

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

High Five: OrthoCarolina and the Mint Museum Open *My Hand Can* Exhibit *Special art show displays works by Hand Center patients*

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (August 29, 2014) – OrthoCarolina and The Mint Museum will host a public opening for a special new art exhibit, *My Hand Can*, on Wednesday, September 3. From concert musicians and professional artists whose careers were in jeopardy, to children born with abnormalities and more, the show entwines art with emotion and mixes professional artists' work with that of novices. Each work was completed by a hand patient who has healed, returned and succeeded in some way, whether conquering massive career-threatening injuries, fully experiencing the joy of childhood or rediscovering simple joys in life such as knitting and gardening.

“Overcoming adversity is the common thread of all the art you’ll see featured in *My Hand Can*. We’re proud not only of our patients’ strength but also of their willingness to express how they feel after what sometimes has been a traumatic injury or significant surgery,” said [Glenn Gaston](#), MD, Chief of Hand Surgery at OrthoCarolina’s Hand Center. “We’re honored that The Mint Museum is so graciously allowing us the opportunity to show off such a different kind of art.”

The idea for the *My Hand Can* campaign originally came from a young OrthoCarolina Hand Center patient whose index finger was surgically removed and reattached to function as a thumb. Upon discovering the ability to grip a paintbrush, the child’s reaction was “Now I can paint you a picture with this hand.”

To date, many of the works of art featured in the exhibit, including images, artwork, crafts, and sculpture, have been displayed in the Hand Center lobby.

“We are thrilled to partner with OrthoCarolina on this unique exhibition. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to showcase how transformative art is to people, and how the ability to create works of art is essential to one’s creativity and self-expression,” said Dr. Kathleen Jameson, President and CEO of The Mint Museum. “OrthoCarolina has also been so gracious in their supporting sponsorship of our Sunday Fun Days family program, and this initiative is just the beginning of our partnership. We are very grateful for their support, and are inspired by OrthoCarolina’s ability to make art a reality once again for these hand surgery patients.”

The *My Hand Can* opening will take place in the Star Gallery at Mint Museum Uptown on Wednesday, September 3 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. and is free and open to the public. The exhibition will be on view from September 3-14 during normal museum operating hours. For more information on *My Hand Can*, visit myhandcan.com.

About OrthoCarolina

OrthoCarolina is one of the nation's leading independent academic orthopedics practices serving North Carolina and the Southeast since 1922. OrthoCarolina provides compassionate and comprehensive musculoskeletal care including operative and non-operative care, diagnostic imaging and rehabilitative therapy. Widely known for musculoskeletal research and training, OrthoCarolina physicians have specialized expertise in foot and ankle, hip and knee, shoulder and elbow, spine, sports medicine, hand, pediatric orthopedics, and physical medicine and rehabilitation. Our 120 OrthoCarolina physicians see nearly one million patient visits throughout western North Carolina each year.

OrthoCarolina.You.Improved.

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About The Mint Museum

As the first art museum in North Carolina, with one of the largest collections in the Southeast, The Mint Museum offers its visitors inspiring and transformative experiences through art and design from around the world via innovative collections, groundbreaking exhibitions, and riveting educational programs. The Mint Museum is a non-profit visual arts institution comprised of two dynamic facilities: Mint Museum Uptown and Mint Museum Randolph.

Located in what was the original branch of the United States Mint, Mint Museum Randolph opened in 1936 in Charlotte's Eastover neighborhood. Today, in a beautiful park setting, intimate galleries invite visitors to engage with Art of the Ancient Americas, Decorative Arts, North Carolina Pottery, Fashion, European Art, and African Art, among other collections. Resources include a reference library with over 18,000 volumes, a theater featuring lectures and performances, and a museum shop offering merchandise that complements both the permanent collection and special exhibitions.

Mint Museum Uptown houses the internationally renowned Craft + Design collection, as well as outstanding collections of American and Modern & Contemporary Art. Designed by Machado and Silvetti Associates of Boston, the five-story, 145,000-square-foot facility combines inspiring architecture with cutting-edge exhibitions to provide visitors with unparalleled educational and cultural experiences. Located in the heart of Charlotte's burgeoning center city, Mint Museum Uptown is an integral part of the Levine Center for the Arts, a cultural campus that includes the Bechtler Museum of Modern Art, the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts and Culture, the Knight Theater, and the Duke Energy Center. Mint Museum Uptown also features a wide range of visitor amenities, including the 240-seat James B. Duke Auditorium, the Lewis Family Gallery, art studios, a restaurant, and a museum shop. For more information, visit mintmuseum.org.

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