Art museum sidewalk sale offers wide selection of beads

BROOKINGS, S.D. — A sidewalk sale featuring reduced prices on decorative beads used for jewelry, craft or artistic work will take place at the South Dakota Art Museum’s Anderson Plaza from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 15.

All museum store beads are 20 percent off, including a number that are specially discounted even more. SDAM members receive an additional 10 percent off their total purchase price.

The sale also includes African fabric, which will be on display on the plaza and in the lower level of the museum in the multipurpose room.

“Bead enthusiasts travel a long way for a sale like this,” said Pam Adler, museum store manager. “Our first sale last year was so popular; it was a really fun day and we had a large turn out.”

While the sale of beads and fabric happens outside the museum, inside an exhibition called “African Beads and Beadwork: Jewels of a Continent” is on display from June 6 through August 28 in the main gallery. The exhibit focuses on the rich history of beading in African culture. Beads, bead books and fabrics are also for sale in the museum gift shop. The exhibit features various artists and a book by the same title.

“People of all cultures have used beads since ancient times,” according to Evelyn Simak and Carl Dreibelbis, authors of ‘African Beads: Jewels of a lost Continent.’ “They have used beads for personal adornment, for protection against evil powers or as symbol of status and wealth.”

For more information about the sidewalk sale or the exhibit, questions can be directed to the South Dakota Art Museum at 605-688-4313 or www.southdakotaartmuseum.com

Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Noon to 4 p.m. on Sundays.

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Photo: Colorful and unique beads will be on sale at the second annual sidewalk sale at the South Dakota Art Museum. Many of these intricate beads will be marked down by at least 20 percent.