





MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS ST. PETERSBURG

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to engage, educate, and excite the community by collecting, exhibiting, and preserving works of art for the enjoyment of all.

VISION STATEMENT

The Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, Florida is the cultural leader of our community. Our comprehensive collection, exhibitions, and programs celebrate art and engage the diverse cultures and communities we serve.

VALUES

- Excellence and integrity in the museum's stewardship
- Artistic creativity and cultural diversity
- Education and engagement
- Commitment and support of our community
- Accessibility and inclusiveness
- Best practices as an organization

CONTENTS



2	MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CEO
3	FINANCIAL REPORTS
4	2020-2021 LEADERSHIP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BOARD OF TRUSTEES TRUSTEE EMERITUS MFA STAFF
5	SIGNIFICANT DIGITS
6-8	EXHIBITIONS
9	FRIENDS OF ANTIOCH
	THE MFA HANDBOOK OF THE COLLECTION
10	PROGRAMS
11	SPECIAL EVENTS: GOING VIRTUAL
12	GALLERY RENOVATION PROJECT AND GRATITUDE PLAQUES
13	THE MARGARET ACHESON STUART SOCIETY
14-15	DONOR HONOR ROLL
16	DONOR SPOTLIGHT
17	CIRCLE LEVELS
18	GIFTS OF ART AND ACCESSIONS
19	CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS
20	IN-KIND GIFTS
	MATCHING GIFTS
21	MEMBERSHIP
22	DOCENTS
23	DOCENT SPOTLIGHT
24-25	LEGACY SOCIETY
26-27	MEMORIALS AND TRIBUTES
28	COLLECTORS CIRCLE
29	WAYS OF GIVING

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CEO



Dear Friends,

Every year, our museum is shaped by the activities, contributions, and support of our community—never more so than in the past year. Together we faced the unprecedented challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, and together we emerged from isolation with our museum stronger and even more vibrant than before. This annual report is an opportunity to recognize the members, donors, staff, and trustees who made that possible and to express our profound gratitude to them for their support, leadership, resilience, and most of all, passion for the MFA.

Although the museum was closed to the public at the start of the 2020–2021 fiscal year, the entire MFA team was working hard behind the scenes to ready the museum for a spectacular return. We reopened in September 2020 with significant safety protocols in place for both staff and visitors, and were so proud to share a truly exuberant exhibition: *Derrick Adams: Buoyant*. This colorful, dynamic show celebrated Black joy and leisure, and I think it helped us all reclaim our lightness and buoyancy every time we visited the exhibition.

It was with tremendous pride that we unveiled the renovated and completely reinstalled collection galleries in October 2020. The building closure due to COVID-19 allowed us to accelerate our planned renovation schedule, and the results were truly extraordinary. From new flooring to enlarged galleries, the spaces were refreshed and reimagined for an enhanced visitor experience from start to finish. Our curatorial team worked tirelessly to review and research each object anew, to reconsider the flow of the galleries, and to bring objects out of storage for the first time in decades. Newly accessioned works were placed in conversation with long-time favorites; labels and context panels were rewritten; a welcome gallery was created to showcase the history of the museum and provide greater orientation; and we launched captivating new programs inside the galleries such as new self-guided tours and the multimedia experience *Resonance* in partnership with The Florida Orchestra. This marvelous transformation has allowed many in our community to explore the MFA in a whole new way, and our longtime friends to rediscover the remarkable collection they've always loved.

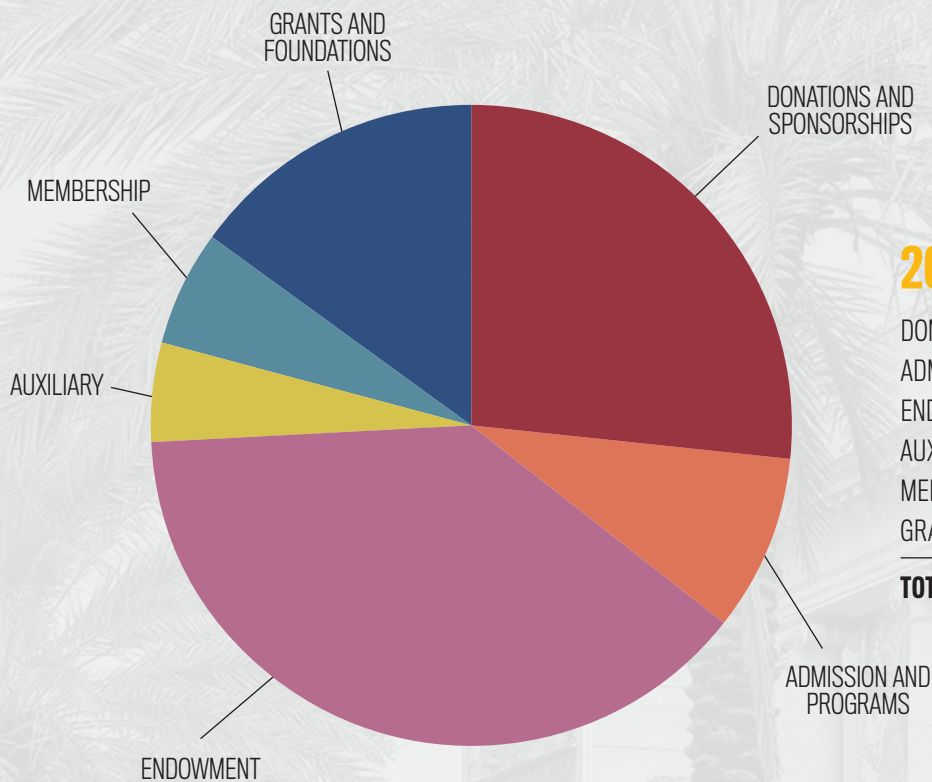
On your next visit, please stop by the Great Hall and take a look at the new gratitude plaques on display. They honor the generosity and spirit of philanthropy that has been the hallmark of this museum from its inception, a commitment to the community that continues each year through your contributions, volunteerism, enthusiasm, and engagement. If philanthropic support has been the bedrock of the museum, this year it was our lifeline and we hope the museum was one of yours as well. Art flourishes at the MFA and in St. Petersburg thanks to you.

With gratitude,

Kristen A. Shepherd

Kristen A. Shepherd
Executive Director and CEO

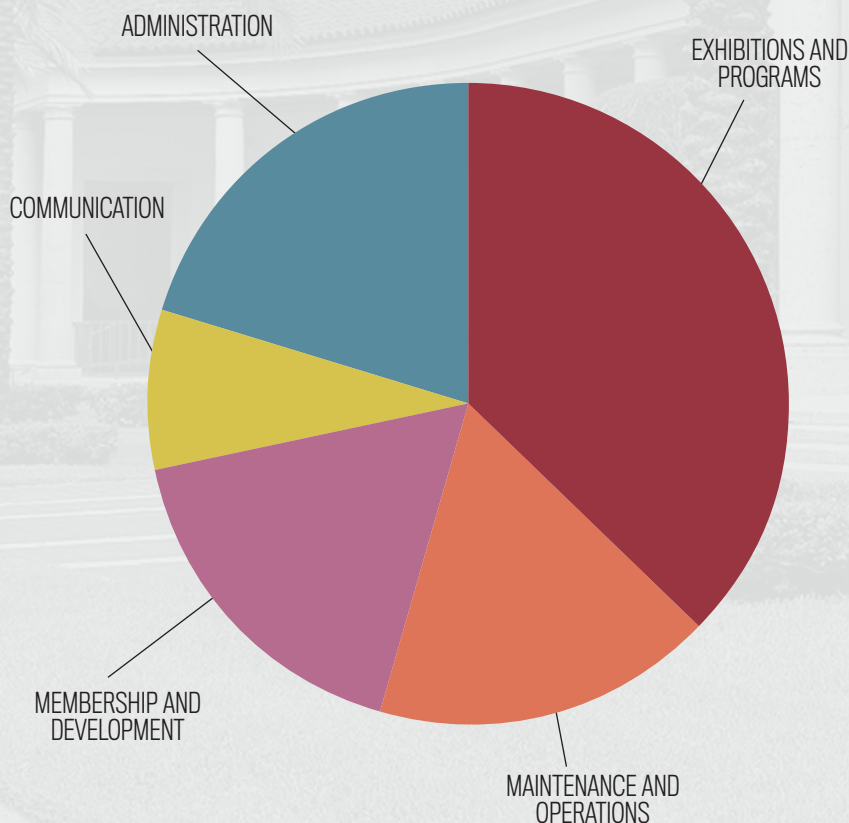
FINANCIAL REPORTS



2020-2021 REVENUE

DONATIONS AND SPONSORSHIPS	1,164,656	27%
ADMISSION AND PROGRAMS	372,606	9%
ENDOWMENT	1,678,952	39%
AUXILIARY	208,188	5%
MEMBERSHIP	251,545	6%
GRANTS AND FOUNDATIONS	667,350	15%

TOTAL REVENUE	4,343,297	100%
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2020-2021 EXPENSES

EXHIBITIONS AND PROGRAMS	\$1,483,570	37%
MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS	\$692,849	17%
MEMBERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT	\$673,037	17%
COMMUNICATION	\$324,355	8%
ADMINISTRATION	\$789,223	20%

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,963,034	100%
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2020-2021 LEADERSHIP*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Fred Razook, Chairman
Dimity Carlson, Vice-Chairman
Timothy Coop, Treasurer
Emily Elwyn, Secretary
Kristen A. Shepherd, ex officio

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

George Baxter
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Julia Richardson

TRUSTEE EMERITUS

Seymour Gordon



MFA STAFF

Kristen A. Shepherd, Executive Director & CEO

ADMINISTRATION

Jorge Vidal, Manager of Special Projects

ADMISSIONS AND VISITOR SERVICES

Billy Summer, Manager of Visitor Services & Group Tours

CURATORIAL DEPARTMENT

Michael Bennett, PhD, Senior Curator of Early Western Art
Bridget Bryson, Manager of Curatorial Affairs & Communications
Allison Moore, PhD, Curator of Photography
Katherine Pill, Curator of Contemporary Art
Amanda Robinson, Registrar
Rachel Rydquist, Curatorial and Registration Assistant
Stanton Thomas, PhD, Senior Curator of Collections & Exhibitions
Jorge Valenzuela, Lead Preparator
Erin Wilson, Assistant Curator

DEVELOPMENT AND MEMBERSHIP

Nina Antonetti, PhD, Chief Development Officer
Stephanie Chill, Development Coordinator
Daryl DeBerry, Director of Institutional & Planned Giving
Kimberly Finn, Manager of Member Services
Mikeesha Means, Manager of Individual Giving and Stewardship

FINANCE

Leonie Alexandre, Director of Finance & Accounting
William Brown, Staff Accountant

MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS

Lashonda Curry, Manager of Communications & Public Relations
Darcy Schuller, Director of Marketing & Communications

OPERATIONS

J.P. Fatseas, Director of Operations
Damian Piekarski, Facilities Associate
Michael Pippen, Events & Audio Visual Specialist

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Kimberlynn Martin, Manager of Education & Youth Programs
Margaret Murray, Curator of Public Programs

* As of June 30, 2021

SIGNIFICANT DIGITS

55

YEARS OF
THE MFA

624

FAMILY ART KITS CREATED

429

OBJECTS ON
VIEW IN THE
COLLECTION
GALLERIES

21,262

SUBSCRIBERS
TO WEEKLY
MFA HAPPENINGS
NEWSLETTER

924

ATTENDEES
AT EXCLUSIVE
MEMBER
EVENTS

9,051

VISITS TO
“MFA FROM
HOME” DURING
CLOSURE

161

OBJECTS
ADDED TO THE
COLLECTION
GALLERIES,
PREVIOUSLY
NOT ON VIEW

48,242

FOLLOWERS ON
SOCIAL MEDIA

370

NEW MEMBER
HOUSEHOLDS

3,817

ATTENDEES
AT MFA
VIRTUAL
EVENTS

45,667

STUDENTS SERVED IN
PINELLAS COUNTY

EXHIBITIONS

The first two exhibitions of the 2020–2021 fiscal year opened in September 2020 after our unprecedented closure for several months due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We announced our reopening with the insightful and highly anticipated exhibition *Derrick Adams: Buoyant* and the compendious and fascinating exhibition *Copper, Silver, Salt, Ink: The Chemistry of Photography's Enduring Desires*. The diverse and exceptional exhibitions that followed ranged from Greek Geometric art on loan from a generous private collector to contemporary glass drawn from the MFA collection to brilliant Navajo textiles on loan from the Heard Museum in Phoenix.



DERRICK ADAMS: BUOYANT

September 12 – November 29, 2020

Derrick Adams (American, b. 1970) examines the power of popular culture on one's self-image, and mines his personal, as well as broader, African American histories to celebrate under-recognized, often prosaic, aspects of Black life. *Derrick Adams: Buoyant* featured the artist's *Floaters* series created between 2016–2019, wherein the Baltimore-born artist depicts Black men, women, and children relaxing on bright blue waters in colorful plastic floaties. There are no architectural or landscape references in the paintings, emphasizing a calm sense of buoyancy. *Derrick Adams: Buoyant* at the MFA was the artist's first solo museum exhibition in the Southeast, and the MFA St. Pete was the final stop for this exhibition.

COPPER, SILVER, SALT, INK: THE CHEMISTRY OF PHOTOGRAPHY'S ENDURING DESIRES

September 12 – November 29, 2020

This exhibition celebrated the chemistry and artistry behind the development of this medium, and explored how these goals informed the earliest years of photography, and then later inspired the Pictorialism movement. *Copper, Silver, Salt, Ink* included rare and early salt prints and daguerreotypes from the 1840s and 1850s by William Henry Fox Talbot, Antoine François Jean Claudet, Maxime Du Camp, Hill and Adamson, and Southworth and Hawes. The exhibition also featured masterpieces of Pictorialism, the first movement to explore the artistic possibilities of photogravures in the late 1800s, and the works of contemporary artists reinvigorating this older process. *Copper, Silver, Salt, Ink* was drawn from the MFA's holdings of over 13,000 photographs—which is the largest in the region—and also featured exceptional loans from the collection of Chitraneer and Robert Drapkin.



COLOR RIOT! HOW COLOR CHANGED NAVAJO TEXTILES

December 19, 2020 – March 14, 2021

This exhibition celebrated the individualism and flair for experimentation in Navajo textiles starting from the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Featuring over 80 dazzling works, these textiles reflect ideas and events the Navajo people experienced between 1863 and 1868, the hard years of their imprisonment in Bosque Redondo, and their subsequent return to a reservation. During this time, weavers absorbed stylistic features of Hispanic textiles and began to work with new materials, such as aniline dyes and mass-produced Germantown yarns. Commercial products at trading posts sparked additional design ideas for weavers, and gave way to their unique experiments with color and design.

WORKING POINT: CONTEMPORARY GLASS FROM THE MFA COLLECTION

October 24, 2020 – May 23, 2021

Few artistic mediums go through such radical transformations as glass. *Working Point* was a wonderful opportunity to focus upon the MFA's fine collection of contemporary glass, and to celebrate the way these artists manipulate this remarkably malleable, and yet fragile, material into extraordinary creations filled with light.

EXPLORE THE VAULTS: ABSTRACTION AND THE AMERICAN SCENE

October 24, 2020 – July 18, 2021

Sometimes indefinable, but always alluring, modern art in the United States spans a number of decades and includes several distinct styles. Featuring the work of Social Realists, such as Jacob Lawrence, John Sloan and Reginald Marsh, *Abstraction and the American Scene* celebrated rarely seen and light-sensitive works from the MFA's collection. This second iteration of our *Explore the Vaults* series examined imagery produced predominantly between 1900 and 1950—a period that witnessed radical changes that shaped not only art, but the very understanding of what it meant to be American.

FROM CHAOS TO ORDER: GREEK GEOMETRIC ART FROM THE SOL RABIN COLLECTION

November 7, 2020 – April 11, 2021

From Chaos to Order was the first major museum exhibition of Greek Geometric art in the United States in more than 25 years! This unique show focused on the aesthetics of Greek Geometric art, and demonstrated how stylistic principles in visual art during the Geometric period reflect a characteristically Greek idea of “the beautiful” (*kallos*). The exhibition brought long-overdue attention to this formative period of Greek art. It was entirely drawn from the collection of Sol Rabin, who has the world's most important private collection of Greek Geometric art.



ANTIOCH RECLAIMED: ANCIENT MOSAICS AT THE MFA

April 10 – August 22, 2021

In 1964, a year before it opened to the public, the Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg acquired five mosaic pavements from ancient Antioch in a purchase from Princeton University. *Antioch Reclaimed: Ancient Mosaics at the MFA* featured these recently conserved mosaics, which date from the 2nd to the 5th centuries AD. They were combined with other major works excavated at Antioch to present a vivid picture of the sophistication and prosperity of this great Greco-Roman city, and the elegant private homes in its suburbs.

In collaboration with Princeton University, the exhibition shared the riveting story of the famed Antioch excavation of 1932–1939. This story is illustrated with historic photographs, excavation logs, and dig notebooks, as well as rare film footage of the actual excavations. None of this material had been featured before in an art exhibition, providing us with a rare glimpse of the 1930s archaeological adventures that illuminated one of the great cities of the ancient world.

EXHIBITIONS



FROM MARGINS TO MAINSTAYS: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PHOTOGRAPHY COLLECTION

April 24 – September 26, 2021

This exhibition featured masterworks from the MFA's photography collection created by artists whose careers and personal lives were sidelined, ignored, or impacted by their gender, race, sexuality, or nationality. *From Margins to Mainstays* illustrated how the canon of photography has changed since the medium first began appearing in museums in the 1940s, with particular emphasis on rectifying the small percentage of women and artists of color historically acquired by and displayed in public collections. The exhibition included works by Berenice Abbott, Lotte Jacobi, Carrie Mae Weems, Lee Miller, Cornelius Marion Battey, James Van Der Zee, and Manuel Álvarez Bravo.

SKYWAY 20/21: A CONTEMPORARY COLLABORATION

May 22 – August 22, 2021

This was the second iteration of this contemporary exhibition celebrating the diversity and talent of artists in the Tampa Bay area. It was also an exercise in collaboration, as it is shared between four institutions: Museum of Fine Arts St. Petersburg, The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, the Tampa Museum of Art, and the USF Contemporary Art Museum. The MFA exhibited the work of 15 artists that address, by varied means, the natural environment. Working across varied media, these artists celebrate, investigate, and honor the natural world.

FROM HEATH TO HEDGEROW: DOULTON LAMBETH WARE AND THE BRITISH COUNTRYSIDE

June 5, 2021 – June 12, 2022

The Doulton Lambeth Pottery works were well-known for their industrial products up until the company presented a small selection of purely decorative vases, bowls, and jugs at the 1867 international *exposition universelle* in Paris. These artistic works, later collectively termed Doulton Lambeth ware, were the genesis of a new, uniquely British ceramic style. Like the long artistic tradition of British landscape, rural genre scenes, and sporting imagery, Doulton Lambeth ware's designs are tied to the countryside. Decorated in subtle earth-toned glazes of blue, brown, tan, and green, the line imitated nature. *From Heath to Hedgerow* was drawn from the collection of the late Eleanor and Leonard Davidov, on loan to the Museum of Fine Arts from the Davidov Family.

This high caliber of exhibitions is made possible through the generosity of sponsors and underwriters. Thank you to the contributors who supported our exhibitions:

Bank of America

Brown & Brown of Florida, Inc.

Davidov Family

Gobioff Foundation

Colleen and Sol Rabin

Stanton Storer Embrace the Arts Foundation

Jim Sweeny

Tinney Rug Cleaners

Vinik Family Foundation LLC

William K. Zewadski

FRIENDS OF ANTIOCH

These donors, recognized as **Friends of Antioch**, supported the MFA through a collective exhibition sponsorship to underwrite *Antioch Reclaimed: Ancient Mosaics at the MFA* and allowed individuals to participate at a meaningful level.



Anonymous

**Janet W. Anschuetz and
Elizabeth L. Wagner**

Cynthia Astrack

Lois and Marvin Atkins

Deborah and George Baxter

Kathy and Patrick Beyer

Chitraneer and Dr. Robert L. Drapkin

Emily and Tash Elwyn

**Michele Kidwell-Gilbert and
Dr. Gordon Gilbert**

Emily and James Gillespie

**Helen Hameroff and
Frantz Christensen**

Susan and Mack Hicks

Anita and David Kailing

Mark McKain

Linda Meehan and Tom Brown

Rita and Stephen Peters

Fran and Bud Risser

Arlene Rothman

Judith Russell

If you would like to give and participate in our next collective sponsorship group, consider taking part in the **Friends of Bernini**.

MFA HANDBOOK OF THE COLLECTION

The *MFA Handbook of the Collection* features more than 200 works of art from all areas of the collection in a beautifully bound book, published by Rizzoli, including examples by Morisot, Rodin, O'Keeffe, Kehinde Wiley, and Edward Steichen, as well as ancient Greek and Roman, Asian, African, Mesoamerican, self-taught art, photography, and decorative arts. The *MFA Handbook of the Collection* is intended to memorialize the museum's history, chart the growth of our holdings by highlighting accessioned objects, and serve as a tribute to the museum's founders, local philanthropists, collectors, scholars, and civic leaders who shaped this cultural gem for the city of St. Petersburg. The *MFA Handbook of the Collection* was made possible by the generosity of the following individuals and organizations:

Estate of Patricia G. Brant

Maria and George Cantonis

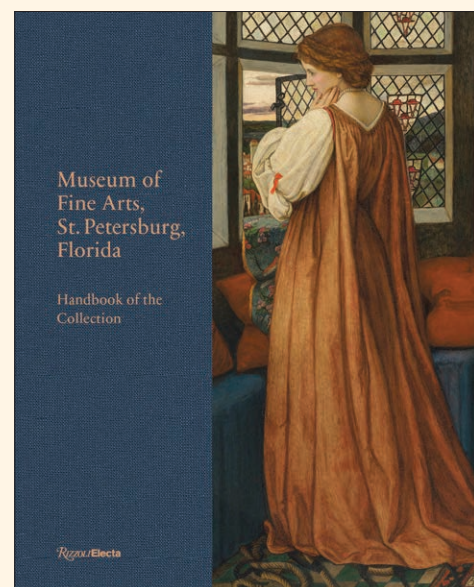
Dr. Dimity and Mark Carlson

Community Foundation Tampa Bay

MFA Collectors Circle

Patti and Irwin Novack

William K. Zewadski



The *MFA Handbook of the Collection* is now available for purchase **online** or at the museum.

PROGRAMS

Public programs expand the visitor experience of special exhibitions and the MFA Collection. During the museum's closure, a transition to digital programming was met with much success. Continuing community partnerships such as those with the Dr. Carter G. Woodson African American Museum and The Florida Orchestra contributed to virtual programs that delighted and educated our audiences.

In the spring of 2021, we introduced **Picture of Health**, a multifaceted program fostering wellness among our museum members and guests. This innovative approach to well-being, the first of its kind in the Tampa Bay area, allows us to harness the power of the MFA's galleries and gardens as places of healing and solace.

Picture of Health includes

- Sit, Stay, Heal: Monthly visits with therapy dogs and canine care teams in our gardens
- Mood Tours: Self-guided explorations of the museum's collection through an emotional well-being lens
- Museum on Prescription: Prescribed museum visits through partner physicians and therapists for patients who would benefit from an art viewing experience.

Thank you to the donors who contributed toward our public programs in the 2020–2021 fiscal year:

AARP Florida

Art Bridges

Bank of America | Museums on Us

Green & Henwood Wealth Management

Kane's Furniture

The Margaret Acheson Stuart Society

Pinellas Community Foundation

Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

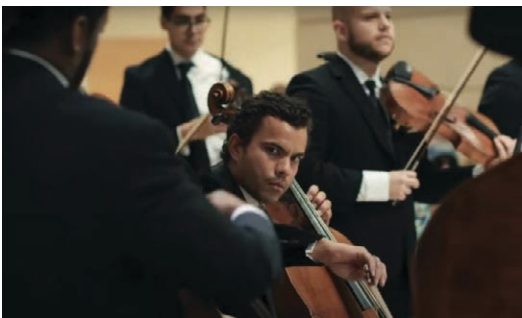
Premier Eye Care LLC

RBC Foundation - USA

St. Pete/Clearwater Film Commission

Truist Foundation

Westminster Communities of Florida



SPECIAL EVENTS: GOING VIRTUAL

MFA FROM HOME

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the MFA team worked diligently behind the scenes to offer moments of delight and inspiration, as well as new ways to experience the museum from home. Though our physical doors were closed, we continued to serve our community by staying “open” online. Through our *MFA From Home* program we shared daily doses of art inspiration, talks with curators, family activities featuring works from the MFA’s collection, and more.

Art Break provided video art lessons for K–6 students, while online puzzles and games allowed people of all ages and interests to join in the fun. Compelling videos like our Rooftop honeybee apiary tour, virtual gallery tours, and online events such as *African American Leisure in the Sunshine State and Beyond* panel discussion provided the community with access to the MFA’s new initiatives, our talented curators, and artists in our collection. Our staff sought out ways to keep our community connected, whether through virtual readings of children’s books related to works in our collection, curating art-inspired music playlists, or recommending their favorite books. It was a rewarding and special experience that enabled the museum to adapt to the changing needs of our community and to stay connected in powerful and meaningful ways.



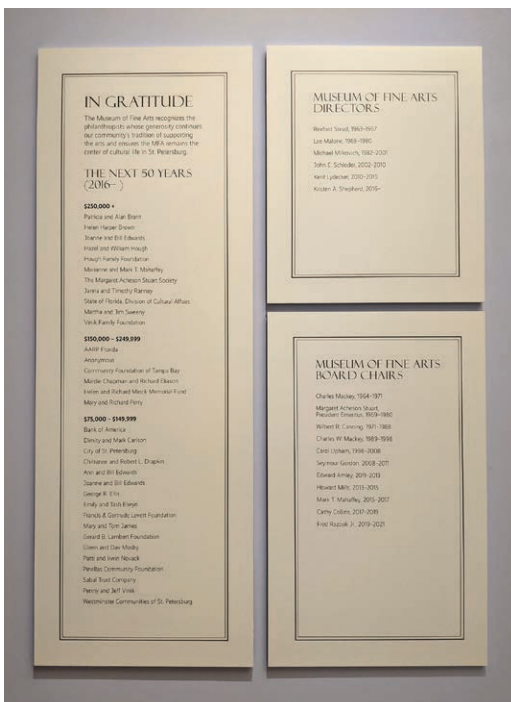
GALLERY RENOVATION AND GRATITUDE PLAQUES

On October 27, 2020, the MFA reopened its newly renovated collection galleries to all visitors. The last update to the collection galleries occurred in 2013 but did not include substantial changes to the layout or placement of artworks. After months of discussions and planning with the museum's curators about the objects within the collection, the collection's nature, the history of the building and its galleries, and the opportunities to engage with our communities in new ways, the MFA commenced the interior construction work in spring 2020. The project coincided with the MFA's 55th anniversary.



The dramatic new interior design enables the MFA to achieve the goal of presenting our diverse collection in deeper contexts of both art and history, and creating a beautiful space where connections can be made across time and cultures around the globe. The renovation fully showcases the depth and breadth of the first museum in St. Petersburg, with an improved flow that reinvents the original 1965 galleries while enhancing how visitors experience the MFA.

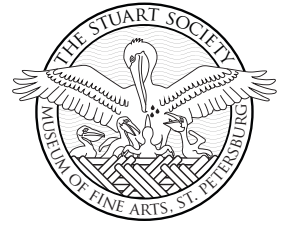
The MFA recognizes the philanthropists whose generosity continues our community's tradition of supporting the arts and ensures the MFA remains the center of the cultural life in St. Petersburg. Our new gratitude plaques, placed prominently in the Great Hall, recognize the many donors who have supported the MFA. New donors will be added to the contemporary (2016 -) plaque on a regular basis.



THE MARGARET ACHESON STUART SOCIETY

Bearing our founder's name, The Margaret Acheson Stuart Society is a nonprofit volunteer organization and a major donor for the MFA. This all-volunteer group of over 300 dedicated members honors Mrs. Stuart with outstanding generosity and diligent efforts throughout the year to ensure the museum remains the premier arts destination in the Waterfront Arts District of St. Petersburg.

The Stuart Society committees host several signature events each year with 4,639 volunteer hours that expand upon the mission of the MFA. These include Carnaval do Rio, Art in Bloom, SmARTly Dressed, and Affaires d'Art. Proceeds are presented to the museum in May at the final Stuart Society general membership meeting of the fiscal year. The MFA is deeply grateful to The Stuart Society for successfully promoting the welfare of the museum, stimulating public interest, and participating in events and activities.



Thank you to The Margaret Acheson Stuart Society leadership in the 2020–2021 fiscal year:

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

Rita Peters, President
Pam Hatton, President-Elect
Deann Coop, Membership Vice President
Hannah Gross, Communications Vice President
Meghan Wood, Recording Secretary
Augusta Harvard, Corresponding Secretary
Beverly Smoak, Treasurer
Elise Minkoff, Parliamentarian

STANDING BOARD COMMITTEES

Jean Catanese, Digital Chair
Dianne Cohrs, Membership Chair
Ria McQueen, Nominating Chair
Susan Taylor, Provisional Member Chair
Carol Piper, Ways and Means Chair

EVENT CHAIRS

Carole McGurk and **Julie Mastry**,
Smartly Dressed Fashion Show Co-Chairs
Dimity Carlson and **Carol Treichel**,
Carnaval do Rio Co-Chairs
Joann Barger and **Carol Piper**,
Art in Bloom Co-Chairs
Augusta Harvard and **Maria Rawls**,
Art in Bloom Luncheon Co-Chairs
Shari Ellis and **Marian Maguire**,
Flowers After Hours Co-Chairs
Debbie Baxter, Art in Bloom
Floral Installation Chair



DONOR HONOR ROLL

Contributions make up 45% of the MFA's annual revenue. Special exhibitions, related programming, and signature events are made possible by the generosity of individuals, corporations, foundations, and grants.

Thank you to our 2020–2021 fiscal year donors contributing \$250 or more between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021:



\$50,000 AND ABOVE

Anonymous
Mary and Tom James
Marianne and Mark Mahaffey
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners
Jim Sweeny
The Margaret Acheson Stuart Society
Vink Family Foundation, LLC

\$25,000 TO \$49,999

Ross Anderson
Bank of America
Dr. Dimity and Mark Carlson
Mardie Chapman and Dr. Richard Eliason
Emily and Tash Elwyn
Colleen and Sol Rabin
State of Florida, Division of Arts and Culture

\$10,000 TO \$24,999

AARP Florida
Deborah and George Baxter

Burchard Galleries, Inc.
City of St. Petersburg
Community Foundation Tampa Bay
Deann and Tim Coop
Gerry and Allen Davidson
Chitrane and Dr. Robert L. Drapkin
Beth and John England
Frank E. Duckwall Foundation
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Glenn and Dav Mosby
Patti and Irwin Novack
Rita and Stephen Peters
Rebecca and David Ramsey
Gail and Fred Razook
Jim Reichert
Eileen Shapiro and Reuben Eaves
Strum Allessee Family Foundation
The Jeffrey Horvitz Foundation
Sally Truby
Westminster Communities of St. Petersburg

\$5,000 TO \$9,999

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Verna Baughman
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Suki and John Carson
Liz Dimmitt and Piers Davies
Sunny and Dr. James Endicott
Focardi-Great Bay Foundation
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Emily and James Gillespie
Gobioff Foundation
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Kane's Furniture
Robert Klingel
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Premier Eye Care LLC
Fran and Bud Risser
Judy and Mich Sauers
St. Petersburg/Clearwater Film Commission
Sue and Roger Thrun
Tinney Rug Cleaners
Truist Foundation
William Howard Flowers, Jr. Foundation, Inc.

\$2,500 TO \$4,999

Janet W. Anschuetz and Elizabeth L. Wagner
Cynthia Astrack
Linda Meehan and Tom Brown
Laura and Matt Bryant
Hillary Cone
Michele Kidwell-Gilbert and Dr. Gordon Gilbert
Seymour and Susan Gordon
Kathleen Swann Brooks Family Foundation
Pat and Lamar Marchese
Ron and Sheila Miller
Demi Rahall
RBC Foundation | RBC Wealth Management
Arlene Rothman
Nancy and Robert Shannon
Drs. Dorothy and Edwin Sved
Carole and Clem White

DONOR HONOR ROLL

\$1,500 TO \$2,499

Toni and Dr. Gene Altman
Lois and Marvin Atkins
Charlotte Bacon
Matthew Bisset
Tina and Bob Douglass
Susan and Mack Hicks
Lynda and Dean Jollay
Jean and Rudy Kohler
Elizabeth Ross
Naomi Rutenberg and Robert Burn
Kristen A. Shepherd
Edward Schlenk
Brenda Verbeck

\$1,000 TO \$1,499

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Margaret Bowman
Dr. Moira J. Burke
Charles Cagnon
Barbara and Doug DeMaire
Susan and Ronald Diner
Ellen D. Esteva
The Hon. Marion L. Fleming and
The Rev. Peter W. Fleming
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Mary and John Sweeny
Kathy and Kent Whittemore

\$250 TO \$999

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Cathleen and John Anthony
Marion and William Ballard
Andi and Russ Barlow
Valerie and Jack Beatty
Faith Andrews Bedford and Robert Bedford
Marilyn Benjamin
Kathy and Patrick Beyer

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Suzanne and Michael Bloom
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Virginia England
Betsy and Leonard Englander
Nancy and Ken Ernst
Marianne and Bill Ferrari
Aleta and Frederick Fisher
Marie Flatley
Dr. Vivian Fueyo
Mary Gardner and Michael Savino
Maryse Gendron and Andre Beaudry
Anne and Jay Ghosh
Betsy and Bo Godbold
Royce Haiman
Vicki and Andrew Hano
Chris and Bob Hilton
Elly and John Hopkins
Linda and Christopher Hugues
Helen Huntley
Anita and David Kailing
Edmund Kielty
Suzanne Kirkconnell
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DONOR SPOTLIGHT

ROSS ANDERSON WITH DR. STANTON THOMAS

What brought you to the MFA and St. Petersburg?

I was ready for a change, I'd been living in California for a long time. I was never really a city person—although I enjoyed it while I was there—instead I was a child of the suburbs, so I am really enjoying being here. I knew of the MFA's reputation, and knew that it had an American collection—which is my major interest. I knew that there were a lot of museums here, so I thought there must be a lot of interesting, cultured people supporting those things.

What are the hallmarks of a great painting?

It should be striking to look at and command one's attention. It can have all kinds of eloquent undertones of the times or relate to the biography of the artist. Great paintings are often mysterious as they don't talk to you the way a book or a work of music does—things that have distinct vocabularies—instead they are very open. So I think that's what makes it fun.

What was the first thing you purchased?

A 19th-century religious genre picture of a singing choir boy, surrounded by parishioners in emotional states varying from deep devotion to polite boredom. The weighty doctrines of Christianity dominated European painting for centuries, but there those themes have been demoted in favor of a scene from contemporary life inside a church. Though the artist exhibited at the annual Parisian salons, he died young before he was able to make his mark. That's why no one has heard of him, and why the price of it was very reasonable.

When you collect, what's the most important aspect when you are considering a painting or is there one?

Well, if I am thinking of buying a painting the most important things are: do I want to look at it every day and can I afford it? And I decided—partly for financial reasons—that I wasn't going to collect works by famous artists. I thought it would be more interesting to champion obscure things. I am very confident in my taste in such matters—perhaps over confident. And who wants that money hanging on your walls? It makes me nervous.

Do you think there are still great bargains on the market? Is it a good time to buy, and has it changed?

Yes, there are bargains on the market, but not by well-known artists. But many deserve to be better known. Many collectors do enjoy a famous signature, and are willing to pay for it, no matter what the painting looks like. There is nothing wrong with that. But I think you shouldn't buy anything that is promoted in any way. So the drawback is that you have to search for things, things that probably will not increase in value much.



Ernest Martin Hennings (American, 1886 – 1956)
Aspen Vista, c. 1930
Oil on canvas
Gift of Ross Anderson
Object Number: 2020.005

Aspen Vista's subtly stylized trees, mountains, and clouds embody the rich color and warmth so typical of Hennings' New Mexico work. The artist used underlying and slightly abstract patterns to visually unite the composition. This sense of visual cohesion reflects his years of academic training. The painting is a wonderful complement to Georgia O'Keeffe's painting *Grey Hills Painted Red*, New Mexico and John Sloan's *Cliff Dwellers' Country*—both of which were likewise painted in the Southwest.

– Dr. Stanton Thomas

CIRCLE LEVELS*

The MFA's major giving circles recognize philanthropic individuals and couples who provide vital gifts in support of the museum's mission. Through their generosity, Circle level donors enable our diverse community to experience the power of art in many ways. Making an annual contribution at this level is a commitment to ensuring our art collection, exhibitions, and programs continue to be enjoyed by all.

Membership in the Circle levels provides special access to MFA events and exhibitions. To join this distinguished list, please call the Development Team at (727) 896-2667 ext. 256. We extend our sincere gratitude to these donors who make the museum a philanthropic priority:

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* First time Circle Members are in bold

GIFTS OF ART AND ACCESSIONS

The MFA Collection is central to all we do and enables us to tell stories from all eras and cultures. Through the outstanding generosity of art collectors and legacy donors, the MFA accessioned more than 230 works in the 2020–2021 fiscal year, from African sculpture to Russian photographs. Donors making multiple gifts have been noted in this list by the numbers in parentheses. We are truly grateful to donors for enhancing the MFA collection with these gifts of art.

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Louisiana Bendolph (American, b. 1960)
Doorway to a Dream, 2013
Color softground etching with aquatint and spitbite aquatint
Gift of Jim Sweeny



Daniel Macnee (Scottish, 1806–1882)
Dr. James Brown Returning from the Hunt, 1860
Oil on canvas; original frame
Gift of Kenneth and Lilian Jones



“As a Pre-Raphaelite scholar, I am especially thrilled with the addition of Stanhope’s *Juliet and Her Nurse* to the collection, and grateful for the legacy gift from the Estate of Mary and Richard Perry that made it possible for us to acquire such an important and beautiful work. I expect it will anchor our nascent and growing collection of important British art, an area of tremendous opportunity for our museum.”

– **Kristen A. Shepherd**

John Roddam Spencer Stanhope (English, 1829–1908)
Juliet and Her Nurse, 1863
Oil on canvas
Museum Purchase with funds provided from the Estate of Mary and Richard Perry

CORPORATE & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

For 56 years, the MFA has been able to realize its vision for the future thanks to the unwavering dedication of our corporate and community partners. Today, such support helps the MFA fulfill its mission by funding its operating budget, education programs, special exhibitions, and a variety of outreach programs. We thank our corporate and community friends for their extraordinary commitment and loyalty to the arts.

For their dedication and collaboration, we would like to acknowledge our current corporate and community partners:

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In-kind gifts of essential goods and services offer valuable support for the numerous programs and events presented each year at the MFA. Thank you to each individual and business that offered in-kind gifts to the MFA:

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Membership at the MFAs provides invaluable support for our mission and strategic priorities while offering benefits that enrich our members' museum experience. Membership dues help fund world-class special exhibitions and dozens of educational arts-related programs and events each year, as well as provide our community and visitors access to 5,000 years of art and global culture.

Members have made it possible to fulfill our mission since we first opened to the public in 1965. During the 2020–2021 fiscal year, 2,951 members supported the MFA.

The MFA gratefully acknowledges those generous philanthropic members who strengthened the MFA through membership at the Sustainer and Advocate levels:

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\$2,500

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DOCENTS

MFA docents are significant volunteers and art enthusiasts who interact with visitors exploring the MFA collection galleries and special exhibitions. These dedicated individuals create stimulating conversations and provide memorable experiences for anyone visiting the museum. In a typical year, docents lead more than 700 tours for visitors of all ages, including a group of docents who work specifically with our sixth-grade program tours, *Art as Evidence*. In lieu of tours this year, docents participated in a series of virtual trainings, workshops, and programs to learn more about the museum's collection and history. Upon reopening of the MFA, docents began serving as gallery guides, facilitating informative, informal, and interesting dialogs with members and visitors. Thank you to the MFA docents for supporting the museum, sharing your knowledge, and offering delightful and enlightening experiences for our guests.

Active docents in the 2020-2021 fiscal year include*:

Lily Alcott, 2008
Andi Barlow, 2007
Maxine Buccholtz, 2017
Jean Calandra, 2019
Dorothy Cappadona, 2015
Laura Crawford, 2019
Alice Dasenbrock, 2017
Karen Dean, 2019
Tina Douglass, 1996
Kristie Dowling, 2019
Patricia Fain, 2007
Bonnie Farnsworth, 2019
Arthur Finegold, 2013
Ann Gasper, 2018
Alex Gifford, 2019
Seymour Gordon, 2007
Susan Gordon, 2007
Rita Gram, 2008
Ena Groff, 2008
Ken Habershon, 2017
Steve Hack, 2007
Janet Hammer, 2019
Sarah Hoddinott, 2019
Alice Hoffman, 2011
David Hoffman, 2011
Roberta Hosken, 1996
Helen Huntley, 2017
Camilla Kilgroe, 2008
Sue Lewis, 2007
Lee Linkous, 2017

Debbie Lopez, 2017
Sigrid Lovfald, 2011
Kathryn Ludwig, 2017
Debi Mazor, 2007
Karen McKenna, 2008
Candy Mela, 1996
Mary Mellstrom, 1992
Sheila Miller, 1989
Marian Moore, 2013
Glenn Mosby, 2013
Patti Novack, 1981
Pona Pierkarski, 2017
Frank Purrelli, 2011
Susan Rhein, 2011

Teddi Robbins, 1985
Judith Sauers, 1999
Cathleen Schott, 2017
Anne Shamas, 1980
Heidi Sherman, 2019
Donna Sinicrope, 2019
Ruth Spears, 2013
John Stewart, 2017
LaVonne Stimadorakis, 2013
Marla Sutton, 2019
Sheila Tempelmann, 1996
Susanne Ward, 2003
Eleanor Whiteside, 2014
Marylee Zink, 2003



* Year indicates their arrival in this role

ANNE SHAMAS

How did you get involved with the MFA?

When my husband was doing his residency at Georgetown University I was a docent at Gadsby's Tavern Museum. I had a new baby but wanted something to do. I saw a TV ad for docents at the museum in Alexandria, Virginia. I became a docent and worked there until we left Virginia for Florida. Three years later I saw another TV ad for a docent course at the MFA. I applied and was accepted. The classes ran for nine months, once a week. I loved it. In 1980 I became a tour-giving docent.

What would you say to someone who has never been to the MFA?

I've met so many wonderful people who have come into the museum. I love hearing them ask, "How did a city this size get such a beautiful, comprehensive museum?" I am very proud of the MFA and love sharing it with our visitors. I am constantly amazed at natives who have never entered our doors. I always urge people to visit, telling them of the wonders inside.

What exhibition or artwork has been your favorite and why?

It has been over forty years that I have been a docent at the MFA. In all that time I have been privileged to see hundreds of exhibitions and incredible works of art. Asking which one is my favorite would be like asking who my favorite child is. Some of the exhibits were spectacular. Some were very memorable. All were fun and educational. Every one was a mini course in art history. I've seen everything from Asian to Jewish art, bugs to incredible jewelry. Our collection is encyclopedic. There is something for everybody, from the youngest to the oldest.

What is most rewarding about being an MFA docent?

The fun in each tour is inviting the visitor into the world presented in our galleries. I've had people come in thinking they weren't going to like what was being shown only to have them leave with a new appreciation of the art and/or artist. I love opening people's eyes.



"I always say that next to my family, the MFA is my great love. I am most grateful to be a docent at the MFA."

– Anne Shamas



LEGACY SOCIETY

Many individuals have helped create a framework of support for the MFA, ensuring our mission will continue to serve diverse audiences for generations to come through planned gift giving. Bequests, gifts of retirement plan assets, gifts of life insurance policies, and gifts of tangible personal property, such as artwork or real estate, are all meaningful ways to become a member of the Legacy Society. The following individuals have notified us of their plans, and as Legacy members they receive invitations to selected events and programs throughout the year:

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^{*}Bequest realized in the fiscal year.

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^Bequest realized before 2020.

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Gifts made in honor, or in memory, of someone provide a unique and special tribute to the honoree. In honoring another, you are making a lasting investment that allows the MFA to present a wide variety of exhibitions and public programs that help serve our mission. Memorial and tribute gifts are meaningful contributions to the MFA, and we are grateful to those who generously honor another in this distinctive way. The list below acknowledges both the donors and their honorees:

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PRESIDENT: CYNTHIA ASTRACK

The Collectors Circle is a group of art connoisseurs dedicated to enhancing the museum's collection by raising funds for significant acquisitions or conservations. The Collectors Circle funded two recent conservation projects, the *Pietre dure* panel and John La Farge's stained glass window *Peonies in the Wind*, both now prominently highlighted in our beautifully renovated collection galleries. During the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the Collectors Circle hosted two in-person events and five virtual events. While their annual fundraising event was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they successfully hosted *A Night at the Carlyle* on December 9, 2021.



Galleria dei Lavori (Opificio delle Pietre Dure), Italian, founded 1588
Panel Depicting a Vase of Flowers, c. 1625
Hardstones and marble
Gift of Marie G. Williams
Conservation funded by the Collectors Circle, 2019



John La Farge, American, 1835-1910
Peonies in the Wind, c. 1890, Leaded glass
Gift of Mr. Charles Thomas Henry
Conservation funded in part by the Collectors Circle, Patti and Irwin Novack, Hillary Cone, and the Cynthia H. Astrack Trust

WAYS OF GIVING

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In recognition of leadership gifts, donors may reserve naming rights for exhibitions, programs, and specific spaces throughout the museum's main building and Hazel Hough Wing. Learn more by contacting the Development Team.

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For more details or to inquire about other ways you can support the Museum of Fine Arts, please contact the Development Team at (727) 896-2667 ext. 256 or visit mfastpete.org/give.



We will get
through this
together,
St. Pete

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This Annual Report acknowledges contributions made to the Museum of Fine Arts during the 2020–2021 fiscal year from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. Please notify the Development Team at (727) 896-2667 ext. 256 if our records need to be amended.