ANDERSON’S IN THE CITY
Monday—Friday: 7:30 am to 3:00 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

P 330.833.7255

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE ANNUAL REPORT
ANC  Alexandra Nicholis Coon
AH  Adre Hallgren
HB  Heather Bullach
CC  Chris Craft
HH  Heather Haden
NJ  Nancy Jobe
ML  Marti Livingstone
AO  April Olsen
SP  Scot Phillips
MAP  Mandy Altimus Pond
MR  Meghan Reed
BR  Brandon Rohrer
RR  Rick Rohrer
EV  Emily Vigil
MV  Margy Vogt
The best kept secret in this part of Ohio is the Massillon Museum. —Nate Pope

More importantly are the stakeholders in the Massillon community who have been steadfast in support of the Museum. Without their support and belief in the arts, we would not exist, or would struggle to do so. Six years ago, a decision was made to renew our membership drive. Today, with more than 780 members, it is exhilarating to watch the numbers increase annually. Corporate memberships are on the rise as well.

MassMu is truly worth the investment of community stakeholders, corporate sponsors, and foundation partners. We are grateful for the state government’s Capital Campaign allocation of $1.5 million last year, and for the continued leadership of Campaign Chairs, Bob and Nancy Gessner.

The Museum maintains the impressive status of being one of fewer than 1,000 accredited Museums in the nation. The traveling exhibit, *Imagining a Better World: The Artwork of Nelly Toll* (created by MassMu staff), will make an international debut in Canada in 2017. In 2016, the exhibit traveled extensively throughout the United States. Overall, the Museum has garnered national and international attention. These are just a few key tidbits. Imagine what goes on behind the scenes!

If you have not visited the Museum recently, please take the time to stop in for a “before” and “after” view. Remember—the Capital Campaign continues. We welcome all contributions!

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, thank you for your support today and in the future.

Gloria Pope, Chair, Board of Trustees
## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

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*TOP:* Massillon Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry spoke at the unveiling of the Ohio History Connection mural by Scott Hagan on the Klick Windy Way Farm barn in December. Massillon Museum Executive Director Alexandra Nicholis Coon and Canton Museum of Art Director Max Barton facilitated local aspects of the project and hosted the unveiling. Both McKinley and Massillon football coaches attended along with four Massillon Tiger football players and community representatives and Booster Club members.

*LEFT:* Board Chair Gloria Pope visited the Echo: The Early History of Sound Recording exhibition in the Museum’s second-floor gallery.
The Massillon Museum is unique in its celebration of both art and history. Our vast collections contain everything from a 1916 Russell steam engine to a Renoir drawing and enable us to present local narratives, as well as those with global context. One such example is an exhibit called *Imagining a Better World*, which tells the story of a young Polish girl in hiding during the Holocaust, who found art as a coping mechanism during a very dark time. This exhibit originated by MassMu has traveled all over the country, from New Jersey, to Texas, within Ohio, and, in 2017, will tour in two Pennsylvania cities and in Alberta, Canada. This project, funded with a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, enabled our staff to work with Yad Vashem Museum in Israel, and the German Historical Museum in Berlin to celebrate in January 2016 the artist and survivor, Dr. Nelly Toll, among fifty artists featured in the Berlin museum’s first-ever exhibition on Holocaust art.

A local story which earned national attention in 2016 is *Tiger Legacy*, a contemporary photo narrative about the unique tradition of high school football in Massillon, Ohio. A four-year collaboration with photographers Gary Harwood, David Foster, and Kent State University, the results were two exhibitions and a beautiful book heralded by *American Photo Magazine* as being among the top ten photobooks of this past summer. It is an artful presentation of our community’s story, and has resonance throughout the country in places where high school football unifies its residents. It is the story of football told through the lens of art. This ability to cross-pollinate topics and work effectively with multiple disciplines to highlight artistry and develop themes of broader historical significance is a hallmark of the Massillon Museum.

Receipt of a tenth consecutive grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to host the NEA Big Read, and an inaugural grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to commemorate the upcoming centennial of US involvement in World War I proves this true. The Massillon Museum’s professional standing among national peers reflects in its stature as a case study in the May 2016 publication, *Stand for Your Mission*, produced by the American Alliance of Museums and BoardSource.

Who we are and what we do are largely informed by our collections, our community, our partners, and our observations about current trends, historically relevant themes, compelling stories, artistic innovation, and a desire to enhance our collective appreciation for and understanding of the place in which we live. We are committed to programs that celebrate diversity, teach us empathy, honor our past, and introduce new talent. I have always referred to the Massillon Museum as the “little engine that could.” Our community treasure has been able to evolve with support from its members and those entities committed to supporting the mission and vision.

As we progress into 2017, a year of tremendous growth and change for the organization, we are engaging as a staff and as a board in focused introspection. Before long, renderings of the expansion plan will manifest and construction will ensue; we are about to embark on a journey, together, that I hope will excite you, and make you proud of the role you have and will play in creating a new space for learning, musing, and sharing.

Alexandra Nicholis Coon, Executive Director
Alexandra Nicholis Coon

Alexandra Nicholis Coon, executive director for the Massillon Museum, holds a BA in art history from Kent State University, an MA in art history through the joint program at the Cleveland Museum of Art and Case Western Reserve University, and a collections care certificate from the Campbell Center for Historic Preservation Studies. She has been with the Massillon Museum since 2001 and served as its curator from 2003 to 2010. Exhibitions curated and co-curated include: All Play, No Work (Riffe Gallery, Columbus, 2015), Snap! In the Photobooth with Andy Warhol and Friends (2013), Faces of Rural America (2011), Between Two Worlds: The Photography of Nell Dorr (2010), Stark Naked Salon (2009), and Darkrooms in a Digital Age (2007).

Nicholis Coon served as adjunct faculty for Walsh University from 2006 to 2011 and serves on the university’s advisory board. She is president-elect of the Ohio Museums Association and chairs its Advocacy Committee. She is a member of the City of Akron Holocaust Commemoration Committee; a member of Jackson School for the Arts Community Advisory Board; a trustee of the Massillon WestStark Chamber Foundation; secretary for Visit Canton; and a member of the City of Massillon’s Community Improvement Corporation, Third Century Committee, and Imagine Massillon task force.

Nicholis Coon enjoys digital photography and has earned honorable mention in the Professional Women Photographer’s 37th International Women’s Call for Entry (2012). In 2011, she was recognized with the YStark “Twenty Under 40” award and was a 2012 inductee in the Canton YWCA Women’s Hall of Fame. She is a member of Soroptimist International Canton-Stark County and the Akron Chapter D.A.R., and resides in North Canton with her husband and twin daughters.

Scot Phillips

Scot Phillips, MassMu’s operations officer, also serves as membership coordinator, handles Silk Room and lobby rentals, and organizes bulk mailings. He is working on the Capital Campaign Steering Committee. He began his internship at the Massillon Museum in January of 2008.

Phillips graduated from Kent State University with a BA in art history and a minor in fine arts. He worked with Sandi Thouvenin—to whom he is now married—and the local community to acquire the vintage photobooth that has become a popular part of a visit to the Massillon Museum. He is active on the executive committee of the Downtown Massillon Association.

Phillips was commissioned by the City of Massillon to create murals on two of the flood-control pumping stations, by the Elum Music Company and Sangria Stand to paint murals at their businesses, and by the Water Street Tavern and Main Street Kent to create a mural in the revitalized area of downtown Kent. Coon Restoration commissioned him to paint decorative elements at St. Mary’s Church. In 2013 he painted several of the public art portraits that were displayed in downtown Massillon.

Heather Haden

Heather Haden, curator at the Massillon Museum, served as education and outreach coordinator from February 2014 to September 2015. Holding an MA in art history and a BA in fashion design from Kent State University, she has taught fashion illustration and various art history courses at KSU and contemporary art history at Malone University. She served various roles at the KSU Museum from 2007 to 2013. In 2015, Haden published her MA thesis on telepresence art
Mandy Altimus Pond

Archivist Mandy Altimus Pond began her Museum career in 2004. She graduated from Kent State University with a BA in history, summa cum laude with honors. Altimus Pond has produced documentary works for the Museum such as The Legacy of Steel and The Greatest Generation. As a part of the Museum’s speakers’ bureau, Pond offers an extensive list of lectures. She was plenary speaker for the Society of Ohio Archivists 2016 Spring Conference, and in 2015 she appeared on the Travel Channel’s show, Mysteries at the Museum, retelling the tale of Jacob Coxey’s 1894 protest march. In 2015, Altimus Pond published the World War II prisoner of war memoirs of her grandfather, Major John J. Mohn—Forced March: From the Bulge to Berchtesgaden. Altimus Pond serves on the Massillon Historic Preservation Commission and as secretary/treasurer of Charity School of Kendal Foundation board. Her photographs have been exhibited extensively in juried shows and publications.

April Olsen

April Olsen, education and outreach manager at the Massillon Museum, develops tours and education exhibits; trains docents; leads art, history, and scout programs; and coordinates the NEA Big Read, the Rhythms concert series, classes, the Celebration in Art exhibit, and tour and outreach requests.

From Illinois, she holds majors in German and art history and a minor in studio art from Augustana College. In 2013 at UW-Milwaukee, she received her MA with a focus in early twentieth-century German art. She has taught during jobs and internships at the Art Institute of Chicago, the Lake County Discovery Museum, the Milwaukee Art Museum, UW-Milwaukee, and Illinois schools. She also has interned in curatorial departments at the Art Institute of Chicago’s prints and drawings department and Augustana College.

Chris Craft

Chris Craft is a graduate of the College of Wooster with an MA in education from the University of Akron. He came to the Massillon Museum after thirty-one years in secondary education at Fairless Schools. Craft’s duties at the Museum include facilitating the History Discussion Group, managing The Artful Living Program, and presenting programs for the Museum’s speakers’ bureau.

Craft recently retired as an adjunct faculty member at Malone University. He has been involved in American Civil War living history since 1972 and was a consultant for the Canton Museum of Art’s 2011 Civil War exhibit, A House Divided, The Heartland Responds. He participated in the filming of several films about the Civil War and in two presidential inaugurations. In 2012, Craft was honored to narrate the Canton Symphony Orchestra’s Master Work Concert presentation of Aaron Copeland’s Lincoln Portrait. As an artist, he has work in the collections of Kent State University, the First Ladies National Historic Site, and the White House. In 2012, Chris Craft was named to the Fairless High School “Wall of Honor.”

Meghan Reed

Meghan Reed, a native of Pittsburgh, graduated with a BA in history and English from Washington and Jefferson College and an MA in history with a museum studies concentration from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Reed has a passion for preservation and connecting objects to communities. Her primary research interests are in the conservation of material...
culture, twentieth-century social history, and the Native American heritage of Northeast Ohio.

Brandon Rohrer

Brandon Rohrer started at the Massillon Museum in March of 2016. He is the guest operations associate, volunteer coordinator, and manager of OHregionalities, the Museum store. His goal is to improve record keeping and expand the volunteer base. Prior to joining the ranks at MassMu, Rohrer was assistant facilities manager at the McKinley Presidential Library and Museum for three years. He continues to work as a planetarium presenter for the McKinley Museum.

Emily Vigil

Emily Vigil, the Massillon Museum’s Studio M coordinator, earned a BFA in painting from Marshall University in 2000 and an MFA in painting and drawing from Louisiana State University in 2003.

She is a professional artist represented by several galleries. Vigil began her Massillon Museum work in 2009, when she digitized negatives for the Faces of Rural America exhibition. She worked as the Museum’s events coordinator from 2010 until July of 2016. Her past experience in the arts has included curatorial work for the West Virginia State Museum, a position as gallery director for Marshall University’s Birke Art Gallery, and art teaching positions from kindergarten to college level. She now occasionally teaches adult acrylic painting classes at MassMu.

Heather Bullach

Heather Bullach has been the traveling exhibits coordinator at the Museum since early 2015. Prior to joining MassMu, she spent five years working with Translations Art Gallery in Canton.

A portrait and landscape artist working primarily in oils, her style ranges from tight realism to expressive impressionism. She earned her bachelor’s degree in art at Malone University (Canton, Ohio) in 2011. Her work is widely exhibited in Northeast Ohio, including four solo exhibitions since 2011. Her awards include The Canton Arts District All-Stars Exhibition winner in 2015, The Mary Ellen McFadden Award for artistic achievement in 2011, and The Ohio Watercolor Society 2010 Scholarship. She currently teaches painting at Malone University and resides in Dalton, Ohio.

Rick Rohrer

Rick Rohrer, who has been hired as facilities manager, came to the Massillon Museum with a diverse background in commercial and residential real estate, construction, and social worker with supervision designation and an Ohio adoption assessor, she retired—as program administrator of the adoption, family resources, independent living and placement units—from Stark County Job and Family Services, Children Services Division, in January, 2016. Jobe continues to work part-time with a private adoption agency, facilitating adoptions and helping families. She actively participated in six Stark County Citizens for Children Services levies and served as the fundraising chair for the 2015 campaign. Nancy and her husband, Jim, have two adult children.

Nancy Jobe

Nancy Jobe, MassMu’s events coordinator, is a lifelong resident of Massillon and a graduate of Massillon Washington High School. She obtained her BA from Kent State University and an MS in social administration from Case Western Reserve University. A licensed independent social worker with supervision designation and an Ohio adoption assessor, she retired—as program administrator of the adoption, family resources, independent living and placement units—from Stark County Job and Family Services, Children Services Division, in January, 2016. Jobe continues to work part-time with a private adoption agency, facilitating adoptions and helping families. She actively participated in six Stark County Citizens for Children Services levies and served as the fundraising chair for the 2015 campaign. Nancy and her husband, Jim, have two adult children.
museums. During his time within the real estate field, he focused on maintenance and emergency on-call services. When dabbling in construction, he worked as a building superintendent, helped create the William R. Day building in Canton, and helped maintain the Stern and Mann’s building. During Rohrer’s time as facilities manager of the William McKinley Presidential Library and Museum, he dealt with everything from grounds upkeep and landscaping to building maintenance.

As the Massillon Museum’s facilities manager, he oversees maintenance-related issues, ensures the facility’s cleanliness, and plays an active role in the upcoming construction of the expanded facility.

In his spare time, Rohrer enjoys visiting museums and spending time with family.

Kaitlyn Gutshall

Kaitlyn Gutshall, the Massillon Museum’s full-time facilities manager during most of 2016, focused on maintaining the overall function of the facility and assisting with installation and de-installation of exhibits. She worked with the Museum’s permanent collection and taught ceramic classes to all age groups. As a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Art, Gutshall used her skills and experience to creatively uphold the dependability of the Museum within the community. Kaitlyn has also gained valuable experience working with Art Restoration Technologies, where she worked to restore photographs, paintings, and sculptures that had been damaged in floods and fires. She is currently enrolled at Kent State University, working toward a master’s degree concentrating in museum studies to further her ambitions in art and museums.

Kevin Lahm

Self-educated in carpentry and furniture design, cabinetry, and home construction, Lahm is the lead carpenter for Affinity Medical Center’s maintenance shops with twenty-one years of service. Lahm has brought his carpentry skills to MassMu exhibits and events. He is familiar with all associated mechanical systems and transfers that expertise to Museum applications. He has lived in the Canton/Massillon area for six decades and has two children. His hobbies include gardening, boat-building, plant and bird identification, tennis, and shooting sports.

Margy Vogt

Public Relations Coordinator Margy Vogt has written and designed three local history books and leads Massillon history walking tours. As a volunteer, she chairs the Museum’s Brown Bag Lunch series and the Community Candlelight Walk. She serves on the Massillon Public Library, Charity School of Kendal Foundation, and Community Improvement Corporation boards; the Massillon Third Century committee, the Imagine Massillon task force, and the Massillon Historic Preservation Commission.

When she received the Rotary Club of Massillon’s Paul L. David Humanitarian Award in 2004, she designated the accompanying charitable contribution to establish the Museum’s Margy Vogt Photography Endowment Fund. She urges others to contribute in support of the photography collection and exhibitions. The Repository has recognized her as one of “Stark County’s Most Interesting People,” she was inducted into Canton YWCA Women’s Hall of Fame, she received the Mayor’s Community Service Award, and she was honored as a Massillon Distinguished Citizen.
In 2016, the collections team developed strategies for organization and consolidation of storage areas within the Museum to implement more efficient use of the current storage space in preparation for future growth. In the spring, Meghan Reed, registrar, effectively led a multi-day session with members of the collections team to inventory and reorganize the temporary storage space on the second floor.

On the third floor, intern Brandi Hart assisted in the inventory of the Pease Collection of ethnographic objects—the Museum’s founding collection—by geographic origin. Reed, Hart, and intern Brad Kirby also inventoried the annex collections storage on the southeast part of the third floor. The Museum submitted a federal grant request to complete renovation of this space, newly coined the Albert E. Hise Storage Room, in honor of former Curator Albert Hise who significantly shaped the scope of the Museum’s collections and helped launch the careers of artists David Hostettler and Clyde Singer.

Under Reed’s leadership, intern Stefanie O’Connor, a recent graduate of Kent State University’s library and information science master’s program, continued her work with the business collection rehousing initiative. The collections team focused intently in 2016 on continuing plans to merge the Massillon Tiger Football Booster Club collection with the existing Museum collections in preparation for the future Paul E. Brown Museum. MassMu and the Booster Club collaborated effectively to facilitate research requests, process incoming donations, and identify and inventory important artifacts.

More than 2,000 items were donated in 2016, including a scale model of Republic Steel, formerly on Oberlin Road, donated by David Frost. The Museum focused on growing its collection of artworks by Northeast Ohio artists this year. In late 2016, the Museum received a donation from the family of Stuart Pearl of seven paintings by his father, the late artist Moses Pearl (1917–2003). A graduate of the Cleveland School of Art, Pearl studied, taught, and painted prolifically in Cleveland and Northeast Ohio. He exhibited in many of the Spring Shows at the Cleveland Museum of Art and is celebrated for his watercolors and oil paintings. Paintings by Pearl are also housed in the collections of the Artist Archives of the Western Reserve, the Butler Museum of American Art, and the Canton Museum of Art.

PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

The Museum focused on growing its collection of artworks by Northeast Ohio artists this year. In late 2016, the Museum received a donation from the family of Stuart Pearl of seven paintings by his father, the late artist Moses Pearl (1917–2003). A graduate of the Cleveland School of Art, Pearl studied, taught, and painted prolifically in Cleveland and Northeast Ohio. He exhibited in many of the Spring Shows at the Cleveland Museum of Art and is celebrated for his watercolors and oil paintings. Paintings by Pearl are also housed in the collections of the Artist Archives of the Western Reserve, the Butler Museum of American Art, and the Canton Museum of Art.
FACILITIES REPORT

Carrying on the professional work of the Museum’s previous facilities manager, Kaitlyn Gutshall, Rick Rohrer continues to focus on maintaining Museum property; organizing storage and transitional areas to support the ever-changing needs of staff working with events, collections, and exhibitions; attending to safety for staff and patrons throughout the building and grounds; painting galleries as exhibitions change; and proactively monitoring systems such as HVAC and electrical.

In the coming months, much attention will be directed to the expansion project.

2016 Donors to the Collection

Amparo Adkins
The Altimus Family
Glenn Buttacavoli
Christopher Craft
Sandra Zinsmaster Dougherty
Lea Frey
David Frost
Ken Hartwick—In memory of Kenneth J. Hartwick, sports writer for The Evening Independent from 1929–1962
Roger Kienzle—
   In Memory of Roger W. Kienzle Sr., who served in the US Navy, Pacific Theatre, during World War II
The Massillon/North Canton Elks Lodge #2029—
   In memory of Massillon Elks Lodge #441
Lois McHugh
Massillon Public Library
Jennifer Nelson Maurer—
   In memory of Eric H. Nelson
William Moss—
   In memory of Bill and Dorothy Moss
Amy Myers
Eric J. Myers—In memory of Charles A. Myers, Junie Studer, and Merville Myers
Jeanne and Stuart Pearl
Carol Ricker
Frances Sorg Sauer—
   In memory of Eleanor Arnold Sorg
Joanie Siber—
   In memory of Marilyn Hartmann Dupper
Larry and Maude Slagle—
   In memory of Gwen Sandison
Susi Boerner Slater
Mike Slater—In memory of Edna Slater
Gary Spangler
James Sparks
Tim Rhodes
Tom Treisch
Rudy Turkal
Loren Veigel
William Waller Family
Members of Wesley United Methodist Church
Marjorie West
Bill and Linda Willis
Elizabeth Zelei

OPPOSITE FAR LEFT: Registrar Meghan Reed inspects a new acquisition.

OPPOSITE LEFT: Interns and staff collaborated to rehouse collections.

RIGHT: The Capital Campaign banner was installed just in time for the Island Party, when Executive Director Alexandra Nicholis Coon greeted Senator Scott Oelslager when he arrived.
The Velma B. Erwin Research Room has been a flurry of activity in 2016. Volunteers Mark Pitocco and Lois McHugh digitized thousands of photographs and archival documents this year. Many large or fragile artifacts, such as posters, maps, and newspapers, have been photographed for easy research access. Interns Ben Ankrum and Erica Wise (Walsh University) assisted in reorganizing and rehousing approximately thirty photo albums from Massillon families and Dr. Immel’s circus collection.

Archivist Mandy Altimus Pond has been working for more than a year on Arcadia Publishing’s Images of America book, *Early Massillon and Lost Kendal*, which will launch in 2017. The book, which examines the village of Kendal, founded in 1812, and the town of Massillon, founded in 1826, sheds light on the people, places, and events that shaped the city from 1812 to 1860. Lecture and book signing events will be held in 2017.

The Museum has frequently featured an aerial photograph from the standpipe—a scene jeweler Albert Coleman recorded on a glass plate negative in 1890. In 1962, Karl Spuhler recreated it on a photographic film negative. The standpipe near Sippo Park was razed in the 1980s. This year Ben Ankrum and his friend Patrick Rohr generously photographed the same view with a drone from more than one hundred feet in the air. To see high-resolution aerial photographs from 1890, 1962, and 2016, visit: massillonmuseum.org/blog/Collections-Archives/View-from-the-Standpipe.

The Museum staff welcomed surprise visitor David Palmquist, former MassMu archivist from 1971 to 1972. He shared stories of working with Museum Director Mary Merwin, researching early Kendal village history, and tracking down Jacob Coxey’s personal papers. Coxey, who led the first protest march on Washington DC in 1894, had almost faded from memory by the 1970s. Palmquist obtained the papers and photographs for the Museum and worked with the Ohio Historical Society to microfilm each page. This archive has regularly served researchers for decades since.

The Massillon Museum’s photographs were used in several projects this year. “General” Jacob Coxey’s 1894 protest march is a topic for student researchers for history day projects, a doctoral student, and a forthcoming PBS documentary. Massillon Tiger football photographs and film were featured in a trailer for the 2017 documentary *Timeless Rivals: Massillon Tigers vs. McKinley Bulldogs* (Ted Bowersox, executive producer; Dave Jingo, director, producer, editor).

The Massillon Museum preserves approximately five hundred sets of architectural blueprints and renderings, many of which have been featured in an exhibit that opened in November. Staff, volunteers, and interns have inventoried, rehoused, and labeled each set. This fall, the collections team placed the blueprints in their new home, a powder-coated steel cabinet in the collections storage room. A list of these blueprints is available by name or by topic on MassMu’s website: http://www.massillonmuseum.org/documents/collection/architecture.

Website visitors can enjoy a journey to former restaurants, residences, events, and disasters through MassMu’s virtual exhibits, where more than 160 virtual exhibit galleries are available on flickr, Facebook, and the website. Learn more on the MassMu website: http://www.massillonmuseum.org/virtual-exhibits.

**ABOVE:** Using his drone, Patrick Rohr photographed aerial views of Massillon from the site of the former standpipe. **MAP**

**OPPOSITE TOP:** David Palmquist and Archivist Mandy Pond pose with cutouts of Jacob Coxey and Carl Browne.

**RIGHT:** Volunteers Mark Pitocco and Lois McHugh photograph fragile archival materials.
VOLUNTEERS

More than 120 volunteers regularly assist with Museum events, archival and collections projects, classes and workshops, bartending, and baking. The twenty-second annual Island Party was staffed by 128 volunteers. All together, volunteers donated 5,000 hours of their time to the Museum in 2016.

The Activities Committee was hard at work this year. They planned and hosted the Children’s Halloween Party—a great success with more than fifty children in attendance. The committee next invited thirteen local businesses to decorate Christmas trees in the lobby windows, organizing a wine and cheese reception to create a festive atmosphere as participants festooned trees representing their respective businesses. The Children’s Holiday Party was a hit with more than 100 members and members’ children and grandchildren in attendance.
The K–12 Celebration in Art exhibition launched the Museum into its eighty-third year with unprecedented attendance—730 people visited over the course of two hours! Fifteen schools participated with more than two hundred two- and three-dimensional artworks. Ballet Le Reve's performance drew a large crowd. The Museum complemented Celebration in Art with a new Paul Brown gallery exhibition. Paul Brown and Racial Integration in Ohio Football commemorated the seventieth anniversary of the 1946 reintegration of the American Football League, when Brown signed Bill Willis and Marion Motley to his team.

In March, the Museum presented two concurrent photography exhibitions in the main gallery. Masters of American Photography, a traveling exhibit curated by the Reading Public Museum, featured a number of iconic photographs. Coinciding with this exhibition was Massillon's Masters: Highlights from the Fine Art Photography Collection. The education and curatorial departments worked with students from Kent State University, who translated labels in those exhibits and the Studio M Growing Season exhibit, into Spanish to complement the book selection—In the Time of the Butterflies—for the ninth NEA Big Read program.

A new second-floor exhibit, Echo: The Early History of Sound Recording, opened in May, tracing the evolution of audio reproduction from the wax cylinder to the radio. The Museum collaborated with board member David Schultz and community member Justin A. Schaub, both avid music collectors. Patrons could hear recorded sound of selected objects on view by listening to the Museum's first in-gallery exhibition app on an iPad.

In summer, Readapt celebrated the ten-year anniversary of the 2006 Adaptations exhibition. Ten artists from across the state of Ohio were invited to creatively reinterpret objects from the collection.

At summer's end, in conjunction with the Tiger pep rally, the Museum opened a new Paul Brown exhibition, Paul Brown and the Massillon Tiger Swing Band. The exhibit honored George "Red" Bird, founder of the Swing Band, who had been recruited by Paul Brown, along with Orin "Dykae" Ford and Jim Billingsley, three of the most influential early directors of the Swing Band.

Each year, skilled artists living and/or working within the county enter the juried Stark County Artists Exhibition, which featured forty-nine artworks by thirty-one artists this year. The 2016 jurors were Mark Masuoka, executive director and CEO of the Akron Art Museum; Frank Oriti, a visual artist from Cleveland, Ohio; and Shari Wilkins, founder and director of the Cleveland Print Room.

Alongside the Stark County Artists Exhibition, the Museum opened Art 360°: Contemporary Art Hatching across Ohio on the second floor. Organized by Charles Bluestone, more than forty contemporary Ohio artists, working across twenty-four media, embraced the challenge of embellishing ostrich eggs.

The Museum reflected on the history of local architecture in From the Drawing Board: Architectural Renderings from the Collection, which opened in November. Representing a sampling of the Museum's extensive archival collection of blueprints and visual renderings documenting architectural projects in Northeast Ohio, the exhibit featured some drawings that are seldom seen.

In December, the Museum unveiled new displays as part of the permanent Immel Circus gallery, including Bolstering Curb Appeal, a larger-than-life neon sign honoring Dr. Immel created by artist Dana Depew for the Readapt exhibit. Larry and Maude Slagle won this artwork in the Readapt exhibit raffle and donated it to the Museum.
STUDIO M EXHIBITS

Studio M is Massillon Museum’s venue for regional and national artists. This year marked the twelfth anniversary of Studio M. With a brand new logo to more closely match the Massillon Museum’s identity, the staff is pleased to offer patrons engaging exhibitions, that rotate every six weeks.

Melissa Markwald pushed the limits of the Studio M gallery space with larger-than-life portraits in her Composing Identities show. Gary Harwood’s Growing Season exhibit told stories of the migrant worker community at the K.W. Zellers and Son, Inc. family farm in Hartville, Ohio. The Museum partnered with guest curator Craig Joseph on the exhibit, Older than I, photographs by Jeremy Aronhalt. The images portrayed iconic vintage objects that Aronhalt still uses every day. The next solo exhibit featured whimsical drawings and mixed media works by Staci Marie Leech Cornell, including a large-scale drawing created on-site for the exhibit. Isin Sezer’s richly layered acrylic paintings of natural forms on a microscopic level graced the gallery walls in November and December.

The tradition of several annual group shows continued, with the Relay for Life photography exhibit; the Boys and Girls Club of Massillon exhibit; and Image to Image: A Comparative Study of Past and Present Photojournalists’ Images, Styles, and Shooting Techniques, a collaboration with Walsh University photojournalism students. This year’s winners in the Boys and Girls Club exhibit were delighted to receive full sets of art supplies along with their award ribbons.

TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS

Imagining A Better World: The Artwork of Nelly Toll traveled to three locations in 2016. In January, it opened at the Holocaust Memorial Museum in San Antonio, Texas. The artist, accompanied by her husband Erv, as well as filmmaker and MassMu partner diane Vicari, presented to museum visitors and local school children in conjunction with the exhibit. In March, the exhibit opened at the Dennison Railroad Depot Museum in Dennison, Ohio. The exhibit, which marked that museum’s first exhibit exploring both artwork and the Holocaust, will continue through February 28, 2017. In May, the exhibit opened at the Troy-Hayner Cultural Center in Troy, Ohio. At the opening, Toll presented to an overflowing auditorium. In all, her story reached an estimated total of 12,000 individuals in 2016.

Confirmed venues for the exhibit in 2017 include Alvernia University in Reading, Pennsylvania; the Hanover Area Arts Guild in Hanover, Pennsylvania; and the University of Alberta in Alberta, Canada.

Visitors view Imagining a Better World at the Dennison Railroad Depot Museum.
The Museum education department is dedicated to enriching the community through a wide range of educational programming. In 2016, more than 1,300 people—up from 765 in 2015—tooled the Museum with docents Rick Artzner, Marsha Calhoun, Beverly Denholm, and Bob Ohling. This large increase is a result of a generous grant from The John S. and Jodine S. Duerr Community Artistic and Cultural Subfund at Stark Community Foundation for the Readapt exhibit and a generous private donation for field trips, which helped to provide an enriching art experience for 517 children and sixty-four adults in September. During the course of three-and-a-half days and seven tours, elementary and junior high students visited the Museum to see the Readapt exhibit, meet an artist, and create artwork.

In its eighth year, the free, monthly intergenerational Do the Mu! workshop series attendance increased to 371 participants. Community instructors also led a wide variety of classes and workshops such as acrylic painting, ceramics, drama, photography, and self-publishing.

Patrons enjoyed two Rhythms concerts with local bands: Latin jazz with Ahi-Nama and 1930s French gypsy jazz with Moustache Yourself.

Offsite, the Museum reached more than 12,000 people—up from about 10,000 in 2015—with outreach programs extending throughout Northeast Ohio, including Columbus and the Cleveland suburbs, as well as beyond Ohio, including Indianapolis and Washington DC. These outreach numbers do not include the additional thousands reached through The Artful Living Program and traveling exhibitions.

The education department received a generous ArtsinStark SmArts grant for the 2017 NEA Big Read as well as the Traveling Treasures outreach program. The pilot Traveling Treasures program— "Native Americans in Ohio"—was presented in February and November for 150 first graders at Frazer Elementary. Additional topics, including “Arts Careers” and the “Art of Nelly Toll,” will be developed in 2017.

For its ninth consecutive year, the Museum, in partnership with the Massillon Public Library, received funding from the National Endowment for the Arts to host The Big Read, celebrating In the Time of the Butterflies by Julia Alvarez. The Museum partnered with the office of Congressman Bob Gibbs, who represents Ohio’s 7th District, to assist in promotion of the Congressional Art Competition, serve as a drop-off point for entries, and exhibit selections of local students’ artwork.

Demi Edwards, Sam Lechner, Ariana Parry, and Raven Venegas were 2016 education interns.
In April, The Artful Living Program was honored to be named the outstanding museum educational and outreach program for 2015 by the Ohio Museums Association (OMA) at its 2016 conference.

The Artful Living Program is currently in its ninth year of introducing preschool children throughout Stark County to their creative potential and opening to them an awareness of a world of beauty in the arts. The program provides standard-based arts lessons to preschool children in Massillon City and Canton City Schools as well as in eleven local school districts that comprise the Stark County Integrated Preschools. Children experience from two to four arts lessons weekly for a period of twenty-five weeks. Employing twenty-four teaching artists in visual art, music, dance, drama, and literature, the program cooperates with more than one hundred teachers, aides, and administrators to provide 212 lessons weekly, impacting more than 1,200 preschool children.

Sponsored by the Massillon Museum and the Stark County Educational Service Center, The Artful Living Program collaborates with ten community and arts organizations. Funding for the program is provided through grants from the PNC Foundation, the Ohio Arts Council, The Peter and Judith Schurman Charitable Fund (through the Stark Community Foundation), the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, ArtsinStark, and the Gessner Family Foundation. Additional funding is provided by the Stark County Educational Service Center, Canton City School District, Massillon City Schools, the Massillon Museum, and private donors.

The Artful Living Program reinforces preschool academic achievement, builds self-esteem, and fosters creativity. 
Completing its fourteenth season, the Museum’s Brown Bag Lunch series, sponsored by Bates Printing since its inception, continues to draw crowds that fill the lobby once a month from January through October. Guests bring lunch or purchase lunch from Anderson’s in the City. The Museum provides cookies and coffee. The 2016 schedule was as diverse as always.

During the first half of the year, Museum Archivist Mandy Altimus Pond told her grandfather’s story of his 1,200-mile forced march as a World War II POW; Captain Kevin W. Collard talked about life on a Great Lakes freighter; and Gary Harwood recounted the making of his photography books, Growing Season and Tiger Legacy. Todd Clark amazed the audience with tales of his time in Colombia amidst drug wars, and Museum Executive Director Alexandra Nicholis Coon shared her knowledge about Massillon-raised photographer Nell Dorr’s “magic world.”

Author Jerry Prout talked about Jacob Coxey’s historic campaign for jobs; Andrew Richmond, a respected appraiser, presented “plans for your stuff;” local historian Rudy Turkal helped the audience recall many of the items manufactured in post-World War II Massillon; Museum Board Member David Harding amused listeners with the history of comic strips; and football historian Tim Hudak ranked high school teams across the nation, sharing interesting anecdotes along the way.

Brown Bag Lunches are free and open to everyone with no reservations necessary.
The Massillon Museum is not only where art and history come together, it is also where people come together to enjoy unique events designed to entertain, educate, and celebrate! Concerts, parties, fundraisers, and more offered opportunities to experience a diverse array of programs.

The June Relics and Refabs event, chaired by Mary Ann Poling and Sue Reid, provided vendors a chance to showcase upcycled and vintage items. Visitors enjoyed a variety of items to browse and buy. Appraisers were available to offer their expertise on the value of family heirlooms and antiques.

For the annual Island Party, MassMu brought back Carlos Jones & the P.L.U.S. Band to entertain more than 2,500 guests! Members and volunteers participated in making this event a huge success.

Kicking off the football season, MassMu hosted Tiger Striped Ice Cream Night, serving about 500 free orange and black ice cream cones. Orange and black was also the decor for the first Art after Dark costume party. This ghoulishly great time was a joint fundraiser between the Canton Museum of Art and MassMu. The children’s Halloween Party was a hit with MassMu’s younger members.

Rounding out the year of events were the holiday parties, complete with good cheer and a visit from Santa!
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2016 MassMu Membership Campaign

This was the sixth year in recent history the Massillon Museum held a dedicated membership campaign, and it has been another record-breaking year of membership! The goals for the 2016 membership campaign were to raise $55,000 and push the membership roster up to 750 supporters. With collective hard work, excellent campaign leadership, and organized effort—the campaign once again surpassed its goals. The final numbers for the 2016 campaign are: $61,049 raised, which includes a $6,593 Gessner Family Foundation match, and 781 current MassMu members. This is the eighth straight year membership numbers have increased, and membership dollars have more than tripled since 2009. This sort of growth would not be possible without the generosity of the community, partners, and supporters.

The constant generosity the Gessner Family Foundation and its trustees show for the Massillon Museum contributes significantly to the success of all aspects of the Museum’s success.

The 2016 membership campaign co-chairs, John and Lonna Kiste brought their knowledge of the community, clever ideas, and complete dedication to the cause to help the Museum realize exceptional growth. The Museum is making history!

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FRONT COVER PERMANENT COLLECTION IMAGES TOP ROW:
Clyde Singer (1908–1999), Two Cronies, 73.34.1
Marc Moon, The Monument, watercolor painting, 66.32.1
Anna Hyatt Huntington (1875–1973), Winter Noon, 1936, bronze, BC 2450

FRONT COVER PERMANENT COLLECTION IMAGES BOTTOM ROW:
Lace and taffeta picture hat, from the Siebold collection c. 1910, BC 1137
Massillon professional Tiger football game at Sunnyside Field, 90.11.2

BACK COVER PHOTOGRAPHS:
Marianne Stokes (1855–1927), watercolor painting, c. 1890s
The Massillon Museum’s 1907–1908 Jewel automobile can be seen in the second-floor lobby. MV

THIS PAGE TOP LEFT: Gary Miller and Jim Fink were among 200 guests at the Members’ Holiday Party. MV

TOP RIGHT: Tim and Margaret Cocklin enjoyed the Children’s Halloween Party with their grandchildren. MV

BOTTOM LEFT: Amanda Tirey and April Sunami, two of more than forty artists who embellished ostrich eggs in the Art 360°: Contemporary Art Hatching across Ohio exhibition, found their eggs displayed next to each other in the Museum’s second-floor gallery. MV

BOTTOM RIGHT: Ballet Le Rêve performed at the opening of the Celebration in Art exhibition.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BALLET LE RÊVE
THE MASSILLON MUSEUM COLLECTS, PRESERVES, AND EXHIBITS ART AND ARTIFACTS TO ENRICH OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE.