

# TACOMA ART MUSEUM

MEDIA RELEASE

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## A Beautiful Partnership: Aloha Club Collection at TAM Highlights NW Artists

Tacoma, WA – [Tacoma Art Museum](http://TacomaArtMuseum.org) brings 21 diverse works together in the exhibition [Partners in Northwest Art: Selections from the Aloha Club Collection at TAM](#), on view through September 13. Visitors will learn how museums build their collections through partnerships with community groups such as the Aloha Club.

The Aloha Club is a Tacoma institution first organized as a women's study club in 1892, focused on promoting the cultural life of the community and

fostering the development of Northwest artists. The Club has supported a variety of regional artists, from traditional to avant-garde and historical to contemporary. They often made choices that were adventurous at the time, selecting works by emerging artists, in new media, or by historically important yet overlooked Northwest artists. The result is a collection that clearly reflects our unique regional Northwest arts identity.

The Club began collecting art in 1948, and in 1971, gifted their collection to TAM to increase public access to the works. "The collecting relationship between the Aloha Club and TAM is a natural fit. We have a mutual interest in all facets of Northwest art and share the same educational goals," says Margaret Bullock, TAM's Curator of Collections and Special Exhibitions. "For a curator, it's ideal to have this kind of enthusiastic and informed support for building the collection. I always love getting that call that they're ready to add something new, and I enjoy the process of working with them to make that choice."

Artists on view include Keith Achepohl, Thomas Handforth, Randy Hayes, Trudee Hill, Vanessa Helder, Beulah Hyde, Carl Morris, Merrill Wagner, Patty Warashina, Marie Watt, Matika Wilbur, and more. Media include paintings, prints, ceramics, photography, jewelry and textiles.

Quietly and steadfastly, for 45 years the Aloha Club has continued to build their collection in partnership with TAM. This exhibition expresses TAM's gratitude and celebrates the Club's

longstanding contribution, illustrating the variety of ways in which the Club has enhanced TAM's collection through new ideas and a broad, representative viewpoint.

**Image Credits:**

**Patti Warashina**, *Amazed*, Porcelain and Plexiglas, 57 ½ x 55 7/8 x 6 inches, Tacoma Art Museum, Gift of the Aloha Club, 1992.11.

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**About Tacoma Art Museum**

Celebrating 80 years, Tacoma Art Museum has become an anchor in the city's downtown and a gathering space for connecting people through art. TAM's collection contains more than 4,500 works, with an emphasis on the art and artists of the Northwest and broader American west. The collection includes the world's largest retrospective museum collection of glass art by Tacoma native Dale Chihuly on continued view; the world's largest 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. TAM recently 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.

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

**ADMISSION** – Adult \$14; Student (6-17), 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>