

## Art Speaks: Bucks County

### The Next Step

In August 2007, the Institute of Museum and Library Services awarded a grant to the Michener Art Museum to extend the Art on the Move program into a new program called *Art Speaks: Bucks County*. Building on the successful collaboration between the museum and Intermediate Unit #22, the program will provide a program similar to Art on the Move to teach and display contemporary art in elementary and secondary schools.

Six contemporary works of art will form the new collection, accompanied by a matching curriculum. The new curriculum is the product of a two-week-long Teacher Curriculum-Writing Workshop. During the 2008–2009 school year, and again in 2009–2010, contemporary artists will partner with schools to provide an artist-in-residence program, using different media and expressing different points of view. Students will have the opportunity to display their art at a culminating exhibition to take place at the Michener Art Museum in the spring of 2010.

To extend the curriculum and provide other resources for teaching and utilizing contemporary art, the current website “Michener Kids” will be expanded and made more accessible for classroom use. Ongoing teacher-in-service workshops for Act 48 credit will focus on contemporary art both in the Art on the Move Collection and in the Michener Art Museum’s collection.

Along with the children’s art program will be a free community art project to be created through a Public Art Project. Community groups of varying ages throughout the county will create, under the guidance of an installation artist, parts of the public art collaboration. This project will be part of the 2010 culminating exhibition. Additional public programs will include free public lectures on contemporary art and art education and a junior docent program. Through such public engagement, the Michener Art Museum hopes to create a dialogue among students, teachers, and the community concerning issues related to contemporary art.