

Date: _____ Approved: _____

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
Minutes of the Art and Education Committee Meeting
Theater Level Conference Room #1
19 March 2015, 10:30am

There were present:

Ivan P. Jecklin, Chair
Karen C. Abramson
Margaret Irby Clement
Terrell Luck Harrigan
Dr. Elizabeth F. Harris
Dr. Claude G. Perkins
Michele Petersen
Pamela C. Reynolds
Charles H. Seilheimer, Jr.
Dr. Lindley T. Smith
Shantaram Talegaonkar
William A. Royall, Ex-officio

By Invitation:

Jeffrey Allison
Kelsey Beckwith
Dr. Lee Anne Chesterfield
Mary Holland
Li Jian
Cameron O'Brion
Lulan Yu

Absent:

Tyler Bishop
Mary Anne Carlson
John R. Curtis, Jr.
Cynthia Kerr Fralin
Richard B. Gilliam
Susan S. Goode
Margaret N. Gottwald
Frederica P. Gray
Keith Kisse
Mary Gray Shockey

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ivan Jecklin called the meeting to order at 10:35 am and welcomed the group.

II. MINUTES

Motion: proposed by Charles H. Seilheimer, Jr., and seconded by Karen C. Abramson that the minutes of the last meeting of the Art & Education Committee held on the 3rd of December be approved as distributed. Motion carried.

III. EDUCATION & STATEWIDE PROGRAMS REPORT

Dr. Lee Anne Chesterfield, Interim Deputy Director of Art & Education, introduced Jeffrey Allison, Manager of Statewide Programs and Exhibitions.

Mr. Allison shared statistics which highlighted the rapid growth and expansion of the Statewide Program and its partners. There are currently 891 Statewide partners and Mr. Allison hopes to have 900 by the end of the fiscal year. He informed Trustees of the following statewide happenings:

- The opening of the Ryan McGinness exhibition at the Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art, which was the largest opening in the museum's history;
- An exhibit of African art objects at the William King Museum of Art in Abington titled *Fortune, Courage, Love: Arts of Africa's Akan and Kuba Kingdoms*, created in partnership with Richard Woodward, VMFA Curator of African Art;
- A college-level course, *The Horse in French Art*, held in the Fall of 2015 at VMFA for students from five Virginia universities. In the spring, they will curate an exhibition and hold a symposium at the University of Richmond;
- This year's 75th anniversary of the Fellowship Program, celebrated by a new website that will have a documentary interviewing successful past fellowship recipients.

Mr. Allison thanked the group for its continued support and noted that future Statewide programs will be distributed to the board members through the master calendar.

Mary Holland, Director of the Studio School, reviewed the Studio School's history, classes, and exhibitions. Course offerings include painting, drawing, pottery, photography, fibers, and creative writing. Annually, the School hosts an average of 1500 students. Ms. Holland informed the group of both student and staff Studio School exhibitions.

IV. EXHIBITION UPDATE

Dr. Chesterfield introduced a presentation highlighting *Forbidden City's* key events, attendance and statistics.

Li Jian, the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Curator of East Asian Art, thanked Trustees for their generous support of the project. Preparation for the exhibit started in 2010. Through many trips to Beijing, Li Jian liaised with The Palace Museum to place VMFA as an industry leader for this kind of cultural exchange. She said that

the exhibition would not have been possible without the leadership of the Director, Alex Nyerges, and the former Deputy Director of Art & Education, Robin Nicholson.

Dr. Chesterfield shared the impact in terms of visitor experience, audience engagement, finance and enterprise. Between fundraising and crowd funding, the exhibition brought more than \$1.5 million to VMFA. The attendance for the exhibit totaled 91,000.

Lulan Yu, Art & Education Adult Programs Coordinator, noted that *Beyond the Walls*, the interactive gallery installation and companion mobile website and app created to complement *Forbidden City*, will remain in the Teaching Gallery through June 2015. Approximately 5,300 students and educators have visited the gallery through school group visits, and ChinaFest brought 4,600 visitors to *Beyond the Walls*.

Dr. Chesterfield reminded the group of the upcoming exhibits:

- *Van Gogh, Manet, and Matisse: The Art of the Flower*, March 21- June 21, 2015
- *Japanese Tattoo: Perseverance, Art, and Tradition*, May 30- September 27, 2015
- *Auguste Rodin*, November 21, 2015- March 13, 2016
- *Kehinde Wiley*, June 4- September 5, 2016
- *Johns/Munch*, November 19, 2016- February 20, 2017

Dr. Chesterfield thanked Trustees for their support of these exhibitions.

V. OTHER BUSINESS/ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Ivan Jecklin adjourned the meeting at 11:48 am.

Recorded by: Kelsey Beckwith
Education Assistant