

NEWS RELEASE



Montclair Art Museum

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For Immediate Release

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**THE MONTCLAIR ART MUSEUM OPENS CERAMICS STUDIO
Classes Begin in January at MAM's Yard School of Art**

MONTCLAIR, NJ, November 11, 2010—The Montclair Art Museum (MAM) announced today that it is opening a fully-equipped ceramics studio, with classes beginning in the winter 2011 session of its Yard School of Art. The ceramics studio—made possible by a generous donation from the Vance Wall Foundation—is the only resource of its kind in New Jersey offered at a museum and adds significantly to the range of courses that MAM's Yard School of Art provides.

All equipment and supplies needed to create pottery will be available, including six potter's wheels and two kilns; glazes, clay, and other materials will be included in tuition. Classes will be offered year round at all levels (beginning, intermediate, advanced) and to all ages (kids, teens, adults). Classes will be kept small—10-12 students maximum—to ensure individual attention, and will be taught by experienced faculty who are working artists. To make room for the studio, MAM completely renovated the lower level of its administration building.

Lora Urbanelli, director of the Montclair Art Museum, said: "The addition of the ceramics studio considerably expands what we're able to offer the community, in terms of both the curriculum of our Yard School of Art and all our education programming. And what also makes it special is that it's housed in a museum that has a fine collection of Native American pottery, from which students can draw inspiration. It's been a long-held dream by the Museum—especially by our very dedicated art school faculty—and by many of our friends in the community to build a facility like this, and we're deeply grateful to the Vance Wall Foundation for recognizing its value and supporting this dream."

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Ceramics classes offered this winter cover a variety of topics, from wheel throwing and hand building to glazing techniques and surface decoration to glass fusing. Students will create both functional and decorative objects, such as plates, bowls, vases, cups, and more. All art classes for winter session begin the week of January 10; members' priority registration runs Monday, November 29 – Sunday, December 5, and open registration begins Monday, December 6. Space is limited and students are advised to register early. Course descriptions, fees, and more information are available online at montclairartmuseum.org or by calling the MAM Yard School of Art at 973-259-5139.

About the Museum

The Montclair Art Museum, a notable, community-based institution with an international reputation, boasts a renowned collection of American and Native American art that uniquely highlights art making in the United States over the last three hundred years. The collection includes more than 12,000 objects: paintings, prints, original works on paper, photographs, and sculpture by American artists from the 18th century to the present, as well as traditional and contemporary Native American art and artifacts representing the cultural developments of peoples from all of the major American Indian regions. MAM's Yard School of Art is the leading regional art school, offering a multitude of comprehensive courses for children, teens, adults, seniors, and professional artists.

The Montclair Art Museum is located at 3 South Mountain Avenue in Montclair, N.J. Information and directions are available on the Museum website, montclairartmuseum.org, or by calling 973-746-5555. MAM is open Wednesdays through Sundays, Noon – 5 p.m., and closed on Mondays, Tuesdays, and major holidays. Museum admission is \$12 for nonmember adults, \$10 for senior citizens and students with I.D., and free for members and children under 12.

All Museum programs are made possible, in part, by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and by funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Vance Wall Foundation, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, Arts Consulting Group, and Museum Members.

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