

MMFA

Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Family Fun, Music, and Bar-B-Que Are Part of the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts' Annual Tribute to the Military



The Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Honors World War II Veterans During the 2019 Military Open House

Montgomery, AL – Come and experience the fascination of the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts' latest exhibition featuring influential American artist Jacob Lawrence, witness the beauty of the ever-changing Caddell Sculpture Garden, and dine on award-winning bar-b-que during the 24th annual Military Open House. This family-oriented event is the Board of Trustees, staff, and volunteers' way of recognizing the River Region's servicemen and women who have dedicated their lives to their country. All active-duty military, veterans, and reserve members of the U.S. Armed Forces, and their immediate families are invited to this FREE event on **Thursday, August 22, 2019, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM**. The evening will commence with a special recognition of the 75th anniversary of D-Day, a ceremony honoring World War II veterans. The partnership between the Museum and the military is supported by the generosity of sponsors Charles Jinright, Montgomery City Council President, and Dreamland Bar-B-Que.

The following comments share the enthusiasm for this momentous occasion:

"At this year's *Military Open House*, we look forward to joining our voice with that of the nation in recognizing the 75th Anniversary of D-Day and thanking the River Region's WWII veterans for their service to our country. We mean for this annual event to remind these special veterans and the larger local military community how much we value their participation in the Museum and its offerings, to encourage them to visit the Museum and experience human creativity and fellowship with their appreciative and admiring neighbors—on this very special occasion and throughout the year. The Museum believes deeply in the centrality of the arts and culture to the continued rise of our City, County, and Region and, especially, to the individual well-being of

those who work, learn, play, live, and serve here,” said Angie Dodson, Director of the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts.

“We are privileged to have the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts to welcome us and recognize our military members and their families in such a special way. We are truly blessed to have such outstanding community partners,” said Colonel Patrick. J. Carley, Commander, 42nd Air Base Wing.

The evening of summer fun includes patriotic and exhibition-based art-making activities in the studios and in ArtWorks, games in the John and Joyce Caddell Sculpture Garden, a bar-b-que dinner, and live music by Pre-Sputnik (formerly known as the Lo-Fi Loungers). Throughout the evening, docents will be available in the galleries to give tours of the temporary exhibitions and permanent collection. This will include artists Ron Kleeman’s *Mustang Sally* (pictured above) and Roger Lee Iven’s *Ab the Flagman*. Especially for this occasion, Museum curators chose these visitor favorites from our vaults.

For more information, please call the Museum at 334.625.4333 or visit mmfa.org.

Sponsors: Charles Jinright, Montgomery City Council President
Dreamland Bar-B-Que

Itinerary for the Evening

5:30 PM Welcome and recognition of World War II Veterans in the Wilson Auditorium
5:45–7:30 PM Art-making activities, games, music, tours by Museum docents, and dinner

History of Military Open House

The Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts opened its doors to military families from Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base for the inaugural *Military Open House* held September 15, 1995. At that time, organizers anticipated 500 people would attend. Since its inception, the event has expanded to include all military service members in the River Region. The attendance now exceeds 1,000 people each year.

This event helped bolster relationships between Museum educators and military spouses. The Museum’s staff attends three annual events at Maxwell to educate husbands and wives about exhibitions, studio classes, and educational programs.

About the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

The Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts was founded in 1930 by a group of local artists as a place for both exhibiting art and providing a space for art education. The original intentions of the founders were to exhibit and teach, and to inspire and inform every action and activity at

the Museum. Since 1988 the Museum has shared the 277-acre Blount Cultural Park with our partners across the lake at the celebrated Alabama Shakespeare Festival.

Today's Museum visitors stroll art-studded grounds and permanent collection galleries. They experience compelling changing exhibitions and learn about art while visiting the ArtWorks interactive gallery, making art in the bustling studios, or by participating in other engaging events and programs. Museum visitors can now relax and recharge in the serenity of our stunning new three-acre John and Joyce Caddell Sculpture Garden, celebrating its first anniversary in September 2019.

While the Museum's collection is still home to the art of many of the regional artists who first established it, it has also become known for its strength in American Art and Old Master Prints. Recently, important acquisitions of art made by African-American and Asian artists and works inspired by images and themes related to the experiences of these groups represent the breadth and depth of the lives and concerns of those who now call the River Region home. Through the exhibition of this work, as well as the programs and events that help connect our communities with it, the Museum is recognized as a leading arts and cultural resource here in the state and the Southeastern region.

The Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, a department of the City of Montgomery, is supported by funds from the City of Montgomery, with support from the Montgomery County Commission and the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Association. Programs are made possible, in part, by grants from the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

General Information

Free admission and ample parking.
www.mmfa.org
334.625.4333

Hours of Operation:

ArtWorks

Tuesday–Saturday, 10 AM–5 PM
Sunday, Noon to 5 PM

Galleries, Caddell Sculpture Garden, and Parker Terrace:

Tuesday–Saturday, 10 AM–5 PM
Thursday, 10 AM–9 PM
Sunday, Noon to 5 PM

Café:

Tuesday–Saturday, 11 AM–2 PM

Museum Store:

Tuesday–Saturday, 11 AM–4 PM
Sunday, Noon to 4 PM

Location:

Wynton M. Blount Cultural Park
One Museum Drive
Montgomery, Alabama, 36117

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Ron Kleeman (American, 1937–2014), *Mustang Sally—The Third Cross*, 1978, screen print on Masonite, Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Montgomery, Alabama, Gift of Louis K. and Susan P. Meisel, 2014.5.4

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