



Donald W. Reynolds Center for the Visual Arts  
E. L. Wiegand Gallery

160 West Liberty Street, Reno NV 89501

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## **Nevada Museum of Art Kicks Off Five-Year Collaboration with Smithsonian American Art Museum and Four Partner Museums Across American West with a Community-wide Art Vote**

**“Vote Nevada Art” Campaign runs July 11 – August 11, in which people from across the region will vote for select artworks to be displayed at the Nevada Museum of Art in a year-long exhibition opening this fall. A grant from the Art Bridges + Terra Foundation Initiative supports this sharing of artworks with audiences throughout the United States.**

**Reno, Nev. (July 11, 2019)** –The Nevada Museum of Art has been selected to participate in a five-year exhibition partnership with the Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM) made possible by Art Bridges and the Terra Foundation for American Art. The local kickoff to this multi-year, multi-institutional partnership starts July 11 with a community-wide campaign dubbed “Vote Nevada Art,” a month-long vote where the public will decide which artworks will come to the Museum for a year-long exhibition opening this fall. SAAM is making a group of eight paintings available for this exhibition. From that group, three will be selected by an online vote. The public is encouraged to vote at [VoteNevadaArt.org](http://VoteNevadaArt.org) up to once per day from July 11 through August 11. To support the online voting campaign, printed campaign lawn signs are available to people for free. Community participants can pick up campaign signs beginning at 5 pm, July 11, at the front desk of the Nevada Museum of Art, located at 160 West Liberty Street in downtown Reno, Nevada.

The Smithsonian American Art Museum has received a nearly \$2 million grant from Art Bridges and the Terra Foundation for American Art to support a five-year exhibition partnership with five museums – including the Nevada Museum of Art – in some of the fastest growing cities and states in the western region of the United States. In addition to the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno, the cohort of partner museums, known collectively as the American West Consortium, includes the Boise Art Museum; the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art in Eugene, Oregon; the Utah Museum of Fine Arts in Salt Lake City; and the Whatcom Museum in Bellingham, Washington.

The partnership includes a two-part exhibition program and professional development sessions. The project is the latest in a transformative effort, the Art Bridges + Terra Foundation Initiative, to expand access to outstanding works of American art nationwide. A joint program of Art Bridges and the Terra Foundation for American Art, the initiative supports multi-year, multi-institutional partnerships among groups that include a metropolitan museum working with institutions in primarily non-metropolitan areas. Sharing collections and resources, these collaborative partners create a series of exhibitions that engage local communities.

In the first set of exhibitions, partner museums will present artworks from the Smithsonian American Art Museum’s collection in focused installations that address interests particular to each museum. For the Nevada Museum of Art, potential selected works include paintings by David Hockney, Edward Hopper, Georgia O’Keeffe, Severin Roesen, Angel Rodríguez-Díaz, Jacob Lawrence, George Inness, and Childe Hassam. These eight artworks will be presented to the community for an online vote that runs July 11 – August 11, 2019 at [VoteNevadaArt.org](http://VoteNevadaArt.org). The three artworks that receive the most votes will “win,” and will be on view in an exhibition entitled *America’s Art, Nevada’s Choice: Community Selections from the Smithsonian American*

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*Art Museum. America's Art, Nevada's Choice* will open November 7, 2019, with a press conference and public "big reveal" celebration. An addendum to this release details all of the artworks. Additional information and voting rules can be found at [VoteNevadaArt.org](http://VoteNevadaArt.org).

The second exhibition is organized jointly by all the partner museums and will feature artwork from all six museums. It will be presented at all six venues, opening at the Whatcom Museum in early 2021, with the Smithsonian American Art Museum as the final stop on the tour in 2023. The scope of the exhibition will be determined through collaborations between curators from the partner museums.

A related series of professional-growth opportunities with staff from all six museums will allow for the development of new interpretive strategies and best practices for community engagement, among other topics. Information and updates about the American West Consortium will be available on SAAM's website, [AmericanArt.si.edu](http://AmericanArt.si.edu).

The results of the "Vote Nevada Art" Campaign will determine the content of the exhibition *America's Art, Nevada's Choice: Community Selections from the Smithsonian American Art Museum*, one in a series of American art exhibitions created through a multi-year, multi-institutional partnership formed by the Smithsonian American Art Museum as part of the Art Bridges + Terra Foundation Initiative. *America's Art, Nevada's Choice* at the Nevada Museum of Art is exclusively sponsored by Art Bridges, the Terra Foundation for American Art, and the E. L. Wiegand Foundation.

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#### **About the Nevada Museum of Art**

The Nevada Museum of Art is the only art museum in Nevada accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM). A private, nonprofit organization founded in 1931, the Reno-based institution is supported by its membership as well as sponsorships, gifts and grants. Through its permanent collections, original exhibitions and programming, and E.L. Cord Museum School, the Nevada Museum of Art provides meaningful opportunities for people to engage with a range of art and education experiences. The Museum's Center for Art + Environment is an internationally-recognized research center dedicated to supporting the practice, study, and awareness of creative interactions between people and their environments. The Center houses unique archive materials from more than 1,000 artists working on all seven continents, including Cape Farewell, Michael Heizer, Walter de Maria, Lita Albuquerque, Burning Man, the Center for Land Use Interpretation, Ugo Rondinone's *Seven Magic Mountains*, and Trevor Paglen's *Orbital Reflector*.

The Nevada Museum of Art Board of Trustees includes Executive Committee Members Barbara R. Danz (Chair), John C. Deane, Charlotte McConnell, Quentin Abramo, Carole Anderson, Kathie Bartlett, Doug Brewer, Nancy Fennell, Katie O'Neill, Wayne Prim, and Garrett Sutton; Trustees Denise Cashman, David Collins, John Cunha, Rebecca Darling, Ralph DeLuca, Mimi Ellis-Hogan, Amy Emanuel, Catherine Farahi, Susan Fountain, Steve Horn, S. Victoria Kahn, Tom Kaplan, Brian Kennedy, Mark A. Krasner, Anne Brockinton Lee, Dana S. Lee, Alan Maiss, Lisa Mead, Thomas J. Monroe, George F. Ogilvie, III, Kristi Overgaard, Peter E. Pool, Michele Quinn, Emily C. Schorr, Paul Stowell, Piper Stremmel, Henry C. Thumann, Tarissa Tiberti, Joe Wieczorek, and Colby Williams; Honorary Life Trustees Kristen A. Avansino, Raymond C. Avansino, Jr., Bruno Benna, Edna Benna, Carol Franc Buck, John Hawley Olds La Gatta, Charles N. Mathewson, Peter E. Pool, Wayne L. Prim, Fred W. Smith, and Jan Tarble. Learn more at [nevadaart.org](http://nevadaart.org).

#### **About Art Bridges**

Art Bridges is a pioneering new foundation dedicated to dramatically expanding access to American art across the country. Created by arts patron and philanthropist Alice Walton in 2017, Art Bridges strives to bring great works of American art out of storage and into communities across America. Through financial and planning support, Art Bridges helps organizations of all sizes build exhibitions and programs that deeply engage audiences. For more information, visit [artbridgesfoundation.org](http://artbridgesfoundation.org).

#### **About the Terra Foundation for American Art**

Established in 1978, the Terra Foundation for American Art is a leading foundation focused on fostering exploration, understanding and enjoyment of historical American art among national and international audiences. To further cross-cultural dialogue, the foundation supports and collaborates on innovative exhibitions, research and educational programs worldwide, and also provides opportunities for interaction and study through the presentation of its own American art collection.

**Art Bridges** +

**TERRA**  
FOUNDATION FOR AMERICAN ART

**SAAM** Smithsonian  
American Art  
Museum

**W.** E.L. Wiegand Foundation