

Subject: Re: The decline of the art museum

From: penny gentieu <pennygentieu@gmail.com>

Date: 4/6/23, 2:52 PM

To: "Melden, Sam" <Sam.Melden@toledo.oh.gov>

CC: Mayor <Mayor@toledo.oh.gov>, "Hobbs, John" <John.Hobbs@toledo.oh.gov>, "Cherry, Matt" <Matt.Cherry@toledo.oh.gov>, "Komives, Nick" <Nick.Komives@toledo.oh.gov>, "Rob.Ludeman@toledo.oh.gov" <Rob.Ludeman@toledo.oh.gov>, "Williams, Vanice" <Vanice.Williams@toledo.oh.gov>, "Morris, Theresa" <Theresa.Morris@toledo.oh.gov>, "Whitman, Tiffany" <Tiffany.Whitman@toledo.oh.gov>, "Moline, Katie" <Katie.Moline@toledo.oh.gov>, "McPherson, Cerssandra" <Cerssandra.McPherson@toledo.oh.gov>, "Gadus, Theresa" <Theresa.Gadus@toledo.oh.gov>, "Sarantou,George" <George.Sarantou@toledo.oh.gov>, "Adams, Cecelia" <Cecelia.Adams@toledo.oh.gov>

Mr. Meldon:

And to think you are my district's city councilman.

There are many people in Toledo who had a rough time during the pandemic and have had partners or parents who died. People who feel isolated, lonely, miserable, unwanted, cut off from the world. You might be addressing one. You might have many others who feel the same in your district. Who see the art museum using a \$119,993 grant on just 2 senior centers right in their tiny 2 mile radius for an average of \$3,000 or \$5,000 per hour of service given to the seniors in their \$9,993 per session budget.

Your relationship with your buddy Adam is more important than your constituents.

You shouldn't assume that because I'm a woman that I'm hysterical. My writings are actually factual if you care to look them up.

If you would care to address something specific that I got wrong, I would be happy to discuss it with you.

I also tell you that the sidewalks in our district are a complete mess. For example, Sylvania between Talmadge and Corey. Terrible sidewalks. There are potholes all over the Corey Woods neighborhood. And fallen tree limbs and litter all over your district. Maybe you should concentrate on cleaning up our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Penny Gentieu

Penny Gentieu
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On Thu, Apr 6, 2023 at 1:02PM Melden, Sam <Sam.Melden@toledo.oh.gov> wrote:

Ms. Gentieu,

Normally I don't respond to outlandish emails, but you asked, so I will tell

you.

What do I think?

I think it is obvious you are more interested in hyperbolic falsehoods, no matter who they may insult, or confuse than you are with actually trying to improve a situation you think needs improved.

Your comments about seniors in our community prove that unfounded hyperbole is your preferred tact.

I think it is a shame that The Blade ran your editorial at all.

You are clearly trying to insult the leadership of TMA. You are clearly trying to confuse everyone who will listen about the reality of TMA's current expression of their long held values and beliefs.

Everyone is free to use their voice however they wish, to protest, argue, and debate. I sincerely encourage you to use yours in a more productive and honest way.

If that isn't of interest to you, feel free to leave me off your next email.

Thank you,

Sam Melden
Council Member
District 5

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On Apr 6, 2023, at 11:20 AM, penny gentieu <pennygentieu@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Toledo Museum Board Members and City Council,

Attached is a guest editorial that The Blade ran on March 18 about the new direction of the museum. I wrote it, I hope you read it.

Also, I just wrote a new blog post about the relationship that local artists used to have with the museum, which is now completely severed. It is about the commonalities of four Toledo artists and their public art crucifixes. It is about how the museum helped them become who they were – all that is gone now, and why? [Crucifixes of Artists of Toledo](#).

Also, last week it was announced that the museum got a grant to fund art-making experiences for senior citizens. [Toledo Museum Program Takes Art to Older Adults](#). A \$119,916 grant that they are funneling into only 2 senior centers in their 2-mile radius of interest for only 12 art making sessions all together, and if you do the math, that's \$9,993 each, and I'm sure the sessions wouldn't be for more than 2-3 hours. What a waste.

There are many seniors all over the city of Toledo and to isolate a small section of Toledo to pour \$119,916 into 2 senior centers for 12 art making sessions is divisive, strange, and unbelievable. Toledo has 14 Senior Centers, and most of them are out of luck, unwanted, isolated, lonely, poor and miserable. Survivors of the pandemic, but for what. To emerge into a world that literally doesn't want them anymore.

What do you think? I would love to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Penny Gentieu

Creator, [Artistsoftoledo.com](#)



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