

STMA ARTS OUTREACH PROGRAM ©

Now in its fourth consecutive year, *STMA's Arts Outreach Program*© continues to offer family workshops to our tri-county community. Based on the countless styles and techniques used by Steffen Thomas, the sessions offer participants the opportunity to express their own ideas using skills taught by local artists. The workshops take place at the museum from 10 AM to noon, one Saturday a month. Please join us for one or all of the future classes listed below.

September 29:

Egg Tempera - Making and using egg tempera to create small paintings. Taught by Peter Muzyka.

October 27:

Plein Air (outdoor) Painting - Learning and using this unique painting technique to complete a small project. Taught by Madison Artist Guild members, Karen Strelecki and Peter Muzyka.

November 10

Exploring Sources of Inspiration in Art with a Native American Theme. Taught by Greensboro artist and Muscogee Creek tribe member, Linda Windell.

Reservations are required; please call 706-342-7557

Fees are \$8 for adults, \$6 for children; STMA members receive a \$2 discount.

STMA thanks the following businesses for their in-kind donations:

Web Site Design: Chris Cook * Madison Studios 706-474-4952 www.madisonstudios.com	Graphic Design: Peg Harvard, Inc. 706-343-1161 www.pegharvard.com	Graphic Design: Peter Muzyka 706-342-0745 www.petermuzyka.com	Technical Support: DreamTeam Technologies, Inc. 706-342-8168 riewan@morganga.net	Cleaning Services provided by: House Smart, Inc., Madison 706-474-6163
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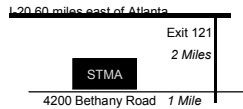
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STEFFEN THOMAS MUSEUM OF ART

4200 Bethany Road Buckhead GA 30625
www.steffenthomas.org - info@steffenthomas.org
Tel: 706-342-7557



Hours:
Tuesday-Saturday 11 AM - 4 PM
Admission: Adults \$5, Seniors (65+) & Students \$3
Children 6 and under: Free
STMA Members: Free

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STMA NEWS

Steffen Thomas Museum & Archives

Summer/Fall 2007

Vol 10, No. 2

"This world is too small for less than brotherhood.....
Too dangerous for less than truth....."

Steffen Thomas

Celebrating Creative Lives (March 10) found us honoring students from Putnam County High School and Morgan County Crossroads School. The young artists were recognized for their participation in *Oceans of Possibilities: Nature Science and the Visual Arts*, a three-year project offered by STMA's Arts Outreach Program, and local artists Barbara Kimbrough and Julie Noland.

Inspired by conservation and the waters of our local lakes, the students created underwater "lacquer" paintings, using a technique originated by environmental artist Wendy Harford. Local artist Lindy Burnett judged the paintings; winners were announced and awards presented at the event.

For the final phase of the project, a mural containing elements from all the Putnam High paintings was unveiled and permanently installed May 9th at Lawrence Shoals Park Pavilion on Lake Oconee. A mural by students from the Morgan County Crossroads School was installed on May 14th at the Lafarge Quarry Nature Trail. These installations were the exciting culmination of the students' creative efforts.

The project was sponsored by the Georgia Power Foundation, Frances Wood Wilson Foundation, Tri-County EMC, Georgia Council for the Arts, The Grassroots Arts Program of GCA, The Marina at South Bay and by Lafarge North America.

Many thanks to our wonderful volunteers, especially Dick Whelan, Lee Glenn and Linda Thoman, and to the members of the Morgan County Senior Center who helped the Crossroads students complete their project.

This fall, STMA's Arts Outreach Program will begin the third year of *Oceans of Possibilities* with Morgan County Elementary and Middle schools. Students will work with local artists to create a large mural that will be permanently displayed at a public place in Morgan County. The Madison Aquatic Center, now under construction, is the planned venue.



Putnam County High School Classroom



Mural installed at Lawrence Shoals Park



Unveiling of mural at Lafarge Quarry Nature Trail

Mural by Crossroads School

"Arttoberfest"

STMA celebrates the end of this long, hot summer with *Arttoberfest*, the museum's annual Fall Fund-raiser, on Thursday, October 11th, from 6 to 9:30 PM. Talented jazz vocalist, Melanie Massell and her band, back by popular demand, will perform as part of the *2007 Georgia's Lake Oconee Music Festival*.

The fun evening includes dancing and heavy hors d'oeuvres along with a wine tasting provided by Habersham Winery. A silent auction and raffle, featuring unique and useful items and services contributed by local businesses, promises some exciting surprises this year. All proceeds benefit STMA's *Arts Outreach Program*. Admission is \$25 per person. Reservations are available at STMA, 4200 Bethany Road, Buckhead, 706-342-7557; and at The Lake Oconee Welcome Center, 5820 Lake Oconee Parkway, 706-453-1630. For more information and directions, please call the museum or visit www.steffenthomas.org.

From the Deputy Director:

Walking through the gallery space recently, (one of the many marvelous things about my job), I noticed a sculpture entitled - "Jugglers" (carved wood, 1963). **I can identify!** As in most non-profit organizations, there are so many jobs to do, so many things to accomplish, I feel that I, too, am a juggler with many balls in the air and too few rapidly moving limbs to keep all of them in motion! I need more arms and legs! Our small, primarily volunteer staff performs an amazing number of tasks during any given day: membership recruitment, grant research and writing, program planning and development, public relations and advertising, special events and fundraising, correspondence and mailings! I'm not complaining. I love what I do, the wonderful people I work with, and the purpose of STMA, which is to provide continuing and complementary arts education opportunities to the tri-county area through our Arts Outreach Program©. You don't have to be "artsy" to appreciate the benefits of arts education. Consider this:

- Arts and cultural heritage tourism is Georgia's **2ND PRIMARY INDUSTRY**
- Arts and culture are among the **TOP 10** reasons for RELOCATION
- Georgia students with 4 years of arts training on average **SCORE 180 POINTS HIGHER ON THEIR SAT EXAMS** and are also on average
- 4 times more likely to be recognized for **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT**
- 4 times more likely to participate in a **MATH OR SCIENCE FAIR**
- 4 times more likely to **WIN AN AWARD** for an essay or poem
- 3 times more likely to be **ELECTED TO CLASS OFFICE**
- 3 times more likely to **WIN A CLASS ATTENDANCE AWARD**
- 4 times more likely to **REGULARLY ATTEND YOUTH GROUPS**
- 2 times more likely to **READ** for pleasure
- 4 times more likely to **PERFORM COMMUNITY SERVICE***

These are the astonishing statistics that quantify and qualify what we do. Those of us who have been personally involved in any of the STMA projects, programs and workshops don't need numbers to convince us that what we are doing is necessary and valuable. So I have a favor to ask - please help! We need more and continual funding, of course and always, but we also need more "arms and legs" in the form of docents and volunteers to work on special events organization and realization, sponsorship, donations of goods and services (in kind, if you wish - all tax deductible) for the silent auction and raffle for the upcoming "Artoberfest", Thursday, October 11, 6-9:30 P.M. Please call us! I promise you, you'll have a good time doing good! Now, if you will pardon me, I must get back to my juggling. Won't you join me?

Elizabeth d'Huart
Deputy Director

* Americans for the Arts, Art and Economic Prosperity III Study, May 22, 2007, www.AermicansFortheArts.org

Spring Gala

Save the Date for STMA's Spring Gala and fundraiser, scheduled for Saturday, March 29th from 6:30 to 10:30 PM. The 2008 theme is "**There's No Place Like Home.**" Guests are invited to dress as their favorite character from The Wizard of Oz.

Happy 100th Birthday

to our founder, **Sara Douglass Thomas**. This year's **Founder's Day** event, on July 7th, celebrated Sara's 100th Birthday and the 10th anniversary of the opening of the museum. After her husband's death in 1990, Sara dreamed of a place where her husband's incredible art could be safely housed and displayed. In 1997, with the help of her family, she fulfilled that dream when she completed the building that is now home to the Steffen Thomas Museum and Archives. The entire community and friends of the family were invited to this celebration. Guests enjoyed the unveiling of our new exhibit, "**Sara's Favorites.**" Many thanks to Drs. Andrew and Hathia Hayes who served as curators. A gallery talk conducted by our docents completed the program.



Guests awaiting start of musical event on July 1st.

Pictures at an Exhibition

STMA was delighted when the **Madison Morgan Chamber Music Festival** selected the museum as one of their venues. Steffen Thomas often drew inspiration from classical music and **Pictures at an Exhibition**, by 19th century Russian composer, Petrovich Mussorgshy, seemed like a perfect choice. Cellist Christopher Rex, Artistic Director of the festival asked us to select appropriate art work to complement the mood of the series of piano pieces describing paintings in sound. Very few pianists are familiar with this piece so when the original pianist reported that he was too ill to perform only two days before the event, Christopher Rex was put on the spot. Fortunately, Ilya Yakushev, first prize and gold medal winner of the 2005 World Piano Competition had just returned to New York and he flew into Atlanta one day before the performance. On Sunday, July 1st, Ilya played the entire 25 minute piece from memory. *Outstanding* is the only word to use to describe his performance which offered a unique opportunity to **see the music and hear the art!**



Pat Milne, Joan Vaughan with Lisa Conner



Docents presenting "Sara's Favorites"



Marge Lowrance



Jennifer, David and Dick Daniels



Guests with Elizabeth d'Huart (right) Deputy Director



Chris Lambert and Christopher Rex



Guest with Ilya Yakushev



Ruth Bracewell Festival Coordinator



Festival Guests

Docents' Doings

In August, STMA's dedicated docents enjoyed a field trip to the State Capitol. The Director of the Capitol Museum, Ms. Dorothy Olson and the Curator of Collections, Mr. John Huneke, gave us a two-hour guided tour. Ms. Olson has been with the museum for over 26 years and enthusiastically shared personal stories about the art and artifacts displayed there. Of special delight to her and to John were the many sculptures and bronze reliefs by Steffen Thomas and they wanted to hear the stories that Lisa could share about each of those pieces. It was truly an inspiring visit. If you would like to learn more about our docents group, please contact Pamala Tomany (706) 342-7557.