



## **Oakland County Art Institute Authority 2020 Program Report**

### **Governance**

**Thomas Guastello served as the Oakland County appointee to the Detroit Institute of Arts Board of Directors in 2020.**

### **Free General Admission**

**Residents of Oakland County received unlimited, free general admission to the DIA as specified by the service agreement benefits for county residents.**

**Oakland County Admissions to the DIA: 17,291**

**Oakland County Admissions to the Detroit Film Theatre: 7,999**

**Total Oakland County Admissions: 25,290**

***Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the museum was closed from March 13–July 10, 2020. The Detroit Film Theater closed on March 13, 2020 and remains closed due to current COVID 19 restrictions.***

## School Services and Teacher Programs

Education Programs focus on K–12 offerings in the following areas:

- **Expanding field trip offerings;**
- **Collaborating with educators to support curriculum initiatives; and**
- **Providing teacher professional development.**

The DIA provided free bus transportation to all Oakland County schools when group trips to the museum were available, prior to March 13, 2021. 6,533 students from Oakland County participated in the free field trip program.

Virtual Field Trips are offered by [reservation](#) to engage students with art through live forums online. Students have the opportunity to ask questions, engage in discussion, and participate in activities that promote critical-thinking and close-looking.

**Guided field trip experiences available for students virtually or in person includes:**

- Learning to Look, grades 2–4, combines open-ended discussion and activities to help students connect to their thoughts and feelings, as well as to the experiences of others.
- Thinking Through Art, grades 3–12, concentrates on open-ended, student-centered discussions using the Visual Thinking Strategies pedagogical approach and gallery engagement activities.
- Shaping Identity, grades 3–12, focuses on the following DIA collection and curricular areas:
  - Arts of Africa
  - Art of the Americas
  - Art of the Ancient World
  - Shaping Identity – World Languages
- Shaping Identity, combined with Thinking Through Art, grades 3–12, explores the breadth of the collections in combination with directed and open-ended discussions and activities.
- Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) and Art provides tours tailored to the teachers' goals. Tours may consider themes of friendship, creativity, gratitude, generosity, kindness, patience and/or honesty, followed by a self-guided or teacher-led activity or a teamwork exercise (for older children in grades 5–12).
- Homeschool Afternoons offers collaborative, learner-centered artmaking in the DIA Learning Center & Studio and guided museum tours to local homeschool families with.

## Curriculum Development/Support



*DIA Delivered educational kit*

***DIA Delivered Pilot*** These educational kits connect the school curriculum to objects in the DIA collection and provide opportunities for critical thinking, discovery, and artmaking. Each kit contains lesson plans, age-appropriate books, videos, manipulatives, and all necessary supplies to complete the suggested artmaking activities. *DIA Delivered* includes a professional development plan to help teachers utilize this resource in the classroom or in a virtual learning environment.

Kits were provided to Dolson Elementary in New Hudson, Thompson K-8 International Academy in Southfield, and Clifford Smart Middle School in Commerce as part of a pilot program in 2020 and will be available by reservation and shipped free to Oakland County schools in 2021.

The DIA continued to work collaboratively with Oakland County educators to design customized curriculum resources to support field trips. Resources included self-guided activities as well as pre- and post-visit classroom connections. Additional kits are available for African, African American, American, and Native American art. Kits are in development for Ancient Middle Eastern, Egyptian, and Greek and Roman art.

***Art Bytes*** In these short videos, the DIA's gallery teachers introduced collection objects to K–12 students, prompting curiosity, wonder, and critical thinking. *Art Byte* videos can be found [here](#).

## Teacher Professional Development

The DIA offers professional development workshops for teachers that model and develop curriculum-related activities for immediate in-person or virtual classroom application.

Teachers from Oakland County participated in the following free professional development events:

**January:** Refresh, Restore & Revitalize Educator Morning

**February:** A Samurai and A Gentleman: Representations of Power and Knowledge in East Asia

**March:** Refresh, Restore & Revitalize Educator Morning; Hands-on Workshop for Art Educators; Potter's Wheel for Educators

**April–May:** All events canceled due to closure and all events from June–December were hosted on a virtual platform.

**June:** Refresh, Restore & Revitalize Educator Morning—Virtual

**July:** Symbol and Story: Investigating Imagery in East Asian Art (elementary school teachers); A Perfectly Material World: Exploring Objects in East Asian Art (middle school teachers); Being Diplomatic: How Art Helps to Spread Ideas (high school teachers)

**August:** Visual Thinking Strategies: The Virtual Crash

**October:** *Ofrendas* Preview for Educators; Refresh, Restore & Revitalize Educator Morning

**November:** *Detroit Style* Educator Workshop

**December:** Point & Shoot Digital Submission Workshop

## Customized Teacher Professional Development

The DIA actively recruits schools/districts to develop collaborative, customized professional development opportunities for teachers. Adjustments have been made to offer programs on a virtual platform.

## Additional Engagement with Oakland County Schools

### Teacher Advisory Group

The DIA's Teacher Advisory Group teachers from Oakland County. This group provided feedback about existing professional development resources and assisted in designing teacher events.

### Teen Arts Council

The DIA's Teen Arts Council includes students from three Oakland County high schools. Teen Council members work with diverse peers from local high schools and museum professionals to design and implement relevant and meaningful programs for metro Detroit teens.

## Senior Program

### Thursdays at the Museum

This popular program provides activities for seniors each Thursday in the museum at 1:00 pm. The monthly schedule begins with tours of the permanent collection on the first Thursday; artmaking in the Studio on the third Thursday of the month; and a film shown in the Detroit Film Theatre on the fourth Thursday. The second Thursday of the month offers a variety of experiences such as Art Bingo and music performances.

Thursdays at the Museum, free for all tri-county adults 55+, provided free bus transportation for groups of 25 or more. Individual walk-ins were also invited to participate in the Thursday activities.

The DIA welcomed 18 senior groups to the Museum, serving more than 400 residents prior to the museum closure on March 13, 2020.

920 On the Park in Troy  
Birmingham Unitarian Church Alliance  
Bloomfield Township Senior Services  
Christ Our Light Catholic Church in Troy  
City of Novi Seniors  
Clawson Senior Center  
OPC Leisure Travel Rochester  
Park at Franklin in Southfield  
Pomeroy Living in Lake Orion  
Pomeroy Rochester Assisted Living  
Pontiac Sun Time Bank  
Richardson Senior Center in Commerce Township  
Robert W. Bowens Senior Center in Pontiac  
Royal Oak Manor  
Royal Oak Senior Center  
St. Anastasia Roman Catholic Church in Troy  
Troy Senior Center  
West Bloomfield Parks & Recreation Seniors

## **Behind the Seen**

Behind the Seen art talks bring insight about the DIA's collection to adult civic and social groups, libraries, senior centers, and other community-accessible locations.

Oakland County groups hosted 20 Behind the Seen art talks at the following locations.

American House the Village in Rochester Hills  
Bloomfield Township Senior Services  
Brookdale Southfield  
Cedarbrook Senior Living of Bloomfield Hills  
City of Novi Seniors  
Colombiere Conference Center in Clarkston

**To accommodate seniors during the pandemic, the DIA transitioned the tri-county Senior Program to a virtual format.**

### **Thursdays at the Museum—Virtual**

Every Thursday at 1:00 pm, the DIA provides engaging experiences and programs: interactive talks with Q & A sessions are varied with music, film, artmaking, and special events like Art Bingo.

### **Behind the Seen—Virtual**

Art talks with live Q & A are provided by the DIA's trained volunteers and available to adult civic and social groups, libraries, and senior centers. Group organizers may select from a variety of topics either for seniors who gather in facilities or those who access the program individually via the organizer's virtual platform.

### **Anytime Access Programs**

Additional virtual programs are available to seniors with online *anytime access* and include crossword puzzles, art making videos, curator, and conservation art talks.

### **Make, Take, and Connect**

Artmaking projects, inspired by works in the DIA collection, were the subject of a pilot program with The Village of Oakland Woods in Pontiac. Kits included materials, instructions, and online curator art talks with Q & A. Feedback from the pilot informed ongoing plans to further engage residents in Oakland—and beyond—with activities that bring DIA experiences to group living communities, independent seniors, and senior centers, as permitted by current COVID restrictions.

## **Community Collaborations with Local Arts Organizations and Cities, Townships and Villages**

In support of the service agreement with the Oakland County Art Institute Authority, the DIA developed community partnership programs, events, and engagement opportunities for residents of Oakland County.

These partnership projects bring museum resources to communities where there is a demonstrated commitment to increasing local arts programs.

Collaborations are codeveloped with local organizations to respect and sustain the mission of the local organization and preserve the local character of each program.

### **Inside|Out**

Through partnerships with municipalities and community organizations, the DIA's Inside|Out program features high-quality art reproductions at locations throughout Oakland County.

The City of Madison Heights and Berkley hosted a virtual ribbon-cutting in July to celebrate their Inside|Out installations.

The following Oakland County communities hosted Inside|Out:

Hazel Park  
Michigan Air Line Trailway  
Madison Heights  
Auburn Hills Public Library  
Clarkston  
Berkley  
Huron-Clinton Metropark in White Lake  
Milford  
Oakland Community College campuses  
Rochester Hills  
Oakland County Parks

## Partners in Public Art

The DIA collaborates with communities, nonprofit organizations, and municipalities in Oakland County to design and create meaningful works of public art.

In 2020, the DIA completed a mural in partnership with the Orion Art Center and the Lake Orion Downtown Development Authority.



Lake Orion, side of 120 S. Broadway



## Oakland Community College

The DIA and Oakland Community College formalized a three-year partnership to provide meaningful opportunities for college students, faculty, and staff, as well as for the broader Oakland community to participate in art-based programming.

The DIA provided professional development workshops for faculty, educational experiences, and art-related programming for students, and initiatives that extended high-quality art offerings to the community.

In February 2020, two performances of *The Three Little Pigs* invited families to explore familiar stories with Eisenhower Dance and Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings. Presenting original contemporary dance and a world premiere work by Harriet Steinke, these art forms combined with illustrations by Emily Bolam, and narration to create a unique experience for the whole family.

In October 2020, a reprise of *Little Red Riding Hood* was presented in a virtual format to comply with COVID guidelines as set forth by the State of Michigan.

Oakland Community College's campuses in Highland Lakes, Auburn Hills, Orchard Ridge, Southfield, and Royal Oak hosted Inside|Out, with 15 images installed across all five campuses.

DIA staff met with Dr. Jennifer Berne via Zoom in July 2020 to provide a VTS overview and review past activities with DIA.

## Scholastic Art Awards

The Detroit Film Theater was the site for the award ceremony for the 2020 Southeastern Michigan Region of the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards competition.

The DIA partnered with Detroit's College for Creative Studies to coordinate events, attended by approximately 2,000 students, family members, and their guests.

## Art & Authors

**The DIA collaborates with Oakland County public libraries to provide literary programming.**

In partnership with the DIA, Novi, Southfield, Rochester Hills & Auburn Hills Public Libraries presented an online author chat with cartoonist and *New York Times* bestselling author Jeffrey Brown. Brown answered questions, demonstrated drawing for viewers, and gave a behind-the-scenes look at his creative process, including his new series, Space-Time.

## Canvas Pontiac

**In partnership with Downtown Pontiac – Main Street Pontiac and the Pontiac Arts Commission, the DIA provides support to Canvas Pontiac's efforts to bring art and culture to the community.**

DIA staff provided jurying and consulting services for the handcrafted and photography entries.

## DEAFC.A.N!

**The DIA continues to work with DEAFC.A.N! to increase access to the Museum and provide virtual programming for the deaf, hard of hearing, and DeafBlind visitors.**

In 2020, the DIA and DeafC.A.N! created a series of art talk videos in American Sign Language featuring artwork in the museum's collection and available online.

In partnership with Bloomfield Hills Deaf and Hard of Hearing magnet program which serves DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing K–12 students throughout Oakland County, an artist demonstration and interview video interview was created featuring the work of Nancy Rourke and her experience as a deaf artist. This video was made available to Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing students and a program was created in which they made their own paintings in response. The resulting paintings will be combined into a single mural-like piece for display at Bloomfield Hills Schools.

DeafC.A.N.! will continue to advise the DIA on how to reach and serve Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing visitors. Future efforts include a deaf artist in residency program, video interviews for the Deaf Arts Festival, and assessment of DIA online programs.

## Alzheimer's Association of Michigan

The Minds on Art partnership between the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Michigan Alzheimer's Association provides facilitated museum gallery talks and artmaking in the DIA studio for people with Alzheimer's and other dementia and their care partners.

Due to COVID-19, the program was virtual in 2020.

## Oakland County Parks and Recreation

In partnership with Oakland County Parks and Recreation Department, the DIA presented a virtual program featuring the history and evolution of Motown music.

Musician and songwriter Drew Schultz played Motown classics with a presentation and demonstration on the evolution of the "Motown Sound".

## Girl Scouts of Southeast Michigan

The Girl Scouts of Southeast Michigan held their Religious Diversity Journeys program at the DIA in January. Over 200 Girl Scouts from Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties attended this program. The scouts participated in an app-based scavenger hunt focused on religious themes in art; watched a documentary called “The Children of Abraham” in the Lecture Hall; and had a panel discussion and pinning ceremony in the Museum.

## Additional Outreach

Community engagement talks, focused on protocols for reopening and visiting the Museum during COVID 19, were provided to the Optimist Club of West Bloomfield and the Rotary Club of Troy.

## Community Group Art Making Program

The DIA partners with local social service agencies through the Studio Community Group Program. Oakland County groups participated in art making and Visual Thinking Strategies sessions in the Museum and virtually after March 13.

Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency  
Grandparents Raising Grandchildren  
Tri-County Veterans  
Grace Centers of Hope

## Drop-In Artmaking at Fairs and Festivals

**The DIA provides drop-in art-making workshops at community fairs and festivals throughout Oakland County.**

Drop-in art-making workshops were held at the following events with over 577 participants:

Fire and Ice Festival and ArtFEST in Rochester  
Online Royal Oak Market: Spring Art Fair

## County Leaders Event

County leaders attended a reception for the following exhibitions in February:

*Bruegel's The Wedding Dance Revealed*  
*Guests of Honor: Frida Kahlo and Salvador Dalí*

## School Field Trips

School	City	School District
Pierce Elementary	Birmingham	Avondale School District
Avondale High School	Auburn Hills	Avondale Schools
Berkley High School	Berkley	Berkley Schools
Anderson Middle School	Berkley	Berkley Schools
Norup International School	Oak Park	Berkley Schools
Wylie E. Groves High School	Beverly Hills	Birmingham Public Schools
Derby Middle School	Birmingham	Birmingham Public Schools
French School of Detroit	Bloomfield Hills	Birmingham Public Schools
West Maple Elementary	Bloomfield Hills	Birmingham Public Schools
Clarkston High School	Clarkston	Clarkston Community Schools
Everest Academy	Clarkston	Clarkston Community Schools
Lanigan Elementary	Farmington Hills	Farmington Public Schools
Farmington STEAM Academy	Farmington Hills	Farmington Public Schools
Farmington Head Start	Farmington Hills	Farmington Public Schools
Farmington High School	Farmington	Farmington Public Schools
Hillside Elementary	Farmington Hills	Farmington Public Schools
Alameda Early Childhood Center	Farmington Hills	Farmington Public Schools
North Farmington High School	Farmington Hills	Farmington Public Schools
Ferndale Upper Elementary	Oak Park	Ferndale Public Schools
Hazel Park High School	Hazel Park	Hazel Park Public Schools
Hazel Park Junior High School	Hazel Park	Hazel Park Public Schools
Holly High School	Holly	Holly Area Schools
Milford High School	Highland	Huron Valley Schools
Kurtz Elementary	Milford	Huron Valley Schools
Lakewood Elementary	White Lake	Huron Valley Schools
Lake Orion High School	Lake Orion Township	Lake Orion Community Schools
Edmonson Elementary	Madison Heights	Lamphere Public Schools
John Page Middle School	Madison Heights	Lamphere Public Schools
Madison Elementary School	Madison Heights	Madison District Public Schools
Shrine Catholic Grade School	Royal Oak	Non-District/Community Organization
Detroit Country Day - Upper School	Beverly Hills	Non-District/Community Organization
Detroit Country Day Middle School	Beverly Hills	Non-District/Community Organization
The Roeper School	Birmingham	Non-District/Community Organization
Eton Academy	Birmingham	Non-District/Community Organization
Roeper School	Bloomfield Hills	Non-District/Community Organization
Hillel Day School	Farmington Hills	Non-District/Community Organization
St. Fabian School	Farmington Hills	Non-District/Community Organization
Aim High School	Farmington Hills	Non-District/Community Organization
Huda School	Franklin	Non-District/Community Organization
Pontiac Academy for Excellence	Pontiac	Non-District/Community Organization
Arts and Technology Academy of Pontiac	Pontiac	Non-District/Community Organization

BSA Troop 456	Rochester	Non-District/Community Organization
Oak Ridge	Royal Oak	Non-District/Community Organization
Pace Academy	Southfield	Non-District/Community Organization
Laurus Academy	Southfield	Non-District/Community Organization
Farber Hebrew Day School	Southfield	Non-District/Community Organization
Southfield Christian School	Southfield	Non-District/Community Organization
Crescent Academy	Southfield	Non-District/Community Organization
AGBU Alex and Marie Manoogian School	Southfield	Non-District/Community Organization
Troy Adventist Academy	Troy	Non-District/Community Organization
Waterford Montessori Academy	Waterford	Non-District/Community Organization
Parkview Elementary	Novi	Novi Community Schools
Novi Adult Transition Center	Novi	Novi Community Schools
Orchard Hills Elementary	Novi	Novi Community Schools
Key Elementary	Oak Park	Oak Park Schools
Oak Park High School	Oak Park	Oak Park Schools
Oxford Middle School	Oxford	Oxford Community Schools
Owen Elementary	Pontiac	Pontiac City Schools
Pontiac High School	Pontiac	Pontiac School District
Stoney Creek High School	Rochester	Rochester Community Schools
Royal Oak High School	Royal Oak	Royal Oak Schools
Upton Elementary	Royal Oak	Royal Oak Schools
Southfield Public Schools	Southfield	Southfield Public Schools
MacArthur K-8 University Academy	Lathrup Village	Southfield Public Schools
Thompson K-8 International Baccalaureate Academy	Southfield	Southfield Public Schools
Levey Middle School	Southfield	Southfield Public Schools
Hamilton Academy - Troy	Troy	Troy Schools
International Academy East	Troy	Troy Schools
Athens High School	Troy	Troy Schools
James R. Geisler Middle School	Walled Lake	Walled lake Consolidated Schools
Walled Lake Western HS	Walled Lake	Walled Lake Consolidated Schools
Mason Middle School	Waterford	Waterford Schools
Waterford Mott High School	Waterford	Waterford Schools