DAYTON ART INSTITUTE RECEIVES $75,000 COMMUNITY CHALLENGE GRANT FOR BUILDING REPAIRS

(DAYTON, OHIO) – August 22, 2011 – The Dayton Art Institute announced today that it has received a $75,000 grant from The Berry Foundation to be used as a community challenge to make much-needed repairs to the museum’s 1930s building.

“Our landmark building is showing its age and is in need of some major repairs,” According to DAI Interim Director Linda Lombard. “We need about $225,000 to complete eight priority projects. Through a generous gift from the Virginia W. Kettering Foundation, we were able to begin with our copper roof and a number of skylight leaks and ceiling damage. These repairs are not in our annual budget, so we are asking the community for help. We are pleased that The Berry Foundation has stepped forward to initiate the community challenge portion.”

The following repairs, aside from the roof, are considered high priority: electrical upgrades in the galleries; HVAC unit replacement; repair of the grand staircase on Riverview Avenue; climate-controlled storage for works on paper; new Rotunda entrance lighting; boiler-chiller water intake plumbing; replacement of gallery window coverings to ensure against light damage.

“The DAI is a community treasure and a great asset to the region,” Lombard says. “Because of Julia Shaw Carnell’s vision and the acumen of several of our directors, we have been able to acquire collections that offer our guests an overview of 5,000 years of cultural expression from throughout the world. These great collections are under our stewardship, and our building must be maintained continually to protect the art for future generations.”

The DAI, like many other museums throughout the country, has been under financial stress brought on by the economic downturn and the reduction in both corporate and government funding.

“While we do have a budget for maintenance, we have to ask for outside funding for major repairs such as these,” Lombard said. “That is why we went to the Berrys, who are longtime supporters, for help. Now we are asking the community to step up.”
A gift of any size will be gratefully accepted, and the Berry grant will match those gifts dollar for dollar. Donations may be made through the mail to:

The Dayton Art Institute  
Attn: Berry Challenge  
456 Belmonte Park North  
Dayton, OH 45405

Donations may also be made online at: [www.daytonartinstitute.org/berry](http://www.daytonartinstitute.org/berry)

For more information about The Dayton Art Institute, go to [www.daytonartinstitute.org](http://www.daytonartinstitute.org) or call 937-223-5277. Be sure to also visit The Dayton Art Institute on Facebook ([facebook.com/daytonartinstitute](http://facebook.com/daytonartinstitute)) and Twitter ([twitter.com/daytonart](http://twitter.com/daytonart)) for additional information and exclusive offers.

ABOUT THE DAYTON ART INSTITUTE

As one of the Miami Valley’s premier fine art museums, The Dayton Art Institute offers a full range of programming in addition to exhibiting its collection. The galleries and Museum Store are open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m., with extended hours on Thursday until 8 p.m. Suggested admission to the museum’s permanent collection is $8 adults, $5 seniors, students (18+) and groups, free for museum members and youth under 17. Some special exhibitions, programs and events may carry an additional charge and include admission to the museum’s permanent collection as part of that price. Free parking is available at the museum and the facility is fully accessible to physically challenged visitors. CAFÉ MONET by Elegant Fare serves lunch Wednesday through Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Sunday, noon – 2:30 p.m. For more information, please call 937-223-4278 or visit [www.daytonartinstitute.org](http://www.daytonartinstitute.org). The Ohio Arts Council helped fund this organization with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. The DAI also receives support from the Montgomery County Arts and Cultural District.

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