

THE ALBRECHT-KEMPER MUSEUM OF ART



2018
ANNUAL REPORT

A Message from the Executive Director

It has been an exciting three years. Since I arrived at the museum three years ago on February 1, 2016, we have put together a strong team of staff, docents, board members, and volunteers all working together to achieve our mission and strategic goals. In the last year, we have particularly focused on our education goals and witnessed great success. Yet, the financial health of the museum has exceeded expectations as well. As you will read below, our income this year has bested the twenty years for which we have electronic records. Furthermore, in the three years we have been working together, the AKMA has seen its gross income rise 30% over the previous three years. More impressively, the last three years has witnessed a 294% increase in net revenue compare to the period between 2013 and 2015. But we will not be resting on our laurels. We look forward to working with you this year to see if we can extend this pattern of growth.



2018 Exhibitions

Visions in Monochrome

Memory of Water

44th Annual Membership Exhibition

Annual High School Exhibition

Armin Mühsam: Archipeinture

A Life's Looking Glass: The Collection of John Mallery

Looking Sideways

Truth/Beauty/Spirit: The Photography of Neva Raylene

Perspectives: Biennial Missouri Western Faculty Exhibition

New Acquisitions at the Albrecht-Kemper

Ross Braught: Man of Imagination

Portraits Americana: A Brief Survey of American Portrait Photography

What was New at the Museum in 2018?

Debuting in 2017, but closing in 2018, *Memory of Water* and *Visions in Monochrome* adorned the museum's galleries early in 2018. Our annual membership and high school exhibitions remained popular and saw large numbers of entries once again. In March, there were two new exhibitions. *Armin Mühsam: Archipeinture* highlighted the paintings and collage work of Northwest Missouri art professor Armin Mühsam. *A Life's Looking Glass* focused upon an aspect of the art world that is increasingly of interest to AKMA's executive director- art collectors and their collections. This exhibition featured the print collection of John Mallery. Over the summer, the AKMA hung the large abstract paintings of Nebraska painter Beverly Todd in the exhibition *Looking Sideways*. We also staged the first solo exhibition of photographer Neva Raylene that was titled *Truth/Beauty/Spirit*. In the early fall, the museum presented three exhibitions. *Perspectives*, The Biennial Missouri Western Faculty Exhibition, featured pieces by each member of the art faculty. *My Story* was a national call for entries that was subsequently juried. Each artist submitted a work of art that attempted to tell part of the story of their life and accompanied the piece with written text. We also staged a recent acquisition exhibition from the permanent collection. At the end of the year, two exhibitions focused on the twentieth century. *Ross Braught: Man of Imagination* presented the first career retrospective of the artist who died in 1983. *Portraits Americana* highlighted American modernist portraiture of the twentieth century. The Grimes Gallery, which is commonly known as the "Western Gallery," was completely rehung over the summer. Utilizing an entirely new perspective, the gallery investigates iterations of the word "Western" in visual art. Pop-Up exhibitions continued to appear throughout the museum in unexpected locations. Beverly Todd, Larry Thomas, Jonathan Knight, Don Beaulieu, the "Friends in Art" collective, Alexis Clement, and Sebastian Duesing each staged a Pop-Up exhibition in 2018. The museum sponsored two internships for Missouri Western State University students interested in art history in 2018. Madison McKinley interned at the museum over the summer and co-curated a small exhibition of Evan Lindquist in the Barclay Gallery with museum Registrar, Megan Benitz. In the fall, Alexis Carr interned. She and Megan co-curated an exhibition focused on John Falter in the Barclay Gallery. We welcomed two new team members this year. Bee Burgiss Hall joined the staff as Guest Services Coordinator this summer. Just a few weeks later, Christy George became our new Marketing and Communications Manager.

Marketing & Communications

I started my position as Marketing and Communications Manager in mid-August and in the last four and a half months since my arrival we successfully focused on increasing the number of Business Council Memberships. At the end of 2018 we had 270 Members, 27 Fellows, and 15 Business Council Memberships and look to increase those numbers by the end of 2019.

We also focused on expanding our social media presence in order to reach new audiences. The museum's Facebook, Instagram and Twitter following is on the rise. The combination of the museum's social media pages and email newsletter blasts have kept our members and followers updated on exhibitions, special events, classes and art related news and has helped grow interest and enthusiasm for the museum.

-Christy George



Docents pictured from left to right: Mary Keck, Alex Asher, Sue Wagner, Drew Brown, Wendy Tyrrell, Mary Herzog, Carol Matt, Dolores Blair, Chris Fulker, Christy Price, Susie Willenbrink, & Mary Helen Stuber. Not in photo: Amy Grier & Vicky Barclay.

Education

2018 was a busy year in the Education Department, filled with new opportunities and lasting traditions. Children attended Kids Media Mix-up with Ms. A (Andrea Aeschliman) throughout the school year creating a new project each week. Girl Scouts earned art-themed merit badges in weekend art classes. Ms. Bee (Bee Burgiss Hall) taught Bee Creative exploring art inspired by nature. Everyone went home full after taking a cooking class with Chef Ralph and his kitchen staff. Awesomely Abstract Art Camp was our theme during two different sessions of our week-long summer camp taught by Ms. Molly (Molly Ring). Adult workshops included several sessions of our colored pencil workshops with Wanda Taylor. Donna Bland traveled from Texas to teach her biannual oil painting workshops. Amy Grier shared her knowledge of working with silk in her silk painting workshop. Artist Talks this year included Donna Bland presenting “Marketing Your Art” before her October workshop. Alexis Clements had a pop-up exhibition in the auditorium over the summer where she gave a presentation on her most recent body of work. Some of our most dedicated volunteers, the docents, gave over thirty-five tours in 2018 including all St. Joseph School District 5th graders, high schoolers from both Kansas and Missouri, private schools, homeschoolers, writing camp students, locals and traveling groups alike. Docents attended special exhibition presentations and enjoyed a group field trip to the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City.

2019 is already shaping up to be an exciting year for art workshops including returning artists Wanda Taylor and Donna Bland. Joining them will be a new workshop in watercolor taught by Lana Cease. Larry DeGraff will be joining us this summer to teach a class in oil painting. Other new workshops are still in the planning stages so check back with us regularly. Artist talks this year will include presentations by Patty Carroll, Donna Bland, and Larry DeGraff. Kids Media Mix-up classes are going stronger than ever and this year’s Summer Camp is going to be based on our summer exhibition, Collecting in America: The Sabates African Art Collection. Sixteen tours are already planned for this spring and the docents will be going to the Spencer Museum of Art in Lawrence, Kansas for their field trip this year.

-Alex Asher

Office of the Registrar

2018 was a year of progress on several long-term projects in the collection management department. The growing permanent collection had left storage space in short supply. But, in February, Lawhon Construction was kind enough to donate their labor to expand the vault space by nearly a third. This expansion project served as a great opportunity for Dr. Knappe and me to assess items owned by the museum that have not been accessioned to the collection. Some of these items are being added to the permanent collection, while other items will be donated or sold help make the collection stronger and better managed. The items slated for sale are works given to the museum over the years with the understanding that they would likely not be accessioned into the permanent collection, many because they do not fit the scope of the museum's collecting focus of American Art. Lisa Sprague's gift of an iPad was a huge help in the ongoing process of digitizing images and records for the collection. The long term goal of having digital images of every work in the collection will be an asset for many activities in the museum, including registration, exhibitions, marketing, and education. In addition to the many fantastic exhibitions I was happy to be a part of, I was again lucky enough to work with Mosaic Lifecare on their Art Experience Gallery. In the spring 45 artists submitted 233 pieces for consideration, while the fall saw 32 artists submit 155.

-Megan Benitz



Steven Bridigi
Roma, 1975
Gelatin silver print
Gift of Glenn Rand
2018.11



Larry Silver
Woman on Subway, 1983 reprint of 1950 photograph
Gelatin silver print
Gift of the artist
2018.40

Accessions

The permanent collection of the Albrecht-Kemper continues to grow each year. Our annual Society of Friends purchase this year was Mary Ann Strandell's *Megan Draper's LA*, a three-dimensional lenticular print that will be a stunning addition to the walls of our permanent collection galleries in the next few weeks. The other fifty-two pieces that were added to the permanent collection this year were all donated. Leading the charge this year were a number of artists who generously donated their work to the collection. New York photographer Larry Silver gifted twenty-two of his photographs to the museum. Nebraska painter Beverly Todd donated six of her abstract paintings to the collection. Local photographer Neva Raylene donated two photographs. St. Joseph native Richard Luboski is being recognized with a major auction of his work in Kansas City that ends in February, 2019. His brother, Don Luboski, has generously agreed to donate the profits of that sale to the museum and also gifted us six pieces by Richard Luboski. Three of these pieces can currently be seen in the theatre. Frequent donors, Edward and Marjorie Cahn donated four etchings by Gene Kloss. New York collector, Seth Medwick, donated a large painting by whimsical Kansas City artist Markus Pierson. John Silkiner donated four paintings by prairie painter Robert Sudlow. The museum also accessioned a late nineteenth century landscape by Gunther Hartwick that was donated by Candice Davis. Glenn Rand donated three photographs from his collection. Maryanne Charis donated two photographs by her late husband, Phillip Stewart Charis. Artist Andrea Morgenstern donated a watercolor and gauche piece. The museum's Arthur Kraft collection continues to grow with the donation of six paintings and a folio of five prints donated by the estate of Stuart and Suzi Hirschman. We are in the early stages of considering a future Arthur Kraft exhibition. Finally, Sean Cantrell gifted five watercolors by Jim Cantrell, whose work will be highlighted in a solo exhibition in 2021.



Richard Luboski
3 Figures, nd
Handcolored woodcut on brown paper
Gift of the Luboski Family, in memory of Richard
Luboski, the artist
2018.52

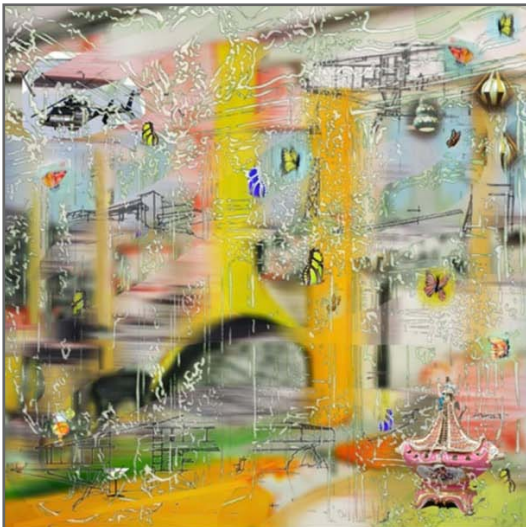


Gene Kloss
Fiesta Parasol, 1969
Etching
Gift of Dr. Edward and Marjorie Cahn
2018.65



Beverly Todd
Forever Girl, 2013
Acrylic on Canvas
Gift of the artist
2018.61

Jim Cantrell
Figure in Headband, 1992
Watercolor
Gift of Sean Cantrell
2018.78

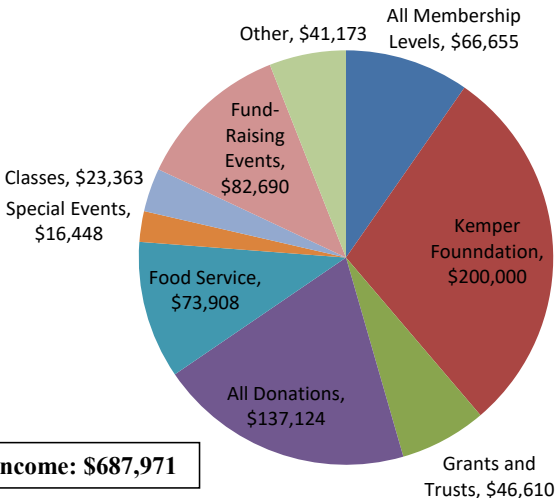
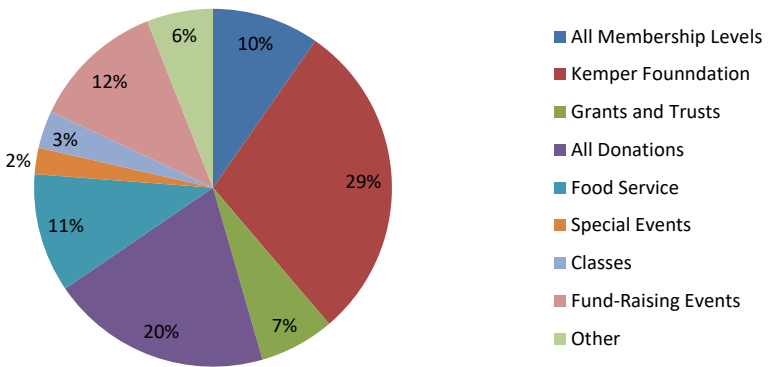


Mary Ann Strandell
Megan Draper's LA, 2016
Lenticular Print on Sintra
Purchased with funds from the Society of Fellows
2019.01

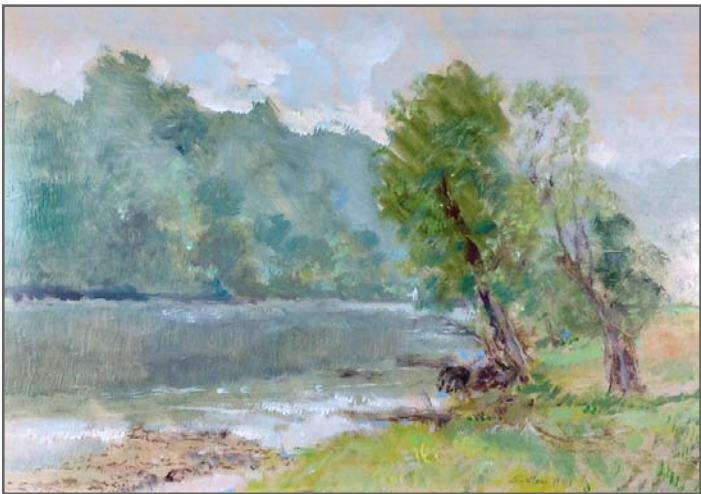
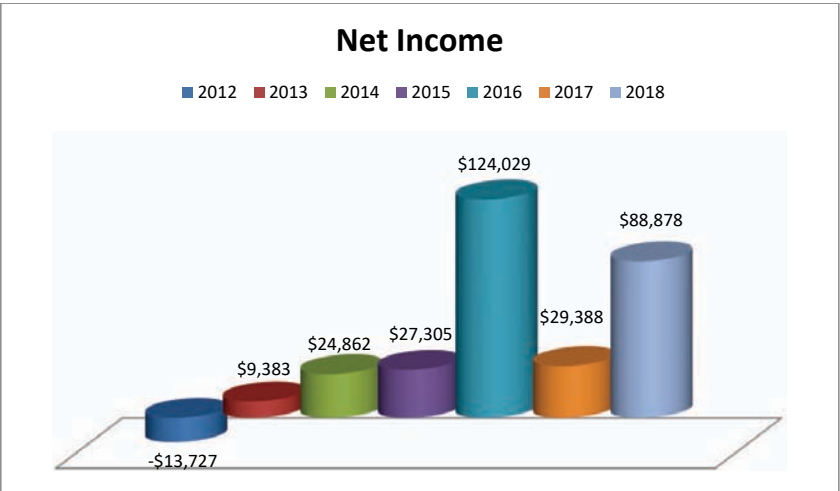
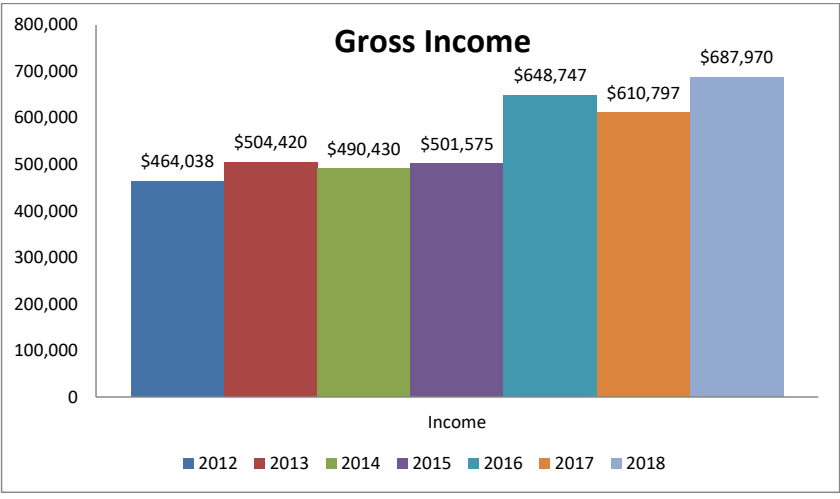
Finances

With a generous gift from the Fletcher Estate in the last days of the year, the museum's gross income (even excluding non-monetary art donations) topped \$687,000. That represents at least a two decade high-water mark. Furthermore, even before we received that munificent bequest, we had already met our expenses by raising over \$600,000. It was an exceptional financial year. Highlights included art classes that produced a net income increase of 59% from the previous year. Year-end giving rose 60%. Gift shop net income was up 49%. The third year of the quickly growing Witches Tea event saw a 221% increase in net profits. Even Sugar Plum, which is usually steady, saw a 25% increase in net profits.

AKMA 2018 Income

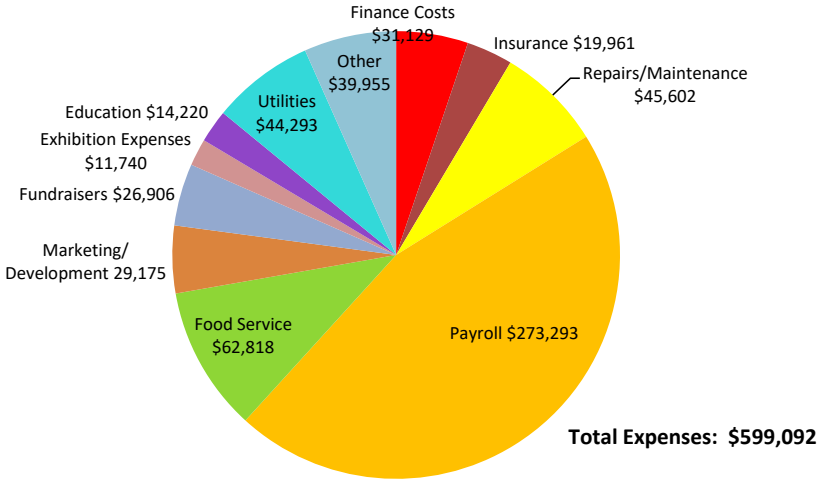
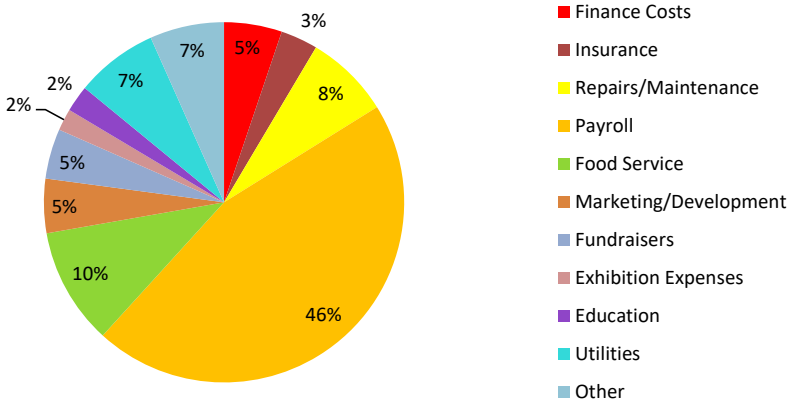


Total Income: \$687,971



Robert Sudlow
White River-First Campsite, 1994
 Oil on Paper
 Gift of John and Rebekah Silkiner
 2018.06

AKMA 2018 Expenses



Arthur Kraft
Untitled, nd
 Oil on Board
 From the estate of Stuart Z. and Suzi Hirschman
 2018.69

Donations

Anne Fletcher Charitable Trust
\$112,376.98
Hoffheimer Charitable Trust \$5,000
Glenn Rand \$3,000
Anonymous Gift \$2,500
Bob & Susan Fay \$802.50
Rotary Club of St. Joseph \$600
Randy Klein \$362.09
Brent & Brooke SeEVERS \$300
Beth Keaveny \$250
Flower Society \$200
Hillyard Industries, Inc. \$150

Annual Giving

Anonymous Gift \$2,000
Charles Taylor Trust \$1,500
Jean O'Brien \$1,000
Lynne Dickens \$1,000
Richard & Mignon DeShon \$500
Robert & Mary Colescott \$500
James & Virginia Moffett \$500
Jim Ringer \$100
Betsy Beasley \$100
Steven Goldring \$100
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Jeanne Meyer \$100
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Sharon Kosek \$50
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Valerie Schumann \$50
Wendy Tyrrell \$50
Larry & Linda Deshon \$25
Mark & Kelly Tighe \$20

Grants

The Kemper Family Foundations \$200,000
St. Joseph Convention & Visitor's Bureau \$10,235.23
Francis Family Foundation \$10,000
Missouri Arts Council \$9,695
Missouri Cultural Trust \$4,498

Memorials and Tributes

In Memory of Bea Anderson:

Kristin Anderson \$100
Thea Ide \$50
Kenneth Oldt \$50
Steve & Delores Smith \$50
Carol Meyers \$35

In Memory of Bickley Bayer:

Jo Anne Gray \$100
Megan Wyeth \$25

In Memory of Barbara Bougher:

Donelson Guzewicz giving fund thru Fidelity \$200
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Amalgamated Transit Union Local #847 \$75
Laura Brooks \$20

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In Memory of Laura Hutton:

Cecelia & Michael Brunner \$50

In Memory of Henry Lammer:

Natalie Lewis \$40
Jim & Ann Ringer \$25

In Memory of John Mulinox:

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Dona Powell

Events

If you have not yet attended the Witches Tea, you are missing out on an event that is quickly becoming a St. Joseph phenomenon. This year we offered two seatings, lunch and dinner. Both sold out weeks before the actual event. Most attendees dressed as witches and there were prizes as well. Palm readers, mystics, Halloween-themed gift booths, and a witches dance performance were accompanied by excellent food and drinks. Of course, Pot of Gold in the spring and Sugar Plum in the fall continue to be our signature events each year. Numerous sweethearts attended a Valentines Day dinner this year. The museum hosted successful wine tastings in April and September. We also reinvigorated the annual Wine Walk with a new “one house” format that will be leading the way for the future. Exhibition openings remain a stalwart on our annual schedule and we witnessed strong attendance at the openings throughout the year. Children and adults alike swarmed the museum for the annual Breakfast with Santa and lucky youngsters also enjoyed one of two Gingerbread Workshops, at which they crafted a gingerbread house (and typically ate plenty of frosting and candy). Finally, we held four private events for our Society of Fellows members this year as well. On the education front, the second annual Missouri Western State University and Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art Undergraduate Art History Symposium saw marked growth this year with over 175 guests attending the three sessions. Our student speakers came from the east coast, the west coast, and numerous states in between to present their papers. Additionally, the museum welcomed its inaugural keynote speaker in an evening session. Dr. Randall Griffey, Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, at the Metropolitan Museum of Art delivered his talk, “Rousing Feelings: Thoughts on Public Sculpture, Its Production, Function, and Reception.” Finally, we staged a series of afternoon art history lectures delivered by me, Dr. Brett Knappe, Executive Director of the AKMA.

2018 Special Thanks

Chair of Pot of Gold Committee: Stacey Simpson Hill

Chair of Witches Tea: Kappy Hodges

Special Events

Many thanks to those patrons, Fellows, and Business Council members who utilized the museum as an event venue! I had yet another successful year in producing special events in addition to our staple fundraisers. The museum relies heavily on special events for generating revenue and it could not be done without each of you. This year we held 73 private events in conjunction with businesses and 58 private events with patrons. The museum is also the home to Eastside Rotary and the Kiwanis each week. With few marketing dollars available, we rely on you for spreading the word about the amazing event you had at the museum. We hope to see you at Pot of Gold, Witches Tea, Sugarplum, and other new and exciting events such as our Mahjongg Tournament. Stay tuned!

2018 was the first year collaborating with Chef Ralph and the team from Luna’s Fine Dining. Continued smooth sailing is expected in the forecast for 2019 as our patrons continue to rave about the café! If you haven’t been to the museum for lunch yet, you must come see us soon! Café hours are Tuesday-Thursday 11:00 am-1:30 pm, we can deliver to your business too!

-Laura Lawson



THE ALBRECHT-KEMPER MUSEUM OF ART

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