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ART | CRAFT | DESIGN
BELLEVUE ARTS MUSEUM

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Art is Discovery: BAM showcases major Northwest artists in an interactive setting

On view June 22 – September 19, 2010

Bellevue, WA – There is an art in discovering art. Line, color, shape, luminosity are just some of the foundation bricks on which a work of art is built, some of the ways in which we engage with it. Celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, the Junior League of Seattle's Northwest Art Collection has focused since its inception on teaching these concepts to King County school-age children.

For many years, Bellevue Arts Museum has partnered with the Junior League on bringing their collection to Eastside schools, providing thousands of children with the opportunity to experience the Northwest's rich traditions of art and craft while developing visual vocabulary and critical thinking skills. This summer, BAM is pleased to be the first museum to showcase the entire collection for everyone to enjoy. **The Art of Discovery: The Northwest Art Collection of the Junior League of Seattle** will be on view from **June 22 through September 19, 2010**.

Comprised of over 70 paintings and sculptures, **The Art of Discovery** features some of the most influential artists of the Pacific Northwest, including **Guy Anderson, Dale Chihuly, William Cumming, Morris Graves, Fay Jones, Jacob Lawrence, Sherry Markovitz, Alden Mason** and **Norie Sato**. The exhibition includes a multitude of interactive features and hands-on activities designed for both young and mature audiences to engage with the art.

Founded in 1923, The Junior League of Seattle is one of 293 leagues around the world committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

The Art of Discovery: The Northwest Art Collection of the Junior League of Seattle has been organized by Bellevue Arts Museum in collaboration with the Junior League of Seattle, curated by Stefano Catalani, Nora Atkinson and Patrick McMahon. This exhibition has been made possible by ArtsFund.

Bellevue Arts Museum is the Pacific Northwest's center for the exploration of art, craft and design. **BAM** celebrates regional, national and international artists working in a broad range of craft media, including ceramics, fiber, metal, wood and glass. The Museum also offers a unique array of free or low-cost educational and community programs such as artist demonstrations, lectures and workshops as well as a variety of engaging and fun hands-on kids' activities. The **Bellevue Arts Museum artsfair**, the largest and most prestigious arts event in the Pacific Northwest attracting an average of over 350,000 visitors, is held annually in July. **BAM** is located in the heart of downtown Bellevue, provides free parking and is wheelchair accessible. www.bellevuearts.org

For more information on this exhibit and other Museum-related programming, please contact Tanja Baumann (see contact information above).