

IMPACT 2024

A year-in-review highlighting
the impact of your support.

FRYE
/ Art Museum





Installation view of *Boren Banner Series: Samantha Wall*, Frye Art Museum, April 10–October 6, 2024. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Jueqian Fang

(Cover) Installation view of *Twilight Child: Antonia Kuo and Martin Wong*, Frye Art Museum, June 15–September 15, 2024. Photo: Jueqian Fang

(Right) Jamilee Lacy at the Fall 2024 Exhibitions Opening. Photo: Jueqian Fang

Dear Friends,

It's once again my great pleasure to share with you this snapshot of our year-in-progress at the Frye, with a glimpse of how we're paving the road into 2025. Within, you'll find examples of the meaningful ways our talented team is reframing what it looks like to be a twenty-first-century museum. The Frye is building on its seventy-two-year legacy as Seattle's only free art museum to push the boundaries of accessibility, offer fresh perspectives, and steward our cherished collection while ensuring that more visitors see themselves reflected across our programs and the artworks on view.

In all that we do at the Frye, we seek to support and put living artists front and center. This commitment shines through in the many new initiatives launched in 2024, such as the Frye x Design poster series that invites local designers to create work inspired by the museum. The inaugural poster is designed by Jayme Yen who used typographic mapping to recreate the iconic *Frye Salon* via text. Read on to discover how Jayme is expanding this project into a 3D environment!

Our 2024 exhibitions built bridges between our region and the wider world, bringing to Seattle focused solo presentations from Sky Hopinka, Jessica Jackson Hutchins, Stephanie Syjuco, and Hayv Kahraman, as well as Mary Ann Peters, Samantha Wall, and Natalie Krick—who all call the Pacific Northwest home. We expanded an informal series of exhibitions exploring

intergenerational artistic dialogues with *Twilight Child: Antonia Kuo and Martin Wong*. And we showcase how our collection continues to grow to better tell diverse local art histories in *Recent Acquisitions*, which spotlights work that entered our collection in the last year. Acquiring artworks is a major way that institutions can support artists and the creative economy.

Read on to hear about one exciting example that is currently on view.

There are myriad ways to measure impact, and while facts and figures offer important data points (find them in our comprehensive Annual Reports, available on our website), they can fall short in capturing the personal resonance and connection building that—at our best—museums are primed to deliver. When we center artists and community, we can define impact through the power of their voices. We're thrilled to lift up a selection of these stories to share with you here.



Yours in community,
Jamilee Lacy
Executive Director

Collection Spotlight

Marita Dingus, *Sister Totem*, 2023 (right)

Working on the 7-acre farm in Auburn, Washington where she was raised, Afrocentric feminist and environmental artist Marita Dingus incorporates scrap metal, fabric, packaging, and household items into figurative sculptures of varying scale. *Sister Totem* entered the Frye's collection in January via the Local Ties initiative, reflecting an ongoing commitment to collecting work made by artists who live in or hold **deep ties to the city of Seattle**.



Artist Marita Dingus at the Salon Supper. Photo Jueqian Fang



Marita Dingus. *Sister Totem*, 2023. Ceramic and mixed media. 67 x 19 x 19 in. Museum purchase with funds provided by Lucy and Stuart Williams, 2024.005. Photo: Jueqian Fang

Salon Supper

The Frye's first-ever fundraising event was a smash hit! This summer's **delectable party-with-a-purpose** showcased the culinary creativity of James Beard-nominated Chef Grayson Corrales—founder of our very own MariPili at Café Frieda—while providing unprecedented support for new museum initiatives. We hope you'll join us for a future edition of these signature events!



Guests at Salon Supper. Photo: Jueqian Fang

Family Field Trips

The Frye has long provided meaningful interactions with art to the region's K-12 students via our Field Trip program (free for public schools!). Building on this proven model, our Learning & Engagement department now offers quarterly Family Field Trips designed to engage all ages—from grandparents to grade-schoolers and beyond—with discussions of current exhibitions and a related hands-on project. This program opens an exciting new chapter for **inclusive and intergenerational learning** at the Frye!



A student creates work inspired by *Stephanie Syjuco: After/Images*. Photo: Susan Fried

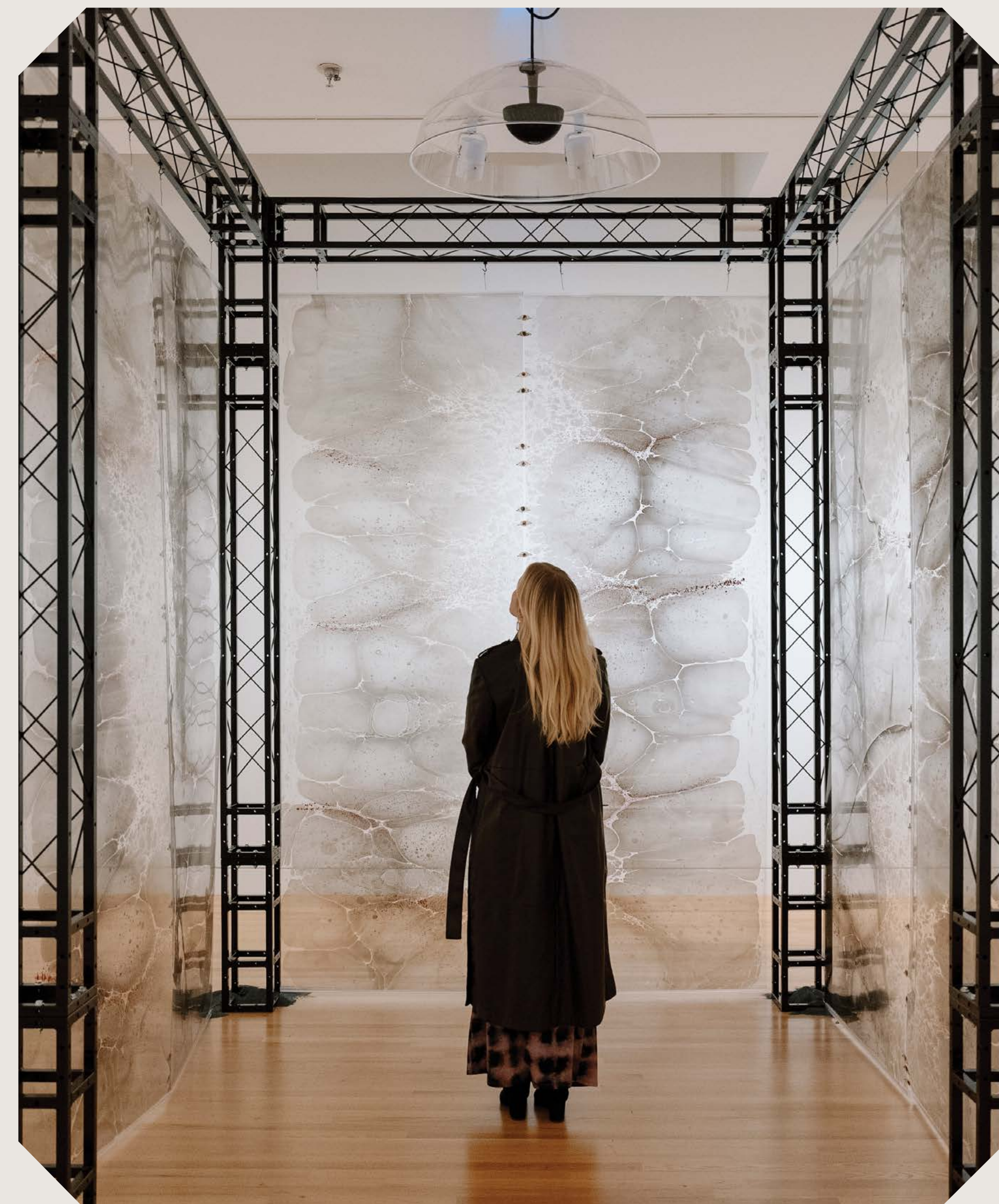
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*I can count
on the Frye for
outstanding and
unusual exhibitions
that challenge my
perspective, my
understanding of
myself and the joy
of new discovery.*

Thank you!”

– Frye Visitor

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Installation view of Hayv Kahraman: *Look Me in the Eyes*, Frye Art Museum, October 5, 2024–February 2, 2025. Photo: Jueqian Fang

In the Community

This summer, the Frye “popped up” at farmers markets across South Seattle, bringing family-friendly, hands-on art making fun to market shoppers and introducing many new friends to Seattle’s only free art museum. It was a wonderful way to **meet new communities where they live**—got an idea to bring the Frye into your community? We’d love to hear it!



Family art-making activity at the Burien Farmers Market.
Photo: Runyon Colie

Frye Nouveau

This summer, new friends and familiar faces turned out in style and record numbers to celebrate the launch of Frye Nouveau, a new member group for emerging artists, young professionals, and adventurous supporters age 21+ to **connect with kindred spirits** after hours at the museum. Sign up for Frye Nouveau today (open to members at the Aficionado level and above) and join our next quarterly event!



Frye Nouveau guests enjoy drinks in the courtyard.
Photo: Runyon Colie

“

My friend and I attended the Jessica Jackson Hutchins reception and were bowled over. The work and the presentation were wonderful, more than, but we spent time later that night unpacking how the accompanying text provoked an expansive experience. The kind we long for when reacting to art.”

– Frye Visitor



In-Gallery Performance featuring Physical Education in the Jessica Jackson Hutchins: Wrecked and Righteous exhibition. Photo: Jueqian Fang

Commission Spotlight

Tender, Sifter, Keeper, Center

The Frye strives to commission new artworks from exhibiting artists when possible, to support new directions or expanded possibilities in their practice. In summer 2024, we were honored to present the commissioned work *Tender, Sifter, Keeper, Center* (2024) from artist Stephanie Syjuco, created at the Seattle-based Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS) as part of her exhibition *After/Images*.

“As an artist who has spent years researching in American institutional archives and attempting to dismantle and critique the ways in which Filipinos, Filipino Americans, and Filipinx are presented through the lens of being colonial subjects, it was profoundly moving to encounter the labor of love that is the FANHS photo archive. At 92 years old, Dorothy Cordova—or Auntie Dorothy as she is affectionately called by her community—still tends to it in order to **ensure that current and future generations can access and understand their history** through their own images. My artwork centers the FANHS archive as a necessary antidote to the colonial archive, a site of Filipino American history intertwined with American history across generations.” —Stephanie Syjuco



Dorothy Cordova (center) and Stephanie Syjuco (right) celebrate with guests at the Summer 2024 Exhibitions Opening. Photo: Jueqian Fang

Ripple Effect

“If those of us who live here are given exhibitions at the museum level, we are given more than an opportunity. We are given respect. For me that is the bottom line.” –Mary Ann Peters

The Frye is proud to provide many local artists with their first museum exhibition. This is an important milestone in an artist’s career—but to get there, an artist may follow many different paths. This fall, we shared some of these stories in *Ripple Effect*, a special conversation series **spotlighting our region’s distinctive contemporary arts scene**, bringing together the artists who have lovingly shaped their creative community to share their interconnected histories and shed new light on their varied practices.



Artist Mary Ann Peters. Photo: Jueqian Fang

Partner Spotlight

Unpoetry

The Frye partners with diverse community organizations to create **innovative interdisciplinary experiences** that spark exciting connections to our exhibitions. In 2024, we were thrilled to partner with Unpoetry, the “performance / reading / whatever series” run by Seattle poet Eric M. Acosta, to activate the galleries with ekphrastic writing, audio, and dance performances inspired by the artworks on view, offering audiences the unique opportunity to experience various ways one can approach, think, or feel through art.



Unpoetry reading in the *Sky Hopinka: Subterranean Ceremonies* exhibition. Photo: Susan Fried

Looking Ahead: Frye Parlor

In 2025, we look forward to the opening of a new artist-designed social space, the Frye Parlor! Part lounge, part experimental installation, Frye Parlor connects the café, auditorium, and art studio with a place for visitors to connect and recharge. The project will feature custom-designed decor and furnishings, to be reimagined by a new artist every two years.

This initiative reflects an ongoing commitment to **engage living artists in shaping our museum spaces**, establishing the Frye as a dynamic and ever-evolving hub of the creative community. The inaugural Frye Parlor is being designed by Jamye Yen, using her work on the Frye x Design poster as a foundation to create a contemporary environmental interpretation of the *Frye Salon*.

(Right) *Frye x Design: Jayme Yen, 2024.*

Available for purchase at the [Frye Art Museum Store](#).

