



NEWS RELEASE

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An Event Supporting Joslyn Art Museum's Kent Bellows Mentoring Program

(Omaha, NE) – Joslyn Art Museum presents a special evening of art, inspiration, and fun at the fourth annual *Wishbone* event supporting Joslyn's Kent Bellows Mentoring Program (KBMP) on Friday, March 18, from 6:30 to 9:30 pm. Heavy hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, music, and art will create an unforgettable evening. *Wishbone* honorary chairs are Tim and Magan Smith.

Held this year in Joslyn's ConAgra Foods Atrium, attendees will have the opportunity to view select works by the program's teen artists, and some KBMP students will demonstrate their artmaking during the event. Entertainment will be provided by master of ceremonies Doug "Otis XII" Wesselmann and the Omaha Central High School Music Department. A highlight of the evening is the presentation of the annual Mentor Achievement Award. This year's honoree is Dan Richters who has been with KBMP since 2010. Heralded for his work in fashion design, Richters is also an accomplished painter. He has served as a mentor for KBMP's Urban Arts, Artist in Residence, Digital Arts, and Fashion Arts programs.

Suggested attire for *Wishbone* is casual chic. Reservations are \$50 and may be made through Friday, March 11, at www.joslyn.org > Calendar of Events > March 18. Questions? Contact Agne Dizona, Joslyn's foundation giving and major donor manager, at (402) 661-3887.

Wishbone Catalyst Sponsors: Charles and Julie Burt, Carl and Teri Gumbiner and 

Wishbone Supporter Sponsors: Phyllis Bellows, James and Robin Griess, Steven Martin and Amy Haddad, Claudia Martin, Tim and Magan Smith, and Bob Benzel and Gerry Sullivan.

Special thanks to dessert donors Nothing Bundt Cakes.

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About the Kent Bellows Mentoring Program

January 1, 2014, Joslyn welcomed into its family the newly named Kent Bellows Mentoring Program and ownership of the Kent Bellows Studio, located at 33rd and Leavenworth Street in Omaha. The studio was established as a nonprofit in 2007 to create an art mentor program for teens as a legacy of Nebraska-born artist Kent Bellows (1949–2005), whose realist work is part of Joslyn's collection. That entity dissolved in 2013, and Joslyn assumed responsibility for the future of its successful program, recognized for its dynamic vision, unique and versatile curriculum model, and exceptional work with young people.

Kent Bellows Studio remains the physical location for the Mentoring Program and, as an integral piece of Joslyn's whole, the program allows the Museum to significantly expand its active engagement of teens, local artist mentors, and youth agencies throughout the metro area. KBMP gives teens access to professional artists, art supplies, exhibition space, and a creative community founded on sharing ideas, working together, and building talent in the arts. The program serves students, grades nine through twelve, who may be enrolled in any public or private school, homeschooled, or receiving their education through some other non-traditional setting. Teens visit the studio twice a week, in two- to three-hour blocks (after school and/or on Saturday), to work with mentors on creative projects. Each semester presents the possibility of 65 contact hours, with three possible semesters per year. Programs available to students include Artist-in-Residence; Clay Media; Critical Arts; Digital Arts; Fashion Art; Music Arts; Urban Arts; and Offsite Artist-in-Residence for teens in the juvenile justice system, foster care, or who are hospitalized.

KBMP produces three to four large scale community murals, three exhibitions, and two fashion and performance salons annually. A creative community of over 80 local and professional artists has participated in the mentoring program through the years. KBMP is a Partner Member of the Midlands Mentoring Partnership (MMP). Inclusion is reserved for programs that meet or exceed best practices for mentoring, as outlined in the *Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring* (3rd Edition). Additionally, the program received above average scores in a third party survey conducted by Volunteer Program Assessment-UNO. In 2015, KBMP artist mentor Amy Nelson was honored as the MMP Mentor of the Year.

-30-

Picture page 1: *Wishbone* invitation cover, featuring the art of program participant Hannah Hidalgo



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.

Joslyn Art Museum showcases art from ancient times to the present. 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 as his first U.S. commission. The Museum features galleries, a 1,000-seat concert hall, fountain court, education technology gallery, lecture hall, classrooms, sculpture garden, café, shop, and Art Works, an interactive space for art exploration (new in 2014).

General Museum Admission: Free (additional charge for general public adults for select exhibitions).

Regular Museum Hours: Tuesday through Sunday, 10 am–4 pm; late 'til 8 pm on Thursday; closed Monday and major holidays.

www.joslyn.org | (402) 342-3300 | 2200 Dodge Street | Omaha, NE 68102