

Congratulations, Ryan!

In November 2019, colleagues from across the state elected Ryan Helsel, K-12 and Family Programs Educator, to the Advisory Board of the North Carolina Arts Education Association as the Division Chair for Museum/Art Center Educators. We are delighted for Ryan to continue the department's leadership tradition in the region and throughout the state in this key role supporting arts in K-12 education.

For Educators

Also in November, the National Endowment of Arts (NEA) awarded a \$20,000 matching grant to the museum to support our programming and training programs for area K-12 educators. This funding will allow the museum to maintain and grow its support of Durham and NC teachers.

Our teacher workshops, continuing education training opportunities, and Teacher Advisory Councils continue to see strong teacher participation. In the 2019/2020 school year, we welcomed 146 area educators to the Nasher to learn more about *Art for a New Understanding: Native Voices, 1950s to Now* and *Ebony G. Patterson... while the dew is still on the roses...* Additionally, four of the staff members from the Nasher Education Department participated in gallery teaching opportunities at the NCMA during the 2019 NCAEA State Conference reaching 100s of teachers from throughout the North Carolina and cementing our status as a statewide resource for education in the arts.

**K-12 Students and Families**

The 2019/2020 school year saw museum visits from 3,320 students from area public, private, and charter schools, who visited the Nasher and participated in engaging conversation in the galleries with our talented group of highly trained Gallery Guides. These visits are completely free to schools. Grant support allows us to reimburse schools for bus and substitute teacher costs making visits to the Nasher one of very few truly free educational fieldtrip opportunities in the region. Our Teacher Advisory Councils help ensure that students are participating in an education opportunity that meets state curriculum standards and that features art and conversation that supports teachers in their classrooms.

In March, the nationwide response to COVID-19 concluded our K-12 tours and programming for the current school year. The education department quickly pivoted to alternate plans and systems to continue to support and engage with area students and teachers. In early April, we started offering Virtual Classroom Visits in which staff to lead 30-45 minute art conversations with students via online video platforms. After making this program available, the museum scheduled 46 visits for the month of April alone. Additionally, we began preparing weekly K-5, 6-12, and Family lesson plans that feature work from our collection and that we distribute electronically to 4,000+ teachers every Thursday.

Our strong attendance at Family Programs continued this year with large audiences at our Family Day programs in October (433 visitors) and January (539 visitors), continued growth in our monthly Bilingual Storytime programs for toddlers and their caregivers, and great turnout of 273 visitors for our Family Holiday Program in December. Family Programs continue to be an important outreach and engagement tool for future generations of Nasher attendees, supporters, and artists. These programs also serve as a way to build strong relationships with other Duke Departments in their participating in different themed family events and the many Duke students who volunteer.

Nasher Teens

In January, the Nasher Teens hosted a racial equity training for over 150 teens, caregivers, and other professionals who work with local youth with the objective of helping more young people understand the history of and think more deeply about relevant social topics, particularly those that relate with the museum's collection. In the weeks following the



training, Nasher Teen Council members continued to put this into practice, learning more about the museum's collection and spending time with museum staff and Gallery Guides, as well as Duke student curators and interns. With Duke student curators, the council visited the museum's study storage to learn about the curatorial experience from the student perspective (photo above).

Before the museum's public closing, there were several opportunities for Nasher Teens to engage with the exhibition *Ebony G. Patterson... while the dew is still on the roses...* Patterson generously met with the Nasher Teen Council during her installation and led a behind-the-scenes tour before the exhibition opened to the public. After the exhibition opened, a late-February meetup event welcomed 20 area teens into the galleries with Durham-based collage artist Saba Taj and concluded with a collage-making workshop.

Since the museum's closing, the council continues to gather virtually 1-2 times a week to connect, to learn more about the art on display, and to organize plans for celebrating the end of the academic school year remotely.

Reflections

The Reflections Program for people with dementia and their care partners is going strong. In January and February, we had a robust turnout for programs including 16 tours serving 184 people. During the January tour with Duke Dementia Family Support Program, the museum featured a local DJ as the musical component alongside the *Cosmic Rhythm Vibrations* exhibition. This pairing and the broader work of the program was covered by the News and

Observer: <https://www.newsobserver.com/entertainment/arts-culture/article238509913.html>.



After the museum closed to the public, Reflections tours transformed into Virtual Art Talks in order to continue to serve our audience (see photo). In the first four weeks of working remotely (in March and April), we hosted 10 online programs with over 90 participants. The format includes a discussion of 2-3 works of art, projects to try at home, and other resources for background on artists, music. Participant feedback includes comments such as, "Thank you for making this possible", "We loved everything about it", "Thank you for offering this gift", "The session was a delight" and "Beautifully Done."

We are proud to continue to offer quality engagement to a demographic in danger of problems related to extreme isolation. We hope that by bringing the Nasher's collection to them for an engaging weekly experience, participants feel less alone and more connected to the Nasher and their community.

Education Department at a Glance FY 2019 - 2020

	Adult Tours		Reflections		K-12 Tours	
	Tours	People	Tours	People	Tours	People
July 19	15	174	6	81	26	501
Aug 19	13	117	2	24	10	206
Sept 19	17	218	8	85	9	233
Oct 19	24	335	5	54	22	872
Nov 19	24	300	8	87	18	463
Dec 19	14	193	4	46	19	673
Jan 20	23	287	8	103	4	46
Feb 20	18	230	8	81	10	218
Mar 20	10	124	5*	51*	3	108
April 20	NA	NA	18**	180**	46**	500**
	158		72		167	
		1978		792		3820

*statistics that include online programs due to COVID-19

**April statistics include scheduled programs

K-12 Teacher workshops, 146 total teachers

- September 10, 2019 – *Art For A New Understanding* – 86 teachers
 - March 10, 2020 – *A Laboratory for Learning* – 60 teachers

Family Days and Family Holiday Program, all free admission, 1,245 total visitors

- October 13, 2019 433 visitors
- December 26, 2019 273 visitors
- January 26, 2020 539 visitors

Bilingual Storytime, 260 total visitors

- August 8, 2019 59 visitors
- September 12, 2019 27 visitors
- October 10, 2019 20 visitors
- November 14, 2019 30 visitors
- December 12, 2019 20 visitors
- January 9, 2020 62 visitors
- February 13, 2020 42 visitors

Nasher Teen Meet-ups, 50 total teens

- October 19, 2019 15 teens
- November 16, 2019 15 teens
- February 29, 2020 20 teens

High School Portfolio Day

- September 22, 2019 11 teens