



- What: Daum Escape Professional Development and VTS Practicum, October 10, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.
Daum Escape, October 14–December 13, 2024
- Where: Daum Museum of Contemporary Art, State Fair Community College, Sedalia, Missouri
- Deadline: Registration for the **Professional Development Day** is requested by Friday, October 4, but late registration will be accepted until the workshop is full. Registration for **Daum Escape** should be made **as soon as possible**. Please see the attached calendar for available dates.

Daum Museum of Contemporary Art is again offering area educators the opportunity to participate in **Daum Escape**, between **October 14 and December 13**. This *free* educational program, now in its nineteenth year, exposes elementary students to contemporary art and provides teachers with information to assist them in incorporating arts education into their curricula.

During Daum Escape, students and teachers arrive at **10 a.m.** and are greeted by docents who lead hour-long visits of current exhibitions. Students receive art-related information and education pieces about the museum's exhibitions and Sedalia. The SFCC Parkhurst Student Commons is available for students to bring a brown bag lunch. Missouri Arts Council grant funds are available to assist with busing costs. Please, call the museum for details.

In advance of this event, the museum will offer *free* **Daum Escape Professional Development and Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) Practicum** on **Thursday, October 10**. (Customary VTS fees are waived for this professional development opportunity.) VTS is an innovative, student-centered, and research-based teaching method that informs the way Daum Escape is implemented.

VTS uses art to build the capacity to observe, think, listen, and communicate. Its curriculum builds cognition through art, develops critical thinking skills, expands language literacy, and improves academic achievement. Teachers facilitate the discovery of meaning through non-judgmental questioning and paraphrasing, encouraging students to look, think, and talk. VTS is a powerful tool that promotes cooperation, respect, and tolerance for various viewpoints. VTS supports the open-ended, student centered learning which is integral to best practices in current pedagogy. National evaluations have quantified improvements among students not only in visual literacy, but in general learning, including reading, writing, and math skills.

During the **Professional Development Day**, teachers will receive additional coaching in VTS techniques through direct participation. Attention will be focused on artworks that will be visited during Daum Escape. Teachers also receive curriculum guides and hands-on activities so they can familiarize students with the VTS process they will encounter at the museum. Lunch will be served in the museum to all participating teachers.

Attached is a calendar outlining the dates available for **Daum Escape** as well as a reservation form for participation in the teacher's professional development day. Reservations will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. Please return this form to the museum; if you have any questions call (660) 530-5888 for more information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Vicki Weaver'.

Vicki Weaver
Curator of Education

Registration Form

**Daum Escape - October 14–December 13, 2024
Professional Development Day - Thursday, October 10, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.**

Name _____

School _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Yes! I want to participate in the Professional Development Day on October 10 from 9 a.m.–3 p.m.*

Please mark the date on which you want to bring your students to the Daum Museum of Contemporary Art for the Daum Escape. Available dates are shown below. Please specify your **first, second, and third preferences**.

October						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

December						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Preferred Date #1 _____ Preferred Date #2 _____ Preferred Date #3 _____

Number of students attending _____ Grade level(s) of students attending _____

Our group would like to have lunch in the Parkhurst Student Commons.** Yes No

Please return to:

Daum Museum of Contemporary Art
State Fair Community College
3201 West 16th Street
Sedalia, MO 65301-2199

or

online registration
<http://www.daummuseum.org/learn/daum-escape/>
or
e-mail: victoriaweaver@daummuseum.org

*Registration is requested by October 4, but late registration will be accepted until the workshop is full

**A minimum of three-weeks notice is needed to use the Parkhurst Student Commons for lunch

Professional Development Day

October 10, 2024, 9 a.m.–3 p.m., Daum Museum

The day will include a pre- and post-educational packet focusing on the works in *Mantra: Lifespan* and *Rebecca Bogard: You + Me =*, and VTS Practicum.

Mantra: Lifespan

September 20, 2024–March 2, 2025



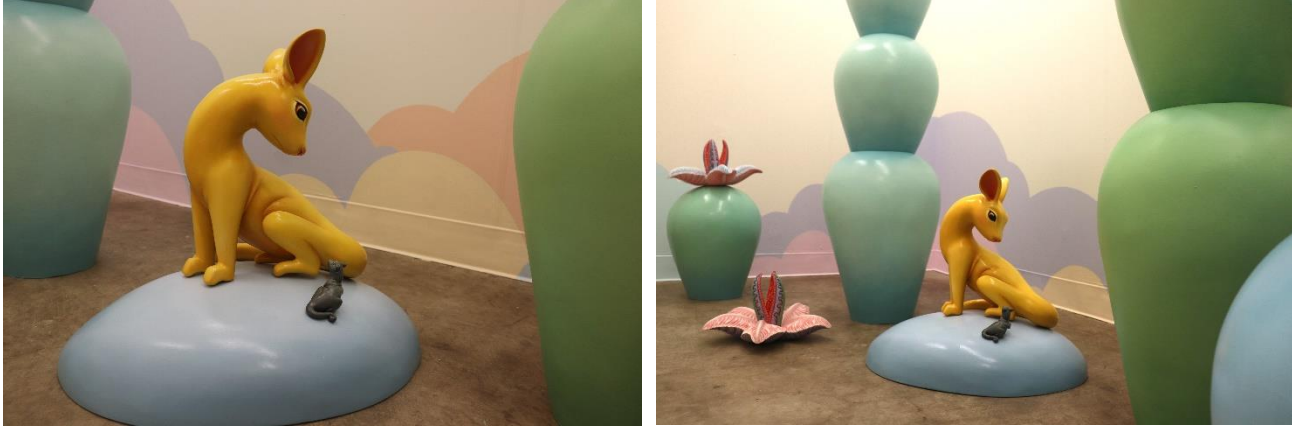
Top row, left to right: Yuri Cansell (Mantra), *The Square Collection: Hamadrias amphinome*, 2024; acrylic on canvas; 47 x 47 x 1.77 in. Courtesy of the artist. Yuri Cansell (Mantra), *Butterflies of Mexico: Board X*, 2024; acrylic on canvas; 60 x 60 x 1.77 in. Courtesy of the artist. Yuri Cansell (Mantra), *The Square Collection: Limenitis arthemis*, 2024; acrylic on canvas; 47 x 47 x 1.77 in. Courtesy of the artist. Bottom row: images of Yuri Cansell (Mantra), courtesy of Justkids LLC.

Lifespan: Art born in a moment and immortalized in time. The image of the elusive butterfly suggests to us the briefest lifespan, but is it? Through scientific study we know that butterflies naturally enter states of hibernation, sometimes for several years, to prolong their own existence. Most of them migrate, thousands of miles like the Monarch, looking for a more favorable climate. Yet, in our coexistence, human beings impact those life cycles, threatening the butterfly's survival to extinction.

In this context, this exhibition asks profound questions about the fragility of life, and explores what the butterfly's ability to prolong time in the face of danger can teach us about our relationship with the natural world. By encapsulating the briefest moment in time, the butterfly becomes simultaneously a field study and an artwork – life as it happens, yet also immortalized for wonder and contemplation.

“Inspired by a lifelong curiosity about the living and a quest to observe the full reality of natural moments, my art is deeply personal and contemplative. I do not seek to give people an interpretation or a representative concept to wrestle with – rather to enter the moment with me and have their own experience. As a painter, I am crystallizing my scientist's observations in the field into art. The artistic expression exists to ask how we preserve these fleeting moments in an urban, post-industrial setting, and how they question our notion of time.” –Youri Cansell (Mantra)

Rebekah Bogard: *You + Me =*
September 20, 2024–March 2, 2025



Installation views of Rebekah Bogard, *You + Me =*, 2024; earthenware and oil paint; 25 x 28 x 21 in. Courtesy of the artist.

This installation portrays love, loss, risk, and the important role of friendship. Walking among this cloud-filled dreamscape, one questions mortality, the possibilities for life anew, and alternate realities. Through my symbolic use of animals, I incorporate existential notions about love, loss, risk, and friendship. Questions about life, death, and mortality are imbedded in this body of work. The viewer walks among the clouds (painted on the walls at floor level), alluding to ideas about an afterlife, dreamscape, or perhaps an alternate reality.

The viewer is enveloped in a space that invites exploration. Upon entering the gallery, they become an essential part of the piece, walking through an environment teeming with life. This experience requires them to be present, actively making sense of the realm they've entered. As such, my installations allow various interpretations as the works will have different meanings for different people.

When viewing my work, people are allowed to contemplate their own reality and perhaps escape or re-think their place in the world. By exploring complexities through animals, it becomes a safe space to readdress many of our social complexities, revealing a desire for connection and the risk that comes with it. Through illusions of clouds, water, and trees, the space draws attention to the relationship between the human-made and the natural world, prompting viewers to consider environmental themes. The serene, almost utopian vision of animals peacefully cohabiting can be interpreted as a commentary on environmental harmony and the hope for a balanced coexistence, aligning with the notion of innovation in response to environmental crisis. —Rebekah Bogard