



For Immediate Release:  
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## MMOCA ART & GIFT FAIR - DETAILS UNVEILED

Original Art and Fine Craft, Gourmet and Indulgent Gifts,  
Entertainment, Creative Experiences and Design Inspiration

Saturday, November 16, 2019 (10 am–6 pm)  
Sunday, November 17, 2019 (10 am–4 pm)

MADISON, WI—A beloved seasonal tradition, the MMoCA Art & Gift Fair gathers high quality craft and fine art, small-batch and gourmet food purveyors, local performers, and holiday shoppers for a fun-filled weekend of shopping that supports the arts and small businesses. A fundraising event supporting the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art (MMoCA), this event will take place on Saturday, November 16 and Sunday, November 17, two weeks before Thanksgiving to kick-off the holiday season.

This year's MMoCA Art & Gift Fair will showcase the latest work by over 70 carefully selected artists. Guests can talk with the artists and craftspeople with wine or a warm beverage in hand. Arranged throughout the gorgeous spaces of MMoCA and the Overture Center for the Arts, this family-friendly event offers relaxed shopping at nearly 100 booths filled with art, fine craft, gourmet food, and specialty gifts; wine and delicious beverages at cash bars; live music, dance performances, and other festive experiences for the whole family. To add to the merriment, the MMoCA Art &

Gift Fair will once again kick off Shine on Madison, the annual downtown holiday celebration, which includes an outdoor market, light displays, and more.

This year's MMoCA Art & Gift Fair will offer creative demonstrations, such as hand-made holiday cards and creating a luscious appetizer board. Fresco Rooftop Restaurant will offer Tom and Jerry cocktail demonstrations, a curated selection of wines, and other delicious offerings in the MMoCA Lobby. Catering a Fresco will offer a range of refreshments throughout the Overture Center. Friends, families and individuals can appreciate art and enjoy shopping with a libation in hand and lively entertainment interludes. The fair weekend begins with the Bubbly Brunch, a scrumptious add-on event taking place in the Fresco Rooftop Restaurant on Saturday, November 16 from 9-10:30 am.

Favorite MMoCA Art & Gift Fair features return such as the Silent Auction, Gourmet Galleries, and the Rediscovered Treasures & Art Sale. Also included will be a designer vignette, a holiday selfie booth, as well as more seasonal inspiration and ideas than ever before.

Guests of the MMoCA Art & Gift Fair are making an important statement and contribution. This event helps MMoCA maintain free museum admission and education programs. Additionally, purchases support artists, craftspeople, and small businesses who are predominately local and regional. A signature MMoCA fundraiser creates an important marketplace for the work of artists and craftspeople. In addition to helping the arts in our community thrive, MMoCA Art & Gift Fair is also a driver of the local economy, drawing people to downtown Madison for shopping and dining.

## EVENT DETAILS

### Hours and Admission

Saturday, November 16 · 10 am–6 pm

Sunday, November 17 · 10 am–4 pm

General admission at the door is \$6; children under 12 are admitted free. Tickets may be purchased in advance online for \$5 at [www.mmoca.org/tickets](http://www.mmoca.org/tickets).

## Artists: the Heart of the Fair

To ensure a range of high quality art and craft, artists selected for the 2019 MMoCA Art & Gift Fair were jury-chosen from nearly 200 applicants. Among the works available to shoppers are jewelry, clothing and accessories, sculpture, paintings, prints, photographs, and fine craft objects. Participating artists demonstrate sophisticated skill across a variety of media, highlights include:

- Glassblower Sharon Fujimoto is the 2019 MMoCA Art & Gift Fair's Featured Artist. Her work includes colorful hand-blown bowls, vases, plates and perfume bottles.
- Nicole and Hill Brin will feature sculptures and wall hangings constructed from recycled steel and inlaid with colorful, handcrafted tiles.
- Chicago based artist Veronica Martens will display her one-of-a-kind jewelry pieces created using ecofriendly materials and hand embroidery.
- Joel Pisowicz's food-safe stoneware pottery pieces explore the boundaries between the aesthetic and the utilitarian. These wheel thrown and glazed vessels are smartly designed to be both functional and decorative.
- Paul Borucki's photographs—which range widely from street scenes to atmospheric forest paths—are carefully manipulated to create a final works that evoke particular feelings and emotions from viewers.
- Using kiln heated glass, Sue Kershner creates three-dimensional and fused glassworks that feature flowers, butterflies, dragonflies, and more.

Art and craft lovers can also preview works by all of the participating artists and create their own must-have lists in advance of the fair at [mmoca.org](http://mmoca.org). The information will be available as of November 5, at [mmoca.org/magf](http://mmoca.org/magf).

## Featured Artist

Glass blower Sharon Fujimoto has been named the 2019 MMoCA Art & Gift Fair's Featured Artist. Fujimoto creates her one-of-a-kind glass works using a combination of hand- and mouth-blowing techniques. She designs and makes all of her pieces independently, without outside help in the process. Fujimoto says, "I believe in the simplicity of form and color and the fact that "accidents" are a beautiful thing. I am not the "master" of my medium. I simply go with the flow of the process as a witness, a participant and a supervisor." She hopes that her pieces will "endure current trends and fads," and make a connection with those who view them.

The featured artwork, *Celadon Vase*, will be on view and open for bidding in the MMoCA Art & Gift Fair's Silent Auction during the fair.

## **Gourmet Food and Specialty Vendors**

The 2019 MMoCA Art & Gift Fair will feature over 20 Gourmet Gallery and specialty product makers with a wide selection of indulgent treats, including handcrafted caramels from Cream City Caramels; sustainably harvested wild seafood from Sitka Salmon Shares; delicious chocolates and nuts from The Nutman; and hand-crafted croissants, small batch preserves, and confections from Sweet Jacqueline. The galleries also include specialty items like hand-crafted natural goods for the body and home by Perfection Imperfections to essentials oils and spa products from WavyVine. This is the perfect opportunity to treat someone (or yourself) to one-of-kind gifts – just in-time for the holiday season!

## **Designer Vignette, Reading Nook and Holiday Photo Booth**

MMoCA Art & Gift Fair shoppers can borrow ideas for making their homes more artful by viewing a vignette styled featuring art by exhibiting artists. Fairgoers can take selfies or snap a fun family picture for holiday cards at a holiday-themed photo booth. Young guests will love listening to a wintery tale and button making in the Reading Nook.

## **Silent Auction and the Rediscovered Treasures & Art Sale**

MMoCA Art & Gift Fair shoppers can bid on artworks from some of the exhibiting artists in the Silent Auction room, or unearth great finds in the Rediscovered Treasures & Art Sale. Located on the lower level of the Overture Center for the Arts, the silent auction features donated works from dozens of participating artists and vendors. In the always popular Rediscovered Treasures & Art Sale, shoppers will find a treasure trove of preowned original art, jewelry, small antiques, decorative art, prized collectibles, books, and other artful items. Proceeds from the auction and the sale directly support MMoCA.

## **Bubbly Brunch – Saturday November 16, 2019, 9-10:30 am**

Champagne, Mimosas and fresh fare at Fresco all create a cheerful atmosphere at the Bubbly Brunch. At the Bubbly Brunch guests will enjoy French toast with twist – a

blueberry compote with mascarpone topping, along with fruit and bacon served family style. The event will be accompanied by seasonal music, table prizes, and includes admission to shop the nearly 100 booths of art, fine craft, and gourmet gifts at the MMoCA Art & Gift Fair.

Reservations for the Bubbly Brunch are \$40. Guest names will be held at the MMoCA Lobby, 227 State Street.

Tickets may be purchased online by visiting [www.mmoca.org/tickets](http://www.mmoca.org/tickets). Reservations will be held in the MMoCA Lobby at 227 State Street, Madison, WI, 53703.

## 2019 MMoCA Art & Gift Fair Entertainment Schedule

Shoppers will enjoy live entertainment from area arts organizations and musicians throughout MMoCA and Overture Center spaces.

### Saturday, November 16

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 10:00-10:45 am | Mad City Funk, Rotunda Stage  |
| 10:15-Noon     | Isabel Coff, MMoCA Lobby  |
| 10:15-11:00 am | Madison Ballet's "Living Sculptures" stationed in the Overture's Promenade Lounge, MMoCA's State Street Gallery and lobby staircase. Characters "Nutcracker" and "Plum" in the Reading Nook near the Henry Street entrance. |
| 11:15 am-Noon  | Arts for All Madison Choir, Rotunda Stage   |
| 12:15-2:00 pm  | Katrina Harms, MMoCA Lobby  |
| 2:15-3:00 pm   | Stairwell Music, MMoCA Lobby  |
| 3:15-4:00 pm   | Tangled Up in Blue, MMoCA Lobby   |
| 4:15-5:45 pm   | Shekinah King, MMoCA Lobby  |

## Sunday, November 17

- 10:15–11:00 am Kanopy Dance, Rotunda Stage
- 10:15–11:00 am Madison Ballet’s “Living Sculptures” stationed in the Overture’s Promenade Lounge, MMoCA’s State Street Gallery and lobby staircase. Characters “Nutcracker” and “Plum” in the Reading Nook near the Henry Street entrance.
- 10:15 am–Noon Noah James Hittner, MMoCA Lobby
- 11:15 am–Noon Stoughton High School Norwegian Dancers, Rotunda Stage
- 12:15–1:00 pm Hypheria, MMoCA Lobby
- 1:15–3:00 pm Skylah’s Lyrik, MMoCA Lobby
- 3:15–3:45 pm Stairwell Music, MMoCA Lobby

## Sponsors

To date, the 2019 MMoCA Art & Gift Fair has been generously sponsored by Custer Plumb Financial Services; Robert and Dianne Gomez; Neckerman Insurance Services; Fresco Rooftop Restaurant; and Think Ink & Design; with additional media support from Isthmus; Magic 98; and Wisconsin Public Radio.

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Housed in a soaring, Cesar Pelli-designed building, the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art provides free exhibitions and education programs that engage people in modern and contemporary art. The museum’s four galleries offer changing exhibitions that feature established and emerging artists. The Rooftop Sculpture Garden provides an urban oasis with an incredible view. The museum is open: Tuesday through Thursday, noon–5 pm; Friday, noon–8 pm; Saturday, 10 am–8 pm; Sunday, noon–5 pm; and is closed on Mondays.

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