

# NEWS RELEASE

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FRED JONES JR. MUSEUM OF ART  
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA - NORMAN  
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WITH PHOTO

## Student Party Offers Live Performances Oct. 7 at FJJMA

NORMAN, OKLA. - Students at the University of Oklahoma will get preferential treatment when the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art opens a new exhibition with a party at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7. The student-only party doubles as a sneak peek at the new exhibition, *Sooners in the Land of Enchantment: Oklahoma Artists and New Mexico*, which opens to the public Oct. 9.

The reception gives students a chance to see the museum in a different light, with hors d'oeuvres, live entertainment and DJ music throughout the evening, all for free.

"This is a great opportunity for students to get a taste of culture found nowhere else on campus, a party in an art museum specifically for the students," said Ken Sims, student liaison at the museum.

In addition to DJ music by Nexxus Productions, the evening will feature Frame by Frame, six graduate choreographers from the School of Dance performing live dances. Food is provided by OU's Housing and Food Services.

"Students are the museum's primary audience," said Ghislain d'Humières, director of the FJJMA. "Each semester we get to treat them to a fun evening that is both entertaining and educational wrapped up in a party environment. We hope students will see this as an opportunity to personally invest in the museum and adopt it as their own."

The student party is scheduled from 7 to 9 p.m.

*Sooners in the Land of Enchantment*, an exhibition of mainly Western and Native American artwork, examines the influence of New Mexican artists in the early 20th century and the landscape and cultures that changed the way Oklahomans approached art.

The exhibition's public opening on Oct. 9 begins with a guest lecture by Eugene B. Adkins Curator Mark White at 6 p.m. The opening reception also doubles as

the Museum Association's 2010 membership party from 7 to 9 p.m. Association members and the public are invited. The exhibition will remain on display through Jan. 3, 2010.

Artists such as Oscar Jacobson, Nan Sheets and the painters and dancers who eventually became known as the Kiowa Five began visiting the "Land of Enchantment" in the early decades of the 20th century, forming important relationships with artists who resided there. In the post-World War II period, other Oklahomans, such as T. C. Cannon, Allan Houser, Woody Crumbo and Doel Reed, made New Mexico their home and produced engaging bodies of work that have become closely identified with New Mexican art history.

To this end, the exhibition will not only include the works of Oklahoma artists, but also the prominent New Mexican artists with whom they associated, such as Ernest Blumenschein, Victor Higgins, Maria Martinez and Bert Phillips.

*Sooners in the Land of Enchantment* draws almost exclusively from the permanent collection at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, with loans from the Oklahoma City Museum of Art and the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma.

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 free to all OU students with a current student ID and all museum association members, \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, \$3 for children 6 to 17 years of age, \$2 for OU faculty/staff, and free for children 5 and under. Admission is free on Tuesdays. The museum's Web site is [www.ou.edu/fjma](http://www.ou.edu/fjma). Information and accommodations on the basis of disability are available by calling (405) 325-4938.

Construction on a new wing is under way, but the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art is open and fully functional with exhibitions and programming throughout the entire construction process.

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## **PHOTO CUTLINE**

University of Oklahoma students are invited to the fall exhibition opening party at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art. Scheduled from 7-9 p.m. on Wed., Oct. 7., the party features live entertainment from the School of Dance, DJ music and free food from Housing and Food Services.