ICEBERGS AHEAD

Loan from Boston marks just the tip of a new partnership between the Museum of Fine Arts and Mattatuck Museum

‘Icebergs’ by Frederic Edwin Church (American, 1826-1900), 1863, Oil on canvas.

The Mattatuck Museum’s own ‘Icebergs’ painting is from 1871.

By Tracey O'Shaughnessy Republican-American

Postignous pieces of American art from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, will be making their way to Mattatuck Museum during the next six years.

On Wednesday, the Mattatuck announced a new initiative with MFA to bring three exhibitions in the next six years to the Waterbury museum. The first exhibit will include the MFA’s ‘Icebergs’ (1863), by Frederic Edwin Church, a small painting that masterfully captures a grand subject: the vivid reflections of sunlight off the surface of an iceberg. It will be on display at the Mattatuck from June 24 through Sept. 2. Mattatuck will pair the loan with its own “Icebergs,” painted in 1871, and will augment the exhibit with historical material, including a book illustrated by Church, paintings of the Arctic by William Bradford and other contemporary works of the region.

This partnership is made possible by a grant of nearly $2 million the MFA received from the Terra Foundation for American Art to expand access to American art. In addition to the Mattatuck, the MFA selected three other partners in the Northeast: the Frick Art Museum in Cooperstown, N.Y., the Michele and Donald D’Amore Museum of Fine Arts in Springfield, Mass., and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

The MFA’s Art of the Americas Collection contains about 100,000 objects and artifacts. Every time these works of art from our collection reach out to other communities, it’s about sharing our collection, which is an old collection, a large collection but it’s really more about our learning about these audiences, which are not like our audiences in urban settings,” said Elliot Rootwick Davis, chair of MFA’s Art of the Americas Collection.

It’s about sharing our collection, which is an old collection, a large collection but it’s really more about our learning about these audiences, which are not like our audiences in an urban setting,” said Elliot Rootwick Davis, chair of MFA’s Art of the Americas Collection.

The Mattatuck Museum’s own ‘Icebergs’ painting is from 1871.

The Mattatuck Museum’s own ‘Icebergs’ painting is from 1871.

See what Dilbert and the gang are doing today.

“I really liked the way they presented their values and goals on the walls.”
— Elliot Bostwick Davis, chair of MFA’s Art of the Americas Collection, referring to Mattatuck Museum in Waterbury