

Annual Report

Financial Statement · 2018-2019



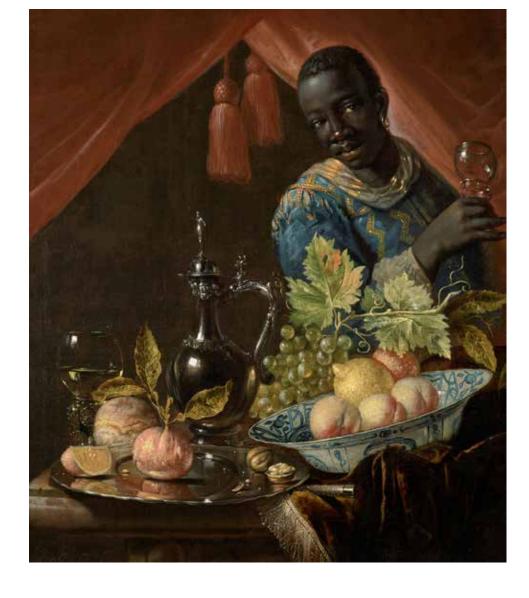
Annual Report

Providing you, our supporters, with an annual report detailing the past fiscal year's operations is an important way we can demonstrate our commitment to transparency, accountability, and the responsible stewardship of the assets with which we have been entrusted. Additionally, it gives us an opportunity to show the exciting ways in which our collections continue to grow, securing our place as the state's largest and most comprehensive art museum, as well as an institution of regional and national distinction. Finally, the annual report provides us with an additional opportunity to acknowledge our loyal and generous donors who have been the lifeblood of this institution for nearly 70 years.

From July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019, we welcomed 124,039 visitors, an increase of nearly 3,000 people over the previous fiscal year. This increase in attendance was spurred by popular and innovative exhibitions and programs. Perhaps our most popular perennial programs are our Family Festivals, made possible through the generosity of Medical Properties Trust. This year, 5,928 visitors turned out for Family Festivals celebrating diverse cultures from throughout the globe including India and Latin America.

The 2018–2019 fiscal year continued to be one of transitions. In late October 2018, we welcomed Hallie Ringle as our new Hugh Kaul Curator of Contemporary. Hallie joined the BMA after five years at New York's Studio Museum in Harlem, where she served first as a senior curatorial assistant and then as assistant curator, managing the institution's artist residency program. Hallie's first exhibition for the BMA—the colorful and innovative *Barbie: Dreaming of a Female Future*—opened just after the start of the current fiscal year, and has received widespread acclaim from our visitors and the media. On May 30, 2019, we celebrated the distinguished career of beloved exhibition designer Terry Beckham, who retired after 34 years at the Birmingham Museum of Art. Terry's creativity and eye for color made our temporary exhibitions and permanent collection galleries some of the most striking anywhere. Those of you who know Terry are likely aware of his passion for The Beatles and anything related to the exploration of outer space. It was only fitting that his tenure at the BMA be celebrated with a Beatles-themed party (complete with blow-up yellow submarines) and the acquisition of a work from Robert Rauschenberg's "Stoned Moon" series, inspired by the launch of Apollo 11.

During the past fiscal year, our collections increased by 186 works of art, comprising nearly every medium. Among these acquisitions, we are particularly proud of works that enable us to broaden the narrative scope of our collection, telling new stories and giving a fuller and more accurate picture of both the past and present through the visual arts. In this regard, Juriaan van Streek's canvas *Still Life with Male Figure*—depicting a richly dressed black man standing behind a sumptuously laid table—is particularly significant as it speaks to the presence of people from Africa or of African descent in the 17th-century Netherlands. Depictions of people of color from this period and place are rare; this important example—made possible through the generosity of BMA Board Chair Emerita Margaret G. Livingston—enables us to make visible people and histories that have otherwise been erased. We are similarly pleased to expand our collection in meaningful ways with an intentional focus on acquiring work by contemporary Native American artists, an initiative



funded by a generous bequest by longtime docent Clyde W. Oyster. One recent acquisition is a striking blue basket by Shan Goshorn, a member of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation. The basket is woven in the traditional Cherokee water pattern using paper weaving strips embellished with written text drawn from Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Chair David Archimbault's speech to the United Nations in response to the Dakota Access Pipeline on his nation's reservation. Another important contemporary acquisition is *Dejygea* (1970), a large, bold and colorful abstract painting by Mavis Pusey (1928–2019) inspired by the urban built environment of New York City. The painting appeared in Pusey's first major group exhibition, "Contemporary Black Artists in America," mounted by New York's Whitney Museum of American Art in 1971. A rising star, Pusey's ascendency was halted by a number of converging circumstances, not the least of which was the overwhelming discrimination that women and people of color faced in the art world at that time. The painting will form the centerpiece of the first major retrospective of Pusey's work, which we will co-organize with the Studio Museum in Harlem, and present at the BMA in early 2021.

We are grateful to the Museum's many supporters—individuals, corporations, foundations, and government entities—for their generosity, which enables us to provide meaningful experiences to our community. While our donors are too numerous to acknowledge in the space of this letter, I would be remiss if I didn't mention the City of Birmingham. The Birmingham Museum of Art has been a department of the city since it was established in 1951. In the years since, the city's

Juriaen van Streek (Dutch, 1632–1687), Still Life with Male Figure, About 1650–1680, oil on canvas; Collection of the Art Fund, Inc. at the Birmingham Museum of Art; Purchase with funds provided by Margaret G. Livingston, AFI.46.2018

support has never waned and today, at \$3.5 million per year, accounts for approximately half of our annual operating budget. The city has also provided critical support for deferred maintenance and building improvements, most recently allocating funds for a wheelchair lift in our main lobby. Our single greatest fundraiser each year is our annual Museum Ball. On Saturday, May 4, 2019, the Museum hosted its 64th ball, "Pop in the City," chaired by Lindsey and John Lacey and Courtney and Bryson Stephens, which raised over \$421,000 in critical support for our education department.

As the philosopher and author Albert Camus once remarked, "Real generosity towards the future lies in giving all to the present." Your steadfast commitment to this institution not only permits us to ably serve our community now, but also serves as an investment in the future, ensuring the growth and prosperity of one of our leading cultural assets. Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you at the BMA in the new year.

Graham C. Boettcher, Ph.D.

The R. Hugh Daniel Director

Lalam C. Boettcher

James K. Outland

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Financial Statement

	2019		2018	
	\$	%	\$	%
Revenues				
Support				
City of Birmingham	3,460,847	42	3,744,890	43
Individual & Corporate Support	1,600,800	19	1,969,559	23
Grants	267,578	3	213,175	2
Endowment & Foundation Contribution	1,140,083	14	1,142,862	13
Deaccession	0	0	0	
Net Investment Income	299,039	4	150,845	
Membership	896,377	11	878,298	10
Sales, Museum Store & Other	312,143	4	282,527	3
Exhibition and Program Income	61,900	1	56,046	1
Facility Rental Income	109,146	1	125,450	1
Other Income	127,943	2	141,164	2
Total Revenues	8,275,856	100	8,704,816	100
Expenses				
Program Services				
Education	611,920	11	640,044	7
Exhibitions	654,098	8	607,932	-
Collection	1,423,772	18	1,739,113	20
Special Events	699,011	9	791,904	9
Museum Store and Library	188,817	2	203,741	(
Support Service				
Fundraising	424,676	5	502,839	6
Management and General	1,364,154	17	1,317,698	15
Museum Security	1,376,789	17	1,393,683	16
Building Maintenance & Utilities	1,289,292	16	1,467,545	17
Total Expenses	8,033,166	100	8,664,499	100
Net Contribution (Deficit)	242,690		40,317	
Contribution to BMA Endowment, Foundation, & Art Fund Inc. (Net of annual distributions)	1,612,771		1,656,766	
Unrealized Investment Gain (Loss)	1,791,973		984,649	
Collection Purchases (not capitalized)	(685,667)		(708,472)	
Change in Net Assets	2,961,767		1,973,260	
Net Assets, Beginning of year	38,398,207		36,424,947	
Net Assets, End of year	\$ 41,359,974		\$ 38,398,207	

BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM OF ART

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Mission

The mission of the Birmingham Museum of Art is to spark the creativity, imagination, and liveliness of Birmingham by connecting all its citizens to the experience, meaning, and joy of art.

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Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. A portion of the general operating budget is supported by the City of Birmingham and a grant from the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.