

NEWSLETTER



Julie Middleton
President

From the President

A fall greeting to members of Museum Associates! The weather is cooling, the leaves are turning, and change is in the air. Since our last Newsletter, Marty Townsend decided to resign as MA president to recover from surgery and to simply enjoy life. The Board is grateful to the year Marty served as president and we wish her a speedy recovery and an enjoyable retirement. The MA Board of Directors elected me to fill the vacated president's position and I am happy to assume this role.

The Board resumed meeting in September after a summer break. At that meeting, a new slate of Board members was presented by the Nominating Committee to replace seats that will be vacated in November. The Board approved the following individuals to be voted in at the MA Annual Meeting: Micki Ferguson, Lee Ann Garrison, Ingrid Headley, Terri Rohlfing, Jeremy Root, Belinda Smith, and Byron Smith. We will say goodbye and thank you to the following directors who have completed their term of appointment: Tootie Burns, Carol Deakayne, and Karen John. The MA Annual Meeting will be held on **November 17th at 5:30pm**. Mark your calendar and please plan on attending. You will receive more information about the meeting in late October.

As one of five charitable organizations supported during the 2023 Tigers on the Prowl, Museum Associates has been working to prepare for the event on October 17th. We are very grateful for having been selected as one of the charities to benefit from Tigers on the Prowl. We have ninety MA members and friends attending the event with thirty-three silent auction items that we secured and one live auction item. A great big thank you to Tigers on the Prowl, the MA Board of Directors, and MA members.

If your email address changes, please be sure to notify us by emailing updated information to the organization's email address at museumassociatesinc@outlook.com. Remember when renewing your membership in Museum Associates, you can do so on our secure website using a credit card through our secure PayPal account at <https://maamuseumassociates.org/>. ■



Museum Update

First things first—construction on our new spaces is proceeding and, thankfully, picking up steam. But as anyone who has renovated an old house knows, the only thing certain about such a process is uncertainty. As soon as we have any specific timing we can share, we will. While the renovations continue, we remain busy behind the scenes planning exhibitions and programming, continuing to unpack and organize our more than 16,000 objects, and generally getting settled in our new home in Ellis Library.

Speaking of planning, the Museum's new educator, Julie Chatman, starts this month. A longtime Columbia resident, Julie brings a wealth of experience to the position, most recently as the art specialist for Columbia Public School's (CPS) Center for Gifted Education where she developed and delivered a curriculum focused on art, history, and creativity for more than 700 students each year. She also has a background in graphic design, art direction, and publication management and worked at Mizzou and Stephens College before joining CPS. Julie holds a Master of Art Education from MU and a bachelor's degree from Central Missouri State University. She also has a master's degree in gifted education. Among Julie's duties is restarting our docent program—and we can always use new docent recruits, so stay tuned on that front.

The Museum's Facebook page is back: www.facebook.com/mizzoumuseumofartandarchaeology. To help manage it and our Instagram pages, we've welcomed Molly Nash as our social media intern. Molly is a graduate student in Mizzou's Department of English program.

With our galleries closed, our programming opportunities have been very limited. For that reason, we are especially grateful to The Art of the Book Club volunteers for their dedication to that group. New this fall was their collaboration with Mizzou's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute which resulted in Book Club sessions with fifty to seventy participants, many of them new to Museum programs. Special thanks go to Christiane Quinn, Barbara Montgomery, and Valerie Hammons for making that happen.

We also remain very thankful for the support and involvement of Museum Associates members and look forward to welcoming you back to the Museum halls and galleries soon. ■

— Dan Eck, Museum Director



2023 CoMoGives Campaign

For the seventh year, Museum Associates will participate in the Community Foundation of Central Missouri's CoMoGives Campaign for mid-Missouri non-profit organizations. The annual donations Museum Associates has received have increased annually allowing the funds gifted to the Museum of Art and Archaeology to benefit their programs and more recently the renovations to the gallery space at Ellis Library.

This year Museum Associates hopes to top \$10,000 in total donations. The Campaign runs through the month of December and is an on-line ONLY fundraising campaign. As a Museum Associate member, you will receive detailed information about the Campaign in November. Please share the information with friends and relatives, encouraging them to participate in the 2023 CoMoGives Campaign. Note that donations **Do Not** go toward MA membership. Watch for more details! ■

Spotlight from the Museum's Collection

Scholars suggest that one third of the world's population lived in the Roman empire by the second century CE. Extending over three continents, the immense territory encompassed a myriad of cultures but the people who composed those cultures all identified as "Roman" citizens. We find a remarkable example of the empire's cultural intermingling in the gravestone of Levitha, a woman who was not only part of the vast Roman populace but also a Syrian. Her image clearly conveys both: the pose is meant to impart modesty, a compulsory virtue expected of Roman women, but the turban and hairstyle are markedly eastern. Moreover, though her funerary inscription is in Greek, the root in her name (*levi-*) is likely Semitic in origin. The inscription provides her name, death date (calculated on a Greek calendar), and a final note, perhaps indicating that she was suffering:

"Farewell noble Levitha, free from pain. Year 408." ■

— Benton Kidd, PhD
Curator of Antiquities



Gravestone of Levitha
Roman, 96 CE
From Syria
Limestone, traces of pigment (70.19)

Mission Statement

Museum Associates, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation founded for the purpose of helping to provide financial support to the Museum of Art and Archaeology's educational programs, publications, exhibitions, and acquisitions.



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