



# mmca

Museum of Contemporary Art Tucson

# MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART TUCSON ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Installation image, Grace Rosario Perkins: *The Relevance of Your Data*, MOCA Tucson, 2022. Photograph by Julius Schlosburg, copyright © jpop photon, 2022.

## MISSION

MOCA Tucson inspires new ways of thinking through the cultivation, exhibition, and interpretation of contemporary art.

## VISION

MOCA Tucson is the pre-eminent, artist-centered contemporary art institution in the Southwest. We believe that art has the power to change the world. We cultivate critical dialogue between artists and audiences about today's world; support artists through the production and presentation of new, experimental work; and educate the artist and audiences of tomorrow.







# LETTER FROM BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

**2022 was an incredible year for MOCA Tucson** and I am thrilled to announce that the year culminated with the **appointment of new executive leadership**. Following a rigorous, year-long search process—conducted with a mind to position MOCA for future growth and vital partnerships with the local community—we have named **Julio César Morales** as Executive Director & Co-Chief Curator and **Laura Copelin** as Deputy Director & Co-Chief Curator. Special thanks to the dedicated search committee, chaired by David Taylor, composed of M. Jenea Sanchez, Danny Vinik, gloria j. wilson, and myself—we are so grateful for the energy and investment of this committee and for the wonderful outcome.

**Julio's** vision and experience—demonstrated by his work as a curator, artist and cultural leader—brings so much vitality to MOCA, and will help us continue to serve artists and audiences. His understanding of the art world in Arizona and internationally adds a new, deeply relevant perspective to the museum. Alongside **Laura**—who continues to build momentum, stability, and increase resources for artists at MOCA—**their collective vision for shared leadership and the museum's future opens an exciting new chapter for MOCA.**

Reaching this point would not have been possible without your continued support. Over this past year, MOCA directly supported over **130 artists** through exhibitions, residencies, programs, and funding opportunities; our education programs served **5,500 youth, 80 Title I schools** across 8 districts, and continued to reach underserved groups, including LGBTQIA+ youth and seniors; and we brought thought-provoking programs to over **3,000** adults through artist talks, performances, and public programs.

The year also saw increased support by local and national granting agencies and foundations. We continued to have worthy projects funded by the **National Endowment for the Arts**, the Bruce & Diane **Halle Foundation**, and **Arizona Humanities**; and were selected by The **Andy Warhol Foundation** for the Visual Arts to continue to serve as a regranting partner to distribute funds to artists across Tucson, allowing MOCA to continue to **enhance our local creative ecology.**

**Looking ahead**, MOCA Tucson is stronger and bolder than ever, ready to imagine and manifest a museum of the future by **nurturing communities** and **centering artists**. The new year brings site-specific exhibitions by internationally-recognized artists, including Raven Chacon, Na Mira, Keioui Keijuan Thomas, and Cecilia Vicuña, as well as reimagined programming to reach expanded audiences. We look forward to having you with us over the next year as we begin **a new chapter.**



With excitement and gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KDW', written over a light-colored background.

Kira Dixon-Weinstein  
Board President

## 2022 EXHIBITIONS

Over the past year MOCA commissioned new work from nearly 25 artists, with major exhibitions by Grace Rosario Perkins, a self-taught painter who filled MOCA's Great Hall with monumental paintings and invited long-time collaborators to present work alongside her, and by Lynn Xu, a poet and performer whose exhibition gave Xu's poems three-dimensional space. These two projects were the first museum presentations of both Perkins' and Xu's work. MOCA also presented in its East Wing a solo exhibition by Kenneth Tam and a group exhibition titled *Plein Air* that explored shifting ideas of western landscapes, painting, and fieldwork. In line with MOCA's mission, many of these artists were invited to be in residence in Tucson, to live and work and be connected with people, organizations, and places that infuse their practice with new insights and inform their work for years to come.

### 2022 Exhibitions

#### ***were--Nenetch Forms***

**October 8, 2020 - March 13, 2021**

\*MOCA-commissioned stained glass work by Timo Fahler was acquired by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art in 2022

#### ***Mujeres Nourishing Fronterizx Bodies: Resistance in the Time of COVID-19***

**October 8, 2021 - May 1, 2022**

\*MOCA helped to support new works and programs that will see this exhibition presented at the Museo de Arte de Ciudad Juárez in 2023

#### ***Grace Rosario Perkins: The Relevance of Your Data***

**April 2 - October 16, 2022**

\*Perkins had one of her paintings acquired by the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art this past year, and is working on her first major book project and several exhibitions across the country

#### ***Kenneth Tam: Silent Spikes***

**May 14, 2022 - March 12, 2023**

\*Tam was profiled extensively by the New York Times for this body of work

#### ***Plein Air***

**May 14, 2022 - March 12, 2023**

\*This exhibition, which curator Aurora Tang conceived for MOCA, will travel to the Armory Center for the Arts in Pasadena in June 2023

#### ***Lynn Xu: And Those Ashen Heaps That Cantilevered Vase of Moonlight***

**November 4, 2022 - January 8, 2023**

\*Xu and curator Laura Copelin were featured in conversation about the exhibition in prominent translation publication Asymptote Journal



# ENGAGEMENT

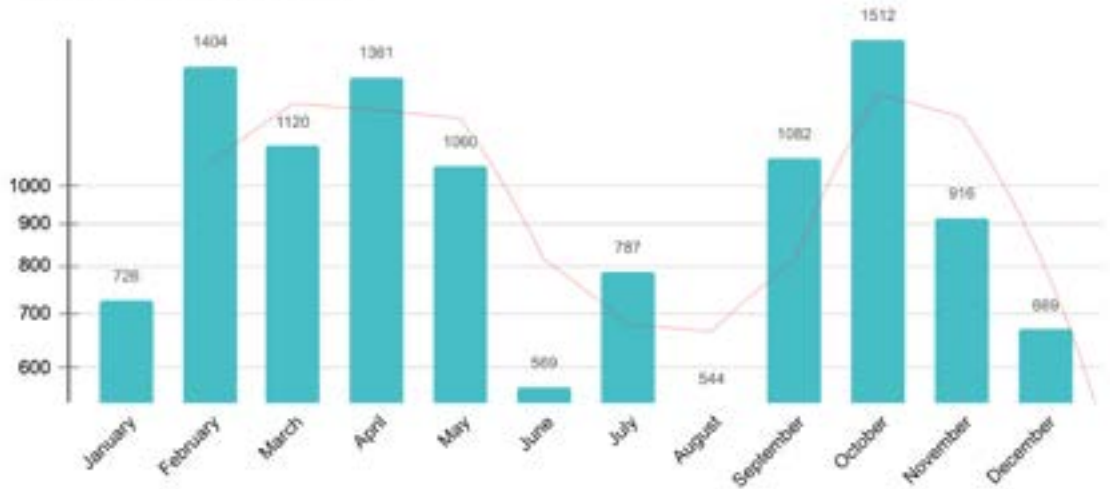
## Total Annual In-Person Engagement: 12,815

Museum Visitors  
3,396

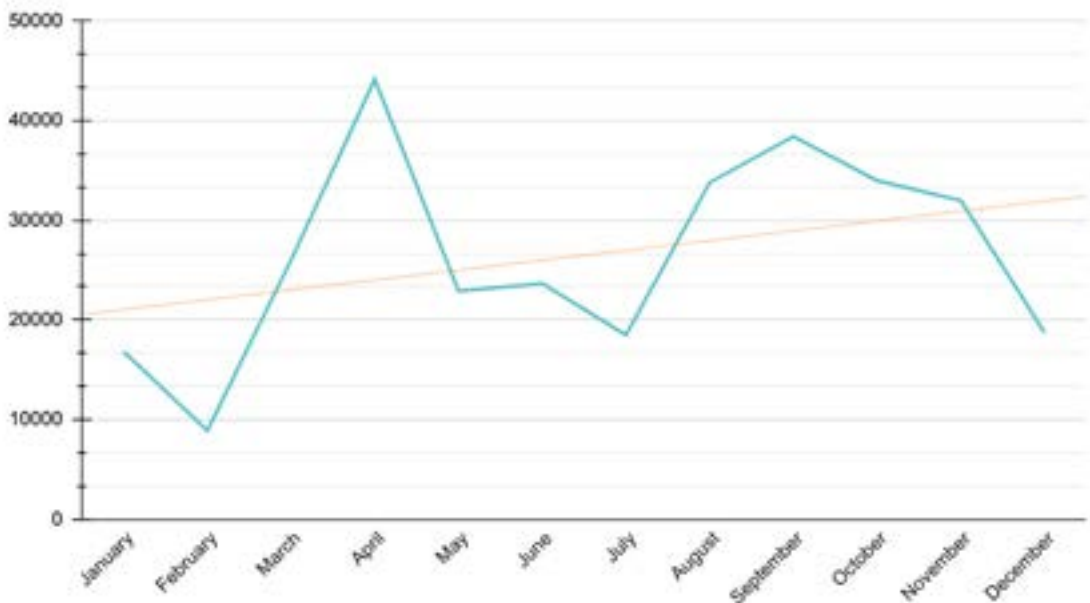
Event Participants  
3,919

Education Participants  
5,500

### Combined Total Engagement:



## Total Annual Social Engagement: 32,754



The above graph reflects combined annual social media engagement on Instagram and Facebook platforms. This total represents a 35% increase in engagement in 2022 and with a 15% increase in followers.



# COVERAGE & COLLABORATIONS

## PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

*Asymptote, Lynn Xu And Those Ashen Heaps That Cantilevered Vase of Moonlight*

*BOMB, Between Voice and Image: Lynn Xu Interviewed by Tim Johnson*

*Artforum, MOCA Tucson Reveals New Leadership*

*Hyperallergic, Plein Air Is a Sobering Reminder of Human Impact on the Environment*

*Southwest Contemporary, Curator Profile: Laura Copelin's Creative Placemaking at MOCA Tucson*

*Hyperallergic, Artists Reflect on the Harms of Data Collection*

## COLLABORATIONS

The museum expanded reach within the community through public program and education partnerships with local organizations and businesses including:

- Antigone Books
- Arizona State University National Sustainability Teachers' Academies
- BICAS (Bicycle Inter-Community Art and Salvage)
- Bookmans Entertainment Exchange
- Children's Museum Tucson
- CREAM Design and Print
- Exo Roast Company
- Fluxx Productions
- Galeria Mitotera
- I Am You 360
- KXCI Community Radio
- Mission Garden
- Native Seeds/SEARCH
- Pearly Baker Fermentables
- Pima Community College
- Pima County Public Library
- SAGA (Southern Arizona Gender Alliance)
- Sonoran Center for Excellence in Disabilities (ArtWorks)
- Southern Arizona Senior Pride
- The Drawing Studio
- The Downtown Clifton
- The Mini Time Machine Museum of Miniatures
- The University of Arizona Poetry Center
- The University of Arizona College of Architecture, Planning, & Landscape Architecture
- The University of Arizona Department of Public & Applied Humanities
- The University of Arizona Department of Student Engagement & Career Development
- The University of Arizona School Garden Workshop
- The University of Arizona School of Art
- The University of Arizona Southwest Institute for Research on Women (The Lighthouse Project)
- Tohono O'odham Community College
- United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona
- Zia Records

## EDUCATION & PROGRAMS

MOCA's 2022 season featured community-oriented initiatives for all ages, as well as new programs and renewed collaborations. The museum continued to offer its signature programs, including Stay Gold; School of Drag; Young Fauves; and MOCA Satellite, which offered instruction in Spanish for the first time this year. New initiatives included MOCA in the Community, bringing learning out of the museum and into spaces community members already frequent, such as Bookmans Entertainment Exchange; Drag Queen Story Hour, featuring Lil Miss Hot Mess; and Mini MOCA, a series of tiny, free galleries installed throughout Tucson. MOCA produced and presented over 30 public programs in 2022, ranging from artist-led workshops, book launches for local authors, poetry readings, music concerts, screenings, performances, conversations, and more. Overall the museum saw increased engagement, reaching nearly 13,000 individuals and especially through the Free Third Thursday program, which averaged 250 attendees per month.



Raquel Gutierrez reads from *Brown Neon* at MOCA Tucson. Photography by Julius Schlosburg, copyright © jpop photon, 2022.

## NIGHT BLOOM: GRANTS FOR ARTISTS

### 2022 AWARDEE HIGHLIGHTS

#### **BorderLens SW Collective**

BorderLens SW, a women's photography collective, were able to spend a year in development. They grew membership to over 30 people, facilitated a 2-day workshop, and held monthly meetings. The collective also realized a group exhibition collaborating with sister collectives in Mexico.

#### **Southwest Black Arts Network**

Lead artists Alanna Airitam, Elizabeth Burden, and Elizabeth Denneau created a network of Black artists, curators, and arts professionals in the Southwest focusing on Black female and non-binary contemporary artists. The Night Bloom funds provided "*a foundation on which to build a stable, supportive, and professional community of working professional Black artists*" that the group is continuing to grow through the recruitment of new members, and organizing retreats, exhibitions, and public programs.

#### **Chinese Chorizo Project: Feng-Feng Yeh**

The artist initiated the first annual Tucson Chinese Chorizo Festival, created "*to educate and excite our community about the story surrounding the Chinese chorizo.*" The project engaged culinary community leaders such as Maria Mazon, Jackie Tran, and Forbes Meat Company, and over twenty restaurants in Tucson participated, offering multiple opportunities to try exclusive collaborative dishes and learn about the cultural history of the Chinese Chorizo while each business benefitted from new customers, press, and revenue.



## GALA 2022

MOCA's 2022 Gala, held on April 23rd, raised more than \$200,000 and welcomed nearly 350 attendees, who joined to celebrate the accomplishments of architect Rick Joy and lighting and interior designer Claudia Kappl Joy, two Tucson-based, globally-recognized innovators. The Gala featured the museum's largest auction to date and was sponsored by companies and individuals from across Tucson, including the Gadsden Company, HSL Properties, Courtney Johnson, Aridus Wine Company, Brink Media, Cloth & Flame, Gruet Winery, The Rialto Theatre Foundation, San Luis Valley Brewing Company, Tucson Lifestyle Magazine, and Whiskey Del Bac/Hamilton Distillers.



2022 Gala awardee ceremony honoring Rick Joy and Claudia Kappl Joy, MOCA Tucson, 2022.



# FALL FUNDRAISERS

MOCA's fall season included a membership drive and series of fundraising events, bringing together diverse audiences to support the museum's mission. The season began with a 25th anniversary celebration and Spaghetti Club takeover that transformed the museum into an immersive, multi-floor dance club, with food by LOCALE, specialty cocktails by Suncliff Gin, and photos by All Frills Pop-Up Photo Boutique. The museum also hosted a concert featuring Jonathan Richman and Tommmy Lakrins and held VIP dinners in honor of some of MOCA's longest-serving trustees, including John Burcher, Randi Dorman, Courtney Johnson, Terri Kessler, and Joanne Stuhr.



**moca**  
25TH ANNIVERSARY

AN IMMERSIVE  
MULTI-FLOOR DANCE CLUB

SATURDAY  
DECEMBER 3RD, 2022  
8PM

\$25 ADV / \$30 DOOR  
FEATURING TUCSON DJ'S

SPAGHETTI  
CLUB  
MOCA  
TAKEOVER

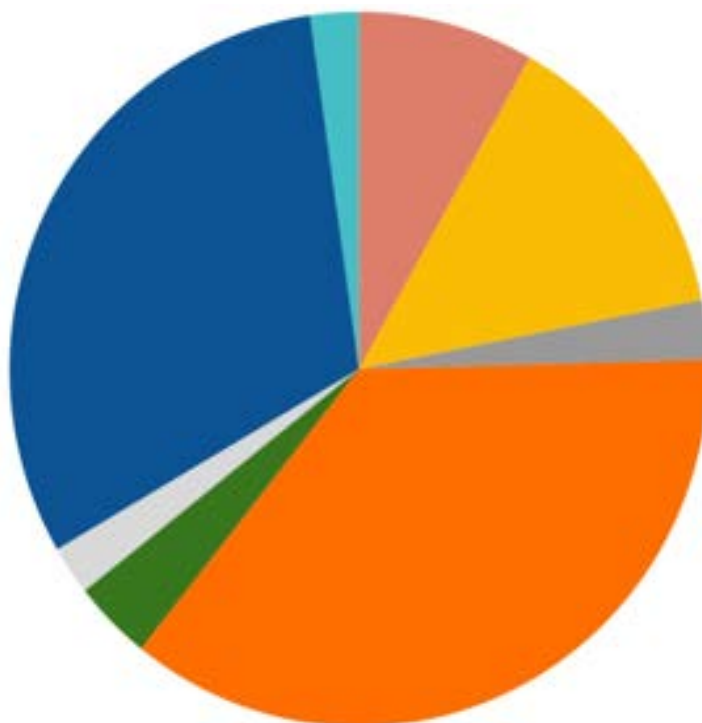
The Venue by    

## FY22 FINANCES

In FY22 MOCA grew its capacity significantly, sustaining a more robust professional staff, ramping up exhibitions and programs, facilitating the Warhol regranting program, and fundraising more effectively than ever, despite not having an Executive Director in place for the majority of the year. The museum hosted the most successful gala and auction to date and was bolstered by several other special fundraising events spearheaded by trustees and facilitated by staff, including the return of MOCA's Fall Fundraiser, the first since pandemic closures. Private foundations and government grants expanded, and along with generous individual gifts and a successful membership drive, contributed to the ability to support an expanded budget. Despite the lack of COVID relief, MOCA made great strides this past year, evident in the progress from FY21 income/expense to the numbers for FY22. Board members, committees, and staff carefully monitored and modulated expenses according to funds raised, resulting in a stronger and more responsive budget that increased MOCA's ability to serve artists and audiences.

	2020	2021	2022
REVENUE	\$794,686	\$761,339	\$817,419
EXPENSE	\$581,311	\$803,832	\$821,848
NET	\$213,375	-\$42,493	-\$4,429

## 2021 REVENUE



## FOUNDATION SUPPORT

In 2022, MOCA earned resounding support from local and national foundations and granting agencies, receiving more than \$300,000 from existing and new supporters. Major support for MOCA's exhibitions and programs continued to be provided by the National Endowment for the Arts and The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, who also funded the museum's regranting initiative, Night Bloom, which directly funded ten artists or collectives for community-oriented and experimental art projects. Alongside MOCA's exhibitions, the museum's educational initiatives were supported in large part by the Windgate Foundation and E.A. Michelson Philanthropies, who funded the museum's intergenerational programming, including Stay Gold and School of Drag.

■ Board Giving	\$66,837
■ Individual Gifts	\$113,047
■ Corporate Gifts	\$22,000
■ Private Foundation & Government Grants	\$296,768
■ Admissions & MOCA Shop	\$29,926
■ Membership	\$18,319
■ Special Events & Fundraising	\$255,975
■ Rentals & Fee-for-Service Programs	\$18,475

# 2022 MAJOR GIFTS

## **\$50,000+**

Fletcher & Liz McCusker  
The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts

## **\$25,000+**

E. Courtney Johnson  
Kasser Family  
E.A. Michelson Philanthropy  
National Endowment for the Arts  
Windgate Foundation

## **\$10,000+**

Dennis & Tauna Arnold  
Elizabeth Cherry & Olivier Mosset  
Terri Kessler & Lisa Lovallo  
Amy Zuckerman  
Mel & Enid Zuckerman  
Arizona Commission on the Arts  
Gadsden Company  
HSL Properties  
VIA Art Fund & Wagner Foundation

## **\$5,000+**

Anonymous  
Kira Dixon-Weinstein & Adam Weinstein  
Samuel Ireland  
Lauren & Will Pew  
Evie Stefenson-Marquart & Edward Marquart  
Arizona Humanities  
Desert Diamond Casinos & Entertainment  
The University of Arizona Foundation  
University of Arizona Institute for LGBT Studies  
Vantage West Credit Union

## **\$2,500+**

Carolyn Bass  
Michael Bradford  
Anthony J. Canchola  
Gerald & Marjorie Dixon  
Laurie & Rob Glaser  
Pablo Kyriakis  
Jeanette Segel  
Connie Hillman Family Foundation

## **\$1,000+**

Anonymous  
Annamaria & Giuseppe Biagini  
Karen Christensen & Kenneth Kay  
Monika Dorman  
Randi Dorman  
Pam Grissom  
John Hudak  
Paul Ivey  
Bettie Johnson  
Angela Kapp  
Diane Kerrihard  
Raman & Silvia Mahabir  
Justin Martinez  
Max McCauslin  
Delos McKnight  
Beatriz & Luis Soto Carrillo  
Daphne Srinivasan  
Charles G. Stone II  
Joanne Stuhr  
David Taylor  
James Tharp & James Lindheim  
Danny Vinik & MaryAnn Brazil  
Mark Wystrach & Ty Haney  
ARTEZONA, Inc.  
Blum & Poe Los Angeles/New York/Tokyo  
James H. & Frances R. Allen Family Foundation  
Opatrny Family Foundation  
United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona  
Winkelman Family Charitable Fund



# AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kira Dixon-Weinstein, President  
Danny Vinik, Vice President  
Luis Soto, Secretary  
Justin Martinez, Treasurer  
Anthony J. Canchola  
Courtney Johnson  
Pablo Kyriakis  
Lauren Pew  
Evie Stefenson-Marquart  
Daphne Srinivasan  
David Taylor

Randi Dorman, Emeritus  
Terri Kessler, Emeritus  
Joanne Stuhr, Emeritus

## AMBASSADOR COUNCIL

Annamaria Biagini  
Eli Burke  
Andrés Cano  
Karen Christensen  
Patricia Gillette  
David Hausman  
Logan Havens  
Hope Hennessey  
Liz Hernandez  
Claudia Kappl Joy  
Rick Joy  
Angela Kapp  
Terri Kessler  
Lisa Lovallo  
Edward Marquart  
Mary Okoye  
Jane Poynter  
Anne Ranek  
Wylwyn Reyes  
Stacey Richter  
Judith Sensibar  
Jeff Winkelman  
Kerry Winkelman  
Amy Zuckerman

Elizabeth Cherry, Emeritus  
John Hudak, Emeritus  
Olivier Mosset, Emeritus

## MOCA TUCSON STAFF

Kevin Burns, Development Manager  
Laura Copelin, Deputy Director & Co-Chief Curator  
Carrie Hess, Finance Director  
Audrey Molloy, Communications & Development Associate  
Julio César Morales, Executive Director & Co-Chief Curator  
Harrison Orr, Education Manager  
Josh Anthony Torres, Visitor Engagement Assistant  
Dominic Valencia, Exhibition Manager & Registrar  
Vikó Velázquez, Facilities Assistant  
Alexis Wilkinson, Assistant Curator

## MOCA TUCSON TEACHING ARTISTS

Margo Alves, Minor Mutiny Teen Leadership Program and MOCA Summer Camp  
Alexis Campos, MOCA Satellite  
Dante Celeiro, School of Drag  
Lex Gjurasic, Stay Gold, MOCA Summer Camp and MOCA in the Community  
Makenna Lockwood, MOCA Satellite, MOCA Summer Camp and MOCA in the Community  
Frank Heightchew-Howard, School of Drag and Stay Gold Summer Camp  
Devan Marín, MOCA Satellite  
Deborah Ruiz, Young Fauves  
Alyxandra Vigil-Emerson, Stay Gold  
Sydney Yount, Young Fauves

**MOCA TUCSON 265 S. CHURCH AVENUE TUCSON, AZ 85701  
520.624.5019 WWW.MOCA-TUCSON.ORG**



Grace Rosario Perkins, *The Stereos- I Really Love You.MP3 (detail)*, 2022, *The Relevance of Your Data*, MOCA Tucson, 2022. Photograph by Julius Schlosburg.