Newcomb Art Museum at Tulane named one of nation’s best

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Barri Bronston bbronst@tulane.edu

While widely known for its significant collection of Newcomb pottery, Newcomb Art Museum today focuses on contemporary exhibitions and programs that explore innovative art and design. (Photo by Miriam Taylor)

For the third consecutive year, the Newcomb Art Museum at Tulane University has been named the Best Gallery or Museum in Louisiana and one of the 25 best in the United States.

The American Art Awards honored Newcomb Art Museum because of its “profound legacy of education, social enterprise and artistic experience. Their exhibitions routinely awe, inspire and engage students and visitors. This is a rare art institution which has focused on the contributions of women to the fields of art and design.”

Every spring, the AAA board chooses one museum or gallery per state to honor, and its selections are based on such factors as industry reputation, online buzz, location and size, socially relevant exhibitions and motivational and educational programs.

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“We are thrilled that the American Art Awards recognizes our vision and contributions to our region,” said Monica Ramirez-Montagut, museum director. “For the last four years, Newcomb Art Museum has been consistently envisioning and implementing ambitious exhibitions by some of the best contemporary artists working today while also addressing themes that are incredibly relevant to our immediate communities.”

The museum rotates its exhibitions seasonally, having presented group art exhibitions from underserved communities such as Puerto Rico and women from Aboriginal Australia as well as acclaimed artists including Mickalene Thomas, KAWS, Diana Al-Hadid, Kate Clark, Andrea Dezsö, Amy Ellingson, Dee Briggs, Anne Vieux and Brittany Nelson along with Newcomb-connected artists Ida Kohlmeyer and Lynda Benglis.

Honoring the legacy of Newcomb College, the museum regularly presents shows that recognize the artistic contributions of women. In addition, the museum maintains the world’s largest collection of Newcomb arts and crafts including outstanding examples of pottery, embroidery, bound books and metalwork.

Along with its exhibitions, the museum regularly holds community programs and events such as artist and author lectures, film screenings, family days, public exhibition and collection tours, performances, studio demonstrations and craft workshops.