Embracing Cultural Education

FRAME has been building cultural understanding for 18 years by bringing innovative programming to new audiences at member museums. For citizens of both France and the North America, their countries are separated by a large ocean and very different languages; art however still proves to be an effective medium to share culture. FRAME's projects engage large audiences to build cultural awareness.

American art reflects the vast diversity North America offers: skyscrapers and dense urban environments and a large open wilderness taller and deeper than its cities. Georgia O'Keeffe and her Photographer Friends, Joseph Cornell and the Surrealists in New York, Made in the U.S.A - American Art from 1908 to 1947, Sacred Symbols, and Mythology of the West in American Art, 1830-1940 are prime examples of FRAME exhibitions that touched on aspects of life in North America that French audiences know little about. These windows into art from North America contrasts vividly with the works from France.

Exhibitions exploring French culture span a much much greater time frame than American art. These exhibitions have ranged from medieval sculpture presented in The Mourners to paintings that span hundreds of years: A Voluptuous Taste, French paintings from the era of Madame de Pompadour, Bonjour Monsieur Courbet!, Van Gogh, Manet and Matisse: The Art of the Flower and Marvels and Mirages of Orientalism Benjamin-Constant in his Time. These exhibitions also show the North American audience how art changed over time and how technique in the two countries differed during the same time periods.

FRAME over the years has adapted to the changing role of art museums in their communities by incorporating cultural exchange through educational programming, using art as catalyst for conversation.

Ronna Tulgan-Ostheimer at ClarkArt reshaped her own local program to counter youth violence and created Curating a Culture of Respect (CCR) - Des Maux, Des Musées, Des Mots with Margaret Pfenninger at the Musées de Strasbourg. The US Consulate in Strasbourg and the US Embassy in Paris recognized the value of this project by generously granting funds. The French component of CCR worked with the artist Tomi Ungerer to initiate conversations about his art to teach social responsibility to one another.

The Musée Fabre and the Montreal Museum of Fine arts are
working to engage visually impaired visitors by making art touchable. The contemporary museum visit is universally look but don't touch, which leaves the other senses unstimulated and the visually impaired left out. Céline Peyre at the Musee Fabre is working with the Louvre to open galleries in France and later in North America designed to teach the blind and those who can see what sculpture feels like. The two goals are to serve the visually impaired community while teaching non-visually impaired visitors what life is like without sight, and how different senses can open other ways of thinking about art.

As well, an educational program using art of the collections of member museums to make French and English language instruction at school relevant has developed between middle schools in Richmond, Virginia and Bordeaux. Students at the College Cassignol in Bordeaux have had a chance to see and discuss Sonya Clark's "Black Hair Flag" with their American peers at the Collegiate School. Sonya's work is a contemporary discussion of current events and ancestry and is on display at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. The students practice their English in the context of art.

FRAME looks to the future by fully embracing new ideas that make art museums a place where everyone in the community can come and learn about themselves and people who speak a different language, yet share so many universal human experiences.

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**Museum Spotlight: Dallas Museum of Art**

The Dallas Museum of Art has been a long time and active member of FRAME. Olivier Meslay's Heather McDonald the previous Lillian and James H. Clark Curator of Painting and Sculpture co-curated Bouquets: French Still-Life Painting from Chardin to Matisse with Mitchell Merling from the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

Please read more about the [Dallas Museum of Art](#).

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**Member News**

**North America**

**Cleveland Museum of Art**

Museum Enhances Award-winning ArtLens App

Studio Play Reopens June 7, 2016

**Dallas Museum of Art**

DMA's Associate Director of Curatorial Affairs Olivier Meslay Named Director of Clark Art Institute

Dallas Museum of Art to Participate for the Seventh Year in the Blue Star Museums Program

**Denver Museum of Art**

CONTEMPORARY WORKS AND ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONIST MASTERPIECES CONVERGE IN
Detroit Institute of Arts

Detroit Institute of Arts one of several venues for international “Make Music Day” June 21

Indianapolis Museum of Art

SOAK UP THE SUMMER AT THE INDIANAPOLIS MUSEUM OF ART

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Alternative Dreams: 17th-Century Chinese Paintings from the Tsao Family Collection

Advance Exhibition Schedule

The Serial Impulse at Gemini G.E.L.

Montreal Museum of Fine Art

The MMFA reveals an outstanding private collection of prints and posters by Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec

THE BREAKFAST CLUB OF CANADA EXHIBITS AT THE MONTREAL MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

Look to the East: Decorative Arts and Orientalism, 1870-1920

Degas Retrospective Debuts in the U.S. at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, in October

Infinite Pause: Photography and Time

Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

Luxurious Treasures at Nelson-Atkins Offer Glimpse into Roman Lifestyle

Drip, Splatter, Wash: American Watercolor, 1860-1960

Portland Art Museum

Case Work Studies in Form, Space & Construction by Brad Cloepfil/Allied Works Architecture

Native Fashion Now

Measure, Gesture, Form Modern and Contemporary Drawings from a Recent Gift

Saint Louis Art Museum

Self-Taught Genius charts the history of American folk art through more than 100 masterworks

Andréa Stanislav: Convergence Infinité explores natural and social histories of St. Louis

Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute

OLIVIER MESLAY NAMED DIRECTOR OF CLARK ART INSTITUTE

Virginia Museum of Fine Art

International exhibition sheds new light on Jasper Johns’s embrace of the art of Edvard Munch
Kehinde Wiley: A New Republic

Wadsworth Atheneum
Exhibition to Highlight Diversity of Contemporary Artists, Artworks

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If your museum is hosting a FRAME event please send a picture to publish or a short communiqué.

Thank you for reading our newsletter and please feel free to contribute news.

Sincerely,
The FRAME Team

FRAME's Mission Statement

French American Museum Exchange (FRAME) is a consortium of 26 major museums in France and North America that promotes cultural exchange in the context of museum collaborations. FRAME fosters partnerships among its member museums to develop innovative exhibitions, educational and public programs, and professional exchanges among museum staff, and maintains a bi-lingual website to reach global audiences.