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WEXNER CENTER GALLERIES UNDERGOING RENOVATION
PROGRAMMING IN ALL AREAS CONTINUES UNABATED

The galleries of the Wexner Center for the Arts, a landmark building on the campus of The Ohio State University, are currently undergoing renovation. The project entails significant infrastructural changes, including improved environmental and climate control, replacement of the skylight and glass curtain wall that run the length of the galleries, enhancement of all HVAC systems, and roof repair.

The Ohio State University has allocated \$12 million for the renovation project, which is expected to last through the year 2004. "These renovations will greatly enhance the function and flexibility of the galleries, allowing the Center to better meet rigorous museum standards," says Wexner Center Director Sherri Geldin. "We are especially pleased that the improvements will allow for more sophisticated light control capabilities while at the same time more fully revealing the building's original architectural intent. To responsibly and successfully exhibit art in all media, it is imperative that we install these state-of-the-art systems."

Wexner Center programming continues unabated, using both on-site and off-site venues. "The gallery renovation presents the Center with the opportunity to literally reach into the community," Geldin says. "We have been thrilled to be collaborating with fellow cultural institutions as we have taken the Center's programs to new locales." Off-site exhibitions have included *Away from Home* at Columbus College of Art & Design and *Supernova*³ at COSI Columbus. In the fall of 2002, the Wexner Center presented *From Pop to Now: Selections from the Sonnabend Collection* in the historic, loft-like spaces of The Belmont Building in the Arena District—a venue the Center will continue to use into the 2003–04 season. *Storytelling*, featuring masterworks of film and video by leading contemporary artists, will be on view at The Belmont in the fall, and *Splat Boom Pow!*, a lively show exploring the influence of cartoons on contemporary art, will be exhibited there in the winter and spring of 2004.

Performing arts programming sustains its customary pace, using the Center's Mershon Auditorium (which will not be affected by the renovations), the "black box" setup on Mershon Auditorium Stage, the Performance Space, and other

campus venues, including Weigel Hall and the Drake Center's Thurber Theatre. The Center's popular film program is also maintaining an active schedule, screening films in the Film/Video Theater and Mershon Auditorium. As always, the Education department is using a variety of venues both within and outside the Center for its lecture series, discussions, family events, workshops, student events, and symposia. The Wexner Center Bookshop remains open Monday–Friday, and the Wexner Center Artshop at Easton is open daily (both shops also sell merchandise online at www.wexarts.org/bks). The Center's Art & Technology facility—including state-of-the art video and sound editing suites—remains active, supporting artists' projects throughout the year.

The Wexner Center for the Arts is The Ohio State University's multidisciplinary, international laboratory for the exploration and advancement of contemporary art. Through exhibitions, screenings, performances, artist residencies, and educational programs, the Wexner Center acts as a forum where established and emerging artists can test ideas and where diverse audiences can participate in cultural experiences that enhance understanding of the art of our time. In its programs, the Wexner Center balances a commitment to experimentation with a commitment to traditions of innovation and affirms the university's mission of education, research, and community service.

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