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### **The Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts Welcomes over 350 Students to School Day**

April 25, 2023 (LITTLE ROCK, Ark.) – The Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts (AMFA) yesterday hosted School Day as part of its celebratory grand opening events. Over 350 students from the Little Rock School District, North Little Rock School District, and others attended. Students from Don R. Roberts Elementary School, Episcopal Collegiate School, Forest Park Elementary School, McDermott Elementary School, Ridge Road Elementary School, and Stephens Elementary School experienced several museum offerings in the visual and performing arts.

School day activities included a showcase of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show*, art-making time in the Windgate Art School, engaging discussions in the Harriet and Warren Stephens Galleries, and additional fun in the Cultural Living Room with *Flurffy + Friends*, AMFA's puppets-in-residence. Students also participated in a nature walk and viewed the celebratory exhibition *Art Garden*, a large-scale community art installation displaying thousands of origami lotuses made in part by students whose schools attended AMFA's School Day.

Jonica West, an art teacher from Roberts Elementary School shared, "Each of our students made one of the lotus flowers in the *Art Garden* installation, and they're so excited to be here to see their own artwork."

On the experience of visiting AMFA, Piper Keizer, a second-grade teacher from Episcopal Collegiate School said the following: "I think it's an amazing, enriching atmosphere for children, with very approachable and engaging experiences."

AMFA Director of Community Engagement Chris Revelle stated, "Today was a special day dedicated to educational experiences in the museum, from sparking the imagination with a gallery visit, experiencing the magic of bringing literature to life in the Performing Arts Theater, to hands-on, creative activities in the Windgate Art School. We look forward to welcoming students from Little Rock, North Little Rock, and beyond to experience all that AMFA has to offer."

The Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts will begin regular museum hours May 2: Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., and Sunday from 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. AMFA encourages

guests to reserve tickets for the inaugural season. Please visit [AMFA's website](#) for tickets, as well as information on memberships, programs, and events.

Press photos of School Day may be accessed in the [press kit](#).

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About the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts:

Founded in 1937, the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts is the largest cultural institution of its kind in the state, offering a unique blend of visual, educational, and performing arts experiences. AMFA is committed to featuring diverse media and artistic perspectives within its permanent collection as well as through rotating temporary exhibitions. AMFA's international collection spans eight centuries, with strengths in works on paper, and includes notable holdings by artists from Arkansas, the South, and across the United States and Europe.

With a vibrant mix of ideas, cultures, people, and places, the museum extends this commitment to diversity through its dynamic children's theatre and performing arts program, the innovative Windgate Art School, and community-focused educational programs for all ages. Located in Little Rock's oldest urban green space, MacArthur Park, AMFA's landmark building and grounds are designed by Studio Gang and SCAPE, in collaboration with Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects.