



Marshall M. Fredericks

SCULPTURE MUSEUM

SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

Volume 3 Issue II Spring 2008

MUSEUMS

Director's Corner

Marilyn L. Wheaton



Celebrating the legacy of Marshall M. Fredericks was a remarkable centennial event. On May 9, eighty friends and family members of Marshall Fredericks joined the Museum staff and Board of Advisors in Curtiss Hall for a candlelight dinner overlooking the recently restored *Harlequins*, two metal sculpture reliefs by Marshall Fredericks.

SVSU President Eric Gilbertson and his wife Cindy and four of Marshall and Rosalind Fredericks' children hosted the event that celebrated Fredericks' centennial, the Museum's 20th anniversary, and the unveiling of the *Harlequins*. Bob and Maggie Allesee, sponsors of the event, drove from Bloomfield Hills to celebrate the occasion with us.

In 1956 Mrs. Edsel (Eleanor) Ford commissioned Fredericks to create the *Harlequins* in memory of her husband and father-in-law, Edsel and Henry Ford. The reliefs hung in the foyer of Detroit's Henry and Edsel Ford Auditorium from 1956 to 2003 when they were removed and placed in storage in preparation for the landmark building's demolition. Early in 2007 the *Harlequins* were moved to Venus Bronze Works in Detroit for restoration. After many months of painstaking restorative work, they made their journey to SVSU in late April, 2008.

I want to thank all who attended the celebration, and especially Glenda Labadie and Donna VanSteenhouse who co-chaired the planning committee. You made it possible for us to raise over \$12,000 for the Museum's sculpture conservation program.

Top: Bob and Maggie Allesee with *Harlequins* in the background.

Bottom: Suki, Rozy and Chris Fredericks. **Photos by:** Tim Inman



Eaton War Memorial gifted to the Museum

Marshall Fredericks' bronze *Eaton War Memorial Eagle*, mounted on an 8- by 5-foot granite slab, has found a new home on the campus of Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU). "In an effort to preserve an important part of Eaton's history as well as the artistic legacy of Marshall Fredericks," Joseph Palchak, Eaton Vice President and General Manager, said the corporation wanted to donate the monument to the Museum.

The *War Memorial Eagle* was commissioned by Joseph Eaton, founder of the Eaton Manufacturing Corporation of Cleveland, in 1948 to honor the men from our Saginaw facility who died in World War II. In 1949 the corporation dedicated WWII memorials at 7 of their plants, including the one in Saginaw.

Due to the business climate at the time, the Eaton Corporation made the difficult decision in September 2006 to close and raze the Saginaw facility. For several months, the War Memorial monument was the only remnant left on the plant site. The monument was moved and installed on the campus of SVSU near the Museum on May 20. A dedication ceremony will take place on Veteran's Day, Nov. 11, 2008.

The *Eaton War Memorial Eagle* monument is a wonderful addition to the Museum's collection and we are grateful to the Eaton Corporation for their generosity in making this gift possible.

Photo by: Tim Inman



Social Networking at MFSM

The internet provides museums with a wide variety of avenues to reach potential audiences beyond developing an institutional website. Social media allows museums to engage the public in a dialogue that may not have been possible using traditional channels of communication. These formats allow museums to interact with far wider audiences than ever before.

Social media can take many forms, including weblogs, message boards, wikis, podcasts, social networking sites, picture-sharing, and video. The primary difference between conventional forms of media, such as newspapers and television, and social media is the emphasis placed on the interactions between people and the development of shared meaning.



The Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum recently entered into the web 2.0 world by launching its own blog as well as creating pages on several social networking sites. By doing so, the museum hopes to advance its public presence, stimulate discourse, and educate visitors. Recent blog postings include such topics as the outdoor sculpture garden, arrival of the Marshall Fredericks *Harlequins* at SVSU, art literacy, the Trinity Center mural project, and “The World of Art” television program hosted by Fredericks in the late 1940s .

The blog allows the museum to share unique information about Fredericks and offer behind the scenes insight into the daily workings of an art museum. Our Facebook and MySpace pages enable visitors to discuss Fredericks’ works as well as meet others who appreciate sculpture. These pages also provide the museum with a place to present content which may be too informal for the official website, such as YouTube videos, links to newspaper articles, and event photographs.

By participating in photo sharing sites such as Flickr, the museum hopes to increase recognition of Fredericks’ body of work and connect with a community of users who share similar interests. Social media utilities are constantly emerging and the museum continues to explore other applications which may be relevant to the museum’s mission.

We encourage you to visit and bookmark these sites to become part of the museum’s social network and keep up-to-date on events and exhibitions. We welcome your comments and hope you will share your photos, videos, and personal experiences with Fredericks, his art, and this museum. Please visit the museum’s blog www.marshallfredericks.com for links to all of the sites mentioned above.

From the Archives

Marshall Fredericks and DIADEM (Disabled Americans’ Denmark Meeting)

Marshall Fredericks is internationally known for his monumental sculpture but few are familiar with Fredericks’ humanitarian works. During his lifetime, Fredericks worked with a variety civic groups to advance their causes. Many of the organizations with which he was associated reflected his Scandinavian heritage. In 1965, Fredericks along with The Lord Mayor of Copenhagen, Urban Hansen, and with the patronage of Princess Benedikte of Demark, founded DIADEM (Disabled Americans’ Denmark Meeting), an exchange program between Denmark and the United States for disabled young adults.

That same year, Denmark hosted the first of several meetings between disabled Americans and Danes. The American delegation included fifty-three disabled young people; one from each state, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico along with five therapists.

The program was so successful that in 1967, a reciprocal group of fifty disabled Danes and ten attendants from across Denmark visited the United States. As part of DIADEM RETURN, participants visited eight major cities and learned about American culture, education, and industry.

In the 1967 DIADEM RETURN booklet, Co-Chairman Marshall Fredericks writes about the aims of the project:

“The American youths comprising the original DIADEM project... were received by the people of Denmark with such warm friendship and hospitality, and enjoyed such a thrilling and rewarding visit to your country, that we have had to work hard to provide a comparable tour in our land.

We have done our best, however, and hope that you will find your stay here an equally enjoyable and constructive one. We also hope that you will return to your home land with a deeper understanding of, and enriched fondness for, your American friends”.

Entitled DIADEM LEADER, the third exchange of the disabled between the United States and Denmark in 1969, brought blind Danes to the Leader Dog School in Rochester, Michigan for four weeks of training on the care and use of Leader Dogs. Each participant was matched with a compatible dog which they brought back home with them to Denmark, allowing them greater mobility and independence.



The various DIADEM and DIADEM LEADER exchanges immensely affected all those involved. Participants learned a great deal about one another and the country which they were visiting. The dozens of letters from DIADEM participants in the Marshall M. Fredericks Archives attest to the impact this program had on the disabled.

Photo from the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum Archives.

Trinity Center Mural Outreach Project a Great Success

A collaborative public art project between the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum, Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) Art Department, and Saginaw's Trinity Center was a great success. Students from SVSU's ART 433: Community Mural Painting class and youth from the Trinity Center worked together on the mural project from March through April, 2008. Trinity Center youth had drawing classes in the Museum with ART 433 students, designed their mural in the Art Department's studio building, and then completed the mural on the gymnasium wall at Trinity Center located at 346 S. 9th Street. The mural dedication was held on Tuesday, April 22. A grant from the Saginaw Community Foundation made the project possible.



Left: Mike Mosher, SVSU Associate Professor, and ART 433 student, Kevin Kucken, instruct two Trinity Center youth in the Museum.



Right: The mural at the Trinity Center gymnasium.

Photos: Geoffe Haney (left), Andrea Ondish (right)

Second Annual Summer Solstice Celebration at the Annual Ring Sculpture

The Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum and Saginaw Valley State University will hold the second annual Summer Solstice Celebration at the *Annual Ring* sculpture on the campus of SVSU near Davis Road and College Drive. The event is scheduled for June 20, at 1:00 PM with the arrival of solar noon at approximately 1:37 PM. There will be a drum circle, an open poetry reading, and light refreshments.

The Summer Solstice celebration is free and open to the public. Visitors can park in Lot E near the Ryder Center. Two-passenger carts will provide transportation to the *Annual Ring* from Lot E for anyone who is unable to walk to the site.

For more information, contact the Museum at (989) 964-7125 or Sara Clark at (989) 964-7141. Please note: The event will not be held if it rains. The *Annual Ring*, created by artist Nancy Holt, was designed so that the sun's rays shine through a hole at the top of the dome and cast a circle of light over the ring on the ground.



2007 celebration at the Annual Ring.

Photo: Geoffe Haney

MUSEUM MUSINGS

2008 Regional Biennial Juried Sculpture Exhibition Opens at the Museum on June 14

Forty six Michigan artists submitted images of their work for adjudication. Juror Sergio De Giusti adjudicated 42 sculptures by 32 artists into the Regional Biennial Juried Sculpture Exhibition. The sculptures vary in style, size and media and represent a wide selection of work by Michigan sculptors.

The Museum is grateful to the Maxwell K. Pribil Memorial Fund, administered by CITIZENS BANK Wealth Management of Saginaw, for sponsoring the exhibition.

Thanks to the individuals and foundations who provided the Merit Awards: Heinz and Marlis Haller, Midland, \$5,000 1st place; the Doll-Loesel Foundation, Bay City, \$2,500 2nd place; Peter and Barbara Carras, Midland, \$1,000 3rd place; Chris and Donna VanSteenhouse, Midland, \$500 4th place and two \$250 honorable mentions; Guy and Nancy Greve, Bay City, \$250 honorable mention; and John and Judy Lore, Bay City, \$250 honorable mention. Lois Ann Reed, Midland, is the Purchase Award sponsor.

A reception to meet the artists on Saturday, June 14 at 1:00 p.m. is by invitation. Please RSVP to (989) 964-7082 if you plan to attend. The exhibition runs through Sept. 20.

Saginaw Art Museum's Children's Art Festival

The Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum participated in the annual Children's Art Festival at the Saginaw Art Museum on Sunday, June 1st. The event is in its 24th year. Over 600 children participated in activities such as sculpture, easel painting, printmaking, and ceramics.



Thanks to Museum docents (left to right) Anita Kelley, Courtney Taylor and Patricia Bry for providing sculpture instruction at the festival.

Top: Docents prepare for the Festival.

Bottom: A young girl enjoys easel painting.

Photos: Geoffe Haney



MUSEUM MUSINGS

MFSM Welcomes New Board Member

MFSM Board of Advisors

Donald J. Bachand
Alma Gilmore Doud
Carl M. Fredericks
Chris Fredericks
Suzanne (Suki) Fredericks
Marlis Haller
Barbara Heller
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Gary Labadie
Glenda Labadie
Barbara Mahar Lincoln
Judy Lore
Ernie E. Paulick
Sue Pumford
Roz Fredericks Rymal
Donna VanSteenhouse
Sue Vititoe, Chair

Honorary Board Members

Jack Martin
Mrs. Ned (Honey) Arbury



Marlis Haller of Midland joined the Board of Advisors in May 2008. Marlis was born and raised in Switzerland. She studied art history and interior design and has a particular interest in sculpture. Her husband Heinz is a Vice President at Dow Chemical Company. Marlis and Heinz have twin daughters, one studying law and one studying medicine.

Photo: Martina Haller

Harlequins (Clown Musicians) and Ballerina, Orchestral Parade, c. 1955

Limited Edition of 100 Prints

\$125.00

Archival Pigment Ink Giclée on Japanese Gampi Paper, 14" x 11" with archival mat.

Study for the relief at Henry and Edsel Ford Auditorium, Detroit
Original: Pencil on Vellum, 11 5/8 x 9, Marshall M. Fredericks Archives



Order your *Harlequins and Ballerina* Giclée print today online at www.svsu.edu/mfsm or call 989.964.7125

Remember to visit our blog and stay up to date on Museum happenings.

www.marshallfredericks.com

Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum
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