June 11, 2014

Summer is truly beautiful at Cranbrook, a time when we can literally stop and smell the roses right outside Cranbrook House! As the warm breeze sweeps across campus, through the many open doors and windows, we can take a brief moment to reflect on the incredible list of milestones we were able to celebrate this past year, and look with anticipation towards the start of another exciting year.

I hope all of you have a well-deserved, relaxing summer. Whether you’re traveling afar, staying at the cottage, or spending time in a nearby garden, please accept best wishes and thanks from all of us at Cranbrook. We’re grateful for your involvement in our special community.

I’d also like to personally invite you to visit Cranbrook with your family and friends this summer. Now that we can finally stop sleeping with our snow shovels, our campus is full of attractions and activities for you and your guests to enjoy all summer long.

Five new summer exhibitions are opening at the Cranbrook Art Museum on June 20. I’m particularly excited about the installation, “Warhol on Vinyl,” an exhibition of album covers designed by Andy Warhol from the late 1940’s until the late 1980’s. A series of covers that have never been on display will be part of this unique exhibition, as well as listening booths that invite you to enjoy select tracks of music. These album covers were recently donated to us by Academy of Art Governor (and Museum Committee Chair) Frank M. Edwards and his wife Ann M. Williams. This show is not to be missed!

At Cranbrook Institute of Science, a wide range of summer camps are available for younger visitors, and the Acheson Planetarium and Institute Observatory will be open for astronomy programs and more. A series of special science activities are planned throughout the summer, with something for your whole family to enjoy. And, mark your calendars now for mid-September when National Geographic’s, “Women of Vision” makes its Midwest debut at CIS.

It goes without saying that summer is the perfect time to visit Cranbrook House and Gardens. After such a long winter, strolling through our magical gardens on a warm summer day holds especially strong appeal this year. I visited the gardens last week and they are looking wonderful! Cranbrook House is also open for tours, starting with free admission for dads on Father’s Day. If you have not been through the Booth’s historic home in a few years, I encourage you to take a moment to reconnect with this special part of our community’s history. Of course, Saarinen House tours are up and running for the summer and the Center for Collections and Research is sponsoring tours of the nearby Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Smith House, which Wright called “my little gem.”

Finally, after another extraordinary academic year, Cranbrook Schools are offering a full slate of some of the best summer camps in the Midwest. From literature to robotics to camps for young learners, there’s something for every interest. I urge you to act quickly, though, as all Cranbrook camps are nearing capacity. Please see the Cranbrook website for more details and registration information on not only the camps at the Schools and Institute, but also the art camps for teens and younger students at the Art Museum.
I want to thank each of you again for all you have done for the Cranbrook Community. Whether you’re a Cranbrook parent, alum, member, donor, visitor, faculty, or staff member, Cranbrook is stronger and more successful because of you. As our year draws to a close, I hope you are as excited as I am for next year…after a welcome, warm summer rest, that is!

Sincerely,

Dom

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P.S. No matter where you’re enjoying this summer from, be sure to follow the Cranbrook Educational Community on our new Facebook and Twitter pages! We have posted photos from recent events, including the President’s Award for Excellence, the Founders Award, the visit from the Korean Ambassadors to Cranbrook, and more updates are coming soon!

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