

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

# UPLIFTING VOICES





## A MESSAGE

### FROM THE DIRECTOR AND THE BOARD PRESIDENT

As we enter a year of celebrations surrounding the Art Center's 75th anniversary, we can look back with pride on our accomplishments in 2022. It was another record-breaking year in many categories. Development and the Museum Shop met their fundraising and sales goals and ended the year with the best totals in our history. Our 75th anniversary campaign, which focused on art acquisitions, capital needs, and programming, exceeded its goals and is nearing completion. Community access and studio programs were back to pre-COVID attendance levels.

Exhibitions, museum education programs, and acquisitions were meaningful and community-based. Exhibitions included *Immersive*, which premiered the very popular *Seven Stories High* digital elevator experience by the Des Moines-based artist Oyoram, and *Images Unbound*, which featured many works from our permanent collections. Alison Elizabeth Taylor's show of her extraordinary wood parquet panels opened in October 2022. Print gallery shows included *Fantasy Figures: Surrealist Works from the Art Center's Collection*, *Modern Concepts 1910–1960*, and *Hold Me Closer*. Our "Iowa Artists" project in 2022 presented the work of Iowa City-based artist Miriam Alarcón Avila and showcased a personal view of the Mexican phenomenon of wrestling personas called *luchadores*.

The Art Center accessioned numerous artworks into the permanent collections through gifts and purchases

this past year. These accessions included paintings, drawings, prints, sculpture, and photographs by established masters as well as younger artists. Examples are artworks by James Van Der Zee, Alice Neel, Kehinde Wiley, Donté Hayes, Lari Pittman, Walker Evans, Lee Friedlander, Margaret Bourke-White, Helen McCloud (Gee's Bend quilt), Pao Houa Her, Charles Sheeler, Lyle Ashton Harris, Paul McCarthy, Paa Joe (Ghanaian fantasy coffin), Judy Pfaff, and William Eggleston. These artworks add significantly to our holdings while providing meaningful opportunities for diverse audiences to see themselves in the museum. An array of museum education programs enhanced our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion efforts as well. These included lectures, films, tours, and workshops, along with our 32nd Fingerman Lecture with artist Lari Pittman.

Finally, in late 2022, the Art Center was reaccredited by AAM, the American Alliance of Museums. Only about 7% of museums across the country receive this accreditation, so we are justifiably proud of this acknowledgement that our procedures and policies follow best practices in the field.

Thank you for your participation and support throughout this past year and for the past 25 years that I have had the privilege of working at the Art Center. We are now ready to begin our next 75 years. We invite you to join us and to continue to support the museum and school under its new leadership.

Jeff Fleming  
JOHN AND MARY PAPPAJOHN DIRECTOR

Darren Jirsa  
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Seniors from Lutheran Services in Iowa's Elder Refugee program made clay pots as part of a Community Access partnership with the Des Moines Art Center. Photo courtesy LSI.

## NEW ACCESSIONS

To advance the Art Center's goal of both celebrating and expanding the diversity of the collections, the museum accessioned 101 works of art in 2022 by artists whose heritage and background span the globe. New accessions provide our visitors the opportunity to see themselves in the galleries. Over the past three years, more than 90% of our new purchases were artworks by Asian, Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Queer, or women artists.

Accessions included major works of photography, mixed-media, sculpture, prints and drawings, and works on paper. The following represents a selection of these works. Acquisition and endowment funds, the Des Moines Art Center Print Club, and gifts from generous donors made these accessions possible.

**1** JAMES VAN DER ZEE (American, 1886–1983)

**Billy** 1926, printed ca. 1926

Gelatin silver print

9 5/8 x 7 1/2 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Purchased with funds from the Rusty Hubbell and Ellen and Jim Hubbell Photography Acquisition Fund, 2022.1

**2** ALICE NEEL (American, 1900–1984)

**Nancy and Olivia** 1982

Lithograph on paper

31 1/4 x 28 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Purchased with funds from the Harriet S. and J. Locke Macomber Des Moines Art Center Endowment Fund, 2022.2



1



2

**3** KEHINDE WILEY (American, born 1977)

**Mame Kéwé Aminata Lô** 2021

Bronze

21 1/4 x 12 5/8 x 8 1/4 inches

Purchased with funds from the Coffin Fine Arts Trust;

Nathan Emory Coffin Collection of the Des Moines Art Center, 2022.3

**3** KEHINDE WILEY (American, born 1977)

**Barthélémy Senghor** 2021

Bronze

22 1/8 x 12 5/8 x 10 1/8 inches

Purchased with funds from the Coffin Fine Arts Trust;

Nathan Emory Coffin Collection of the Des Moines Art Center, 2022.4

**4** DONTÉ HAYES (American, born 1975)

**Wavelength** 2021

Ceramic (stoneware, black clay body)

17 x 15 x 12 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Purchased with funds from the Edmundson Art Foundation, Inc., 2022.7



3



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## NEW ACCESSIONS

5 LARI PITTMAN (American, born 1952)

**Untitled #3 (In the Garden)** 2005

Cel-Vinyl, acrylic, and alkyd on gessoed canvas over panel

102 x 86 inches

Purchased with funds from the Coffin Fine Arts Trust; Nathan Emory Coffin Collection of the Des Moines Art Center, 2022.8

WALKER EVANS (American, 1903–1975)

**Tenant Farmer's Wife, Alabama** 1936, printed 1971

Gelatin silver print

10 x 8 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Purchased with funds from the Rusty Hubbell and Ellen and Jim Hubbell Photography Acquisition Fund, 2022.9

MARGARET BOURKE-WHITE (American, 1904–1971)

**Louisville Flood Red Cross Relief Station** 1937,

printed 2022

Gelatin silver print

30 x 38 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Purchased with funds from the Rusty Hubbell and Ellen and Jim Hubbell Photography Acquisition Fund, 2022.11

6 HELEN MCCLLOUD (American, born 1938)

**Lazy Gal** ca. 1975

Corduroy

89 x 80 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections; Partial

purchase with funds from Stan Miller in memory of

Esther Miller, and the Harriet S. and J. Locke Macomber

Des Moines Art Center Fund, and a partial gift of the

Souls Grown Deep Foundation, 2022.12

PAO HOUA HER (Hmong-American, born 1982)

**Hmong Veteran**, from "Attention" series, 2012

Archival pigment print, hand-painted archival glaze

49 5/8 x 39 5/8 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Purchased with funds from the Rusty Hubbell and Ellen and Jim Hubbell Photography Acquisition Fund, 2022.13

7 PAUL MCCARTHY (American, born 1945)

**Dwarf Head** 2000

Platinum-based silicon, wood crate

Sculpture: 16 x 15 x 16 inches

Ccrate: 19 1/2 x 23 1/2 x 19 1/2 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Purchased with funds from the Kyle and Sharon Krause

Family Art Acquisition Fund, 2022.17.a-.b

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

8 PAA JOE (Ghanaian, born 1947)

**Rhino** 2016

Wood, oil paint, and interior fabric

64 x 125 x 46 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Gift of Stefan Simchowicz, 2022.19

JUDY PFAFF (American, born 1946)

**Yoyogi II** 1985

Color woodcut on paper

32 x 36 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Gift of Takada Wilson, 2022.31

CLAES OLDENBURG (American, 1929–2022)

**Colossal Screw in Landscape – Type I** 1976

Lithograph on paper

67 3/8 x 40 1/2 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Gift of Marty Gross Estate, 2022.40

9 WILLIAM EGGLESTON (American, born 1939)

**Untitled (Women Only)**, from the portfolio

"10.D.70.V1", 1971, printed 1996

Dye transfer print

19 5/8 x 15 1/2 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Purchased with funds from the Peg Buckley Memorial

Fund, the Harriet S. and J. Locke Macomber

Des Moines Art Center Fund, and the Rusty Hubbell

and Ellen and Jim Hubbell Photography Acquisition

Fund, 2022.41



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## CONSERVATION PROJECTS

Several major conservation projects occurred in 2022 at both the museum and Pappajohn Sculpture Park. Conservation of these works allows the Art Center to tell the story of our past and carry the artists' voices into the future. Treated works included Carl Milles' *Man and Pegasus* (1949), one of the first sculptures gifted to the Art Center, and a recent acquisition, *Hurricane from the south* (1991), by Arnaldo Roche-Rabel.

A survey of sculptures in the Pappajohn Sculpture Park was also completed by the Midwest Art Conservation Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Treatment was completed on Tony Smith's *Marriage* (1961, fabricated 1989) and restoration of *Willy* (1962, fabricated 2005) will be completed in 2023.

A conservation technician applies pigmented hot wax coating to Carl Milles' *Man and Pegasus*, 1949.



MATTHEW WILLIE GARCIA (American, born 1985)

**States of Existence** 2022

Mokuhanga on paper

10 3/4 x 8 5/8 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Gift of the Des Moines Art Center Print Club in honor of Jeff Fleming and Carrie Marshburn-Fleming, 2022.44

10 CARA ROMERO (Chemehuevi, born 1977)

**TV Indians (Color)** 2017

Archival pigment print

20 3/4 x 32 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Gift of Jim and Ellen Hubbell, 2022.45

11 JORDAN NASSAR (American, born 1985)

**En route vers le désert** 2022

Hand-embroidered cotton on cotton

52 3/4 x 101 1/2 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Purchased with funds from the Edmundson Art Foundation, Inc., the Stanley and Gail Richards Art Acquisition Endowment, and the Harriet S. and J. Locke Macomber Des Moines Art Center Fund, 2022.49

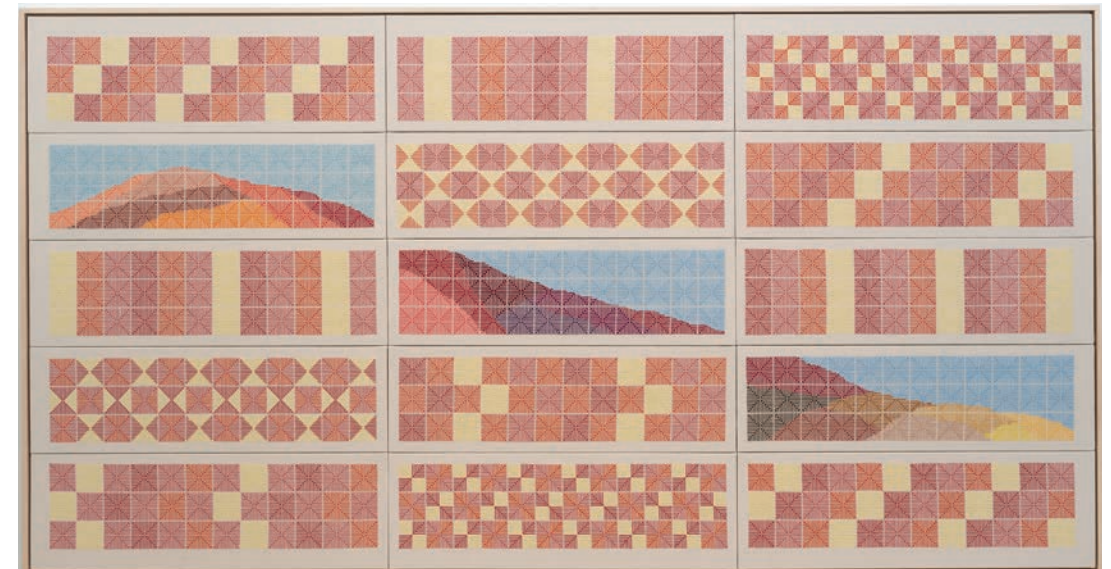


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YORAME MEVORACH (Israeli, born 1951)

**Mental Banquet: Painting with Lights** 2018

4K digital movie

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Purchased with funds provided by the Fingerman Family in honor of Lou Fingerman, 2022.50

GARY SIMMONS (American, born 1964)

**Starlight Theater** 2012

Color soapground aquatint on paper

32 x 39 7/8 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collection; Gift of the Des Moines Art Center Print Club in honor of Jeff Fleming and Carrie Marshburn-Fleming, 2022.51

BILL OWENS (American, born 1938)

**Our singing group will take any opportunity to perform, especially if it's a captive audience.**

**Flights to Hawaii**, from the "Leisure" series, 1978, printed later

Gelatin silver print

8 x 10 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Gift of Dr. Steven and Yasemin Miller, 2022.53

JIM DINE (American, born 1935)

**2 Robes (Fern's Acid and Water)** 1976

Drypoint etching on paper

Sheet (a & b): 41 3/4 x 52 3/8 inches

Des Moines Art Center Permanent Collections;

Gift of Pat Donhowe, 2022.90.a.-b

## EXHIBITIONS+RELATED PROGRAMMING

The Art Center's exhibitions in 2022 provided visitors new perspectives on art and created space for dialogue. Opportunities to interact with visiting artists and the exhibitions abounded. Visitors could share memories through postcards and online galleries, attend lectures and panels with artists involved in major exhibitions, and take prints and gallery guides home to remember the impact of their visit. We are thankful to our many sponsors, members, and donors for their support of these exhibitions that set the tone for the institution over the year.

## IMMERSIVE

March 11 – June 5, 2022

Anna K. Meredith Gallery and Bookey Gallery  
Organized by Senior Curator Laura Burkhalter

*Immersive* was a four-part exhibition of large-scale works and installations featuring artists Bill Viola, Ran Hwang, Matthew Willie Garcia, and Oyoram. This multi-part experiential exhibition invited visitors to be literally immersed in artworks from the permanent collections and beyond. Instead of moving through traditional gallery spaces, visitors followed a path from darkened space to darkened space, each filled with light, color, and sound.

Artists involved in exhibition programming included Kansas City-based guest artist Matthew Willie Garcia and Des Moines-based multimedia artist and Toni and Tim Urban International Artist-in-Residence, Oyoram, who installed a room of LED monitors that transported the viewer into a surprising, ground-shifting experience—*Seven Stories High*. Community programming including meditative sound baths with musicians Deb Jennings and Justin Appel were offered in multiple spaces throughout the museum to create more opportunities for immersion.

The *Immersive* exhibition and related programming was developed with two goals in mind: 1) to create new ways of viewing and experiencing art from the Des Moines Art Center's permanent collections, and 2) to explore immersive environments created by artists that allowed participants to reflect on their own immersive quarantine environments that may have been everything from safe and productive to overwhelming and exhausting. Visitors had the opportunity to respond to the artworks and share their perspectives with others. Hundreds of visitors completed postcards that were hung on a wall to showcase responses to the artworks. Reflection prompts included "This artwork made me

feel..." "Some words that come to mind about this artwork are..." or "A personal connection I made to this artwork is..." Cards were available in both English and Spanish. The activity provided a space to respond to the exhibition on a more personal level, evoking emotions and connections with each piece.

One participant responded that the Matthew Willie Garcia installation made them feel "like I am in another world." Another noted the work made them feel "Far out! Far out in space, time, life, death, and the universe. Far out!"

A viewer of Bill Viola's *Ascension* felt "a breathless sensation of floating and being 100% serene for a moment. Powerful." Others said they felt scared or frightened, but one noted, "At first I felt my chest tighten, but looking at the bubbles reminded me...I am alive."

Ran Hwang's *Garden of Water* inspired feelings of peace, meditation, and elegance, while the spiders engendered thoughts ranging from time, death, and darkness to the whimsy of the nursery rhyme, "The Itsy Bitsy Spider."

Oyoram's installation, *Seven Stories High*, evoked many responses related to our connection with nature and evolution. One viewer wondered, "To what extent am I comfortable with exchanging the beauty of nature for the appeal of modernity and a faux representation of the world?"

### ENTIRELY KIDS DAY: FIND YOURSELF INSIDE ART

Entirely Kids Day offers a day's worth of child-focused thematic art experiences in the museum and studio spaces. The theme of the spring 2022 Entirely Kids Day was "Find Yourself Inside Art" and featured interactive museum exploration and a tour of *Immersive*, hands-on art activities, engaging story times, performances by Eulenspiegel Puppet Theater, and a virtual reality experience provided by Iowa State University's FLEx program. These opportunities encouraged new audiences to create memories at the Art Center; more than 1,200 children, adults, and families explored the museum during the event in March, many for the first time.

## VISITORS WERE LITERALLY IMMERSSED IN MATTHEW WILLIE GARCIA'S DIGITAL PROJECTION *WE CARRY SPACE AND TIME WITHIN US*

Photo: Eric Salmon



## EXHIBITIONS+RELATED PROGRAMMING

### IMAGES UNBOUND

June 24 – September 25, 2022

Anna K. Meredith Gallery and Bookey Gallery  
Organized by Associate Curator Mia Laufer

*Images Unbound* presented artwork from the Des Moines Art Center's permanent collections that touched upon themes of reproducibility, the art object's uniqueness, or the effects of urbanization. The exhibition played with themes from German philosopher Walter Benjamin's (1892–1940) seminal essay "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction." Artists featured in *Images Unbound* included Frank Big Bear, Walker Evans, Hannah Höch, and Andy Warhol, among many others. *Images Unbound* was the first exhibition by Associate Curator Mia Laufer for the Des Moines Art Center.

The exhibition featured several artworks that included reproductions for visitors to take home or interact with. Artist Félix González-Torres created a "paper stack" as part of an interactive art piece; Xavier Tavera and Bobby Marines collaborated to create a newspaper depicting the latter's hometown of Robstown, Texas, *ROBE 2022*; and visitors were invited to create "mail art" from postcards with artwork featured in the show. Participants wrote notes on the cards and left them with the museum. At the end of the show, the postcards were addressed at random and sent to other museum guests who had also participated in the activity.

#### ARTIST PANEL DISCUSSION: WHO OWNS IMAGES?

What makes a work of art any different than the thousands of images that enter our homes every day? Photographs, photocopies, prints, the internet, television, and cell phones; in a world of endless and easy reproduction, how does the artist create and challenge ideas around images, their value, and their impact on the audience who consumes them?

Four artists whose works were featured in *Images Unbound* investigated these questions in a dynamic conversation led by Museum Educator Mia Buch and featuring artists Anna Gaskell, Bobby Marines, Xavier Tavera, and Ignatius Widiapradja.



A pop-up event inspired by *Images Unbound* and the "Who Owns Images?" panel allowed visitors to explore new technologies in art; specifically, how AI text-to-image generators create new artworks. Participants created their own artworks using text prompts and discussed the opportunities and risks associated with this new technology. This image was generated by using a prompt to create iterations of flowers in the Cubist style.

#### ART AND ACTIVISM

The Art Center held an "Art & Activism" workshop with 15 teens over one weekend (July 30–31, 2022) led by Latinx artists Xavier Tavera and Bobby Marines, who were featured in the exhibition *Images Unbound*. The students explored how the use of photography, printing, and publication can shed light on challenging events in marginalized populations and how they can collectively heal and rise from adversity and tragedy. A printed publication or "Zine" was also developed as part of the installation. The group installation centered around current events impacting Des Moines' many diverse communities. The project was conceived of and executed by Marines, Tavera, and the students, and was displayed in the education wing; several of their works are featured on the cover of this report.

OPPOSITE: Photo: Eric Salmon

VISITORS WERE  
INVITED TO TAKE  
COPIES OF *ROBE 2022*,  
A COLLABORATION  
BY ARTISTS  
XAVIER TAVERA  
AND BOBBY MARINES.



## ALISON ELIZABETH TAYLOR: THE SUM OF IT

October 14, 2022 – January 15, 2023

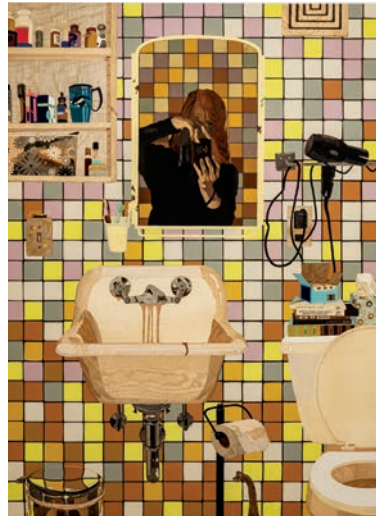
Anna K. Meredith Gallery

Organized by the Addison Gallery of  
American Art, Massachusetts

Known for her daring and inventive fusion of the centuries-old practice of marquetry (wood inlay) with gritty and provocative subject matter, Alison Elizabeth Taylor tells tales that are unequivocally modern. *The Sum of It*, the most comprehensive gathering of her work to date, assembled dozens of works that chronicled her steady mastery of the now nearly forgotten techniques of this rarified medium and revealed her talent as an extraordinary storyteller of 21st-century American life and culture. The exhibition was comprised of a room-sized installation and approximately 40 large-scale works by Taylor, including the Des Moines Art Center's *The Breeder*, exploring her compelling narratives of American culture.

A native Nevadan who grew up through boom-and-bust cycles in Las Vegas, Taylor casts a critical and compassionate eye across a range of human experience. Her works depict the rugged and storied southwestern landscape and the survivalists, scavengers, and economic misfits of American capitalism who inhabit it. Recently Taylor's subject matter has expanded to include the resilience of her urban Brooklyn neighborhood during the pandemic.

The works traced the evolution of the artist's practice from early paintings informed by the grains and tones of natural woods to more vividly colored works that layer marquetry, paint, and photographic imagery. In our current moment of social and political upheaval, Taylor's innovative work insists on our sustained gaze and empathetic study. She states, "The splendor of the shellacked wood is an invitation to look at subjects the viewer might otherwise ignore." Alison Elizabeth Taylor explored her work and these themes in a keynote lecture at the Art Center.



Alison Elizabeth Taylor  
*The Sum of It*, 2017  
Marquetry hybrid: wood veneer, acrylic, and shellac  
72 x 52 inches  
Stephanie and Tim Ingrassia

### BEING WITH ART

Visitors were astonished by the vibrancy and detail in Taylor's work. Volunteer docents (tour guides) and visitor experience staff noted that children and adults alike lingered at each work, absorbing details and appreciating the artistry. In one instance, two visitors were intrigued by legible labels on medicine bottles at the top of a shelf in the title work, *The Sum of It*, a self-portrait of the artist in her bathroom.

These opportunities for reflection and connection are emphasized throughout the Art Center's curatorial and programmatic offerings. *Being with Art*, an audio program launched in 2022, supports visitors with thoughtful, guided prompts, turning their museum visit into a peaceful, inspiring, and embodied experience. Grounded in mindfulness and slow looking practices, *Being with Art* helps museum goers slow down, relax, and enjoy the presence of modern and contemporary art while heightening awareness to how art makes us think, feel, and respond. While the program focuses on the permanent collections, visitors can take these practices into any opportunity to view art. The 20-minute audio program is available in both English and Spanish.



ALISON ELIZABETH  
TAYLOR JUXTAPOSES  
THE LUXURIOUS  
CONNECTIONS  
OF HANDMADE  
CRAFT WITH  
DYSTOPIAN IMAGERY.

Photo: Brittany Brooke Crow



## EXHIBITIONS+RELATED PROGRAMMING

### IOWA ARTISTS 2022: MIRIAM ALARCÓN AVILA

October 28, 2022 – January 15, 2023  
Krause Atrium, Lower Meier Galleries,  
and Bookey Gallery  
Organized by Senior Curator Laura Burkhalter

Miriam Alarcón Avila is a photographer and a visual, multimedia, and storytelling artist. Her work gives voice to new lowans and highlights the challenges and heritage of Latinx immigrants. Alarcón Avila's work honors the double meaning of the word *lucha*: it is the name of the popular wrestling sport, as well as the ability to use your whole heart and soul to overcome struggles and obstacles. Her exhibition for the Iowa Artists series featured photography, luchador masks, the stories and poems on which Alarcón Avila bases her imagery, and a video capturing collaborations with her subjects.

**“THE LUCHADORES  
PROJECT WAS  
BEAUTIFUL,  
MOVING, AND  
CLEARLY RELEVANT.”**

VISITOR COMMENT  
JACOB & EMILY  
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA



### DAY OF THE DEAD, HONORING OUR LUCHADORES ANCESTORS

Miriam Alarcón Avila also created the ofrenda for the annual Day of the Dead celebration, with a theme of honoring our luchadores ancestors. Day of the Dead celebrations honor those who came before us, our ancestors, and those we have loved and lost.

The event was the largest single-day event held at the Art Center since the pandemic in 2020, with a total attendance of more than 1,400. Participants explored the museum and ofrenda centerpiece, created paper flowers and luchador masks, enjoyed music and refreshments, viewed films honoring and celebrating lives in our Latino community, and participated in a festive processional.

Miriam Alarcón Avila, *Immigrant Luchador Jaguar de Rio*, 2017  
Color photograph / Courtesy of the artist

### FANTASY FIGURES: SURREALIST WORKS ON PAPER FROM THE ART CENTER'S COLLECTION

October 1, 2021 – March 20, 2022  
John Brady Print Gallery  
Organized by Senior Curator Laura Burkhalter

Surrealism is one of the most popular and well-known 20th-century art movements. Its chaotic and mysterious imagery, inspired by dreams, fantasies, and the unconscious influenced not only generations of artists but writers and filmmakers as well as fashion and game design.

Dating mainly from the 1930s to the 1960s and featuring drawing, collage, and various printmaking techniques, many of the works in this exhibition included takes on the human body. Artists in the exhibition included Salvador Dalí, Joan Miró, Louise Bourgeois, and Dorothea Tanning, among many others.

### MODERN CONCEPTS 1910 – 1960

March 25 – July 31, 2022  
John Brady Print Gallery  
Curated by John and Mary Pappajohn Director  
Jeff Fleming

Modernism was both an approach to artmaking as well as a mindset that focused on the new. The artworks in this exhibition, all drawn from the Art Center's permanent collections, illustrated four subject areas: abstraction, city life, figuration, and landscape. Many of the works grappled with the political or social undercurrents of the early 20th century, including the trauma of war and global economic and ecological concerns. Natalia Goncharova, Edward Hopper, Paul Klee, Diego Rivera, and Bill Traylor were some of the many artists included in the show. This was the final show curated by John and Mary Pappajohn Director Jeff Fleming for the Des Moines Art Center before his retirement.

### HOLD ME CLOSER

August 5 – December 11, 2022  
John Brady Print Gallery  
Organized by Associate Curator Mia Laufer

Coming off the heels of years of social distancing and isolation, this exhibition addressed different emotional tones associated with close, interpersonal contact, from jubilant and saccharine, to bittersweet, melancholic, or unsettling. The show featured work from the mid-19th century through the present by Mary Cassatt, Elizabeth Catlett, Larry Fink, Käthe Kollwitz, Danny Lyon, Robert Mapplethorpe, Edvard Munch, Deana Lawson, and many others.

**“HOLD ME CLOSER  
IS THE BALM NEEDED  
TO RESPOND TO  
THE PANDEMIC.”**

ANONYMOUS VISITOR TESTIMONIAL

### HOLD ME CLOSER COMMUNITY PHOTO SHOWCASE

As part of the exhibition, the community was invited to share simple moments of connection in an online gallery. Photos included tender memories, embraces, and snapshots of physical connection.



Photo: Nicole James

## COMMUNITY IMPACT

From its founding in 1948, the Des Moines Art Center has been a place to learn about contemporary art through the practice of viewing and making art. As part of the Art Center's opening, architect Eiel Saarinen reflected on the philosophy behind the new building, noting that "Buildings are nothing, studios are nothing, unless you use them to full advantage." The Art Center's vision is to create an inclusive space that builds experiences, fosters relationships, and stimulates creative, critical, and empathetic thinking.

In 2022, we enacted that vision through new programs that uplift diverse voices. More than 269,000 visitors were welcomed to the museum and Pappajohn Sculpture Park and invited to utilize the full advantage of our studio classes, programs, and exhibitions.

### MY VOICE

*My Voice* is an exploration that invites youth to gather, question, and experience the ways that museums and art can serve as tools for creative and critical thinking, self-reflection, mindfulness, and shared human connection. Twelve students from participating schools—Findley Elementary School, Harding Middle School, and North High School—were supported by the Des

Cultural Ambassadors participated in a workshop focused on responding to art, hosted by the Des Moines Art Center in partnership with CultureALL for the *Des Moines Speaks* program. In this photo, participants were asked to spend time slow looking at an artwork by Lyle Ashton Harris in the *Images Unbound* exhibition, before sharing their observations as a group.

Moines Art Center in partnership with By Degrees and the Principal® Foundation in creating an art piece inspired by work from the Art Center's permanent collections using a medium of their choice. These works were displayed and celebrated in a private reception for the students, their schools, families, and community partners.

### DES MOINES SPEAKS

*Des Moines Speaks* is a new program that offers opportunities for multiple interpretations of artwork and reinforces the idea that there is no wrong way to experience art. Members of CultureALL, a Des Moines non-profit that encourages lowans to participate in cultural traditions that lead to a greater appreciation for the diversity around them, were selected to record their personal interpretations of a work in the permanent collection. The audio files are available via QR code on exhibition labels. The program encourages the public to not only use the curatorial voice as a guide for looking but to also view the art through the lens of their own story and vision.



**"THE MY VOICE PROJECT GAVE TWELVE INCREDIBLE YOUNG PEOPLE THE CHANCE TO BE SEEN. PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANTLY, BY THE END, THEY SAW THEMSELVES FOR WHO THEY REALLY ARE, TOO: BRIGHT, CREATIVE, CARING, ARTISTS."**

...It was the singular most fulfilling collaboration I have been part of in many years. *My Voice* is a beautiful example of the priceless returns our community receives when we invest in our young people."

HEATHER ISAACSON  
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS,  
BY DEGREES FOUNDATION



*Life on the Inside, 2022,*  
by My Voice student artist



# COMMUNITY IMPACT

## 32ND FINGERMAN LECTURE

“Conjectural Thinking and the Look of Meaning” was the topic of discussion in the 32nd annual Fingerman Lecture series at the Des Moines Art Center, held on October 18, 2022, and available on the Art Center’s YouTube channel. The conversation between Artist Lari Pittman and Jeff Fleming, John and Mary Pappajohn Director, explored the connection between language and imagery, the willingness to project into the future, and the forces behind Pittman’s “history paintings of the now.”

Lari Pittman is a Colombian-American contemporary artist and painter and Emeritus Distinguished Professor of Painting and Drawing at the UCLA School of the Arts and Architecture. He draws from elements of commercial advertising, the decorative arts, and history painting to produce large-scale works. *Untitled #3 (In the Garden)* was accessioned into the Art Center’s collections in 2022.

The Fingerman Lecture series is made possible through generous gifts by Lois and the late Dr. Louis Fingerman.

Students in the Des Moines Public School’s Brother 2 Brother and Sisters 4 Success initiative work on individual creations in the museum’s studios. Photo: Phillip Roeder



## NEW PARTNERSHIP: DES MOINES PARKS AND RECREATION

The Art Center’s Community Access programs utilize art education to encourage participants to build resiliency and support the exploration of selfhood, community, and identity. The program is built on a history of new and existing relationships with other social service, educational, and non-profit partners. As we rebuild connections with partners following the pandemic, we have also been able to respond to new requests for access programs.

In 2022, the Art Center collaborated in a new program with Des Moines Parks and Recreation, whose mission is to provide equitable recreation services in city parks. During the summer, the city rolled out a summer camp program in four parks: MLK Jr. Park, Evelyn K. Davis Park, Drake Park, and Weeks Middle School Park. Campers received two weeks of programming from the Art Center. The first week the campers were led through an art activity at their park by an Access teaching artist, and the following week the campers engaged in an on-site tour of the Art Center’s collections and exhibitions, with an emphasis on themes explored in the first week.

Thanks to donor and member support, the Art Center is free and accessible to all. The Art Center offers several branches of educational programming: museum education, studio education, and community access. Community Access is free programming that makes art and art making accessible to those in our community who otherwise lack access due to social, cultural, environmental, and economic barriers through partnerships with over 40 organizations.

## ART CENTER PROGRAMMING

### PUBLIC

TOURS + GROUP VISITS

VIRTUAL GALLERY TOURS

EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS, PODCASTS, AUDIO TOURS, + GALLERY GUIDES

GALLERY TALKS

LECTURES

FILM SHOWINGS  
(Oscar Shorts, Manhattan Short Film Festival, exhibition-related films)

COMMUNITY + SPECIAL EVENTS  
(Day of the Dead, exhibition openings)

FAMILY EVENTS  
(Entirely Kids Day)

### YOUTH AND STUDENTS

SCHOOL TOURS

STUDENT DAYS  
(Creativity Days, High School Days)



### STUDIO

CLASSES

ADULT AND FAMILY WORKSHOPS

SUMMER CAMPS

TEEN ACADEMY  
(Art and Clay)

### COMMUNITY ACCESS

EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT  
COMMUNITY RESILIENCY  
IDENTITY AFFIRMING

ART CALLS FOR SENIORS



# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

In 2021, the Art Center launched a comprehensive campaign in honor of the institution's 75th anniversary in 2023. The volunteer cabinet, led by honorary co-chairs John Pappajohn and the late Mary Pappajohn, and campaign co-chairs Pamela Bass-Bookey and Harry Bookey, set forth with a goal of fundraising \$11 million by the end of 2023. Goals of the campaign include:



**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT**  
Sustaining our iconic facilities

**PROGRAMMING ENHANCEMENTS**  
Connecting our community to art

**ART ACQUISITION**  
Growing artistic excellence

Thanks to nearly 200 individuals, foundations, corporations, and government support, the campaign closed in on \$14 million at the end of 2022. While the campaign is still ongoing in 2023 pending awards and additional investment, the Art Center is most grateful to the community support received towards these initiatives in 2022.

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\*Deceased

**Donor support made the following highlights possible:**

- Accession of important new works, including work by Roni Horn purchased with funds from the Linda and Tom Koehn Art Acquisition Fund, and *Dwarf Head* by Paul McCarthy, purchased with funds from the Kyle and Sharon Krause Family Art Acquisition Fund (see p 7).
- Upgrade of an over 40-year-old chiller to provide appropriate temperature and humidity controls
- Renovation of the Bookey Family Courtyard with new lighting, furniture, ADA accessible ramps, and concrete
- Installation of new automatic doors to the I.M. Pei galleries — internal and external
- Planting of the *Blue Meadow*, an ecological art installation that will create a more welcoming entrance to the Art Center

# DONORS

The foundation for our success is the continued generosity of Art Center members and donors. We are grateful for this vital support.

## ENDOWMENTS & TRUSTS

Thanks to the generosity of the following individuals, families, and foundations, ongoing annual support is generated from annual distributions from endowments and trusts. We appreciate this foresight in ensuring quality art, access and inclusivity, and programming remain a part of the Art Center experience.

The Harriet S. and J. Locke Macomber Fund and the Anna K. Meredith Endowment Trust are the largest distributions to the Art Center annually and we are most grateful to these individuals for their thoughtful planning as well as the leadership of these Funds.

Margaret Ann (Dudie) Ash Fund  
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Members of the Edmundson Honor Society have included the Des Moines Art Center in their will or estate plans. These individuals are leaving a legacy that will enrich the arts and culture in Iowa for years to come.

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Karen McGregor and George Brucks  
Robert McLearn Jr.  
Matt McQuillen and Kim Wall  
Mindy Meinders  
Suzanne and Ken Messer  
Ray Michel  
Jim and Barbara Miles  
Stanley Miller  
Jami and Ben Milne  
Joseph and Meghan Mitros  
Margaret Moburg and Bert Pitman  
Terry Monson  
James and Pam Moos  
Janet L. Mootz  
Paul and Gloria Morris  
Michael and Sasha Mudlaff  
Vicky Myers  
Joe and Marla Naumann  
LaVonne Neerland and Stephen Voit  
Sara Neppel  
Neumann Brothers, Inc.  
Pauline and William Niebur  
Amy R. Nigg  
Roy and Mary Nilsen  
Andrew and Barbara Nish  
Kari and David Stecher  
Nancy Norman and Keith Uhl  
Jason Nunemaker and Carla Herling  
Sam and Sarah O'Brien  
John Outcalt and Mary Jane Cobb  
Cynthia and John Paschen  
Brent Pattison and Laura Mate  
Christine Paulson and Kevin Armstrong  
Judy and John Perkins  
Jolene Pfaff  
William Pollak  
Lettie Prell and John Domini  
Lisa Pusin  
Samuel and Michelle Rebelsky  
James Reese and Peggy Van Kirk  
Robert Reeves and Monica Langin  
Elizabeth and Jeffrey Regenold  
Treva Reimer and Keith Ratzlaff  
Artis Reis and Mark Smith  
Kevin and Robin Riggins  
Sandra Riggs



A visitor views an interactive work during the *Images Unbound* exhibition opening.

Joseph and Karen Romano  
Monique and John Root  
Mark and Janet Rosenbury  
Neil Ruddy and Jan Kusske  
Mickey and Neal Ryan  
Robert and Jean Rydell  
Charles and Katherine Safris  
Marilyn and Sunny Schaffer  
William and Joan Scherle  
Claudia and Paul Schickler  
Megan and Kyle Schilling  
Joseph Schneider  
June and Paul Schorr  
David and Jean Scott  
Jaey and Brenda Sedlacek  
Jeff Seymour  
Travis and Jen Sheets  
Phil and Diana Sickles  
Will and Joshua Signs  
Sue Slater  
Mary and Blair Smith  
Maryanne and Robert Sobiech  
Siobhan Spain and Jonathan deLima  
Lisa Stange and Jon Davidson  
Mark and Mary Ellen Stanley  
Kari and David Stecher  
Sarah Steward and Jeff Bruning  
Carolyn and Roger Stirler  
Allan and Marilyn Stokes  
Daniel Storck and Julie Hale  
Emily Stork  
Kayla and Greer Stratton  
David and Denise Swartz  
Nikki Syverson  
Kenneth and Cathy Talcott  
John R. Taylor  
Kacey Textor  
Jennifer and Rod Townsend  
Tri-City Electric Co.  
Brian Tross  
George Tsandikos  
Deborah Turner and David Connolly  
Bonnie and Federico Valverde  
Roberta Vann and Fred Lorenz  
Robert and Molly Veenstra

Veridian Credit Union  
Mary Von Schrader  
Susan and Carl Voss  
Stephanie Wagner  
Marie and Marvin Walker  
Michael Wallace  
Vicki and Bill Wallace  
Rick and Marcia Wanamaker  
Steve Wandro  
Anne and William Waskom  
Ivan and Anne Webber  
Duane and Mary Rose Weiland  
Steven and Karen Weiss  
Eric and Jamie West  
Cindy and Brent Westemeyer  
Dirk and Carol Westercamp  
Patricia and Paul Westphal  
Leigh Wichern  
Deb Wiley and John Schmidt  
Sandra and James Windsor, III  
Missy and Michael Wolnerman  
Sumner and Karen Worth  
Lesley Wright and Donald Doe  
Gerald Wurtz and Marilyn Dysart  
Ellen Yee  
David Yepsen and Mary Stuart  
Blair N. Zachariasen  
Sabrina and Adam Zenor  
Austin Zepeda and Dean Anderson  
Dan Zimmerman and  
Jennifer Graham Zimmerman

### IN-KIND GIFTS

Andrea and Greg Abel  
Boesen the Florist  
Iowa Public Radio  
Zanzibar's Coffee Adventure

The Art Center makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of names and cumulative annual gift amounts. We apologize for any errors. Please contact Tiffany K. Nagel Spinner at [tspinner@desmoinesartcenter.org](mailto:tspinner@desmoinesartcenter.org) or 515.271.0338 to inform us of any changes or omissions.

\*Deceased

## TRIBUTE GIFTS & RECOGNITION

The following individuals were celebrated by gifts made in 2022. A special thank you to their loved ones who chose the Art Center to recognize them in this meaningful way.

### IN HONOR OF

Pam Bass-Bookey and Harry Bookey  
Lois Fingerman  
Jeff Fleming

### IN MEMORY OF

Gloria Anderson  
Sigurd Anderson  
Cindy Baldwin  
Vincent Bejarano  
Margaret Brennan  
Woody Brenton  
Mariann Clark  
John Cole  
Louis Fingerman  
Judith Flapan  
Elise Geraghty  
Jo Ghrist  
Lori Kalainov  
Jay Levitt  
Harriet Macomber  
Phil Marcuson  
Patricia McCary  
Gregg Narber  
Mary Pappajohn  
Mary Jane Pollack  
Donna Reed  
Stanley Richards  
Georgianne Schreiber  
Sharon Simmons  
Jerry Szumski  
Robert F. And Rhonda Taggart  
Ellie Ziegler

For more than 40 years, Print Club membership has supported the Art Center by investing in conservation, gifting a print to the permanent collections, and commissioning a print for the community to purchase. These individuals were active members in 2022.

### PRINT CLUB MEMBERS

Amy M. Anderson and Mark L. Hill  
Inger Anderson  
Christy Antoniou  
Joshua Baker and Jessica Terrill  
Jeff Baldus  
Rachel Baron  
Judson and Heidi Barr  
Matthew Basart  
Pamela Bass-Bookey and Harry Bookey  
Michelle G. Berard  
Cheryl and Bill Bergren  
Zac Bitting and Karin Wilhelm  
Amy Blessing

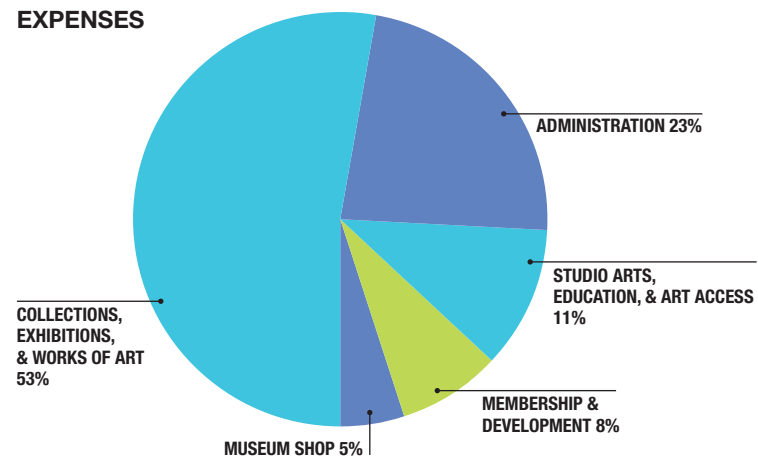
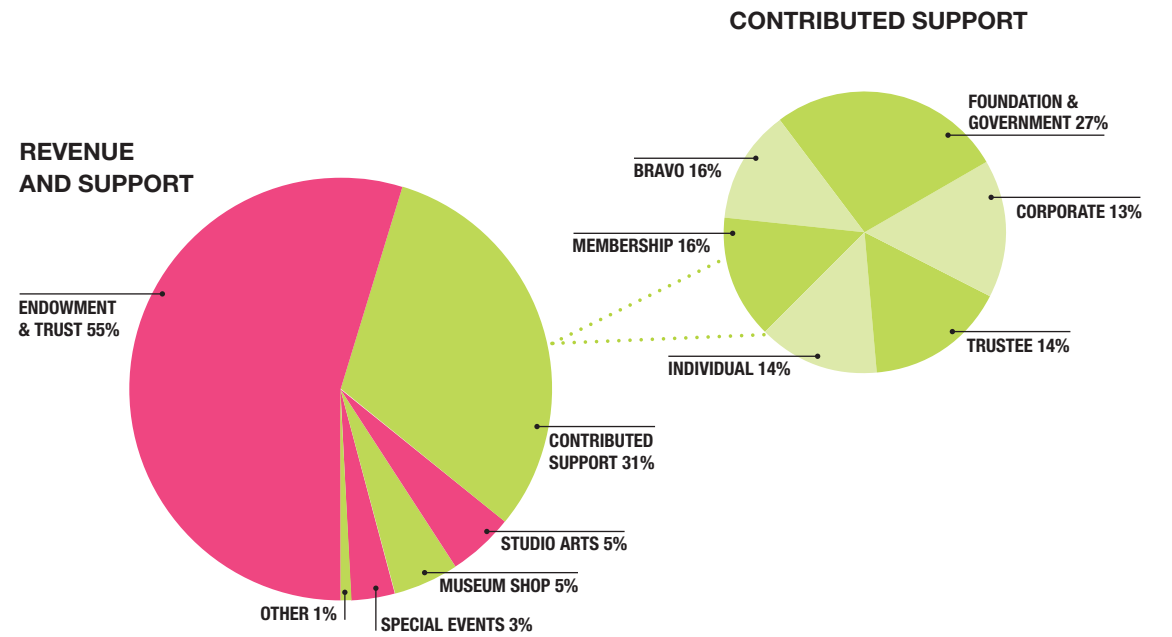
Laura Burkhalter  
Dayna L. Boyles-Carpenter  
Kelly Caldbeck and Ted Thoms  
William and Diane Caldbeck  
Mary Sconiers Chapman  
Tiberiu Chelcea  
Jeff Chelesvig  
Jeremy Chen  
Jake Christensen and Susan Fitzsimmons  
Adam and Courtney Clarke  
LaMonte and Jean Combs  
Kevin and Mollie Cooney  
Christina Dahl  
Susan and Darren Dannen  
Lea Rosson DeLong  
Michael Devlin  
Dennis W. Dobson  
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Deborah and David Hansen  
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Stephen Hay  
Eric Heining and Tiffani Milless  
Rachael and Jason Hemp  
Richard and Jane Hinson  
Brent and Anna Hoffman  
Teresa Holton  
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Jane Ibsen  
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Patricia McFarland  
Marti McLove  
Kirk McVey and Todd Kolbe  
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Ekaterina Ralston and Wesley Hamstreet  
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Kevin and Robin Riggins  
Sandra Riggs  
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Michael Wallace  
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Lindley Warren Mickunas  
Kate Wiley  
Bryce Williams  
Robert and Jean Williams  
Ken Winber  
Amy Namowitz Worthen  
Ellen Yee

\*Deceased

## 2022 FINANCIAL SUMMARY\*

EDMUNDSON ART FOUNDATION, INC.

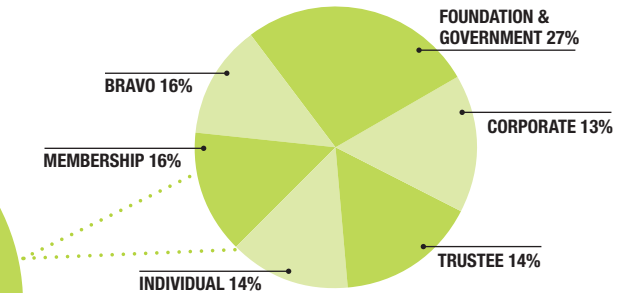


### 2022 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

TOTAL ASSETS	\$143,219,749
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$142,185,453
OPERATING REVENUE AND SUPPORT	\$7,224,685

\*UNAUDITED

### CONTRIBUTED SUPPORT



### ART CENTER AT A GLANCE

TOTAL CONTRIBUTED SUPPORT	\$2,468,109
TOTAL NUMBER OF GIFTS	2,832
TOTAL FUNDS RAISED FROM ANNUAL GALA	\$232,900
TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS	2,207
VOLUNTEER HOURS (INCLUDING DOCENTS)	2,614
SCHOLARSHIPS PROVIDED	86
STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN FREE COMMUNITY ACCESS PROGRAMMING	4,531

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### 2022 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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**Josh Mandelbaum**

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**Timothy J. Urban**

**Toni Urban**

**James Wallace**

**Fred Weitz**

**Dennis E. Young**

\*DECEASED



The galleries are buzzing again with visitors following the pandemic, shown here with Cecily Brown's *Half-Bind*, 2005.

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**Mia Laufer**  
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**Mindy Meinders**  
CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN & WORKS ON PAPER COORDINATOR

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**Zachary Quick**  
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**Sydney Royal-Welch**  
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**Isaac Oaks**

**Chance Reeves**

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**John Stone**

**Loretta Tarpin**

**Liberty Valadez**

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**Erin Mathisen**  
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The names on this list represent staff employed at the Art Center as of December 31, 2022.



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**DURING ENTIRELY  
KIDS DAY, YOUTH  
EXPLORED THE  
MUSEUM AND  
EXPRESSED  
CURIOSITY ABOUT  
THE ARTWORKS. THE  
LUCHADOR MASKS  
CREATED BY 2022  
IOWA ARTIST MIRIAM  
ALARCÓN AVILA  
WERE PARTICULARLY  
POPULAR.**

Photo: Phillip Roeder

