

# NEWSLETTER



Julie Middleton  
President

## From the President

The summer has swept by and here we are in August. I am sorry to report that Museum Associate Board of Directors lost a valued and talented Board member. Byron Smith, local artist, passed away suddenly on June 17<sup>th</sup>. The MA Board and the Columbia arts community will miss Bryon's gentle spirit.

We have been busy preparing for this fall's fundraising event, Tigers on the Prowl. Our silent auction items are numerous and exciting. I hope you will join us for this wonderful fundraiser on September 27<sup>th</sup>. Information on purchasing tickets is listed below.

On June 15<sup>th</sup> there was a gathering at the Museum to acknowledge the individuals who spearheaded raising over \$50,000 in honor of Bette Wise, former Museum Store manager. A plaque has been installed in the Museum Store acknowledging her service and dedication. Attending the gathering were long-time Museum Associates members and supporters: Bill Bondeson, Aaron Krawitz, and Vicki Wilson. Please stop in the Museum Store and see the plaque in Bette's honor.

Museum Associates Board of Directors conducted a membership drive this past spring. I am pleased to report that out of 139 letters sent to perspective members, we received a 22% positive return. The addition of these new MA members has helped our total membership increase to 226 Museum Associate members. Keep spreading the word that membership has its privileges. Museum Associates needs the community's support to continue its mission on behalf of the Museum of Art and Archaeology.

The MA Board is full steam ahead in preparing for participation in this December's CoMoGives campaign. Please watch for further information as the annual campaign runs from December 1–31, 2024, for online donations to your local non-profit organizations, including Museum Associates.

I am happy to say, "I'll see you at the Museum!" Visit the new galleries and see art you've come to cherish as well as new artwork in the Museum's collection. As always, I encourage you to stop in the Museum Store to see the broad array of items that are available.

If your email address changes, please notify us by emailing updated information to the organization's email address at [museumassociatesinc@outlook.com](mailto: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 PayPal account at <https://maamuseumassociates.org/>. ■



Left: Julie Middleton, Aaron Krawitz, Vicki Wilson, and Bill Bondeson.



## Tigers on the Prowl Event

**When:** September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Where:** Holiday Inn Executive Center

**Time:** Doors open at 5:30pm

**Tickets:** \$150/per person or

Table Sponsor with ten tickets: \$1,250

To purchase tickets (*check payments only*), please make checks payable to **Tigers on the Prowl**. In the memo line, please write **Museum Associates**. Write on a piece of paper the names of the individuals who will be using the tickets and an email address.

Mail check and list of attendees to: TOTP/Bruce Cox • 1909 Hilda St. • Columbia, MO 65201

Please purchase your tickets by **August 15<sup>th</sup>**. ■



## THE MUSEUM STORE

**Hours of Operation:**  
Tuesday–Friday: 10am to 2pm  
Saturday & Sunday: Noon to 4pm

### New Merchandise Arriving in August!

Visit the Museum Store for that special art inspired gift

Volunteers are still needed to work a minimum of a two hour shift once a week. If you're interested in volunteering, email Museum Associates at:

[museumassociatesinc@outlook.com](mailto:museumassociatesinc@outlook.com)

## Spotlight from the Museum's Collection

### Young Woman with a Sprig of Jasmine

This tightly cropped painting depicts a young woman leaning back against a chair as she languidly returns our gaze through heavy lidded eyes. Clad in a pink gown and a black lace choker that accentuates the pallor of her skin, she presents a pleasing image of lighthearted sensuality. Images such as this are not portraits of specific individuals but fanciful character studies that explore a range of emotions. Italian artist Rotari produced countless variations of these *testine* (heads) or *teste di carattere* (character heads) to meet the demand for images that could adorn the homes of the middle-class and royal patrons alike. He began to paint these idealized images in the 1752 when he was serving at the court of King Augustus III, Elector of Saxony and King of Poland. In 1755, Empress Elizabeth of Russia (reigned 1741–1762) invited him to work in St. Petersburg and appointed him court painter the following year. He stayed in Russian for the remainder of his life, producing with the help of his studio hundreds of testine, including the Museum of Art and Archaeology's painting. ■

— Rima R. Girnius, PhD  
Curator of European and American Art



Pietro Rotari (Italian, 1707–1762)  
*Young Woman with a Sprig of Jasmine*, ca. 1760  
Oil on canvas  
Gift of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation (61.82)

### 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.



520 S. 9th St., Ellis Library, Room 1  
Columbia, MO 65211  
(573) 882-6724

Website: <https://maamuseumassociates.org/>  
Email: [museumassociatesinc@outlook.com](mailto:museumassociatesinc@outlook.com)