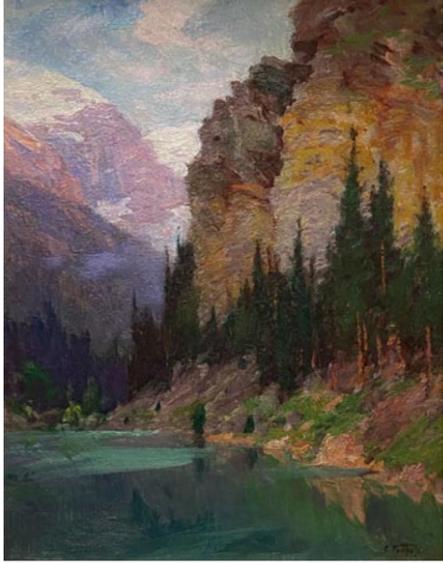


Hickory Museum of Art in Hickory, NC, Presents Works From Its Collection

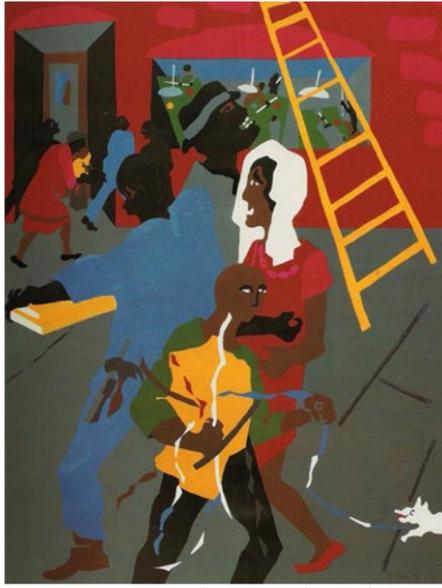
The Hickory Museum of Art in Hickory, NC, is presenting *FOUNDATIONS: Building Our Collection (1944-2024)*, on view in all museum galleries, through June 9, 2024.

In anticipation of the Museum's upcoming 80th Anniversary on Feb. 4, 2024, this permanent collection take-over of our galleries pays homage to our roots and celebrates where we are going. 80 years of collecting will be anchored by HMA's foundational artists – artists who helped make the museum a reality – Paul Austin Wayne Whitener, Wilford Seymour Conrow, and Frederick Ballard Williams.



Edward Potthast, "Lake Louise", oil on canvas, Museum purchase, 1954.3.4

For eight decades, Hickory Museum of Art has been a cornerstone of artistic expression, a source of inspiration, and a learning environment for all ages. To honor this milestone, we have curated an exhibition that provides insights into our entire collection which has grown to over 2,700 works through the years. Treasured fan-favorites such as Jane Peterson's *The Windowseat* and George Pearse Ennis' *The Beachcombers* will hang with never-seen-



Jacob Lawrence, "On the Way", lithograph, Museum purchase funded by HMCA Guild, 1993.1

before works including new acquisitions by Jeffrey Gibson – who was recently selected to represent the US in the 2024 Venice Biennale!

Text panels highlight collection stories, including the recent conservation of four new acquisitions by the first woman artist in HMA's collection – Ella Richards, the painter of *The Violinist*, collected by first director Paul Whitener in 1950. Visitors will see the documentation of a century's worth of grime removed from the surface of her paintings, and glimpse the paintings restored to their full glory.

The Hickory Museum of Art represents and promotes the Unifour region (Catawba, Caldwell, Burke, and Alexander Counties) as a center of innovative creativity and inclusive community through its commitment to visual arts, education, and collaboration.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 828/327-8576 or visit (<http://hickoryart.org/>).

27th Annual Catawba Valley Pottery & Antiques Festival Takes Place in Hickory, NC - Mar. 22 & 23, 2024

The Historical Association of Catawba County and the North Carolina Pottery Center are pleased to announce the hosting of the 27th Annual Catawba Valley Pottery & Antiques Festival (CVP&AF) on Mar. 22 & 23, 2024 at the Hickory Metro Convention Center in Hickory, NC. This acclaimed event brings together potters and vendors from across the southeast to exhibit and sell their unique artistry and craftsmanship.

The Friday evening will consist of a special party for Premiere and VIP ticket holders. VIP tickets are \$75 and will include a catered reception that begins at 6pm. At which time, VIP ticket holders will have the opportunity to dine with the potters for a meet and greet. VIP tickets also give you the opportunity to be first on the pottery show floor at 6:50pm, includes a complimentary gift bag, and 1 free drink ticket from the cash bar. VIP ticket holders will also be entered into a special drawing (more information to follow). VIP Tickets must be purchased in advance.

Premiere tickets are \$30 that grants you early buying opportunities that begin at 7pm (Food Not Included).

Friday night VIP tickets may be purchased online at (www.catawbavalley-potteryfestival.com/tickets) and must be purchased in advance.

Friday night Premiere tickets may be purchased online at (www.catawbavalley-potteryfestival.com/tickets) or at the door on Mar. 22, 2024.

The Saturday event will welcome the public from 9am - 5pm and will offer buying opportunities, pottery demonstrations, and a lecture by renowned potters Sid Luck, Jason Luck, and Matthew Luck. Saturday tickets may be purchased online and at the door.

The goal of the CVP&AF is to bring



View of a previous festival

together traditional potters and dealers to create a quality show that will celebrate our region's pottery heritage, one of North Carolina's most treasured cultural resources. The mission of the CVP&AF is to foster an educational event where the public may learn about traditional North Carolina pottery, within the wider context of Southern pottery, and to provide an opportunity to purchase, collect, and study this unique cultural resource through contact with working potters and knowledgeable pottery dealers.

The CVP&AF began in 1998 with a mission to showcase the history of Catawba Valley alkaline glazed stoneware and the potters who continue to produce this traditional utilitarian ware. Development and growth have allowed the festival to include potters from across the state and the South, as well as dealers offering historical pottery and antiques, providing a context for understanding the history and use of pottery in the South. The festival is a non-profit event benefiting the Historical Association of Catawba County in Newton, and the North Carolina Pottery Center in Seagrove. More than \$500,000 has been donated to the institutions over the past 25 years.

Additional event details and tickets info is available at (www.catawbavalley-pottery-festival.com).







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