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Celebrate the 80th Anniversary of Wolfe Studio at The MAX on August 22

MERIDIAN, Miss. (July 29, 2026) – The Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience (The MAX) is partnering with the renowned Wolfe Studio for an [80th Anniversary Experience](#) on Saturday, August 22, featuring art activities, conversations, special guests, and the opening of a new temporary exhibition celebrating the studio's creative legacy.

Founded in Jackson, Mississippi, by visual arts pioneers Karl and Mildred Nungester Wolfe, Wolfe Studio has delighted generations of collectors with its ceramic birds, creatures, and nativity sets—all hand-painted, with each figure unique. Now under the leadership of the Wolfes' daughter, Bebe Wolfe, and her husband, David Weidemann, the studio has grown from a two-person operation into a collective of roughly a dozen artists.

The anniversary experience, free with admission, begins at 9 a.m. with morning meditation in the Citizens National Bank Courtyard. Following the outdoor meditation, guests are invited to enjoy coffee and conversation as Bebe Wolfe shares stories from the studio's history and legacy.

Throughout the day, visitors can participate in hands-on art activities while Wolfe artists lead printmaking and slip-casting demonstrations inside The MAX's art studios. Guests are also encouraged to bring their favorite Wolfe figurines and share their stories for the Wolfe Creative Legacy Archive.

The day concludes with a conversation between Bebe Wolfe and fellow artist Jason Bouldin, followed by a reception celebrating the opening of *The Wolfe Creative Legacy: Works from Karl, Mildred, & Bebe Wolfe*. Curated by Christina McField, Curator of

Changing Exhibits + Programs, the exhibition will be on view at The MAX from August 22 through September 26.

Visitors are encouraged to make it a full weekend in Meridian. On Friday, August 21, The MAX will host [A Day for Artists](#) in partnership with the Mississippi Arts Commission, bringing together artists from across the state for workshops, networking, and professional development. Attendees can connect with statewide and national artist service organizations to learn about grants, residencies, employment opportunities, and other resources.

For a full schedule of the Wolfe Studio 80th Anniversary Experience, or to see more upcoming events, please visit www.msarts.org/events.

About Wolfe Studio:

Founded in 1946, Wolfe Studio has long been a fixture of the Mississippi arts community. Wolfe is the home of the famous Wolfe Bird, as well as many paintings and prints by the Wolfe artists. Elizabeth (Bebe) Wolfe now runs the studio started by her parents, Karl and Mildred Nungester Wolfe, over 70 years ago. Its present site was originally a mile or two outside the Jackson city limits. Now surrounded by development, this quiet retreat with its rural charm has been a place of exceptional artistic energy and creativity for decades. In recognition of Karl's and Mildred's lifetime of work including their artistic influence in the community, and of the remarkable continuity of this creative activity, the Wolfe Studio was honored to receive the 2009 Governor's Award for Artistic Excellence in Visual Arts.

About The MAX:

The Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience (The MAX) is an arts and cultural center in the heart of downtown Meridian that celebrates Mississippi's creative legacy through interactive exhibits, workshops, and live performances. The multipurpose facility contains a two-story Hall of Fame celebrating the state's groundbreaking artists like Walter Anderson, William Faulkner, Morgan Freeman, Jim Henson, B.B. King, Elvis Presley, and Leontyne Price to name a few, along with over 20,000 square feet of interactive exhibits, art studios, a recording studio, and performance spaces. Every visit to The MAX is a unique experience that leaves visitors feeling inspired and in awe of Mississippi's global impact on music, literature, art, and entertainment. Visit www.msarts.org to learn more.

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