



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

160 West Liberty Street, Reno NV 89501

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Dana Kilroy, The Ferraro Group, dana@theferrarogroup.com

Amy Oppio, COO/Deputy Director, amy.oppio@nevadaart.org

NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART CELEBRATES 90 YEARS AS THE STATE'S PREMIER ART INSTITUTION

On this milestone anniversary, Museum to highlight paintings by Lorenzo Latimer, the *plein air* watercolorist renowned for his depictions of Lake Tahoe and Northern Nevada

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Reno, Nev. (July 22, 2021) – One of the Silver State's oldest cultural institutions, the Nevada Museum of Art, opened its doors in Reno 90 years ago. To punctuate an ongoing celebration, the Museum will showcase approximately 180 paintings from the San Francisco-based artist and teacher Lorenzo Latimer, along with pieces from Nevada artists he mentored including Mattie S. Conner, Marguerite Erwin, Dora Groesbeck, Hildegard Herz, Nettie McDonald, Minerva Pierce, Echo Mapes Robinson, Nevada Wilson, and Dolores Samuel Young. In 1921, these artists joined together to formally establish the "Latimer Art Club," the founding volunteer organization of the Nevada Art Gallery, known today as the Nevada Museum of Art.

[The Latimer School: Lorenzo Latimer and the Latimer Art Club](#) opens July 31 and will run through March 28, 2022.

"Without the Latimer Art Club's commitment to the visual arts in our region, the Museum wouldn't be the institution it is today. It is fitting to take this opportunity to bring attention to the foresight of the Latimer Art Club," said Ann M. Wolfe, the Museum's Andrea and John C. Deane Family Senior Curator and Deputy Director. "Our unique emphasis on art, nature, landscape science, and the humanities sets this Museum apart from other art museums," she said. Wolfe co-curated the exhibition, with Jack L. Bacon, a Reno-based art consultant and former gallery owner specializing in historical Nevada art.

Lorenzo Latimer first visited Fallen Leaf Lake on the south side of Lake Tahoe in the summer of 1914 and began to teach *plein air*, or outdoor, painting classes. In 1916, he was invited by two students to teach a painting class in Reno. He ultimately became a cherished member of the Northern Nevada arts community, returning each year to teach his signature watercolor style to burgeoning artists of Reno. In 1931, the Latimer Art Club was invited by Dr. James Church, art collector Charles Cutts, and other community leaders to join together to incorporate the Nevada Art Gallery.

Historic Latimer Art Club paintings – featuring the Truckee Meadows, Washoe Valley, Lake Tahoe, and Pyramid Lake – are foundational to the history of Northern Nevada's outdoor painting tradition. The Latimer Art Club remains active today, with over 90 members who come together for meetings, workshops, and to paint regularly throughout the area. active members today who still paint *en plein air* throughout the area.

"To truly understand the art history of our region, it is important to acknowledge the contributions that the Latimer Art Club has made over the years to enrich the cultural fabric our community," said Wolfe.

NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART ANNOUNCES NEW MUSEUM SCHOOL DIRECTOR
CONTACT: Amy Oppio, COO/Deputy Director, amy.oppio@nevadaart.org ,

The anniversary exhibition will be accompanied by a lavishly illustrated 375-page book with an essay on the history of the Nevada Museum of Art by Ann M. Wolfe and a biographical essay on Latimer by Alfred C. Harrison, a nineteenth-century painting scholar and art historian with a special emphasis on California art. The book is co-published by Jack Bacon & Company in association with the Museum and is available in the [Museum Shop and online](#) (\$50; \$45 for members).

In conjunction with the exhibition, the Museum has also organized *The Latimer Art Club: Celebrating 100 Years – A Juried Exhibition* from July 10 to September 1, 2021. This year, the Latimer Art Club celebrates its 100th anniversary. To honor this important milestone, the Museum presents a juried exhibition of present-day Latimer Art Club members.

Several opportunities commemorating the Museum’s anniversary are planned in the [coming months](#).

The Museum would like to thank the sponsors of The Latimer School: Lorenzo Latimer and the Latimer Art Club:

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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 statewide 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, Great Basin Native Artists Archive, Ugo Rondinone’s *Seven Magic Mountains*, and Trevor Paglen’s *Orbital Reflector*. Learn more at nevadaart.org.