2020–21
Patrons

Museum of Fine Arts Boston
Patrons are at the heart of the MFA

The Patron Program is one of the MFA’s most valued groups of friends and supporters and your ticket to an unparalleled experience. While current circumstances prevent us from gathering in person at the Museum in the near future, Patrons will, as always, receive a wide range of robust benefits and privileges, including special event invitations, insider curatorial access to the collection, and a staff dedicated to enriching your Patron experience.

Patrons are committed to the preservation and celebration of one of the world’s great art collections. Patron gifts provide unrestricted support to the Museum—the kind of flexible funding that, now more than ever, will help ensure the strength and stability of the Museum. Patron support sustains the Museum, enabling the MFA to connect with our community on the deepest levels.

Art can strengthen our understanding of the world around us and offer solace, clarity, and perspective. Whether you are an active or prospective Patron, we invite you to discover this for yourself by looking through our schedule of virtual events and joining us as MFA Patrons this year.

If you have questions or want to learn more, the Museum’s Patron office is here to help! Please call 617-369-3211 or e-mail patronprogram@mfa.org.

Matthew Teitelbaum
ANN AND GRAHAM GUND DIRECTOR

Alice Galakatos
CHAIR, PATRON PROGRAM COMMITTEE
Join today
Visit mfa.org/patron

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

Levels

Chairman’s Circle Patron
$100,000 or more

President’s Circle Patron
$50,000 to $99,999

Director’s Circle Patron
$30,000 to $49,999

Patron Sponsor
$12,000 to $29,999

Patron Member
$3,000 to $5,999

Patron Fellow
$6,000 to $11,999

Patron Program Committee 2020–21

Alice Galakatos
CHAIR

Mary Margaret Graham
VICE CHAIR, STEWARDSHIP

Francesca Piper Koss
VICE CHAIR, YOUNG PATRON

Beth Paisner
VICE CHAIR, PROGRAMMING

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Sibel Bessim

Carla Cabot

Nancy Corkery

Deb Glasser

Alex Hastings

Veronica Heath

Liz Marcoulier

Sue O’Brien

Peri Onipede

Yvette Shakespeare

Ameeta Soni

Craig Tevolitz

Catherine Truman

Emi Winterer
Patron Privileges

An Unparalleled Experience

Privileges listed are subject to limitations imposed by our commitment to the health and safety of our members, visitors, and staff in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please contact the Patron Office with specific questions.

Chairman’s Circle Patron
Contributing $100,000 or more
- Unlimited admission for you and your guests
- 30 VIP passes per major exhibition *
- Opportunity to host an intimate cocktail party for up to 10 guests at the MFA with the curator and collection of your choice *
- Complimentary valet parking at the MFA *
- Complimentary annual membership in a Curators Circle of your choosing
- All benefits at the President’s Circle level

President’s Circle Patron
Contributing $50,000–$99,999
- Unlimited admission for you and your guests
- 20 VIP passes per major exhibition *
- A complimentary exhibition catalogue selected by MFA staff
- All benefits at the Director’s Circle level

Director’s Circle Patron
Contributing $30,000–$49,999
- Unlimited admission for you and your guests
- 18 VIP passes per major exhibition *
- Invitations to all Director’s Circle events and learning opportunities
- Invitation to join the Ann and Graham Gund Director for an exclusive travel opportunity *
- Opportunity to rent space at the MFA to host your private event with the reservation fee fully waived
- Ability to host a wedding at the MFA (as the couple or the parents of the couple)
- All benefits at the Patron Sponsor level

Patron Sponsor
Contributing $12,000–$29,999
- Admission for four adults and children 17 and under
- 16 VIP passes per major exhibition *
- Invitations to all Patron Sponsor events and learning opportunities
- All benefits at the Patron Fellow level

Patron Fellow
Contributing $6,000–$11,999
- Admission for four adults and children 17 and under
- 14 VIP passes per major exhibition *
- Invitations to all Patron Fellow events and learning opportunities
- All benefits at the Patron Member level

Patron Member
Contributing $3,000–$5,999
- Admission for four adults and children 17 and under
- 12 VIP passes per major exhibition *
- Invitations to all Patron Member events and learning opportunities

All Patrons receive
- Free admission to the collections and all exhibitions
- A direct phone line and e-mail address to reach staff dedicated to personally handling your special requests
- Reciprocal admission benefits at 22 major art museums
- Opportunities to travel with curators *
- Opportunity to join Curators Circles—a special way for members to learn about the MFA’s collections
- Recognition in the Annual Report
- Parking discount of up to 40%
- Discount on Summer Party tickets *
- 15% discount at all Museum dining venues
- 10% discount at MFA shops, in stores and online
- Updates on exhibitions, programs, and events, with specific information for Patrons with a twice-yearly newsletter

Please note that benefits and privileges of Patron membership cannot be transferred to Corporations. For more information about the Museum’s Corporate partnerships opportunities, please visit mfa.org/give/corporate-partnerships.

* Indicates that these benefits are subject to limitations due to the current COVID-19 pandemic.
Host a Private Event at the MFA

An additional privilege of Patron membership includes the ability to host your own exclusive private event. Patrons who participate in the Patron Program with an annual donation of $10,000 receive a 50% discount on the MFA reservation fee; with an annual donation of $20,000 or higher, the entire MFA reservation fee is waived.

Tie the Knot at the MFA

Director’s Circle, President’s Circle, and Chairman’s Circle Patrons have the additional opportunity to host a wedding at the MFA (as either the couple or the parents of the couple).

While social distancing guidelines and COVID-19 restrictions currently prevent us from hosting live events, we’d be pleased to answer any questions about hosting your event in the future. Please contact Restaurant Associates Catering for additional information at 617-369-3115.

Choose Your Circle!

All Patrons 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 Patrons 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/curatorscircles
Patron Events

Stay engaged!

The health and safety of the Museum’s community is our top priority. For this reason, the Patron Program is pleased to offer a series of exceptional virtual opportunities throughout the 2020–21 season. We hope to be able to offer some in-person events during 2021, as well as continue to offer virtual events for those who are unable 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 the invitation. All Patron virtual events are recorded, and a link of the recording is available on request.

Chairman’s Circle, President’s Circle, and Director’s Circle Patrons

Contribute $30,000 to $100,000 or more

Chairman’s Circle Patrons, President’s Circle Patrons, and Director’s Circle Patrons receive invitations to these exclusive events, in addition to all Patron Sponsor, Fellow, and Member events.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020, EVENING

Director’s Holiday Party

“Del Gesù” Violin: A Visiting Masterpiece

Chairman’s Circle, President’s Circle, and Director’s Circle Patrons join Ann and Graham Gund Director Matthew Teitelbaum and MFA Trustees to celebrate the holiday season with a special musical performance featuring a Cremonese violin by Giuseppe Guarnieri “del Gesù.” Join us to learn more about the instrument and hear this rare example of a “del Gesù” violin on loan to the MFA played by assistant principal violinist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Julianne Lee.

Co-organized by the Patron Program and Curators Circles: Musical Instruments.

TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2021, EVENING

A Special Evening with the MFA’s Director

Members at the Director’s Circle, President’s Circle, and Chairman’s Circle levels are invited to join Ann and Graham Gund Director Matthew Teitelbaum for a special event. A formal invitation will follow and will include details about the evening.

This evening is generously supported by Sotheby’s.
Patron Sponsors
Contributing $12,000 to $29,999

Patron Sponsors receive invitations to these special events, in addition to all Patron Fellow and Member events.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2020, EVENING
Time and Place: Julie Mehretu and Cy Twombly
Celebrate the recently published Cy Twombly: Making Past Present, which accompanies the upcoming exhibition at the MFA and the Getty. Curator Christine Kondoleon, George D. and Margo Behrakis Chair, Art of Ancient Greece and Rome, and colleague Kate Nesin offer a sampling of works by Twombly that illustrate the influence of Italy and the Mediterranean on his art. Following, hear Reto Thüring, Beal Family Chair of Contemporary Art, in conversation with artist Julie Mehretu.

TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021, EVENING
Spotlight on Light: From Artistic Medium to Conservation Tool
Appreciating light’s complexity is central to the work of Museum conservators. Patron Sponsors join Curators Circles: Conservation and Collections members for an exploration of light: what it is, what it can reveal, and how conservators use it to better understand and preserve the world of art. Light is considered from the point of view of the artist, the conservator, and the scientist.
Co-organized by the Patron Program and Curators Circles: Conservation and Collections.
Patron Fellows

Contributing $6,000 to $11,999

Patron Fellows receive invitations to these special events, in addition to all Patron Member events.

Thursday, November 12, 2020, Evening

Sacred Art in Museum Spaces

Join fellow members of the Patron Program for an evening dedicated to religion at the MFA. In recent years, MFA curators have made a renewed effort to include multiple perspectives in programs and exhibitions and to better address the art and culture of diverse communities. In this program, we welcome Kathryn Gunsch, Department Head and Teel Curator of African and Oceanic Art; Simona Di Nepi, Charles and Lynn Schusterman Curator of Judaica; Marietta Cambareri, Senior Curator of European Sculpture and Jetskalina H. Phillips Curator of Judaica; and Laura Weinstein, Ananda Coomaraswamy Curator of South Asian and Islamic Art. These curators of four distinct collections share their thoughts on how to engage with the complex topic of religion and art.

Tuesday, March 2, 2021, Evening

Virtual Travelogue through Japanese Art and Culture

Patron Fellows are invited to join Anne Nishimura Morse, William and Helen Pounds Senior Curator of Japanese Art, on a virtual travelogue of traditional as well as contemporary Japan. Explore this beautiful country from the comfort of your home and learn more about the MFA’s world-class collection of Japanese art.
Patron Members
Contributing $3,000 to $5,999

Tuesday, September 29, 2020, Evening
Patron Season Opener: Monuments, Museums, and Memory
Join fellow members of the Patron Program as we kick off the 2020–21 season. Patrons hear an update from Matthew Teitelbaum, Ann and Graham Gund Director, 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 Gaddeh, 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.

Wednesday, October 28, 2020, Evening
SMFA Virtual Art Sale
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, a special part of this year’s SMFA Art Sale.

Event attendees gain 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.

Tuesday, November 17, 2020, Evening
“Writing the Future: Basquiat and the Hip-Hop Generation” Virtual Celebration
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, Kool Koor, 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.
MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2020, EVENING
“Monet and Boston: Lasting Impression” Virtual Celebration
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 and Museum Historian; and Chelsea Garunay, senior designer, to celebrate the opening of this long-awaited exhibition as we cheer 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.

MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2021, EVENING
Recent Acquisitions in Conversation
Using recent Contemporary acquisitions as a starting point, curators from around the Museum bring together thoughtful object pairings to prompt alternate and expanded readings of these works and the ways they connect to wider worlds. A truly collaborative effort, this exhibition celebrates the MFA’s lesser-known highlights, and underscores that every work in the Museum was once a new acquisition.
Patron Members CONTINUED

TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021, EVENING
Masterpieces from the Pyramid Age
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 of Ancient Egypt,” a choice selection of ancient Egyptian portraits in stone from different periods, including the famous “Boston Green Head.”

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021, EVENING
The Black Female Figure from Manet to Matisse
Robert J. Boardingham Memorial Lecture
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

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2021, EVENING
Patron Season Closer
Patrons hear from Matthew Teitelbaum, Ann and Graham Gund Director, on his reflections on the past and future of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.
RELATED EXHIBITIONS 2020–21

Writing the Future: Basquiat and the Hip-Hop Generation

Monet and Boston: Lasting Impression

IMAGES


Pages 18–19: Head of a Priest (The Boston Green Head), Egyptian, Late Period, Dynasty 30, 380–332 BCE. Greywacke. Henry Lillie Pierce Fund.

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