FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE MONTGOMERY MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
CELEBRATES RETURN OF IN-PERSON ARTIST MARKET

The annual Artist Market returns to in-person after 2020’s online-only event, making this the 10th Anniversary of face-to-face shopping for artists and our community.

Montgomery, AL, November 9, 2021 – Artist Market returns in person to the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts on Saturday, November 20 from 10 AM to 4 PM, just in time for holiday shopping! Set against the backdrop of the Museum’s grand Rotunda and the Lowder Gallery, the Market brings local artists and community members together, allowing for good ole fashioned face-to-face connections and in-person purchases. Though 2020 would have marked the 10th anniversary of this much-loved event—as with many other events, Artist Market was celebrated virtually last year—the MMFA is celebrating this momentous occasion in 2021, welcoming our community back indoors for the 10th happening of this unique creative event.

Along with some familiar faces from previous Artist Markets—such as painter George Taylor, jewelry maker Queen Opulence, textile artist Winki Allen, and glass artist Gloria Simons—there will be several artists new to the event, like painters Toni Toney and Milton Madison, photographer Mark Dauber, and multi-media artist Peggy Raines—showcasing the best of the River Region’s diverse art scene. With price points for every budget and one-of-a-kind artwork in a variety of media, there is truly something for everyone. Goods to expect: traditional and contemporary paintings, sculptures, and ceramics; unique metal, gemstone, and leather jewelry; artisan purses and felted figurines; notecards and prints on paper—and so much more!

MMFA Board President Cathy Martin said, “Like the Museum Shop, the annual Artist Market is a win-win for local artists and arts patrons. It allows us to support our local artists and also eases patrons' access to the artists and their work. These activities honor our origin story—the Museum was founded...
by local artists and arts educators, celebrate the creatives around us, and strengthens our relationships with them. It’s my belief that art museums should be as supportive of their local makers.”

MMFA Director Angie Dodson added “Artmaking can be a tough way to make a living under the best of circumstances. Many artists here and all over the state, region, and country have had it rough during the pandemic. With so many art fairs and festivals cancelled, artists have had few outlets to sell their work. Even with the relief programs offered by various government and private sources, many creatives’ financial security has been shaken. We want to help them get back on sturdier footing. With this in mind, this year, it’s more imperative than ever to come out and support them with our purchases.

Montgomery artist Kay Jacoby, who was previously an employee of the MMFA in the Museum Shop and was a founder of the original Artist Market in 2010, will be participating for the first time as an artist selling her works. Kay shares, “I look forward to being with fellow creatives in the beautiful surroundings of the MMFA. I think it’ll be great to see people gather and to support local artists, especially during this time of year of giving thanks and celebrating after we have all endured such trying times.” In addition to selling the “Mood Altering Plaques" Kay has been painting since 2001, she will be debuting recent paintings—a love she has returned to upon retiring this past summer. “It’s my honor and pleasure to be on the participant-side instead of the ‘in charge’ side from days gone by. I hope folks will take the time to turn out for this free event and spend money on handcrafted artworks from artists themselves. It’s a win-win for everyone!”

Museum members get a first look at Artist Market, on Friday, November 19 at a preview event featuring complimentary hors d’oeuvres and cash bar offerings. For more information on becoming a MMFA member or to renew your membership ahead of the event, please visit mmfa.org/join.

Artist Market 2021 is made possible by the generous support and dedication of lead sponsor AL Power Foundation, sponsors Gene and Ray Ingram and Margaret and Jimmy Lowder with additional support provided by co-sponsors Confero, Mary Lil Owens and Bill Little, and Renasant Bank.

SAMPLE ARTIST MARKET ITEMS

George Taylor
*June Morning Magnolia*
Oil on Canvas, 16 x 20 in.
$542
FOR YOUR SAFETY | COVID-19
We remain committed to serving our members and visitors in a safe and responsible manner, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To this end: all Museum visitors over the age of five must wear a mask or face covering while inside during their visit. Social distancing is encouraged and indicated by signage throughout the Garden and the Galleries. Following CDC and ADPH guidelines, we have increased the frequency that we clean and disinfect high-touch areas. Additionally, hand sanitizer is readily available for visitors. Please stay at home if you are feeling ill or have been exposed to COVID-19 in the fourteen (14) days prior to your visit.

MMFA BACKGROUND
The Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts was founded in 1930 by a group of local artists as a place for both exhibiting art and space for art education. The original intentions of our founders—to exhibit and teach—continue to inspire and inform every action and activity here at the Museum which, since 1988, has shared the 277-acre Blount Cultural Park with our partners across the lake at the celebrated Alabama Shakespeare Festival.

Today’s MMFA visitors stroll through art-studded grounds and permanent collection galleries. They see compelling changing exhibitions and learn about art by playing in our interactive gallery, ArtWorks, making art in its bustling studios, or by participating in other engaging events and programs. And, as of late September 2018, MMFA visitors can now relax and recharge in the serenity of our stunning new three-acre sculpture garden.

While the Museum’s collection is still home to the art of many of the regional artists who first established it, over time it has become known for its strength in American art and Old Master Prints. Recent, 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 Montgomery and 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 MMFA is recognized as a leading arts and cultural resource here in the state and Southeastern region.

The MMFA is a department of the City of Montgomery and is supported by funds from the City of Montgomery, with additional funds 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.

GENERAL INFORMATION

WHAT: Artist Market

WHEN: Public Event: Saturday, November 20, 2021 from 10 AM to 4 PM

WHERE: Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts
Wynton M. Blount Cultural Park
One Museum Drive
Montgomery, AL 36117

INFORMATION: mmfa.org
334.625.4333
@MontgomeryMFA

HOURS: Galleries, Mondays, Closed
Sculpture Garden, Tuesdays–Sundays, 10 AM–5 PM
Terrace, and Shop: Last entry at 4:45 PM

ADMISSION: Free! With ample, free parking.

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MEDIA CONTACT
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