DAYTON ART INSTITUTE’S SUMMER EXHIBITIONS CELEBRATE LOVE OF SPORTS AND COMPETITION

Special Exhibitions Andy Warhol: Athletes and The Art of Sport: Highlights from the Collection of The Dayton Art Institute Open June 22

(DAYTON, OHIO) – June 13, 2013 – This summer, The Dayton Art Institute will celebrate our longstanding love of sports and competition with a pair of sports-themed special exhibitions, Andy Warhol: Athletes and The Art of Sport: Highlights from the Collection of The Dayton Art Institute, opening Saturday, June 22.

Andy Warhol: Athletes showcases 10 Warhol silkscreen paintings, commissioned in 1977 by investment banker Richard Weisman. A fan of both art and sport, Weisman noted that although both are popular leisure-time activities, they rarely cross paths in any way. He sought to remedy the situation by commissioning his friend Andy Warhol to paint portraits of several top athletes of the day. The resulting group of 10 portraits became known as the Athletes Series and features some of the top sports stars of that era: Muhammad Ali, O.J. Simpson, Dorothy Hamill, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Chris Evert, Willie Shoemaker, Pelé, Tom Seaver, Rod Gilbert and Jack Nicklaus.

In addition to the 10 paintings of the Athletes Series, the exhibition will also feature Warhol’s 1985 silkscreen portrait of Weisman and artist’s proofs of Warhol’s 1985 portrait of Pete Rose.

In conjunction with this exhibition, The Art of Sport: Highlights from the Collection of The Dayton Art Institute explores how the theme of sports is ubiquitous in art and has occupied artists from cultures all over the world, from ancient times to the present. It features more than 100 examples of how that theme is manifest in some of The DAI’s finest treasures. Arranged thematically in four categories, the objects represent a wide range of media, including painting, sculpture, photography and mixed media. The exhibition is sure to delight sports and art lovers of all ages.

Themes explored in the exhibition include Games of Physical Prowess, Games of Skill and Chance, Man and Beast and Man versus Nature. Games of Physical Prowess contains many examples in which agility, strength, and physical skill are required for the contest. Games of Skill and Chance represents competitions in which mental dexterity is the key component of victory. Man and Beast includes hunting, a theme that appears across multiple media and time periods within the museum’s collection.
Man versus Nature includes many pastimes, such as fishing, sailing, and mountain climbing, in which the common factor that unites these activities is a direct encounter with nature.

Both exhibitions are curated by The Dayton Art Institute’s Curator of Collections and Exhibitions, Aimee Marcereau DeGalan.

The exhibitions will also feature cell phone audio commentaries by famed local sports writer Bucky Albers, as well as QR codes that may be scanned to view videos related to select works.

A number of events and programs are planned in conjunction with the exhibitions, including a Prime Time Party Rental Series Studio 54 Disco Party on July 19, a screenprinting workshop on July 20, and a Super Saturday Sportstravaganza on July 27. For more about the exhibition and related programs, go to www.daytonartinstitute.org/sports.

The exhibitions are presented with support from Benefactor Sponsor Premier Health Partners, Patron Sponsors Macy’s and The James A. and Mary Miller Philanthropic Fund, and Supporting Sponsors Miller-Valentine Group and Dr. Stephen Levitt.

Andy Warhol: Athletes and The Art of Sport: Highlights from the Collection of The Dayton Art Institute will be on view at the museum June 22 – September 1. Admission 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 children (ages 6 & under) and museum members. Prices include admission to both exhibitions and the museum’s permanent collection. A $1 Historic Preservation Fee will be added to all ticket sale transactions.

In conjunction with these exhibitions, Andy Warhol: Marilyn Series will be on view in the North Gallery of the museum’s Lower Level. The six prints, part of The Dayton Art Institute’s permanent collection, feature the likeness of actress Marilyn Monroe and highlight Warhol’s penchant for producing work in serial editions. The Dayton Art Institute will also partner with the Dayton Visual Arts Center (DVAC) to present My Tattered Jersey-Covered Heart: Sports Heroes by Brent Naughton in the museum’s Leo Bistro.

For more information about exhibitions, events and programs at The Dayton Art Institute, please visit www.daytonartinstitute.org or call the museum at 937-223-4ART (4278). Be sure to also connect with The Dayton Art Institute on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for additional information, behind-the-scenes photos and exclusive offers. Look for the hashtag #artofsport on Twitter and Instagram to join the conversation.

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. Galleries hours are Tuesday – Friday, 11 a.m. – 8 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday, noon – 5 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 DAI’s new Museum Store and Leo Bistro are now open during regular museum hours. For more information, please call 937-223-4ART (4278) 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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