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**Detroit Institute of Arts hosts April 21 Arts and Health Symposium in collaboration with leaders from Beaumont Health, Children's Hospital of Michigan, Monte Nagler Fine Art and University of Michigan Health System to demonstrate healing benefits of art and creativity**

February 24, 2016 (Detroit)—The Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) is teaming up with the Arts and Health Michigan Committee (AHMC), made up of representatives from Beaumont Health, Children's Hospital of Michigan, Monte Nagler Fine Art and the University of Michigan Health System, to showcase the power of art and creativity in human wellness during the Arts and Health Symposium on Thursday, April 21 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the museum.

Attendees will have the opportunity to learn from leaders of southeast Michigan health systems and art organizations about ways to better support patients by integrating the arts into care. The symposium will feature a keynote address by Carrie Barron, M.D., assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at Columbia University and author of “The Creativity Cure: How To Build Happiness With Your Own Two Hands,” followed by five panel discussions led by healthcare and arts professionals and individuals who have benefitted from art as part of their care. The day will conclude with an afterglow for attendees and panelists with cocktails, refreshments, live entertainment and museum tours. Here is the schedule:

- 9:15 a.m. **Keynote address**
- 10 a.m. **Executive leadership roundtable on integrating the arts into the culture of care**  
Panelists: Paul King, executive director, University of Michigan C. S. Mott Children's Hospital and Von Voigtlander Women's Hospital; Nancy Schlichting, CEO, Henry Ford Health System; Jack Weiner, CEO, St. Joseph Mercy Health System; Larry Gold, CEO, Children's Hospital of Michigan; Eric Widner, division president, Beaumont Health-Wayne  
Moderator: Deanna Lites, doctor of podiatric medicine, health reporter for WWJ-AM Newsradio 950, CBS Radio Detroit
- 11 a.m. **Enhancing the experience of care with arts programming**  
Panelists: Susan Majewski, gallery coordinator, Arts for the Spirit Program, Beaumont Health; Grace Serra, art advisor, Children's Hospital of Michigan; Elaine Sims, director, Gifts of Art Program, University of Michigan Health System
- Noon **Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m. **How southeastern Michigan cultural organizations address wellness**  
Panelists: Jean Barnas, program services manager, Alzheimer's Association, Greater Michigan Chapter; Hilary Cohen, co-artistic director, Wild Swan Theater; LaVern Homan, studio manager, Detroit Institute of Arts; Caen Thomason-Redus, director of community and learning, Detroit Symphony Orchestra; Sandy Ryder, co-artistic director, Wild Swan Theater
- 2:30 p.m. **Art as a tool in medical education**

Panelists: David DiChiera, American composer and founding general director of Michigan Opera Theatre; Robert Folberg, M.D., founding dean, Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine and chief academic officer, William Beaumont Hospital; Joel D. Howell, M.D., Ph.D., professor, department of internal medicine, department of history and department of health management and policy, University of Michigan; Jennifer Mendez, Ph.D., assistant professor and director, co-curricular programs, Wayne State University School of Medicine

- 3:30 p.m. **Patient perspectives**  
Panelists: Mark Hoyer; Ramone Camille Marchbanks; Ulysses Spencer
- 4:30 p.m. **Afterglow**

“Arts in healthcare is a rapidly growing multidisciplinary field that integrates the arts—including performance, literary and visual—into a variety of healthcare and community settings for therapeutic, educational and expressive purposes,” said Asha Shajahan, M.D., AHMC chair. “Both quantitative and qualitative research shows that the arts have a positive impact in coping with illness, promoting wellness and reducing anxiety and depression. Art empowers patients. Art in medicine is making a difference in people’s lives, and we want to share these benefits with metro Detroit.”

“We are pleased to partner with the Arts and Health Michigan Committee to host this conference and bring people together around the intersection of the arts, health and medicine,” said Jennifer Czajkowski, DIA vice president of learning and interpretation. “The DIA has provided arts experiences for patients and caregivers through a number of different programs, both at the museum and in healthcare settings, over the last 20 years, but this is the first time we will be teaming up with healthcare experts to host a conference. Through this event, we hope to demonstrate the benefits the arts have in overall wellness and generate more support for the integration of the arts in medicine.”

The event is open to the public. Tickets, which include lunch, are \$25 and \$10 for students. For more information and to purchase tickets, call 313-833-4005 or visit [tickets.dia.org](https://tickets.dia.org).

**Ed. note:** Media is invited to cover the event. Contact Larisa Zade for more information.

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The Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA), one of the premier art museums in the United States, is home to more than 60,000 works that comprise a multicultural survey of human creativity from ancient times through the 21st century. From the first Van Gogh painting to enter a U.S. museum (*Self-Portrait*, 1887), to Diego Rivera's world-renowned *Detroit Industry* murals (1932–33), the DIA's collection is known for its quality, range, and depth. The DIA's mission is to create opportunities for all visitors to find personal meaning in art.

Programs are made possible with support from the City of Detroit and residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.