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# Illinois Wesleyan University

November 12, 1996

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### Buildings and Landscapes IWU's Sheean Library Hosts Traveling Exhibit of Artworks from Kansas State University; Exhibit Runs Until Nov. 29

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Buildings and Landscapes, an exhibit of 22 woodcuts, photos, lithographs, oil paintings, and other artworks exploring the visual relationship between the natural and built environments, is on display at Illinois Wesleyan University's Sheean Library through Nov. 29.

Buildings and Landscapes is the first traveling exhibit hosted by Sheean Library.

The exhibit features artworks from many famed artists, including Claes Oldenburg, Robert Cottingham, Gordon Parks, Thomas Hart Benton, John Steuart Curry, and Grant Wood.

Mid-America Arts Alliance, an exhibit sponsor, points out that the exhibit's "images of buildings in the context of urban and rural settings invite viewers to understand that buildings do not exist without landscape.

"Comparison of the selections," the arts alliance added, "reveals the extraordinary variety of means the artists have employed to record their interpretations of the built and natural environment."

A brochure describing the exhibit notes: "Many of the works in Buildings and Landscapes reveal the subtle beauty of the American Midwest. Unlike the spectacular panoramas of majestic mountains or stormy oceans, the pastoral charm of America's heartland is interpreted by artists native to the area who are most familiar with its rolling hills and expansive prairies."

Buildings and Landscapes is organized by the Beach Museum, Kansas State University, > Manhattan Kans., and toured by ExhibitsUSA.

The purpose of ExhibitsUSA is to create access to an array of arts and humanities exhibitions, nurture the development and understanding of diverse cultural life in local communities.

ExhibitsUSA, a national division of Mid-America Arts Alliance, is sponsored by the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund. Additional support is provided to ExhibitsUSA by the H&R Block Foundation, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, Samuel H. Kress Foundation, Phillips Petroleum Foundation, and Union Pacific Foundation.

Mid-America Arts Alliance is assisted by its six partner state agencies, the National Endowment for the Arts, and private contributors.

For more information about the exhibit, contact: Jane Chamberlain, information services librarian, at 309/556-3770.

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### NEWS RELEASE

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