



WICHITA ART MUSEUM

MURDOCK SOCIETY



A spring “house party” and a holiday party are in development for Murdock Society members. Always, they are opportunities to connect with art and friends in exceptional private homes or other special settings. Invitations will arrive with ample advance notice for these two not-to-be-missed soirées.

Murdock Society members also have exclusive entrée to Patron Previews, an evening program to kick off major exhibition openings. Dates ahead for 2022 are Friday, February 11, Thursday, June 23, and Friday, October 14.

Murdock Society membership begins at \$1,000 annually for an individual and \$1,250 annually for a dual membership. Membership dues are philanthropic (with \$950/\$1,200 as a charitable tax deduction) and provide generous and vital direct support for museum exhibitions and programs.

WAM | MURDOCK SOCIETY

**Murdock Mixology Speakers**—Nationally prominent art-world figures give fascinating talks on timely topics. 2022 focuses on “The Niche Museum.” Presentations include a complimentary reception and optional dinner.

**Murdock Parties**—Twice a year, Murdock Society members gather in the homes of art collectors or at savvy Wichita venues for festive mingling, art appreciation, and laughter.

**Patron Previews**—By invitation only, Patron Preview events offer exclusive programs with exhibition artists and curators to kick off WAM’s major exhibition openings.

**Murdock Trips**—Not-to-be-missed forays to art-world hotspots that include exclusive entrée to spectacular private homes, behind-the-scene tours, discussion with art-world luminaries, exceptional dining experiences, plus the spirited camaraderie of fellow Murdock Society members and the museum director.

**Through generous contributions, the enlightened Murdock Society members proactively enable the Wichita Art Museum to engage the community in meaningful encounters with works of art and make a positive impact on the quality of life and cultural landscape of Wichita and the region.**



**MURDOCK SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP**

- ◆ **Individual Patron** \$1,000–\$1,249
- ◆ **Dual Patron** \$1,250–\$2,499
- ◆ **Benefactor** \$2,500–\$4,999
- ◆ **Director’s Circle** \$5,000–\$9,999

For information regarding major donor levels, please inquire with the museum director.

WICHITA ART MUSEUM  
1400 West Museum Boulevard  
Wichita, Kansas 67203  
For membership information, call 316-268-4921.  
[wichitaartmuseum.org/murdock](http://wichitaartmuseum.org/murdock)

2022

MURDOCK SOCIETY OF THE WICHITA ART MUSEUM





## MURDOCK SOCIETY of the Wichita Art Museum

The Murdock Society is the Wichita Art Museum's premier patron group. Wichitans with a curiosity about cultural trends and art-world developments—people who are eager to combine learning with lively socializing—assemble for a variety of Murdock gatherings across the year. Spirited camaraderie pairs with exploring ideas and discovering new artists—all laced with a sense of adventure and levity. A speaker series, house parties, exhibition opening Patron Previews, and trips comprise the lineup of Murdock Society programs.

The Murdock Society takes its name from the civic-minded and cultured Murdock family of Wichita. Louise Caldwell Murdock left a substantial bequest to establish the Roland P. Murdock Collection in honor of her husband, publisher of the *Wichita Eagle* and prominent city leader. The bequest challenged the City of Wichita to house and maintain the collection devoted to American art, and this inspired act of generosity set in motion the establishment of the Wichita Art Museum. The museum now cares for one of the most distinguished collections of American art, thanks to the forward-looking insight and rare generosity of Louise and Roland Murdock. Today's Murdock Society members, in similar fashion, invest in the ongoing cultural vibrancy of Wichita through annual patron-level membership.

**INVEST** in the ongoing cultural vibrancy of Wichita through annual patron-level membership



### MURDOCK SOCIETY 2022 PROGRAM

What is a niche museum? Wichita Art Museum is devoted to American art. That makes WAM an unusual species, although not too rare, in the universe of art museums. Some art museums do focus on a specialized vein in art. Murdock Mixology speakers across 2022 will be directors who lead niche museums, or those with a specific, sometimes unique mission and expertise. Yes, art museums are devoted to Russian art and folk art, to a single artist or a single media. There are astounding art museums with incredible prestige and a limited focus. Let's learn together about the expansive terrain of art museums by meeting and hearing from fascinating museum leaders. Don't miss a single gathering as Murdock patrons mingle with great museum directors in the 2022 Murdock Mixology series.



### MURDOCK MIXOLOGY SPEAKERS



**Thursday, February 17**

**TIMOTHY RODGERS**, DIRECTOR, MUSEUM OF ARTS AND DESIGN, NEW YORK CITY

At the base of Central Park in New York City, the Museum of Arts and Design celebrates artists and artisans in craft, art, and design. Innovation plus traditional skill across the centuries is collected and exhibited at MAD. The museum values time-honored craft while it celebrates and promotes artists today who push for fresh art forms that they imagine, innovate, and create to spectacular result. Join the evening to learn about one of the country's leading museums devoted to the inventiveness of decorative arts. Come discover how the very definition of craft and design is evolving today.



**Thursday, April 7**

**SAM GAPPMAYER**, DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES, ART PRESERVE AT JOHN MICHAEL KOHLER ARTS CENTER, SHEBOYGAN, WISCONSIN

Bone towers built in a kitchen. Concrete sculptures constructed in a yard on the shore of Lake Michigan. Elaborate fiber hangings woven in a New York City loft. These works from the John Michael Kohler Arts Center collection exemplify the complex artist-built environments contained at the Art Preserve. Newly opened in 2021, Art Preserve is an experimental space designed to house the Kohler's collection of more than 35 artist-built environments. This new center is a platform for ongoing explorations and investigations into these environments and their makers. Art Preserve is a new facility for the Kohler Arts Center, an arts organization founded by the Kohler plumbing company heiress Ruth DeYoung Kohler to advance the cause of self-taught and outsider artists. PHOTO COURTESY JOHN MICHAEL KOHLER ARTS CENTER



**Thursday, October 27**

**LAURA HOPTMAN**, DIRECTOR, THE DRAWING CENTER, NEW YORK CITY

Founded in 1977 by a former MOMA curator in the drawings department, The Drawing Center is led today by a

former MOMA curator of drawings. This museum explores drawing in all its guises and with an expansive grasp of this medium. Based in New York's SoHo, the Center thrives in the Manhattan neighborhood with countless artist studios and alternative art spaces. It takes an experimental and interdisciplinary approach, presenting early exhibitions by Catalan architect Antoni Gaudí, for example, and more recent shows with drawings by tattoo artists, novelists, even chefs in addition to leading visual artists. Come learn about this internationally regarded gem of a museum devoted to drawing.



**Thursday, November 17**

**NATASHA EGAN**, DIRECTOR, MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY, CHICAGO

A museum devoted to photography, sure. A museum devoted to contemporary photography, absolutely! MoCP is a university art museum, embedded within Chicago's Columbia College of Art and down the street from the Art Institute of Chicago on Michigan Avenue. In fact, its collection holdings far exceed our Wichita Art Museum. The museum follows and presents how living artists as photographers reflect our world, keeping a finger on innovation in photography. Art photographers continue technical experimentation in the medium as well as evolving subjects and content responding to our times, and MoCP explores the fascinating new work by art photographers today. Come learn about this treasure in Chicago and meet the museum's visionary director.

