

**Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco  
Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees**

**Tuesday, December 10, 2013**

**I. Calling of the Meeting to Order- Diane B. Wilsey, President**

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco was held on Tuesday, December 10, 2013 in the Board Room of the Legion of Honor Museum, Lincoln Park, San Francisco. A quorum was present, that being one-third of the number of Trustees in office. The meeting was called to order at 3:20 pm by Diane B. Wilsey, President.

President Wilsey presided; Mrs. Bourne acted as Secretary.

**II. Calling of the Roll**

The following Trustees were present:

Belva Davis, Vice President  
Cynthia Fry Gunn  
Kathryn Lasater  
Carl Pascarella  
Louise H. Renne  
Jeana Toney  
Diane B. Wilsey, President

On motion, duly seconded, the following Trustees were excused:

Carol N. Bonnie  
David H. S. Chung  
Juliet de Baubigny  
David Spencer  
Trevor D. Traina  
Lisa Zanze

**III. Report of the President – Diane B. Wilsey**

**A. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Minutes of the October 16, 2013 Meeting of the Board of Trustees**

There being no discussion among the Trustees or members of the public, the minutes of the October 16, 2013 meeting of the Board of Trustees, having been delivered in advance to all Trustees, were unanimously approved.

**B. Report on Request of the Director of Museums to Submit a Strategic Plan to the Board of Trustees**

President Wilsey reported that she has asked Director of Museums Colin B. Bailey to submit a Strategic Plan to the Board of Trustees. Details will be forthcoming in future meetings.

#### **IV. Report of the Director of Museums – Colin B. Bailey**

##### **A. Report on the Proposed 2013 Year-End Gift from Thomas W. Weisel and 2016 Promised Gift of works from The Thomas W. Weisel Family Foundation of a Major Collection of Native American Art, the “Thomas W. Weisel Family Collection” – Matthew H. Robb, Curator of Art of the Americas**

After a brief introduction, Mr. Bailey called upon Matthew H. Robb, Curator of Art of the Americas, to discuss details of the 2013 Year-End Gift from Thomas W. Weisel. Mr. Robb thanked Mr. Bailey and Mr. Benefield for their support of this initiative, which will transform the Museums’ collection of Native American art, and expressed gratitude to Mr. Weisel for making this gift possible. Mr. Robb explained that these 185 objects provide a nucleus of material from the U.S. Southwest. In turn, the Weisel Collection links the Native American collections with its nuclei of material from the Arctic Circle through California with the Museums’ basket collection, as well as the more formal and iconographic connections with the Maya material.

Mr. Robb pointed to life-size images of Mimbres pottery from ancient New Mexico area, which represents a florescence of painted ceramics, among only three from the New World, along with the Maya and the Moche of northern Peru. Some examples from the Weisel collection are truly breathtaking, including figural and abstract designs and, upon closer examination, individual hands and masters have been identified. One of the threads connecting the different aspects of the collection is the interest in looking at examples of exceptional quality or uniqueness that suggest an individual painter or weaver. Even in the examples of historic pottery this kind of attention to detail is seen. This is especially true of the textiles as well. Mr. Robb concluded by emphasizing how the Weisel monetary endowment will support technical research and curatorial work and will enable the curatorial department to work in-depth with this collection as a whole.

##### **B. Proposed Resolution Regarding the Display of Native American Art at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, including Works from the Thomas W. Weisel Family Collection of Native American Art**

Mr. Bailey proposed the following resolution regarding the Weisel gift:

WHEREAS, The Thomas W. Weisel Family Collection is an extraordinary collection of Native American Art, spanning a thousand years of artistic production from 11th century Mimbres ceramics to 20th century works by recognized artists such as Nampeyo, with additional masterworks of Navajo weaving; and

WHEREAS, Both Thomas W. Weisel and the Thomas W. Weisel Family Art Foundation have generously offered to donate important works from the Thomas W. Weisel Family Collection to the Fine Arts Museums Foundation under the terms and conditions of a November 27, 2013 Gift Agreement and Pledge Agreement, respectively (the “Gift Agreements”); and

WHEREAS, The Thomas W. Weisel Family Collection would significantly enhance the exhibition and study of Native American art at the Fine Arts Museums, and provide a core of objects with which to create an entirely new presentation of the Art of the Americas; and

WHEREAS, The Gift Agreements provide that “[i]t is the [Donor’s] wish and the [Fine Arts Museums Foundation (the “Museum”)] agrees that ... the Museum will designate 50-75% of the square footage of Gallery 4 (The Paul A Violich Family Gallery) or of a similarly

sized gallery (the “Gallery Area”) to display Native American Art objects and material and that a prominent and significant portion of the featured Native American material” will be from the Thomas W. Weisel Family Collection (the “Gallery Area and Display Requirement”); and

WHEREAS, Under the Gift Agreements, the “Museum may rotate and relocate the Works where the Museum finds that such rotation or relocation is necessary to care for and conserve the Works, or where the Museum determines, in consultation with the Donor, that modifications to the display size, location, design, or configuration would better enable the Museum to serve the Gift Purpose [under the Agreement]”; and

WHEREAS, The Fine Arts Museums Foundation is a nonprofit charitable organization whose primary purpose is to support the operations of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco is a charitable trust department of the City and County of San Francisco under Article V of the San Francisco Charter and has exclusive jurisdiction over its assets, including all space allocation in the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Fine Arts Museums, through the Curator of the Arts of the Americas and the Curator of the Caroline and H. McCoy Jones Department of Textile Arts, would help ensure that the Weisel Family Art Collection works receive the highest industry standards of care, study and appropriate exhibition, according to prevailing museum standards; and

WHEREAS, The Gift Agreements are subject to any required approvals from the Fine Arts Museums Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the Fine Arts Museums Board of Trustees wishes to facilitate these important gifts of Native American Art and to help promote the public enjoyment, appreciation, knowledge and understanding of Native American Art and culture at the Fine Arts Museums, including the Thomas W. Weisel Family Collection; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby (1) accepts the Gallery and Display Commitment under the Thomas W. Weisel and the Weisel Family Art Foundation Gift Agreements, including any corresponding terms and conditions under the Fine Arts Museums’ jurisdiction as well as any assignment by the Fine Arts Museums Foundation of its rights and obligations under the Gift Agreements and (2) authorizes the Director of Museums, in consultation with the City Attorney, to finalize and execute the Gift Agreements and any related attachments, amendments, or other documentation required to facilitate or administer these gifts.

There was no discussion among Trustees. There was no public comment. Upon motion, duly seconded, the Executive Committee voted unanimously to adopt the above resolution as **Board Resolution 1772**.

#### **V. Public Comment**

There was no public comment on any matters during the course of this meeting.

## VI. Meeting Schedule, Future Events and Current and Future Exhibitions

President Wilsey reviewed the following schedule of meetings, events and exhibitions as of December 10, 2013:

### A. 2014 Board of Trustees Meetings

Date	Time	Location
Thursday, January 23, 2014	3 p.m.	Piazzoni Murals Room, de Young
Thursday, April 3, 2014	3 p.m.	Board Room, Legion of Honor
Thursday, June 5, 2014	3 p.m.	Piazzoni Murals Room, de Young
Thursday, October 16, 2014	3 p.m.	Board Room, Legion of Honor

### B. 2014 Executive Committee Meetings

(Will be held if there is business to conduct between full Board meetings)

Date	Time	Location
Wednesday, March 5, 2014	3 p.m.	Board Room, Legion of Honor
Thursday, September 18, 2014	3 p.m.	Piazzoni Murals Room, de Young
Tuesday, December 9, 2014	3 p.m.	Board Room, Legion of Honor

### C. Special Events

Date and Location	Event
de Young (dY) Legion of Honor (LH)	
Wednesday, December 11 (LH)	Elegant Evening in the Court of Honor
Friday, January 10 (dY)	De Youngsters Family Gala: A Bigger Family Party
Thursday, February 6	Tribal and Textile Arts Gala, Fort Mason
Wednesday, February 12 (dY)	Donor Opening Reception <i>Modern Nature: Georgia O'Keeffe</i>
Friday, February 14 (dY)	Member Opening Reception <i>Modern Nature: Georgia O'Keeffe</i>
Saturday, March 8 (dY)	Junior Committee Mid Winter Gala
Monday – Sunday, March 17 – 23 (dY)	Bouquets to Art (March 17 Gala)
Wednesday, March 26 (LH)	Private Black Tie Dinner <i>Intimate Impressionism</i>
Thursday, March 27 (LH)	Donor Opening Reception <i>Intimate Impressionism</i>
Friday, March 28 (LH)	Member Opening Reception <i>Intimate Impressionism</i>

### D. Current and Future Exhibitions<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Dates of future exhibitions are subject to change  
\*Exhibitions organized by FAMSF  
**Bold** indicates Major Exhibitions

**Legion of Honor — Special Exhibitions**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>Close</b>
• <i>Darren Waterston: A Compendium of Creatures*</i>	3/30/13	12/29/13
• <i>Triumph of the Seven Virtues Series Tapestries*</i>	8/31/13	5/11/14
• <b><i>Anders Zorn: Sweden's Master Painter*</i></b>	11/9/13	2/2/14
• <i>Matisse from SFMOMA*</i>	11/9/13	9/7/14
• <i>Matisse Books*</i>	1/4/14	10/12/14
• <b><i>Intimate Impressionism: French Paintings from the National Gallery of Art</i></b>	3/29/14	8/3/14

**de Young Museum — Special Exhibitions**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>Close</b>
• <i>Modeled Bodies*</i>	7/13/13	2/9/14
• <b><i>The Art of BVLGARI: La Dolce Vita and Beyond, 1950-1990 *</i></b>	9/21/13	2/17/14
• <b><i>David Hockney: A Bigger Exhibition*</i></b>	10/26/13	1/20/14
• <i>The Bay Bridge: A Work in Progress, 1933-1936*</i>	2/1/14	6/8/14
• <b><i>Modern Nature: Georgia O'Keefe and Lake George</i></b>	2/15/14	5/11/14
• <i>"A book like hundred flower garden": Walasse Ting's 1¢ Life*</i>	2/15/14	9/14/14
• <i>Navajo Project*</i>	5/3/14	1/4/15
• <b><i>Robert and Jane Meyerhoff Collection from the National Gallery of Art</i></b>	6/7/14	10/12/14

**VII. Adjournment in Memory of Trustee Monica Maduro – Diane B. Wilsey, President**

President Wilsey adjourned the meeting at 3:33 pm in memory of Trustee Monica Maduro.