



Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

McLANE FAMILY NEW HAMPSHIRE STUDENT MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM AT MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON, PROVIDES FREE ACCESS FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE STUDENTS

BOSTON, MA (December 3, 2012)—This fall, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), welcomed more than 1,000 New Hampshire students as part of the McLane Family New Hampshire Student Membership Program. It has been endowed in perpetuity by P. Andrews “Andy” McLane, a member of the MFA Board of Trustees, and his wife, Linda Harper McLane. The program, which launched in September, provides free access to the Museum for all students (regardless of residency) attending New Hampshire elementary schools (public and private) through college, as well as homeschoolers and school groups. Also eligible are all residents of New Hampshire attending schools out of state. The program provides entry to all MFA galleries and exhibitions, including the current New Hampshire-related exhibition *Art of the White Mountains**.

“The MFA offers numerous ways for children and families to engage with our Museum and great collections of art. We are delighted that students from New Hampshire are now able to take full advantage of these opportunities for enrichment,” said Malcolm Rogers, Ann and Graham Gund Director of the MFA. “We greatly appreciate the McLanes’ generosity in expanding our mission to New Hampshire students of all ages.”

The McLanes have been generous supporters of the schools they attended and their gift to the Museum furthers their commitment to education. Andy McLane was born in Littleton, NH, and grew up in Manchester, NH. He is a graduate of New Hampshire schools Phillips Exeter Academy and Dartmouth College, where he received his undergraduate degree and MBA. He is a Senior Advisor at TA Associates, a private equity investment firm in Boston. Linda McLane is a graduate of the Walnut Hill School, where she has been a trustee, and Wheaton College.

The McLanes have supported a number of causes in New Hampshire, including the Appalachian Mountain Club, the Lakes Region Conservation Trust, the Newfound Lake Region Association, New Hampshire Audubon, the New Hampshire Historical Society and the Society for the Preservation of New Hampshire Forests.

Students from across New Hampshire have taken advantage of the McLane Family Student Membership Program since September. It began just one year after the launch (July 2011) of the inaugural statewide student membership initiative at the MFA, the Lunder Maine Student Membership Program. Supported by The Lunder Foundation of Portland, Maine, it provides free access to the Museum for all Maine students from elementary school through college and undergraduate students (regardless of residency) attending accredited Maine colleges.

These programs reflect the MFA's commitment to education and outreach to students across New England. The goal is to expand students' understanding and appreciation of the world around them through art, helping them to develop critical-thinking and communication skills that will benefit them across all disciplines. To further this mission, the MFA's education department provides teacher workshops, resource materials, and guided museum visits each year for nearly 60,000 elementary and secondary school students and their teachers from throughout New England, and also hosts family activities during school vacation weeks. In addition, the Museum presents free Open Houses, offers studio art classes, and serves as an art and cultural resource for eight partnering community sites, including the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston, through the Museum's *Community Arts Initiative*.

*** *Art of the White Mountains*—through July 7, 2013**

Artists and writers have long been drawn to the pristine beauty of northern New Hampshire's natural wonders. The singular topography of the White Mountains inspired early landscapists, including Thomas Doughty, Thomas Cole, and Benjamin Champney; later masters Winslow Homer and George Inness; and 20th-century modernists such as William Zorach. This exhibition features more than 30 oil paintings, drawings, prints, watercolors, sketchbooks, photographs, and rare books drawn primarily from the MFA's rich collection. Rarely seen gems by Jasper Cropsey and Robert S. Duncanson are joined by more widely known views by Inness and Sanford Gifford to underscore the importance of the region in the American landscape tradition. *This exhibition is sponsored by Northern Trust.*

The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), is recognized for the quality and scope of its encyclopedic collection, which includes an estimated 450,000 objects. The Museum's collection is made up of: Art of the Americas; Art of Europe; Contemporary Art; Art of Asia, Oceania, and Africa; Art of the Ancient World; Prints, Drawings, and Photographs; Textile and Fashion Arts; and Musical Instruments. Open seven days a week, the MFA's hours are Saturday through Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.; and Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 9:45 p.m. Admission (which includes one repeat visit within 10 days) is \$25 for adults and \$23 for seniors and students age 18 and older, and includes entry to all galleries and special exhibitions. Admission is free for University Members and youths age 17 and younger on weekdays after 3 p.m., weekends, and Boston Public Schools holidays; otherwise \$10. Wednesday nights after 4 p.m. admission is by voluntary contribution (suggested donation \$25). MFA Members are always admitted for free. The Museum is closed on New Year's Day, Patriots' Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. For more information, visit www.mfa.org or call 617.267.9300. The MFA is located on the Avenue of the Arts at 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115.

The MFA offers a variety of programs to engage audiences in the Boston community, ranging from children, teens, and college students to people with special needs and adults furthering their education. In addition, the Museum's extensive programming includes tours for school groups, training for teachers, school vacation week programs, free community days, community partnerships with outside organizations, lectures and courses, and tours designed for people with special needs and abilities. Teachers are able to schedule guided tours at the Museum through its website, www.mfa.org, or by calling 617.369.3310.