Joslyn Art Museum Opens Temporary Construction Entrance
A Mural Created by Joslyn’s Kent Bellows Mentoring Program Greets Visitors

(Omaha, NE) – This week, Joslyn Art Museum opened a temporary, accessible visitor entrance on the north side of the building. As work begins on the Museum’s new Rhonda and Howard Hawks Pavilion, a construction zone has been established that closes all entrances on the east side of the building.

All visitors must enter and exit Joslyn's grounds from 24th Street (on the west side of the site) as the construction zone also closes public access to the Museum’s Dodge Street entrance and exit drive. Free parking is available in the Parking Garden north of the Museum. Metered parking is available on surrounding streets.

Entering the Museum site from 24th Street, guests will see the new access point to the building, marked Visitor Entrance, along the north side of the building. A vestibule offers protection from inclement weather. From the drive, a curb ramp allows for access to the sidewalk leading to the new entrance. Once inside the vestibule, a second door offers touch-free access to a gently sloping walkway into the Museum. A short set of stairs at the end of the interior walkway leads to the check-in desk. Guests may also choose to take an elevator. As visitors conclude their visit, they will exit via the same route. At present, all Museum permanent collection and special exhibition galleries are open, as is ART WORKS: A Place for Curiosity and the Hitchcock Museum Shop. General Museum admission to Joslyn is free to all. Select special exhibitions are ticketed.

**Topographic Tunnel: A Mural Created by Joslyn’s Kent Bellows Mentoring Program**

As they enter Joslyn's new temporary entrance, visitors are greeted by a mural that runs the length of the walkway leading to the check-in desk. This art moment, called *Topographic Tunnel*, was created by teen artists—more—
Scar Connor, Chloe Johnson, Lauren Kalstrup, and Melana Turley with Joslyn's Kent Bellows Mentoring Program. Assistant artists were Avery Davis and Avery Weir. Lillian Storz was project volunteer. Rebecca Harrison was artist mentor for the project. She is a lead artist with A Midsummer’s Mural and a founding member of the South Omaha Mural Project. She creates community based public murals, ceramics, hand-painted signs, and private murals.

*Topographic Tunnel* is inspired by satellite imagery of Nebraska landscapes and includes patterns, symbols, and textures the group found in the Museum and abstracted to reflect their own personal styles and welcome visitors with a bright and colorful design. Mural details and artist descriptions:

**Long West Wall—Group Collaborative Design (right)**
*Derived from a photograph of the Elkhorn River, we used images of the flooding that occurred in 2019 to accentuate the volatility of this landscape. Climate change and environmental disasters are high concerns for our generation. This wall emphasizes the impacts of these crises on Nebraska waterways.*

**Long East Wall—Designed by Melana Turley (right)**
*This wall shows Nebraska agriculture in a fun and colorful way. It contrasts with the natural flow of the river/flood mural (long west wall) and shows the domestication and human impact on Nebraska’s original landscape.*

**Short East Wall—Designed by Chloe Johnson (right)**
*We used the historic 1936 map that once defined Omaha’s north and south sides. This map was used to systemically segregate and oppress communities of color through the real estate market, leading to much of the current disparity of wealth in different areas of Omaha and the people who live there.*

**Short West Wall—Designed by Scar Connor (left)**
*Joslyn’s location was our inspiration for this final wall. We let the design of the interstate carry the visual interest. You can find the Museum at the bottom left corner (and when visiting, look for an addition—an orange shape of the new building, currently under construction).*
For more information, contact Amy Rummel, Joslyn Art Museum director of marketing and public relations, at (402) 661-3822 or arummel@joslyn.org.

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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.

General Museum Admission: Free (additional charge for major ticketed special exhibitions).
Regular Museum Hours: Wednesday through Sunday, 10 am–4 pm; closed Monday, Tuesday, and major holidays.