

# TACOMA ART MUSEUM

1701 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98402

MEDIA RELEASE

May 26, 2016

Media Contact: Julianna Verboort, 253-272-4258 x3011, JVerboort@TacomaArtMuseum.org

## **New NEA Grant Supports Upcoming Zhi Lin Exhibition at TAM**

**Tacoma, WA** – [Tacoma Art Museum](#) (TAM) is pleased to announce an Art Works grant approval from [National Endowment for the Arts](#) (NEA) in the amount of \$20,000 thousand. The grant will be applied toward an exhibition featuring artist [Zhi Lin](#), exploring the experiences of Chinese immigrants in the Puget Sound region during the late 1800s. It is scheduled to open in June, 2017.

“TAM is commissioning new works from Zhi Lin for the exhibition. The works will emphasize concerns that are especially significant to historic cultural relations in Tacoma. We are grateful to the NEA for providing resources that will help TAM to organize this exhibition as part of our Northwest Perspectives series,” said Stephanie Stebich, Executive Director at Tacoma Art Museum. “We are thankful to NEA and all those who support our mission of connecting people through art.”

“I was very pleased to know that my exhibition at TAM will be supported in part by the NEA grant. I’m very grateful,” said artist Zhi Lin. “In order to produce the work I have been making on-site studies in specific locations where the radical riots against Chinese – and even ethnic cleansing and massacres of Chinese Americans – took place. This includes Tacoma, Issaquah, Black Diamond, Coal Creek, Newcastle, Renton, and Seattle. I intend for the work to raise social awareness of Chinese Americans’ contributions to this region and to our country. It will challenge and further the audience’s historical and cultural awareness. I hope that the exhibition will encourage its audience to critically examine current events and issues relating to immigration with a historical perspective, and remind all of us about these tragic events so they may never happen again.”

Zhi Lin’s solo exhibition will be supported by a full-color catalogue and education and outreach programs, including docent tours, public programs, free admission days, artist lectures, workshops, and free art activities in the TAM Studio.

This is the second round of competitive grant awards during the NEA’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. In all categories, including Art Works, NEA awarded more than \$82 million to fund local arts projects and partnerships across the nation. For the Art Works category, 1,763 eligible applications were received, with 1,002 grants approved nation-wide, totaling more than \$26 million. Among all grant categories, organizations in Washington received 26 grants for a total dollar amount of \$1,416,500. The [Art Works](#) grant category supports the creation of new work, the presentation of existing work, lifelong learning in the arts, and public engagement with the arts. Details about the spring grant awards are available at [NEA’s website](#).

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“The arts are all around us, enhancing our lives in ways both subtle and obvious, expected and unexpected,” said NEA Chairman Jane Chu. “Supporting projects like the Zhi Lin exhibition at Tacoma Art Museum offers more opportunities to engage in the arts every day.”

Zhi Lin holds the Floyd & Delores Jones Endowed Professorship in the Arts and is a professor of painting and drawing at the [University of Washington](#) in Seattle. His work has been shown in many notable museums in the United States, United Kingdom, and China. He has received numerous awards, recognitions, and fellowships, including the Fellow in the Humanities Council and the [Tang Center for East Asian Art at Princeton University](#), the University of Washington Royalty Research Scholar and Research Fund, Creative Capital Foundation Grant in Painting, Art Matters Foundation Fellowship, National Endowment for the Arts Visual Artist Fellowship in Painting, [Washington State Arts Commission](#) Fellowship, and many others.

For more information about TAM, visit [www.TacomaArtMuseum.org](http://www.TacomaArtMuseum.org). To join the Twitter conversation about this announcement, please use **#NEASpring16**. For more information on projects included in the NEA grant announcement, go to [arts.gov](http://arts.gov).



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**More information about NEA grants:** <https://www.arts.gov/news/2016/823-million-grants-will-support-art-projects-nationwide>

## About Tacoma Art Museum

Celebrating 80 years, Tacoma Art Museum is an anchor in the city's downtown and a gathering space for connecting people through art. TAM's collection contains more than 4,700 works, with an emphasis on the art and artists of the Northwest and broader American west. The collection includes the largest retrospective museum collection of glass art by Tacoma native Dale Chihuly on continued view; the most significant collection of jewelry by Northwest artists; key holdings in 19th century European and 20th century American art; and one of the finest collections of Japanese woodblock prints on the West Coast. In 2014, TAM welcomed a gift of 295 works of western American art in the Haub Family Collection, one of the premier collections in the nation and the first major western American art museum collection in the Northwest. The Haub gift also included \$20 M for new galleries and endowed funds. In January 2016, TAM announced the gift of the Benaroya Collection, including 225 works of art. The Benaroya gift also includes nearly \$14 M in funding for new gallery space to showcase the collection and an endowment for a dedicated curator and care of the collection. The Haub Family Galleries opened in 2014; the Benaroya addition is expected to open in fall 2018.

**HOURS** – Tuesdays–Sundays 10 am–5 pm

**ADMISSION** – Adult \$14; Student, Military, Senior (65+) \$12; Family \$35 (2 adults and up to 4 children under 18).

Children 5 and under free. **Third Thursdays free from 5–8 pm.** Members always free.

**CONTACT** – 253-272-4258, <http://www.TacomaArtMuseum.org>