richard Phillips, *Strokes of Freedom*, in which Richard talks about the ability to find beauty and paint while wrongly incarcerated for 46 years; a remarkable man and a remarkable presentation. The lecture following that is on October 9th and is a presentation by *New Yorker* writer and author Patrick Bringley who worked as a guard at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and wrote *All the Beauty in the World* about his experiences.

After you have scheduled these two and all the other Art League lectures, consider signing up on our website for our upcoming depARTures tour to Cranbrook; sure to be a great art trip. Check out our website, while you are at it.

After all that scheduling, make sure your Art League and KIA memberships are current. Your support is vital to our providing these presentations and we all need to support the arts, Art League, and KIA.

Speaking of support, if you are able, consider donating to Art League in addition to renewing your membership. This option is available as a part of paper and web-based sign-up. Please give what you can. While you are in the giving mood, also consider giving your time. We are looking for volunteers to add to standing committees and to help with putting on our programs. We promise you will meet interesting people and have an enjoyable time.

Finally, please read all the information that follows and get involved with us and the KIA. Art is life. Do not hesitate to volunteer, ask questions, or just comment.

Sincerely,

Jim Rojeski, President, Kalamazoo Art League



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LAST CALL - YOU HAVE JUST A COUPLE OF DAYS TO JOIN US ON THIS AMAZING TRIP!!!

October 10, 2024 depARTure Tour - *Toshiko Takaezu: Worlds Within* at the Cranbrook Art Museum. RSVP & payment due by September 6, Limited to 40 guests.

Cranbrook is a unique institution in the world of art! Join us for a staff led tour of *Toshiko Takaezu: Worlds Within* as well as a chance to explore the museum and grounds.

Toshiko Takaezu was a ground-breaking artist who combined inspirations from her own cultural background with currents from contemporary painting and sculpture to change the world of ceramics. Along the way she became revered by collectors, colleagues, and students alike.

This retrospective spans over five decades and includes about 200 works in ceramics along with paintings, weavings and bronze-cast sculptures. Included are functional wares Takaezu produced as a student in Hawaii, where she was born to Japanese émigré parents, her highly experimental and organic “closed” forms, and the monumental cylindrical sculptures that she grouped in immersive installations.

Also included: A special visit to the museum’s storage vault, self-guided outdoor sculpture tour, lunch, and snacks en route. We will travel by motor coach, departing from and returning to the KIA.

Please Note:

- This trip is offered in collaboration with the KIA Kirk Newman Art School Ceramics Department. Fall 2024 adult ceramics students are eligible for special pricing noted below.
- Your registration will be confirmed, and travel details shared by phone or email when minimum enrollment is reached.
- Refunds are issued only if someone on our Waiting List can replace you. Notify 248-914-1911 ASAP if you must cancel.

Cost: Art League member \$167; KNAS ceramics student \$170; KIA member \$187; non-member \$217

Payment by check is preferred. Make check(s) payable to ***Kalamazoo Art League***, and mail with this PDF [Registration Form](#) to:

Kalamazoo Art League depARTure, c/o Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, 314 S. Park St, Kalamazoo, MI, 49007



Coming Speakers



Richard Phillips, Artist & Poet

Strokes of Freedom

September 18, 7 p.m.

Reception to follow

A self-taught artist, Phillips started painting while wrongfully incarcerated for 46 years. He created over 400 paintings – “Art is what I did to stay sane...” Today, collectors and viewers appreciate the beauty he created throughout those long decades. Mr. Phillips will be featured in several interviews and speaking with students while he is in Kalamazoo. He is also bringing several of his paintings for you to enjoy at the lecture.

We expect an unusually large crowd for this speaker. Please be sure to come early to check in!!



Patrick Bringley, NYT Best Selling Author

All the Beauty in the World: The Metropolitan Museum and Me

October 9, 7 p.m.

Reception to follow

Discover the hidden secrets of the Metropolitan Museum of Art from MET guard and best-selling author Patrick Bringley. *All the Beauty in the World: The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Me* is a surprising, inspiring portrait of a great museum, its hidden treasures, and the people who make it tick, by one of its most intimate observers.

Following the death of his brother, Bringley left his job at *The New Yorker* for "the most straightforward job I could think of in the most beautiful place I knew", a job that promised room to grieve and reflect. As NPR said "... *All the Beauty in the World* reminds us of the importance of learning not 'about art, but from it.' This is art appreciation at a profound level."

The KIA Gift Shop has copies of Patrick Bringley's book—*All the Beauty in the World*. You can also find this wonderful book at **This is a Bookstore** and online. Mr. Bringley will be signing books after his lecture on October 9. Several book clubs in Kalamazoo are reading this book in

anticipation of Patrick's visit to Kalamazoo. In addition, Art League and the Kalamazoo Public Library has partnered to offer a workshop on October 8. (see below)

Tuesday, October 8, 2024 2-4 pm - *All the Beauty in the World: Art and Healing* /Oshtemo Branch/Community Room Join us for a hands-on workshop with art therapists and a retired physician to experience the power of art in coping with life's challenges. Registration required at kpl.gov/events.

October 9, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts

Book Discussion: *All the Beauty in the World: The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Me*.

We expect an unusually large crowd for this speaker. Please be sure to come early to check in!!



Dr. Brian Stewart, Professor of Archeology

Art as Adaptation: San Graphic Traditions in Evolutionary Perspective

November 13, 10 a.m.



Southern Africa is home to some of the world's oldest and richest graphic art traditions. Dr. Stewart's archeological research offers insights and new understanding of the importance of art to Homo sapiens' evolutionary success.



Holiday Coffee December 11, 2024 10:30am
You will receive an email invitation with RSVP info--\$5



Come back and see us in March, April and May for more exciting and interesting lectures!

March 12, 2025 / 10 am Abbas Daneshvari: ***American and European Art in the Crucible of Postmodernism***

April 9, 2025 / 10 am Mary Brodbeck: ***Woodblock Printmaker-Influences and Evolution***

May 14, 2025 / 7 pm NOTICE CORRECTED DATE FROM POSTCARD (not May 16) Erica Lord: ***The Codes We Carry***



EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS AT THE KIA		
Museum Hours Wednesday through Saturday: 11am to 5pm Sunday: 12pm to 4pm		
Legendary Voices: Art for the next Century Sept. 7, 2024-Feb. 16, 2025		Powerful Voices: Legends, Rituals, and Warriors in East Asian Art Sept. 14, 2024-January 19, 2025
Art Breaks 12:00-1:00pm Sept. 1 & 24 Oct. 8, 22, 29		Gallery Gatherings 5:30-6:00pm Sept. 5 & Oct. 3

Thank you!!



The Art League Board of Directors wishes to thank the following members for donations that they made to the league’s Programs Fund in the past four months:

- Carole Cupps
- Randy & Diane Eberts
- Alice Gordon
- Norman Jung
- Joe & Linda Kanamueller
- Sue Kovats
- Donna Lambert
- Joy Light
- Betty Mason Upjohn

- Stephanie Robinson
- James Rojeski
- Ruth Rowe
- Elaine Seaman
- Paula Shelhamer
- Doreen Thomas
- Nancy Troff
- Anne Van Giessen

We greatly appreciate the generosity and support that has been shown! These contributions will play a big part in enabling us to meet the expenses that will be involved in bringing an outstanding array of speakers to Kalamazoo for our 2024-2025 lecture series.

