DAUM MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

What: Daum Escape Professional Development and VTS Practicum, Thursday, October 8, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.
Daum Escape, October 12–December 18, 2026.

Where: Daum Museum of Contemporary Art, State Fair Community College, Sedalia, Missouri

Deadline: Registration for the **Professional Development Day** is requested by Friday, October 2, 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 12 and December 18**. This *free* educational program, now in its twenty-first 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 8**. (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,

Elena Sofia Raineri

Elena Sofia Raineri
Museum Educator and Engagement Manager

Registration Form

Daum Escape - October 12 –December 18, 2026
Professional Development Day - Thursday, October 8, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

Name _____

School _____

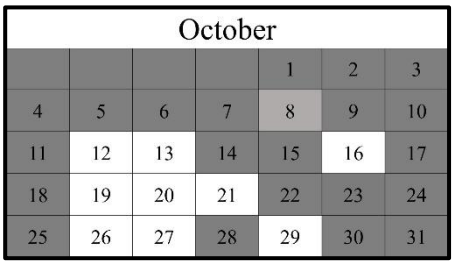
Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

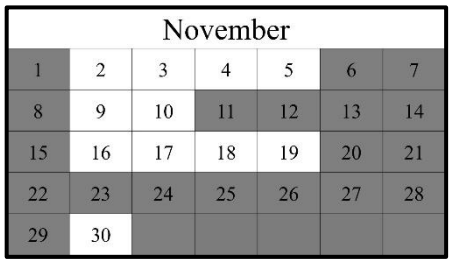
Phone _____ e-mail _____

□ **Yes! I want to participate in the Professional Development Day on October 8 from 9 a.m.–3 p.m.***

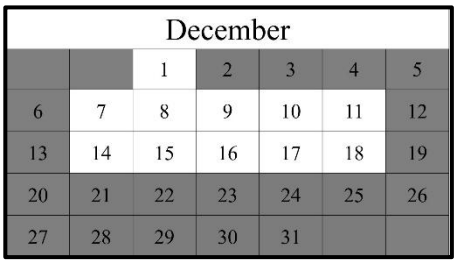
Please mark the date on which you want to bring your students to the Daum Museum of Contemporary Art for the Daum Escape. Available dates are shown below. Please specify your **first, second, and third preferences**.



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	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
https://www.daummuseum.org/learn/daum-escape/
or
e-mail: elenasofiaraineri@daummuseum.org

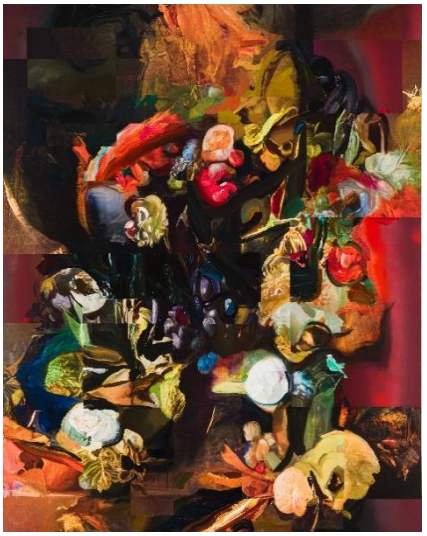
*Registration is requested by October 2, but late registration will be accepted until the workshop is full
**A minimum of three-weeks' notice is needed to use the Parkhurst Student Commons for lunch

Professional Development Day
October 8, 2026, 9 a.m.–3 p.m., Daum Museum

The day will include a pre- and post-educational packet focusing on the works in *Cross-Pollination* and *Bede Clarke: King's Highway,* and VTS Practicum.

Cross-Pollination
September 18, 2026–February 28, 2027





Left to right: Kate Clements (American, b. 1989), *Blue Hydrangea*, 2019; Kiln-fired glass; 84" x 45", Courtesy of the artist; Heidi Carlsen-Rogers (American, b. 1968), *Gather (Sacred Conversation),* 2022; thread, hand-dyed cottton cord, 80" x 152" x 10", Courtesy of the artist; Tiffany Calvert (American, b. 1978), *487*, 2025; Oil on water-based latex print on canvas, 60" x 48", Courtesy of the artist.

Cross-Pollination brings together works from the museum's permanent collection with significant loans by invited contemporary artists to explore the interconnected relationships that shape the natural world. Across generations, media, and artistic perspectives, the exhibition considers nature not as a static subject, but as a dynamic network of exchange in which every encounter has the potential to transform what follows.

The phenomenon of cross-pollination offers both a biological process and a curatorial framework. As butterflies, bees, birds, and wind carry pollen between plants, they sustain biodiversity through movement and connection. Likewise, the works assembled in this exhibition generate new meaning through proximity. Historical works from the Daum Museum's collection enter into conversation with contemporary practices, creating moments of resonance that extend beyond chronology and reveal the collection as an evolving body of ideas.

Working across painting, photography, sculpture, textiles, and installation, the artists engage recurring themes of growth, migration, adaptation, fragility, and resilience. Plants and pollinators appear throughout the exhibition as enduring symbols of interdependence, reminding us that life flourishes through relationships rather than isolation. These ecological systems become a lens through which to consider artistic influence, cultural memory, and the continual exchange between past and present.

Cross-Pollination invites visitors to experience the museum as an ecosystem where works of art, like living organisms, exist within a web of connections that expands with every new encounter. The temporary presence of invited artists does not stand apart from the permanent collection, but activates it, allowing ideas to circulate across time and media. Together, these works reflect the vitality of nature itself, demonstrating that renewal emerges through diversity, dialogue, and the continual movement of ideas.

Bede Clarke: King's Highway
September 18, 2026–February 28, 2027



Left to right: Bede Clarke (American, b. 1956), *Composition 3*, 2025; Glazed earthenware, 10" x 13" x 1.5", Courtesy of the artist; Bede Clarke (American, b. 1956), *Grow*, 2025; Glazed earthenware, 6" x 6" x 2", Courtesy of the artist; Bede Clarke (American, b. 1956), *Inside*, 2020; Mixed media, 17" x 16.5" x 1.5", Courtesy of the artist; Bede Clarke (American, b. 1956), *King's Highway*, 2023; Glazed earthenware, 7.5" x 6.5" x 1.5", Courtesy of the artist.

The Daum Museum of Contemporary Art presents ***Bede Clarke: King's Highway***, on view September 18, 2026, through February 28, 2027. Bringing together ceramics and works on paper, the exhibition examines Clarke's enduring exploration of the vessel, drawing, and the expressive potential of the handmade mark.

For more than four decades, Clarke has investigated the relationship between form, surface, and touch. While the vessel remains central to his practice, his work extends beyond traditional ceramics through an ongoing dialogue with drawing, color, and gesture. The resulting works record both the physical act of making and the quiet rhythms that shape the creative process.

Clarke describes his practice as one guided by touch and by an intuitive response to both material and process: "I think I have always cast a wide net in terms of my exploration of clay. Pots and the vessel have held the center but there has been a strong overlay of interest in drawing, color and leaving a trace of the hand. I navigate both the clay and drawing with an emphasis on 'touch' and a felt response to the materials and to my own inner rhythms and sensibilities. I am guided by a dialogue with the work and find myself in agreement when it speaks in a voice that has commitment and conviction, but also the allure of mystery and enigma. I am always most pleased when the work strikes a balance between wildness and restraint. Through all this work I am most interested in distinguishing the record, the moment of the hand touching clay, and the actual quality of feeling surrounding the work."

The exhibition highlights Clarke's sustained interest in balancing spontaneity with restraint, allowing each object to embody both the evidence of its making and a sense of quiet contemplation. Through layered surfaces, expressive line, and carefully considered form, ***King's Highway*** invites viewers to consider clay as both a material and a record of human experience.

Bede Clarke is Professor Emeritus at the University of Missouri-Columbia, where he taught ceramics from 1992 to 2021. He received an MFA from the University of Iowa and a BFA from Eckerd College. His work is represented in museum collections throughout the United States and internationally, including the Daum Museum of Contemporary Art, the Taipei County Yingge Ceramics Museum, the Icheon World Ceramic Center, the South Bend Museum of Art, the Martin Museum of Art, and the Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art. Clarke lives and works in Columbia, Missouri.