

FINAL MINUTES

Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco Board of Trustees Wednesday, November 9, 2022 3:00 pm

The meeting was held in person and by Teleconference Pursuant to the February 10, 2022 Forty-Fifth Supplement to Mayoral Proclamation Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency Dated February 25, 2020.

Voting trustees attended in person, except for those who received exemptions for COVID-related reasons. Members of the public had the opportunity to join remotely by phone.

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, May 3 in person and by Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 3:02 pm by Diane B. Wilsey, Chair Emerita.

Calling of the Roll – Megan Bourne, Chief of Staff and Executive Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Trustees Present in Person

Jack Calhoun
Bryan Meehan
Jason E. Moment, President

Diane B. Wilsey, Chair Emerita

Trustees Present on Zoom with City Exemption

Carl F. Pascarella

Trustees Present on Zoom without City Exemption (Not Eligible to Vote or Count Toward Quorum)

David Frazee

Trustees Unable to Attend

Janet Barnes
Juliet de Baubigny
Lauren Hall
Yasunobo Kyogoku

Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco
Board of Trustees
November 9, 2022

Heather Preston, M.D.
Richard H. Scheller Ph.D.
David Wadhwani

Corporation of the Fine Arts Museums Trustees Present in Person

Bakari Ayinde Adams
Max Boyer Glynn
William R. Hearst III
Rebecca Reeve Henderson
David Spencer
Julia Zhen

Corporation of the Fine Arts Museums Trustees Present by Zoom

Aida Alvarez
Bettina Bryant

Findings Resolution 54953(e) Discussion and Possible Action – Jason Moment, President

President Moment introduced a discussion and possible motion to adopt a resolution setting forth findings that would allow the Fine Arts Museums Board of Trustees to hold teleconferenced meetings under the California Government Code section 54953(e). (See Appendix I – Resolution)

Upon motion, duly seconded, there was no discussion among Trustees. There was no public comment. Trustees voted unanimously to adopt the above resolution as **Board Resolution 1924**.

Approval of Minutes – Diane B. Wilsey, Chair Emerita

Diane B. Wilsey called for approval of minutes. Upon motion, duly second there was no discussion among Trustees. There was no comment from the public. The minutes of the June 8, 2022 meeting of the Board of Trustees, having been delivered in advance to all trustees, were unanimously approved.

Report of the President – Jason Moment, President

President Moment presented a resolution setting the dates of the remaining FY23 and the FY24 meetings of the Board of Trustees of Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco:

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco does hereby set the following dates for the remainder of FY23 and the FY24 regular meetings:

Tuesday, December 7, 2022, 3:00 pm
Tuesday, February 7, 2023, 3:00 pm
Tuesday, April 4, 2023, 3:00 pm
Wednesday, May 31, 2023, 3:00 pm
Tuesday, October 10, 2023, 3:00 pm

Tuesday, December 5, 2023, 3:00 pm
Tuesday, January 16, 2023, Annual Budget Review, 3:00 pm
Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 3:00 pm
Tuesday, April 9, 2024, 3:00 pm
Wednesday, May 29, 2024, 3:00 pm

Upon motion, duly seconded, there was no discussion among Trustees. There was no public comment. Trustees voted unanimously to adopt the above resolution as **Board Resolution 1935**.

Report of the Acquisitions Committee – William R. Hearst III, Chair, Acquisitions Committee

President Moment called on William R. Hearst III, Chair, Acquisitions Committee to present the report of the September 8, 2022 Acquisitions Committee.

Mr. Hearst recommend the FAMSF Board accept the report of the Acquisitions Committee and approve 12 purchases, 5 funded purchases, 172 gifts and 8 first step deaccessions and 2 second step deaccessions. The full report of the Acquisitions Committee is attached as Appendix II.

On motion, duly seconded, the Board unanimously accepted the report of the Acquisitions Committee, and approved the purchases, gifts and deaccessions. There was no discussion among the Trustees, and there was no public comment.

Report of the Director and CEO – Thomas P. Campbell, Director and CEO

Consideration and Possible Action to Approve Loan Requests:

1. Request from: Fondation Beyeler, Basel, Switzerland
 - A. Wayne Thiebaud, *Diagonal Freeway*, 1993
For the Exhibition: *Wayne Thiebaud (working title)*
Exhibition dates: January 29, 2023 to May 14, 2023
 - B. Wayne Thiebaud, *Ponds and Streams*, 2002
For the Exhibition: *Wayne Thiebaud (working title)*
Exhibition dates: January 29, 2023 to May 14, 2023

On motion, duly seconded, there was no discussion among Trustees. There was no public comment. The board voted unanimously to approve the loan requests.

Exhibitions and Public Programs

Hung Liu: Golden Gate, July 10, 2021 – January 8, 2023

The Hung Liu installation in the de Young's Wilsey Court will continue through January 8, 2023.

Guo Pei: Couture Fantasy, April 16, 2021 – November 27, 2022

Installed both in dedicated special exhibition galleries and throughout permanent collection galleries of European art on the Legion's first floor, the extraordinary designs of Chinese designer Guo Pei continue astound visitors. Since the exhibition opened in April, 193,000 visitors have purchased tickets for the exhibition. Another 62,000 GA visitors have seen Guo Pei's designs in our upstairs galleries. We expect this exhibition to exceed 210,000 attendees (ticketed) which will make it the most highly attended Legion of Honor exhibition in over 10 years.

Faith Ringgold: American People, July 16 – November 27, 2022

Since July, we have had the privilege of hosting Faith Ringgold: American People at the de Young. Organized by the New Museum, this exhibition unites over sixty years of work to showcase the most comprehensive exhibition to date of the 91 year old artist's groundbreaking vision. From creating some of the most indelible artworks of the civil rights era to challenging accepted hierarchies of art versus craft through her experimental story quilts, Faith Ringgold has produced a body of work that bears witness to the complexity of the American experience. To close out the exhibition in style, we have a day-long celebration planned on Saturday, November 19 and will featuring panel discussions, poetry, live music, food and drinks, this community celebration of Faith and her works will begin at 1pm and continue through the early evening (8pm).

Ramses the Great and the Gold of the Pharaohs, August 20, 2022 – February 12, 2023

We've had a wonderful response to Ramses the Great and the Gold of Pharaohs. Celebrating the reign and achievements of Ramses II, this multisensory exhibition is filled with exquisite sculptures and objects produced during Egypt's Golden Age. The VR Experience has been a successful experiment thus far as it has shown high visitor demand. Over 23,000 visitors have experienced the VR chairs

Lhola Amira: Facing the Future, December 17, 2022 – December 2, 2023

In December 2022 we are launching a contemporary African art program **with *Lhola Amira: Facing the Future*. Bringing together a site-specific, mixed-media sound installation** that will act as a portal for spiritual reflection and connection. Amira's work will be presented in dialogue with artworks in our permanent collection that also serve as conduits between the spirit and the human worlds. The artist will consecrate the African art galleries as a sacred space, keeping the tradition of a ceremonial welcome alive.

Paperworks: Fifteen Years of Acquisitions, December 17, 2022 – June 25, 2023

At the Legion, we will inaugurate a new gallery at the Legion of Honor for the ongoing presentation of works on paper from the Achenbach Foundation for Graphic Arts, the Fine Arts Museums' department of prints, drawings, photographs, and artists' books. The exhibition features select acquisitions from 2007 to 2022 and represents the breadth of the Museums' collection. Some of the works in the exhibition, such as this extraordinary late 15th century drawing of St. Matthew by Pintorrichio, which we acquired in 2021, have never been shown at FAMSF.

Sargent and Spain, February 11 – May 14, 2023

Sargent and Spain is the first exhibition to explore the influence of Spanish culture on the dynamic visual practice of the American expatriate artist John Singer Sargent. Celebrated as the leading society portraitist of his era, John Singer Sargent influenced a generation of

American painters. His captivation with Spain, which developed over the course of seven visits to the country between 1879 to 1912, resulted in a remarkable body of work. The exhibition will present an array of Sargent's dazzling oils, watercolors, drawings, and never-before-exhibited photographs from his personal collection, which showcase Spain's rich culture, its people, and its magnificent urban and rural landscapes. Our presentation of Sargent and Spain will be the exclusive West coast venue for this exhibition.

Kehinde Wiley: An Archaeology of Silence, March 4 – July 9, 2023

The Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco are honored to host the US premiere of *Kehinde Wiley: An Archaeology of Silence*, a new, monumental body of work created against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, the murder of George Floyd, and the worldwide rise of the Black Lives Matter movement. Expanding upon American artist Kehinde Wiley's *Down* series from 2008, and inspired by Hans Holbein the Younger's *The Dead Christ in the Tomb* (1521–1522), the exhibition meditates on the deaths of young Black people slain all over the world. Holbein's painting spurred an ongoing investigation into the iconography of the fallen and recumbent figure in Western art, which Wiley reconceptualized into paintings and sculptures in a range of states, including struck down, wounded, dead, resting, in ecstasy, or an ambiguous combination thereof. These elegiac and powerful works underscore the fraught terms in which Black bodies are rendered visible, especially in the context of police and state violence. Our Director of Interpretation, Abram Jackson, is bringing a great depth of knowledge and thoughtfulness to all of our interpretive efforts at the museum, and given the challenging but pertinent nature of Wiley's work, Abram's input is playing a big role in how we think about the presentation of this exhibition.

Ansel Adams In Our Time, April 8 – July 23, 2023

A self-described "California photographer," Ansel Adams had his first museum exhibition at the de Young in 1932. In a San Francisco homecoming, more than 100 of his most iconic works are on view in *Ansel Adams in Our Time* alongside those of 23 contemporary artists who share his deep concern for the environment, Catherine Opie, Richard Misrach, Trevor Paglen, and Binh Danh among them. An unrelenting activist for conservation and wilderness preservation in the spirit of his 19th-century predecessors, Adams is today beloved for his lush gelatin silver prints of the national parks. Organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, in partnership with the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, *Ansel Adams in Our Time* is enhanced at the de Young by the addition of works from the permanent collection and new interpretive framing that explores Adams's close connection to the Bay Area and the state of California more broadly.

Free Saturdays

Director Campbell spoke about some of the impacts of the Free Saturdays Program which is in its third year. In this fiscal year, average Free Saturday attendance is up 2,801 to 3,600--an increase of nearly 800 people every Saturday. Next Saturday, over 300,000 people will have taken advantage of our Free Saturdays program thanks to the generosity of board chair emerita, Mrs. Wilsey.

On Saturday, December 3, an anonymous donor is sponsoring free general admission to all San Francisco museums. This is an effort to galvanize Bay Area audiences around our city's rich art scene. While this does not directly benefit us (or the Asian Art Museum) as we already offer free admission every Saturday thanks to Mrs. Wilsey, since this is an effort to highlight and uplift our city's museum community, it is natural and important that we participate in this event

as an anchor partner alongside SFMOMA and the Asian Art Museum. It is also an opportunity to highlight our existing Free Saturday offering.

Website Redesign

After 18 months of planning and development, our new website launched on November 8, 2022. This follows holistic testing, and an Alpha launch in which 70 staff members who have been involved with the project in its various phases reviewed the website one final time. The new website will greatly enhance our digital presence, introducing new designs, a new typeface, an intuitive calendar, modular exhibition pages, a rich content hub and multiple ways to discover works in our collections. All of this will enable us to better communicate FAMSF's mission and program to the public. The first version of the new website adopts ACME ticketing white label, a way for us to reduce risks at launch by maintaining the same ticketing and membership flows already in place. The ACME API integration work will be completed after this initial launch. User research and testing will be conducted after the launch and will inform the website's roadmap. The website redesign was one of the top strategic priorities that Director Campbell identified at the start of his tenure and he views the public launch as a major institutional milestone.

Building Updates

The Osher Sculpture Garden is currently closed to prepare for the installation of Woody de Othello's *Fountain*. This monumental sculpture was acquired through the Svane gift last spring and marks the first work from the Svane acquisition to be installed. The Louise Nevelson and Henry Moore sculptures will be moved to new locations in the garden to accommodate the de Othello. The Svane gift allowed us to further develop our strong focus on Bay Area artists in our collection, and to support the work of local living artists and galleries.

Legion of Honor Courtyard

The final phase of the multi-year project to repair and restore masonry in the Legion of Honor courtyard was fully funded by the city for this fiscal year; however, due to rising costs, the funding that we have in hand no longer covers the full cost of the project. Gustavo Salas, our Head of Facilities is currently working with our contractor to look at the scope of work in an attempt to bring the project within cost. An update on this will be given in the December board meeting. The goal is to complete this project within this fiscal year.

Hamon Tower

Following our multi-year analysis of corrosion on the tower, a Rough Order of Magnitude estimate for the repair was projected at a cost way above anything we had imagined: \$30M. Since last spring the project has entered the city's capital plan system as a request. The tower project was entered in the city's 10-year Capital Plan. The request is for \$22 M for FY 24 and \$10 M for FY25 with a total estimated cost is \$32M (the addition \$2M from the ROM is to cover soft cost). Jason Seifer, CFO, and our head of facilities, Gustavo Salas had a meeting with the city's Capital Planning staff in October to discuss the project. Due to the scale of the project Capital Planning did not have an immediate recommendation on how to finance this large project.

Canaletto Acquisition

Board chair emerita Dede Wilsey stepped up in a spectacular way to provide the funding to purchase this masterpiece by the 18th century Venetian painter, Canaletto before just before it went to auction at the Getty Sale. Giovanni Antonio Canal, called Canaletto (1697-1768), was

the greatest Venetian view painter of the eighteenth century, and *Venice, the Grand Canal looking East with Santa Maria della Salute* is his most important painting to come onto the market in the last twenty years.

JFK Drive/Ballot Initiative

Proposition J to permanently close John F. Kennedy Drive in Golden Gate Park prevailed in the November 8 election, defeating Proposition I to reopen the road. Director Campbell has already been in touch with SF Rec and Park General Manager Phil Ginsburg and MTA Director Jeffrey Tumlin. The Directors all indicated a desire to collaborate on programming in Golden Gate Park, continuing work on accessibility and maximizing use of the Music Concourse Parking Garage.

Several public commenters called in to state that the de Young Museum should proactively reach out to the groups who supported the road closure and those groups' constituents. Some also expressed displeasure with the FAMSF board

Report of the CFO – Jason Seifer, CFO

Fine Art Museums (FAM) City Department Budget
General Fund Only (excludes Admissions Fund)
FY22 Actuals vs FY22 Approved Budget
(\$ in thousands)

	Actual Results FY22	% of FY22 Actuals	Approved Budget FY22	% of FY22 Budget	Variance to FY22 Budget
Staffing (primarily security)	13,864	76%	14,251	78%	(387)
Utilities	1,855	10%	1,730	9%	125
Art and Property Insurance	1,448	8%	1,629	9%	(181)
Buildings Service Contracts	527	3%	348	2%	179
Other expense	<u>556</u>	<u>3%</u>	<u>409</u>	<u>2%</u>	<u>147</u>
Total Expenses	18,250	100%	18,367	100%	(117)
Capital Expenditures	<u>1,400</u>		<u>1,400</u>		=
Total Spending	<u>19,650</u>		<u>19,767</u>		<u>(117)</u>

- Below budget by \$117k.
- Staffing lower from reduced benefit costs.
- Insurance decrease due to exhibition mix.
- Utilities and other expense higher due to full reopening and maintenance needs.

Overview of FY23 FAM Budget

- Mayor signed FY23 Budget on August 1.
- FAM FY23 Budget: Operations \$20.0M and Capital \$1.0M
- Reinstatement of three frozen security positions from FY21 Budget cycle.
- Four large capital projects funded including LOH Masonry and LOH Laylights.

Fine Art Museums (FAM) City Department Budget
General Fund Only (excludes Admissions Fund)
FY23 Approved Budget vs FY22 Approved Budget
(\$ in thousands)

	Approved Budget FY23	% of FY23 Budget	Approved Budget FY22	% of FY22 Budget	Variance to FY22 Budget
Staffing (primarily security)	14,762	77%	14,251	78%	511
Utilities	2,143	11%	1,730	9%	413
Art and Property Insurance	1,352	8%	1,629	9%	(277)
Buildings Service Contracts	370	2%	348	2%	22
Other expense	<u>365</u>	<u>2%</u>	<u>409</u>	<u>2%</u>	<u>(44)</u>
Total Expenses	18,992	100%	18,367	100%	625
Capital Expenditures	<u>1,035</u>		<u>1,400</u>		<u>(365)</u>
Total Spending	<u>20,027</u>		<u>19,767</u>		<u>260</u>

- Total budget up \$260,000 or 2%.
- FY23 Staffing expense higher due to add-back of 3 Security Guards.
- FY23 Utilities and Insurance are based on FY22 actual results.

Capital Projects

\$1M FY23 capital Improvement funded projects

1. Legion of Honor Masonry Restoration - \$500,000

2. Legion of Honor Laylight Shades - \$175,000
3. de Young Chiller Overhaul - \$115,000
4. General Facility Maintenance Projects - \$245,000

Mr. Seifer then introduced a consideration and possible action to adopt a resolution acknowledging funding expended by the Corporation of the Fine Arts Museums during the period of April 1 through June 30, 2022:

WHEREAS, The Corporation of the Fine Arts Museums is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation that exists to support the activities of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco does hereby acknowledge with gratitude funding in the amount of \$13,911,775 expended by the Corporation of the Fine Arts Museums for operation during the period April 1 through June 30, 2022

Upon motion, duly seconded, there was no discussion among Trustees. There was no public comment. Trustees voted unanimously to adopt the above resolution as **Board Resolution 1936**.

Curatorial Presentation

Director Campbell called upon Emily Beeny, Curator in Charge, European Paintings, to present on the European Paintings Collecting Strategy

General Public Comment

Several of the people who commented about the JFK ballot propositions called in again to express their displeasure with the FAMSF Board

Adjournment

Diane B. Wilsey, Chair Emerita adjourned the meeting at 4:22 p.m.