MURDOCK MEMBERS are the Wichita Art Museum’s leading patrons. They are Wichitans with a curiosity about cultural trends and art-world developments—people eager to combine learning with lively socializing—who assemble for various Murdock gatherings across the year. A speaker series, parties, exhibition opening parties, and trips comprise the lineup of Murdock Members’ programs.

Murdock Members take their name from Wichita’s Murdock family. Louise Caldwell Murdock left a substantial bequest to establish the Roland P. Murdock Collection in honor of her husband, business manager 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. In similar fashion, today’s Murdock Members invest in Wichita’s ongoing cultural vibrancy through annual patron-level membership.

Through generous contributions, Murdock Members enable the Wichita Art Museum to engage the community in meaningful encounters with works of art and positively impact the quality of life and cultural landscape of Wichita and the region.

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

Mixology Series Nationally prominent art-world figures give fascinating talks on timely topics four times a year. Mixology events start with a 5:30 p.m. complimentary reception, followed by a 6:15 p.m. talk and an optional dinner for Ambassadors and up.

Murdock Parties At least once a year, Murdock Visionaries and Futurists gather for conversation, art appreciation, and laughter at swanky venues.

Exhibition Opening Parties Parties for Ambassadors and above offer a first look at featured exhibitions and include a reception and an optional dinner with special guests like artists and curators.

Murdock Trips Murdock Visionaries and Futurists travel to art-world locations that include private collections, behind-the-scenes tours, discussion with art-world luminaries, and exceptional dining experiences. This fall brings a trip to New England!

Guest Passes Annual featured exhibition guest passes let Murdock Members share their love of WAM with others. Life is better with friends.

For full Murdock benefits, membership begins at $1,250 annually. Membership dues are philanthropic and provide generous and vital direct support for museum exhibitions and programs.

MURDOCK MEMBERSHIP

- Renegades $225
- Ambassadors $500
- Visionaries $1,250
- Futurists $5,000

For more information regarding major donor levels, please inquire with Megan Powers, Development Associate.

WICHITA ART MUSEUM
1400 West Museum Boulevard
Wichita, Kansas 67203
For membership information, call 316-268-4921
wam.org/murdock
MURDOCK MEMBERS enjoy a dynamic mix of art-world talks and events this 2024. Mixology speakers include a contemporary Navajo artist and curator, an author with an insider’s look at The Met, an artist whose work was recently purchased for WAM’s collection, and a group of anonymous artist-activists who have been shaking up the art world for 35 years. Featured exhibition opening parties welcome Annie Leibovitz photography and Robert Peterson paintings to WAM this summer and fall.

Thursday, April 4
MURDOCK MIXOLOGY SPEAKER
TONY ABEYTA, ARTIST

Contemporary Native American artist Tony Abeyta captures the essence of the Southwest landscape and Navajo (Diné) culture. Born in New Mexico, Abeyta now lives in Berkeley and Santa Fe, where he paints but also works as a scholar and curator. This alchemist of mixed media and new forms uses his Native lens to forge new paths in art.

Saturday, May 18
FEATURED EXHIBITION OPENING PARTY
ANNIE LEIBOVITZ AT WORK

Annie Leibovitz at Work features a new group of photographs highlighting current events and exceptional figures in today’s world. Anchored by these new works, the exhibition also features a selection of Leibovitz’s photographs from the past decade.

Thursday, June 6
MIXOLOGY: IN CONVERSATION
AUTHOR CHRISTINE COULSON
IN CONVERSATION with SARAH BAGBY
of WATERMARK BOOKS

Christine Coulson was a Metropolitan Museum of Art writer for 25 years. She left the Senior Writer position in 2019 when her last project was to rewrite the British Art labels. From then on, she dreamed of writing about people as if they were a work of art in the rigid style guide of The Met. Coulson’s acclaimed novel, One Woman Show, describes the privileged 20th-century life of a woman as artifact—a prized object for collecting and critiquing.

Saturday, September 28
FEATURED EXHIBITION OPENING PARTY
ROBERT PETERSON: SOMEWHERE IN AMERICA

Robert Peterson: Somewhere in America, the artist’s first major museum exhibition, is an opportunity for Peterson to explore the themes that have characterized his career—masculinity, spirituality, intimacy, family, and community legacies. The exhibition speaks to “everything that is important” to him, with work that “speaks [his] truth” and tells a larger story of Black American life.

Thursday, October 24
MURDOCK MIXOLOGY SPEAKER
STEPHEN TOWNS, ARTIST

Guided by his research about the violent treatment of African Americans in United States history, Stephen Towns reimagines historical events, narratives, and artistic traditions in his story quilts to honor Black Americans. His work, The Chain Gang, was recently purchased by WAM.

Monday, November 21
MURDOCK MIXOLOGY SPEAKER
GUERRILLA GIRLS, ARTIST-ACTIVISTS

Born from the 1985 picket of the Museum of Modern Art, the Guerrilla Girls are an anonymous group of feminist activists disrupting media to expose the gender bias running rampant in arts, culture, and politics. Their “gig” will include music, presentations, and interaction. New work is always included, and every “gig” is unique.

TRAVEL WITH US IN 2024

Autumn in New England
October 14–19 | EXPLORE HISTORIC COLLECTIONS and enjoy behind-the-scenes access amidst the autumn splendor in Boston, Hartford, and Salem. Immerse yourself in tours of acclaimed museums and private collections and mingle with fellow travelers at exclusive receptions.

TO LEARN MORE, visit wam.org/travel.