

NEWS

from the Worcester Art Museum

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AMPLE OPPORTUNITY FOR CREATIVE EXPRESSION EXISTS AT WORCESTER ART MUSEUM'S ADULT ART INSTITUTE

Journalist Nicholas Gage Serves as Guest Writer

(WORCESTER, MASS., May 16, 2005) - Artists and writers of all skill levels are invited to nurture their inner creator at the Worcester Art Museum's 18th annual Summer Art Institute this June 27 through July 8. This series of daytime and evening workshops will offer worthwhile learning experiences in comic art, digital photography, drawing, painting, printmaking, and writing, as well as teacher education.

The Institute offers five-, four-, and three-day concentrated workshops for artists and writers in search of a special learning opportunity. In addition to studio work, students will engage in discussions with other students and artists and will be featured in works-in-progress exhibitions and readings.

A highlight of this year's Summer Art Institute: Worcester resident and internationally known journalist, screenwriter, and memoirist Nicholas Gage (Nikos Gatzoyiannis) will serve as guest writer. Gage, whose escape to America from guerrilla-occupied Greece, is recounted in his moving book and movie *Eleni*, and whose recent bestseller *Greek Fire* investigates the lives of Maria Callas and Aristotle Onassis, will lead intensive discussions on subjects such as interviewing techniques, preparation for writing, and the process of finding and developing the soul of one's own work.

Gage will be working with the Writer's Workshop, taught by John Hodgen, award-winning poet and 2005 nominee for the Pushcart Prize. The workshop, entitled *Hope &*

Healing: Mirror & Metaphor, will address the issues of hope and healing in writers' lives and in their approach to their craft. Other workshops and classes offered include an Encaustic Painting Workshop, with Tracy Spadafora; Intensive Figure Drawing & Portraiture, with Kat O'Connor; Creative Digital Photography, with Richard Hoyer; Print Fest: Celebrating an Old Form in New Ways, with Nina Fletcher; Comic Relief: The Evolving Art of the Comic Book, with Andy Fish; a Drawing Marathon for intermediate and advanced artists, with Kathleen Cammarata; and Why Art Can't Be Taught, an examination of art and its place in the classroom, museum, and art world setting, with instructor Randy LeSage.

To browse class descriptions and register online, visit www.worcesterart.org or call (508) 799-4406 x3007 for more information.

About the Worcester Art Museum

The Worcester Art Museum, which opened to the public in 1898, is world-renowned for its 35,000-piece collection of paintings, sculpture, decorative arts, photography, prints, drawings and new media. The works span 5,000 years of art and culture, ranging from ancient Roman mosaics to Colonial silver, Impressionist paintings and contemporary art. Dedicated to the promotion of art and art education, the Museum offers a year-round studio art and art appreciation program that enrolls over 6,000 adult and youth students each year. Public tours are offered Saturdays at 11 a.m. and Sundays at 1 p.m., September through May. Audio tours are also available in English and Spanish.

Museum hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. (evening hours sponsored by Commerce Bank), and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors and full-time college students with current ID, and FREE for Members and all youth 17 and under. Admission is also FREE for everyone on Saturday mornings, 10 a.m.-noon (sponsored by The TJX Companies, Inc. and Massachusetts Electric, a National Grid Company). The Museum is located at 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, Mass., easily accessible from the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90), Route 290 and Route 9. Free parking is available near entrances on Salisbury, Lancaster and Tuckerman streets. For more information, call (508) 799-4406 or visit the Museum web site at www.worcesterart.org.

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