# Biggs Museum Art of American

For Immediate Release March 31, 2010 302.674.2111 ext. 105 Media Contact Sarah DiMondi sdimondi@biggsmuseum.org

## The Free Three: Floral Fun & Sunken Treasures May 2010 First Friday, Biggs Kids & Mini-Masters







Dover, DE – \*\*\*\*\* Beginning in May 2010, the Mini-Masters program will be held from 10:00 a.m to 11:00 a.m. Please note this time change in published materials.\*\*\*\*

Please join the Biggs Museum at one of the several family-friendly educational programs and exhibition-related adult workshop opportunities to be offered in May 2010.

The floral fun lasts all day on Saturday, May 1 during the *Dover Days* celebration. Beginning at 10:00 a.m., *Biggs Kids* and other Museum visitors of all ages are invited to come to the Museum to create tissue paper flowers. The Biggs Museum needs help decorating for the **2010 Biggs Museum Gala**: *An Affair with the Arts* and is asking all visitors to create one for themselves and one for the Museum! Flowers made during *Dover Days* will be arranged as the centerpieces for the 2010 Gala and will be sold at the event to benefit the monthly *Biggs Kids* and *Mini-Masters* programs.

On Friday, May 7, Craig Lukezic, Archeologist with the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs will discuss some of the findings during a 2004 beach replenishment project at Lewes Beach, which included a vessel thought to be the remains of the British commercial ship Severn which was lost in a storm in May, 1774. This **First Friday** program entitled, *Sunken Treasures-Pewter Toys and Other Objects Found on the Roosevelt Inlet Shipwreck*, is free for all ages.

*Mini-Masters* will begin a two-part activity on Wednesday, May 19. Each child will plant their own grass. At the June *Mini-Masters* program, the children will decorate their new "Plant Pals."

In addition to the *Free Three* programs to be held in May, the Biggs Museum will host *Art at Lunch: Food Lore-Scrapple, Muskrat and More* on Wednesday, May 5 from Noon to 1:00 p.m. Learn about the region's historic association with food and the personal heritage and regional influences associated with what we eat with author and storyteller, Ed Okonowicz. From the catches of the Delaware Bay and Chesapeake Bay watermen and duck hunters to the Smith Island Layer Cake, what we consume reflects on who we are, where we came from, and where we live and work. In this informative and entertaining program, learn about and discuss America's regional foods and, in particular, the cuisine most identified with the immediate Delmarva region.

Art will be taken outside down to South Bowers Beach at the **Marine Paint Out two-day workshop** on Saturday, May 22 and Sunday, May 23. Steve Rogers, member of the American Society of Marine Artists and a featured artist in the *Blue Water/Still Water* exhibition, hopes to promote marine art and history, and to encourage cooperation among artists, historians and marine enthusiasts with this plein air oil painting workshop.

The May *First Friday* program, the Marine Paint Out workshop and the *Art at Lunch:* Food Lore-Scrapple, Muskrat and More program are partially funded by a grant from the Delaware Humanities Forum, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

#### About *The Free Three*

The Biggs Museum is proud to offer three free family-friendly programs every month in addition to presenting a collection of fine and decorative art to the public year-round and free of charge. Please visit the on-line Calendar of Events on the Museum web-site at <a href="https://www.biggsmuseum.org">www.biggsmuseum.org</a> or register to receive our bi-monthly Calendar of Events in the mail to see more information regarding each month's programs.

On the first Friday of every month, the Biggs Museum, along with several other members of the Dover arts community, serve as a venue for downtown Dover's *First Friday* program. *First Friday* is an effort to bring the public downtown the first Friday of every month to enjoy local art venues and activities. The Biggs Museum offers a free, family-friendly program each month. First Friday programs include First Look Party!'s, lectures, curator-led tours, interactive activities, and performances. Pre-registration may or may not be required for the *First Friday* program. Please see the Calendar of Events or contact the Museum for more information.

Biggs Kids and Mini-Masters are free youth educational programs open to the public and are held in the programs gallery at the Museum. Biggs Kids is held on the first Saturday of every month from 2:00-3:00 p.m. for children ages 5-10. Mini-Masters is held on the third Wednesday of every month from 1:00-2:00 p.m. for children ages 3-5. Different art activities are planned each month for children to experience and enjoy art and the

Museum. **Pre-registration is required** for both *Mini-Masters* and *Biggs Kids*. Please call 674-2111 or fill out a registration form on-line at <a href="www.biggsmuseum.org">www.biggsmuseum.org</a> in the Biggs Kids section. *Biggs Kids* and *Mini-Masters* are supported by the Delaware Division of the Arts, Wilmington Trust and Mid-Del Foundation.

#### **Event Quick-Stats**

**Event:** Biggs Kids: Tissue Paper Flowers

**Date:** Saturday, May 1 **Time:** 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m. **Price:** Free, Children Ages 5-10

**Description:** April showers have helped to bring us beautiful May flowers. Using tissue paper, create a beautiful flower that will never wilt. Learn about the history of the "May Basket" at this month's *Biggs Kids* program, which takes place during the *Dover Days* 

festivities.

**Event:** Floral Fun at *Dover Days* 

**Date:** Saturday, May 1 **Time:** 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.

Price: Free, All Ages

**Description:** Create beautiful flowers that will never wilt out of tissue paper at the Biggs Museum during *Dover Days*. Help the Biggs Museum decorate for the 2010 Biggs Museum Gala: *An Affair with the Arts* by creating one for yourself and one for the Museum! Flowers made during *Dover Days* will be arranged as the centerpieces for the 2010 Gala and will be sold at the event to benefit the monthly *Biggs Kids* and *Mini-Masters* programs. Supplies provided.

**Event:** Art at Lunch: Food Lore-Scrapple, Muskrat and More

**Date:** Wednesday, May 5 **Time:** 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Price:** \$20 not-yet members /\$18 members

**Description:** Learn about the region's historic association with food and the personal heritage and regional influences associated with what we eat with author and storyteller, Ed Okonowicz. From the catches of the Delaware Bay and Chesapeake Bay watermen and duck hunters to the Smith Island Layer Cake, what we consume reflects on who we are, where we came from, and where we live and work. In this informative and entertaining program, learn about and discuss America's regional foods and, in particular, the cuisine most identified with the immediate Delmarva region. Ticket price includes lunch. *This program is partially funded by a grant from the Delaware Humanities Forum, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities*.

**Event:** First Friday: Sunken Treasures-Pewter Toys and Other Objects Found on the

Roosevelt Inlet Shipwreck

**Date:** Friday, May 7 **Time:** 5:00-6:00 p.m. **Price:** Free, All Ages

**Description:** In the fall of 2004, during a beach replenishment project at Lewes Beach, sand dredging in the lower Delaware Bay struck a portion of an archaeological site resulting in thousands of artifacts being pumped onto Lewes Beach. Archaeologists from the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs recovered nearly 56,000 artifacts. The vessel, thought to be the remains of the British commercial ship Severn which was lost in a storm in May, 1774 is the oldest-known shipwreck discovered in Delaware waters. Craig Lukezic, Archeologist with the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs will discuss some of the findings. Light refreshments will be served. *This program is partially funded by a grant from the Delaware Humanities Forum, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities*.

**Event:** Sixth Annual Biggs Museum Gala: An Affair with the Arts

**Date:** Saturday, May 15 **Time:** 6:00 – 11:00 p.m.

Price: \$100 Individual/\$1,500 Table of 10 Persons

**Description:** This fundraising event celebrates and raises money for all that is new and exciting in the museum including its galleries, exhibitions and programming. Enjoy an evening in a tent with open bar, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, dancing and silent auction in celebration of the arts.

Event: Mini-Masters: Plant Pals Date: Wednesday, May 19 Time: 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Price: Free, Children Ages 3-5

**Description:** May is the perfect month to teach children about plants and what they need to thrive and grow. Each child will plant their own grass and in June we will decorate our new "Plant Pals."

**Event:** Marine Art Paint Out

Date: Saturday, May 22 and Sunday, May 23

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Location:** South Bowers Beach

**Price:** \$100 members/\$90 members for both days

**Description:** Marine artists are often also plein air artists or artists that paint outdoors. Steve Rogers, member of the American Society of Marine Artists, hopes to promote marine art and history, and to encourage cooperation among artists, historians and marine enthusiasts with this plein air oil painting workshop. The first day will be dedicated to picking a marine subject, preliminary drawings and review of oil painting techniques. The second day will be used to complete the painting. An exhibition of artwork created in the class is scheduled for Friday, June 4. All skill levels welcome. Please bring lunch. *This program is partially funded by a grant from the Delaware Humanities Forum, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities*.

#### About the Museum

The Biggs Museum seeks to serve a diverse public as a regional museum of fine and decorative arts, made from 1700 to present, representing the State of Delaware and the

surrounding Mid-Atlantic region. The Biggs Museum engages audiences through a compelling program of temporary exhibitions and programming. The Biggs Museum encourages the development of creativity and an appreciation for art by offering a comprehensive slate of educational programming for all ages. The Biggs Museum of American Art is a private, non-profit 501(c) (3) organization.

**Hours of Operation:** Tuesday through Saturday; 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Sunday; 1:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

**Admission:** Biggs Museum is free to the public year-round. Fees may apply to certain programs and special events.

### The Biggs Museum of American Art

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Top Images:

Left: Art & Poetry, April 2009

Center: Donald Maitz, Eyes for Prize (Featured in Blue Water/Still Water)

Right: Cocoa, Cookies and Toy Soldiers, December 2009