

DENVER ART MUSEUM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE NEWS FROM THE DENVER ART MUSEUM

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Denver Art Museum Fun Facts

- The North Building, which opened in 1971, is one of only two buildings designed by Italian architect Gio Ponti in North America. The Frederic C. Hamilton Building—which opened in October 2006—was the first American building designed by architect Daniel Libeskind to open.
- More than one million tiles (specially designed by Dow Corning) adorn the exterior of the North Building; it took approximately two years to have them hand-set.
- There are more than 70,000 objects in the museum's collection. Of that number, approximately 18,000 are in the Native Arts Department—mostly in the American Indian collection.
- The heaviest (and largest) item in the Denver Art Museum's collection is an off-site sculpture, *Articulated Wall*, 1985, by Herbert Bayer (1900-1985). Located near south Broadway and I-25, the bright yellow structure is made of steel-reinforced concrete, is 85 feet tall and weighs 1.7 million pounds.
- The museum's Chinese robe collection is one of the finest in the country—possibly in the world. The museum is known in China as the museum with the Grant Collection of Chinese textiles, especially court robes, sleeves and other regalia.
- The conservation and preservation of the museum's Tibetan sand mandala in 1996 was one of—if not the most—successful treatments of its kind. With only a few weeks to prepare the usually ephemeral work, an innovative procedure was devised to preserve the mandala.
- One of the most temperature-sensitive pieces in the collection is *One Month Late*, by Rachel Lachowicz, which includes lipstick-covered neckties.
- The single artwork in the museum's collection that is most often requested for loans is Claude Monet's *Water Lilies*.
- In an average year, volunteers contribute approximately 50,000 hours of time to the museum.

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Note: Not all artworks referenced are on view at any given time.