



*Celebrating Maine's role in American art*

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Winter Hours: Wednesday through Sunday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.,  
Admission Prices: Members free. Adults \$12; Seniors \$10; Students age 17 and over \$10; Children 16 and under and Rockland residents free.  
Museum Store Hours: 7 days a week – 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

## **NYC Auction for Farnsworth Art Museum's Andrew Wyeth Memorial Endowment Campaign a Resounding Success**

(New York City, NY) On Monday, November 29 at the Adelson Galleries in New York City, well-wishers and bidders packed the East 82nd Street gallery for an auction of museum-quality art works to benefit the Farnsworth Art Museum's Andrew Wyeth Memorial Endowment. Twelve pieces, contributed by individuals specifically for the auction, were sold at the event. The evening's highlight was the sale of Jamie Wyeth's early work, *Portrait of Andrew Wyeth*, which fetched an impressive \$2.4 million, a record amount for a Jamie Wyeth painting. The live auction was preceded by a high-profile reception celebrating the life and artistic legacy of Andrew Wyeth, which attracted attendees including famed artist Jamie Wyeth and his wife Phyllis, antiques expert Leigh Keno and David Rockefeller, Sr.

“This auction represented a major step towards funding our Andrew Wyeth Memorial Endowment,” commented Farnsworth Art Museum Director Christopher J. Brownawell. “The campaign is now well on its way, and this speaks volumes for the amount of support the Farnsworth continues to attract on the national scene, as well as the quality of the Farnsworth collection. Our whole team would like to thank Phyllis Wyeth and her husband Jamie for their leadership role in this important campaign, the Adelson Galleries for having organized this exhibition and auction and, of course, all those who so generously donated works, including Paige Rense Noland, who donated five works of art in support of this important endowment campaign.”

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Launched in September 2009, the Farnsworth's Andrew Wyeth Memorial Endowment campaign will support the maintenance and operation of four of the Farnsworth Art Museum's properties: the Olson House in Cushing, Maine, and the Wyeth Center, Wyeth Study Center and Wyeth Research Center in Rockland, Maine. The Farnsworth Art Museum began acquiring works by art world legend Andrew Wyeth in advance of its 1948 opening, and now is proud to own more than 60 works by members of the Wyeth family.

**About the Farnsworth Art Museum:**

The Farnsworth Art Museum celebrates Maine's ongoing role in American art. It offers a nationally recognized collection of works from many of America's greatest artists, with 20,000 square feet of gallery space and over 10,000 works in the collection. The Farnsworth has one of the largest public collections of work by 20th-century sculptor Louise Nevelson, while its Wyeth Center features works of N.C., Andrew and Jamie Wyeth. Julia's Gallery for Young Artists and two National Register historic sites, the Farnsworth Homestead and the Olson House, complete the museum complex. Please visit [www.farnsworthmuseum.org](http://www.farnsworthmuseum.org) for more information on current exhibitions, programs and events.



**Pictured at the Nov. 29 auction in New York City are (L to R): Farnsworth Chief Curator Michael K. Komanecky, Nicholas Wyeth, James Wyeth and Farnsworth Director Christopher J. Brownawell.**