



Museum Council 2020-21



Museum
of Fine Arts
Boston



Join Boston's vibrant group of young arts and culture enthusiasts

Review this brochure for benefits associated with each level of membership and register or renew your membership at mfa.org/council



Matthew Teitelbaum, Ann and Graham Gund Director, alongside MFA artists-in-residence Rob Stull and Rob "Problak" Gibbs. Stull and Gibbs led the "The Mural Project," a multi-part initiative supported in part by the Museum Council Artist in Residency Fund and the Museum Council Community Mural Fund.

The Museum Council is one of our most passionate and devoted communities here at the MFA. Your membership provides crucial unrestricted support to the Museum. This kind of flexible funding is needed now, more than ever, and will help to secure a strong and stable future for the MFA.

As thanks for your vital support, members of the Museum Council enjoy a selection of exclusive benefits including complimentary admission, special early access to exhibitions, and invitations to special events. Although current circumstances prevent us from gathering in person, the 2020–21 Museum Council Season is designed to keep you close to the MFA's collection, staff, and fellow young philanthropists.

I hope you will visit us as often as you can, and share what you love about the MFA with others. Thank you for your commitment to furthering our mission.

Matthew Teitelbaum
Ann and Graham Gund Director

Levels and Benefits

Museum Council Membership Benefits

- Early access to free timed-entry tickets to visit the collections and special exhibitions*
- Reciprocal admission benefits at 22 major art museums
- 15% discount at all MFA dining venues
- 10% discount at all MFA Shop locations—in stores and online
- Complimentary parking for Museum Council events, and up to 40% when visiting the Museum
- Discounted tickets to lectures, courses, concerts, and films*
- Recognition in the Annual Report
- Additional benefits based on member level (below and next page)

Patron | Starting at \$3,000

Up to two people, ages 21–49

All the benefits of the Fellow level, plus:

- Invitations for two people to all Museum Council Member, Fellow, and Patron events
- The chance to attend select Patron Program events (admits two), featuring access to curators and behind-the-scenes looks at special exhibitions

\$350 is not tax deductible

Fellow | Starting at \$1,200

Up to two people, ages 21–45

All the benefits of the Member level, plus:

- 8 VIP passes to special exhibitions*
- Invitations for two people to all Museum Council Member and Fellow events
- Opportunities to join MFA travel programs and/or visit a Boston-area private collection*
- Unique gatherings led by MFA curators and other special guests focused on art appreciation and connoisseurship.

\$350 is not tax deductible

Member | \$600

Up to two people, ages 21–45

- Invitations for two people to all Museum Council Member events
- Museum admission for four adults and children 17 and under*
- 6 VIP passes to special exhibitions*
- Opportunity to join Curators Circles—a special way for members to learn about the MFA's collections

\$300 is not tax deductible

Associate | \$300

One person, age 21–26

- Invitations for one person to all Museum Council Member events
- Museum admission for two adults and children 17 and under*
- 4 VIP passes to special exhibitions*

\$300 is not tax deductible

**Indicates that these benefits are subject to limitations due to the current COVID-19 pandemic.*

Choose Your Circle!

Museum Council Patrons, Fellows, and Members are eligible to join Curators Circles. Choose from among 15 groups to gain a deeper dive into MFA collection areas with curators and other experts, fellow Council members, and other high-level MFA members. Get closer to your MFA and help departments, and the Museum, fund a future full of art.

For more information, visit mfa.org/curatorcircles

Events

The health and safety of the MFA community, including members, visitors, and staff, is our top priority. For this reason, the Museum Council is pleased to offer a series of exceptional virtual events throughout the 2020–21 season. We hope to be able to offer some in-person events during 2021, as well as continue providing opportunities to connect virtually for those who are not able to join us at the Museum.

Invitations to our virtual events are sent by e-mail in advance of each event. To RSVP, kindly follow the instructions on each invitation. All Museum Council virtual events will be recorded. Should you wish to receive a link to the recording after the event, please contact the Museum Council office at museumcouncil@mfa.org.

Patron and Fellow Events

New Acquisitions across Time

Tuesday, October 20, 2020

Council Fellow and Council Patron members are invited to join a special discussion with Contemporary Art curators. Co-organizers Debra Lennard, curatorial assistant; Marina Tyquiengco, curatorial assistant; and Michelle Millar Fisher, Ronald C. and Anita L. Wornick Curator of Contemporary Decorative Arts, introduce their upcoming cross-departmental exhibition.

Why Collect?

Monday, February 8, 2021

Together with members of Curators Circles: Prints and Drawings, Council Fellow and Council Patron members are invited to join curators in a lively and varied conversation about the universal impulse to collect. From the department's own changing and upcoming priorities to the sharing of especially meaningful works from your own collections, this interactive session brings us together around what we cherish, love, and, in some instances, still seek.

Co-organized by Curators Circles: Prints and Drawings and the Museum Council.

Virtual Studio Visit: Ambreen Butt

Thursday, March 4, 2021

Ambreen Butt is a past recipient of the Maud Morgan Prize from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and an accomplished artist who transforms the materials, techniques, and formats of Indian miniature painting into dazzling room-sized installations. Join members of Curators Circles: Art of South Asia and the Middle East as Butt takes us through her studio and tells us about her practice, works in progress, and her plans for the future.

Co-organized by Curators Circles: Art of South Asia and the Middle East and the Museum Council.





Events

Member Events

Museum Council Kickoff: Monuments, Museums, and Memory

Wednesday, October 14, 2020

Celebrate a new season of Museum Council events and engage in a conversation about monuments, the public square, and the museum with Ethan W. Lasser, John Moors Cabot Chair, Art of the Americas; Erica Hirshler, Croll Senior Curator of American Paintings; Nonie Gadsden, Katharine Lane Weems Senior Curator of American Decorative Arts and Sculpture; and Layla Bermeo, Kristin and Roger Servison Associate Curator of Paintings, Art of the Americas.

SMFA Virtual Art Sale

Wednesday, October 28, 2020

Join Dina Deitsch, director and chief curator of the Tufts University Art Galleries, in dialogue with Jen Mergel, SMFA at Tufts advisor and Boston-based contemporary art curator who conceived the 2020 Exquisite Corpse project, which is a special part of this year's SMFA Art Sale. Gain special early access to the 2020 SMFA Art Sale, the first ever virtual sale, featuring a curated selection of 200-plus participating artists chosen by curator Akili Tommasino, associate curator, Modern and Contemporary Art, artist Shinique Smith, and gallerist Nina Johnson. All proceeds support the contributing artists and dedicated scholarship fund for underrepresented student-artists.

“Writing the Future: Basquiat and the Hip-Hop Generation” Virtual Celebration

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

Be among the first to celebrate the new exhibition in the Ann and Graham Gund Gallery, “Writing the Future: Basquiat and the Hip-Hop Generation,” which features Basquiat’s works in painting, sculpture, drawing, video, music, and fashion alongside works by his contemporaries—and sometimes collaborators—A-One, ERO, Fab 5 Freddy, Futura, Keith Haring, Koolhaas, LA2, Lady Pink, Lee Quiñones, Rammellzee, and Toxic. Throughout the 1980s, these artists fueled new directions in fine art, design, and music, driving the now-global popularity of hip-hop culture.

“Monet and Boston: Lasting Impression” Virtual Celebration

Monday, December 7, 2020

Join exhibition curator Katie Hanson, associate curator, Paintings, Art of Europe; Sarah Thompson, curator of Japanese Art; Maureen Melton, Susan Morse Hilles Director of Libraries and Archives, Museum historian; and Chelsea Garunay, senior designer, to laud the opening of this long-awaited exhibition as we celebrate a great treasure of the collection with a once-in-a-generation chance to see all 35 of the Museum’s oil paintings by Monet.

An Advance Look at the Ancient Greek and Roman Art Galleries

Wednesday, December 16, 2020

Enjoy an exclusive advance look at the Ancient Greek and Roman Art galleries. Christine Kondoleon, George D. and Margo Behrakis Senior Curator of Greek and Roman Art; Phoebe Segal, Mary Bryce Comstock Curator of Greek and Roman Art; and Laure Marest, Cornelius and Emily Vermeule Assistant Curator, Greek and Roman Art, take us behind the scenes of this extensive multi-year project.

Member Events *(continued)*

Collecting Panel
Wednesday, February 17, 2021
Rose-Marie and Eijk van Otterloo and Susan and Matthew Weatherbie have made a commitment to give their exceptional collections of 17th-century Dutch and Flemish art to the Museum. This donation constitutes the largest gift of European paintings in MFA history. Christopher Atkins, Van Otterloo-Weatherbie Director, Center for Netherlandish Art, moderates a conversation on building a collection, this incredible gift, and the new Center for Netherlandish Art.

Recent Acquisitions in Conversation
Monday, March 22, 2021
How does a museum’s collection change when new objects arrive? Exploring that question, this spring’s exhibition presents recent contemporary acquisitions in conversation with rarely seen objects from across the MFA’s collection, welcoming new stories. In this evening of discussion, artists featured in the exhibition join curators to discuss their work and dig into art’s ability to reach across diverse time periods, cultures, and geographies.

Masterpieces of Egyptian Sculpture from the Pyramid Age
Tuesday, April 13, 2021
Join Lawrence Berman, Norma Jean Calderwood Senior Curator of Ancient Egyptian, Nubian, and Near Eastern Art; and senior designer Chelsea Garunay to celebrate the opening of “Masterpieces of Egyptian Sculpture from the Pyramid Age,” a new gallery devoted to our inimitable collection of Old Kingdom sculpture, the finest outside of Cairo, and “Faces from Ancient Egypt,” a choice selection of ancient Egyptian portraits in stone from different periods, including the famous “Boston Green Head.”

The Black Female Figure from Manet to Matisse
Robert J. Boardingham Memorial Lecture
Thursday, May 6, 2021
Hear from Denise Murrell, associate curator for 19th- and 20th-century art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, as she surveys the evolving portrayal of the Black female figure in modernist French painting from the late 19th-century emergence of Impressionism through the early 20th-century School of Paris. Through a close pictorial analysis of iconic works from Manet’s *Olympia* and Gerome’s *The Moorish Bath* to Matisse’s more recently prominent *Aicha and Lorette* and *Woman in White*, explore the transformation of this figure from an Orientalist evocation of the French empire to an expanding Black presence in modern Paris from the post-abolition era to World War II.
Presented with the support of Scott and Isabelle Black.

An Evening with the Director
Tuesday, May 25, 2021
Together with members of the Patron Program, hear from Matthew Teitelbaum, Ann and Graham Gund Director, on his reflections on the past and future of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.





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RELATED EXHIBITIONS 2020–21

Writing the Future: Basquiat and the Hip-Hop Generation

Monet and Boston: Lasting Impression

IMAGES

Signature image: Bisa Butler, *To God and Truth* (detail), 2019. Printed cotton, pieced, appliqued, and quilted. John H. and Ernestine A. Payne Fund, The Heritage Fund for a Diverse Collection, and Arthur Mason Knapp Fund. © Bisa Butler and Claire Oliver Gallery

Eben Haines, *Shelter in Place*, 2020. Foam core, mat board, acrylic and latex paint, balsa wood, redwood, plexiglass, adhesive-backed vinyl, adhesive-backed polyvinyl, aluminum. The Wornick Fund for Contemporary Craft. © Eben Haines Studio

Claude Monet, *Grainstack (Sunset)* (detail), 1891. Oil on canvas. Juliana Cheney Edwards Collection.

Head of a priest (The Boston Green Head), Egyptian, Late Period, Dynasty 30, 380–332 B.C. Greywacke. Henry Lillie Pierce Fund.

Jean-Michel Basquiat, *Hollywood Africans*, 1983. Acrylic and oil paintstick on canvas. Whitney Museum of American Art, New York. Gift of Douglas S. Cramer. © Estate of Jean-Michel Basquiat. Licensed by Artestar, New York.



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