

# MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDERS

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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 & Marilyn 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 Marilyn Thoma

# WHO WE ARE

## Staff & Board

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**Carl & Marilyn Thoma**  
Founders



**Duncan Bass**  
Curatorial Assistant



**Nicole Danti**  
Public Relations  
& Communications Manager



**Christine Dong**  
Strategic Projects Associate



**Jason Fomberg**  
Curator of Digital & Media Art



**Kathleen Richards**  
Art Spaces Director  
& Exhibitions Manager



**Arianna Riva**  
Collections Assistant



**Sarah Rovang**  
Program Officer



**Kathryn Santner**  
Thoma Scholar,  
Art of the Spanish Americas



**Kate Weinstein**  
Collections Manager  
& Registrar

### Carl & Marilyn 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

### Geographic distribution of Acquisitions



### Artwork Dates of 2020 Acquisitions



*The Baptism of Christ*  
17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> c



*Our Lady of Mercy with Saints*  
17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> c



*Our Lady of Loreto*  
17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> c



*Our Lady of Mercy with Saints Peter Nolasco and Raymond Nonnatus*  
17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> c



*Saint Roch*  
mid-17<sup>th</sup> c



*The Death of St. Joseph*  
1698



*Saint Martin in Exile*  
mid-18<sup>th</sup> c



*Portrait of Petronilla Méndez*  
1763



*Portrait of Joseph Nieto de Lara*  
before 1769



*The Visitation*  
mid-18<sup>th</sup> c



*Allegory of the Holy Eucharist*  
mid-18<sup>th</sup> c



*Our Lady of Guidance*  
1765-1770



*Indian Woman of Peru*  
19<sup>th</sup> c



*The Visitation*  
17<sup>th</sup> c, gold embellishment 18<sup>th</sup> c



*Our Lady of the Rosary with Saints Dominic de Guzmán and Thomas Aquinas*  
18<sup>th</sup> c



# THE COLLECTION

## Art of the Spanish Americas

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.



**Diego Antonio de Landaeta**, *Portrait of Petronila Méndez*, 1763. Oil on panel.

◀ 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. ▶



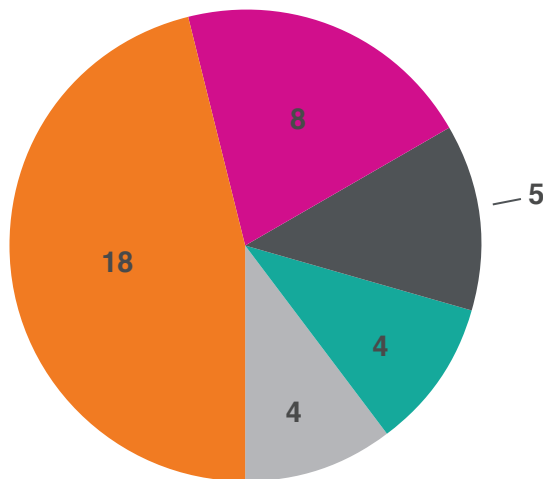
**Juan Pedro López**, *Our Lady of Guidance*, 1765-1770. Oil on canvas. Frame by Domingo Gutiérrez.

# THE COLLECTION

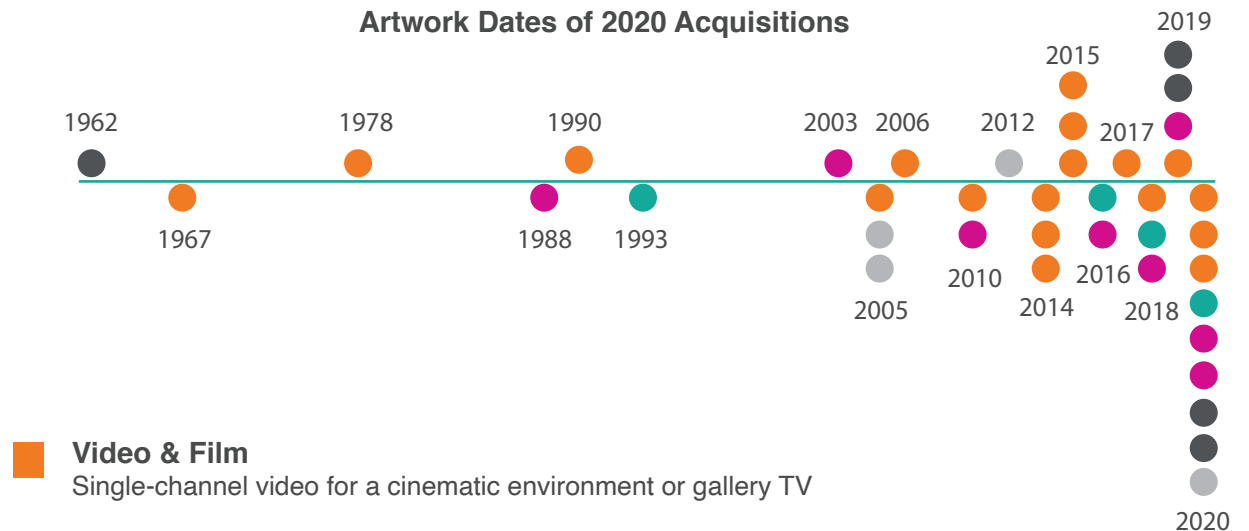
## Digital & Media Art

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**  
39 Artworks



**Artwork Dates of 2020 Acquisitions**

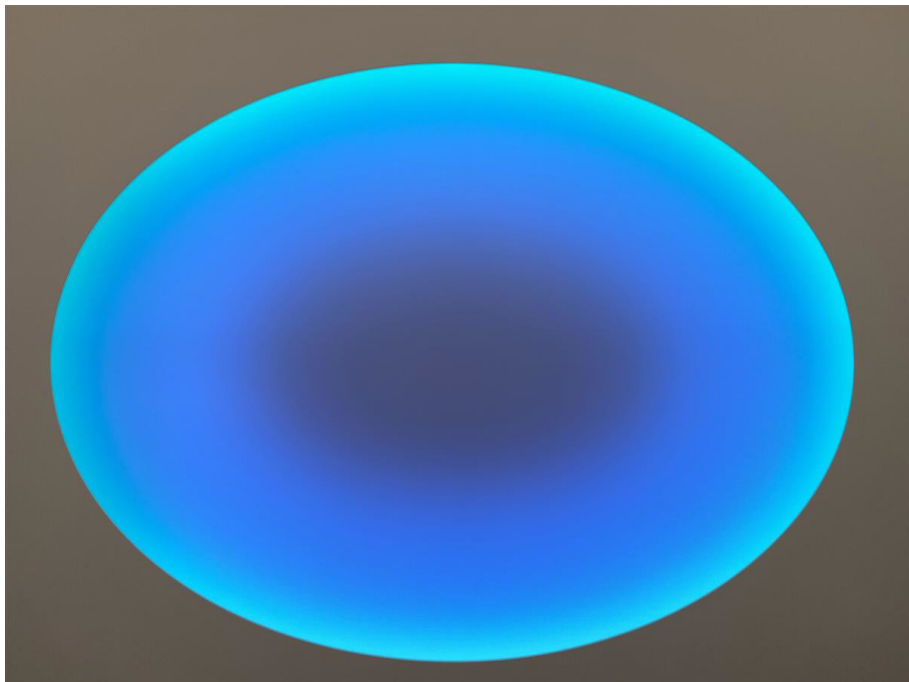


- **Video & Film**  
Single-channel video for a cinematic environment or gallery TV
- **Video Sculpture**  
Multi-channel installation & video embedded in unique components
- **Software**  
Custom-coded, algorithmic, and internet-connected artworks in real time or infinite loop
- **Light Sculpture**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

# THE COLLECTION

## Digital & Media Art

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.



▲  
**James Turrell**, *Ursa Minor*, *Medium Elliptical Glass*, 2019. LED light, etched glass, shallow space. Installation: 144 x 216 x 216 in. © James Turrell

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**, *Wet and Wavy Looks–Typhon coming on for a Three Monitor Workstation*, 2016. Single-channel video installation (color, sound) on three monitors, rowing machine and Eco styler hair gel. © Sondra Perry

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 COLLECTION

## Southwest Modern & Contemporary

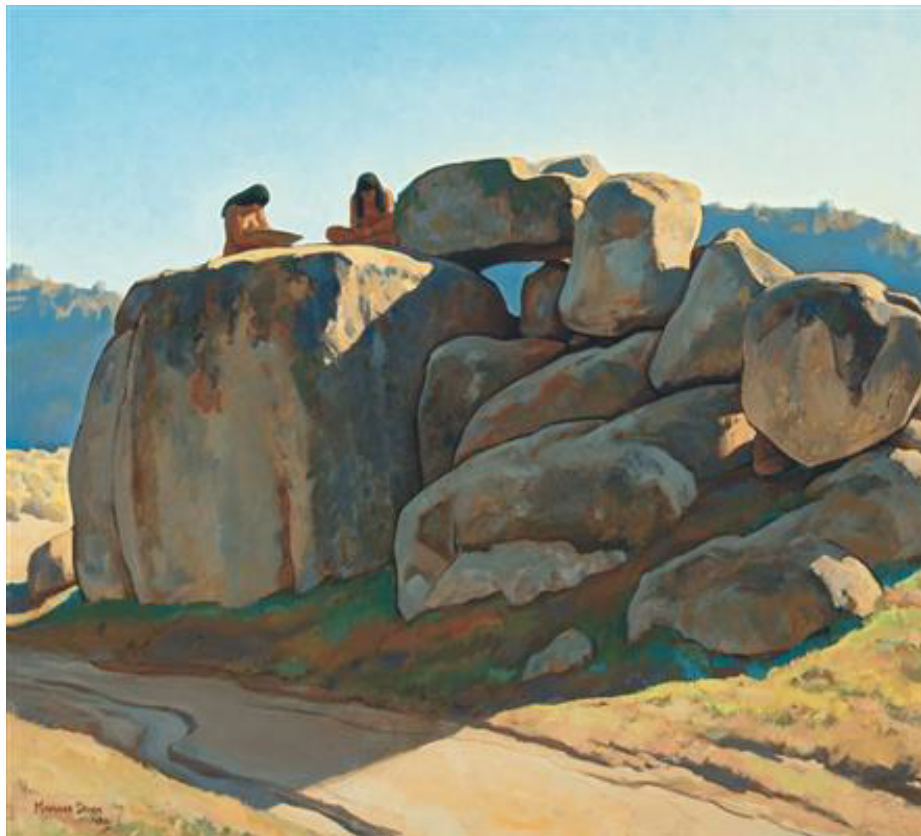
The Thoma Foundation acquired our first works by two foundational Southwest U.S. artists, Maynard Dixon and Ernest Blumenschein. These paintings expand and strengthen our existing collection which grew to 370 artworks with eight acquisitions in 2020.

### 2020 Acquisitions

### Artworks Acquired

7 oil on canvas

1 polymer on Masonite



**Maynard Dixon**, *Neolithic Afternoon*, 1930. Oil on canvas. © Artist or artist estate.

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.



**Ernest Blumenschein**, *Rock of Fire-Morning, Ghost Ranch*, 1925. Oil on canvas. © Artist or artist estate.

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.

# THE COLLECTION

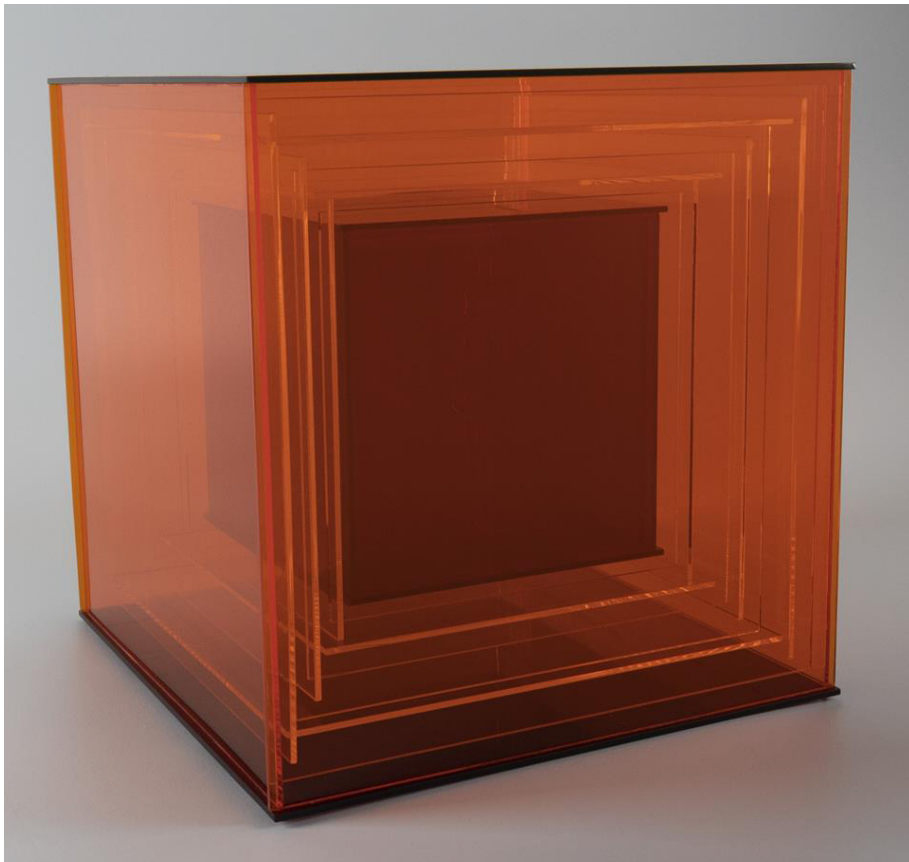
## Post-War Painting & Sculpture

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

#### Artworks Acquired

- 3 paintings
  - 2 oil on canvas
  - 1 acrylic on paper
- 2 sculptures
- 1 mixed media
- 1 book



**Leroy Lamis**, *Construction no 155*, 1968. Plexiglass. © Estate of Leroy Lamis.



**Yinka Shonibare CBE**, *Air Kid (Boy)*, 2020. Fiberglass mannequin, Dutch wax, printed cotton textile, globe, brass, steel baseplate, umbrella. © Yinka Shonibare

# 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 Kōchikusai respectively.

### 2020 Acquisitions



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

### Artworks Acquired 29 Bamboo



**Minoura Chikuhō**, *Unmonchiku hanakago*, c. 2000-10. Madake, rattan, urushi. © Chikuhō Minoura.

### Geographic distribution of Acquisitions



**Suzuki Gengensai**, *Eji*, c. 1930-50. Hōbichiku, rattan, fuki-urushi. © Artist or artist estate.



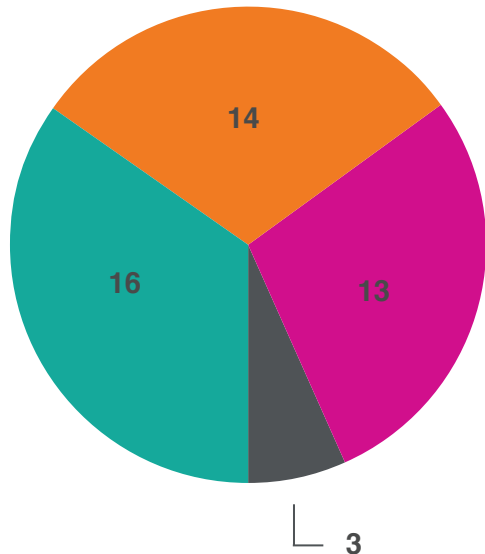
# THE COLLECTION

## Conservation

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.

### Conservation of Artwork by Collection

46 Artworks



- Art of the Spanish Americas
- Digital & Media Art
- Post-War Painting & Sculpture
- Southwest Modern & Contemporary



**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.

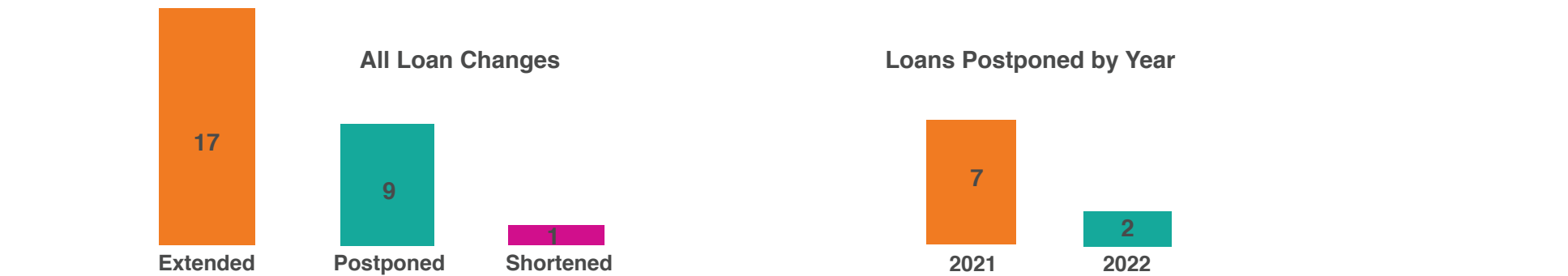
### Exhibitions

**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: Tighrope*  
*Duro Olowu: Seeing Chicago*  
*Water After All*  
*In Real Life*  
 Permanent galleries: Spanish Colonial, Baroque, and Teaching  
*Elias Sime: Tighrope*  
*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

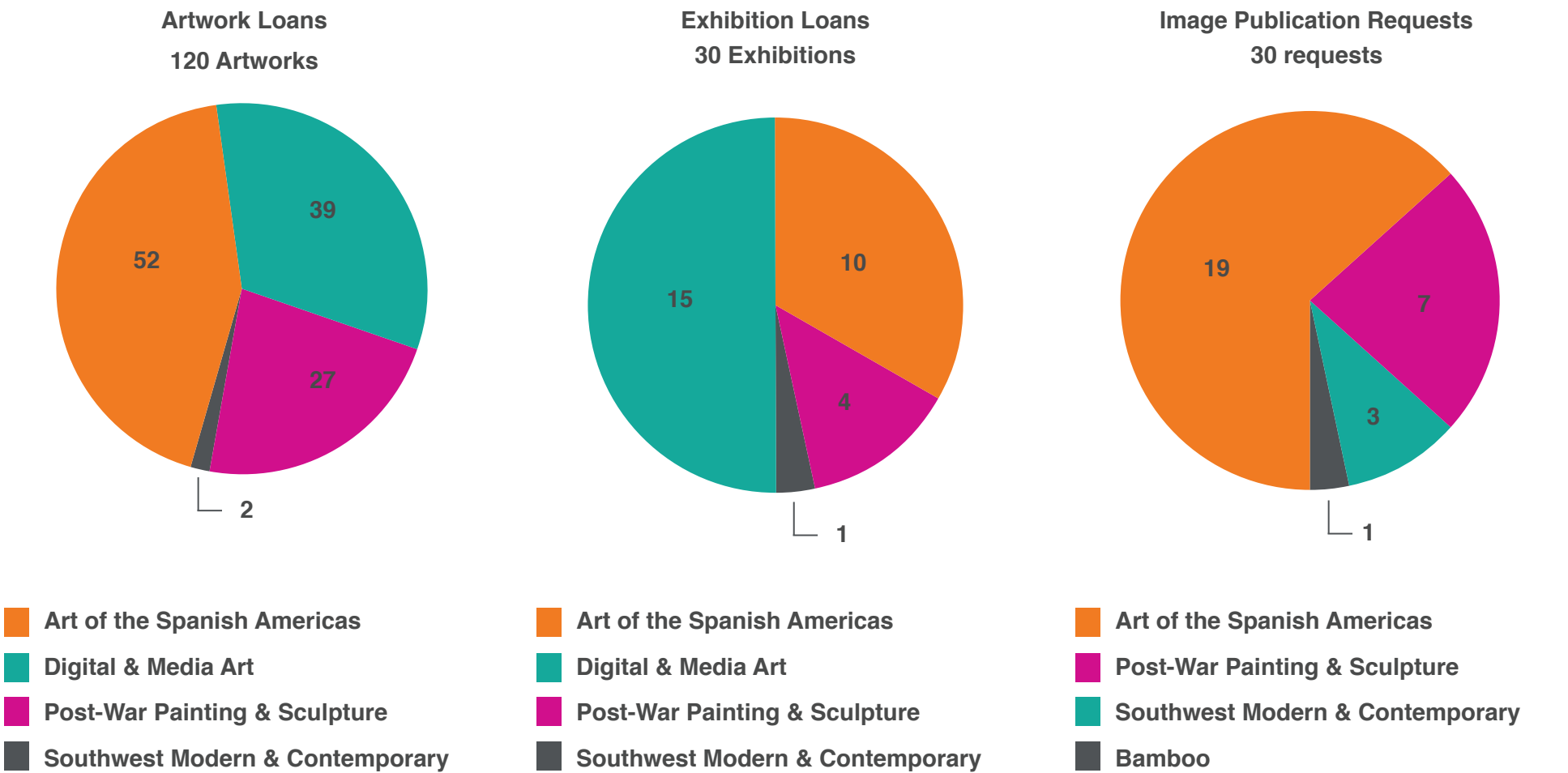
### Covid-19 Effect on Loans for Exhibitions



# ARTWORK LOANS

## By the Numbers

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.

<b>Oklahoma Arts Institute</b>	At Home Academy virtual arts mentorship	\$50,000	OK
<b>Santa Fe Children's Museum</b>	Education programming	\$10,000	NM

### 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.

<b>CNM Ingenuity</b>	UI/UX Deep Dive for Rural Students	\$95,120	NM
<b>Creative Startups</b>	Native American Entrepreneurship Portal	\$300,000	NM
<b>Moving Arts Espanola</b>	Campus Expansion	\$100,000	NM
<b>rootEd Alliance</b>	rootEd Alliance expansion to Texas	\$300,000	TX
<b>High Plains Regional Education Cooperative</b>	SEL Professional Development	\$20,000	NM
	Pathway 2 Careers Professional Development	\$50,000	

### 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

#### Research and Travel Awards in Art of the Spanish Americas

##### 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.

<b>Asociación Museo de Arte de Lima</b>	MALI Encyclopedia Prototype	\$7,660	Peru
<b>The Identity Project</b>	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.

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

### Publication Grants

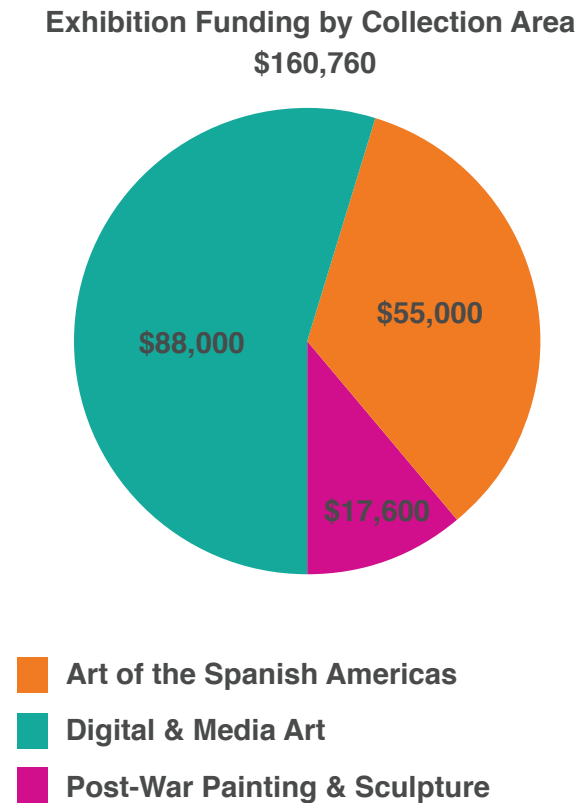
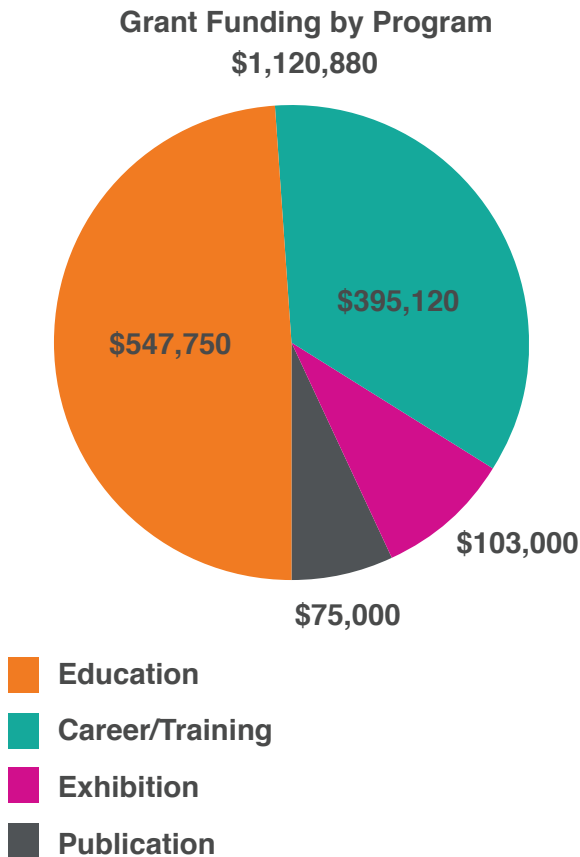
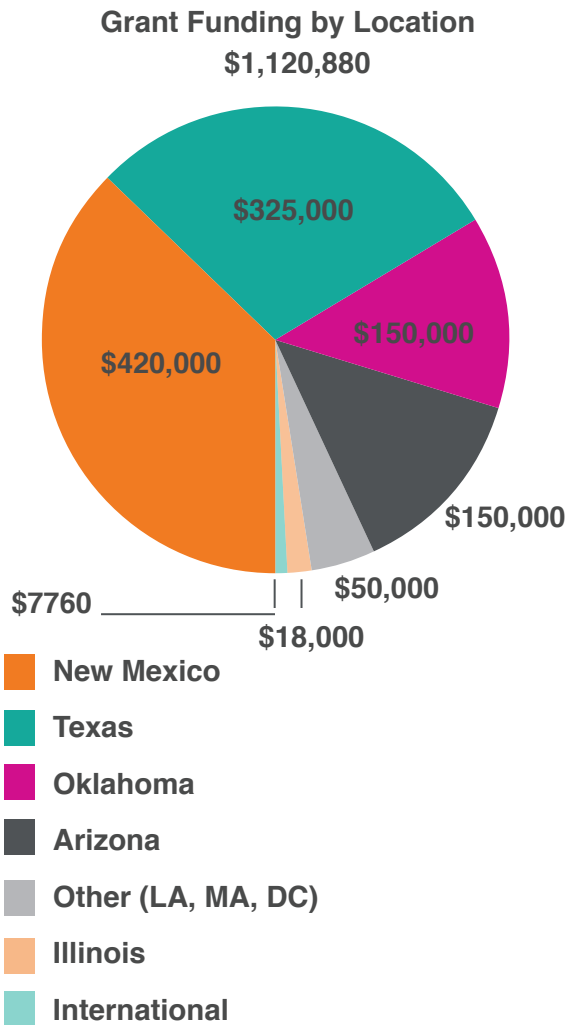
At the core of the Publication Grants Program is a deep commitment to advancing scholarship and providing broad and equitable dissemination of knowledge and ideas.

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

# GRANTS

## By the Numbers

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.





# THE FOUNDATION

## Connect With Us

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### Our Mission

The Carl & Marilyn 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](mailto:info@thomafoundation.org)

### Connect with the Foundation

[thomafoundation.org](http://thomafoundation.org)  
[grants.thomafoundation.org](http://grants.thomafoundation.org)  
[artvault.thomafoundation.org](http://artvault.thomafoundation.org)

