

NEWS RELEASE



Montclair Art Museum

3 South Mountain Ave., Montclair, NJ 07042
973-746-5555 | montclairartmuseum.org

For Immediate Release

Media Contacts

Michael Gillespie, 973-259-5134

mgillespie@montclairartmuseum.org

Raechel Lutz, 973-259-5119

rlutz@montclairartmuseum.org

**THE MONTCLAIR ART MUSEUM PRESENTS
*OF MANY COLORS: PORTRAITS OF MULTIRACIAL FAMILIES***

On Display September 24–November 17, 2010

MONTCLAIR, NJ, September 10, 2010 – The Montclair Art Museum will host *Of Many Colors: Portraits of Multiracial Families*, a touring photo-text display created by the award-winning Family Diversity Projects of Amherst, Massachusetts. The show will be on view September 24–November 17, 2010, in the Children’s Arcade, on the first floor of the Museum.

We have all encountered the standard demographic survey with its instructions to “Check one: African-American, Hispanic, White,” and so on. But for those who do not fall neatly into any of these categories, there is only the least inclusive, most alienating category – “Other.” To spotlight and celebrate the ever-growing diversity of the American family, photographer Gigi Kaeser and writer Peggy Gillespie, Amherst, Mass., have created this ambitious, award-winning exhibition. *Of Many Colors* has visited universities, public schools (K-12), houses of worship, community centers, galleries, museums, and conferences since 1994. *Of Many Colors* tells the stories of 20 families who have bridged the racial divide through interracial relationships or adoption. In a world where race is considered by many to be a formidable barrier between people, the families in this exhibition are celebrated as 20th-century pioneers willing to risk disapproval and misunderstanding to find richness and value in diversity. These families have much to say about the most intimate form of integration: family love.

The book, *Of Many Colors*, has been published by the University of Massachusetts Press

—more—

(with a foreword by *Teaching Tolerance* magazine editor Glenda Valentine). The book includes complete text and photographs of over 20 families along with a comprehensive diversity resource guide. Internet browsers can view images, interviews, and other information about the *Of Many Colors* exhibition and book at www.familydiv.org.

About the Museum

The Montclair Art Museum, a notable, community-based institution with an international reputation, boasts a renowned collection of American and Native American art that uniquely highlights art making in the United States over the last three hundred years. The collection includes more than 12,000 objects: paintings, prints, original works on paper, photographs, and sculpture by American artists from the 18th century to the present, as well as traditional and contemporary Native American art and artifacts representing the cultural developments of peoples from all of the major American Indian regions. MAM's Yard School of Art is the leading regional art school, offering a multitude of comprehensive courses for children, youth, adults, seniors, and professional artists.

The Montclair Art Museum is located at 3 South Mountain Avenue in Montclair, N.J. Information and directions are available on the Museum website, montclairartmuseum.org, or by calling 973-746-5555. MAM is open Wednesdays through Sundays, Noon – 5 p.m., and closed on Mondays, Tuesdays, and major holidays. Museum admission is \$12 for nonmember adults, \$10 for senior citizens and students with I.D., and free for members and children under 12.

All Museum programs are made possible, in part, by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and by funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Vance Wall Foundation, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, and Museum Members.

###