# O'BRIEN ART FOUNDATION



## SUMMER 2026 UPDATES

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We know summer is a time for rest, but for us it's been a time of exciting growth.

In New York, the **Initiatives in Art & Culture 30th Annual American Art Conference** delivered an exceptional program engaging some of the most respected scholars advancing our field. We also have updates from a private brunch with the **American Federation of Arts** about their sponsorship of the touring exhibition ***Atelier 17 at 100: A Century of Modernist Printmaking***.

Below you will find more on these stories as well as exhibition reviews, announcements, and newly-published insights on featured artworks by **Carl W. Peters** (written by our Research Intern, Elizabeth Marshall) and **Ida Abelman**.

We hope you enjoy reading about some of the initiatives shaping our cultural landscape and please stay tuned for a major announcement coming from the Foundation in the months ahead!

Yours,

Marty O'Brien
President



EXHIBITIONS

### Delaware Art Museum opening: *Citizen Artist*

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SCHOLARSHIP

### Initiatives in Art & Culture 30th Annual American Art Conference

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TRAVELOGUE

### American Federation of Art's modernist printmaking salon

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LENDING

### *Things to Come: OUTLINES, 1941–1947*

Featuring several works on loan from the O'Brien Art Foundation, this exhibition revisits the history and impact of Outlines, a pioneering gallery of modern art, design, film, and performance active in Pittsburgh between 1941 and 1947.

**On view at Romance, Pittsburgh through August 29, 2026.**

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FEATURED ARTWORK

### *Elm Street, Rochester NY*

Carl W. Peters was a regional American artist whose work reflects a sustained engagement with place, community, and the cultural identity of upstate New York in the early twentieth century. Marking a transition from the rural landscapes of his earlier career to urban subject matter, this painting reflects Peters's attention to the structures and rhythms of city life during the Great Depression.

This Featured Artwork was authored by our Research Intern, Elizabeth Marshall (M.A. Candidate, Arts Management, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA).

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FEATURED ARTWORK

### *Via Northwestern*

Ida Abelman's psychologically charged lithograph recalls the artist's travels on the Northwestern Railroad. Active as a printmaker, painter, and muralist in New York during the 1930s, Abelman became closely associated with the Federal Art Project (FAP), through which she produced a significant body of graphic work shaped by the social and economic upheavals of the period.

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*The O'Brien Art Project Foundation (DBA O'Brien Art Foundation is a charitable organization under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Foundation is located in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania area. We are dedicated to the preservation, understanding, and appreciation of American Art beyond the accepted canon.*

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