

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Steffen Thomas Museum of Art
(STMA)**

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Dan Thoman demonstrates the fine art of woodturning with a lathe to members of the Madison-Morgan County Boys & Girls Club.

Learn to Turn at STMA's Holiday Family Workshop

BUCKHEAD - "To everything there is a season," and now is certainly the time of year for fun and festivities. If you'd like to make your holidays truly special, plan to attend the Steffen Thomas Museum's next family workshop: *Turn, Turn, Turn - Use the fine art of woodturning with a lathe to create your own unique hand-crafted and painted wooden Christmas ornament*. Pre-crafted, unpainted wood ornaments will be available for children and those who chose not to use the lathe.

Well-known wood turner and sculptor, Dan Thoman, and local artist, Linda Thoman, will teach the workshop scheduled for **Saturday, November 14th from 10 AM to noon** at the museum.

The Thomans work out of their Buckhead studio where Dan creates wooden bowls, vases, boxes, puzzles, sculpture and custom-made furniture, while Linda paints with watercolor, acrylics and oils, and makes whimsical stained glass sun catchers and unique tops for Dan's jewelry boxes. The studio was featured on last month's MAD Art Road Trip, a tour sponsored by the Madison Artists Guild to showcase the prolific work of the region's art community.

Linda and Dan both describe themselves as self-taught artists who benefited from a wealth of local tutoring. "I really feel I didn't have any options in choosing a career," Linda said. "I was born an artist into an art family." Her other great passion is the environment. "We're all stewards of this planet," she explained. "Art is a celebration of nature, and we must preserve the environment as both a source of life and art. That's one of the reasons I'm so drawn to the Steffen Thomas Museum. To me, Steffen Thomas was the ultimate environmentalist."

Dan started working on wood, metal and stone sculpture decades ago out of his garage – "a hobby that quickly got out of control," he quipped. He's used a lathe for several years, and describes it as his favorite woodworking tool. "It's great fun to take a single chunk of ordinary wood and make something beautiful out of it," he said. "And with a lathe, the process is so wonderfully festive and dramatic as the wood spins while the artist shapes and carves the piece into recognition."

If you'd like to discover Dan's art, he's offering a free class in woodworking using a lathe. Just call him at 706-342-3156.

The museum's workshop fees are \$8 for adults, \$6 for children; members receive a \$2 discount. Those in financial need may attend free of charge. Reservations are 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 the number listed above.