



## Media Contacts:

Meredith Hayes  
Tucson Museum of Art  
[Media@TucsonMuseumofArt.org](mailto:Media@TucsonMuseumofArt.org)

Britney Sheehan  
Bank of America  
[britney.w.sheehan@bankofamerica.com](mailto:britney.w.sheehan@bankofamerica.com)

## Warhol Exhibition Comes to Tucson Tucson Museum of Art Presents Iconic Artist's Work

Tucson, AZ – Continuing on its star-studded path of presenting established icons of modern art, the Tucson Museum of Art is bringing the “Pope of Pop” to Southern Arizona. *Andy Warhol Portfolios: Life & Legends* opens to the public on February 27 and will be on view through July 3. It is part of Bank of America’s Art in Our Communities Program.

Andy Warhol is considered one of the leading figures in the Pop art movement and one of the most widely acknowledged artists of the twentieth century. This exhibition features selections from a forty-year span of work in the art of photographic silk-screen printmaking. While many of the works were made in the 1970s and 1980s, their subject matter—iconic people, trends, and issues—reflects Warhol’s decades-long process of mirroring popular American culture. Warhol transforms photographic imagery—from rather mundane still lifes of fruit to portraits of comic characters and endangered species—through color, design, form, and multiples. Due to the infinite possibilities of printmaking, Warhol’s portfolios contain a vast array of techniques, ranging from collage and drawing to the use of diamond dust and color variation.

“Andy Warhol’s timeless works continue to influence American culture to this day, and the pieces featured within this exhibition will reintroduce visitors to distinctive elements of American art that have become standard,” said Julie Sasse, Chief Curator and Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art. “We are thrilled to feature the works of such an iconic artist and grateful to Bank of America for enabling us to share these extraordinary works with the Tucson community.”

Warhol was extremely interested in color. In the 1970s and 1980s, Warhol worked with assistants and printers to create the print portfolios *Sunset*, *Grapes*, *Space Fruit: Still Lifes*, *Ten Portraits of Jews of the Twentieth Century*, *Myths*, *Endangered Species*, and others. The color choices in these series were very important to the artist. For the *Sunset* series, Warhol originally created 632 prints of the sun, each with a different combination of colors. In the *Myths* and *Grapes* series, Warhol used a glittery substance called diamond dust to draw attention to the surface and to create changes in the colors of the prints. In the *Endangered Species* series, he used bright and complementary combinations of colors to draw attention to the animals and their plight. These series make up the exhibition as well as other famous Warhol images of *Marilyn Monroe (Marilyn)*, 1967 from a portfolio of 10 images, and the full portfolio of *Campbell’s Soup II*, 1967.



“Bank of America is committed to strengthening artistic institutions and in turn, the communities we serve,” said Steve Banzhaf, Tucson Market President, Bank of America. “Sharing our collection with the public through partners such as the Tucson Museum of Art not only makes business sense for the bank, but also helps support one of Tucson’s largest museums and a local cultural anchor.”

Through its Art in our Communities program, Bank of America has made its corporate art collection a unique community resource from which museums and nonprofit galleries may borrow complete exhibitions. By providing these exhibitions and the support required to host them, this program helps sustain community engagement and generate vital revenue for the institutions, creating stability in local communities. From 2008-2010, Bank of America will have loaned more than 30 exhibitions to museums in the US and Europe.

Opening concurrently with the Andy Warhol exhibition are the works of two contemporary Southwest artists. *Viva David Tineo! A Retrospective of Tucson’s Muralist and Artist Educator* features a selection of easel paintings, moveable murals, drawings and decorated architectural artifacts from the late 1970s to the present that celebrate Mexican-American culture. *Ed Mell: Paintings of the New West* shows the majestic landscapes of the west with striated clouds stretched over distant mesas which have become his stock-in-trade. Decidedly western in theme and expression, Ed Mell’s name is synonymous with the desert southwest.

The Tucson Museum of Art is also a participant in Bank of America’s Museums on Us® program, which offers Bank of America cardholders free admission to the Museum on the first full weekend of each month, as well as more than 120 cultural institutions across the country. Museum patrons can simply show their Bank of America card, along with a photo I.D., for free admission. For more information on Museums On Us®, please visit [www.bankofamerica.com/museums](http://www.bankofamerica.com/museums).

### **ABOUT THE TUCSON MUSEUM OF ART**

Embracing the traditional with the inventive, the Tucson Museum of Art presents exhibitions with a focus on Art of the American West, Asian Art, Latin American Art, and Modern and Contemporary Art, and boasts a permanent collection of more than 8,000 works. The Historic Block features five distinctive houses built between c.1850 and 1907 that provide a unique look into Tucson’s past. The Museum is open Tuesday – Saturday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm and Sunday 12:00 noon – 5:00 pm. The first Sunday of each month is free. It is located at 140 North Main Avenue in historic downtown Tucson.

### **BANK OF AMERICA AND THE ARTS**

Bank of America is a major supporter of the arts and heritage of the United States. The program represents a combination of responsible business practices with good corporate citizenship. As a financial institution, Bank of America is accountable for serving its shareholders, customers, associates, and the communities it serves. The bank’s support of the arts and arts-related nonprofit organizations is an effective way to serve stakeholders, in the short term, by driving positive business results through support of local economies. Over the long term, this support helps fuel innovation, drive the nation’s progress and shape its future.

Through its unique program, Bank of America shares exhibits from its corporate collection with the community through museum partners as part of its Art in Our Communities Program. Bank of America also offers customers free access to some of the nation’s finest cultural institutions through the acclaimed



**TUCSON MUSEUM of ART**  
AND HISTORIC BLOCK

Museums on Us® program. In addition, the Bank of America Charitable Foundation provides strategic philanthropic support to museums, theaters and other arts-related nonprofits to benefit underserved populations and increase access to the arts.

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