

MACNIDER ART MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

Winter/Spring 2026

January

- 1 Museum closed for New Year's Day
- 15 Kids' Club "Winter Whiteout" (Ages 5-12) 6-7 pm
- 30 *What's A Lithograph* exhibition opens

February

- 7 *Museum Shop Highlights* exhibition closes
- 16 Museum closed for President's Day
- 20 *First Artistic Steps: Annual School Art* exhibition opens
- 21 Kids' Club "Lucky Green" (Ages 5-12) 9-11 am

March

- 10-11 Spring Break Mini Camp, Ages 5+, 8 am—Noon
- 14 Deadline for 46th *Annual Cerro Gordo Photo Show* artist applications
- 19 Kids' Club "Upcycled Universe" (Ages 5-12) 6-7 pm
- 25 *What's A Lithograph* exhibition closes
- 28 41st *Annual School Art* exhibition Reception, 11 am

April

- 1 Deadline for Art Market artist applications
- 9 Spring Puppet Show "Appleseed!" Shows at 10 am, 1 pm, & 6 pm
- 10 *Ray Colby: Nature Photographer* exhibition opens
- 18 Kids' Club "Color Mixing Fun" (Ages 5-12) 9-11 am
- 18 *First Artistic Steps: Annual School Art* exhibition closes

May

- 1 *MacNider: Off the Clock* from 5-7 pm
- 1 *Cerro Gordo Photo Show: 46* exhibition opens
- 7 *Cerro Gordo Photo Show: 46* exhibition reception, 6 pm
- 21 Kids' Club "Monet Cafe" (Ages 5-12) 6-7 pm
- 25 Museum closed for Memorial Day

June

- 4 "BIRDING 101" Talk. Lime Creek Program

Museum admission is always FREE!

Education credits issued due to cancelled classes, or withdrawing from registration must be used within 12 months of class-date. Any education credit not used within 12 months is considered a donation to the general fund of the museum.



Follow us on Facebook! *Get updates on events, classes, exhibitions & more!*

NEWS & EDUCATION



The MacNider Art Museum is offering a free, "Rockin' Art of the 50's and 60's" guided tour on Fri., January 30, 2026 at 1:30 pm in conjunction with the Winter Dance Party. The Museum's largest collection is of post – World War II art and features some of the most famous individuals from the mid-century art scene.



The Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre Company will present three showings of "Appleseed!" on Thurs., April 9, 2026, in the Salsbury Room at the MacNider Art Museum at 10 am, 1 pm, and 6 pm. All shows will be free and open to the public. **Groups of 10 or more should register in advance for the 10 am & 1 pm shows by calling 641-421-3666 or emailing jmbohl@masonrycity.net.**

This free show is made possible by a grant from the Bertha Stebens Charitable Foundation.



MacNider: Off the Clock is a free event and open to the public. Complimentary wine and appetizers are available throughout the event, in addition to live music!

FREE ** FREE ** FREE ** FREE ** FREE ** FREE



KIDS' CLUB is a cool way to explore the visual arts and treasures of the MacNider Art Museum. Designed for children ages 5-12. It's hands-on, fun and absolutely FREE!

THURS., JANUARY 15, 6—7 PM

WINTER WHITEOUT

SAT., FEBRUARY 21, 9 –11 AM

LUCKY GREEN

THURS., MARCH 19, 6-7 PM

UPCYCLED UNIVERSE

SAT., APRIL 18, 9-11 AM

COLOR MIXING FUN

THURS., MAY 21, 6-7 PM

MONET CAFE



Call 641-421-3666 or go to

www.macniderart.org to register!

Sponsored by the First Citizens Power Savers

Check out
www.macniderart.org
for winter/spring classes!
Don't forget—you can register for classes online!

ARTIST OPPORTUNITIES

46th Annual Cerro Gordo Photo Show

May 1 – June 11, 2026

Now accepting artist applications, due by March 14, 2026.
See info on back page —>*

MacNider Outdoor Art Market

Now accepting artist applications, due by April 1, 2026.

The Outdoor Art Market is held on the lawns of the Museum and the adjacent Mason City Public Library at 303 2nd Street SE in Mason City, Iowa during MacNider Arts Festival on Sat., June 13, 2026 from 9 am- 4 pm.

SAVE THE DATE!

The MacNider Arts Festival & Art Market will be June 13, 2026!

Check www.macniderart.org for more details.

What's A Lithograph?

Kinney-Lindstrom Gallery • January 30 – March 25, 2026

This exhibition answers the question often asked by Museum visitors, *What's A Lithograph?* It highlights thirty-five lithographs from the Museum's Permanent Collection and features informational text panels explaining what a



Grant Wood, *January*, lithograph on paper, 1937. Museum Purchase Funded in Part by the Yonkers Foundation Inc. [1992.3]

lithograph is and how artists create them. Visitors will learn about the lithographic medium and see the scope of its artistic merit and creativity.

What's A Lithograph? is sponsored by the Hanson Family Foundation and the David and Phyllis Murphy Charitable Foundation.

Coming Soon:

First Artistic Steps: Annual School Art Exhibition

Center Space Gallery • February 20 – April 18, 2026



Display Image from the last Elementary School focused School Art Show in 2023

Every year the Charles H. MacNider Art Museum celebrates Youth Art Month (March) with an exhibition honoring student artists and their teachers. The Museum arranges a three-year rotation between elementary school, middle school, and high school art

students. The 2026 School Art Exhibition will feature the imaginative artwork of elementary school students (grades K -4) from public, private and home schools served by Central Rivers Area Education Agency, Clear Lake Regional Office.

Student artists whose work has been selected for inclusion in the exhibition will be honored at a recognition reception and awards ceremony on Saturday, March 28 at 11:00 a.m. The reception will be hosted by Alpha Delta Kappa, an honorary sorority for women in education. The event is free and open to all.

The purpose of Youth Art Month is to emphasize the value of art education for all students and to encourage support for quality school art programs. Demonstrated outcomes of art education are the development of critical thinking skills, self-esteem, appreciation of the work of others, self-expression and cooperative working skills. Please join the Museum in celebrating these up-and-coming artists.

Museum Shop Highlights

Center Space Gallery • Continuing through February 7, 2026



Museum Shop Highlights is very similar to the Museum's usual exhibitions, with a unique twist. All the artwork on display has been pulled from the Museum Shop and is available to purchase and take home the same day. No need to wait until the end of the show.

Museum Shop Highlights allows visitors to expand their shopping opportunities. They can find unique artworks by talented local and regional artists that will make great gifts for any occasion. Or visitors can find the perfect artwork to fill their home.

The Museum Shop has been part of the Charles H. MacNider Art Museum's offerings since 1967. It, along with the traveling exhibition and Permanent Collection galleries, is a space in the Museum where visitors can see and learn about art and expand their art experiences. It is also a space in which hands-on exploration and discovery is encouraged.

Reminder: Museum membership discounts will apply to the artworks in this show – become a member now!

Coming Soon:

Ray Colby: Nature Photographer

Kinney-Lindstrom Gallery • April 10 – June 17, 2026



Ray Colby, *Sandhill Crane Migration, Near Crex Meadows Wildlife Area – Northwest Wisconsin*, digital photograph, 2025

Ray Colby, a retired commercial photographer living in Minneapolis, MN, is featured in a solo exhibition in the Museum's Kinney-Lindstrom Gallery. This photographic display will have a three-pronged focus: often-overlooked insects and arachnids that populate Midwest backyards and gardens, large birds of urban

Minneapolis, and a stop on the migration route of Sandhill Cranes in the Crex Meadows Wildlife Area.

Ray Colby: Nature Photographer is sponsored by the Mason City Clinic Charitable Giving Committee and the David & Phyllis Murphy Charitable Foundation.

DEVELOPMENT & THANK YOU'S

Cerro Gordo Photo Show: 46*

Center Space Gallery • May 1 – July 11, 2026



2025 Cerro Gordo Photo Show Best in Show award winner Daniel Pennington of Mason City, *Last Chance*, digital photograph. This competitive exhibit, sponsored by the Safford and Lena Lock Photo Endowment Fund, is intended to serve these purposes: promote interest in photography as art, stimulate greater levels of quality and creativity in photography, share examples of area work with the public, and provide a forum for area artists.

Residents of Cerro Gordo County, high school age and up, and those attending the spring or summer semesters at NIACC are invited to enter up to three photographs. This year's deadline for entry is March 14. Please visit the Museum's website, macniderart.org, for more info and the online entry form.

First Time Entrants: Artist entering the *Cerro Gordo Photo Show* for the first time have the option to select the First Time Entrant category. Photographs in this category will only be judged against other first-time entrants and have the opportunity to win a \$50 prize.

An opening reception and awards ceremony will be held on May 7, starting at 6 pm. Awards will be announced at 6:30 pm. This event is free and open to the public.

MACNIDER INFORMATION

HOURS: Wed, Fri & Sat 9 am - 5 pm
Tues & Thurs 9 am - 8 pm
Closed Sunday and Monday

The Museum is closed legal holidays.

Admission: Free
Telephone: (641) 421-3666
Email: jmbohl@masoncity.net
Website: www.macniderart.org
Address: 303 2nd Street SE
Mason City, IA 50401

The MacNider Art Museum appreciates the generosity of its sponsors, donors, and volunteers. Since our last newsletter contributions have been made by:

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Mission Statement

The MacNider Art Museum seeks to engage diverse audiences in the visual arts and through them sustain a thriving environment in which exceptional American Art is collected, enjoyed, and understood.