



DUBUQUE
museum
OF art



Smithsonian Affiliate

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"Just to Live is Holy" Opens at Dubuque Museum of Art September 22

Exhibition of Women Religious Artists Includes Works by Internationally-Known Pop Artist, Sister Corita Kent

For Immediate Release

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September 5, 2018 (DUBUQUE, IA) – The [Dubuque Museum of Art \(DuMA\)](#)'s fall exhibition will touch on a unique aspect of our region's artistic and cultural heritage.

Opening September 22 in the Falb Family Gallery, [Just to Live Is Holy: Women Religious and a Tradition of Art, Faith, and Justice](#) highlights the work of more than a dozen artists affiliated with a religious order, each of whom has made a unique contribution to our understanding of the relationship between art and faith.

The exhibition was first conceived of more than three years ago and organized by the DuMA, with the assistance of a community advisory committee representing area congregations.

A highlight of the exhibit will be the inclusion of works by internationally-known artist, Sister Corita Kent (American, 1918-1986). Born in Fort Dodge, Iowa a century ago, Kent taught at Immaculate Heart College in Los Angeles for more than two decades, where the artist developed a signature style, blending bold color, popular imagery, and verse to form a language at once personal and universal.

Recent traveling exhibits of Kent's work have visited museums across the country, including the Harvard Art Museum, the Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland; the Andy Warhol Museum, and the San Antonio Museum of Art. Kent has also been the subject of numerous features in leading media outlets, including [The Guardian](#), [National Public Radio](#), and the [CBS Sunday Morning Show](#).

Works by more than a dozen noted local and regional women religious artists are included in the exhibition. Participating artists include: Louise Kames; Sr. Helen Kerrigan, BVM; Sr. Margaret Mear, BVM; Sr. Blanche Marie Gallagher, BVM; Sr. James Ann Walsh, BVM; Sr. Carmelle Zserdin, BVM; Sr. Barbara Cerny, BVM; Sr. Catharine Wall, OP; Sr. Joeann Daley, OP; Sr. Chiara Pauloni, OP; Sr. Barbara Cevenka, OP; Sr. Kay Cota, PBVM; Sr. Carrie Link, PBVM; Sr. Marie Barth, PBVM; and Meinrad Craighead.

Lenders to the exhibition include the Corita Art Center in Los Angeles; Iowa Women's Archive, University of Iowa Libraries; Sioux City Art Center; St. Mary's University; Sinsinawa Mound - Dominican Sisters; Mt. Carmel - Sisters of Charity, BVM; Louise Kames; and Bob Neumann.

A fully-illustrated catalogue is being published in conjunction with the exhibition and will include essays by Dr. Paulette Skiba, BVM, professor of religious studies at Clarke University; Louise Kames, chair of the Art Department at Clarke University; Sister Rhonda Miska; and John August Swanson, a Los Angeles-based artist and former student of Corita Kent.

Related programs and exhibitions will take place at Clarke University and the Sinsinawa Mound Center, including the exhibition "In Her Spirit", on view now through September 30 at the [Quigley Gallery](#) on the Clarke University campus.

A number of related public programs are planned in conjunction with the exhibition, including:

Exhibition Preview Event

Friday, September 21

5-8 pm

\$10 admission; Museum members free

Community Day & Smithsonian Day Live

Saturday, September 22

10 am – 4 pm

FREE admission

- Complimentary refreshments and tours throughout the day
- Smithsonian Museum Day Live: *Women Making History*
- Celebration of community art projects, including Little Luxuries mural project and Marshallese sculpture
- “Women of Dubuque” Portrait Project with Ellen Dettmer

Mount Carmel Art Tour with Kate Hendel

Sunday, October 7

2-4 pm

Members FREE; \$10 guests

Famous Dead Artist: Corita Kent

Saturday, December 2

1:30 pm

Just to Live is Holy continues through January 6, 2019.

High-resolution images of works in the exhibit are available upon request.

About the Dubuque Museum of Art

The Dubuque Museum of Art (DuMA), founded in 1874 and accredited by the American Alliance of Museums in 2004, is Iowa's oldest cultural institution. Named a national affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution in 2016, DuMA's mission is to excite, engage and serve diverse communities within the Tri-State area through our collections, exhibitions and educational programs. We connect generations of people to their cultural heritage and exceptional art.

DuMA is located across from Washington Park in historic downtown Dubuque at 7th and Locust Streets. Museum hours are Tuesday–Friday 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M., Saturday & Sunday 1:00 P.M.-4:00 P.M. The museum is closed on Mondays. Daily admission rates are: \$6 Adults, \$5 Seniors, and \$3 College/University Students. The museum is free on Thursdays, and those 18 and younger receive free admission every day, thanks to Prudential Financial. Website: www.dbqart.com

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