DAYTON ART INSTITUTE LAUNCHES ‘SUPERHERO SUMMER’ IN JULY

(DAYTON, OHIO) – July 6, 2012 – It’s going to be a summer of epic proportions at The Dayton Art Institute – a Superhero Summer – when the museum “unmasks” the special exhibition, You Are My Superhero, on view July 22 – September 23.

Organized by The Dayton Art Institute and curated by the museum’s Associate Director, Jane A. Black, You Are My Superhero explores the iconography of superheroes, and how contemporary artists use that imagery in their own bodies of work. Beginning with images that reflect the Golden Age of comics, the exhibition includes popular figures dating from the 1940s, showing how they have changed over the years.

You Are My Superhero is presented with support from Patron Sponsor Premier Health Partners and Supporting Sponsor Tridec Technologies, LLC.

You Are My Superhero includes animation art and memorabilia from the collection of Dr. Lawrence and Holley Thompson, original panels from the 1960s from Maverick’s Cards and Comics in Kettering, and classic comic books from the Fairborn shop Bookery Fantasy. These, along with additional loans and one iconic piece from The Dayton Art Institute’s own collection, will delineate superhero variations (both well known and obscure), superhero sidekicks, and superhero hallmarks and behaviors. In addition, limited-edition prints, newer original panels and sketches, and toys and games will tell familiar stories and remind us of the iconic images that have bled into advertising and reflected current events.

The exhibition also features two artists who have incorporated superhero iconography into their work. Michigan-based artist Mark Newport knits Superhero costumes and embroiders the covers of comic books. There is a tribute to one of Dayton’s own superheroes, Pulitzer-Prize-winning cartoonist Mike Peters.
For more about You Are My Superhero, visit www.daytonartinstitute.org/superhero or call the museum at 937-223-5277.

A number of related programs, workshops and special events are planned as part of Superhero Summer at The Dayton Art Institute. These include costume and comic workshops, artist lectures, family programs, and a Superhero Costume Ball on August 17. For a complete list of related programs, visit www.daytonartinstitute.org/superhero/programs.

Visitors are encouraged to bring their cameras and strike their best superhero poses at the museum. You Are My Superhero will continue the popular “Picture Yourself on the Cover” interactive feature introduced with the recent Norman Rockwell exhibition. Visitors will be able to pose for photos in front of an amazing original comic book cover backdrop by local artist Randy Palmer. DAI staff will take photos on select days and post them to the museum’s website, Facebook page and Flickr page.

Admission to You Are My Superhero is $12 for adults, $9 for seniors (60+), students (18+ w/ID), active military and groups (10 or more), and $6 for youth (ages 7-17). Admission is free for museum members and children 6 and under. Anyone wearing a superhero costume to the museum will receive $2 off admission prices. Prices include admission to You Are My Superhero and the museum’s permanent collection. A $1 Historic Preservation Fee is added to all ticket sale transactions.

For more information about The Dayton Art Institute, go to www.daytonartinstitute.org or call the museum at 937-223-5277. Be sure to also connect with The Dayton Art Institute on Facebook and Twitter 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 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. With support from the Chase Endowment Fund, suggested admission to the museum’s permanent collection is $8 adults, $5 seniors, active military and groups. Admission is free for museum members, students (18+ w/ID) and youth (17 and under). 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. The Cafe and Museum Store have been moved to a temporary location on the lower level, and will be open during all regularly scheduled museum hours. For more information, please call 937-223-5277 or visit 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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