

Kaleidoscope: 100 Years of Collecting for Our Community

On View: Saturday, February 21, 2026 / Opening Soirée: Saturday, March 7, 2026 from 6 – 9 PM



Kaleidoscope is the second in a series of exhibitions dedicated to the Fitchburg Art Museum's (FAM) Centennial. The Museum was incorporated on December 31, 1925, and opened its galleries to the public on April 17, 1929.

The visually stunning exhibition features over 500 artworks from FAM's Permanent Collection, spanning the globe and human history, with a range of media that includes paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, sculptures, textiles, and more.

Kaleidoscope sprawls across the large upstairs galleries in FAM's Harlan K. and Elsie D. Simonds Building, arranged salon-style – a floor to ceiling presentation that juxtaposes, groups, and recontextualizes individual artworks in dynamic and engaging ways. In *Kaleidoscope*, visitors will enjoy a breathtaking visual experience, enjoy works by famous and not-so-famous artists, and discover new psychological, emotional, and spiritual connections and meanings across time and space.

The exhibition is a tribute to FAM's founder, Eleanor Norcross, and the vast collection she amassed during her lifetime. Visitors are introduced to Eleanor's art and personal collection before experiencing how her legacy has evolved over the last 100 years. *Kaleidoscope* is a celebration of FAM's collection and the incredible contemporary and historical artworks we hold for our community's enjoyment and inspiration.

On March 7, 2026, join us for *Eleanor's Dream: A 100th Birthday Soirée*; to mark the launch of our Centennial celebrations at FAM.



Image Credit

Page 1 (top to bottom)

Eleanor Norcross, *My Studio*, 1891, oil on canvas. Fitchburg Art Museum, Norcross Collection, 1942.1

Ansel Adams, *Cape Cod*, gelatin silver print. Gift of Gale Simonds Hurd and William B. Hurd Jr., in memory of their mother Janet Simonds Short, 1999.5

Anna Hyatt Huntington, *Yawning Tiger*, 1917, bronze. Doyle Collection Fund and the Director's Fund, 2009.12. Photo credit: ©2017 Charles Sternaimolo

Page 2

Georgia O'Keeffe, *Untitled (Pink Camellia)*, 1935, pastel on paper. Gift of Margaret Simonds Sinon, 1992.1

Greg Girard, *Six Hundred Things (Pinghu Lu)*, 2005, chromogenic print. Gift of Dr. Anthony Terrana, 2018.72

About the Fitchburg Art Museum (FAM)

The Mission of the Fitchburg Art Museum is to inspire creativity and learning, and to contribute to the well-being of our diverse communities in Fitchburg, North Central Massachusetts, and New England.

To accomplish this mission, we organize exhibitions of the work of New England contemporary artists and artworks from our art historical collections, offer programs for learners of all ages, support public art projects, invite community participation and partnerships, and stimulate the creative economy – all in the spirit of inclusivity.

The Fitchburg Art Museum serves the cities of Fitchburg and Leominster and the surrounding communities in North Central Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire. Founded in 1925, FAM plays a vital role in the cultural life of the region and has recently repositioned itself to focus on community access and service. FAM uses its artistic and educational resources to aid in the economic revitalization of Fitchburg, and the Museum maintains active educational partnerships with the local school systems, as well as Fitchburg State University. FAM is an engine for creativity, education, community building, and fun!

Hours

Wednesday through Friday: 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Saturday through Sunday: 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

FAM at Night: 12:00 PM – 7:00 PM every first Thursday of the month*

*FAM at Night will be held on January 8, 2026

Museum Website

www.fitchburgartmuseum.org

Media Contact

Maxwell Zaleski, Marketing Associate

mzaleski@fitchburgartmuseum.org

185 Elm Street, Fitchburg Art Museum, Fitchburg, MA 01453

978.990.6518