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Drawn to Fashion Opens

Special Celebration held at The Durham Museum

(Omaha, Neb.) – On Friday, January 27, over 200 people took part in the opening celebration of *Drawn to Fashion: The Illustrations of Mary Mitchell* at The Durham Museum. The event began at 6 p.m. with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres served in the Trish and Dick Davidson Gallery. Guests enjoyed a special musical performance by Anne Marie Kenny followed by a ribbon cutting and viewing of the exhibition.

Drawn to Fashion: The Illustrations of Mary Mitchell will be on exhibit at The Durham Museum from through May 27, 2012. This elegant exhibition celebrates the lost art of fashion illustration, Omaha's rich retail history, and advertising during an era before Photoshop. The exhibition showcases 150 drawings taken from Mitchell's private collection. During the 1960s, 70s and 80s, Mitchell worked for such well known Omaha clothiers as Topp's, Goldstein Chapman, Herzbergs, Zoobs, and many others. In addition to illustrations, the display includes period clothing and other artifacts on loan from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Textile, Clothing, and Design collection. A special video presentation narrated by Alexander Payne is another highlight of the exhibition.

During the festivities, guests were able to purchase a book entitled, *Drawn to Fashion: Illustrating Three Decade of Style* written in conjunction with the exhibition as well as copies of several of Mitchell's illustrations. Proceeds from the sales will benefit the Mary Mitchell Fashion Illustration Scholarship Fund at the Textile, Clothing, and Design Department at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. The book will continue to be available at The Durham's Museum Gift Shop or by calling (402) 444-5071 ext. 316. To learn more, please visit www.drawntofashion.com.

About The Durham Museum

The Durham Museum, making its home in Omaha's beautiful art deco Union Station, is home to permanent exhibits that preserve Omaha's vibrant history, traveling exhibits covering subjects ranging from history and culture, to science and industry, and many entertaining, educational, family-oriented activities. The Durham Museum is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and has strong ties with the Library of Congress, National Archives, and The Field Museum. Admission is \$8 for adults; \$6 for seniors; \$5 for children 3-12; and free for members and children age 2 and under. For information about The Durham Museum please visit the museum's website at www.DurhamMuseum.org.

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