

Letter from the President

Usually, we think of museums one-dimensionally: relatively static places to look at objects that someone else has determined have inherent artistic worth. Museums are so much more. They are gathering places for friends and families. They are places where our minds can be quieted, surprised, or challenged; where our souls can soar or look inward. Museums offer the opportunity to visit other cultures and other eras, and they invite us to see the world from different angles. In what has been a turbulent year for our country, the Katonah Museum of Art has been the sum total of that place: a place of inclusion, a place for conversation and perspective, a community haven that brings us together to find common meaning.

Our three outstanding anchoring exhibitions, Wall to Wall, Object Out Loud, and Long, Winding Journeys: Contemporary Art in the Islamic Tradition provided us with the visual tools to live up to the idea of a museum as a place of inclusion and conversation. Wall to Wall examined one of history's oldest mediums, carpet-making, through the eyes of contemporary artists. It gave us an opportunity to think about the intersection of craft and art, but also explored issues of culture, geopolitics, and the environment. Object Out Loud bridged generations by creating a gallery-to-gallery dialogue between Nick Cave and Arman, who themselves juxtapose performance and sculpture while considering issues of consumerism, social ills, and race. Long Winding Journeys examined how traditions of religion, culture, and diaspora affect our contemporary identities.

But these exhibitions were just the beginning of the conversations in our galleries. The programming accompanying the exhibitions was especially enriching, from "flying carpet shoes" to dance performances, to family days, stroller tours, senior socials, and our ever-popular backyard music series. The community gathered at the KMA to support our Young Artists show in historic numbers. The Teen Council continued to thrive and grow, with campus parties and its second very successful Teen Market. The Himmel Award and Lecture brought Art Spiegelman and Francoise Mouly to our campus, expanding our conversation to comic art, graphic novels, and art direction, also with an eye toward social commentary and issues of inclusion. We started an ambitious book group, pairing our exhibitions with related literature, and this, too, has prompted opportunities for reflection and a broadening of perspective.

Finally, our education programs for our youngest visitors, including *Thinking Through Art* and *ArteJuntos*, both deeply embedded in our mission, provided opportunities for exploring our exhibitions as a source for original compositions in multiple media, including writing, dance, and visual arts.

The KMA is so much more than a place for the passive appreciation of art. We are creators and doers and collaborators and friends, all joined in our love of the universal language of art. We deeply thank Gary Ryan and Jennifer Berry for their extraordinary leadership in a transitional year for the KMA at a transitional moment in history. The institution is stronger for their stewardship.

I hope this annual report will give an even fuller picture of all that we are. I encourage you to visit, become a member, and get involved in this vibrant, dynamic, vital community hub.



Debbie Mullin

Cover: Object Out Loud installation photo

Inside front cover: Long, Winding Journeys installation photo

Installation and event photography by Margaret Fox.

Letter From Co-Interim Executive Directors



Jennifer Berry



Gary Ryan

To us, the term "community building" seems the most apt way to characterize KMA activity over the past fiscal year. Whether applied to exhibition, education, membership, or special event endeavors, the notion of acknowledging and embracing all of the different constituencies that ensure the KMA's vibrancy was paramount.

Poignantly, this started with our innermost circle, as the comings and goings of cherished KMA staff provided key moments of reflection. As we sent our Executive Director Darsie Alexander and Assistant Curator Elizabeth Rooklidge off with well wishes, we warmly welcomed Stephanie King and Melissa Rimpici to our Development and Guest Services teams respectively. Soon after, in our new roles as Interim Executive Directors, we engaged in staff team building exercises that mapped out all of the affinity groups that constitute KMA's extended family. This included everyone from Trustees and docents to community partners, educators, Bedford neighbors and even lapsed members. We looked at who was and was not showing up in our world and through various outreach tactics, concertedly began expanding and solidifying our population. We firmly recommitted to our local base with value-added membership drives, outreach to other Westchester vendors and non-profits, and by launching new partnerships and programs. This included rebooting our Board of Overseers as our newly minted Advisory Board for whom we offered a series of "Office Hours" and events, allowing them to get to know each other better as well as increasing their access to Museum leadership.

Exhibitions such as *Object Out Loud* and *Long, Winding Journeys* were occasions to reach across perceived racial, gender, and religious divides, by enlisting art as a catalyst for open dialogue and empathy-building. A grant from Humanities New York allowed us to provide all of the public programs associated with *Long, Winding Journeys* for free and engendered new alliances with the Upper Westchester Muslim Society and the Westchester Youth Alliance.

Kicking all of this off was a series of down-home fun summer Backyard Concerts featuring local bands (yes, musicians with day jobs) and cold brew. The bands brought their families and social networks and before we knew it we had brand new KMA groupies. The KMA invited local food vendors to sell ice cream and pre-packed picnic meals.

In sum, as Co-interim Executive Directors, we endeavored to strengthen connections with the people around us. Art was a means to create a sense of belonging, and the KMA was the place.

We are extremely grateful for the privilege of working side-by-side with all of you during this tremendous year.

Best Wishes, Jennifer Berry and Gary Ryan



Programs: Exhibitions

In 2017/18, KMA's exhibition and education programs explored how a small, suburban museum can be an active global citizen. The KMA presented visually lush and topically relevant work that explored geo-political themes from the perspective of aesthetics. Artists celebrated both individuality and cultural-specificity with art that spoke to human connectedness, while touching on socio-economic, political, gender, and other themes. The KMA artistic and education platform investigated how art can be a means to promote social awareness alongside a sense of belonging. Our exhibitions, programs and activities were designed to foster new experiences and engender constructive dialogue.

From Wall to Wall: Carpets by Artists to Object Out Loud: Arman and Nick Cave and Long, Winding Journeys: Contemporary Art and the Islamic Tradition, artists of all ages, ethnicities, and nationalities came together in our Westchester community to express their global and personal views by addressing familiar topics and materials in novel ways.

With 17 artists from across the world, Wall to Wall showed how a common domestic object like a carpet could be interpreted, produced, and displayed in myriad ways to comment on everything from craft to geopolitics.

Object Out Loud paired two artists employing sculpture and performance to communicate ideas about identity and protest. Social commentary seeped into work alluding to racial, financial, and gender inequity in a way that encouraged reflection and dialogue.

Long, Winding Journeys fore fronted living artists of Islamic descent who embraced, questioned, and challenged centuries-old forms. With vision and virtuosity, they drew on the seemingly distant past to explore the complexities, joys, and misapprehensions around Islamic tradition.

In concert with these core exhibitions, the KMA celebrated the 35th anniversary of its annual Young Artists show — the Museum's valued community of high school seniors that comes together to design, install, and promote its own exhibition. In addition, the Katonah Museum of Art Artists' Association, our essential community of artists, presented work by five members in our Spot Gallery.

Topping off our year of community was a long-term loan from Paraphé, a new online art gallery run by Pound Ridge local Susan Grissom. She and artist Lawrence McGarvey installed his sculpture *Open Mind* installed in the KMA parking lot. Its title alone speaks to the spirit in which we hope our members, trustees, neighbors, partners, and audiences enter our galleries to immerse themselves in art. ideas, and one another:

Programs: Exhibitions

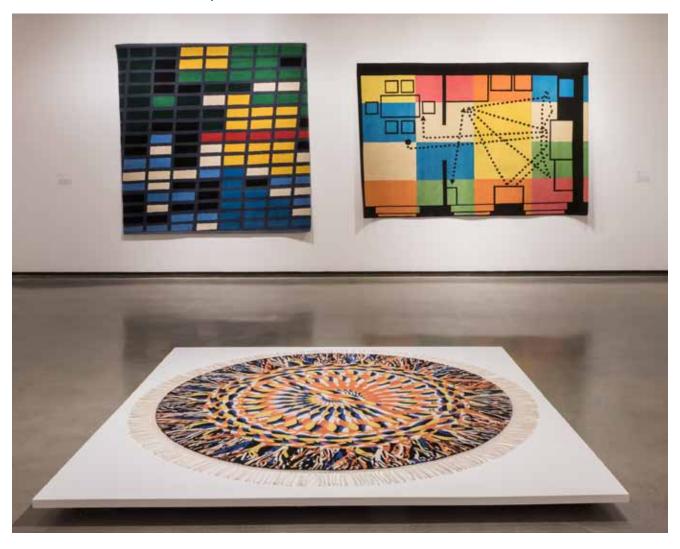
Wall to Wall: Carpets by Artists

July 9 – October 1, 2017

The exhibition was made possible by the generous support of Vanessa Diebold, Lisa and Mark Schwartz, Old New House, Patsy Orlofsky and an anonymous contributor.



Photo by Patrick Davidson-Locke





Above: Nick Cave, *Soundsuit*, 2013 Mixed media including fabric, crochet blanket, doilies, sequins, and mannequin. Courtesy of Joshua and Sara T. Slocum

Object Out Loud: Arman and Nick Cave

October 15, 2017 – January 7, 2018

The exhibition was made possible in part by the generous support of Sara T. and Joshua Slocum, Agnes Gund, Judy & Tony Evnin, Sara Arnell, Lexann & Andrew Richter, Stephanie French and Armand Bartos.

Special thanks to the Arman Marital Trust, Corice Arman, Trustee, and the Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, for their generous assistance with the exhibition.



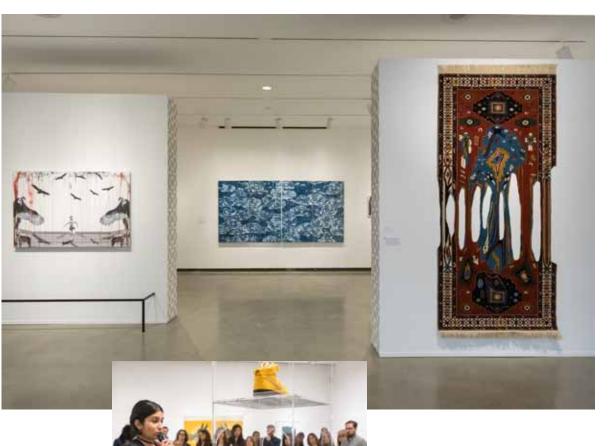
Programs: Exhibitions

Young Artists

January 21 – February 11, 2018

The Young Artists exhibition and program was made possible by the generous support of Rebecca and Arthur Samberg.





Long, Winding
Journeys
Contemporary Art
and the
Islamic Tradition

February 25 – June 17, 2018

The exhibition was made possible in part by the generous support of Janet Benton, the Kathwari Family Foundation, Robin Simon, the Howard and Maryam Newman Family Foundation, Betty Himmel, Yvonne Pollack, Marilyn Glass, Vanessa Diebold, Katherine Moore, and Ellen & Bob Grimes.

Exhibition programming was sponsored by a Humanties New York Action Grant.

Left: Artist Baseera Khan at *Long, Winding, Journeys* opening

Below: Dance of Persia troupe at Family Day: Celebrate Spring



Programs: Education





Adult and General Audience Public Programs

The diverse array of KMA public programs is designed to forge new and deepen existing connections among members and guests. Whether hands-on workshops, lectures, tours, panel discussions, trips or concerts, the Museum aims to spark a rich exchange of ideas. This year, the KMA concertedly introduced new voices into the mix by initiating new partnerships with fellow cultural entities to support our emphasis on community-mindedness.

Backyard Concerts

This series of three "jams" in the Marilyn M. Simpson Sculpture Garden featured Westchester-bred performers, cold brew, and family fun. Guests listened to covers and original tunes from local bands taking a break from their day jobs, while relaxing in our new colorful hammocks.

Costume Bash

Object Out Loud: Arman and Nick Cave served as the perfect backdrop for a fall fundraiser with a Halloween twist. Hosted by Casey Carter and Melissa Dilmaghani, spooks and ghouls danced in the Atrium and warmed themselves with s'mores by fire pits. Everyone's inner child let loose coaxed out with adult libations thanks to Diageo. Raffle and door prizes were donated by local businesses including Bijou, Old New House, Ouvo Moderno, and Tease.

Advisory Board Annual Event

This year, the KMA Board of Overseers was refreshed and rebranded. Now known as the KMA Advisory Board, this upper level membership category received special access to the KMA Executive Director with a series of exclusive wine and cheese "office hours" as well as a renewed special annual event. In December at the relaunched Advisory Board special event, the KMA hosted Alexandra Zapruder, acclaimed writer and grand-daughter of Abraham Zapruder whose legendary film captured the assassination of JFK. Alexandra shared with us insight from her recently released book *Twenty-Six Seconds: A Personal History of the Zapruder Film*. Many thanks to KMA Trustee Vanessa Diebold for helping to arrange such an interesting evening.



Well DIRECTED

This year's iteration of our recurring salon-style conversations devoted to leadership in the arts featured the esteemed Agnes Gund, President Emerita of MoMA and Chairman of MoMA PS I in conversation with outgoing KMA Executive Director Darsie Alexander. This philanthropist and art collector extraordinaire regaled us with personal stories of how she became involved in the arts and described the importance behind her recently inaugurated Art for Justice Fund. The event was graciously hosted by KMA Trustee, Whit Conrad and his wife Ellen.

Rock Out for Education Celebration

The second annual *Rock Out for Education Celebration* was hosted in January by two dedicated volunteers, Terry Goodman and Jane Paccione. Over 80 guests attended to enjoy a live rock band, hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and a silent auction all in support of KMA education initiatives. Six thousand dollars in contributions was raised by this fun-spirited event. Thank you Terry and Jane!

Himmel Award and Lecture

Always a highlight in the KMA calendar, the Himmel Award and Lecture brought husband and wife team Art Spiegelman and Françoise Mouly to a packed house at The Harvey School's black box theater. Underwritten by one of the KMA's most forward-thinking and generous donors, Betty Himmel, audiences learned how the couple elevates the role of graphic novels and comics to the realm of art and literature and how the immediacy of their chosen medium creates a platform for social change.

Long, Winding Journeys Programs

During the Long, Winding Journeys exhibition, KMA strove to highlight authentic voices from within the Islamic community in its public programming. Understanding Islam, a talk led by Aida Mansoor of the Muslim Coalition of Connecticut focusing on Islam's tenets and practices and American Muslims, was co-hosted with the Katonah Village Library and attended by 50 guests. Visitors also experienced a very powerful tour of Long, Winding Journeys led by members of the Upper Westchester Muslim Society in which the Muslim community shared their personal responses and connections to the artworks on view.







Left: Art Spiegelman, Françoise Mouly, Betty Himmel, and Debbie Mullin at the Himmel Award and Lecture.

Programs: Education

KMA Travels – Detroit

In April the KMA traveled to Detroit for an insider's tour of the Motor City's creative ecosystem. Highlights included a private tour of the Maxine and Stuart Frankel Foundation of Art, led by Maxine Frankel, an installation visit with fresco artist Hubert Massey, visits to the Heidelberg Project and the Dabls Mbad African Bead Museum, a special tour of the Detroit Institute of Arts, a stop at the Motown Museum, and more. The group spent the day at Cranbrook Academy of Art and received a preview tour of the senior thesis exhibition by Museum Director Andrew Blauvelt. Christina deRoos, Director of the Kresge Foundation Arts in Detroit program, and several of the Kresge Artists Fellows shared their Detroit perspectives at the welcome dinner and throughout the trip.

School, Youth, and Family Programs

This year was marked by new, significant community collaborations that expanded and invigorated the Museum. Beginning in summer 2017, the KMA initiated collaborated with local resident and dance choreographer Maria Colaco. This partnership began with an interactive woven dance installation during the July Wonderful Weaving Family Day and evolved into a deep multi-disciplinary dance, poetry, and art collaboration as part of our expanded Thinking Through the Arts program. Supported by a NYSCA Arts Education grant, this year's Thinking Through the Arts program reached almost 400 students in the Yonkers and Katonah-Lewisboro school districts. Students from Thomas Cornell Academy, a Title 1 school in Yonkers, NY, participated in a 10-part program led by Poet-in-Residence, Pamela Hart and dance educator Maria Colaco. The powerful culminating presentations of poems, collective movement, and visual artworks were attended by community members, family and friends.

In fall 2017, inspired by community performance inherent to the work of artist Nick Cave, KMA connected with The Revelators Dance Troupe to generate a vibrant and spirited *Art Out Loud Family Day*. Working with artist Stacy Scibelli, visitors made artistic costumes to join in a public dance presentation. Additionally, outreach coordinator, Helena Vidal met with over 20 local organizations serving new immigrant and English Second Language communities. Through these initial engagements, new partnerships will grow into additional outreach initiatives in the next fiscal year.



Maria Colaco and Pamela Hart



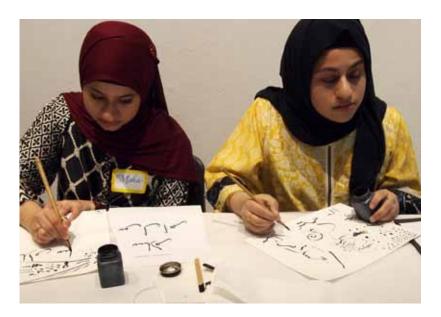
Right: The Pevelarors Dance Troupe at the *Art Out Loud* Family Day





Above: Tamar Ettun dance performance

Right: Teen Calligraphy workshop



A highlight of the spring 2018 education programming was an extremely successful partnership with the Ferdowsi School of Westchester. Working with the school's head teacher, the KMA education staff produced a *Celebrate Spring Family Day* which included Persian dancing, classical music and calligraphy as well as miniature painting. The event welcomed 450 diverse visitors from neighborhoods as far as Maplewood, NJ and East Meadow, NY.

Growth was also achieved in new teen collaborations. High school students in the "Art and the Making of Meaning" class of the Wooster School of Danbury met with curators Elizabeth Rooklidge and Naomi Leiseroff early in the planning process and designed interactive projects for the KMA Learning Center. Westchester Youth Alliance, an interfaith teen program, partnered with the KMA to offer an Arabic calligraphy workshop. In addition, the KMA Teen Council, now in its second year, launched a teen event *Unplugged* in which nearly 100 students from a range of towns and schools took part in acoustic jam sessions around a camp fire, a collaborative mural project, a teen-led tour of the exhibition, and s'mores and pizza snacks. This event was entirely planned and produced by Teen Council members.

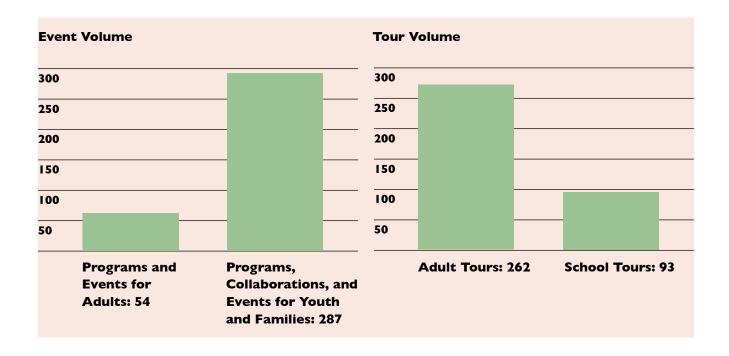
The visitors' experience was also enhanced with thoughtful, creative, interactive Learning Center installations that changed with each exhibition. The year started with a transformation of the Learning Center into a weaving workshop where visitors experienced both traditional and non-traditional rug-inspired techniques. In its next iteration, the process of assemblage was explored with a collection of found objects, tchotchkes, and recycled materials available for sculptural projects. In the spring, Islamic visual traditions were spotlighted with objects from Iran and other Middle Eastern countries, an interactive tile installation, and activities that explored both contemporary and traditional Islamic art techniques.

The above highlights were complemented by ongoing KMA education initiatives. In 2017-18 monthly *Stroller Tours* were reestablished and a new *Senior Socials* series was introduced. In addition, over 400 tours for youth and adult visitors were led by 60 volunteer docents; the *Young Artists* high school exhibition was enjoyed by 1200 artists and guests; school vacation and summer programs were attended by nearly 300 participants and 75 adult programs were offered to the KMA community.

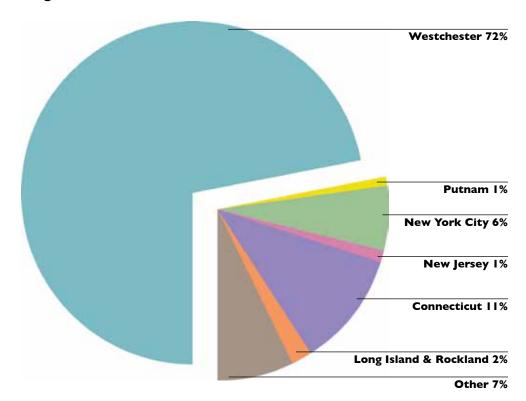


Stroller Tours

Programs: Metrics



Program Volume



Financials

The Katonah Museum of Art is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) museum chartered by the New York State Board of Regents as an educational institution. Funding comes from grants, foundations and corporations, individual contributions, membership, admissions, benefits and events, and investment income.

Revenue and Expenses July 1, 2017 – June 2018

Operating Revenue	
Contributed Support	\$1,040,347
Earned Income	74,237
Special Event Income, Net	165,449
Total Operating Revenue	1,280,033
Operating Expenses	
Exhibition Expenses	360,396
Education Expenses	366,806
Management & General Expenses	331,154
Fund Development Expenses	305,641
Depreciation	140,441
Total Operating Expenses	1,504,438
Operating Loss	(224,405)
Unrealized Investment Gains	318,678
Investment Advisory Fees	(24,774)
	293,904
Loss on Disposal of Asset	(165)
Net Income per Audited Financial Statements	\$ 69,334
Budgeted Endowment Draw	\$ 345,000

Gala: Summer Soirée

June 9, 2018 Honoring Ellen Grimes Gala Chairs Tracey and Michael Davies

Ellen and Bob Grimes

Michael and Tracey Davies



Matthew Cooper and Debbie Mullin

KMA Summer Soirée

On Saturday, June 8, the KMA honored Museum Trustee Ellen Grimes in recognition of her more than 10 years of support and service. Chaired by Tracey and Michael Davies, the evening featured a delicious menu prepared by Susan Lawrence, special wine donated by Bob and Ellen Grimes, a visit from mentalist Matthew Cooper, and a lively art auction and paddle raise in support of the Museum. The tent glowed with beautiful purples, oranges, and magentas which complimented the exceptional table flowers provided by Forever in Bloom. Following the gala dinner, dancers enjoyed a silent disco in front of the Mark di Survero *Rust Angel* in the Marilyn M. Simpson Sculpture Garden. More than 200 guests enjoyed this beautiful summer evening presented by Morgan Stanley.

Additional corporate sponsorship was provided by The Durst Organization. Corporate Supporters included Bijou, Carol Bouyoucos Design, Chairish, Crabtree's Kittle House, Decco By Party Up Productions, Diageo, Forever in Bloom, The Glenmede Trust Company, New York City Jewelry Week, Old New House, Party Rental, Pepsi Cola of the Hudson Valley, and Susan Lawrence Catering.





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