



OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
MUSEUM of ART

News Release | For Immediate Release

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**OSU MUSEUM OF ART ADVOCATES PROVIDE 1,000 BOXES OF
CRAYONS TO SUPPORT LOCAL *BACKPACK BUDDIES* PROJECT**

(STILLWATER, Okla., May 29, 2018) — As a continuation of the OSU Museum of Art Advocates community outreach, the group recently contributed 1,000 boxes of crayons to “Backpack Buddies,” a collaborative project providing school supplies for Payne County youth.

Altrusa International of Stillwater, in partnership with Our Daily Bread, implemented Backpack Buddies this year after looking for a project that fulfilled its mission to enhance the quality of life in the community, create opportunities for local youth, and offer a way for community members to assist. The resulting Backpack Buddies event will supply local leaders of tomorrow with a backpack containing items such as pencils, pens, notebooks, colored pencils, rulers, and crayons.

The Backpack Buddies project is closely aligned with the Art Advocates own commitment to education and community engagement. The Art Advocates, a \$1,000 Gold Star sponsor, are uniquely supporting Backpack Buddies by sponsoring the donation of Crayola Crayons that will be distributed in backpacks on the morning of July 21 at Our Daily Bread. Carolyn Gang, a member of both OSU Museum of Art Advocates and Altrusa, said that although Altrusa is the originator of the event, Our Daily Bread is serving as not only a valuable resource but also the location of the backpack distribution. “It was through coordination with Our Daily Bread that we were able to identify an exact number of youth in need,” Gang said.

Our Daily Bread served 1,500 households, or 2,597 individuals, during the month of May. With that information, organizers of Backpack Buddies set a goal to prepare 1,000 backpacks. Gang said that Altrusa has secured two grants for the project, in addition to the cash donations that have been raised. “We are receiving financial donations every day and still have more than a month of fundraising,” Gang said. “The 1,000 backpacks will definitely be a reality.”

The OSU Museum of Art Advocates support the museum and its outreach to the community through their advocacy, volunteering, and/or financial contributions. [Visit our website](#) to learn how you can get involved.

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