



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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**Contact:** Mike Brice, Public Relations Specialist  
Office: 419-254-5082  
Cell: 419-708-4822  
[mbrice@toledomuseum.org](mailto:mbrice@toledomuseum.org)

### **Toledo Museum of Art announces extraordinary installation *Yayoi Kusama: Fireflies on the Water* to open Saturday, Dec. 14, 2019**

TOLEDO, Ohio – Toledo Museum of Art (TMA) visitors will have the opportunity to experience the unique vision of one of the world’s most influential contemporary artists when *Yayoi Kusama: Fireflies on the Water* opens Saturday, Dec. 14, 2019, in Canaday Gallery.

Visitors will experience 60 seconds alone in the room, which uses lights, mirrors and water to transport viewers to a space that seems endlessly expansive. The experience will cost \$5 for nonmembers while Museum members will receive a fixed number of free tickets based on their membership level. Members will be able to reserve those during a pre-sale period before tickets go on sale to the general public.

“Over the past several years the Toledo Museum of Art has cultivated an exhibition program that strives to embody a celebration of singular masterworks, a demonstrated commitment to global contemporary art, the promotion of diverse perspectives, and an emphasis placed on multisensory artist projects and installations,” said TMA’s Director of Curatorial Affairs Halona Norton-Westbrook. “All of these elements will be brought together in this exhibition, which stands as an icon of contemporary visual art, created by one of the most significant artists of our time.”

Yayoi Kusama, who experienced hallucinations as a child, uses her artwork as a means to express and communicate her particular psychological world. For more than seven decades her unbound creativity and complex psyche have contributed to the creation of paintings, sculptures and installations that have left indelible marks on both the art world and popular culture.

“*Fireflies on the Water* speaks to Kusama’s ongoing investigation into the relationship between ourselves, the space that we occupy and the ungraspable concept of infinity,” Norton-Westbrook said. “TMA’s presentation of *Fireflies on the Water* will allow our audiences the opportunity to experience Kusama’s unique and singular vision firsthand.”

This site-specific installation, which runs through April 26, 2020, is made possible through a generous loan from the Whitney Museum of Art.

Tickets will be available for pre-order to Museum members at the Supporting level and above beginning Monday, Nov. 11. All membership levels will be able to order tickets beginning Monday,

Nov. 18, and tickets will be available to the general public on Monday, Nov. 25 and Monday, Dec. 2. To purchase tickets, please visit [tickets.toledomuseum.org](http://tickets.toledomuseum.org).

*Fireflies on the Water* is presented by ProMedica with additional support from Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP and the Ohio Arts Council.

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**The Toledo Museum of Art**

The Toledo Museum of Art is a nonprofit arts institution funded through individual donations, foundation grants, corporate sponsorships and investments. The Ohio Arts Council helps fund programs at the Toledo Museum of Art through a sustainability grant program that encourages economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. Glass Pavilion® and Toledo Museum of Art Glass Pavilion® are registered service marks.

Admission to the Museum is free. The Museum is open Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, Noon to 5 p.m.; and is closed Monday and major holidays. Thursday evening hours are sponsored by Huntington Private Client Group.

The Museum is located at 2445 Monroe Street at Scottwood Avenue, just west of the downtown business district and one block off I-75 with exit designations posted. For general information, visitors can call 419-255-8000 or 800-644-6862, or visit [toledomuseum.org](http://toledomuseum.org).