

For immediate release: November 9, 2011

IMA to celebrate life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with activities for all ages

Day will include art-making, performances and free admission to special exhibitions

INDIANAPOLIS, IN, November 9, 2011— The Indianapolis Museum of Art will host a day of free programs and activities to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy on Monday, January 16, 2012, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The day's events and activities include:

- **Art-making activities for all ages.** Use traditional symbols and printmaking to design an Adinkra cloth swatch. Adinkra are bold visual symbols used in West Africa for decoration and communication. As a second activity, create a section for a community paper quilt. In writing, visitors can include what they hope to hand down as a family heirloom.
- **Dr. Djo Bi drumming performance.** At 4 p.m. in The Toby, visitors can hear a performance of West African drumming in celebration of the closing of *Dynasty and Divinity: Ife Art in Ancient Nigeria*. Dr. Djo Bi is a master hard drummer from Cote D'Ivoire, West Africa. He has performed widely in Europe and the United States.
- **Khabir the Storyteller.** At 1 p.m. in Pulliam Great Hall, visitors can hear a storytelling performance about the true story of a prince from Guinea, West Africa, who survived servitude in 1800s America.
- **Museum gallery tours.** Thirty-minute guided tours will begin at 11:30 a.m. All guided tours will be ASL interpreted. In addition to guided tours, IMA docents will be stationed throughout the IMA galleries to interact with visitors. Tour schedule:
 - 11:30 a.m., *Realization of the Deferred Dream: African American Artists at the IMA*
 - 12:30 p.m., *Ancestors and Leaders – A Tour of the African Collection*
 - 1:30 p.m., *Perceptions of America*
 - 2:30 p.m., *Looking at Contemporary Art*
 - 3:30 p.m., *Crowd Pleasers in the Late European Collection*
- **Museum gallery activities.** Visitors can pick up a gallery art game at the information desk on the second floor as a fun way to explore the IMA galleries and the IMA Art Carts (exploring Art basics, Asian Art and African Art) will be stationed throughout the galleries from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Free admission to closing day of *Dynasty and Divinity: Ife Art in Ancient Nigeria*.** This exhibition presents a glimpse of the extraordinary artistic accomplishments of Ife, the legendary royal city-state of the Yoruba people during the 12th-15th centuries. Technically and visually the artworks of Ife, including near life-size heads and figures of humans in terra cotta, bronze, and copper, are among the most remarkable in the world. This landmark exhibition of African art brings together for the first time these celebrated works, resulting in a display of more than 100 objects that present a fascinating depiction of Ife.
- **Free admission to *Art of the American Indians: The Thaw Collection*.** This exhibition features more than 80 of the most outstanding works of Native American art drawn from the Eugene and Clare Thaw Collection, now held at the Fenimore Art Museum. The exhibition highlights the beauty and virtuosity of each piece, presenting it as a milestone of creativity and individual artistic expression. The exhibition also reveals the extraordinary range of art produced by Native American cultures. This exhibition is organized by the Fenimore Art Museum in Cooperstown, New York, and will be on display Dec. 2, 2011, to Feb. 12, 2012.

- **Free parking.** Visitors can park for free in the IMA's underground garage or large surface lot. Additional parking is available at Light of the World Christian Church, 4646 Michigan Road. Free shuttle drop-off and pickup is available throughout the day.
- **Food and shopping.** Visitors can grab coffee or a bite to eat in Nourish Café, located on the ground floor, and shop at the Museum Store for books, games, unique items for the home and more. The IMA Greenhouse also will be open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. offering a variety of garden-related items and post-holiday markdowns.

WHEN: Monday, January 16
Galleries open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free events and activities throughout the Museum.

WHERE: Indianapolis Museum of Art
4000 Michigan Road
Additional parking is available at Light of the World Christian Church, 4646 Michigan Rd. Free shuttle dropoff and pickup is available throughout the day.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call 317-923-1331 or visit www.imamuseum.org.

About the Indianapolis Museum of Art

Encompassing 152 acres of gardens and grounds, the Indianapolis Museum of Art is among the 10 largest encyclopedic art museums in the United States and features significant collections of African, American, Asian, European, and contemporary art, as well as a newly established collection of design arts. The IMA offers visitors an expansive view of arts and culture through its collection of more than 54,000 works of art that span 5,000 years of history from across the world's continents. The collections include paintings, sculpture, furniture and design objects, prints, drawings, and photographs, as well as textiles and costumes.

Additionally, art, design, and nature are featured at 100 Acres: The Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park and Oldfields–Lilly House & Gardens, an historic Country Place Era estate on the IMA grounds. Beyond the Indianapolis campus, in May 2011 the IMA opened to the public the landmark Miller House and Garden in Columbus, Indiana. One of the country's most highly regarded examples of mid-century Modernist residences, the Miller House was designed by Eero Saarinen, with interiors by Alexander Girard and landscape design by Dan Kiley.

Recognizing the IMA's positive impact on its community, the Museum was named a 2009 National Medal for Museum and Library Services – the nation's highest honor for museums and libraries. The IMA's commitment to free general admission, programming for schools and teachers, environmental leadership, and online initiatives were among cited community contributions in the Museum's selection for the award.

Located at 4000 Michigan Road, the IMA and Lilly House are open Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The IMA is closed Mondays (except Martin Luther King, Jr. Day) and Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's days. For more information, call 317-923-1331 or visit www.imamuseum.org.

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