



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Telfair Museum of Art presents

Artists of FAAA

Exhibition features art by members of Telfair's Friends of African American Arts

[Savannah, GA] — The Telfair Museum of Art announced today that its member group Friends of African-American Arts (FAAA) will host an exhibition entitled *Artists of FAAA* from July 12-31, 2009, at the historic Beach Institute. The exhibit will showcase the wealth and variety of significant artwork created by African-American artists living and working in Savannah and surrounding areas.

"I think this is an excellent opportunity for the artists of FAAA to exhibit their work and for it to be presented against the backdrop of such a significant historic site in Savannah's history," said the Telfair's Director of Cultural Diversity and Access, Vaughnette Goode- Walker.

Artists featured in the exhibition include FAAA members Peggy Blood, Madeline Cory-Thomas, Amiri Farris, Suzanne Jackson, William Kamena-Poe, Ligel Lambert, Jerome Meadows, John Mitchell, David Smalls, Wendell Smith, Phil Starks, Luther Vann, Roosevelt Watson, Napoleon Wilkerson, George Worthy, and Maria Smith Williams.

"The mission of FAAA is to raise public awareness and to promote the appreciation and development of art by African Americans," FAAA chair Peggy Blood stated. "This show serves as an excellent vehicle for furthering these goals and broadening the reach of African American art within our community."

The opening reception will be held on Sunday, July 12, 2009, from 3-5 pm. The exhibition is free and open to the public from July 13-31, 2009. The Beach Institute is located at 502 East Harris Street. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday, noon until 5 pm.

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About Friends of African American Arts (FAAA)

The Friends of African American Arts (FAAA) was established in 2006 to raise public awareness in and to promote the appreciation and development of art created by African Americans. The goals of the group are to increase knowledge and awareness of African American art and history, to promote the private acquisition of African American art, to acquire African American artworks for the Telfair Museum of Art, and to support the mission of the museum.

Members enjoy an array of exciting benefits and arts enrichment opportunities—including invitations to special lectures pertaining to African American art by internationally, nationally, and locally prominent artists and scholars; gallery talks; organized art-related trips; previews of museum exhibitions; social gatherings with other individuals who have an interest in the arts; and access to information and advice on collecting African American art.

Annual FAAA membership is \$25 per individual or couple. Membership in the Telfair Museum of Art is required for those interested in joining FAAA.

About the Telfair

Located in the heart of Savannah's historic district, the Telfair Museum of Art is the oldest public art museum in the South. It is comprised of two National Historic Landmark Buildings—the Telfair Academy and the Owens-Thomas House—and the contemporary Jepson Center for the Arts. With three unique buildings housing three distinct collections, the Telfair bridges three centuries of art and architecture.

Images available upon request.

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