



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DogEar Festival Returns to BIMA: A FREE Celebration of All Things Related to Artists' Books and Printmaking

Bainbridge Island, WA — Bainbridge Island Museum of Art's (BIMA) popular DogEar Festival returns April 4-6, 2025. DogEar is a vibrant and inspiring celebration of all things related to the unique art forms of Artists' Books and printmaking, open free to the public. The immersive three-day event will once again bring together artists, community, curators, scholars, and creatives for lectures, hands-on printmaking, a whimsical Edible Book "Chompetition," a pop-up print market, a concert with the Bushwick Book Club, and plenty of other live activations and music to keep art-lovers of all ages occupied. This year's festival centerpiece is BIMA's current Artists' Books exhibition, *Power of the Presses*, a sweeping survey of contemporary works that examines the creative potency of printing as a hallowed art form. Festivalgoers will have the opportunity to engage with the many facets of bookmaking as a contemporary art form, and witness firsthand how artists use the printed page as both a medium and a canvas.

The DogEar Festival is held at BIMA, located at 550 Winslow Way E, Bainbridge Island, WA. The festival will run from 5 pm to 8 pm on Friday and 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday and Sunday, offering a variety of activities for attendees of all ages. With the exception of the concert on Friday night, all other activities, exhibitions, and presentations are free. Learn more at www.biartmuseum.org/events/dogear-festival-2025/

Festival Highlights:

- ***Power of the Presses* Exhibition**
All weekend. Free.

Artists, as adaptive creative agents, have long embraced the printing press. *Power of the Presses* is a large-scale group exhibition of artists' books, broadsides, and diverse print works which illuminate the creative potency of this hallowed art form. The exhibition, up

through June 8, includes opportunities for hands-on art making in the gallery.

- **Pull a Print with celebrity printer Amos Kennedy, Jr.**

Friday evening & Saturday day. Free.

Detroit-based Amos Kennedy, Jr. Amos Paul Kennedy Jr. is a printer, book artist, and papermaker best known for social and political commentary, particularly in printed posters. Join Amos in the gallery and pull a print of your own.

- **Lectures by Renowned Artists & Curators**

- **Our Words Are a Reflection of Ourselves**

Saturday, 11:30 am. Free.

Artist Mare Blocker gives a talk in the auditorium, sharing about her community dictionary featured in the *Power of the Presses* exhibition at BIMA.

- **Representing the Under-Represented – Why Artists' Books Matter**

Saturday, 2 pm. Free.

Elizabeth Ajunwa, Director of the Library and Research Center at National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) will share highlights from NMWA. Following, Elizabeth sits down in conversation with Catherine Alice Michaelis, Curator of the Cynthia Sears Artists' Books Collection at BIMA. Interviewing each other, they'll discuss what these two institutions from opposite coasts share and why artists' books are important foundational collections to their respective museums.

- **Jenie Gao: Artists, Communities, and Creativity**

Saturday, 4 pm. Free.

In this talk, Jenie Gao shares their work while exploring the questions: What does it mean to be an ethical storyteller and arts practitioner in an era of misinformation? What are the powers and limitations of artists in stewarding public and shared spaces? What is the artist's responsibility towards cultural literacy? How will community engagement shape the future of towns, cities, and the land?

- **Storytime with Mare**

Sunday, 11 am. Free.

Experience the magic as artist and professor Mare Blocker reads from her artists' books. This special storytime celebrates the book form as both a captivating material object and a powerful democratic tool.

- **Lushootseed Revitalization and Traditional Narratives**

Sunday, 1 pm. Free.

Cassandra George and Joey Holmes of the Suquamish Tribe's Cultural Resources Department's Lushootseed Language Program join us at DogEar for a presentation on the Lushootseed Alphabet and its role in Lushootseed Revitalization, Lushootseed Books, and Traditional Narratives.

- **In concert: The Bushwick Book Club: Artists' Books Edition**

Friday, 7 pm. Ticket required.

An unforgettable evening where music, creativity, and visual art collide! The Bushwick Book Club Seattle presents an innovative performance inspired by the themes and artists' books from *Power of the Presses*, the current exhibition at the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art. The Bushwick Book Club Seattle is a group of musicians dedicated to sharing our combined passion for both music and reading with the Seattle community and beyond. With each performance, a book is chosen and read by our talented Bushwick artists who then write original music inspired by the book they just read.

- **Edible Book "Chompetition"**

Sunday, 11-2 pm. Free, registration required online or on-site.

A festival highlight will be the *Edible Book Competition*, where participants will create edible works of art inspired by books. With five competition categories—Most Book-like, PUNniest, Judge's Choice, People's Choice, and Best Youth Entry—there are plenty of opportunities to win exciting prizes while celebrating creativity and culinary artistry.

- **Hands-on Art Projects & Drop-in Activities**

Visitors of all ages and skill levels will have the opportunity to engage in hands-on art projects, where they can create their own works of book art and printmaking.

- **Make Your Own Mini Photo Book**

Friday, 5-8 pm. Free.

Make your own mini photo book using images from Bainbridge History Museum's EXPOSURE exhibition, and incorporate your personal story by bringing your own photos to include.

- **suq'wabš Suquamish Lushootseed Language Demo on Proofing Press**

Saturday, 11-2 pm. Free.

Join us for this demonstration of the Lushootseed Language using a small proofing press & Lushootseed Typeface. Make a print to take home with you!

- **Screenprinting with The Vera Project**

Saturday, 11-4 pm. Free.

Pull a screenprint on anything you'd like, as long as it can lay flat. Have an old t-shirt, scratched up vinyl record, a canvas tote, or old folder lying around? Bring it in and the Vera Project will help you make it a whole lot cooler. Supplies provided if you come empty-handed.

- **Type It Up!**

Sunday, 1-5 pm. Free.

An interactive, DIY typewriter station where participants can get creative, make some noise, and type up their own words of art!

- **The Printed Matter Market**

All weekend. Free.

Work by regional printers comes together in the museum's lobby. Take home broadsides,

posters, and zines by talented regional artists and printmakers covering a broad spectrum of techniques and styles.

- **St. Rita's Amazing Traveling Bookstore & Textual Apothecary**

All weekend. Free.

St. Rita's Amazing Traveling Bookstore and Textual Apothecary travels all over the country encased in a large van that holds all sorts of fascinating used books for your reading pleasure. Fiction? Biographies? Art? Cookbooks? St. Rita's Amazing Traveling Bookstore has them all. It takes the highways and backroads to bring reading pleasure to fans near and far. You might find this traveling bookstore at a book festival or parked by your favorite cafe, but during BIMA's DogEar festival, you'll find it right outside in the Museum's parking lot.

- **Music, Video, and more!**

All weekend. Free.

Throughout the weekend, deejays and live musicians will pop up in the galleries to set the tone for the festival's vibrant atmosphere. The auditorium, when not in use for a presentation or concert, will feature looping videos about Artists' Books and BIMA's current exhibitions. And the BIMA Bistro and Museum will be ready to help you stay nourished or take home a souvenir of your time at DogEar.

About DogEar Festival

The DogEar Festival is a celebration of the innovative and diverse world of Artists' Books and printmaking. Presented by the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, the festival brings together artists and creatives to explore the rich intersection of literature, visual art, and craftsmanship. DogEar is an inclusive event that offers a platform for both established and emerging artists, fostering creativity, education, and community engagement. DogEar wouldn't be possible without the partnership of Partners in Print, Vera Project, Suquamish Tribe, Bainbridge History Museum, Bushwick Book Club, PublicDisplay.Art, BIMA Prism Fund, Kitsap County, and City of Bainbridge Island.

About Bainbridge Island Museum of Art:

Bainbridge Island Museum of Art inspires curiosity, wonder, and understanding by connecting people with the contemporary art and craft of the Puget Sound region. The art museum exhibits, interprets, preserves, collects, and promotes works of proven cultural value as well as new works by emerging artists and craftspeople.

The art museum is open daily, 10 am to 5 pm. Free admission. BIMA is located in beautiful downtown Bainbridge Island, at the corner of Hwy 305 and Winslow Way, just steps away from the ferry terminal, and with easy access via public transportation or by car from the Kitsap Peninsula.

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