Creating a community around art

I often speak with you, our most active supporters, on what your membership and generosity mean to the MFA. When you choose to join these membership groups, whether at the Museum Council, Advocate, or Patron level, you show commitment and leadership as, together, we create Boston’s world-class civic space for experiencing art.

You make our community thrive, every year without fail, and these programs created especially for you are our way of recognizing your contributions. In countless ways, your generosity is what makes our Museum accessible to so many. It’s rewarding—and meaningful—to come together in celebration, in learning, and in recognition of the craftsmanship, science, creativity, deep scholarship, and passion that make up our mutual commitment to the transformative power of art. And when we come together, our conversations make community happen, as we make our MFA stronger and more welcoming.

A new season begins, each month bringing discoveries and intriguing events. An additional benefit of higher levels of membership is eligibility for Curators Circles. Consider this unique opportunity to focus on one area or department, convene with like-minded supporters to explore the creative world in galleries, on trips near and far; as well as gain behind-the-scenes looks at our own must-see exhibitions, artwork, and new galleries. However you choose to participate, we hope you will join us as we celebrate being together again in our beautiful building.

I personally want to invite you to the opening reception for one of the upcoming season’s standout exhibitions, “Fashioned by Sargent” in October.

Your annual gift as a Museum Council, Advocate, or Patron member provides your ticket to the rich, extensive programs listed here. You also have access to our dedicated Patron Program and Museum Council staff, who are available to answer your questions and help you plan visits.

With your membership and active participation, we are stronger. Your support is essential for our operations, the continuing work of our curatorial and conservation departments, and our programs dedicated to bringing art and people together. And we so value and appreciate your presence here at the MFA.

Thank you for what promises to be another wonderful season. I look forward to seeing you in the galleries soon.

Matthew Teitelbaum
Ann and Graham Gund Director
Exhibition Highlights

Matthew Wong:
The Realm of Appearances
► 7/1/23 – 2/18/24
► Henry and Lois Foster Gallery

This is the first museum retrospective and first US museum exhibition devoted to acclaimed self-taught artist Matthew Wong. Featuring approximately 40 works, it explores how Wong adeptly synthesized many inspirations—including the Fauvists, 17th-century Qing period ink painters, and contemporaries he admired—to create a visual language uniquely his own.

Toshiko Takeaezu:
Shaping Abstraction
► 9/30/23 – 9/29/24
► Saundra B. and William H. Lane Galleries

Best known for her ceramic sculptures, which she treated as abstract paintings, Toshiko Takeaezu applied her gestural style and distinctive palettes to equally innovative paintings and textiles. Featuring her art in diverse media displayed in what the artist called “living environments,” this exhibition celebrates the extraordinary range of Takeaezu’s work.

Tiny Treasures:
The Magic of Miniatures
► 7/1/23 – 2/18/24
► Charlotte F. and Irving W. Rabb Gallery

Full of charm and humor, miniatures carry meaning all the more profound for being distilled into a smaller form. Featuring works in a surprising array of media—paintings, drawings, ceramics, precious metals and gems, and more—from the 7th century BCE to today, this exhibition explores miniaturization in art.

Tender Loving Care: Contemporary Art from the Collection
► 7/22/23 – 7/28/25
► Linde Family Wing for Contemporary Art, Level 2

This exhibition looks at how different forms of care structure our lives. Bringing together around 100 works from the collection, including recent acquisitions and objects that have never been on view before, it considers how artists address concepts of care through materials, subjects, and processes.

Fashioned by Sargent
► 10/8/23 – 1/15/24
► Ann and Graham Gund Gallery

John Singer Sargent brought his portraits to life by more than simply recording what appeared before him. Organized with Tate Britain, this exhibition explores Sargent’s complex relationship with his clients and their clothes. Alongside about 50 Sargent paintings, period garments and accessories reveal connections between fashion and the artist’s practice.

Hallyu! The Korean Wave
► 3/24/24 – 7/28/24
► Ann and Graham Gund Gallery

With a dazzling display of bold artwork across media, this exhibition showcases the colorful and dynamic popular culture of South Korea, exploring the makings of the Korean Wave and its global impact on the creative industries of cinema, drama, music, fandom, beauty, fashion, and more.

Dress Up
► 4/13/24 – 9/2/24
► Henry and Lois Foster Gallery

Self-fashioning through jewelry, clothing, and accessories can create signature looks, make political statements, express moods, or communicate private or personal identities. With more than 100 works from the MFA’s collection, this exhibition explores the curation of a look and celebrates fashion and jewelry as tools for shaping identity.

See “Fashioned by Sargent” on view 10/8/23 – 1/15/24.

Above: John Singer Sargent. Lady Agnew of Lochnaw (detail), 1892. Oil on canvas. National Galleries of Scotland, purchased with the aid of the Cowan-Smith Bequest Fund 1925.
Museum Council

Celebrate art and find your community

The Museum Council is Boston’s premier group of young arts and culture enthusiasts. Membership offers inside access to art experiences, social opportunities, and more.

Each level of Museum Council membership offers a range of exciting benefits, outlined on the following pages.

Museum Council Committee 2023–24

Alice Lewis, Chair
Ronit Antebi-Hadar, Vice Chair
Astrid Burns, Vice Chair
Chris Kelley, Vice Chair
Madison Maushart, Vice Chair
Andrea Porres, Vice Chair
Georgina Winthrop, Vice Chair

Gabriel Chevalier
Claudia Deeley
Phillip Eisner
Harriet Fink
Javier Grevely
Arjun Gupta
Emily Anne Jacobstein
Jacob Lazarus
Jack Lucero
Cameron Rahbar

Allison Robinson
Paul Siegel
Oleksiy Slobodyan
Kelly Starman
Hanna Tuomi
Member Level

Season Opener Celebration: “Tender Loving Care: Contemporary Art from the Collection”

» Tuesday 9/19/23  ▶ Evening  ▶ In Person
Join the Contemporaries for a tour of the MFA’s newest exhibition of contemporary art from the collection with Michelle Millar Fisher, Ronald C. and Anita L. Wornick Curator of Contemporary Decorative Arts, and Kendall DeBoer; curatorial assistant, Contemporary Art. A reception follows.

Opening Reception: “Fashioned by Sargent”

» Tuesday 10/3/23  ▶ Evening  ▶ In Person
Join director Matthew Teitelbaum and exhibition curator Erica Hirshler, Croll Senior Curator of American Paintings, for the opening reception and first look at this landmark exhibition.

Halloween at the MFA

» Saturday 10/28/23  ▶ Morning  ▶ In Person
Put on your costume and bring the kids to the Museum for a morning of art-making activities, games, and Halloween-inspired treats.

Scavenger Hunt

» Saturday 11/4/23  ▶ Afternoon  ▶ In Person
Team up with fellow Council members for a Museum-wide scavenger hunt. Unleash your competitive spirit as you embark on an adventure through the galleries. Bragging rights and a prize await the victorious team, with refreshments to celebrate.

The Curatorial Dinner: Exploring the Art of Conservation

» Thursday 1/18/24  ▶ Evening  ▶ In Person  ▶ Ticketed
Embark on a journey through the state-of-the-art Conservation Center, where conservators will provide an up close view of their work in the lab. A private seated dinner follows. Dinner is ticketed with an additional fee due to limited space.

Dry January New Year Celebration

» Saturday 1/20/24  ▶ Afternoon  ▶ In Person
Finish Dry January strong with a celebratory make-your-own appetizer board and mocktail master class. Learn about different types of cheeses, charcuterie, and accoutrements and be inspired by delicious mocktails to pair with your creations.

Movie at the MFA

» Sunday 2/25/24  ▶ Afternoon  ▶ In Person
Beat cabin fever with a cozy afternoon of family-friendly cinema. Enjoy a delightful movie experience that’s perfect for all ages, and warm up your spirits. A light reception follows.

Opening Reception: “Hallyu! The Korean Wave”

» Tuesday 3/19/24  ▶ Evening  ▶ In Person
Celebrate the arrival of the Korean Wave in Boston with director Matthew Teitelbaum. Enjoy a first look at this exhibition, which showcases drama, music, beauty, and fashion from Korea.

Collecting Panel: MFA Photography’s 100th Anniversary

» Thursday 4/11/24  ▶ Evening  ▶ In Person
Celebrate the 100th anniversary of the MFA Photography department and discover valuable art-collecting insights with a panel featuring Anne Hovinga, Estrellita and Yousuf Karsh Chair; Karen Haas, Lane Senior Curator of Photographs; and Kristen Gresh, Estrellita and Yousuf Karsh Senior Curator of Photographs. A reception follows.

Season Closer Celebration: “Dress Up”

» Tuesday 5/14/24  ▶ Evening  ▶ In Person
Join the Contemporaries for this celebration of adornment and identity through jewelry, fashion, and photography with Theo Tyson, Penny Vinik Curator of Fashion Arts, and Emily Stoehrner, Rita J. Kaplan and Susan B. Kaplan Curator of Jewelry. A reception follows.

Patron Level

Also includes all Museum Council Member and Fellow level events

“Toshiko Takaezu”

» Thursday 11/30/23  ▶ Evening  ▶ In Person
Explore the art of Toshiko Takaezu on a tour with Nonie Gadsden, Katharine Lane Weems Senior Curator of American Decorative Arts and Sculpture. A dinner reception follows.

Faces of Ancient Egypt

» Thursday 3/28/24  ▶ Evening  ▶ In Person
Hear from Lawrence Berman, Norma Jean Calderwood Senior Curator of Ancient Egyptian, Nubian, and Near Eastern Art, about his latest book Faces of Ancient Egypt and tour our galleries devoted to masterpieces of Egyptian sculpture, representing one of the finest collections in the world. A dinner reception follows.

A Taste of the MFA: Connoisseurship Seminar Reimagined

» Tuesday 2/6/24  ▶ Evening  ▶ In Person
Sharpen your eye and deepen your appreciation of art with this perennial favorite event. Choose from two of five sessions led by MFA curators and conservators, followed by a dinner reception with five different food stations to expand your palate.

One Curators Circle Event of Your Choice!

Museum Council Fellows and Patrons are invited to sample a complimentary Curators Circle event (see pages 22–29). To RSVP for the event of your choice, please email curatorscircles@mfa.org.

Fellow Level

Also includes all Museum Council Member level events

An Evening with B. J. Novak

» Spring 2024  ▶ Evening  ▶ In Person
Hear from famed Massachusetts-born writer, actor, and MFA prankster B. J. Novak. Enjoy complimentary reception tickets to the public lecture and a private reception following in the Koch Gallery.


Opposite: Ji Won Choi x Adidas. Courtesy Adidas.
In Gratitude for Your Support

- Twelve months of complimentary admission to visit the MFA
- Early access to reserve complimentary special exhibition tickets
- Reciprocal admission benefits at major art museums
- 15% discount at all MFA Boston dining venues
- 10% discount at all Shop locations, in the Museum and online
- Complimentary parking for Museum Council events and a parking discount of up to 40% when visiting the Museum
- Discounted tickets to lectures, courses, concerts, films, and additional guest tickets
- Access to curator talks and programs open to all MFA members
- Access to Museum Council staff direct phone line and email for MFA questions and assistance.
- Recognition in the Annual Report
- Additional benefits based on member level

Patron
► $3,000 or more/year
Ages 21–49
All the benefits of the Fellow level, plus:
- Daily general admission for six adults and four youths (ages 7–17)
- Twelve complimentary tickets per special exhibition
- Additional specialized access and intimate learning opportunities with curators, conservators, and leadership
- Invitations to all Museum Council events (admits two)
- $530 per person, $1,060 per couple is not tax deductible

Fellow
► $1,200 to $2,999/year
Ages 21–45
All the benefits of the Member level, plus:
- Daily general admission for up to six adults and four youths (ages 7–17)
- Eight complimentary tickets per special exhibition
- Opportunity to learn more about the collections by joining Curators Circles (see page 22)
- Opportunities to travel with MFA curators. (see page 10)
- Invitations to two exclusive Museum Council Fellow events (admits two)
- $430 per person, $860 per couple is not tax deductible

Member
► $600 to $1,199/year
Ages 21–45
- Daily general admission for four adults and four youths (ages 7–17)
- Six complimentary tickets per special exhibition
- Invitations to all Museum Council Member events (admits two)
- $300 per person is not tax deductible

Associate
► $300 to $599/year
Ages 21–26
- Daily general admission for four adults and four youths (ages 7–17)
- Four complimentary tickets per special exhibition
- Invitations to all Museum Council Member events (admits two)
- Membership is not tax deductible

Choose Your Circle!
Museum Council Patrons and Fellows are eligible to join Curators Circles. Choose from 14 groups to take a deeper look into collection areas. See page 22 for more information.

Event Tips
Invitations to Museum Council events are sent by email only. Please provide a valid email address so you don’t miss any invitations and updates. Complimentary parking validation is offered at all scheduled Museum Council events.

Museum Council events are complimentary with your membership unless otherwise noted; however, space at these events is limited and not guaranteed. The event schedule is subject to change.

All invitations are for two people.

Meetups
Are you interested in meeting other members around the Boston area? In addition to our official calendar of events, members of the Museum Council periodically host meetups—a chance to connect with each other and experience art in casual social settings. Information about upcoming gatherings are sent by email.

Stay Connected
Follow us on Instagram at @mfamuseumcouncil.

Join or renew
617 369 3268
museumcouncil@mfa.org
www.mfa.org/council

Increase Your Impact with a Matching Gift!
Your company may double or triple your Museum Council membership gift. Visit mfa.org/give/matching-gifts to see if your company will match your donation, and check with your employer’s human resources department for further details.
Pack your suitcase for an art adventure

Led by the Museum’s renowned curators, our exclusive travel opportunities offer global insights on art, history, and culture. Go behind the scenes with our curators at world-renowned art fairs and museums, access spectacular private collections, meet artists, and enjoy fine cuisine and luxury accommodations.

MFA Travelers must have a current membership at one of the following levels:

- Museum Council Fellow or Patron
- Patron Member level and above

To receive itinerary and registration details or request more information, contact mfatravel@mfa.org.

Every effort is made to adhere to the dates, pricing, and curatorial participants as listed; however, circumstances beyond our control might force changes or substitutions. MFA Boston reserves every right to make any necessary alterations to tours. MFA Boston reserves the right to cancel tours due to inadequate registrations. We urge travelers not to book nonrefundable airfare until the tours have been confirmed by the Museum. In the event of a tour cancellation, any fees paid to the Museum or its travel partners will be refunded in full.

Journeys

**Art Basel Miami Beach**

- Tuesday 12/5/23–Friday 12/8/23
- Take advantage of VIP access to Art Basel Miami Beach with MFA curators. Widely regarded as North America’s leading art fair, ABMB features over 200 renowned modern and contemporary galleries displaying works by over 4,000 artists.

**Copenhagen and Stockholm**

- Friday 6/7/24–Thursday 6/13/24
- Immerse yourself in Nordic culture with Michelle Millar Fisher, Ronald C. and Anita L. Wornick Curator of Contemporary Decorative Arts, and enjoy a study of the rich history of Scandinavian decorative arts, architecture, and culinary design.

**Maastricht and the European Fine Art Fair (TEFAF)**

- Monday 3/4/24–Sunday 3/10/24
- An annual favorite, Maastricht and the European Fine Art Fair is a world-renowned gathering of art dealers. Join curatorial staff from the Museum, including Frederick Ilchman and Christopher Atkins, for an inside look at the world’s premier fair for fine art, antiques, and design. Prior to arrival in Maastricht, travelers will enjoy art from the Middle Ages to the present day, with overnight visits to Amsterdam and Bruges.

**Interested in Additional Travel Experiences?**

Many of our Curators Circles offer travel opportunities, from informal local day trips to international journeys. See pages 22–29 for more information.
Get closer to art and support the Museum you love

Your Advocate membership helps bring people and art together, opening lives and contributing vital support for the Museum.

In appreciation, we invite Advocates to sample the Patron and Curators Circles experience through invitations to a select group of events and programs designed to bring you closer to the MFA’s collection and staff.

Advocate Events

Advocates are invited to the following events. Invitations are for two and are sent by email in advance of each event. Please ensure you have provided us with a valid email. To RSVP, please follow the instructions in the invitation.

Event schedule is subject to change. Please see mfa.org/advocate for the most up-to-date event information.

Opening Reception: “Fashioned by Sargent”
► Tuesday 10/3/23 ► Evening ► In Person
Join director Matthew Teitelbaum for a first look and reception to celebrate the opening of this landmark exhibition.

Lecture and Coffee with a Curator: “Fashioned by Sargent”
► Saturday 11/4/23 ► Morning ► In Person
Go behind the scenes of this special exhibition with curator Erica Hirshler, Croll Senior Curator of American Paintings, and enjoy a morning reception.

Online Talk: Our Favorite Artworks
► Wednesday 2/7/24 ► Evening ► Virtual
If you’ve ever wondered which objects are curator and conservator favorites, find out from Layla Bermeo, Kristin and Roger Servison Curator of Paintings; Abigail Hykin, Robert P. and Carol T. Henderson Head of Objects Conservation; and Frederick Ilchman, chair and Mrs. Russell W. Baker Curator of Paintings, Art of Europe.

Lecture and Coffee with a Curator
► Saturday 6/1/24 ► Morning ► In Person
Go behind the scenes of a new installation. Speaker to be announced.

Advocate Benefits

► $1,200 to $2,999 Annual Gift
- Daily Museum general admission for up to six adults and four youths (ages 7–17)
- Early access to reserve up to eight complimentary special exhibition tickets per exhibition
- Invitations to a selection of Patron events and one Curators Circle event
- Opportunity to join Curators Circles to learn about the Museum’s collections (see page 22)
- Discounts of 10% off retail, 15% off dining, and up to 40% off on parking
- Reciprocal admission benefits at major art museums
- Access to curator talks and programs open to all MFA members
- $90 per person, $180 per couple is not tax-deductible

One Curators Circle Event of Your Choice!

Discover a deeper relationship with the Museum by sampling a complimentary Curators Circle event of your choice (see pages 22–29). Available only to our most dedicated members, Curators Circles bring you closer to the MFA’s collection with regular gatherings of curators and fellow enthusiasts in intimate settings. To RSVP for the event of your choice, please email curatorscircles@mfa.org.

Patrons

Your ticket to exhilarating art and insider experiences

Patrons are part of an intimate community of art lovers and vital investors in the future of the MFA. Patrons receive an unparalleled array of benefits and event invitations so they can become closer to the Museum they love.

Be among the first to explore our world-class exhibitions, get to know MFA curators and leadership, and dive deeper into our incredible collection.

Patrons Committee 2023–24

Rachel Rosenfeldt, Chair
Elizabeth Dunne
Marcoulier, Vice Chair

Meryl Beckingham
Patricia Bilfulco
Joan Blair
Kate Moran Collins
Nancy Corkery
Justin DuMouchelle
Lisa Dynner
Kate Enroth
Barbara Eisonson
Deborah Glasser
Jinous Hassanein
Lisa Lebovitz

Olaperi Onipede
Hadley and Allie Powell
Margo Pullman
Nalini Sharma
Phyllis Sims
Craig Tevolitz
Lisa Tovin
Susan Turpin
Emi Winterer
Chairman’s Circle
President’s Circle
and Director’s Circle
Also includes all Patron Sponsor, Fellow, and Member level events

Celebrating New Acquisitions:
Director’s Highlights
► Tuesday 1/23/24 ► Evening ► In Person
Be among the first to see a selection of our most important 2023 acquisition highlights with Matthew Tietelbaum, Ann and Graham Gund Director. An elegant dinner follows.

Director’s Fine Art Dinner
► Tuesday 4/23/24 ► Evening ► In Person
Join Matthew Tietelbaum for the rare opportunity to enjoy a seated, multi-course fine food and wine dinner amid the jewels of the MFA’s world-renowned Impressionist collection. Enjoy a presentation by Frederick Ilchman, chair and Mrs. Russell W. Baker Curator of Paintings, Art of Europe, and special guests. Presented in partnership with Sotheby’s.

Patron Sponsor
Also includes all Patron Fellow and Member level events

Patron Sponsor Dinner:
“Toshiko Takaezu: Shaping Abstraction”
► Tuesday 11/14/23 ► Evening ► In Person
Join exhibition curator Nonie Gadsden, Katharine Lane Weems Senior Curator of American Decorative Arts and Sculpture, in conversation with artists who served as Takaezu’s apprentices, each living and working with the artist at her home and studio. A private viewing of the exhibition and an elegant dinner follow.

Celebrating 100 Years of Photography at the MFA
► Tuesday 5/7/24 ► Evening ► In Person
Celebrate the centennial of the MFA’s landmark acquisition of photographs from Alfred Stieglitz, which established the MFA as one of the first museums in the United States to collect photography. Join curators to view highlights from the collection, followed by a seated dinner.

► Patrons
Patron Fellow
Also includes all Patron Member level events

Curators in Conversation: Art Museums and Religions
► Tuesday 9/26/23 ► Evening ► In Person
How do MFA curators think about galleries that feature works made for religious or devotional purposes? How can museums combat prejudice and create connections across cultures? Tour recent installations and hear from curators about how they present objects sacred to Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Catholicism, and other faiths in the Museum. A dinner reception follows.

A Taste of the MFA: The Annual Patron Connoisseurship Seminar
► Tuesday 2/20/24 ► Evening ► In Person
Sharpen your eye and deepen your appreciation of art with this perennial favorite event. Choose from two of five sessions led by MFA curators and conservators, followed by a dinner reception with five different food stations to expand your palate.

Patron Member

Opening Reception: “Fashioned by Sargent”
► Tuesday 10/3/23 ► Evening ► In Person
Join Director Matthew Teitelbaum and Erica Hirshler, Croll Senior Curator of American Paintings, for the opening reception and first look at this landmark exhibition.

Opening Reception: “Strong Women in Renaissance Italy”
► Monday 10/16/23 ► Evening ► In Person
Celebrate the start of the Patron Season with this behind-the-scenes talk from Marietta Cambareni, senior curator of European Sculpture. A private exploration of this new exhibition and dinner reception follow.

Patron Season Closer Celebration
► Tuesday 5/21/24 ► Evening ► In Person
Hear from director Matthew Teitelbaum about recent MFA initiatives and plans for the future. An elegant dinner reception with live music follows.

Lecture and Coffee with a Curator: “Fashioned by Sargent”
► Saturday 11/4/23 ► Morning ► In Person
Go behind the scenes of this special exhibition with curator Erica Hirshler and enjoy a morning reception.

Online Talk: Our Favorite Artworks
► Wednesday 2/7/24 ► Evening ► Virtual
If you’ve ever wondered which objects are curator and conservator favorites, find out from Layla Bermeo, Kristin and Roger Servison Curator of Paintings; Abigail Hykin, Robert P. and Carol T. Henderson Head of Objects Conservation; and Frederick Ilchman, chair and Mrs. Russell W. Baker Curator of Paintings, Art of Europe.

Opening Reception: “Hallyu! The Korean Wave”
► Tuesday 3/19/24 ► Evening ► In Person
Celebrate the arrival of the Korean Wave in Boston with Director Matthew Teitelbaum. Enjoy a first look at this exhibition, which showcases drama, music, beauty, and fashion from Korea.

Exploring the Conservation Center
► Tuesday 4/9/24 ► Evening ► In Person
View objects up close in the state-of-the-art Conservation Center and learn from conservators about their work at this popular “science fair” event, which includes a dinner reception.

Lecture and Coffee with a Curator
► Saturday 6/1/24 ► Morning ► In Person
Go behind the scenes of a new installation. Speaker to be announced.

Stay Tuned!
You never know what’s around the corner. Please keep an eye on your email for special Patron Program opportunities and updates throughout the season. In rare cases, changes to our event schedule occur. See the most up-to-date information for all Patron events at mfa.org/patron.

Patron Event Tips
Join us! Invitations to events admit two and are sent by email in advance of each event. Please ensure you have provided us with a valid email address.

To RSVP, please follow the instructions in the invitation. The Patron Program is pleased to offer complimentary parking at all Patron events.

See “Strong Women in Renaissance Italy” on view 9/9/23–1/7/24.
Above: Bernardino Luini, Salome with the Head of Saint John the Baptist (detail), 1515–25. Oil on panel. Gift of Mrs. Walter Scott Fitz.
Patrons
Levels and Benefits

In Gratitude for Your Support

- Twelve months of complimentary admission to the MFA and all special exhibitions
- Early access to complimentary special exhibition tickets
- Patron Concierge Service with staff dedicated to personally handling your special requests, including assistance with ticket reservations
- Reciprocal admission benefits at major art museums
- Opportunities to travel with MFA curators
- 15% discount at all MFA Boston dining venues
- 10% discount at all Shop locations, in the Museum and online
- Complimentary parking for Patron events and a parking discount of up to 40% when visiting the Museum
- Access to curator talks and programs open to all levels of MFA membership
- Recognition in the Annual Report

Chairman’s Circle Patron
- Contributing $100,000 or more
  - Opportunity to host an intimate cocktail party for up to ten guests at MFA Boston with the curator and collection of your choice upon request
  - Complimentary annual membership in a Curators Circle of your choosing
  - All benefits at the President’s Circle level
  - $670 per person, $1,340 per couple is not tax deductible

President’s Circle Patron
- Contributing $50,000–$99,999
  - A private group tour with the curator of your choice
  - All benefits at the Director’s Circle level
  - $670 per person, $1,340 per couple is not tax deductible

Director’s Circle Patron
- Contributing $30,000–$49,999
  - Unlimited admission for you and your guests and up to four youths (ages 7–17)
  - Invitations to two exclusive evenings with the MFA’s Ann and Graham Gund Director
  - Complimentary parking for MFA visits
  - VIP tickets to domestic and international art fairs upon request (when available)
  - All benefits at the Patron Sponsor level
  - $670 per person, $1,340 per couple is not tax deductible

Patron Sponsor
- Contributing $12,000–$29,999
  - Early access to reserve up to 16 complimentary special exhibition tickets per exhibition
  - Personal support to share the MFA with friends and family and customize your own MFA experience
  - Invitations to two intimate dinner experiences with MFA curators
  - Ability to rent space at MFA Boston to host your private event with a 50% discount on the reservation fee
  - All benefits at the Patron Fellow level
  - $520 per person, $1,040 per couple is not tax deductible

Patron Fellow
- Contributing $6,000–$11,999
  - Early access to reserve up to 14 complimentary special exhibition tickets per exhibition
  - Invitations to two additional special events with MFA curators and conservators
  - All benefits at the Patron Member level
  - $390 per person, $780 per couple is not tax deductible

Patron Member
- Contributing $3,000–$5,999
  - Daily general admission for up to six adults and four youths (ages 7–17)
  - 12 complimentary special exhibition tickets per exhibition
  - All Patron membership benefits listed at the top of this page
  - Invitations to all Patron Member events and learning opportunities
  - $280 per person, $560 per couple is not tax deductible

Patrons are eligible to join Curators Circles. Choose among 14 groups to gain deeper insight into the Museum’s collection areas with curators and other experts. See page 22 for more information.

Curators Circles: Customize Your MFA Experience

Host a Wedding or Private Event at the MFA
Patrons at the Sponsor level receive a 50% discount on the reservation fee to host a private event at the MFA; the entire reservation fee is waived for the Director’s Circle Patron level and above. (Please note that the benefits of Patron support cannot be transferred to corporations.)

Patrons at the Director’s Circle level and above also have the opportunity to host a wedding at the MFA (either as the couple or the parents of the couple).

Contact Restaurant Associates/Catering at 617-369-3115 for more information about hosting an event.

Making Your Gift
We welcome gifts of appreciated securities, as well as gifts from donor advised funds, family foundations, and IRA qualified charitable distributions. Please contact us for information on making your gift and tax-deductibility implications.

Join or renew
617-369-3211
patronprogram@mfa.org
mfa.org/patron
Curators Circles

Take a deeper dive

Curators Circles invite you to take a deeper dive into the MFA’s collections while also supporting the crucial work of our curatorial departments. Featuring collection-focused programming, these intimate groups offer the opportunity to build relationships with curators and fellow enthusiasts in behind-the-scenes settings.

Curators Circles members provide vital funding for our departments and support their mission to make art more accessible to all. Help support curators’ long-term goals for research, travel, acquisitions, and exhibitions.

Members of the following programs are invited to join Curators Circles:

- All members of the Patron Program
- Museum Council Patrons and Fellows
- Advocates

The annual contribution to join a Curators Circle is $1,500*, which entitles two people to three unique curator-led events, one combined event for all Curators Circles members, and an opportunity for a travel experience.

* $90 per person, $180 per couple is not tax deductible.

For the most up-to-date information, visit mfa.org/curatorscircles.
Leading a modern cultural institution is an increasingly complex position. The role of museums about what it takes to effectively lead a museum today.

Graham Gund Director, in conversation with Kaywin Feldman, Director, National Gallery of Art, Curators Circles members for a virtual program featuring Matthew T eitelbaum, Ann and Shifting Expectations for Museums

It’s Not Just About the Art: Shifting Expectations for Museums

Wednesday 1/17/24 ➤ Evening ➤ Virtual

Leading a modern cultural institution is an increasingly complex position. The role of museums is evolving rapidly and museum leaders need to be responsive to these changes. Join fellow Curators Circles members for a virtual program featuring Matthew Teitelbaum, Ann and Graham Gund Director, in conversation with Kaywin Feldman, Director, National Gallery of Art, about what it takes to effectively lead a museum today.

An Evening for All Curators Circles

Art of the Americas

Up Close: “Toshiko Takezu: Shaping Abstraction”

Thursday 10/19/23 ➤ Evening ➤ In Person

“Toshiko Takezu: Shaping Abstraction” highlights the cross-cultural and multidisciplinary work of this innovative artist. Enjoy a private tour with exhibition curator Nonie Gadsden, Katharine Lane Weems Senior Curator of American Decorative Arts and Sculpture, with spotlights from Jenn Swape, David and Roberta Logie Curator of Textiles, and Al Fukunaga, Ishibashi Foundation Assistant Curator for Japanese Art. Co-organized with Curators Circles. Threads.

In Conversation with Kahil R. Irving

Tuesday 1/16/24 ➤ Noon ➤ Virtual

Hear from contemporary artist Kahil R. Irving about his practice and the wider reception of ceramic art in a conversation with Michael J. Bramwell, Joyce Linde Curator of Folk and Self-Taught Art.

Art of South Asia and the Middle East

Devotion: Behind the Scenes of a Gallery Rotation

Thursday 9/9/23 ➤ Evening ➤ In Person

Focusing on religious devotion in the Muslim-majority world, Nadirah Mansour, assistant curator, Islamic Art, unpacks the concept of religious devotion and presents works soon going on display in the Arts of the Islamic Cultures Gallery, including new acquisitions from Senegal and Palestine. A dinner follows.

Visualizing Sacred Presence in Colonial Bengal

Friday 11/17/23 ➤ Evening ➤ In Person

A colorful lithograph from colonial Calcutta suggests the intense preoccupation with visualizing the immanence of divinity at a moment of rapid change. This talk by Dr. Pika Ghosh of Haverford College explores how prints reflect technological progress and the rise of global modernism, while also speaking to the search for sacredness as a way to make sense of profound change.

An Evening with Isabella

Thursday 11/2/23 ➤ Evening ➤ In Person

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum: Isabella Stewart Gardner used the visual media of her day—paintings, fashion, and photography—to carefully navigate the boundary between her private identity and public image. Enjoy a private tour of the Gardner Museum’s exhibition “Inventing Isabella,” planned in conjunction with the MFAs’ “Fashioned by Bargent.” The evening concludes with refreshments in Cafe G.

Black Arts and Artists

“As We Rise: Photography from the Black Atlantic”

Friday 9/22/23 ➤ Evening ➤ Peabody Essex Museum

Join us for a private tour at the Peabody Essex Museum with Stephanie Tung, Byrne Family Curator of Photography, and collector Dr. Kenneth Montague. Featuring Black artists from the Americas, Great Britain, and Africa, this exhibition—drawn from Dr. Montague’s Wedge Collection in Toronto—provides a timely exploration of Black identity on both sides of the Atlantic.

Travel Opportunity: Richmond

Wednesday 1/19/23 ➤ Friday, 1/21/23

Join MFA curators at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts to see “Dawoud Bey: Elegy” and explore the museum’s holdings of the Kamering group and other Black artists working in a variety of media, as well as other sites in the city. Co-organized with Curators Circles. Photography.

Virtual Studio Visit: Deborah Roberts

Monday 2/12/24 ➤ Evening ➤ Virtual

Enjoy a conversation and virtual studio visit with contemporary mixed-media artist Deborah Roberts, whose powerful work challenges stereotypes of ideal beauty, race, and gender identity. Based in Austin, Roberts tackles these subjects through collaged images of Black and brown youth that suggest multiple meanings and represent complex art histories.

Travel Opportunity: Seattle

Thursday 4/18/24 ➤ Evening ➤ In-Person

Each addition to the MFA’s holdings not only gives us a new story to tell but also builds on our existing collections. Learn about new acquisitions by artists of the African diaspora with curators from across the Museum.

Travel Opportunity: Toronto

Wednesday 3/20/23 ➤ Saturday, 3/23/23

Join us to explore the center of the arts in Canada. Visit the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Royal Ontario Museum, and prominent private collectors with an emphasis on First Nations, or Indigenous Canadian material.

Recent Acquisitions: Black Arts and Artists at the MFA

Thursday 4/18/24 ➤ Evening ➤ In-Person

Explore the vibrant city of Seattle and the newly reopened Seattle Asian Art Museum. In addition to behind-the-scenes tours of the reimagined and reinstalled galleries, visit a private collector of Rajput and Mughal paintings and discover a beautiful Japanese garden. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Gingko Society.

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Curators Circles
Events

Conservation and Collections

“Painted Tintypes: Photography for the People”
► Thursday 9/19/23 ► Evening ► In Person
This exhibition pays tribute to the anonymous photographers, sitters, painters, and frame makers who made this early form of image-making popular. Join collectors Olivia Parker and Greg French, along with with MFA curators and conservators for a discussion about these unique objects. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Photography.

Up Close: Conservation of “Tiny Treasures”
► Wednesday 3/1/24 ► Evening ► Virtual
From minute metalworks to diminutive ceramics, the objects in “Tiny Treasures” range in size from just a few centimeters to over two feet tall. Explore the treatments prepared for this exhibition. Curators Circles: Conservation.

Lasers in Conservation: Cleaning the Rockefeller Stele
► Friday 3/18/23 ► In Person
Conservators have spent the past year carefully using a laser to clean a 6th-century Chinese stele that stood for decades in the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Garden in Maine. See the ongoing treatment up close, and discover the varied applications of lasers in art conservation, including removing thick layers of biological growth from this important work of art.

The Contemporaries

A Celebration of “Tender Loving Care”
► Tuesday 9/19/23 ► Evening ► In Person

Meet Ian Alteveer, Beal Family Chair
► Thursday 2/28/24 ► Evening ► In Person
Help us welcome the new Beal Family Chair, Department of Contemporary Art, and other new Contemporary Art team members. Learn about their experience and plans at the MFA’s over refreshments.

Recent Contemporary Acquisitions
► Thursday 4/24/24 ► Evening ► In Person
Join curators and dynamic contemporary artists to hear about some of the exciting acquisitions from the past year.

A Celebration of “Dress Up”
► Tuesday 6/27/23 ► Evening ► In Person
Join Museum Council members for this celebration of adornment and identity through jewelry, fashion, and photography with Penny Vinik Curator of Fashion Arts, and Emily Stoehrer, Rita J. Kaplan and Susan B. Kaplan Curator of Jewelry. A reception follows. Co-organized with the Museum Council.

Dress Up for Brunch
► Saturday 5/18/24 ► Morning ► In Person
Inspired by the classic film Breakfast at Tiffany’s, this event asks you to get dressed up for a champagne brunch celebrating the reopening of the Rita J. and Stanley H. Kaplan Family Foundation Gallery—one of only a few solely dedicated to jewelry at major US museums—and the opening of “Dress Up.”

Fashion Council

Tea and Tour
► Thursday 8/2/23 ► Afternoon ► In Person
This insider’s curatorial tour of fashion and jewelry on view throughout the Museum guides the Fashion Council through installations and exhibitions drawn from the MFA’s collection.

Travel Opportunity: New York City
► Monday 10/23/23 – Tuesday 10/24/23
Explore the vibrant city of Seattle and the newly reopened Seattle Asian Art Museum. In addition to behind-the-scenes tours of the reimagined and reinstalled galleries, visit a private collector of Rajput and Mughal paintings and discover a beautiful Japanese garden. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Art of South Asia and the Middle East.

Laurel Society

The Kore Statues from the Athenian Acropolis as Gifts for the Goddesses
► Thursday 10/26/23 ► Evening ► In Person
Join curators and dynamic contemporary artists to hear about some of the exciting acquisitions from the past year.

Artist Talk: Xu Bing
► Fall 2023 ► Evening ► Virtual
Xu Bing, one of China’s most celebrated contemporary artists, joins us from his studio in Shanghai. Don’t miss the chance to hear from the creator of the monumental Phoenix sculptures (created from construction debris), An Introduction to Square Word Calligraphy and Book from the Sky.

Gingko Society

Visit the Cleveland Museum of Art for a tour of the exhibition “Egyptomania: Fashion’s Conflicted Obsession” with curator Darnell G. Lashy, then explore the museum’s Egyptian collection with Lawrence Berman, Norma Jean Calderwood Senior Curator of Ancient Egyptian, Nabian, and Near Eastern Art, who previously served as a curator at the CMA and installed their Egyptian galleries.

Lotus Society

Travel Opportunity: Cleveland
► Friday 11/3/23
Visit the Cleveland Museum of Art for a tour of the exhibition “Egyptomania: Fashion’s Conflicted Obsession” with curator Darnell G. Lashy, then explore the museum’s Egyptian collection with Lawrence Berman, Norma Jean Calderwood Senior Curator of Ancient Egyptian, Nabian, and Near Eastern Art, who previously served as a curator at the CMA and installed their Egyptian galleries.

Life and Afterlife in Ancient Egypt: A New Gallery for Chicago’s First Egyptology Collection
► Wednesday 1/10/24 ► Evening ► Virtual
Tune in to a virtual tour of the Art Institute of Chicago’s recently reopened exhibition of Egyptian Art, led by curator Dr. Ashley Anne.

Egypt’s First Capital: Heraklion Lecture Reception
► Monday 3/4/24 ► Evening ► Virtual
Welcome Dr. Renee Friedman, director of the Heraklion expedition and honorary research associate at the Griffith Institute, Oxford, for our annual Herman Memorial Lecture Reception, which will immediately follow her presentation of excavations at Heraklion, the seat of Egypt’s first kings.

Thebes: the Sacred Royal City of Amenhotep III
► Thursday 6/6/24 ► Evening ► In Person
Visit “Picture Worlds” at the Getty Villa, a groundbreaking exhibition comparing Greek, Maya, and Moche traditions of narrative vase painting, featuring the MFA’s drinking cup depicting the abduction of Helen. Following a private tour with exhibition curator Dr. David Saunders, enjoy lunch at the Getty Villa, with additional programming in Los Angeles.

The Kore Statues from the Athenian Acropolis as Gifts for the Goddesses
► Thursday 10/26/23 ► Evening ► In Person
The visit of a beautifully preserved kore from the Athenian Acropolis to the MFA offers the opportunity for a talk with Dr. Cathy Keeling, Professor of Classics at Georgetown University and author of The Votive Statues of the Athenian Acropolis. Under what circumstances were the Acropolis kore statues discovered? Why do they look the way they do? Learn the answers to these questions and more.

Private Collection Visit: Rare Books
► Sunday 12/24/23 ► Noon
Private residence, Milton, MA
View a private collection of rare books featuring ancient Greek and Roman coins and gems. A lunch follows.

A Modern Look at Ancient Stone: 3D Scans of the MFA’s Etruscan Sarcophagi
► Monday 3/4/24 ► Evening ► Virtual
A pioneer in digital archaeology, Dr. Maurizio Seracini, professor of Classical Studies, Art History, and Visual Studies at Duke University, discusses his process and findings in creating 3D scans of the MFA’s world-famous Etruscan sarcophagi. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Musical Instruments.

Travel Opportunity: Los Angeles
► Thursday 4/21/24–Sunday 4/24/23
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Travel Opportunity: Seattle
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 Musical Instruments

Music from the Age of Rembrandt
► Saturday 10/14/23 ► Afternoon ► In Person
Enjoy complimentary tickets to Camerata Trajectina, featuring a range of musical offerings from the Dutch Golden Age. For nearly fifty years, Camerata Trajectina has made its name as the “Musical Treasury of the Netherlands,” and their programs combine popular dipties of the 17th century with works of the great Renaissance and Baroque composers.

Photography

“Painted Tintypes: Photography for the People”
► Thursday 9/14/23 ► Evening ► In Person
This exhibition pays tribute to the anonymous photographers, sitters, painters, and frame makers who made this early form of image-making possible. Join collectors Olivia Parker and Greg French, along with MFA curators and conservators for a discussion about these unique objects. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Conservation and Collections.

Art in Tune
► Saturday 2/8/24 ► Evening ► In Person
A private reception caps off this evening of live performances in the galleries. Discover music from across time and around the world, in many cases performed by museum directors, curators, collectors, and window collectors around the world, in many cases performed by museum directors, curators, collectors, and window collectors.

Prints and Drawings

Provincetown Prints in Action: A Workshop with Kate Hanlon
► Thursday 5/24/24 ► Evening ► In Person
Join MFA curators at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts to see “Dawoud Bey: Ellegy” and explore the museum’s holdings of the Kamsinga group and other Black artists working in a variety of media, as well as other sites in the city. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Black Arts and Artists.

Travel Opportunity: Richmond
► Saturday 12/3/23 ► Friday 12/2/23
Join MFA curators at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts to see “Dawoud Bey: Ellegy” and explore the museum’s holdings of the Kamsinga group and other Black artists working in a variety of media, as well as other sites in the city. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Black Arts and Artists.

Virtual Studio Visit: Dayanita Singh
► Saturday 12/3/23 ► Friday 12/2/23
Join us for a conversation with artist Dayanita Singh, who is based in Goa, India. Learn about her practice of sequencing, editing, and presenting her intimate portraits and evocative interiors in the form of accordion-fold photo books and mobile museum installations that she favors over formal exhibitions hung on gallery walls.

Travel Opportunity: Portland, Maine
► Wednesday 4/25/23 ► Friday 4/26/23
Enjoy two days of art and food in Portland, Maine. Among the many highlights of this trip is a private viewing of works from the prints and drawings collection at the Portland Museum of Art and a tour of its newly installed American galleries, a visit to the remarkable collections of the Other Library, and a trip to one of the many printmaking studios in the city.

Behind the Scenes at the Addison Gallery of American Art
► Tuesday 4/2/24 ► Evening

Behind the Scenes at the Boston Athenaeum
► Wednesday 6/3/24 ► Afternoon
The Boston Athenaeum is one of the country’s oldest and most distinguished libraries. Join Christina Michelon, associate curator, and other colleagues for a tour of one of the most beautiful architectural spaces in Boston and a private viewing of highlights from the collection.

Swan Society

Behind the Scenes: Strong Women in Renaissance Italy
► Thursday 10/5/23 ► Evening ► In Person
Join artist Kate Hanlon for a hands-on workshop of the white line woodcut technique, made famous by artists such as Blanche Lazzell, whose work can be seen in the “Provincetown Printmakers” exhibition. Following the workshop, enjoy a private viewing of prints and woodblocks recently acquired from the renowned Leslie and Johanna Garfield Collection.

Up Close: Conservation of “Tiny Treasures”
► Wednesday 3/11/23 ► Wednesday 3/12/23
From minuscule metalwork to diminutive ceramics, the objects in “Tiny Treasures: The Magic of Miniatures” range in size from just a few centimeters to more than two feet tall. Explore the choices, research, and conservation treatments undertaken as curators and conservators worked in close collaboration to prepare for the exhibition. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Conservation and Collections.

Thread

Up Close: “Toshiko Takaezu: Shaping Abstraction”
► Thursday 10/19/23 ► Evening ► In Person
Join curator Roniside Gladden, Katharine Lane Weems Senior Curator of American Decorative Arts and Sculpture, with spotlights from Jenn Siwo, David and Roberta Logue Curator of Textiles, and Ai Fukunaga, Ishibashi Foundation Assistant Curator for Japanese Art. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Art of the Americas.

Travel Opportunity: New York City
► Wednesday 10/26/23–Thursday 10/27/23
The Big Apple beckons. Enjoy the uplift of color at the Dorothy Liebes exhibition at the Cooper Hewitt Design Museum, followed by a Moroccan carpet experience at Chelsea Market. An exploration of textiles and jewelry at the Museum of Arts and Design tops off the trip.

Conversation with Yasmin and Christian Hammerle
► Tuesday 11/23/24 ► Noon ► Virtual
What do jewelry and haberdashery have in common? Over lunch, enjoy a lively conversation between Yasmin and Christian Hammerle on what it’s like to modernize a 130-year-old jewelry house and learn about the fascinating ways that jewelry and textile history come together in Hammerle’s 21st-century designs. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Fashion Council.

Acquisition Highlights
► Wednesday 4/3/24 ► Afternoon ► In Person
Join curator Jenn Siwo for a close look at recent textile acquisition highlights.