



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Malina Tabor, Director of Marketing

[mtabor@arkmfa.org](mailto:mtabor@arkmfa.org)

(501)837-6566

Tara Escolin, Public Relations Manager

[tescolin@arkmfa.org](mailto:tescolin@arkmfa.org)

(501)396-0313

### **The Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts Announces Inaugural Season of Programming and Artist Talk with LaToya Hobbs, Dario Robleto, and Alison Elizabeth Taylor**

*Engaging Visual and Performing Arts Programs for All Ages*

February 10, 2023 (LITTLE ROCK, Ark.) – The Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts (AMFA) announces its grand opening season of engaging programs and events. The inaugural [Artist Talk](#) on the museum's exhibition [Together](#), will have nationally celebrated artists LaToya Hobbs, Dario Robleto, and Alison Elizabeth Taylor as speakers. With programming spanning theatre, dance, film, musical performances and youth-centered events, guests can expect offerings for everyone. [Reservations for classes](#) and [ticket sales for events](#) open on February 13 at 10 a.m. on [AMFA's website](#).

The Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts opens on April 22, 2023, and its hours will be the following: Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., and Sunday from 12:00 – 5:00 p.m.

#### **Inaugural Celebrations, Events, and Classes**

- [Windgate Art School Registration opens February 13](#): Sign-up begins for classes in drawing, painting, ceramics, glass, metals, woodworking, printmaking, and more at the

new 11,000-square-foot Windgate Art School, which has offerings for students of all ages and skillsets. In addition to [3-week, 5-week, and 10-week classes for adults](#) in a variety of media, [Art for Two](#), a new series of single-evening workshops for adults and one guest, presents exciting learning opportunities during an enjoyable evening out.

- [New Works by Ballet Arkansas, May 4, and May 6](#): AMFA's partner company-in-residence presents an intimate program featuring five world premieres inspired by the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts Foundation Collection. The performances will be followed by a Q&A with the choreographers.
- [Iris DeMent, May 25](#): The Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter will take the stage at AMFA for an evening of unforgettable music.
- [Artist Talk: LaToya Hobbs, Dario Robleto, and Alison Elizabeth Taylor, In Conversation on AMFA's Exhibition Together, June 1](#): This event presents a special opportunity to hear nationally recognized artists and curators speak about their practice.
- [Delta Voices, July 13](#): This event will feature curators from the Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, and the Philbrook Museum of Art in conversation with emerging artists from the Mid-South region. Delta Voices seeks to heighten the visibility of emerging artists from the region, reflect shifts in the cultural landscape, and amplify creative voices at the forefront of contemporary art.
- [Filmland, October 4 – 8](#): The Arkansas Cinema Society, AMFA's partner company-in-residence, will hold its annual five-day celebration of cinema at the museum, as well as other programming to be announced.
- [Open houses](#) in the Windgate Art School will be held throughout May and June; visitors can meet faculty and see demonstrations of the diverse media presented in the class offerings at AMFA.
- [Tours](#) of the museum will occur each weekend and on Wednesdays, guiding visitors through the new architecture, exhibitions, and grounds—with the connections between them highlighted in unexpected and inspiring ways.
- [Wednesday Spins](#): Elevate the midweek with Wednesday Spins. Guests can experience a night of art, music, and drinks, then kick back with happy hour specials and a DJ's live set, or take a spin around the museum for an evening tour.

### **Fun Offerings for Youth and Families**

- [\*\*\*The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show, May 8 – 28\*\*\*](#): The critically acclaimed stage production of Eric Carle’s colorful classics will delight audiences at AMFA’s Performing Arts Theater.
- [\*\*\*Young Arkansas Artists Family Afternoon, May 20\*\*\*](#): With family-focused museum tours, Flurffy + Friends, artmaking activities and more, fun is guaranteed. Tickets to *The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show* may also be reserved for this day.
- [\*\*\*Teen Takeover, June 3\*\*\*](#): Organized by AMFA’s Teen Advisory Board, this dynamic evening of programming includes workshops in both the visual and performing arts for teens across Arkansas.
- [\*\*\*Junior Arts Academy, June 12 – June 23\*\*\*](#): This two-week immersive arts and theatre-based summer program for rising 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> graders will give elementary students the tools to explore their creativity.
- The [\*\*\*Youth Studio Series begins June 26\*\*\*](#): This wide range of visual and performing arts classes for rising 1<sup>st</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders will be offered during summer and after-school sessions over the 2023-24 academic year.
- [\*\*\*Sparking Dialogue, July 22\*\*\*](#): This program presents socially relevant theatrical experiences for family audiences; *A Beautiful Day* by Candrice Jones will serve as a catalyst for profound, yet approachable discussions of current social issues.
- [\*\*\*Flurffy + Friends\*\*\*](#): A pop-up performance featuring puppetry and art will delight visitors with music, storytelling, and activities throughout the galleries and grounds each weekend.
- [\*\*\*ArtStart\*\*\*](#): A free program that pairs children’s books with art and sensory activities gives young patrons a way to playfully explore the museum.

### **Engaging Programming for Students and Educators**

- *The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show* will enthrall school groups; tickets and tours for school groups may be reserved [online](#).
- The [\*\*\*62nd Young Arkansas Artists Exhibition Awards Ceremony, May 20\*\*\*](#): The museum welcomes art educators, students, and their families to an awards ceremony in celebration of the *62nd Young Arkansas Artists Exhibition*. Presented by grand juror Brian Young, the ceremony will highlight all student works in this year’s online exhibition with award winners announced.

- [The Back-to-School Event for Educators, August 9](#): A night of enriching programming and speakers supports teachers and their curriculum. Educators who attend this event are eligible to receive two hours of ADE credited professional development.

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### **About the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts:**

Founded in 1937, the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts is the largest cultural institution of its kind in the state, offering a unique blend of visual and performing arts experiences. AMFA is committed to featuring diverse media and artistic perspectives within its permanent collection of 14,000 works of art as well as through rotating temporary exhibitions. AMFA's international collection spans seven centuries, with strengths in works on paper and contemporary craft, and includes notable holdings by artists from Arkansas, the Mid-South region, and across the United States and Europe. With a vibrant mix of ideas, cultures, people, and places, AMFA extends this commitment to diversity through its dynamic children's theatre and performing arts program, the innovative Windgate Art School, and community-focused educational programs for all ages. Located in Little Rock's oldest urban green space, MacArthur Park, AMFA's landmark building and grounds are designed by Studio Gang and SCAPE, in collaboration with Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects.