

MAY/AUGUST 2024



# NEWSCASTING

*Grounds For Sculpture's publication for members and volunteers*

*Slow Motion on View*

Enhanced Member  
Benefits!

Bloom Watch

... and more!

MAY | JUNE | JULY | AUGUST



Dear Members,

As I write this, the team at Grounds For Sculpture has just celebrated the culmination of our final season of *Night Forms* with Klip Collective, and I wanted to share some reflections with you. Over the last three years, *Night Forms* has not only been a successful exhibition but also a gateway for GFS to new audiences – over 135K visitors, over 50% first-time visitors, and a substantial increase in our membership. It underscored and cemented our role as a year-round destination. We were able to attract new corporate supporters, who, as part of their support, enabled us to distribute over 2,150 complimentary *Night Forms* tickets through our partners at more than 50 local non-profits, further strengthening our community partnerships and commitment to equitable access to GFS.

*Night Forms* continued our distinctive tradition of boldly supporting artists and our willingness to step into the unknown alongside them. Following the passing of our founder and emerging from Covid, we choose to lean into our mission, creating an immersive, surprising, outdoor art experience that has entranced the public and has garnered us renewed momentum. We aspire to be a leader, a creative magnet and vibrant space that invites a diverse public to create, learn, and discover personal meaning in their interactions with art, artists, nature, and one another. Grounds For Sculpture was recognized with business innovation awards for *Night Forms* at the town, regional, and state levels, a testament to the outward ripples and an indicator of our impact.

This is something that I am proud of as a leader, and I am grateful to you, our community of members, for your investment in our work that enables us serve so many people and keep our doors open. I was recently reflecting with a colleague about the early days of the pandemic, when so many arts and cultural organizations were struggling, including GFS. It was our members – and your loyalty making donations and keeping your memberships active, even when you couldn't come here – that kept us afloat. My hope for us is to remember why we all felt so connected to GFS during that time as a safe, beautiful, joyful, and thought-provoking space, and hold onto that now, even when life has returned to "normal." Our efforts have brought art to our community and enriched the lives of many; for that, we should all be proud.

As we move forward, I am excited to harness all the learnings, community goodwill, and energy from *Night Forms*. You will see that energy reflected in this issue of *News casting*, this season's offerings and blooms, and our new exhibition *Slow Motion*. Thank you, and Onward!

With gratitude,

  
**Gary Garrido Schneider**  
 Executive Director



### MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP *Register on the GFS website*

Registering your membership's online account allows you to "Sign In" to conveniently reserve your free visits, renew, register for programs, and receive your member discounts where applicable! **If you have not already done so, register your membership's online account [here](#).**

### HOURS THIS SEASON

**Member Mornings | 8 AM - 10 AM**

Saturdays + Sundays | May 11 – September 1

**Late Nights | 10 AM - 9 PM**

Friday + Saturday + Sunday | May 10 – September 1

**Open Daily**

Monday - Sunday | May 27 – September 1

(Memorial Day - Sunday before Labor Day)

Members visit spontaneously without reservation on weekdays. Free reservation required on weekends and holidays to ensure your desired entry time.

**RESERVE YOUR VISIT:** [groundsforsculpture.org/timed-admission-tickets](https://groundsforsculpture.org/timed-admission-tickets)

### Cloud Swing on view through October 5!

*Cloud Swing* is a sculpture designed to inspire a world in which public art and play invite and include people of all abilities. Three standard swings and two wheelchair accessible swings hang from a cloud-shaped metal canopy. The swings face each other, fostering community and a sense of belonging. It is designed by Brooklyn-based Isometric Studio, whose mission is to unite graphic design and architecture to create empowering visual identities and spatial experiences. Hours: 11AM – 4PM (pending weather)



**The Access Mobile Tour** is a 45-minute tour that is available daily for visitors with disabilities or limited mobility. The cart can accommodate a maximum of five people or four people and a wheelchair. Tours are scheduled at 11AM, 12PM, 2PM, 3PM. Reservations strongly recommended by calling 609-586-0616.

**Docent Tours** are available based on docent availability. Check in at the Welcome Center to see what pop-up tours are available during your visit!

### Discover something new or learn more about a longtime favorite!

Explore our collection of 400+ works on our [website](https://www.gfsmap.org) and our interactive map ([gfsmap.org](https://www.gfsmap.org)), which features sculpture and horticulture throughout the grounds, as well as an [audio tour](#) offering docent interpretations of 28 sculptures and 2 historical spots. View our tool box of new [self-guided activities](#) to enhance your next visit. [SIGN UP FOR GFS E-NEWS:](#)

CONNECT WITH GFS!  
 @GROUNDSFORSCULPTURE

For more information or to register for these events, visit [groundsforsculpture.org/calendar](https://groundsforsculpture.org/calendar) or 609.586.0616

### MEMBER PREVIEW DAY

*Saturday, May 4, 2024*

Member Preview Day is an exclusive opportunity for GFS Members to explore behind the scenes of the new artistic season. Join us and participate in a variety of unique programming specifically designed to engage and inspire you!

Member Preview Day highlights include:

- Exclusive first access to the new exhibition
- Meet the Artists and Curatorial staff
- Art-making activities

Members may use their Guest Passes to bring additional guests.

View the full program schedule: [groundsforsculpture.org/events/member-preview-day-4/](https://groundsforsculpture.org/events/member-preview-day-4/)

### SPRING PLANT SALE **GFS PLANT SALE**

*From Our Grounds to Yours*

*May 4 - 5, 2024*

Now in its fifth year, the GFS annual plant sale features a unique selection of annuals, perennials, and shrubs, as well as a variety of GFS propagated trees, houseplants, and succulent gardens. Our Director of Horticulture, Janis Napoli, Horticulture staff, and volunteers will be on hand to answer questions and share garden-planning advice. All proceeds from the Plant Sale support GFS's horticulture program. Members enjoy first access to the selection!

On Saturday 4/5, GFS will feature a demonstration on creating a seasonal container! Members Only demonstration at 12PM; General Public demonstration at 2:30PM.

*From Our Grounds to Yours Grounds For Sculpture's Spring Plant Sale is supported, in part, by Anthony Yaros Industries, Organic Green Lawn Solutions, and Power Place, Inc.*

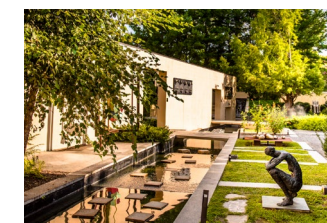


### MEMBER MORNINGS

*8am every Saturday and Sunday*

*(May 11 - September 1)*

Every Saturday and Sunday from Mother's Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend, members are granted exclusive early access to the grounds at 8 AM and may stay as long as they wish. Enjoy a quiet start to your day and catch the morning light at GFS before the general public is admitted. At GFS, we believe visiting an oasis of beauty, where art and imaginatively landscaped gardens awaken the senses, enhances well-being, and stimulates reflection.



**NEW** – Enhance your Member Morning on May 18, June 15, July 20, and August 17 with a members-only docent-led tour at 9:30am. Register at Guest Services upon arrival at GFS. Tour leaves from the Welcome Center.

Reserve your visit: [groundsforsculpture.org/timed-admission-tickets](https://groundsforsculpture.org/timed-admission-tickets)

### FAMILY OPEN STUDIOS

*First Saturday of each month, 11am – 3pm*

Reflect, Create and Share. Join us for Family Open Studios on the first Saturday of every month in our Education Studios. This drop-in workshop invites all ages to create together for experimentation and curiosity on various fun themes. FREE for members.

- May 11: Paint with Pulp
- June 1: Cast a Shadow
- July 13: Fabulous Floral Fabric
- August 3: Cardboard Jungle

*Family Open Studios are supported in part by PNC Foundation.*

LEARN MORE: [groundsforsculpture.org/calendar/?fwp\\_event\\_type=family](https://groundsforsculpture.org/calendar/?fwp_event_type=family)

### MEMBER TRIP TO BALTIMORE *June 12, 2024*

Join us for a rare opportunity: a day in Baltimore with artist and 2016 MacArthur "Genius" Fellow Joyce J. Scott, including a private tour with Joyce at The Baltimore Museum of Art, a visit to a local artist's studio, and an elegant, multi-course lunch. Very limited space!

LEARN MORE: [groundsforsculpture.org/events/member-trip-to-baltimore/](https://groundsforsculpture.org/events/member-trip-to-baltimore/)

### DEF POETRY JAM REUNION

*Thursday, June 20 (Rain date: June 27)*

*FREE for Sustainer and Benefactor level members*

Join us for a very special talk exclusively for Sustainer and Benefactor level Members – Danny Simmons and Roberto Lugo unite in conversation about the importance of legacy and building community. Includes food and beverage, and registration to [Def Poetry Jam Reunion](#) main event at the spectacular new addition to our collection, *Put Yourself in the Picture*. The full evening features two New Jersey poets and Def Jam Alumni poets sharing their craft, live DJ, delicious food trucks, and 42-acres to enjoy mobile poetry in the garden!

Sustainer and Benefactor level members register today. Current members may upgrade or new members may join at Sustainer or Benefactor to attend.

LEARN MORE: [groundsforsculpture.org/events/def-poetry-jam-reunion/](https://groundsforsculpture.org/events/def-poetry-jam-reunion/)

*A Def Poetry Jam Reunion is supported in part by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.*

**NEW JERSEY COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES**

### MEMBER DISCOUNTS AT GFS

Members enjoy **10% off** on all merchandise in the Museum Shop and **10% off** dining at the Van Gogh Café and Rat's Restaurant. Be sure to show your eMembership card at check-out or to your server.

VIEW RAT'S HOURS & SEASONAL MENU: [ratsrestaurant.com/](https://ratsrestaurant.com/)

### GIFT MEMBERSHIP

GFS membership is the gift that lasts all year, sparking the imagination and encouraging wellness through art and nature. To give a gift of GFS membership, visit: [bit.ly/join-gfs](https://bit.ly/join-gfs)



# ANNOUNCING ENHANCED MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Your Membership provides critical support for educational programs and exhibitions that enrich, surprise, and inspire so many. As a non-profit organization, we recognize the incredible impact the support of our members has to sustain Grounds For Sculpture. In appreciation of your support, GFS has enhanced its membership benefits! These premium memberships are designed to give you the **most engaging experience possible at GFS.**

**Upgrade or Renew at Sustainer \$500 to attend one of the following exclusive art talks:**

## EXCLUSIVE TALK WITH DANNY SIMMONS AND ROBERTO LUGO + DEF POETRY JAM REUNION *Thursday, June 20, 2024*

*5:30pm-9:00pm (Rain date: June 27)*

Danny Simmons and Roberto Lugo unite in conversation about the importance of legacy and building community, for members only. Includes food and beverage, and registration to Def Poetry Jam Reunion main event at the spectacular new addition to our collection, *Put Yourself in the Picture*. The full evening features two New Jersey poets and Def Jam Alumni poets sharing their craft, live DJ, delicious food trucks, and 42-acres to enjoy mobile poetry in the garden!



## BEHIND THE SCENES WITH COLETTE FU AND "NOODLE MOUNTAIN"

*Sunday, October 6, 2024 (3:00pm-4:30pm)*

Meet *Slow Motion* artist Colette Fu and learn about her complex sculptural compositions – giant, mesmerizing pop-up books – telling her personal stories through photography and pop-up paper engineering. Colette will share about her artistic process, her vision, and more about the making of "Noodle Mountain" for *Slow Motion* at Grounds For Sculpture. After the talk, members will experience a noodle pulling demonstration and tasting.

## Upgrade or Renew at Benefactor \$1,500 to attend BOTH events listed, PLUS:



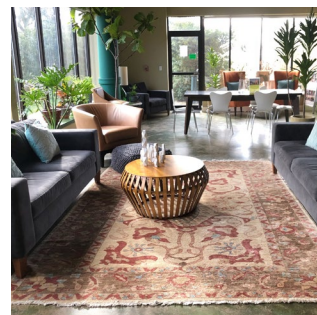
Exclusive invitation to the **Annual Trustees Toast**. This year guests will visit GFS Board Member Jerry Wind's home and art collection in Philadelphia. You'll get to know GFS leadership, toast the season, and hear special updates from GFS Executive Director, Gary Garrido Schneider. Guest speaker and program to be announced. **Saturday, November 16, 2024**

Access to GFS's exclusive international curated travel program, including GFS's next trip to Mexico City. Travelers enjoy unparalleled insider access, including visits to artists' studios, private collections, and museums, along with interactions with local curators and art enthusiasts. All this while meeting like-minded travelers, delighting in the best of local cuisine, staying in top hotels, and experiencing the culture of a new place. This is an incredible opportunity to experience travel through a GFS lens, with access you won't get anywhere else.



You may upgrade or renew your membership at any time! Call the Membership Office at 609-249-0225, or renew online. "Upgrade" to keep your same expiration date and pay just the difference between your current membership level and upgraded level. To "renew" at full price *Sustainer* \$500 or *Benefactor* \$1,500 levels, you will receive an additional full year of the enhanced benefits, added onto your current expiration date. LEARN MORE

## VISIT US IN THE MEMBER LOUNGE!

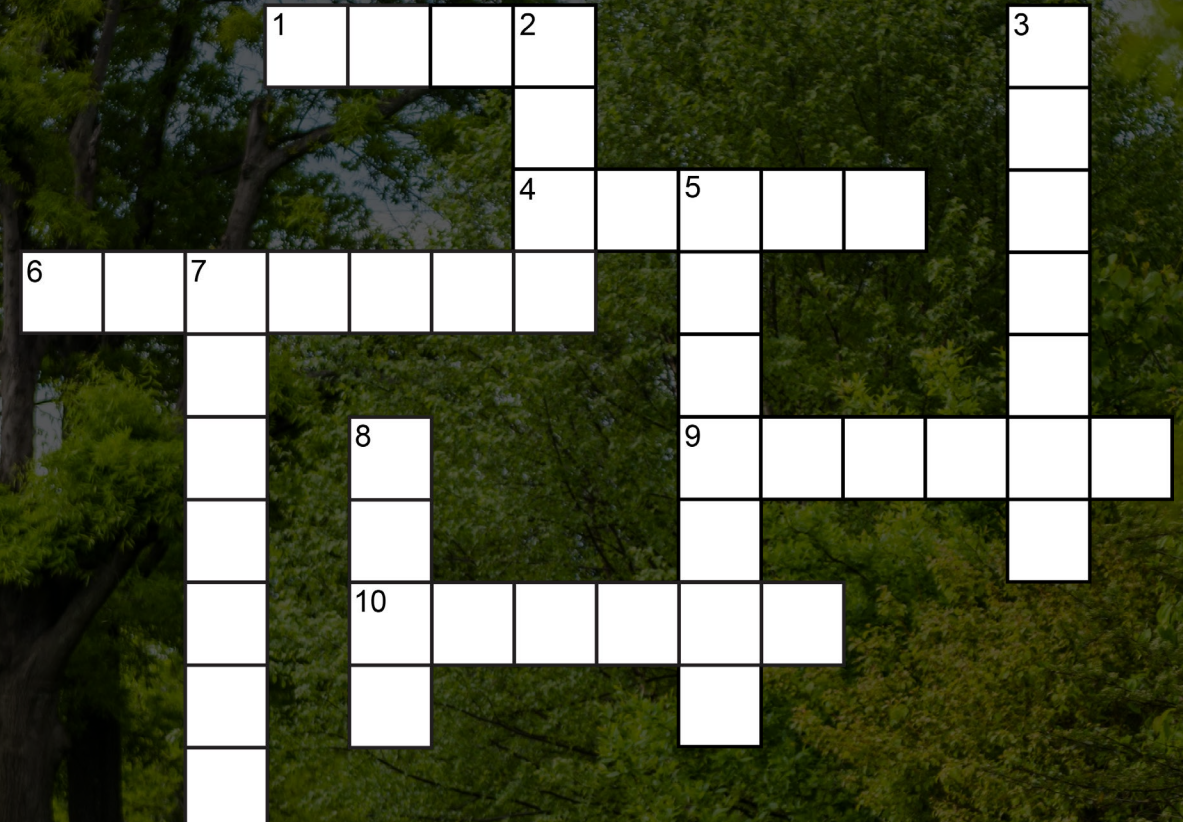


**Friday – Sunday, 11AM – 2PM**  
Located in a bright corner of the Welcome Center overlooking the gardens, the Member Lounge is an inviting space for members to take a break with a complimentary refreshment. Read museum publications, learn about upcoming programs, or connect with a staff member.

Roberto Lugo, *Put Yourself in the Picture*, 2022, mixed media, 240 x 132 x 324 inches, Grounds For Sculpture, Partial Gift of the Artist and Partial Purchase, Funds Provided in part by the Kunz/Guindo/Lombard Family & Friends in Loving Memory of Camille Lombard Kunz, photo: David Michael Howarth Photography; Artist Colette Fu at Grounds For Sculpture, photo: David Michael Howarth Photography; Champagne photo: Oliver Sherwin

# GARDENS CROSSWORD

Explore the GFS collection at [groundsforsculpture.org/collection](https://groundsforsculpture.org/collection), in-person, or interactive map [GFSMAP.org](https://GFSMAP.org) to complete the puzzle.



## WHAT GFS STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS ARE READING:

*A Walking Life: Reclaiming Our Health and Our Freedom – One Step at a Time* by Antonia Malchik

*Belonging Through a Culture of Dignity: The Keys to Successful Equity Implementation* by Floyd Cobb, John J. Krownapple

*Bury My Heart At Chuck E. Cheese* by Tiffany Midge

*Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt

*The Secret Life of Sunflowers* by Marta Molnar

## Across:

1. Crustacean apple
4. Sacred aquatic bloom
6. On \_\_\_\_\_ Hill
9. Primate puzzle tree
10. Cold season jasmine

## Down:

2. No hair cypress
3. Carnivorous plant that holds liquid
5. Brass horn vine
7. Sharp pear
8. Early morning redwood

Photo: David Michael Howarth Photography

Answers: 1. CRAB, 2. BALD, 3. PITCHER, 4. LOTUS, 5. TRUMPET, 6. POPPED, 7. PRICKLY, 8. DAWN, 9. MONKEY, 10. WINTER

Created by Leah Southerland, Manager of Guest Services



## The Tropical Room

Cat Swiderski | Manager of Horticulture

While you're exploring the grounds this summer, be sure to experience one of my favorite seasonal plantings known as the 'Tropical Room.' The Tropical Room can be found nestled into a quiet corner of the Water Garden with the *Windjammer* sculpture. Every summer, the Horticulture team turns this space into a lush and vibrant oasis. The team blends existing tropical specimens from our living collection with new additions propagated from seeds and cuttings. While most of the tropicals are moved inside during the winter months, the team does overwinter some of plants in the ground. Plants such as hardy banana (*Musa basjoo*), giant elephant ear (*Colocasia gigantea*), and giant calla lily (*Zantedeschia aethiopica*) are cut back after the first frost in the fall and heavily mulched to protect their subterranean plant parts from freezing temperatures. Other plants you can expect to find in the Tropical Room include oleander (*Nerium oleander*), canna lilies (*Canna* spp.), plumeria (*Plumeria* spp.), and Siam tulip (*Curcuma alismatifolia*). As the Horticulture team creates a new design for the Tropical Room each summer, we invite you to explore and let us know which tropical plants are *your* favorite this season.

### Calling all gardeners, horticulture lovers, and nature enthusiasts!

If gardens are your passion, or you just want to learn more about how we design and care for our gardens, **GFS invites you to join our new affinity group, the Garden Circle.**



**GARDEN CIRCLE**

The **Garden Circle** is designed to give you behind the scenes access with the Horticulture team, while garnering much needed support for the care and growth of our fantastic "Living Collection."

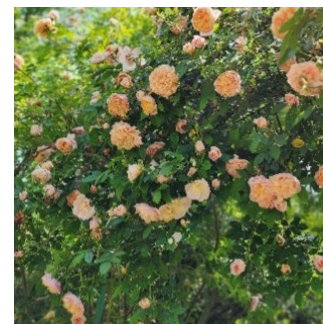
You don't need to have garden expertise to become a Garden Circle patron – though if you do, great! – just a desire to learn and have fun. You don't need to be a GFS member either, though the Garden Circle is a great way to enhance your membership with additional exclusive benefits like:

- Behind the scenes in-depth seasonal tours – unlike what we offer to the public
- Educational opportunities
- Monthly news and tips from our team
- Roses & Rosé party
- An opportunity to vote on how your dues are used, and more!

Join the **Garden Circle** today, just in time for the warmer weather. Then, you'll be able to enjoy our next exclusive event: **Roses & Rosé** on June 6.

## Bloom Watch

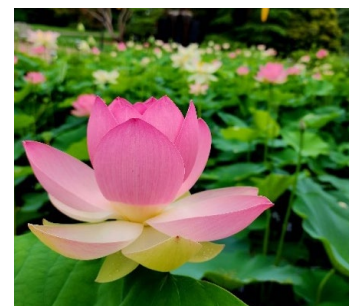
(May–August 2024)



### MAY/JUNE

Roses (*Rosa* spp.) can be found throughout the grounds but are perhaps displayed most spectacularly at the Rose Arbor (adjacent to the Rat's booth). Here, the climbing roses bloom during late spring and early summer, offering a delightful array of fragrances and hues. Don't overlook the accompanying garden

beds beneath the roses; they host a diverse selection of flowering perennials, ensuring continual interest throughout the season.



### JULY/AUGUST:

The Sacred Lotus (*Nelumbo nucifera*) are always a highlight of the GFS summer season, enchanting guests with their stunning pink flowers that hover above the surface of the Gazebo pond. Each individual flower is short-lived, but new

buds open every day, creating a captivating display. These ancient plants evolved over 100 million years ago and are considered living fossils. Beyond their aesthetic value, all parts of the lotus are edible, and it has served as a food crop for millennia. With its ability to rise above the muck, the lotus is considered a symbol of beauty and resilience in the face of adversity and holds cultural significance worldwide.

## Mac Adams, *East West Buddha*

Faith McClellan | Director of Collections & Exhibitions

*"I am inspired by the Buddhist philosophy of the interconnectedness of things. I have discovered that the arrangement of tangible objects, when exposed to a specific directional light source, can reveal other kinds of information. These shadows, when projected, create a disjunction between the traditional concept of form and content as a unified ideal, and begin to suggest other parallel phenomena existing as an illusion. The space between these two very separate realities is what continues to interest me in my work."* – Mac Adams



This spring, a recent acquisition to the collection will be on view in the Meadow. *East West Buddha* by Mac Adams was donated by the artist in 2023. This work uses light and time as part of the composition of its medium, and the two elements are as integral to the sculpture as the physical components of stone and metal. Through the positioning of the stones on metal platforms, the sculpture is designed to respond to the earth's tilt and shift. The steel anamorphic forms respond to the sunlight revealing the shadow of a person in meditation. This time-based work becomes activated through the months of May, June, July, and part of Aug. around 11AM and 2PM every day.



In the 1980s Adams began working with light and time as elements in his sculptures. Figurative shadows were projected from structures that were highly abstract, only revealing themselves under certain light conditions. Large outdoor shadow sculptures revealed hidden iconography via the path of sunlight responding to the earth's tilt and shift. Adams looks at these works like performative space and enjoys the ambiguity of the arrangement of forms when they lie "dormant" outside the peak viewing time, noting that off-peak, the sculptures "read like Rorschach ink blots, revealing more about the viewer in their musings for meaning." That the "meaning" is there but not recognizable is a parallel that Adams likes to highlight in this body of work, "The question immediately emerges, is meaning a temporary condition controlled only by recognition of socially ingrained archetypes?"

*East West Buddha* opens up thought-provoking ways of thinking about time as a component of art making. Time is something we tend to think about as degenerative when it comes to art-aging, weathering, breaking down form- but in this sculpture, time is generative, providing a glimpse at meaning that is both fleeting and dormant, always there, just waiting for the right moment to reveal itself. Like the garden that surrounds it, this work follows a cycle of seasonal change and renewal.



Mac Adams installing his work, *East West Buddha*, photo: Faith McClellan; detail of the shadow forming at 11am and 2pm, photo: Mac Adams

## Joyce J. Scott, *Everywoman's Harriet*

Now on view at the Baltimore Museum of Art, *Joyce J. Scott: Walk a Mile in My Dreams* is a retrospective of Scott's career, spanning 50 years of her work. Co-organized between the Baltimore Museum of Art and the Seattle Art Museum (where the exhibition travels in the fall), this exhibition brought together more than 120 objects from public and private collections across the United States, including Grounds For Sculpture's *Everywoman's Harriet* which is one of several works commissioned for the GFS 2017-2018 exhibition *Joyce J. Scott: Harriet*



*Tubman and Other Truths*. GFS is honored to loan this work to this important exhibition celebrating the life and career of a great American artist.

Top: Mac Adams installing at GFS, photo: Faith McClellan, Bottom: Montclair Art Museum installation of Mac Adams, *East West Buddha*, 2005, steel, stone, time, light, each element 42 x 72 inches, Grounds For Sculpture, Gift of the Artist, photo: Mac Adams; Joyce J. Scott, *Everywoman's Harriet*, 2017, beads, found objects, thread, Grounds For Sculpture, Purchase, photo: Ken Ek



# EXHIBITIONS



## Slow Motion

Faith McClellan | Director of Collections & Exhibitions

Opening to the public on May 5, 2024, *Slow Motion* is an exhibition which asks a central question: *How can we remake our relationship with monuments?*

Featuring new work by five artists commissioned for this exhibition, *Slow Motion* is an exhibition that experiments with the life cycles and material possibilities of monuments. Artists are making new work in a variety of mediums—wax, paper, recycled materials, food, and living plants—choosing to explore the use of unconventional materials rather than mediums like stone and bronze which are traditionally used for public monuments. The material choices each artist makes allow them to expand the narrative of how we see monuments, exploring ephemerality or embracing change and life cycles, rather than focusing on durability and permanence. This exhibition will be on view in the Domestic Arts Building and in selected outdoor locations on the grounds through September 1, 2025. Included in the Domestic Arts Building is a participatory engagement space designed for deeper exploration into the themes of the exhibition and each artist's practice.



**Billy Dufala** (b. 1981, Williamstown, NJ), the creative director for Philadelphia based RAIR (Recycled Artists In Residence) is creating *Future Futures*, a monolithic large-scale sculpture monument made from 40 bales of recycled aluminum, each bale weighing around 1,100lbs. His choice to work with recycled metals intentionally highlights new

ways of seeing within a growing waste landscape. Inspired by the pile up of unsold materials during the 2014–2015 commodities market crash, Dufala was moved to create something transformative through what otherwise becomes part of the environmentally devastating consumption process. Dufala considers this work both a performative sculpture and a material commodity. The

performance begins when these materials are sequestered from the supply chain at recycling centers to be hedged and sold. The bales of aluminum are then reintroduced in a new context as a sculptural material at GFS. The “performance” will continue until the sculpture is deinstalled and the bales are sold back to the commodities market. Funds from the sale will form a micro-endowment that will earn interest on its holdings, supporting Dufala's future creative projects.



Artist Billy Dufala at Grounds For Sculpture; Beverly Pepper, *Paolo e Francesca*, 1999 (detail), granito nero africano, 112 x 48 x 82 inches, Grounds For Sculpture, Gift of The Seward Johnson Atelier; Artist Ana Teresa Fernández at Grounds For Sculpture; Artist Colette Fu at Grounds For Sculpture; Artist Omar Tate at Grounds For Sculpture; Artist Sandy Williams IV at Grounds For Sculpture; Photos David Michael Howarth Photography



San Francisco based artist **Ana Teresa Fernández** (b. 1981, Tampico, Mexico), will present an edition of her sculpture *SHHH*. Fernández considers this 7-foot high work a “future monument”, a memorial to what will be lost due to coastline erasure from climate change- an inevitable erasure and silencing of culture and communities that live in vulnerable

locations. An artist whose work focuses on borders and borderlands as well as under-represented stories, Fernández often chooses to create work that calls attention to the border between land and sea. Created using hundreds of small reflective discs, their gentle movement in the wind creates a rhythmic sound in the silence, reminding us to think about our actions and to consider change while we still can.



**Colette Fu** (b. 1969, Princeton, NJ), combines photography and three dimensional craftsmanship to create monumental works on paper that “eliminate the boundaries between people, the book, installation, photography, craft, and sculpture.” Through her large-scale pop-up books viewers are invited to reflect on how we create narratives about ourselves and our

communities, locally and transnationally. Fu lives/works in Philadelphia, PA, but grew up in New Jersey. For this exhibition, Fu creates *Noodle Mountain*, a large-scale pop-up book which intertwines the artist's childhood memories with the broader experience of Chinese immigration in the United States. Auspicious clouds of noodles and over-life-size chopsticks float over the heads of viewers, while bean bags resembling soy sauce packets invite visitors to sit, rest, and ponder this whimsical monument. *Noodle Mountain* contemplates the deeply personal memories as well as the complex intergenerational histories of place, labor, and diaspora that food can conjure.



**Sandy Williams IV** (b. Belleville, NJ) will create a new sculpture titled *The Wax Monuments* which is based on their existing series of work. A selection of iconic monuments will be created by the artist in their studio (Williams is based in Richmond, VA), in miniature wax forms. Each wax miniature will be displayed on steps modeled after the stairs at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC- a well-known

landmark that has become a site for civic action, public performance, a meeting place, and have functioned as a stage for “the people to speak truth to power.” Over the course of the exhibition, these candles will be periodically burned and melted during timed activations. For Williams, the primary focus for this work is not just melting down problematic symbols of history, but instead they want to focus on creating space for conversation and changing the infrastructure of the system. Williams wants viewers to consider not just who sits on the pedestal, but really why we're building these platforms to begin with, often creating myths around history and distorting truth.



Philadelphia native **Omar Tate** (b. 1986, Philadelphia, PA) is an artist who considers food just one of his many mediums. Tate and his wife chef Cybille St. Aude-Tate co-run Honeysuckle Projects and Honeysuckle Provisions, an Afro-centric café and store focuses on the modern aesthetics of Black American culture, for which they have received critical acclaim not only as a food

concept but also as a leading philosophy of the future of food thought in America. For this exhibition, Tate will create *Blue* drawing inspiration from the color blue, a protective motif in Black American culture. *Blue* reflects on the role of sound, taste, sight, and smell in memory-work, forging a monument that honors the multiple roots that constitute Black history and experience. This work includes creation of a “hoodoo inspired garden” as part of a living “sculpture” in the Domestic Arts Building, a dinner series with a menu that focuses on blue as a color, feeling, and condition that evolves over the course of the 16-month long residency, and activation of the GFS café spaces through Honeysuckle Provisions, providing offerings that are reflective of Tate and his relationship to the Blues and Black American culture.

*Slow Motion* is guest curated by **Monument Lab** and Monument Lab's Curator-at-Large Patricia Eunji Kim. Founded in 2012, Monument Lab is a nonprofit public art and history studio based in Philadelphia, which cultivates and facilitates critical conversations around the past, present, and future of monuments. They collaborate with artists, students, educators, activists, municipal agencies, and cultural institutions on participatory approaches to public engagement and collective memory. In 2020, Monument Lab was awarded a transformative grant of \$4 million by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, to support the production of a definitive audit of the nation's monuments. Among the priorities outlined in Monument Lab's vision statement, they “envison a society where monuments are dynamic and defined by their meaning, not by their hardened immovable and untouchable status. By disrupting the status quo of how monuments are made, preserved, and interpreted, we hope to contribute to a future society defined by joy, regeneration, and repair.”

Through this exhibition, GFS can reflect the conversations happening locally and in communities across the country, questioning what the future of monuments looks like in a more equitable and inclusive world. At GFS, we believe that exhibitions can become a catalyst for transformation across the organization, addressing issues relevant to inclusivity, access, and equity while continuing a commitment to present the works of contemporary sculptors who reflect the greater world, challenge perceptions, and inspire. Collaborating with a guest curator and project partner such as Monument Lab infuses new perspectives and supports innovative approaches to curating, broadening our reach through the presentation of new voices and ideas.

*Slow Motion* is made possible by generous exhibition support from Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Brooke Barrie Art Fund, NRG Energy, and Julie and Michael Nachamkin. Support is provided in part by the Atlantic Foundation, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, New Jersey Department of State, and the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation. Additional generous support is provided by Holman.

Bloomberg Philanthropies nrg



Made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.





# EDUCATION

**Julio Enrique Badel** | Director of Education & Community Engagement

With the arrival of spring, Education programs are heating up with a focus on artmaking, horticulture, and wellness. Favorites include Family Open Studios, Tai Chi, and Sound Baths while we are bringing back our Creating Connections classes for older adults to build their studio practice with drawing and painting. Please visit our [website calendar](#) to discover workshops, tours, and classes that explore new materials, processes, and insights into your experience of GFS.

## Partnership with Trent Center

GFS has a seven-year relationship with the Trent Center, an assisted living community located across from the Trenton Transit Center, through our Wellness Walk program. This year the Education team will offer monthly artmaking workshops onsite for their residents to introduce and expand their creative expressions. Connections to our local neighbors are essential to building relationships and community, and GFS looks forward to further growing our partnership with Trent Center.

## Garden Retreat

This past April, GFS hosted its first annual Garden Retreat | Mind + Body with over 190 attendees to kick off our year's wellness programs and, more importantly, give members and the public an opportunity to care for themselves.

GFS naturally provides the physical space to escape our routines and connect with nature. Highlights of the day included Tai Chi, forest bathing, yoga, drawing with nature, community reflections, and a closing sound bath. Thank you to all our members who attended this event!

Save the date for next year's Garden Retreat on April 12, 2025

*Garden Retreat | Mind + Body was made possible in part by Capital Health Systems and the Institute of Museum and Library Services [MA-252851-OMS-23].*



## Welcome Rodney Camarce, Wellness Manager

This winter the Education team welcomed a new member, Rodney Camarce, as the Manager of Wellness Programs. Rodney brings years of experience in the nonprofit field in many areas including community engagement, artmaking, health, and wellness. He previously worked at the Asian Arts Initiative and Mural Arts Program in Philadelphia. Rodney will now lead the suite of wellness and horticulture programs for our visitors, partners, and staff, being an advocate for improving mental, physical, and emotional health. The primary goals will be expanding our program offerings, building new audience relationships, creating evaluation tools, and interweaving wellness across the entirety of GFS.

Have an idea for feature in *News casting*? Email Claire Cossaboon, Director of Membership, [ccossaboon@groundsforsculpture.org](mailto:ccossaboon@groundsforsculpture.org)



Roberto Lugo, *Put Yourself in the Picture*, 2022, mixed media, 240 x 132 x 324 inches, Grounds For Sculpture, Partial Gift of the Artist and Partial Purchase, Funds Provided in part by the Kunz/Guindo/Lombard Family & Friends in Loving Memory of Camille Lombard Kunz

# SUPPORT

## Swirl

After a successful first year, *Swirl: An Evening of Art and Wine* returns! This sensory journey around the grounds will highlight five sculptures and five premium food & wine pairings, each curated by the chef and the sommelier from the Zagat-rated Rat's Restaurant. All funds raised from this event will support GFS's impressive sculpture collection, sprawling gardens, and dynamic public programming. With your help we can deliver life-affirming access to art, education, and wellness experiences for as many people as possible.

Each *Swirl* date – July 11th and September 6th – will feature a different selection of sculptures and pairings amongst our lush gardens.

*Swirl* is supported, in part, by Donna M. Murray SA Fox & Roach Realtors, Geoscape Solar, and PSE&G

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## Accessibility Updates to the Seward Johnson Center for the Arts

GFS has been awarded funding from the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation to upgrade accessibility features in the Seward Johnson Center for the Arts (SJCA). As part of this generous new funding, GFS will convert internal doors in the SJCA to powered, accessible doors. GFS strives to be a welcoming and accessible space for people with disabilities and the installation of these doors will bring the organization closer to fulfilling its accessibility goals, which include adhering to ADA guidelines and requirements set forth by the federal government and the State of New Jersey.

Sam Hwang, Director of Guest Services, commented, "Art and nature have no boundaries, and at Grounds For Sculpture these upgrades allow us to work towards the larger vision of being an organization where everyone feels welcome."

The funding reflects a larger organizational commitment to people with disabilities, which includes recent enhancements to the organization's website that make it more accessible in a variety of ways that include font size, contrast, text spacing and line height adjustments.

GFS's permanent collection and an artwork on loan reflect this commitment as well. In 2022, GFS acquired Giant George by Princeton-based artist Gordon Gund for its permanent collection; GFS's collection now has three sculptures by Gund, who began his art practice following the loss of his vision.

GFS's ongoing dedication to accessibility aims to provide opportunities for all its guests to experience a visit full of joy and whimsy. To learn more, visit: [groundsforsculpture.org/visit/accessibility/](https://groundsforsculpture.org/visit/accessibility/)

The Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation's National Paralysis Resource Center provides a free online resource map for those living with paralysis. View GFS and other local venues on their map: [christopherreeve.org/todays-care/get-support/resources-in-your-area/](https://christopherreeve.org/todays-care/get-support/resources-in-your-area/)



## Business Member Program

GFS has made updates to reflect some exciting new benefits of the Business Member program, including more Team Building opportunities and more. Support at the Granite and up levels now helps support daytime community access distributed through the [Families First Discovery Pass Program](#) which offers free or discounted tickets to cultural programs throughout NJ for those utilizing state assistance programs.

To view a list of current Business Members visit our website: [groundsforsculpture.org/business-members/](https://groundsforsculpture.org/business-members/)

To find out more about the Business Member program and how it may fit your organization's needs, visit: [groundsforsculpture.org/membership/business-membership/](https://groundsforsculpture.org/membership/business-membership/)

GFS Business Member Gallagher competed in the Chubb Charity Golf tournament to raise funds for a nonprofit of their choice. After successful rounds the Gallagher team raised \$8,000 for GFS! Nice playing Gallagher and thank you to the team, and to Chubb, for this impactful donation.



## Community

The Education team at Grounds For Sculpture has been working with the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK) Visual Arts Program. TASK offers creative arts programs to help patrons meet emotional needs and improve communication skills. GFS worked with TASK in 2022 with a one visit community ceramics program. Having a positive experience, both organizations were interested in an opportunity to return for intensive art-making opportunities and longer-term programming.

In 2023, with funding from the Dina Wind Art Foundation, we were able to expand to work with six clients participating in eight session ceramics classes that included Portrait Modeling, Wheel Throwing, and experimental Printmaking with ceramics. GFS was able to offer these classes at no cost for TASK artists and provide space for them to develop their technical skills and creative expression. Working with TASK has been a wonderful experience for both the GFS and TASK teams.



TASK artist John Hayes

## Events at GFS

**Lauren Shepard** | Director of Events

Grounds For Sculpture was featured in the Spring Issue of New Jersey Bride magazine as one of the [5 Unexpected Places to Get Married in New Jersey - New Jersey Bride](#)

### A Wedding Story

Alison Elliot and David Patchell became GFS members in 2022. Every time they come to visit, they ask for Steve in Guest Services to tell them about a new sculpture that they can go out and find. Alison and David are getting married at GFS this summer and recently just got a GFS tattoo—the arches! They attend Rat's happy hours and enjoy everything GFS has to offer.

### Did you know you can host an event at GFS? Here are several Rental Events, coming back for a third year!

Wednesday May 29 – Health Connect One. A nonprofit organization aiming to improve pregnancy, birth, and early parenting experiences for communities that have been historically marginalized and inadequately served.

Saturday, June 1 – Capital Health Hospital Cancer Survivors' annual luncheon and butterfly release. Cancer survivors attend to celebrate.

Sunday, June 9 – New Jersey State Governor's Volunteerism Awards. Volunteers across the state of NJ come to receive awards.

Friday, June 21 – NJ Realtor's Event promoting different real estate business in New Jersey.

## SEWARD JOHNSON EXHIBITIONS

**Lynn DeClemente Losavio** | Chief Legacy Officer

The Seward Johnson Atelier

The [2024 Seward Johnson exhibition season](#) is filled with anticipation, featuring a captivating blend of local and national exhibitions. A prominent highlight of the season is Fort Worth Botanic Garden in Texas, playing host to the much-anticipated "Sculptures in the Garden." This exhibition boasts 21 life-size sculptures, seamlessly harmonizing with nature's beauty, creating an immersive experience that calls attention to the transformative power of renewal. Join us at any of our exhibitions to celebrate art and connection.

[Fort Worth Botanic Garden in Fort Worth, TX](#) | March 1 – Sept 1

[CURE Arena – Trenton, NJ](#) | Jan 2024 - Jan 2025

[Metuchen, NJ](#) | March 6 - Aug 31, 2024

[Haddonfield, NJ](#) | March 2024 - Jan 2025

[Bridgeville, PA](#) | March 2024 - March 2025

[Mayfair, PA](#) | April 4 - Oct 1, 2024

[Glassboro, NJ](#) | April 24 - Nov 1, 2024

[Hackensack, NJ](#) | April 29 - Aug 1, 2024

[New Brunswick, NJ](#) | May 1 - Oct 15, 2024

[Suffield, CT](#) | May 18 - August 1, 2024

[Gloucester, VA](#) | May 29 - Sept 1, 2024

[Bay Head, NJ](#) | May 2024 - May 2025

[Wildwood Crest, NJ](#) | June - November 2024

[Bordentown, NJ](#) | June 2024 - June 2025

[Plant City, FL](#) | December 2024 - March 2025

For more information and a full list, visit the [Seward Johnson Atelier's new website](#) dedicated to Seward's creative legacy