



FLINT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

CONTACT: Chene Koppitz, Communications Coordinator

Flint Institute of Arts

P: 810.237.7387

E: [ckoppitz@flintarts.org](mailto:ckoppitz@flintarts.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COMMUNITY GALA

**Celebrating the opening of *Ubhle Women: Beadwork and the Art of Independence***



Flint, MI – Stunning beadwork, South African cuisine, and a chance to meet international artists are some of the highlights of the 11th Annual Community Gala, happening on Saturday, January 20 from 6-9 p.m. at the Flint Institute of Arts.

The Community Gala celebrates the opening of *Ubhle Women: Beadwork and the Art of Independence*, the museum's first large-scale exhibition of 2018, and allows attendees a sneak peek before the public opening. A fundraiser in service to FIA programming and exhibitions, the gala features a conversation with Ubhle artists Ntombephi "Induna" Ntobela and Zandile Ntobela, as well as curator Bev Gibson, during which they will discuss the origins of the project, the artwork, and their experiences displaying their pieces throughout the world. Following the talk, attendees may view the exhibition and enjoy a reception with live music, a strolling supper featuring South African cuisine, and a cash bar. Pre-event tickets are \$40 per person for FIA Members and \$60 per person for Non-Members. Tickets will be available at the door the night of event as well, with tickets priced at \$55 per person for FIA Members and \$75 per person for Non-Members. Discounted tickets for students are available when purchased through an educational institution.

*Ubhle Women: Beadwork and the Art of Independence* opens to the public on Sunday, January 21 and runs through Saturday, March 31. Ntombephi "Induna" Ntobela and Zandile Ntobela will demonstrate their beadwork techniques during a free public demonstration in the FIA galleries on Sunday, January 21 from 1-3 p.m.

**All media interested in covering the Community Gala or *Ubhle Women: Beadwork and the Art of Independence*, please contact Chene Koppitz at 810.237.7387 or [ckoppitz@flintarts.org](mailto:ckoppitz@flintarts.org).**

### **ABOUT THE FLINT INSTITUTE OF ARTS**

The Flint Institute of Arts is Michigan's second largest art museum and one of the largest museum art schools in the nation. The FIA's mission is to advance the understanding and appreciation of art for all through collections, exhibitions, and educational programs. The FIA is located at 1120 East Kearsley Street in the Flint Cultural Center. The museum is open Mon–Fri 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.; Sat 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sun 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Admission to the FIA is free to members and children under 12; Adults are \$7; Senior Citizens and Students with I.D. are \$5. Saturdays are free thanks to Huntington Bank. For more information, please call 810.234.1695 or visit [www.flintarts.org](http://www.flintarts.org).