

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Steffen Thomas Museum of Art
(STMA)

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Woman in White Flowered Hat.
Acrylic by Steffen Thomas. 1980ca.
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STMA Arts Outreach Family Workshop Offers Drawing for All

BUCKHEAD – So you think you can't draw. Well think again and just sign up for the next Steffen Thomas Arts Outreach Family Workshop, **Heads Up**, scheduled for Saturday, April 16th from 10AM to noon at the museum. We guarantee you will learn how to draw hat ladies and gentlemen using the Mona Brookes drawing technique known as the Monart Method. The workshop will be taught by Karen Strelecki, STMA Lead Artist and Executive Director of the Madison Artists Guild.

The Monart Method has been taught to thousands of public and private school children. The uniquely designed methodology teaches visual perception and realistic drawing skills on a level never before seen with both young children and adults. According to Karen, "The step-by-step lesson and the class room management techniques that form this fool-proof method work for all participants regardless of their natural abilities."

The method involves training students to recognize that there are five basic families of shapes that combine to form all objects. By learning to view the world through these five elements and how to transcribe the information to paper, everyone, so-called “drawers” and “non-drawers” alike, can learn to become artists in their own right and develop their own unique style. The result is a seemingly impossible artistic growth in students, especially children and the method is guaranteed to overcome the “I can’t draw’ phobia.”

Participants will first have a brief tour of the museum to draw inspiration from Steffen Thomas’s many portraits as well as from the new temporary exhibit – Ladies: Busts and Portraits from Private Collections. Then, using colored pencils and the Monart Method, they will create their own works of art. “And works of art they will be,” Karen said. “I guarantee you’ll be delighted with your very own masterpiece.”

Karen has a BA from West Georgia College and an Associate Degree from the Portfolio Center in Atlanta. She works out of her home studio as an illustrator for publishers and corporations. She also offers unique house portraits.

Admission for the STMA workshop is \$10 adults, \$8 children; STMA members receive a \$2 discount. Those in financial need may attend free of charge. Registration is required. Please call 706-342-7557.

The Steffen Thomas Museum of Art, located at 4200 Bethany Road, Buckhead, is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 AM to 4 PM. For more information and directions, please visit www.steffenthomas.org or call 706-342-7557.

Future STMA workshops include:

May 21st: *Hold Your Horses!* – Pay homage to one of nature’s greatest wonders by drawing and painting horses. The workshop includes a group painting experience using the “Synergy with Art” technique. Taught by renowned Native American artist, Linda Wendell.

June 18th: *The Art of Reverse Painting* – Create spring flower still lifes with this unique “inside/out” form of art. Taught by the daughters and granddaughters of Steffen Thomas.

