

Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art

FALL 2013



Staff

- Linda Duke, *Director*
- Theresa Bembnister, *Associate Curator*
- Luke Dempsey, *Collections Manager Assistant*
- Kelsey Longpine, *Museum Operations Assistant*
- Cindi Morris, *Assistant Director for Operations*
- Sonja Pantillion, *Security*
- Sarah Price, *Registrar/Collections Manager*
- Adrienne Russell, *Public Programs Coordinator*
- Kathrine Walker Schlageck, *Senior Educator*
- Martha Scott, *Business Manager*
- Elizabeth Seaton, *Curator*
- Lindsay Smith, *Exhibitions Designer*
- Anthony Whetstone, *Maintenance*

On the cover:

Orval F. Hempler, title unknown (sculptural painting), ceramic, K-State, Beach Museum of Art, bequest of Orval F. Hempler Estate. Now on view in the "Museum of Wonder" exhibition.

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Linda Duke, Director

Over the busy summer months a number of exciting developments unfolded either at or on behalf of the Beach Museum of Art. Following are some of the highlights:

The museum's collection went live online (details page 10).

The first K-State Arts Adventure trip to San Francisco and wine country was a resounding success! Nineteen of us, including McCain director Todd Holmberg, KSU Foundation development director Tracy Robinson, museum staffer Richard Prudenti and me, packed great experiences with visual art, architecture, performing arts, wine, and fine dining into four intense days amid beautiful scenery, as shown in the photos below.

The Meadow, a garden of native prairie plants, got its start just north of the museum. Its meandering pathways have been laid out, an army of volunteers has prepared the ground and planted seeds and plugs, and temporary benches are being designed and built by students. This project represents an impressive collaboration among community volunteers, various university departments, and the museum. (photos page 9).

Looking to the fall semester, we anticipate one of the most exciting parties ever held in the name of the Beach Museum of Art when the Friends host their annual gala at the museum on the evening of September 20. See the Beach Museum as you've never seen it before!

Lastly, plan to stop by the museum on Thursday evenings this fall. We'll be open until 8 p.m. on those days, offering talks, performances and, of course, art encounters you won't forget. As the days get shorter, look for the welcoming glow of the Chihuly sculpture in our window and come on in.

All best wishes,
Linda Duke, Director

Scenes from the first K-State Arts Adventure trip to San Francisco and California wine country.



EXHIBITIONS



Isidore Jules Bohneur, (France, 1827-1901), *The Spoor Trophy*, cast ca. 1930, bronze, wood, brass. Courtesy Kansas State University Department of Animal Sciences and Industry

Museum of Wonder *and* Library of Wonder

February 12 – October 13, 2013 — Marion Pelton and Hyle Family Galleries

The “Museum of Wonder,” celebrating the sesquicentennial of Kansas State University, has been an adventure. Over the past year, Beach Museum of Art staff undertook an extensive campaign to unearth objects of wonder from across campus. Coordinating with faculty and staff from a variety of departments, these objects were assembled into a provocative installation that has piqued the curiosity of visitors and encouraged us to dig deeper into the stories behind these unique works of art and historic materials. We have learned about treasures such as *The Spoor Trophy*, designed by the Parisian artist Isidore Jules Bonheur. This trophy became the property of Kansas State University in 1938 after the livestock judging team won the National Collegiate Livestock Judging Contest for the third consecutive year at the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago.

This exhibition was conceived to offer interesting viewing experiences, provoke discussion, and encourage return visits. Twelve new objects have been added for the fall, including three hand-built tables by Interior Architecture Planning and Design students, nine objects from the museum collection, and one volume of the beautifully illuminated Saint John’s Bible, Heritage Edition, from the Special Collections Department at Hale Library.

The “Library of Wonder,” presented in partnership with K-State Libraries, is filled with an array of artifacts, art objects and books on subjects from the scientific to the fantastical.

Related events

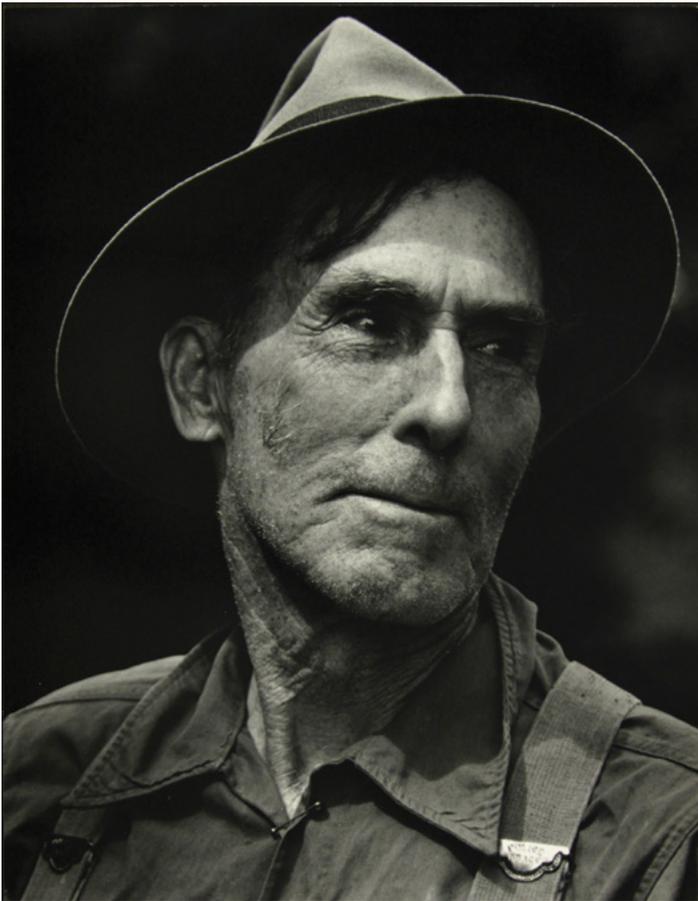
Margaret Wertheim: Making Space,
109 Justin Hall
September 12, 7 p.m.

Behind the Scenes: “Library of Wonder,” Hale Library’s Hemisphere Room
September 26, 5:30 p.m.

School Day Off Workshop
September 27, 1-2:30 p.m.

Holophusicon: The Leverian Museum
October 3, 6 p.m.

“Museum of Wonder” Farewell Weekend
October 5 and 6



Related events

Gallery Walk: Pure Photography
October 16, 5:30 p.m.

Early Release Workshop
November 13, 3-4:30 p.m.

◀ W. Eugene Smith, American 1918- 1978,
untitled, n.d., silver gelatin print on paper

Pure Photography: Pictorial and Modern Photographs

August 27 – November 24, 2013 — Donna Lindsay Vanier Gallery

The idea that photography could express emotions and abstract ideas gained momentum in the 1880s, countering the broadly accepted notion that photographs merely reproduce accurate representations of their subjects. With a painterly, romantic aesthetic, the pictorial movement emerged as a way for photographers to create imaginative works of art. Soft-focus lenses and intensive printing processes allowed artists to mimic brushstrokes, eliminate sharpness, and create rich tones.

Although pictorialism lingered into the 1930s, the concept of photography as art continued to evolve. As society and technology changed, so did the photographic medium. A new style, termed pure or straight photography, emphasized recreating a scene as truthfully as possible, while also capturing tonal variations or abstract forms. Ideas and aesthetics from modern painting and sculpture influenced photography, leading to collage-like compositions and shifting

spatial relations. Modern photographers focused on commonly overlooked details of everyday life, such as the shadow on a door jamb or the view of a city skyline. Developments in photomechanical reproduction made the camera a powerful tool for disseminating ideas to a mass audience, and gave artists the opportunity for creative expression while supporting themselves financially by photographing celebrities, everyday scenes, or historical events for magazines and newspapers.

The photographs in this exhibition span the first half of the 20th century, demonstrating a wide swath of artistic styles which reflect the changing ideas, attitudes and technological tools of artists behind the lens and in the darkroom. This exhibition is organized by the Syracuse University Art Galleries, New York.



Related events

**Opening reception
for “Life is Brief,
Art is Forever”
September 6, 5 – 7 p.m.**

< Ina Annett, *The Three Wise Men*, 1940, linoleum cut on paper. K-State, Beach Museum of Art, gift of John, Susan, and Johnny Watt, in memory of Sarah Katherine Watt

Life is Brief, Art is Forever: Selections from the Sarah Watt Memorial Collection

September 6 – December 22, 2013 — Ruth Ann Wefald Gallery

“One original deserves another.” Artist Charles Stroh wrote these words on a card accompanying a print he gave to close friends John and Susan Watt when their daughter, Sarah, was born in 1982.

Sarah Katherine Watt died as the result of a car accident in 2006. Since then John and Susan have made biannual donations of art to the museum as a way of honoring the spirit of their daughter. These works have been compiled into a memorial collection, with additional contributions by Susan’s brothers and Stroh, former chair of Kansas State University’s Department of Art. Selections from this collection, including some of the works Sarah loved, appear in this exhibition.

Sarah attended K-State with an initial interest in studying architecture — inspired in part by her discovery of the architectural prints of American artist John Taylor Arms. She later changed her major to life sciences with a minor in entomology, a reflection of her love of insects. From an early age, Sarah demonstrated a compassion for

the natural world and its creatures. One of her greatest passions was for horses. As a girl, she developed an attachment to a horse-themed print, *The Race* by Thomas Hart Benton.

Sarah’s deep interest in the Beach Museum of Art began even before she was a student at K-State. She guided friends and acquaintances through exhibitions, becoming an unofficial ambassador for the museum. Sarah rode freely during her short life and, in this sense and many others, she was a true “original.” The gifts given to this museum in her memory are part of her legacy and will forever remind visitors of her open mind and positive impact on the world.

John and Susan Watt, Wamego, KS, collect the works of regional and U.S. artists active during the 20th century. Susan is a premedical advisor at K-State. John has a private law practice and is an attorney for the Pottawatomie County Commission.

Joan Backes: Where the Heart Belongs

October 18, 2013 – September 7, 2014 — Stolzer Family Foundation Gallery

The open structures created by artist Joan Backes invite various interpretations and questions about the notion of “house” and “home.” What images do we associate with the words “home” and “house?” Does a home always have to be a house? What are the environmental consequences of the explosive growth of single-family homes in the United States? To encourage thinking about this special installation for the Beach Museum of Art, visitors will be invited to draw an ideal or a favorite home on a chalkboard near the artist’s installation in the Stolzer Family Gallery.

Backes says she hopes the installation, which will consist of three frame structures in three different materials (stainless steel, milled wood and logs), will allow visitors to imagine many things. Steel is becoming more common as a framing material for residential homes; although more expensive to use, those in green construction like it because it is renewable, and those in tornado-prone regions like it because it is durable. Backes’ work acknowledges this development in the history of American home construction.

Backes is an internationally known artist with Kansas connections. She lived in a wood house on a cul-de-sac in Lenexa, KS, during the mid-1980s until 1993, and now lives in a wood house in Seekonk, MA. She earned her MFA in painting from Northwestern University in 1985.

Joan Backes, “Home,” 2012, hand-waxed poplar. Photo courtesy of the artist.

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Related events

**Opening reception for
“Where the Heart Belongs”**

October 18, 5-7 p.m.

Talk by Joan Backes at 5 p.m.

Visual Inquiry: 2013 Kansas State University Art Faculty Exhibition

November 15, 2013 – February 2, 2014 —
Marion Pelton and Hyle Family Galleries

Diverse in vision, media, and execution, the works in this exhibition demonstrate visual investigations that form the studio practices of the Kansas State University Department of Art faculty. Mounted every two to three years, the faculty exhibition features new work selected by the exhibiting artists.

The 20 participating members of the university’s Department of Art faculty teach courses leading to degrees in the following concentration areas: ceramics, digital art, drawing, graphic design, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, metalsmithing and jewelry. Their own artistic practices reflect a wide range of mediums, interests and methodologies. The exhibition’s self-selection curatorial process allows faculty members to choose the work they feel best represents their artistic output to the university community.

CALENDAR

All events are at the museum and free and open to everyone unless noted otherwise. For events requiring preregistration, call 785-532-7718 or email beachart@k-state.edu. More information at beach.k-state.edu/visit/calendar/.

September 6, 5-7 p.m.

Life is Brief, Art is Forever opening reception

September 7, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

K-State Family Day Open House

Come see the photograph *Flavio Amuses Smaller Brothers and Sisters* by Gordon Parks, the 2013 Common Work of Art. Self-guided gallery activity, refreshments.

September 12, 7 p.m.

Margaret Wertheim: Making Space, 109 Justin Hall



Acclaimed science writer and exhibition curator, Margaret Wertheim discusses the history of Western understanding of space as seen by scientists, mathematicians and artists. She traces the evolution of thinking about space from Danté to the internet. Wertheim's books will be available for purchase. In conjunction with the "Museum of Wonder" and co-sponsored by K-State Department of Art, K-State Department of Physics, and K-State Libraries.

September 20, 6 p.m.

Night of Wonder

This year's Friends of the Beach Museum of Art gala fundraiser will feature amazing food, entertainment and surprises in a beautiful setting — our own museum. Contact Sarah Hancock, sarhan@k-state.edu, or Janet Cooper, SJMPL@aol.com, with questions.

September 26, 5:30 p.m.

Behind the Scenes: Library of Wonder, Hale Library's Hemisphere Room

The "Museum of Wonder" exhibition celebrates K-State's 150th anniversary by presenting objects gathered from across the university. Adjacent to the exhibition is the "Library of Wonder," featuring books, digital resources and hands-on activities. In this talk, Thomas Bell and David Allen of Hale Library and Adrienne Russell of the Beach Museum of Art will discuss the origins of this collaborative exhibition and its future impact.

September 27, 1-2:30 p.m.

School Day Off Workshop (ages 5 and up)

Learn more about collecting with a behind-the-scenes tour, a visit to the "Museum of Wonder" and design your own collector's shadow box. \$15 per participant, \$12 for members. Preregistration required.

September 27, 6-9 p.m.

AggieFest 2013

The two-day festival featuring 60+ bands of various genres makes a stop at the Beach Museum of Art. For more information, visit aggiefest.com

September 28, 10-11 a.m.

Pop-Art Portrait Workshop, Manhattan Public Library

In this teen (grades 7-12) workshop inspired by the exhibition "Pure Photography: Pictorial and Modern Photographs" learn about making portraits and create your own in the colorful style of artist Andy Warhol.

October 3, 6 p.m.

Holophusicon: The Leverian Museum

In the 1800s, the entire contents of London, England's Leverian Museum (also known as the "Holophusicon"), a popular and eclectic assortment of artifacts and art objects from around the world, was sold at auction. Adrienne Kaeppler, curator of oceanic ethnology at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, discusses her book "Holophusicon: The Leverian Museum, An Eighteenth-Century English Institution of Science, Curiosity, and Art," which recounts her 40-year journey tracking down the museum's collection. Reception following; Kaeppler's book will be available for purchase. In conjunction with the "Museum of Wonder."

October 5 and 6, noon-5 p.m.
Museum of Wonder Farewell Weekend



Meet Erika Nelson and see her unique museum, "The World's Largest Collection of the World's Smallest Versions of the World's Largest Things Traveling Roadside Attraction and Museum." **October 5, 1-3 p.m.** Farewell party with refreshments and art activity.

October 13, 1:30-3 p.m.

Art Beyond Sight Open House

Explore the Beach Museum of Art with all your senses. Stations include investigating sculptures through touch, opportunities to examine small details in selected works of art, verbal imaging descriptions, and hands-on activities that demystify art media. Part of national Art Beyond Sight awareness activities.

October 16, 5:30 p.m.

Gallery Walk: Pure Photography

Join curator Theresa Bembnister, K-State professors Shreepad Joglekar and Stephen Wolgast, and K-State professor emeritus Michaeline Chance-Reay for an informal exploration of the exhibition "Pure Photography: Pictorial and Modern Photographs."

October 18, 10-11:30 a.m.

School Day Off Workshop (ages 5 and up)

Come view the new outdoor sculpture installation by Joan Backes and create your own "Home, Sweet Home" sculpture. \$5 per participant, \$3 for members. Preregistration required.

October 18, 5-7 p.m.

Joan Backes: Where the Heart Belongs opening reception

Talk by Joan Backes at 5 p.m.

November 7, 5:30-6:20 p.m.

Meet the Music



K-State's School of Music, Theatre, and Dance and the Beach Museum of Art present a public student performance featuring strings students.

November 13, 3-4:30 p.m.

Early Release Workshop

Digital photography workshop with photography student Chelcie Sutherland. Visit the "Pure Photography" exhibition and learn more about framing your photos. Please bring a digital camera! \$5 per participant, \$3 for members. Preregistration required.

November 14, 5-7 p.m.

Visual Inquiry: 2013 Kansas State University Art Faculty Exhibition opening reception

December 5, 5:30-6:20 p.m.

Meet the Music

K-State's School of Music, Theatre, and Dance and the Beach Museum of Art present a public student performance featuring piano students.

December 8, 1:30-3 p.m.

Family Holiday Workshop

An extravaganza of winter-based art activities to help celebrate the season of light. This is a great opportunity for families to have fun together. \$5 per child, \$3 members, reservations not required. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

December 11, 2-3:30 p.m.

Early Release Workshop (ages 5 and up)

Linoleum block printmaking workshop. Make your own holiday cards. \$5 per participant, \$3 for members. Preregistration required.

BEACH HAPPENINGS

ARTSmart Classes - Media Madness

Spend the fall semester exploring different art media from the ordinary to the unexpected. Programs include gallery visits and an art project.

Topics

Papermaking	Aug. 20-23
Pastels (<i>oil and chalk</i>)	Sept. 17-20
Found object sculpture	Oct. 22-25
Paint (<i>watercolor and acrylic</i>)	Nov. 19-22
Printmaking	Dec. 17-20

Fall Class Schedule

Tuesday	1-2:30 p.m.	Homeschool Tuesday*
Tuesday	4-5 p.m.	All ages
Wednesday	10:30-11 a.m.	Toddlers and twos
Wednesday	4-5 p.m.	All ages
Thursday	10:30-11:30 a.m.	Ages 2-3
Thursday	4-5 p.m.	School age (kindergarten and up)
Friday	10:30-11:30 a.m.	Ages 4-5

Cost is \$3 per child per class, \$1.50 for Friends of the Beach Museum of Art members. Call 785-532-7718 or email klwalk@k-state.edu to register. Children must be accompanied by an adult. If you must cancel, we would appreciate a call.

***Homeschool Tuesdays** are an extended version of the ARTSmart classes and include more gallery time and additional skill-based gallery activities.

Summer at the Beach

The Meadow

With a variety of volunteers and numerous Kansas State University collaborators, the grassy area north of the museum is being converted to The Meadow. Follow the progress at blogs.k-state.edu/meadow/.



Teen Printmaking Workshop

A new collaboration this summer between the Manhattan Public Library and the Beach Museum of Art resulted in a printmaking workshop for teens. The workshop was one of a series of "maker"-style experiences designed to encourage teens to try something new. Teens viewed a small display of books, art and tools related to printmaking before creating their own relief prints using easy-cut linoleum blocks, ink, gouges and brayers.



DONOR/FOUNDATION SUPPORT SPOTLIGHT



The Beach Museum of Art's searchable collection database went live at the end of June. Visitors can go to the museum's website, <http://beach.k-state.edu/>, click on "Explore" along the bar at the top, and choose "Collection" from the drop-down menu. This brings one to the Collections entry page. On the left side, in the area above the large "W" logo of the Weary Family Foundation, a click on "Search the Collection" brings up a number of search fields. If the user has only an artist's name or a

fragment of a title, one of those can be typed into the appropriate field. If a search of works from the 1930s is desired, that span of dates can be queried. The more fields one enters, the more precise the search, but even one bit of information can be used to get results.

Support from the Weary Family Foundation has made this exciting new access tool possible: years of photography and data entry; the transfer of all collection records to a new, state-of-the-art collection management program; and finally the design and testing of the online access module. Thank you, Weary Family Foundation, for a gift that will benefit students, scholars and art lovers for years to come!

2013 COMMON WORK OF ART



◀ Gordon Parks (United States, 1912-2006), *Flavio Amuses Smaller Brothers and Sisters*, 1961 Gelatin silver print, KSU, Beach Museum of Art, gift of the artist.
© Gordon Parks Foundation.

The 2013 Common Work of Art is presented in conjunction with the K-State 2013 Common Book, Ernest Cline's *Ready Player One*. Each year, the K-State Book Network selects a common read, providing students with a mutual intellectual experience they can discuss with professors, administrators, staff, and other students.

Ready Player One depicts a near future where people escape their grim existence by plugging into the OASIS, a virtual utopia. Gordon Parks' documentation of the Catacumba favela, a hillside shantytown in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, resulted in the photo essay, "Freedom's Fearful Foe: Poverty." Published June 16, 1961 by *Life* magazine, it focused on the family of Flávio da Silva, the twelve-year-old boy pictured here. Through their work, both Parks and Cline critically examine the themes of identity, reality, and perception.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Luke Dempsey, while a student at Kansas State University, began working at the Beach Museum of Art in April 2011, assisting with exhibition design. Upon

graduating in December 2012 with a BFA in printmaking, Luke assumed the full-time position of collections management and registrar assistant. He has been essential in continuing the museum's work documenting and photographing the collection for online access.

About working at the Beach Museum of Art, Luke says, "The staff at the Beach is so incredibly passionate about the art, research and education, which has created a very fulfilling and progressive environment."

A native of New Jersey, Luke enjoys printmaking, drawing, museums and architecture. He is also an avid golfer.

LOVE ART?

If you love art, working with people of any age and have some spare time, we would love to have you join the museum's docent (volunteer guide) program.

No experience needed, training begin this fall.

For more information, contact Kathrine Schlageck, senior educator, at klwalk@k-state.edu or 785-532-7718.

FRIENDS OF THE BEACH MUSEUM OF ART



Sharon Kriss, President

It is with pleasure that I write my first letter to you as president of the Friends of the Beach Museum of Art. As a new member to the community, I was pleased and honored to be given the opportunity to be involved with this organization. I look forward to continuing the leadership of past president Janet Cooper and thank her and all the Friends board members for their guidance over the past several years.

The Beach Museum of Art has had a wonder-filled year. It's difficult to get away from that word as the museum celebrated the "Museum of Wonder" as well as the "Library of Wonder." We are continuing with the wonder theme as we celebrate a "Night of Wonder" on Friday, September 20. We invite everyone to join Friends members in celebrating what is sure to be a great evening. The festivities begin at 6 p.m. at the museum. Expect to be enchanted with different musical performances, some integrating dance, an interactive sculpture outside the museum, and a few surprises along the way. We are especially pleased this will be a campus collaboration that draws on a variety of art forms designed to compliment the lovely art collection at the museum and echo the "Cabinet of Wonder" concept of the "Museum of Wonder" exhibition.

Another new chapter will be added to the Friends of the Beach as we join with the KSU Foundation in streamlining our membership renewal system. The Foundation will be assisting the staff and board by keeping track of members and helping generate renewal letters and labels. The only change our membership will see is their renewal time. All letters will be sent in October rather than the individual date each member joined. We look forward to this partnership with the KSU Foundation and the assistance they are willing to give us to better serve our members.

Plan to participate in the many events this fall at the museum. We look forward to seeing you September 20 as we celebrate yet another "Night of Wonder" at the Beach Museum of Art.

Sharon Kriss, President

Friends of the Beach Museum of Art Board of Directors

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 Martha Miller
 Jay Nelson
 Katie Philp
 Ladonna Piper
 Sharon Snyder
 Rae Stamey
 Ruth Ann Wefald

RECENT ACQUISITION



< John Steuart Curry (1897-1946), *Kansas Pasture*, oil on canvas, ca. 1936. 36 x 40 inches. Acquisition made possible by the Max Miller Art Acquisition & Conservation Fund; Joann Goldstein in memory of Eleanor "Elle" Griffith Stolzer and Jack Goldstein; Dan and Beth Bird; Russell Clay Harvey and Patricia McGivern; and Friends of the Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art.

BEACH
MUSEUM OF ART

FREE admission and parking
14th & Anderson, Manhattan, KS
785.532.7718 | beach.k-state.edu
Tues. - Wed., Fri. - Sat. 10-5 | Thurs. 10-8 | Sun. 12-5

To receive Beach Museum of Art news electronically, email beachart@k-state.edu

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