



Help us ensure that Telfair Museums will be able to serve future generations by making an endowment gift to our *SECURING THE FUTURE* campaign!

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**SECURING  
THE  
FUTURE**



# STRENGTHS

Widely regarded as one of the top art museums in the South, Telfair Museums draws upon its rich history and extensive collection to advance the preservation and appreciation of three centuries of art, architecture, and history. Our long tradition of excellence is affirmed year after year, accredited by the American Association of Museums and recognized by the National Endowment for the Arts. Upon this solid foundation, we are building a museum for the 21st century: a place where past meets present and local meets global.

## WORLD-RENOWNED COLLECTION

Telfair Museums is home to an internationally known collection of over 6,000 artworks in all media—the only public resource of its kind in Savannah. Among the museum’s notable holdings are late 19th- and early 20th-century American Impressionist and Ashcan School paintings, American and English silver and furniture, and the Kirk Varnedoe Collection of works on paper by contemporary masters. We actively collect historical and contemporary works of art that illuminate the issues and complexities of our time.



TEACHERS PARTICIPATE IN VISUAL THINKING STRATEGIES (VTS) TRAINING IN THE TELFAIR ACADEMY

## INTENSIVE EDUCATION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

As Savannah’s art museum for over 125 years, Telfair Museums serves as a leader in community outreach. Our school tour program, launched in the 1930s, has brought the joy of art to hundreds of thousands of children in our community from all backgrounds. In addition, the museum features work by artists and children in rehabilitation centers throughout the city—a program now entering its 20th year, which illustrates the impact that art can have on the healing process and its ability to transform lives. Reaching out even further, our staff and volunteers visit parks, playgrounds, community centers, retirement homes, and hospitals in every corner of Savannah, bringing art to people and communities who need it most.

## CUTTING-EDGE PROGRAMS & EXHIBITIONS

Telfair Museums is a trailblazer in bringing experimental approaches to the museum tradition. Our annual *PULSE Art + Technology Festival*, for instance, invites artists from around the world to showcase the newest techniques, technology, and innovative ideas in the realm of electronic arts. Our Slavery and Freedom project, as well, is one of the first programs nationwide to explore the complex issue of slavery in an urban setting. Additionally, Telfair is committed to ongoing gallery reinstatement projects designed to breathe new life into our breathtaking permanent collection.



STUDENTS ENJOY PULSE INSTALLATIONS IN THE JEPSON CENTER'S INTERACTIVE GALLERIES.

## COMMITMENT TO SCHOLARSHIP

Telfair Museums’ esteemed curatorial team is actively involved in rigorous study and interpretation of art and artifacts, regularly publishing research and lecturing to contribute new scholarship to the field. Recent exhibitions such as *Dutch Utopia: American Artists in Holland, 1880-1914* and *Spanish Sojourns: Robert Henri and the Spirit of Spain* broke new ground in the art world and enhanced Telfair’s reputation as a leading, visionary museum.



MEMBERS ENJOY A PREVIEW OF THE GROUND BREAKING SPANISH SOJOURNS: ROBERT HENRI AND THE SPIRIT OF SPAIN

# VISION

With the opening of the Jepson Center in 2006, Telfair Museums has grown exponentially in its ability to benefit audiences in Savannah and around the globe. Met by a rapidly increasing demand for access to our experimental approaches, collections, exhibitions, and programs, Telfair Museums is poised to become a premier institution, contributing to Savannah’s renaissance as a cultural destination and an educational public resource. Our vision is to establish the museum as a dynamic space where art, ideas, and experience intersect to spark imagination and learning.

# ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN PRIORITIES

From Mary Telfair’s founding bequest in 1876 to the Landmark Campaign to build the Jepson Center 130 years later, Telfair Museums has long benefited from the generosity of people who share our vision. An endowment gift provides a highly visible and lasting tribute to an individual or family whose extraordinary philanthropic contributions deserve recognition and commemoration. Endowments remain named, by designation of the donor, in perpetuity. We invite you to be part of the Telfair’s remarkable legacy by supporting our work in the following areas:

## CURATORIAL ENDOWMENTS

Curators are central to the life of an art museum. They are the professionals chiefly responsible for the acquisition and interpretation of works of art and for the organization of temporary exhibitions. As scholars and teachers, curators translate the beauty of art for the public, determining what is important and enduring, and then sharing it with students, visitors, and families. Their judgments—the works of art they acquire and exhibit—help to shape our culture and give it direction. The vitality of an art museum can be measured by the quality of its curators. Endowment support for Telfair’s curatorial efforts may include the naming of curatorial positions, the support of conservation efforts, and the establishment of curatorial research and travel funds.

## EXHIBITION ENDOWMENTS

Exhibitions are at the heart of the museum experience, presenting art to the public in engaging, innovative ways. Exhibition endowments provide support for this core activity, enabling Telfair Museums to organize major traveling shows from its permanent collection, as well as bring international exhibits to the Savannah community. These endowments provide a stable funding source, enabling Telfair to produce ambitious, world-class exhibitions that benefit not only our local patrons, volunteers, and children in need, but also our visitors nationally and from abroad.

## EDUCATION ENDOWMENTS

Museum educators develop the programs that allow Telfair audiences to connect to the exhibitions, helping people of all ages and backgrounds engage with the museum and enjoy the benefits of art. Through the creation of innovative programs and resources, educators provide audiences with meaningful experiences unique to the Telfair Museums. Endowment support for education may include the naming of educational positions, endowing community outreach programs, and the establishment of a fund for educational resources and new technologies.

## MUSEUM OPERATIONS

More than 80% of the Telfair’s \$5 million operating budget comes from annual giving, which includes admission revenue, corporate sponsorships, grants, memberships, and annual contributions. The remaining 20% comes from investment income on our \$22 million endowment. Additional gifts to this endowment would provide additional annual support for operations that would stabilize the museum’s annual budget and allow for more consistent planning for programs.



CURATORS AND REGISTRARS DISCUSS THE CONDITION OF ACQUISITIONS AND LOANS