

Farm House Museum to Feature Women's Domestic Artistries in Spring Exhibition

AMES, IOWA – Feb. 3, 2025 – The impact of women on historical craft traditions during the Civil War and Victorian Era will be explored in the new exhibition set to open today, Feb. 3rd at the Farm House Museum, University Museums, Iowa State University..



Female artistic production and tradition

Women's Domestic Artistries features arts and crafts produced by women between 1860 and 1910 and explores the long history of artistic production and tradition. Themes surrounding creativity, expression, history of gender norms and the identity of women as leaders in the creation of objects for home decoration, commemoration and art will be shared in the exhibition.

"This exhibition provides a rich history of the role women played in artistic production," said Allison Sheridan, curator of the Farm House Museum. "While the domestic artistries of women might be easily overlooked in our history, or the makers remain anonymous, the relevance of their impact on our lives continues today. With unique exhibition programs, including a 2-hour hair art workshop, we're excited for this portion of art history to be accessible to all."

The exhibition highlights over 100 objects, domestic artistries produced by women from 1860 through 1910 including quilting, seed art, mourning art, illustration, cooking, sewing, pottery, painting, taxidermy and more through primary source objects from the permanent collection. In addition, sources of inspiration for women often came from women's magazines and periodicals of the time, several of which are featured throughout the exhibition.

This exhibition is organized by the University Museums with assistance from past and current Farm House Museum interns Gracia Kohle, Alyssa Beltman, Kiera Olerich, Nicole Soriano, and Rachel Hellman. Funding for this exhibition and related programming is generously provided by Carol Pletcher. This exhibition will run through October 2025.

For a complete list of the programs and events that correspond with this exhibition, visit the University Museums website or click [here](#).



Featured Events

Hair in the Home: Tracing hairwork's trajectory from professional service to domestic craft

Thursday, February 13, 2025, 6:00 - 7:00 pm (US Central) (on Zoom)

Victorian Hair Art Workshop: Crafting a hair flower keepsake

Sunday, February 27, 2025, 2:00 - 4:00 pm (US Central) (on Zoom)

Victorian Date Night at Farm House Museum

Friday, April 18, 2025, 5:00 - 8:00 pm (US Central)

Farm House Museum, 601 Farm House Lane



Visit the Farm House Museum

Hours

Monday-Friday, noon to 4:00 pm

*Closed Saturday, Sunday and University
Holidays and breaks*

Location

601 Farm House Lane, Ames, Iowa. Parking is fee-based and located in the East Parking Deck or the Memorial Union Ramp. There is limited vehicle access to Osborne Drive and Farm House Lane from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. Should you need to access these roads during these times to visit the Farm House Museum, please call the office at 515-294-3342 ahead of your visit to receive instructions.

Images:

Header: Detail of crazy quilt, 1895. United States. Wool and cotton. Gift of Ann Cackler. In the Farm House Museum Collection, Farm House Museum, University Museums, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. 92.6.1

Crazy quilt, 1895. United States. Wool and cotton. Gift of Ann Cackler. In the Farm House Museum Collection, Farm House Museum, University Museums, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. 92.6.1

Example of hair art.

Exterior of Farm House Museum.



About University Museums

During 2024 through 2025, University Museums is celebrating its 50 year anniversary with special events, exhibitions, acquisitions, projects, historic preservation, conservation and more.



**American
Alliance of
Museums**

University Museums, accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, is a distinctive organization that encompasses two art museums, a National Historic Landmark historic home museum, a sculpture garden, and one of the largest campus public art collections in the nation. University Museums brings world-class exhibitions with educational programming to Iowa State University, actively acquires works of art to add to the more than 30,000 permanent collection objects, conserves and preserves collections, conducts and publishes curatorial scholarship, and fosters student engagement.

Media Information

For information regarding exhibition, image use, and outreach, contact Allison Sheridan, University Museums by phone at 515-294-3342 or via email at aclone@iastate.edu.



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