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***Glass from the Past: Selections from the Charles Schoenknecht and Ward Paul Collection*  
opens August 27 in the Grand Rapids Art Museum's Design & Modern Craft Gallery**

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., August 23, 2010** – The Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM), a leading cultural destination, presents the exhibition ***Glass from the Past: Selections from the Charles Schoenknecht and Ward Paul Collection***, on view August 27 through October 17, 2010.

*Glass from the Past* features art glass from the Art Nouveau period, including ten Tiffany vases and chalices that represent some of the finest glasswork in America. Works from other countries represented in the exhibition include exquisite examples from France, Germany, Austria and England.

Thirty-four pieces in total will be on view in four vitrines (glass cabinets) along the East Wall in the Design & Modern Craft Gallery. The exhibition is a natural complement to the permanent collection installed in the Gallery, as both *Glass from the Past* and the Museum's permanent collection focus on works from the turn of the last century, around 1890 to World War I. One of the first works of the permanent collection encountered in the Design & Modern Craft Gallery is the notable *Balcony Rail* by Hector Guimard. One can see similarities among the prevailing art movements of the period, including the Art Nouveau style of the Guimard railing, in which the fluidity of forms and metal ornamentation created a unified style that celebrated nature and extolled a new, modern freedom of expression.

Check the schedule at [www.artmuseumgr.org](http://www.artmuseumgr.org) for upcoming related events.

Images available upon request.

**About the Grand Rapids Art Museum**

The Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM) celebrates 100 years of art, legacy and vision with its Centennial Year in 2010. The mission of the Grand Rapids Art Museum is to provide a gathering place where people of all ages and backgrounds can enrich their lives through interaction with works of art in a thought-provoking and creative way. Established in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids, the new art museum is internationally known for its distinguished design and LEED Gold certified status. Established in 1910 as the Grand Rapids Art Association, GRAM has grown to include more than 5,000 works of art, including American and European 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century painting and sculpture and over 3,000 works on paper. Embracing the city's legacy as a leading center of design and manufacturing, GRAM has a growing collection in the area of design and modern craft.

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