

# BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Blanton Gift Shop Celebrates Museum Store Sunday



***All items in shop 25% off on November 25, 2018***

AUSTIN, Texas—November 1, 2018— The Shop at the Blanton Museum of Art at The University of Texas at Austin will participate in the second annual Museum Store Sunday on Sunday, November 25, 2018. As part of this global initiative celebrating gift shops' financial contributions to cultural institutions, the Blanton Museum Shop will offer 25% off of all items in the store that day.

More than 700 museum stores representing museums and cultural institutions in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, ten countries, and three continents will participate in Museum Store Sunday. Tied with the beginning of the holiday shopping season, Museum Store Sunday offers a special shopping experience in one-of-a kind stores, showcasing highly curated, unique, and mission-specific gifts. The Blanton Shop sells a range of hand-crafted, locally-made, and socially-conscious goods. All purchases at the Blanton Shop support the museum and its programming.

In Austin, ten gift shops associated with local institutions including the Blanton, the Bullock Texas State History Museum, the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, and Thinkery, among others, are participating in Museum Store Sunday. All participating gift shops are offering significant discounts, and shoppers may pick up a Museum Store Sunday Passport beginning November 1 to be stamped by three participating gift stores and turned in by Sunday, November 25 to be entered into a drawing to win one of four Austin museum prize packages.

“We’re thrilled to participate in Museum Store Sunday alongside other iconic Austin gift shops,” said Justin O’Connor, manager of the Blanton Museum Shop. “From unique toys to locally-crafted jewelry to rare art books, there is something for everyone at our Shop—and shoppers will know that their purchases help support the Blanton and our local community.”

Highlights of the Blanton Shop include:

### **Local Austin Flavor**

The Blanton Shop celebrates and supports local designers, makers, and artisans. Over 75% of the Museum Shop’s jewelry selection is made by Austin-based creators, including [Eastwood by BDJ](#), [Fail Jewelry](#), [Slantt Studio Jewelry](#), and [Zoe Comings](#). The shop also has stocks goods related to Austin and Texas such as locally-made, Texas-themed [Kimball Prints Holiday Tea Towels](#) and the children’s book *The ABCs of ATX*.

### **Art and Design Gifts**

The Shop has a specially curated selection of art and design-inspired gifts including collectibles associated with the Blanton’s permanent collection, gifts for art-lovers, and an extensive collection of art and design catalogues. Shoppers can also purchase exclusive Ellsworth Kelly’s *Austin* merchandise such as “Tumbling Squares” t-shirts, Moleskin notebooks, and enamel pins.

### **Socially and Ecologically Conscious Goods**

In addition to its local focus, the Blanton Shop stocks many socially and ecologically conscious goods, such as [Newton Supply Co.](#) bags, a line of locally-designed hand-waxed canvas pouches sewn by refugees and [Smoke and Dagger Jewelry](#), a jewelry collective focused on sustainability through fairly sourced and recycled silver and gold.

### **Making Africa**

In association with the exhibition [Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design](#), the Shop has a range of African fashion, jewelry, and design objects for sale. The Shop will sell [Fresh2Life Clothing](#) from local artist and musician Chaka of Riders of the Storm; traditional African beaded works melded with contemporary design by [Maasai Women Art](#); and artisanal batik, beaded, and shea butter products by [Global Mamas Jewelry and Clothing](#). The Shop will also sell the *Making Africa* exhibition catalogue, a large color guide to the cutting-edge design represented in the exhibition.

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### **About the Blanton Museum of Art**

Founded in 1963, the Blanton Museum of Art holds the largest public collection in Central Texas with nearly 18,000 objects. Recognized for its modern and contemporary American and Latin American art, Italian Renaissance and Baroque paintings, and encyclopedic collection of prints and drawings, the Blanton offers thought provoking, visually arresting, and personally moving encounters with art.

The museum is located at the intersection of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Congress Avenue and is open Tuesday through Friday from 10–5, Saturday from 11–5, and Sunday from 1–5. Thursdays are free admission days and every third Thursday the museum is open until 9. Admission Prices: Adults \$12, Kids 12 and under FREE, Seniors (65+) \$10, Youth/College Students (13–21) \$5. Admission is free to

members, all current UT ID-holders. For additional information call (512) 471-7324 or visit [blantonmuseum.org](http://blantonmuseum.org)

Image Caption: The Blanton Gift Shop, Blanton Museum of Art, The University of Texas at Austin