



## Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts News Release

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### **The Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Joins the Association of Art Museum Directors' Sixth Annual Celebration of Art Museum Day**

**Montgomery, Alabama, May 5, 2015**—The Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts announced today that it would offer free admission during *Family Art Affairs and Jazz Jams* on Sunday, May 17, 2015, 2 to 4 P.M., as part of the Association of Art Museum Directors' (AAMD) Art Museum Day, coinciding with International Museum Day on Monday, May 18, 2015. Last year the MMFA along with 180 other AAMD member museums across North America, participated in Art Museum Day.

Art Museum Day underscores the critical role art museums play as cultural resources in their communities and celebrates the unique opportunities AAMD member museums offer visitors to engage with works of art. This year, the MMFA is presenting art activities centered around the exhibition *History Refused to Die: Alabama's African-American Self-Taught Artists in Context*, including a demonstration by artist Charlie Lucas, and rhythmic sounds of jazz by the Lo-Fi Loungers. We also encourage visitors to share their experiences on Art Museum Day via social media with the hashtag #myMMFA #ArtMuseumDay.

“The exhibition featured in Art Museum Day is the Museum’s way of introducing Montgomery and the River Region to 15 talented artists from Alabama who are not only being recognized in Alabama, but all across the nation,” said Mark Johnson, director of the MMFA.

“Art museums are invaluable communal spaces that bring people together to experience the arts across cultures and generations,” said Chris Anagnos, executive director of AAMD. “AAMD is so pleased that the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts is joining us in this celebration by welcoming everyone in central Alabama to participate in Art Museum Day.”

AAMD represents 242 art museums across the United States, Canada, and Mexico—from regional museums to large museums in major urban centers. International Museum Day is organized annually around the world by the International Council of Museums (ICOM). AAMD’s Art Museum Day is an opportunity to focus attention on the role of art museums in North America.

A comprehensive list of participating AAMD member art museums will be available on the AAMD website (<http://www.aamd.org/>).

The exhibition *History Refused to Die: Alabama's African-American Artists in Context* is sponsored by Regions Bank, the Alabama Humanities Foundation, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Central Alabama Community Foundation, and co-sponsored by Harmon Dennis Bradshaw, Inc.

The Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, a department of the City of Montgomery, is supported by funds from the City of Montgomery and the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association. Programs are made possible, in part, by grants from the Alabama State Council on the Arts. Exhibition programs are supported by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.