OU Art Museum Announces Complimentary Art Events July 16-21

NORMAN – Three special events have been planned for visitors to the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art during the next several days. At 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 16, Art After Noon will premiere with a discussion about the museum’s iconic sculpture Mesteño (Mustang) by Luis Jiménez. A guest lecture by Hopi artist James Lambertus at 6 p.m. on Friday, July 19, will explore the Arizona tribal community of the Hopi Nation, in conjunction with the new exhibition Hopituy: Hopi Art from the Permanent Collections. And the museum will offer hands-on art activities for all ages during Family Day, scheduled from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 21.

Each event is offered at no cost and is open to the public. The FJJMA is located on the University of Oklahoma Norman campus.

Visitors to the museum may be familiar with such lunchtime offerings as the Tuesday Noon Concert series and gallery talks. Art After Noon is a new monthly 30-minute program held in the Dee Dee and Jon R. Stuart Classroom that continues this time frame for visitors. Formerly named Art After Hours and offered on Friday evenings, the new series offers a time more convenient for lunch breaks, and visitors are encouraged to bring their own lunch and enjoy the provided drinks and desserts.

This summer and fall, the Art After Noon series will focus on Latin American artists, including those whose works will be part of the upcoming exhibition Libertad de Expresión, which opens in October. This month, Susan Baley, director of education, will explore Jiménez’s famous sculpture of a wild mustang that recently was displayed inside the museum after undergoing more than a year of conservation. The presentation will be followed by a discussion in the Cy and Lissa Wagner Gallery with OU sculpture graduate student
Christopher Fleming, an accomplished artist with auto body and fiberglass experience who completed the recent conservation work on Mesteño.

The museum recently opened Hopituy, an exhibition dedicated to the depiction of six Hopi katsina figures through 170 objects, including woodcarvings, basketry and painting. On July 19, Hopi (Tewa)/Mojave artist James Lambertus will give a slide presentation on the landscape and people of the Hopi Nation, while sharing personal stories and incorporating historical and contemporary images of the northeastern Arizona tribal community. His lecture, Hopituskwa: Home of the Hopi, will be presented in the Mary Eddy and Fred Jones Auditorium.

Families are invited to experience the art of illusions found in the exhibition Into the Void during Family Day on Sunday, July 21. Children and adults of all ages can experiment with Optical Art and make their own art during the afternoon program in the Dee Dee and Jon R. Stuart Classroom. Into the Void opened this spring in the Ellen and Richard L. Sandor Photography Gallery and is on display through July 28.

Additional information about these exhibitions and programs is available on the museum’s website.

The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art is located in the OU Arts District on the corner of Elm Avenue and Boyd Street, at 555 Elm Ave., on the OU Norman campus. Admission to the museum is complimentary to all visitors, thanks to the generosity of the OU Office of the President and the OU Athletics Department. The museum is closed on Mondays. Information and accommodations on the basis of disability are available by calling (405) 325-4938 or visiting www.ou.edu/fjjma.

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**IMAGE CREDIT**

* Mesteño, a beloved 8-foot sculpture of a wild blue stallion with glowing red eyes, takes center stage during Art After Noon, a new program at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art premiering Tuesday, July 16. The museum is offering two other complimentary programs during the next several days on the OU Norman campus.

Luis Jiménez (U.S., 1940-2006)
*Mesteño (Mustang)*, 1997
Fiberglass, H. 8 ft.
Gift of Wanda Otey and Jerome M. Westheimer Sr., 1998
Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art; The University of Oklahoma, Norman