April 28, 2016

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Grant Announcement

WEATHERSPOON ART MUSEUM RECEIVES LINCOLN FINANCIAL FOUNDATION GRANT FOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Weatherspoon Art Museum at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro has received a $15,000 grant from the Lincoln Financial Foundation to support its “Education Programs for Youth & Adults”. These free programs are central to the museum's mission of presenting and interpreting contemporary art for audiences of all ages. Funds will be used to support artists' talks, school tours, public events, and targeted marketing to reach diverse audiences. This is the second consecutive year that the Lincoln Financial Foundation has lent support to the Weatherspoon’s artistic and educational activities.

Lincoln Financial Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Lincoln Financial Group, believes in empowering people to live greater lives, which advances culture and enables greater positive change. This grant program is part of Lincoln Financial’s $10 million investment in its social communities’ youth education, economic and workforce development, human well-being and arts programs.

About Lincoln Financial Foundation
The Lincoln Financial Foundation, established in 1962, is a nonprofit organization formed and supported by Lincoln Financial Group. Under the Foundation's guidelines, grants are made in the areas of arts, education, human services and economic/workforce development.

About the Weatherspoon Art Museum
The Weatherspoon Art Museum is celebrating its 75th Anniversary Year in 2016. It is the oldest visual arts organization in the UNC system. Now numbering close to 6,000 artworks, the
collection has earned both a national and international reputation as we lend works to major museums across this country and abroad. The Weatherspoon has the only focused collection of modern and contemporary art in North Carolina.

The Weatherspoon earns high praise for its calendar of 15-18 exhibitions annually. In addition to collection-based exhibitions, it is known for presenting major solo exhibitions and catalogues of the work of established and emerging artists; the Falk Visiting Artist Program (a collaboration with the Department of Art at UNCG); and its renowned Art on Paper surveys of contemporary work in the medium. The Weatherspoon has been recognized as one of the major tourist attractions in Guilford County and enjoys a growing annual attendance of 36,000+ visitors.

The Weatherspoon Art Museum at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro was founded by Gregory Ivy in 1941. The museum was founded as a resource for the campus, community, and region and its early leadership developed an emphasis—maintained to this day—on presenting and acquiring modern and contemporary works of art. A 1950 bequest from the renowned collection of Claribel and Etta Cone, which included prints and bronzes by Henri Matisse and other works on paper by American and European modernists, helped to establish the Weatherspoon’s permanent collection. Other prescient acquisitions during Ivy’s tenure included a 1951 suspended mobile by Alexander Calder, Woman by Willem de Kooning, a pivotal work in the artist’s career that was purchased in 1954, and the first drawings by Eva Hesse and Robert Smithson to enter a museum collection. In 1989, the museum moved into its present location in The Anne and Benjamin Cone building designed by the architectural firm Mitchell/Giurgola. The museum has six galleries and a sculpture courtyard with over 17,000 square feet of exhibition space. The museum was first awarded accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums in 1995 and was reaccredited in 2005 and 2015.


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