

TACOMA ART MUSEUM



30 Americans

September 24, 2016 – January 15, 2017

[30 Americans](#) makes its West Coast debut at Tacoma Art Museum on September 24, 2016 and will be on view through January 15, 2017. This critically acclaimed, nationally traveling exhibition showcases paintings, photographs, installations, videos and sculptures by prominent African American artists who have emerged since the 1970s as trailblazers in the contemporary art scene. Visitors will see 45 works drawn from the Rubell Family Collection in Miami – one of the largest private contemporary art collections in the world.

Featured artists include important figures such as Jean-Michel Basquiat, Nick Cave, Robert Colescott, Glenn Ligon, Kalup Linzy, Kerry James Marshall, Wangechi Mutu, Lorna Simpson, Mickalene Thomas, Kara Walker, Carrie Mae Weems and Kehinde Wiley.

The artists weave evocative themes of race and Black identity in America, the struggle for civil rights, history, gender, popular culture and media imagery through many of the works. The exhibition invites viewers to consider multiple perspectives and to reflect upon the similarities and differences of their own experiences and identities.

Experience this unforgettable exhibition at TAM.

Free Access:

- **Free Third Thursdays:** Free admission to TAM from 5-8 pm on the third Thursday of every month, sponsored by Columbia Bank.
- **Fusion Fest:** Free admission during this community festival, **Sunday, Oct. 9, 12–4 pm.**

- **12th Annual Día de los Muertos Free Community Festival:** Free admission during this community festival on **Sunday, Nov. 6, 10 am – 4 pm.**
- **30 Americans Free Community Festival:** Free admission for this community festival on **Sunday, January 8, 10 am – 4 pm.**
- **Art Access Pass:** Library cardholders can check out an Art Access Pass from their local library in Pierce County for free admission of up to four people, not including children five and under who are always admitted free.
- **Museums on Us from Bank of America:** On the first weekend of every month, all Bank of America bankcard holders and employees receive free admission to TAM as part of Bank of America's national Museums on Us program.
- **MUSE Members:** Students and faculty of local universities participating in this program get in free. See www.TacomaArtMuseum.org/visit for a list of participating universities. Student/faculty identification is required.

Discounted Admission Options

- EBT Cardholders: \$1 individual admission and \$2 family admission
- AAA members receive \$2 off admission
- UWAA members receive \$2 off admission

30 Americans Programs and Events at TAM:

30 Americans Members' Opening Celebration, Saturday, September 24, 7 – 10 pm

Celebrate the West Coast red carpet debut of *30 Americans*. Come together for this unforgettable night. Get your photo taken as you stroll down the red carpet. Groove to lively music, munch on appetizers, and enjoy a no-host bar.

Cost: \$20 general, \$10 students with ID. Free for members,
RSVP@TacomaArtMuseum.org

Collectors Conversation: Don and Mera Rubell, The Rubell Family Foundation Sunday, September 25, 2016, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm at Tacoma Art Museum

Hear from the fascinating art collectors Don and Mera Rubell about how they amassed their world-class collection, including the works in *30 Americans*. They started collecting art on just \$25 a month; now they hold one of the most significant collections of contemporary art on the globe at the Rubell Family Foundation in Miami! Mera and Don worked with the artists in *30 Americans* for four years to craft this exhibition, which has traveled to 10 locations and makes its West Coast debut at Tacoma Art Museum on September 24. Take advantage of this rare opportunity to hear their entertaining and informative stories and ask questions.

Tickets

- Cost: \$10 (\$5 Member and Student with ID)
- [Click to purchase tickets online!](#)

Lunch and Learn (free), Wednesday, October 5, 12 – 1 pm

Bring your appetite for learning along with your lunch, or pick up a delicious boxed lunch from TAM Cafe! This is your chance to hear from artists, curators, museum staff, and local experts. Lunch and Learn talks are **free**, and held the **first Wednesday of each month at noon** in TAM's Murray Family events space.

Third Thursday, October 20, 5 – 8 pm (free 5 – 8 pm)

The museum is open late every Third Thursday with free admission between 5 and 8 pm. Enjoy the exhibitions and special Third Thursday activities and programs. See the exhibition *30 Americans* and get inspired to take part in featured interactive projects with a local artist in the TAM Studio!

Free Third Thursdays are generously sponsored by Columbia Bank.  Columbia Bank

Moderated Panel: Racism – Then and Now, Thursday, October 20, 6:30 – 8:00 pm (free)

Participate in a conversation with prominent Tacoma community members that reflects on the legacy of racism, one of the recurring themes in the exhibition *30 Americans*. Panelists will consider how racism has affected the art world, our local community, and current social and political positioning in America.

Lunch and Learn, Wednesday, November 2, 12 – 1 pm (free)

Bring your appetite for learning along with your lunch, or pick up a delicious boxed lunch from TAM Cafe! This is your chance to hear from artists, curators, museum staff, and local experts. Lunch and Learn talks are held the first Wednesday of each month at **noon** in TAM's Murray Family events space.

Third Thursday, November 17, 5 – 8 pm (free 5 – 8 pm)

The museum is open late every Third Thursday with free admission between 5 and 8 pm. Enjoy the exhibitions and special Third Thursday activities and programs. See the exhibition *30 Americans* and get inspired to take part in featured interactive projects with a local artist in the TAM Studio!

Free Third Thursdays are generously sponsored by Columbia Bank.  Columbia Bank

Poetry Slam: The American Experience, Thursday, Nov. 17, 6:30 – 8:00 pm (free)

Experience a poetry slam where local wordsmiths present their creative original poetry, composed in response to the artwork in *30 Americans*. Locally recognized poet and emcee Elijah Muied will introduce four headliners at this open mic event. Refreshments provided.

Teen Night, Saturday, November 19, 7 – 10 pm (free for teens with high school ID)

Teens take over TAM during this night filled with art-making, music, performances, and more! Planned by TAM's Teen Art Council and inspired by *30 Americans*, this is one night at the museum you won't want to miss.

Lunch and Learn, Wednesday, December 7, 12 – 1 pm (free)

Bring your appetite for learning along with your lunch, or pick up a delicious boxed lunch from TAM Cafe! This is your chance to hear from artists, curators, museum staff, and local experts. Lunch and Learn talks are held **the** first Wednesday of each month at **noon** in TAM's Murray Family events space.

Third Thursday, December 15, 5 – 8 pm (free 5 – 8 pm)

The museum is open late every Third Thursday with free admission between 5 and 8 pm. Enjoy the exhibitions and special Third Thursday activities and programs. See the exhibition *30 Americans* and get inspired to take part in featured interactive projects with a local artist in the TAM Studio!

Free Third Thursdays are generously sponsored by Columbia Bank.  ColumbiaBank

Film Screening and Discussion: *Colored Frames*, Thursday, December 15, 6:00 – 7:30 pm (free)

See [Colored Frames](#), a documentary that explores the experiences of Black artists, beginning at the height of the Civil Rights Era and leading up to the present. After the screening, stay for a conversation with local artists. Find connections to the film as you explore the *30 Americans* exhibition.

Lunch and Learn, Wednesday, January 4, 12 – 1 pm (free)

Bring your appetite for learning along with your lunch, or pick up a delicious boxed lunch from TAM Cafe! This is your chance to hear from artists, curators, museum staff, and local experts. Lunch and Learn talks are held the first Wednesday of each month at **noon** in TAM's Murray Family events space.

30 Americans Free Community Festival, Sunday, January 8, 10 am – 4 pm

Come celebrate *30 Americans* with art-making, music, and performances! TAM sent out a call to local artists and creatives to gather the best local talent for this free festival. Stay tuned for details as our *30 Americans* Community Advisory Committee helps select the line up!

Thank you to our Community Advisory Committee for collaborating to build this unforgettable program schedule and all of your work!

Image Credits: Glenn Ligon, *America*, 2008. Neon sign and paint, Edition of 1 plus AP, 24 x 168 inches. Courtesy of the Rubell Family Collection. **A group of 30 Americans artists, left to right:** Rashid Johnson, Nick Cave, Kalup Linzy, Jeff Sonhouse, Lorna Simpson, Carrie Mae Weems, Barkley L. Hendricks, Hank Willis Thomas (front row), Xaviera Simmons, Purvis Young, John Bankston, Nina Chanel Abney, Henry Taylor, Mickalene Thomas (front row), Kerry James Marshall, and Shinique Smith. **Photo credit:** Kwaku Alston.

30 Americans is organized by the Rubell Family Collection, Miami. Support for this exhibition provided by Union Bank and ArtsFund. 30 Americans is endorsed by the following community groups: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (Tacoma Alumnae Chapter); Jack and Jill of America, Inc.; National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Tacoma Branch; National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Seattle King County; Northwest African American Museum; Portland (OR) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated; Tacoma (WA)

Chapter of The Links, Incorporated; Tacoma Pierce County Black Collective; and Tacoma Urban League (TUL). Program support for 30 Americans is provided by Stephanie Jordan State Farm Insurance; Portland (OR) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated; and Tacoma (WA) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated.