2020 was not the year we were expecting. None of us could have known that we would experience an extended shutdown of many of our professional, personal, and recreational activities due to a global pandemic, with resultant unemployment, closing of small businesses, and loss of life.

The United States lost twenty-two million jobs in 2020, ten million of which are projected to be unrecoverable. The economic impact of these changes has overwhelmingly affected underserved and vulnerable communities, many of which were already disproportionately affected by the virus itself.

The art world was particularly hard hit by the year’s events, with many museums and art venues shuttered for almost one year. Arts and culture contributed over $870 billion to the US economy in 2017. During 2020, 2.7 million jobs in the arts, and billions of dollars in revenue were lost.

2020 was also a year of social and political change. Like many of you, we watched events of the year unfold with disbelief and sadness. Equity, access, and opportunity became our keywords for measurable success and our goals for the coming year in drafting Foundation initiatives.

As a Foundation, we also saw many changes in 2020. Going forward, we will be known as the Carl & Marilynn Thoma Foundation as we expand our efforts beyond the artworld to strengthen community, leadership, and education initiatives in under-resourced and rural areas.

Despite the challenges of the year we continued work on our new exhibition space in Santa Fe, and we are proud to announce a 2021 opening. Art Vault is our 3,500 square foot world-class exhibition space featuring digital, electronic, virtual, and video works of art, and it is the only digital art collection open to the public in the Southwest.

Our digital art collection was re-named to more broadly reflect our core mission to support artistic intervention into contemporary technologies. 2020 was our strongest year to date in digital art acquisitions, with the new Digital & Media Art collection acquiring thirty-nine works. These acquisitions favored mid-career artists, with more than one-third of the artworks created by artists from under-represented groups.

Three new staff members were hired to expand communications efforts, grant making programs, and collections. We increased our grant funding initiatives, supporting more than 70 individuals and organizations with nearly $4 million in funding and commitments for scholarly research, community programming, education, exhibitions, and publications.

We are a young Foundation, finding our way, experimenting, pivoting, listening, and working to use our resources to support the most deserving in our communities while fostering strong leaders and transformational changemakers. We look forward to continued success in the years to come in collecting, exhibiting, and funding innovative initiatives that challenge perceptions and connect people across cultures.

—Carl and Marilynn Thoma

Cover image Universal Everything, Communion, 2020. 3-channel digital video (color, sound), projector, speakers. © Universal Everything, in the Carl & Marilynn Thoma Foundation Collection
WHO WE ARE

Staff & Board

Carl & Marilynn Thoma
Founders

Duncan Bass
Curatorial Assistant

Nicole Danti
Public Relations & Communications Manager

Kathleen Richards
Art Spaces Director & Exhibitions Manager

Christine Dong
Strategic Projects Associate

Jason Foumberg
Curator of Digital & Media Art

Sarah Rovang
Program Officer

Arianna Riva
Collections Assistant

Kathryn Santner
Thoma Scholar, Art of the Spanish Americas

Kate Weinstein
Collections Manager & Registrar

Carl & Marilynn Thoma Foundation
Board of Directors

Carl D. Thoma
President

Marilynn J. Thoma
Vice President and Treasurer

Gary S. Hart
Secretary

Margo Thoma

Mark Thoma
THE COLLECTION

Art of the Spanish Americas

2020 Acquisitions

Artworks Acquired
14 paintings
11 oil on canvas
1 oil on copper
1 oil on tin
1 oil on panel
1 Huamanga stone bas-relief

Artwork Dates of 2020 Acquisitions

1600
1650
1700
1800

Our Lady of Mercy with Saints Peter Alosco and Raymond Nonnatus
17th-18th c

Our Lady of Loreto
17th-18th c

Our Lady of Mercy
17th-18th c

Saint Roch
mid-17th c

The Death of St. Joseph
1698

Our Lady of Guidance
1765-1770

Saint Martin in Exile
mid-18th c

Portrait of Petronia Méndez
1763

Our Lady of Mercy with Saints Peter Alosco and Raymond Nonnatus
17th-18th c

The Visitation
mid-18th c

Allegory of the Holy Eucharist
mid-18th c

Portrait of Joseph Nieto de Lara
before 1769

Our Lady of the Rosary with Saints Dominic de Guzmán and Thomas Aquinas
18th c

Indian Woman
19th c

The Carl & Mariylnn Thoma Foundation
After nearly 25 years of collecting Art of the Spanish Americas, the Thoma Foundation acquired our first works from Venezuela. These acquisitions refine and add nuance to the existing strength of the collection in the arts of the Andes.

This portrait by Afrodescendant painter Diego Antonio de Landaeta of Petronila Méndez is both the only known portrait of a child from colonial Venezuela as well as the only work that can be definitively linked to Diego Antonio de Landaeta. The work features an inscription on the verso indicating that Landaeta made the portrait of Méndez on July 17, 1763, when she was exactly 9 years, 8 months, 23 days and 11 hours old.

A stunning work by Juan Pedro López, the leading painter of eighteenth century Venezuela, shows an image of the statue of Our Lady of Guidance as it stood in a niche in the church of San Mauricio in Caracas. López’s masterful work is further accentuated by the elaborate frame by Domingo Gutiérrez, López’s frequent collaborator and the most accomplished cabinet maker of his era.
The Digital & Electronic Art collection became the Digital & Media Art collection to more broadly reflect our core mission to support artistic intervention into contemporary technologies and to represent a global history of the medium from 1959 to the present.

**2020 Acquisitions by Medium**
- Video & Film: 18
- Video Sculpture: 4
- Software: 5
- Light Sculpture: 8
- Works on Paper: 39

**Artwork Dates of 2020 Acquisitions**
- 1962
- 1967
- 1978
- 1990
- 2003
- 2006
- 2012
- 2015
- 2017
- 2018
- 2020

**Artwork Categories**
- Video & Film: Single-channel video for a cinematic environment or gallery TV
- Video Sculpture: Multi-channel installation & video embedded in unique components
- Software: Custom-coded, algorithmic, and internet-connected artworks in real time or infinite loop
- Light Sculpture: LED & electric bulb sculpture
- Works on Paper: Digital prints & digital photography

The Carl & Marilynn Thoma Foundation

6
The Digital & Media Art collection expanded rapidly in 2020 with the acquisition of 39 artworks, increasing the collection to 300 total works. The Foundation also received a donation of two prints and one software-based work from the estate of Leroy Lamis.


A semi-permanent installation by the Light & Space master simulates atmospheric light phenomena at sunset and sunrise. A programmed light sequence of more than two hours animates the LEDs to slowly glow and fade through an ellipsoid wall aperture. Ursa Minor is the star constellation comprising the "Little Dipper" and containing the North Star.


Sondra Perry’s interactive artwork places a viewer in the seat of a symbolic slave ship, rowing across a digitally simulated Atlantic Ocean. Three TV monitors attached to a rowing machine display a vast, purple ocean. Spliced into the seascape is a scan of J.M.W. Turner’s famous 1840 oil painting *Slave Ship*, depicting the Zong massacre in which 133 African slaves were drowned. The difficulty of the rowing exercise is increased by replacing the water in its chamber with hair gel. Perry’s artworks demonstrate how the inhumanity of the African diaspora relentlessly disrupts contemporary life.
The Thoma Foundation acquired our first works by two foundational Southwest U.S. artists, Maynard Dixon and Ernest Blumenschein. These paintings expand and strengthen our existing collection which grew to 370 artworks with eight acquisitions in 2020.

**2020 Acquisitions**

**Artworks Acquired**

- 7 oil on canvas
- 1 polymer on Masonite


One of the premier artists of the West, Dixon’s painterly observations capture the land and its inhabitants with beauty and honesty. *Neolithic Afternoon* is a timeless contemplation on light, shadow, and repose.


Blumenschein’s early twentieth century paintings brought the beauty of Northern New Mexico and its people to a larger audience. This painting depicts the cliffs above Ghost Ranch, the site of artist Georgia O’Keeffe’s famous adobe home.
Centered around the major movements of the period 1946 to 1965 including Color Field, Hard Edge, Op, Washington Color School, Light & Space, and shaped canvas, the Post-War collection grew to 392 artworks with seven acquisitions in 2020.

2020 Acquisitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artworks Acquired</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 paintings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 oil on canvas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 acrylic on paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 sculptures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 mixed media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 book</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


*Thomafoundation.org*
THE COLLECTION

Japanese Bamboo

Our Japanese Bamboo collection contains over 260 works by major artists of the Shōwa (1926-1989) and Heisei (1989-2019) periods. In 2020 we added additional works from from Osaka, in the Kansai region, specifically artists that trained within the Wada lineage. Three generations of Wada Waichisai men were influential in creating an original Japanese style of bamboo artistry evident in their work and the work of their students. Wada Waichisai III's and Suzuki Gengensai's Eji baskets are strikingly similar; as contemporaries, they trained under different teachers who had each trained under Wada Waichisai I – Wada Waichisai II and Yamashita Köchikusai respectively.

2020 Acquisitions

Artworks Acquired
29 Bamboo

Geographic distribution of Acquisitions

Wada Waichisai, III, Eji, c. 1950s. Hōbichiku. © Artist or artist estate.


The Foundation continued to conserve artworks from all collection areas in 2020. Conservation needs vary from hardware migration and equipment updating in the Digital & Media Art collection to cleaning varnish, removal of overpainting, and inpainting corrections for works from the Art of the Spanish Americas Collection. In 2020, we acquired *Saint Roch*, a seventeenth century oil painting, with the knowledge that the painting would require extensive conservation and a period and regionally appropriate frame would need to be fabricated before the artwork could be exhibited.

*Baltasar de Vargas Figueroa, Saint Roch*, 17th c. Oil on canvas.

From the Viceroyalty of New Granada, this painting depicts Saint Roch, a thirteenth century saint from Montpellier, France, and is one of several paintings of St. Roch attributed to Baltasar Vargas de Figueroa (1629-1667), son of the painter Gaspar de Figueroa.

*Saint Roch* required extensive conservation, including the removal of a finish that was discoloring the painting’s surface, stabilizing liquid-damaged areas, minimizing old overpainting, correcting losses with inpainting and fills, and fabricating a period replica frame. Prior to treatment, the artwork was scientifically analyzed through paint sample analysis, X-ray imaging, and infrared imaging to assist the conservators in determining proper treatment. The scientific imaging will also aid in future research into Vargas de Figueroa’s oeuvre.
ARTWORK LOANS

Exhibitions

In 2020, twenty five museums and art centers exhibited 103 artworks loaned from the Thoma Foundation collections. The global pandemic and subsequent museum closures affected the Foundation loan program with a number of exhibitions shortened, extended, or postponed.

Exhibitions

Snite Museum of Art
Rockford Art Museum
Phoenix Art Museum
Renwick Gallery
Yerba Buena Center for the Arts
Akron Art Museum
MCA Chicago
MCA Chicago
Museum of Contemporary Photography
Snite Museum of Art
Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art
Oklahoma Contemporary
Blanton Museum of Art
Philbrook Museum of Art
MCA Chicago
Miami Dade College
Museum of Art and Design

Divine Illusions: Statue Paintings from Colonial South America
Bold Abstractions: Paintings from the Thoma Collection
Bruce Conner: LOOKING FOR MUSHROOMS
Hearts of Our People: Native Women Artists
The Body Electric
Elias Sime: Tightrope
Duro Olowu: Seeing Chicago
Water After All
In Real Life
Permanent galleries: Spanish Colonial, Baroque, and Teaching
Elias Sime: Tightrope
Bright Golden Haze
Expanding Abstraction
Hearts of Our People: Native Women Artists
The Long Dream
The Body Electric

12 artworks from Art of the Spanish Americas
33 artworks from Post-War Painting & Sculpture
Artwork by Bruce Connor
Artwork by Carla Hemlock, Ramona Sakiestewa
Artwork by Lynn Hershman Leeson
Artwork by Elias Sime
Artwork by Elias Sime
Artwork by John Gerrard and Guillermo Galindo
Artwork by Trevor Paglen
3 artworks from Art of the Spanish Americas
Artwork by Elias Sime
Artwork by Robert Irwin
Artwork by Alvin Loving Jr, Julio Le Parc
Artwork by Carla Hemlock, Ramona Sakiestewa
Artwork by Jason Salavon
Artwork by Lynn Hershman Leeson

Covid-19 Effect on Loans for Exhibitions

All Loan Changes
Extended 17
Postponed 9
Shortened 1

Loans Postponed by Year
2021 7
2022 2
The Foundation loaned 120 artworks from four collections to be shown in 30 exhibitions to institutions throughout the United States. We received 30 requests to reproduce images from our collections for publications and 8 books were published with collection artworks illustrated.
GRANTS

Building on Success

In 2020 the Foundation expanded grant initiatives to foster equity and support access to opportunity with new grants. The Thoma Equity Grants awarded more than $940,000 to arts and education nonprofits in New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. The new Publication Grant was created with a deep commitment to advancing scholarship and providing broad and equitable dissemination of knowledge and ideas through the written word.

Covid Relief Funding

The first year of the new decade saw unprecedented hardship with art institutions losing revenue through mandated closures due to health concerns. The Foundation funded several organizations in support of their digital and online efforts to reach youth during the pandemic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Arts Institute</td>
<td>At Home Academy virtual arts mentorship</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>OK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Fe Children's Museum</td>
<td>Education programming</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>NM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thoma Equity Grants

The surge of racial and social justice movements in 2020 drew our attention to the inequities of educational access and career opportunity in our target region. Based on research with leaders and educational stakeholders, the Foundation launched a pilot program to support equity and pathways to success for young people in under-resourced areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CNM Ingenuity</td>
<td>UI/UX Deep Dive for Rural Students</td>
<td>$95,120</td>
<td>NM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Startups</td>
<td>Native American Entrepreneurship Portal</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>NM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moving Arts Espanola</td>
<td>Campus Expansion</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>NM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rootEd Alliance</td>
<td>rootEd Alliance expansion to Texas</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Plains Regional Education Cooperative</td>
<td>SEL Professional Development</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>NM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pathway 2 Careers Professional Development</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>NM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Individual Awards

Marilynn Thoma Fellowship in Art of the Spanish Americas

Dr. Aaron M. Hyman
Assistant Professor, Johns Hopkins University
book manuscript production

Katherine Mills
PhD Candidate, Harvard University
dissertation research

Ninel Valderrama Negrón
PhD Candidate, Duke University
dissertation research

Lucila Iglesias, PhD
Assistant Professor, Universidad de Buenos Aires
scholarly research

ENVISION Grant

In partnership with Chicago Artists Coalition to award promising artists in the digital arts

Kayla Anderson
virtual reality and emerging technologies

Kristin McWharter
virtual reality and emerging technologies
GRANTS
Building on Success

Grants for Nonprofits
Grants for 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations whose innovative projects and original ideas will advance scholarship in the arts.

Asociación Museo de Arte de Lima
MALI Encyclopedia Prototype $7,660 Peru
The Identity Project
Identity Project Implementation $10,000 NM

Exhibition Grants
These institutional grants fund landmark exhibitions that relate to our collections, and which significantly raise the public profile of those genres while advancing art historical scholarship.

The Chinati Foundation
Conservation of 20th Anniversary Dan Flavin at Chinati $25,000 TX
Newberry Library
¡Viva la libertad! The Age of Revolutions and Latin America $10,000 IL
Parallel Studios
Currents New Media Exhibition $35,000 NM
Prospect New Orleans
Paul Stephen Benjamin’s “Sanctuary” for Prospect.5: “Yesterday we said tomorrow” $25,000 LA

Publication Grants
At the core of the Publication Grants Program is a deep commitment to advancing scholarship and providing broad and equitable dissemination of knowledge and ideas.

Heard Museum
Leon Polk Smith: Hiding in Plain Sight Exhibition and Catalogue $50,000 AZ
The Kreeger Museum
Lou Stovall: On Inventions and Color $5,000 DC
MIT List Visual Arts Center
Symbionts: Contemporary Artists and the Biosphere $20,000 MA

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Foundation funding in 2020 focused on innovative projects, community programs, and education initiatives throughout the United States with majority funding to our target states. The Foundation supported $1,373,664 in total grant and award funding in 2020.

Grant Funding by Location
- New Mexico: $420,000
- Texas: $325,000
- Oklahoma: $150,000
- Arizona: $150,000
- Other (LA, MA, DC): $7760
- Illinois: $50,000
- International: $18,000

Grant Funding by Program
- Education: $547,750
- Career/Training: $395,120
- Exhibition: $103,000
- Publication: $75,000

Exhibition Funding by Collection Area
- Art of the Spanish Americas: $88,000
- Digital & Media Art: $55,000
- Post-War Painting & Sculpture: $17,600
The Carl & Marilynn Thoma Foundation recognizes the power of the arts to challenge and shift perceptions, spark creativity, and connect people across cultures. The Foundation supports pivotal initiatives in the arts by exhibiting artwork at their Santa Fe venue, lending artwork to institutions, providing grants to 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, and awarding individuals whose innovative projects and original ideas will advance scholarship in the arts. The Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization founded in 2014, based in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Our Locations

**Orange Door**
The Foundation’s exhibition space in Chicago, dedicated to sharing works from the Foundation’s collection.
By appointment only.

**Art Vault**
Our 3,500-square foot venue for experiencing art in the Santa Fe Railyard District.
540 South Guadalupe Street
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

**Santa Fe Office (formerly Art House)**
231 Delgado Street
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
505.995.0231

Contact the Foundation
For general questions about the Thoma Foundation, please contact us at info@thomafoundation.org

Connect with the Foundation
thomafoundation.org
grants.thomafoundation.org
artvault.thomafoundation.org