



## NEWS RELEASE

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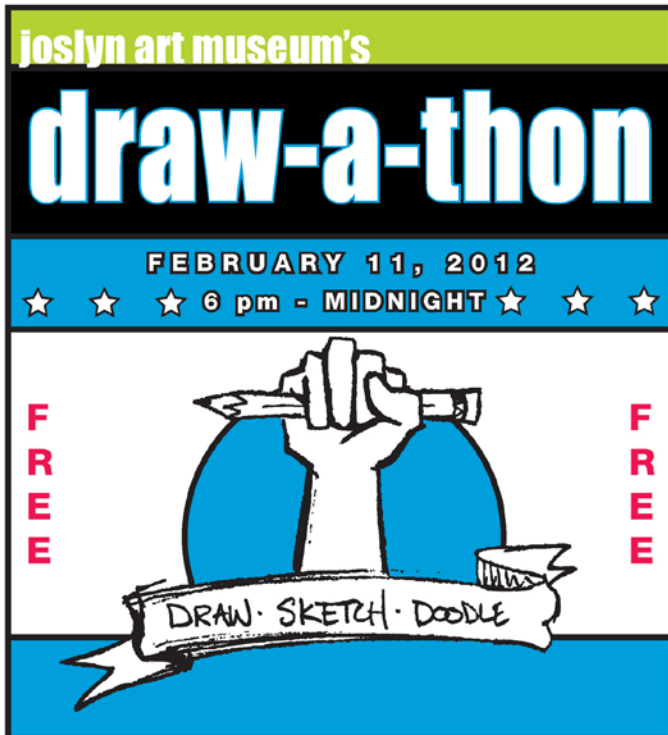
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### Joslyn Art Museum Draws High School Students In with Fun, Educational Saturday Night of Art Instruction

Omaha, NE – Joslyn Art Museum's 5th annual Draw-a-Thon is a special night when high school students from across the city get together to work with local artists, draw, dance, and eat pizza.

This annual FREE event celebrates drawing as an essential component of the creative process. This does not mean that all artists must be great drawers but it is important for artists to know how to use fundamental drawing skills, tricks, and techniques to aide them in their journey from idea to art.



Participants move through a series of small group workshops with artists from the Kent Bellows Studio & Center for Visual Arts' mentor program and Iowa Western Community College to gain insight about how drawing skills can be utilized in the creation of anything from sculptures and paintings to fashion designs and cupcakes. Participating artists include Pam Hinson, Matthew Jones, Gabrielle Liwaru, Troy Muller, Dan Richters, Carolyn Storm, and Weston Thomson.

A highlight of Draw-a-Thon is the collaborative creation of a large-scale storybook mural. Throughout the night, all Draw-a-Thon participants and instructors gather and work together to create a mural based on a classic work of literature. Each year pages from books like *Pinocchio* or *Hansel & Gretel* are distributed among the crowd. It is up to the imaginations of those in attendance to interpret the author's words into images and tell the story in a way that can be read visually once the mural is installed in the Museum's Riley Family Education Gallery at the end of the night.

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*Draw-a-Thon at Joslyn Art Museum*

After completion of the storybook mural and workshops, Draw-a-Thon wraps-up with time for participants to cut loose, explore the Museum, or just hang out. Pizza and soda is served while students get to know each other. This year, radio DJ Jake Ryan from the Jake Ryan Experience on 89.7 The River will get people dancing.

Area art-minded students are encouraged not to miss this opportunity to draw, share ideas, and make friends! Reservations for Draw-a-Thon are required; reservation deadline is February 3.

Visit the Draw-a-Thon webpage ([www.joslyn.org/visit/teen-programs/draw-a-thon/](http://www.joslyn.org/visit/teen-programs/draw-a-thon/)) or call Andy Smith, Joslyn's Studio Programs Manager, at (402) 661-3839.

Draw-a-Thon is presented as a free event, thanks to support from the Joslyn Art Museum Association, 89.7 The River (KIWR) / Iowa Western Community College, and the Kent Bellows Studio & Center for Visual Arts.



[www.joslyn.org](http://www.joslyn.org) | (402) 342-3300 | 2200 Dodge Street | Omaha, NE 68102

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**Our Mission –** Joslyn Art Museum collects, preserves, and interprets the visual arts of the highest quality, fostering appreciation and enjoyment of art for the benefit of a diverse audience.

**Our Vision –** To be cherished and respected as a premier art museum.

The Museum was a gift to the people of Omaha from Sarah Joslyn in memory of her husband, George, who made his fortune as president of the Western Newspaper Union. The Museum's original 1931 building is one of the finest examples of Art Deco architecture in the nation, with 38 types of marble from seven countries. The Walter and Suzanne Scott Pavilion, a 58,000-square-foot addition built in 1994, was designed by renowned British architect Norman Foster, Baron Foster of Thames Bank, as his first U.S. commission. The Museum features galleries, a 1,000-seat concert hall, fountain court, education technology gallery, lecture hall, classrooms, library, café, and shop.