Director’s Message

Each year, it feels like spring is upon us faster than ever here at Telfair Museums, but this time we got a little reminder from the weather to always put one foot in front of the other. After digging ourselves out from a surprise January blizzard that shut down our three sites and the city of Savannah for the better part of a week, we were thrilled to see near-record attendance at our PULSE Art + Technology Festival later that month and a beyond-capacity crowd for the Carrie Mae Weems opening lecture to kick off February. If you haven’t stopped by the Jepson Center yet to see these two stunning exhibitions, as well as new work by Atlanta artist Paul Stephen Benjamin and an impressive visual history of Bonaventure Cemetery, stop by soon!

Speaking of exhibitions, I’d like to highlight two you will read more about later in this issue. For you history lovers, Savannah Families Abroad, which opens April 13 at Telfair Academy, takes a fascinating look at the cultural tourism that was so en vogue among the wealthy elite of the 19th century, through the lens of the personal travels of Mary Telfair, her sister Margaret, and Margaret’s husband William Brown Hodgson, whom she met abroad. Then, on May 25, we continue this travel theme with the opening of The Open Road: Photography and the American Road Trip, a fresh, quirky survey of the genre from the mid-20th century to the present day. I encourage you to mark these two dates on your calendar—our curatorial team, especially presenting curators Shannon Browning-Mullis and Erin Dunn, has done a spectacular job organizing these exhibitions, and they will not disappoint!

If you’ve passed through Oglethorpe Square downtown recently, you may have noticed scaffolding around the Owens-Thomas House, where a major reinterpretation and preservation project is underway and will be revealed at a grand reopening later this year. I’ve written before about the incredible transformation happening there, and you’ll find more about it later in the magazine, but I just want to take a moment to thank all of the amazing people who have made this project a reality—from our dedicated staff, to outside historians and contractors, to generous individual donors and museum members like you; your contributions to this nearly 200-year-old property will stretch even longer into the future. The City of Savannah, The Hodge Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and other groups have also been instrumental in funding this project and related programming. We thank you!

Finally, I’d like to mention the museum’s annual meeting, which is coming up at 6pm May 17. Every year, I invite you and all our members to the Jepson Center for the annual “State of the Museums Address,” where I talk about everything from Telfair’s financial health to future exhibitions. I really do mean it when I say I hope to see you there—this is your museum, your community, and we’d love to hear your voice!

Lisa Grove,
Director/CEO

Bernard Plossu (French, b. 1945); New Mexico, 1980; gelatin silver print; © Bernard Plossu, courtesy of the Artist and Eaton Fine Art, West Palm Beach, FL.
The Open Road: Photography and the American Road Trip
May 25–September 3 / Jepson Center

The road trip is an enduring symbol in American culture. In the days since cars became widely available, the road stretching over the horizon has represented a sense of possibility and freedom, discovery and escape—a place to get lost and find yourself in the process. As photographers have embarked on trips across the United States with the express purpose of making work, they have created some of the most important photographs in the history of the medium. Noted photographer Joel Meyerowitz, who has five photographs featured in The Open Road, explained that for him, the car itself was an extension of his experience: “I began to understand that the car window was the frame, and that in some way the car itself was the camera with me inside it, and that the world was scrolling by with a constantly changing image on the screen. All I had to do was raise the camera and blink to make a photograph.” The photographers featured in The Open Road found inspiration across the great expanse of the American landscape, using the car as their mode of transport and the country as their imaginative resource.

This exhibition traces the rise of road culture in America and looks at photographers on the move across the country and across the century, from the mid 1900s to the present day. Presented chronologically, the exhibition considers nineteen photographers for whom the American road was muse. Beginning with Robert Frank’s seminal series The Americans (1958), and including such renowned work as Garry Winogrand’s 1964, Joel Sternfeld’s American Prospects, William Eggleston’s Los Alamos, and Justine Kurland’s Highway Kind, the featured artists and road trips represent the evolution of American car culture, the idea of the open road, and how photographers embraced the subject of America in order to reflect on place, time, and self.

Exhibition organized by Aperture Foundation, New York. David Campany and Denise Wolff, curators. The presentation of this exhibition at Telfair Museums is curated by Erin Dunn, Assistant Curator. This project is supported, in part, by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. To find out more about how NEA grants impact individuals and communities, visit www.arts.gov.
RELATED PROGRAMS / Jepson Center

Opening Lecture by David Campany and Reception
Thursday, May 24, 6pm
Members free / non-members $8
Pre-registration required, space is limited.
Register at telfair.org/open-road

Telfair presents an opening lecture by David Campany, co-curator of *The Open Road* and the author of the accompanying catalog. Campany is a writer, curator, and artist whose work is focused primarily on photography. He is a winner of an Infinity Award from the International Center for Photography. Reception to follow.

Open Road Free Family Day
Saturday, August 4, 1–4pm
Free and open to the public.

Celebrate the end of summer with free family activities celebrating the great American road trip. Contribute to a map of summer travels, make an end-of-summer postcard, and talk to prominent local photographers about their work and travels.
Savannah Families Abroad: The Consumption of Culture in the 19th Century
April 13, 2018–January 27, 2019 / Telfair Academy

In the 19th century, wealthy Americans enjoyed extensive explorations of Europe, many traveling to the continent multiple times in their lives. They formed their own Grand Tour, modeled on the British custom of exploring classical sites in Italy. American travelers collected art and furnishings along the way. Savannah Families Abroad: The Consumption of Culture in the 19th Century, will feature many of these souvenirs.

Savannah sisters Mary and Margaret Telfair enjoyed three trips to Europe, traveling throughout the continent and visiting many famous sites. On their first trip in 1841, Margaret Telfair met and married William Brown Hodgson, a fascinating man with vast intellectual interests. Hodgson became an integral member of this intimate family group and made two more trips to Europe with the sisters over the next 30 years. A former diplomat to the Barbary States, Algeria, the Ottoman Empire, Egypt, and Peru, Hodgson spoke 13 languages. Once Hodgson relocated to Savannah, he pursued a wide variety of academic studies, including Islamic culture, linguistics, orientalism, and geology.

The exploration and consumption of cultures has been a common pastime in the West for hundreds of years. Considering Hodgson’s fascination with cultures of the East, part of the exhibition features fine and decorative arts obtained and showcased by Europeans searching for the exoticism of the Orient. Many of these textiles and ceramics were imported to the United States, while others were made by Americans in “oriental” styles. As these motifs became popular, more images of the East were sent back to Europe. European photographers captured choreographed images taken in front of painted backdrops that embodied eastern stereotypes.

This exhibition is organized by Telfair Museums and curated by Shannon Browning-Mullis, Curator of History and Decorative Arts.

RELATED PROGRAMS / Telfair Academy
Lecture and Reception
Thursday, August 16, 6pm
Members free / non-members $8
Pre-registration required, space is limited.
Register at telfair.org/savannah-abroad
Join Shannon Browning-Mullis, Curator of History and Decorative Arts, for a talk that examines the travels of 19th-century Savannahians. A reception will follow.

Curator’s Tour
Friday, June 15, 2pm
Members free / non-members with museum admission
Shannon Browning-Mullis will lead a tour of highlights from the exhibition.
Top to bottom: David H. Vance; The World Map, 1826, published by Anthony Finley, 1826. Enrichetta Narducci (Italian, 1806–1892); Miniature painting of Mary Telfair, made in Rome, 1842; gouache on ivory, bequest of Mary Telfair, 1875.39. Ernest Joseph Angélon Girard (French, 1813–1898); Miniature painting of William Brown Hodgson, made in Paris, 1842; watercolor on ivory, gift of Mr. William K. Wallbridge, 1959.4. Richard West Habersham (American, 1812–1889); Miniature painting of Mrs. Margaret Telfair Hodgson, made in Savannah, c. 1835; watercolor on ivory, gift of Mr. and Mrs. William K. Wallbridge, 1959.3. Unknown Maker; Vue du Pont de la Ste Trinite, Florence, Italy; Lithograph, n.d.; collection of Telfair Museums, X-64. B. Metzenthin (engraver); L’Arc de l’Étoile in Paris (after C. Reiss); steel engraving on paper, 1855; collection of Telfair Museums, TK2355. Unknown Maker in Persia; Shawl, 19th century; woven, felted wool with embroidery; gift of Mrs. John B. Seymour in memory of her father, Joseph Hilton, 1929.2.12. Below left to right: U.S. Passport of Mary Telfair, 1842; Orientalist Photo on loan from the collection of Mr. Willis Jones.
The Language of Vision: Early Twentieth-Century Photography
August 17, 2018–January 13, 2019 / Jepson Center

The Language of Vision: Early Twentieth-Century Photography brings together the work of four eminent artists from Telfair Museums’ permanent collection: Ralph Steiner, Manuel Álvarez Bravo, Walker Evans, and Helen Levitt. Connected historically and often personally through artist social circles, their work shares key stylistic attributes that will be explored in the exhibition. These photographers made work during the first half of the 20th century when photography was still being questioned for its validity as an art form. All four artists made strides in demonstrating that while mechanically made, their photographs reflected the subtle expressiveness of the particular individual. Subject matter depicted includes genre and street scenes, portraits, modern technology, and nature, among many others, revealing that these artists were on the forefront to capture the exciting and varied facets of the contemporary moment.

This exhibition is organized by Telfair Museums and curated by Erin Dunn, Assistant Curator.

#art912, A sense of home–Boxed In/Break Out

April 19–October 21 / Jepson Center

Telfair Museums is pleased to announce that Ron Longsdorf has been selected to create a site-specific installation in the Jepson Center’s Barnard Street windows for the 2018 iteration of Boxed In/Break Out. His project, titled A sense of home, will reference the literal construction and metaphorical associations of the word “home.” Emily Stamey, Curator of Exhibitions at the Weatherspoon Art Museum and guest judge, wrote of Longsdorf’s proposal that it “hit the mark on so many different levels: a striking visual image, an inventive use of materials, an engaging theme, and a thoughtful consideration of community involvement.”

Longsdorf is currently Professor of Foundation Studies at the Savannah College of Art & Design (SCAD). This exhibition is organized by Telfair Museums and curated by Erin Dunn, Assistant Curator.

RELATED PROGRAM
Artist Talk and Reception
Thursday, April 19, 6pm / Jepson Center
Free and open to the public.

#art912, Walking the Horizon

August 31, 2018–April 21, 2019 / Jepson Center

Telfair Museums presents Walking the Horizon, an exhibition of the late Savannah-based artist Bertha Husband (Scottish, 1948–2017) in tribute to her tremendous legacy in the art world, both in the United States and abroad. Through the combination of narrative imagery and text, Husband made compelling works that always addressed broader issues of political and social concern. Husband traveled extensively, exhibited internationally, and was part of several artist collectives in her ongoing effort to show that art has the power to subvert and liberate.

This exhibition is organized by Telfair Museums and curated by Milutin Pavlovic, Designer/Preparator for Telfair Museums.

RELATED PROGRAM
Curator’s Talk and Reception
Thursday, August 30, 6pm / Jepson Center
Free and open to the public.

Bertha Husband; Horizon of Justice, 2007; courtesy of Mary Jo Marchnight.
Rolling Stone Press: Human Considerations
June 30–November 25, 2018 / Jepson Center

Human Considerations is the second exhibition to spotlight a portfolio of lithographic prints from the Rolling Stone Press, a professional lithography atelier that operated in Atlanta from 1984 until 2005. The founder, Wayne Kline, worked with regional and national artists to produce hand-printed, limited editions of each artist’s vision. Human Considerations will celebrate artists in the portfolio such as Beverly Buchanan, Howard Finster, and Stefanie Jackson, who used descriptive imagery to tell a broader story about humanity.

This exhibition is organized by Telfair Museums and curated by Erin Dunn, Assistant Curator.

New on view

The painting Young Girls of Savannah by Phillip Hampton, acquired by Telfair Museums in 2017, has been put on view in the Sculpture Gallery of the Telfair Academy. A rare image of everyday life in Savannah in 1954, it portrays two young girls walking on West Gwinnett Street with an elevated railroad track in the background. Artist Phillip Hampton served as professor and director of the art department at what is now Savannah State University from 1952 to 1969 and enjoyed a noteworthy career as an artist, educator, and advocate for fellow African American artists.

Beverly Buchanan (American, b. 1940); Happy Shack, 1987; lithograph on paper; museum purchase, 1994.7.4; © Beverly Buchanan

Phillip J. Hampton (American, 1922–2016); Young Girls of Savannah, 1954; gouache on paper, 13 x 17 in.; museum purchase with funds provided by the Ronald J. Strahan Art Acquisition Endowment Fund, 2017.5
Continuing Exhibitions

Paul Stephen Benjamin: Reinterpreting the Sound of Blackness
Through May 6 / Jepson Center

Through May 6 / Jepson Center

Rolling Stone Press: Approaching Abstraction
Through June 17 / Jepson Center

Radiance: An Installation and VR experience by Max Almy and Teri Yarbrow with Josephine Leong
Through August 5 / Jepson Center

#art912, Grounded
Through August 19 / Jepson Center

Bonaventure: A Historic Cemetery in Art
Through September 23 / Jepson Center

Complex Uncertainties: Artists in Postwar America
Ongoing / Jepson Center
APRIL

9
TAG Meeting
10am, JC

11
Savannah Families Abroad
DC Preview Dinner
5pm, TA

13
Savannah Families Abroad
Exhibition Opens
through January 27, 2019, TA

19
Art Start
10:30–11:30am, JC

#art912, A sense of home—Boxed In/
Break Out Artist Talk and Reception
6pm, JC

#art912, A sense of home—Boxed
In/Break Out Installation Opens
through October 21, JC

25
Annual Friends of the Owens-
Thomas House Garden Party
5:30pm, OT

MAY

1
Call For Entries: FAAA
Small Works Exhibition
through August 10, JC

3
GMCS Annual Meeting
5pm, JC

6
Paul Stephen Benjamin
Exhibition Closes
JC

Carrie Mae Weems Exhibition Closes
JC

14
TAG Annual Meeting
12pm, The Chatham Club

15
FOT Tour of Savannah
Families Abroad
4pm, TA

17
Art Start
10:30–11:30am, JC

Telfair Annual Meeting
6pm, JC

23
The Open Road DC Preview Dinner
5pm, JC

24
The Open Road Opening
Lecture and Reception
6pm, JC

25
The Open Road Exhibition Opens
through September 3, JC

31
Annual William Jay Society
Garden Party
5:30pm, OT
JUNE

4
Lecture: Sheila Pree Bright for Complex Uncertainties
6pm, JC

9
Juneteenth Free Family Day
1–4pm, JC

15
Savannah Families Abroad Curator’s Tour
2pm, TA

17
Rolling Stone Press: Approaching Abstraction Exhibition Closes
JC

21
Art Start
10:30–11:30am, JC

30
Rolling Stone Press: Human Considerations Exhibition Opens
through November 25, JC

AUGUST

4
The Open Road Free Family Day
1–4pm, JC

5
Radiance Exhibition Closes
JC

10
Deadline for Entries: FAAA Small Works Exhibition

16
Savannah Families Abroad Lecture and Reception
6pm, TA

17
The Language of Vision Exhibition Opens
through January 13, 2019, JC

19
#art912, Grounded Exhibition Closes
JC

30
#art912, Walking the Horizon Exhibition Curator’s Talk and Reception
6pm, JC

31
#art912, Walking the Horizon Exhibition Opens
through April 21, 2019, JC

JULY

19
Art Start
10:30–11:30am, JC

SAVE THE DATES!
Monet to Matisse: Masterworks of French Impressionism from the Dixon Gallery and Gardens Exhibition Opens September 28

Masquerade in the Mansion
October 26
Summer Camps

Register at telfair.org/classes or call 912.790.8823.

Drawing Portfolio Builder Camp
10–12yrs, May 29–June 1, 9am–3pm
(no camp May 28)
12–14yrs, July 2–6, 9am–3pm
(no camp July 4)
Members $160 / non-members $180
This four-day camp is designed to help upper-elementary and middle school students improve their drawing skills and begin the process of developing a portfolio. Students will focus on measurement, proportion, perspective, and use of value to create volume and space. The camp will also include practice portraiture and sketching from clothed models. The Drawing Portfolio Builder Camp is a great class for students to learn and advance the skills necessary for developing art portfolios.

Master Artist Photography Camp
10–12yrs, June 4–8, 9am–3pm
13–16yrs, June 11–15, 9am–3pm
Members $200 / non-members $235
This intensive, weeklong program focuses on black-and-white and digital photography, as well as the basic functions of 35mm manual cameras. While instructors emphasize the advancements of digital media and Adobe Photoshop, they will also cover conventional methods of film photography, including pinhole cameras, to supplement the experience. The camp features student use of both manual and digital cameras and study of photography in Telfair exhibitions. The program will culminate with a reception and exhibition of the participants’ work in the Jepson Center.

Raising STEAM: Technology, Art, and Electronics
10–12yrs, June 18–22, 9am–3pm
Members $200 / non-members $235
This comprehensive STEAM camp gives young people the opportunity to explore the artistic potential of technology. In this weeklong camp, students will learn to use a variety of technologies and methods to create and express themselves. Students will explore 3D printing, create images with Adobe Photoshop, and solder their own electronic-noise toys. Participants will also learn basic computer programming with Arduino microcontrollers. The program culminates with a reception and exhibition of the participants’ work in the Jepson Center.

Art with the Pros
6–10yrs, June 25–29, 9am–3pm
Members $175 / non-members $195
Each day, this camp will feature a different local artist providing a unique lesson based on his or her medium. Lunch in Telfair Square (weather permitting), breaks and games in ArtZeum, and special tours of the galleries are all included. Students will learn to give constructive criticism on their own and their peers’ artwork. The program culminates with a student art exhibition and a reception in the Jepson Center.

Videogame Development
14–18yrs, July 16–20, 9am–3pm
12–14yrs, July 9–13, 9am–3pm
Members $175 / non-members $195
Full STEAM ahead! In this weeklong camp, students will build their own videogames. Students will explore, play, and learn computer programming from scratch using game-making programs. The summer camp culminates with a reception and exhibition of the participants’ games in the Jepson Center’s Morrison Community Gallery.
Museum Explorations Pre-K Camp
4–6yrs, July 23–July 27, 9am–noon
Members $100 / non-members $125
Stave off the summer doldrums! Exploring Telfair Museums’ three sites and exhibitions has never been so much fun. Each day, participants will tour a new exhibit and learn to create the very same types of art seen in the galleries, finding inspiration with instruction in drawing, painting, and printmaking. Students will immerse themselves in innovative arts lessons taught by professional artists.

Crafters Camp
8–11yrs, July 16–20, 9am–3pm
Members $175 / non-members $195
The Ultimate Crafty Kids Camp is packed with a variety of projects: screen printing, knitting, friendship bracelets, calligraphy, paper crafts, and much more. In this weeklong camp, students will explore and learn techniques in a rich variety of crafts that will inspire and develop their desire to be independent makers.

Videogame Design with Scratch
9–12yrs, July 23–July 27, 9am–noon
Members $100 / non-members $125
This summer camp teaches beginning students how to create their own videogames using Scratch, a colorful programming environment that makes it easy to bring interactive stories to life. In class, students collaborate on developing a game from beginning to final polish—a fun and informative way to introduce younger students to the art of videogame development.
Art Start: Stroller and Toddler Tours

10:30–11:30am
$5 per child / adult members free / adult non-members $12

Bonaventure
Thursday, April 19 / Jepson Center

Rolling Stone Press
Thursday, May 17 / Jepson Center

The Open Road
Thursday, June 21 / Jepson Center

Savannah Families Abroad
Thursday, July 19 / Telfair Academy

Complex Uncertainties
Thursday, August 16 / Jepson Center

Drop-in Studio

Daily, 1–4pm / Jepson Center

Free with museum admission

Every day, we open our studio doors and load the tables with creative exploratory activities for kids and adults. Work at your own pace and comfort level in coloring books (for grown-ups too!), try painting in watercolor, or take our “What can you make?” open-ended challenge. You can also explore your crafty side with books and materials for calligraphy, origami, and more. In addition to all this creative fun, each month will have a feature project designed to connect with a specific exhibition at the museum. A studio assistant is always on hand to help with any questions or needs. Open to all ages; children must be accompanied by an adult caregiver.

April
Landscape Watercolors

May
Abstract Mono Prints

June and July
Summer Projects in Atrium

August
Open Road Postcards

Keepsake Plaster Hand Casting

Saturdays and Sundays, April 1–May 13, 1–3pm / Jepson Center

$15 per person with museum admission; pre-registration required (telfair.org/learn); for all ages!

Create a fun and memorable keepsake of your own hand. This activity for families, friends, and individuals is the perfect way to create a personalized sculpture. Using quick-setting, skin-safe materials, participants will make molds of their hands resulting in highly detailed, colorful, and expressive plaster casts. The process takes less than 10 minutes and casts are ready to take home in an hour.
Free Family Days

*Investment is provided by the City of Savannah and the Georgia Power Foundation.*

**Juneteenth**
Saturday, June 9, 1–4pm / Jepson Center

One of the longest-running community programs at the Jepson Center, Juneteenth Family Day is a celebration of freedom, historically commemorating the end of slavery in the United States. Explore Gullah-Geechee connections through storytelling by Jamal Toure, artists’ demonstrations, poetry readings, and a musical performance.

**Open Road**
Saturday, August 4, 1–4pm / Jepson Center

Celebrate the end of summer and the exhibition *The Open Road*, with free family activities about travel and photography. Contribute to a map of summer travels, make an end-of-summer postcard, and talk to prominent local photographers about their work and travels.
Director’s Circle

For more information about joining the Director’s Circle or upgrading your current membership, please contact Catherine Renner at 912.790.8844 or rennerc@telfair.org.

The generosity of all Director’s Circle members, whether at the $1,500 Grand Patron level, the $25,000 Chairman’s Council level, or somewhere in between, enables us to present world-class exhibitions, protect our unique collection, offer innovative education programming, and so much more. Every visitor who enters our doors deserves an exceptional experience at Telfair, and we can only deliver that with your support. Your generosity helps us connect people to creativity, knowledge, ideas, and beauty. Thank you!

Your Director’s Circle membership also provides an opportunity to become more intimately involved with the museum through special programming created with you in mind. Join us—to build a deeper relationship with art, museum curators, and like-minded patrons in behind-the-scenes settings. At Telfair, we value our patrons as much as the art itself. Without you, none of this would be possible.

Director’s Circle 2018 Exclusive Previews and Dinners

Please mark your calendar and join us for these special preview evenings! Be the first to see the art, enjoy an enriching program with guest speakers and scholars, and then enjoy dinner at a fabulous restaurant with other Telfair patrons—a fun-loving, art-loving bunch!

Tickets to Director’s Circle preview dinners are $95. Invitations are mailed approximately four weeks prior to event date. For more information, please contact Lauren Grant at 912.790.8866 or grantl@telfair.org.

**Savannah Families Abroad**
Wednesday, April 11, 5pm
Telfair Academy
Remarks by Shannon Browning-Mullis, Telfair Museums’ Curator of History and Decorative Arts, followed by dinner at Garibaldi.

**The Open Road**
Wednesday, May 23, 5pm
Jepson Center
Remarks by special guest David Campany, Britain-based independent curator, writer, and artist, specializing in photography, followed by dinner at Local 11ten.

**Monet to Matisse**
Wednesday, September 26, 5pm / Jepson Center
Remarks by special guest Kevin Sharp, Director, Dixon Gallery and Gardens, followed by dinner at the Chatham Club.

Director’s Circle Drop-In Schedule

We will suspend education observations of the Fourth-Grade School Tour Program for the summer but will continue them in the fall. In the meantime, if you have a particular interest in learning more about our education programs, please contact Catherine Renner. If you are able to come to any of the following tours please join us!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>August 16</td>
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**Fine Art | Fine Wine**

Thursday, November 29, 6pm / Telfair Academy

Guest speaker Jason T. Busch, Director of the Jason Jacques Gallery, Manhattan.

This elegant evening features an art-based lecture followed by a specially curated wine tasting with delicious food pairings. This event is presented as a thank you to museum patrons who support the Director’s Circle Annual Fund at the Steward level or higher, or have a cumulative annual giving total of $2,500 or more between the dates of November 2017–October 2018. Invitations will be mailed to eligible donors near the end of October.
We Invite You To Create Your Legacy!

Join the Mary Telfair Legacy Society by making a planned gift to the museum! This could be as simple as writing a bequest in your will, donating a piece of artwork, or leaving the museum a percentage of your estate. Making a planned gift will help shape the future of our city and ensure that Telfair will continue to provide award-winning exhibitions, community outreach, and education for all. Your support will be your legacy, helping us thrive for another 130 years and beyond! To make a gift or to learn more about the Mary Telfair Legacy Society, please contact Molly Taylor, Director of Development, at 912.790.8865 or taylorm@telfair.org.

Fund the Future

From veterans art classes to workshops for therapeutics patients, we hope you have heard about the life-changing outreach programs we’re highlighting as part of Telfair’s annual call for giving. One program we’re especially proud of is our free Fourth-Grade School Tours, which bring thousands of Savannah children and their teachers into our museums to see world-class exhibitions and become creative stars in the Jepson Center studio. “Most have never been to a museum before,” explains Jillian, a teacher at Jacob G. Smith Elementary, “so they don’t know what to expect.” A visit to the Jepson Center taught her student Patrick an eye-opening lesson, he says. “Art is something that shows other people what I do in my life.”

To learn more about how Telfair makes a difference for Savannah’s children and how you can help Fund the Future, call 912.790.8844, email rennerc@telfair.org, or visit telfair.org/support.
MEMBER ENGAGEMENT GROUPS

Member Engagement Groups

Friends of African American Arts
Friends of African American Arts (FAAA) members enjoy social and cultural activities that allow participants to expand their personal networks, foster appreciation for African American art and culture, and experience the remarkable cultural landscape of the Southeast. For more information, or to register for programs, visit telfair.org/faaa.

Call for Entries: FAAA Small Works Exhibition at the Jepson Center
Tuesday, May 1–Friday, August 10
Artist members of FAAA are invited to submit work for an exhibition of small works in the Jepson Center’s Morrison Community Gallery, opening September 20. Works must not exceed 24 inches in any dimension. This exhibition is open only to current FAAA members. Registration opens May 1, and the submission deadline is August 10. Guidelines and registration will be available online starting May 1 at telfair.org/faaa.

Friends of the Owens-Thomas House
Support from the Friends of the Owens-Thomas House (FOT) allows us to continue to preserve, interpret, and create programming for this special site. The group enjoys behind-the-scenes access to the Owens-Thomas House through garden parties, lectures, and tours. In addition, members have opportunities to meet and socialize with others interested in architecture, decorative arts, gardening, and history at local and regional locations.

Annual Friends of the Owens Thomas House Garden Party
Wednesday, April 25, 5:30pm / Owens-Thomas House
FOT members free / non-FOT members $20
For reservations, call Cali Laundré at 912.790.8807.
Join the Friends of the Owens-Thomas House for a great food, drink, and frivolity at the annual membership party in the beautiful parterre garden. The house will be open for tours during the event.
Sponsored by Ron Melander, Savannah Historic Properties.

Tour of Savannah Families Abroad
Tuesday, May 15, 4–5pm / Telfair Academy
FOT members free. Reservations not required.
Join Shannon Browning-Mullis, Curator of History and Decorative Arts, on a special tour of the exhibition.

Gari Melchers Collectors’ Society
The Gari Melchers Collectors’ Society supports and promotes the expansion of the museum’s permanent collection and provides its members with exclusive programs and educational opportunities to enhance their enjoyment and appreciation of art. For more information, visit telfair.org/melchers. Further event details will be communicated to Melchers members in a forthcoming e-newsletter.

Annual Meeting and Acquisition Evening
Thursday, May 3, 5 pm / Jepson Center
At this exciting event, Melchers Society members will have the opportunity to vote on a significant purchase for the museum’s permanent collection with funds that have been accruing for several years, followed by an elegant dinner at the Chatham Club. Tickets are $95. For reservations, call Cali Laundré at 912.790.8807.

Overnight trip to Columbia for Jane Peterson Exhibition
Thursday–Friday, June 21–22 / Columbia, SC
Join the Melchers Society for an overnight trip to Columbia, SC, for a private tour of the exhibition Jane Peterson At Home and Abroad at the Columbia Museum of Art. This major retrospective includes Telfair’s painting Harbor at Gloucester, Massachusetts, which was purchased for Telfair by the Melchers Society in 2016. The trip also includes visits to several other cultural and historic sites in Columbia, transportation to and from Columbia via chartered bus, and accommodations at Hotel Trundle, a new boutique hotel in Columbia’s Main Street District. For more information, contact Courtney McNeil at mcneilc@telfair.org or 912.790.8817.

Telfair Academy Guild
Telfair Academy Guild (TAG) supports the goals and activities of Telfair Museums through volunteerism. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month from September to May, excluding December. Meetings offer either a morning coffee gathering or an evening wine reception, followed by TAGtalk with notable guest speakers. While members enjoy social and educational experiences at these meetings, they are also encouraged to become involved in the organization’s annual fundraising and special events. For more information, visit telfair.org/tag.

TAG Meeting
Monday, April 9, 10am / Jepson Center

TAG Annual Meeting
Monday, May 7, 12pm / The Chatham Club
William Jay Society

Named in honor of the famed young architect whose talent still endures in Savannah, the William Jay Society (WJS) is a group of Savannah’s young professionals who share an enthusiasm and appreciation for art and Telfair. The mission of WJS is to promote the museum’s goals of developing awareness, understanding, and appreciation for art. For more information, visit telfair.org/wjs.

Annual William Jay Society Garden Party
Thursday, May 31, 5:30pm / Owens-Thomas House
WJS Members free / non-WJS members $10
Join us for another fun party in our beautiful parterre garden. Expect divine treats and genius décor! Our new board slate will be presented and voted on. Do not miss this annual tradition.

Save The Date! Masquerade in the Mansion
Friday, October 26, 8pm / Telfair Academy

Telfair Annual Meeting
Thursday, May 17, 6pm / Jepson Center
Free and open to all museum members.

Join Telfair Museums’ Director/CEO Lisa Grove for her annual “State of the Museums Address.” The summary of 2017 will cover highlights of the past year, the museum’s financial health, and a preview of the exciting exhibitions, lectures, programs, and events scheduled for 2018. The group will also elect new Trustees, bid farewell to Trustees whose terms are ending, and present the Gertrude West Hollowbush Award to an exemplary volunteer. A brief reception will follow.
A New Chapter for the Owens-Thomas House and Slave Quarters

Big changes are coming to the Owens-Thomas House and Slave Quarters. Now, thanks to the efforts of many generous donors, multiple foundations, and the museum’s dedicated staff, a major restoration and reinterpretation project is underway at the National Historic Landmark on Oglethorpe Square. New exhibits will focus on topics such as urban slavery, the role of women in the 19th century, and historic preservation methods, including audio narratives, replica artifacts, and projections of enslaved house members.

Designed by renowned architect William Jay and completed in 1819, the Owens-Thomas House is on pace to celebrate the new work at a grand reopening ceremony planned for a date to be announced this fall. Our goal is to tell a complete story of everyone who lived in the home, free and enslaved, during its nearly 200 years of existence. To accommodate the new exhibits, we’ve recently completed major work to remove a large, disruptive HVAC system from the house basement and carefully install a modern one inside the home’s existing chimney structures in an innovative feat of historical preservation.

The conservation and reinterpretation of this one-of-a-kind site entrusted to our care is the next chapter in the story of Telfair Museums. Led by the incredible efforts of campaign chairman Dale Critz, Sr., we are close to meeting our $1 million individual fundraising goal, supported by a prestigious grant of $250,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Mr. Critz and his wife, Lila, are longtime Telfair benefactors and enthusiasts of this unique and exceptional historic landmark. Additional investment support for programming at the site has been committed by the Hodge Foundation, the City of Savannah, the Georgia Council for the Arts, and others.

If you would like to contribute to this important American history project, please contact Molly Taylor at 912.790.8865 or taylorm@telfair.org. Look for the grand reopening date to be announced soon!

The OT basement is being prepared for enhanced interpretation by relocating hvac equipment to attic and the conservation of delicate plaster surfaces.
Shop our Jepson Center location for more items!

Enjoy a variety of gifts perfect for Moms, Dads, and Grads!

Featuring contemporary merchandise, art by local artisans, children’s art activities, and much more!
Thank you
to our Corporate and Foundation partners for educational, programming, and exhibition support!

Share your experience! @telfairmuseums
Sign up for our e-newsletter: telfair.org/etelfair