

## THE PERMANENT COLLECTION Lake Eustis Museum of Art



*“Permanent collection” is a term describing art owned by a museum, generally in perpetuity. Some collections are comprehensive, like the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC, and many others are eclectic or selective in terms of artistic style, manner, period, ethnic origin or other discriminating factors.*

In 1995, sixty-six artists and patrons of the arts established Lake Eustis Center of the Arts in an 1881 store front on Bay Street in the heart of historic downtown Eustis, with a mission to nurture culture through visual art. Museum founders decided to rename the institution the Lake Eustis Museum of Art, pledged to exhibit fine art, while establishing a Permanent Collection. The first exhibitor, Mollie Manulkin, donated 18 paintings of Australian Aborigines as a cornerstone of the collection. Seven of these works are in this present exhibition.

Soon the art museum offered exhibitions, art events, children's art programs, adult field trips to other museums and an annual outdoor art festival, discontinued in winter 2008. Membership grew along with the roster of dedicated volunteers. The need for more space brought relocation across the street from Eustis City Hall in 2004.

2009 and 2010 saw dramatic development of a key element in LEMA's mission, the Permanent Collection, with the addition of fine art works by many of the exhibitors. Much of the credit for these acquisitions goes to then executive director Susan Loden.

In November of 2012 LEMA moved to its current location on Lake Eustis. The PC has continued to grow with significant artworks, including pieces by Josh Garrick, Barbara Maxwell, Brenda Heim, and others.

This exhibition celebrates the work of all those who built and contributed to the collection.