

2024 **GRATITUDE REPORT**



Eiteljorg
Museum



Preston Singletary (Tlingit, b. 1963)
X'ëigaa Káa (Warrior), 2017
Blown and sand carved glass
Courtesy of the artist and Museum of
Glass in Tacoma, Washington

YOUR IMPACT:

MAKING A DIFFERENCE AT THE MUSEUM THROUGH
ART, PROGRAMS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Thanks to supporters such as you, the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art in 2024 presented stellar art exhibitions and compelling public programs that inspired visitors to think anew about Native and Western arts, cultures and histories. Through your planned gifts to the Eiteljorg and its endowment, your corporate sponsorships, grant support, memberships, and donations of art, finances, time and effort, the Eiteljorg had a significant effect on the community. In gratitude to you, we present this report showing how your support made an impact during the year.

Peter MacDonald Sr., (Diné [Navajo]), one of the last surviving Navajo Code Talkers, spoke about his World War II experiences during opening day of *Why We Serve: Native Americans in the United States Armed Forces* at the Eiteljorg. The Smithsonian Institution National Museum of the American Indian organized the traveling exhibition.

 Smithsonian

 Lilly Endowment Inc.
A private foundation since 1937

 AMERICAN
LEGION

 HAGERMAN

Indigenous Arts and Cultures

YEAR IN REVIEW: MEANINGFUL EXHIBITIONS INSPIRE AUDIENCES



Preston Singletary: *Raven and the Box of Daylight* exhibition

The difference you make:

Your financial support allows the Eiteljorg to host major traveling museum exhibitions, such as *Preston Singletary: Raven and the Box of Daylight*, to hold *Quest for the West*[®], and to organize fascinating exhibits from its own collections. Your gift funds the curatorial research, loan fees, shipping, insurance, conservation and other costs involved in presenting exhibitions.



Jingle dresses loaned by the Native American Women Warriors were on view during *Why We Serve: Native Americans in the United States Armed Forces*.



At the 19th annual *Quest for the West*[®] Art Show and Sale in 2024, artist Dean Mitchell, left, spoke with *Quest* volunteer Eileen Savoldi, right.



The Fifth Third Bank Jingle Rails: *The Great Western Adventure* is the Eiteljorg's annual holiday model railroad. Image courtesy of Michael Durr



Attitudes: The West in American Art
Image courtesy of Rob Bayanote Photography

Art of the West

FRANK TENNEY BENDISCH (American, 1866-1948)
On the Colorado Ranch, 1918
Oil on canvas
Housed in the Eiteljorg's permanent collection

On the Colorado Ranch, 1918 is a painting by Frank Tenney Bendisch, an American artist who lived and worked in the West. The painting depicts a cowboy on a white horse, looking down at a small object in his hand. The background shows a rocky, mountainous landscape under a blue sky. The painting is housed in the Eiteljorg's permanent collection.



YEAR IN REVIEW: PUBLIC PROGRAMS FOR THE COMMUNITY

The difference you make:

Through your gifts to the Eiteljorg, sponsorships and other support, the museum's Education and Public Programs staff carried out meaningful public events that made lasting memories in 2024, including Juneteenth and Jazz, Indian Market & Festival, Indigenous Peoples Day, Día de Muertos, and artist-in-residence workshops.



ARTE
MEXICANO
EN INDIANA

MARIAN UNIVERSITY
— Indiana's Latin American Leadership Initiative —

REGIONS BANK

citizens
energy group

INDIANA
CORN

Models dressed as Catrinas held a procession at the Eiteljorg's Día de Muertos Community Celebration, jointly organized with Arte Mexicano en Indiana.



Patrice Stokes presented her poetry at the 2024 Juneteenth and Jazz Community Celebration.

On April 8, 2024, more than 30,000 people gathered across White River State Park — including on the Eiteljorg front lawn — to observe the rare total solar eclipse. Eiteljorg weekend programming celebrated the celestial event.



The Git-Hoan Dancers shared their Tsimshian culture of southern Alaska during the free Indigenous Peoples Day Community Celebration.

YEAR IN REVIEW: ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY AND BUILDING NEW AUDIENCES

Strategic Plan Priority:

With your support, the Eiteljorg ramped up its community engagement efforts in 2024. Leaders and staff met with local organizations to forge new partnerships and build good relationships with the public. Seeking input from community members and welcoming groups to the museum is a component of one of the Eiteljorg's strategic plan goals: strengthening authentic partnerships and collaborations.



Art Heals: The Jingle Dress Project
2024 Indian Market & Festival



RAYMOND JAMES



Carol Saviano, left, and Sandra Castillo, right, volunteered in the Museum Store tent during the 2024 Indian Market & Festival.



SUSTAINABILITY: On Feb. 27, 2024, AES Indiana presented a \$72,210 financial incentive check for the Eiteljorg's energy efficiency savings achieved through participating in a retro-commissioning study with HEAPY Engineering. Details: tinyurl.com/3ernxk3y



At a celebration Feb. 29, 2024, photographer Ivan McClellan unveiled three of his photographs of the Black rodeo that were added to the Eiteljorg's collections.



A traveling exhibition of The New York Historical Society, *Acts of Faith: Religion and the American West* was on view April 19-Aug. 4, 2024 at the Eiteljorg. Left to right: Eiteljorg President and CEO Kathryn Haigh; architect K.P. Singh, one of the exhibition's community advisors; guest curator Jessica Nelson, Ph.D.; and Eiteljorg Vice President of Administration and Chief Financial Officer Sunny Reed.



YOUR SUPPORT: FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY

Thanks to your generous support in 2024, the Eiteljorg was able to impact the community in dynamic ways. Here are key impact metrics:

**TOTAL 2024
OPERATING REVENUE**
\$7,727,702

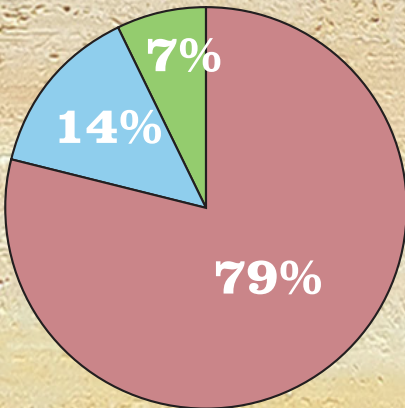
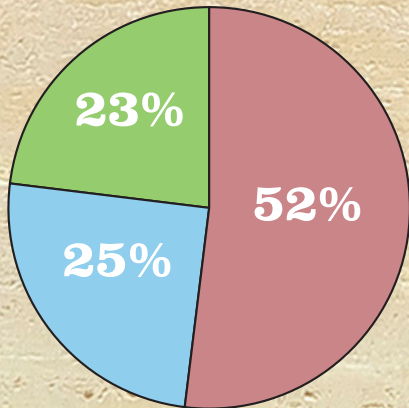
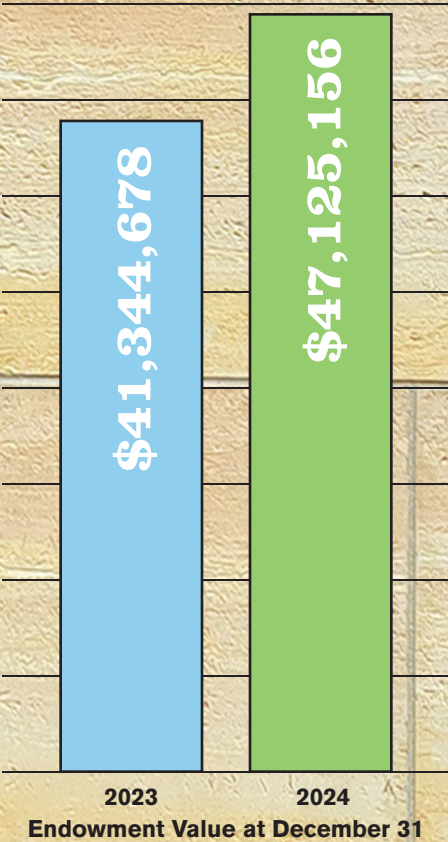
**TOTAL 2024
OPERATING EXPENSES**
\$7,967,699

**ANNUAL ENDOWMENT
GROWTH**
Our endowment increased
\$5.78M
from 2023 to 2024

-  **Contributions:**
Support from individuals, foundations, and corporations
-  **Visitorship and Community Engagement:**
Admissions, membership, programs and activities revenue, Museum Store sales, and venue rentals fees
-  **Endowment Support:**
General Operating Support from Endowment

In 2024, 79% of our total expenses directly supported our mission

-  **Programs, Exhibitions and Initiatives**
-  **Management and General**
-  **Fundraising**



MEMBERSHIPS

Number of members on active status:

3,434*

in 2024

*An increase of 169 over the previous year's membership.

Eagle Society-level members:

142

in 2024

VOLUNTEERS

Number of Eiteljorg Volunteers, 2024:

264

Total hours volunteers donated, 2024:

5,689

Firefly the Hybrid of the Penobscot Nation, also known as Jason Brown, performed a multi-media concert at the opening of *Acts of Faith: Religion and the American West*, April 20, 2024.

ATTENDANCE

Overall attendance, 2024:

96,465

Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 15, 2024:

2,378

32nd annual Indian Market & Festival, June 22-23, 2024:

3,816

Día de Muertos Community Celebration, Oct. 26, 2024:

4,415

Fifth Third Bank *Jingle Rails: The Great Western Adventure*, Nov. 16, 2024-Jan. 20, 2025:

28,418*

*An increase of nearly 100 over the previous year's *Jingle Rails* attendance.

ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

Visitor attendance, multiple dates and locations, at the museum and off-site:

815*

Artists in residence the museum hosted in 2024:

5

*Total attendees at artist in residence events not counting Día de Muertos, which also had an artist in residence.

The Fifth Third Bank *Jingle Rails: The Great Western Adventure*. Image courtesy of Michael Durr

PERSONAL STORIES: THE EITELJORG AND YOU

What supporters, artists, members and visitors are saying about the Eiteljorg and the personal connection they have with the museum:



Lou Jungheim, left, and Thalia Nicas, right, alongside Inuit artwork they loaned for the Eiteljorg exhibition *Voices from the Arctic: Contemporary Inuit Art*.

MEMBERS FIND SHARED INTERESTS

"We have collected contemporary art, primarily work created by Indigenous artists from Canada, for many years. It started as a way for Thalia to feel more connected to her homeland and has grown into an absorbing passion. What better outlet for this passion than the **activities and art collection** at the Eiteljorg? Our connection with the Eiteljorg has significantly expanded our appreciation for Indigenous art, artists, their culture and efforts toward continuation in the 21st century Americas.

"We especially appreciate the many opportunities to meet new artists and learn about their work. As scientists, we have a great interest in all manner of creative endeavors. As Eiteljorg Guides, we have the opportunity to share our passion for the museum with its patrons. On top of all that, we've made new friends with shared interests. What could be better?"

Lou Jungheim and Thalia Nicas

"There were many **talented artists** at the Market. I was able to purchase an item that I really liked that won two ribbons."

Comment card from a visitor at the 32nd annual Eiteljorg Indian Market & Festival

"I have been coming to *Quest for the West*® for about 15 years. It never disappointed, and is wonderful and beautifully framed in a **superb museum**. Thank you!"

Yvonne Todd, Lexington, KY

In June 2024, the Eiteljorg Museum marked 35 years in operation in downtown Indianapolis:
tinyurl.com/57kcypah

"This is the greatest glass/mixed-media exhibit I have ever seen. So **well done** from start to finish. The well-done video at the end was the perfect way to finish. Thank you for bringing this to Indianapolis! Keep up the great work!"

Scott Rice, Indianapolis, commenting about Preston Singletary: Raven and the Box of Daylight

"This was **profoundly moving**, immersive and incredible. Thank you for the experience — I will never forget it."

Carly Fowler, Syracuse, NY, commenting on Preston Singletary: Raven and the Box of Daylight

"I really enjoyed my visit to the Eiteljorg Museum. The *Raven and the Box of Daylight* display was **so amazing**. Also had the best time in *Jingle Rails*. This was my first visit to *Jingle Rails* and I plan on returning to the exhibit again. Thank you."

Marsha Love, Indianapolis IN



"It was a pleasure presenting *Raven and the Box of Daylight* at the Eiteljorg Museum! I had followed the actions of the museum and their support of the Contemporary Art Fellowship that they have been running for a couple decades now.

"I feel that their support of the **contemporary Native art** genre is a testimony to the importance of showing the evolution of the cultural art. It's my hope that this focus of blending Western and Indigenous art will continue well into the future. Thanks for the opportunity to work with you."

Preston Singletary (Tlingit), artist

DONATE

Support the Eiteljorg Museum by visiting [Eiteljorg.org/give-and-join/donate](https://eiteljorg.org/give-and-join/donate).



CONTEMPORARY NATIVE ART: On Feb. 2, 2024, visitors joined a curator-led Behind the Scenes tour of *UNSETTLE/Converge*, the 2023 Eiteljorg Contemporary Art Fellowship exhibition. The next round of the biennial Eiteljorg Fellowship, *Emerging Current*, will be presented from Nov. 8, 2025, to Feb. 22, 2026. contemporaryartfellowship.eiteljorg.org

UNSETTLE/Converge supported by:  Lilly Endowment Inc.
A private foundation since 1937





Rupy C. Tut (American, born in Punjab, India, 1985), *Cooking the same, only talk different*, 2024
 Handmade pigments and shell silver on hemp paper
 Eiteljorg Museum purchase with funds provided by a grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. 2024.1.1
 Included in *Acts of Faith: Religion and the American West*, April 20-Aug. 4, 2024

YOUR IMPACT: ADDING TO THE COLLECTIONS, 2024

The difference you make: Your support allows the Eiteljorg Museum to acquire bold new artworks, which are managed and cared for by the museum's collections staff. Acquisitions of art come through gifts, bequests and purchases, especially during the annual Indian Market & Festival and *Quest for the West*® Art Show and Sale, the biennial Eiteljorg Contemporary Art Fellowship, and at other times — all ultimately through the generosity of supporters such as you. Here are highlights of some of the works the museum acquired in 2024.



Artist Brett Allen Johnson, left, and *Quest* Chair Catherine Turner, right, with Johnson's 2024 oil painting *Pueblo Shapes* (38 x 30 inches) which won the Harrison Eiteljorg Purchase Award, sponsored by the Western Art Society, at the 2024 *Quest for the West*® Art Show and Sale.



Beth Bush (Potawatomi/Odawa)
Nanabush Shkemot, 2024
Smoked hide, printed cotton lining, rabbit fur, velvet, copper and silver spots, metal hawk bells, silver sequins, metal rings, dyed caribou tufting, dyed porcupine quills, size 12 Charlotte beads, birch bark, salmon-fish leather, vintage beads, cotton thread, sinew, 19 x 10 x 2 inches
2024 Eiteljorg Museum Indian Market and Festival
Harrison Eiteljorg Purchase Award 2024.8.1



Rain Scott (Pueblo of Acoma)
Water Protector, 2024
Folded paper, blue and gold macaw feathers, sleeping beauty turquoise, 27 1/4 x 22 x 12 inches
2024 Eiteljorg Museum Indian Market and Festival
Harrison Eiteljorg Purchase Award 2024.7.1 A-B



Samantha Jacobs (Seneca)
ReConnection: Land Back More than a #, 2024
Hand sewn velvet, velveteen, Pellon 71F, printed and dyed cotton, woven black ash, Poly-fil, moosehair tufting, raised and flat beadwork with size 13-6 glass and metallic beads, semi-precious stone chips, commercial doll rake, wood bead, 4 mm tile bead, 10mm wampum disc beads, cotton thread, sinew, 7 7/8 x 7 x 8 1/2 inches
2024 Eiteljorg Museum Indian Market and Festival
Harrison Eiteljorg Purchase Award 2024.5.1

For more images of award-winning artworks from the 2024 Eiteljorg Indian Market & Festival, visit this link:

eiteljorg.org/indian-market-and-festival-2024-awards

MEMBERSHIPS AND DONATIONS 2024

The difference you make: We express our profound appreciation to all 2024 donors for their commitment and generosity to the Eiteljorg Museum. The museum's success and achievements in 2024 are because of your support and dedication.

Due to space limitations, this list includes annual giving of \$500 or more, as well as all annual fund gifts made in honor of or in memory of someone. If your name is not listed correctly, please accept our apology and call 317.275.1360 to let us know.

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Jan Woodruff and William T. Rice
Jack and Sue Zinser

*deceased



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In honor of Pat Anker

Leslie Bozeman
Angie and Dick Darlington
Alisa Nordholt-Dean and Dave Dean
Drs. Richard and Becky Feldman
Tom and Patty Gibbs
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Fritz R. and Sandy Gordner
Cindy and Robert Hoyer
Chris Katterjohn and Dona Siebler
Benny and Vicky Ko
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Virginia Merkel
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Linda Mills
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In memory of Jennifer Compto McNutt

Alys Moore
Harry S. Nungesser

In memory of JoAnn Crowell

Neal and Jenai Brackett

In memory of Michael Duty

Dru Doyle
Laura Duty
Michael Leslie
Michael and Amy Meadows



Michael Duty, who served as the Eiteljorg's founding executive director 1987-1994, died April 23, 2024, at age 72.

Image courtesy of Sarah Deregán and the Duty family, 2017

In honor of Mary Farris

Linda Durr

In honor of Eiteljorg Museum Guides

Peggy and Jerry Weissinger

In memory of H. Jean Kyle

Marcia Inselberg

In memory of Carolyn Kincannon

James Kincannon and Charles Goad

In memory of Karl Maierhofer

Amy E. Maierhofer

In memory of Carol Marsh

Mike and Susan Lewis



Michael Duty's family gifted the museum \$250,000 to start a legacy fund in his memory: the Michael Duty Founding Director Endowment Fund for Internships. To continue his good work, visit: eiteljorg.org/michael-duty-founding-director-endowment/. From left, Eiteljorg President and CEO Kathryn Haigh, Michael's wife Laura Duty, Michael's daughter Brynne Duty, and Vice President for Advancement Jamie Simek. Image courtesy of Brittany Erwin Photography

In memory of Howard Maxwell

Kay Hinds

In honor of Virginia Merkel

Melia Lyerly

In memory of James T. Morris

Kay Hinds

Nataly and Jonathan Lowder

In memory of Narcisson G. Povinelli

Kay Hinds

In honor of Amanda J. Rail

Cheryl McAllen

In memory of Mary Jo Roberts

Linda Robb

In memory of Gabriel Rosenberg

Kay Hinds

In memory of Mary Lou Stanley

Janet Paff

In memory of Robert Thacker

Kathy Abel

Philip and Jennifer Baer

Denise Banks

Debbie Brown

Mike Cobb

Donald Hanni

Jane Hickman

Joe Hickman

Ed Lucs

Beverly S. Mann

Ball Eggleston, PC

Terry Smith

Joyce Webster

Mark Wolf

In honor of Jamie Simek

Anita Hovelson

In honor of Diane G. Thompson

Philip and Shandon Whistler



Eiteljorg supporters, members, artists, Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and friends all mourned the passing of Eiteljorg President Emeritus John Vanausdall, who died Aug. 17, 2024 at age 68. Vanausdall served as president and CEO for 27 years, retiring in 2023. Read more here: eiteljorg.org/john-vanausdall-passing-legacy. At a celebration of life service Oct. 13, 2024, friends viewed a 2024 oil portrait of Vanausdall by artist Mark Kelso. Memorial contributions to the John Vanausdall Capital Improvement Fund will support upkeep of the museum building and property, maintenance and capital improvements. Donate here: eiteljorg.org/john-vanausdall-fund.

**JOHN VANAUSDALL
TRIBUTE GIFTS**

**In honor and in memory of
John Vanausdall**

Sergio and Lori Aguilera

Nikki Andersen

Viki and Bruce Anderson

Pat Anker

Anonymous

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Tom and Angie Bromstrup

Moirra and William Carlstedt

Phyllis Cockerill

Angie and Dick Darlington

Sarah and Evan Farthing

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John and Mary Ann Grogan

Marie-Christine Guyonneau and

Thomas Mason

Kathryn Haigh and Brad Sterling

Sheila and Richard Jackson

Pam and Gary Jursik

Larry and Connie Kane

Ms. Karen A. Kennelly and

Mr. Jeffery L. Wylie

Caroline Kirk

Marnie Maxwell and John Krauss

John Goodman and Sarah Kunz

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Jamie and Mike Simek

Michael P. Skehan*

Marty Songer

Ieva Straatman

Cheryl Strain

Maureen and Michael Surak

Mary and Gene Tempel

Virginia Terpening

Judi Thomas-Sheerer

Patricia Warriner

Bill and Roberta Witchger

Y. Rosalind Wolen

Tim and Cathy Wright



Image courtesy of Rob Bayanote Photography

*deceased

ANNUAL FUND AND OTHER DESIGNATED GIFTS, 2024

(\$500 per household and above)

Eagle Society members are recognized in this section using the indicator (ES). Gifts linked to an Eagle Society membership are acknowledged on page 12 and are not included in the "Annual Fund and Other Designated Gifts" section on pages 15 and 16.

\$250,000+

Laura Duty

\$100,000-\$249,999

Robert Braitman (ES)

\$50,000-\$99,999

Steve Cagle (ES)

Steve and Jane Marmon (ES)

Virginia Merkel (ES)

Cathy Turner (ES)

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\$20,000-\$49,999

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In 2024, a replica of the Madam Walker Theatre was added to the Fifth Third Bank *Jingle Rails: The Great Western Adventure*. Madam Walker Legacy Center President Kristian Little Stricklen, left, and Eiteljorg President and CEO Kathryn Haigh, right, led the ribbon-cutting Nov. 16, 2024.

Image courtesy of Michael Durr

Michael P. Skehan*

Ann M. Stack (ES)

\$1,500 to \$4,999

Anonymous (2)

Lori Efroymsen-Aguilera and

Sergio Aguilera

David and Mary Allen

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Gayle Cox, Ph.D. and

Mr. Carl K. Cox (ES)

Donald and Dolly Craft

Hanni and William Cramer

Marilyn Dapper

Linda Darr

Mary O. DeVoe

Dru Doyle

Nancy Dunn

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Cindy and Robert Hoyer

Katrina and William Irwin (ES)

Connie and Larry Kane

Chris Katterjohn and Dona Siebler (ES)

Donald Bruce Kehoe

(ES) Eagle Society member

*deceased

Mr. and Mrs. James D. Kemper
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Fifth Third Bank *Jingle Rails: The Great Western Adventure*
Image courtesy of Michael Durr

(ES) Eagle Society member
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 The Swisher Foundation
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Indian Market & Festival
 Image courtesy of Rob Bayanote Photography

**FEATURED ENDOWMENTS,
 EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS
 FUNDED BY DONORS IN 2024**

*Acts of Faith: Religion and the
 American West*

Artists in Residence

*Día de Muertos Community
 Celebration*

*DBJ Foundation Fund for
 Contemporary Art*

*Eiteljorg Contemporary Art
 Fellowship*

Indian Market & Festival

*Fifth Third Bank Jingle Rails: The
 Great Western Adventure*

*John Vanausdall Capital
 Improvement Endowment*

*Michael Duty Founding Director
 Internship Endowment*

*Preston Singletary: Raven and the
 Box of Daylight*

Project 2021

*Quest for the West® Art Show
 and Sale*

Radical Stitch

Return of the Force

*Why We Serve: Native Americans
 in the United States Armed
 Forces*



Dave LaMure, Jr. with his bronze sculpture *The Seeker*, winner of the Cyrus Dallin Award for Best Sculpture at the 19th annual *Quest for the West®* Art Show and Sale in 2024. Michael and Carla Leppert sponsored the award.

Image by Brittany Erwin



Mariachi Sirenes
 2024 Día de Muertos Community Celebration

IMPACT THROUGH SERVICE: BOARD AND COUNCILS, 2024

Thanks to talented supporters such as you, the Eiteljorg Museum in 2024 presented memorable exhibitions and public programs, expanded its collections and engaged with the community. In this list, we acknowledge supporters who donated their time to serve on the museum's Board and councils. Some individuals appear in multiple categories, because new terms began July 1, 2024 and some members rotated seats or officer positions.

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Note: The above lists reflect the Board and advisory council members and chairs who served during calendar year 2024.

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John Vanausdall*, *honorary member*
Sharon Zimmerman

* Deceased

EITELJORG 2023-2027 STRATEGIC PLAN



MISSION, VISION AND VALUES STATEMENTS

Adopted by the Eiteljorg Board of Directors in March 2024

Preston Singletary (Tlingit, b. 1963)
Kutx.ayanahá Lákt (Box of Stars)
Keiwa.aa Lákt (Box with Daylight)
Dis Lákt (Box with the Moon)
All 2018, kiln-formed and sand-carved glass, neon lighting;
steel base
Courtesy of the artist and Museum of Glass in Tacoma, Washington

OUR MISSION

The Eiteljorg Museum explores the intersection of the arts, histories and cultures of the past and present by sharing the diverse stories of the American West and the Indigenous Peoples of North America.

OUR VALUES

We represent a diverse story of human accomplishment, adversity and perseverance with respect and sensitivity to all peoples and cultures. We value integrity, respect, collaboration and excellence as paramount to accomplishing our mission.

OUR VISION

The Eiteljorg Museum will:

- Be a welcoming environment where people feel a sense of belonging.
- Build authentic connections through artistic expressions and educational programs.
- Create thought-provoking experiences to explore our past, present and shared future.
- Amplify the voices of artists and champion their creative expression.
- Represent the intersection of cultures and perspectives by creating a place where transformation is possible.



2024 Eiteljorg Indian Market & Festival

Image courtesy of Rob Bayanote Photography

To learn more about making a difference in the museum's efforts, eiteljorg.org/mission-vision-values/

LOOKING AHEAD:

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

GOAL 1

Develop a strategy for long-term financial sustainability by diversifying revenue and evaluating exhibitions and programmatic initiatives.

Accomplishment: Eiteljorg has scheduled exhibitions through 2027 to allow for planning, marketing and fundraising. *Preston Singletary: Raven and the Box of Daylight* was the featured exhibition Nov. 9, 2024-March 8, 2025*.



Preston Singletary (Tlingit, b. 1963)
Ch'áak' Káa (Eagle Man), 2017
Blown and sand-carved glass
Exhibition organized by the artist and
Museum of Glass in Tacoma, Washington

Strengthen authentic partnerships and collaborations.

GOAL 2



Example: Eduardo Luna of Arte Mexicano en Indiana is co-organizer of the Eiteljorg's annual Día de Muertos Community Celebration, one of the collaborations between the museum and community partners in 2024.

GOAL 3

Develop and sustain a collaborative, inclusive, and diverse staff and volunteer team.



Example: On Indigenous Peoples Day, Monica Raphael (Anishinaabe / Sičánǵu Lakota), the Thomas G. and Susan C. Hoback curator of Great Lakes Native art, cultures and community engagement, led visitors on a tour of the Native American Galleries.

GOAL 4

Enhance the visitor experience through innovation and accessibility.



Update: The museum plans to reinstall its Western Art Galleries while working to implement its new collections plan and promoting the Eiteljorg regionally and nationally.

GOAL 5

Maximize our physical and digital spaces as tools to achieve our mission.



Update: The Eiteljorg renovated the former Ruth Lilly Theater into the new Community Art Gallery in 2025, and plans to add exciting content to its education web hub.

*See the complete list of exhibition sponsors on pages 16-17.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2025-2026

As a follow-up to *Radical Stitch*, the traveling exhibition of contemporary Native bead art presented in 2025, the Eiteljorg will host more breathtaking exhibitions and programs through 2026. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

EITELJORG CONTEMPORARY ART FELLOWSHIP 2025: EMERGING CURRENT NOV 8, 2025- FEB 22, 2026

Every other year since 1999, the Eiteljorg Fellowship has brought contemporary Native art to the forefront, casting a spotlight on the works of leading Native artists from across the U.S. and Canada. The five artists selected for 2025 create trailblazing work in the disciplines of painting, printing, installation, sculpture, video and assemblage. Visit contemporaryartfellowship.eiteljorg.org.



SUPPORTED BY:  Lilly Endowment Inc.
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GAAWII ETA-GO AAWIZINOO GAAWIYE MKAKOONS: IT'S NOT JUST A QUILLBOX DEC 13, 2025-MARCH 29, 2026

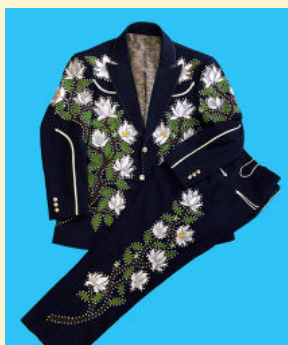
The Anishinaabe peoples of the Great Lakes region use porcupine quills to create vibrant, intricate art. This bilingual traveling exhibition highlights the knowledge and skills required to master this unique art form, and is organized by the Ziibiwing Center for Anishinaabe Culture and Lifeways in Mount Pleasant, Michigan.



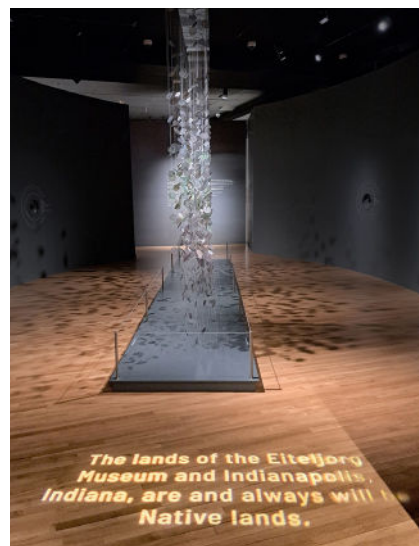
Nswi-minidook/ Three Shamans
Carl Beam (Anishinabek), gaa-segaajigaadang gijeying/designer of top
M'Chigeeng First Nation, Mnidoo Mnising, Ontario/West Bay, Manitoulin Island, Ontario
Maime Migwans (Anishinabek), Gaa-zhitoot mkakoonhs/maker of box
Photo by Minnie Wabanimkee

COWBOY COUTURE: THE FASHION OF JERRY LEE ATWOOD MARCH 28-AUG 2, 2026

Indianapolis designer Jerry Lee Atwood is acclaimed for his creations seen on fashion runways: custom-made Western-style outfits with rhinestones and embroidery that are worn by famous musicians and celebrities. The Eiteljorg's exhibition of Atwood's designs connects his work to classic country music looks and the public's ideas of "the West."



Jerry Lee Atwood
Scott Hinds, *Magnolia suit*
Various materials
Loan from Scott Hinds of
The Royal Hounds



Hannah Claus (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte, born 1969)
water song: peemitanaahkwahki sakaahkweelo, 2019

Durachrome UV ink printed on Jetview acetate film, Gütermann Scala 60 thread, PVA glue
2019 Eiteljorg Fellow

Museum commission with funds provided by the Eiteljorg Contemporary Art Fellowship 2019.9.1

The difference you make: With your regular membership support, gifts and planned giving to the Eiteljorg's endowment, the museum can recruit talented staff whose skill and creativity allow the museum to present dynamic exhibitions and programs, book nationally prominent traveling exhibitions and schedule unforgettable public programs. Read on for a look at 2024 accomplishments by the team that underscore the Eiteljorg's credibility within the museum field and the community.

Eiteljorg Museum Website
Eiteljorg.org

Eiteljorg Education Web Hub
Education.Eiteljorg.org

RECOGNITION FOR EXCELLENCE



Monica Raphael, artist and curator, wins impressive art award

Monica Raphael (Anishinaabe / Sičǎŋǵu Lakota) is the Thomas G. and Susan C. Hoback curator of Great Lakes Native art, cultures and community engagement at the Eiteljorg. A longtime artist, Monica entered one of her works into the prestigious Santa Fe Indian Market in August 2024. Her piece won Best in Classification in Beadwork and Quillwork. Monica's piece draws inspiration from a beaded saddle in the Eiteljorg's collection.

Having won many awards for her extraordinary beadwork and quillwork designs, Monica Raphael participated in the Eiteljorg Indian Market & Festival multiple times before joining the Eiteljorg staff as Hoback curator in 2023.

Top statewide PR award goes to *Storyteller* magazine

The Eiteljorg's *Storyteller* magazine won a statewide award for best periodical for the fourth year in a row during the annual Pinnacle Awards, presented by the Public Relations Society of America-Hoosier Chapter on June 12, 2024. The awards in several categories recognize top achievements in the Indiana public relations industry. The Eiteljorg competed along with big PR firms, other nonprofits and universities. The three issues of *Storyteller* magazine from 2023 received the top honor in the periodicals category, the Pinnacle Award, which recognizes quality of writing and visuals, effectiveness in messaging and editorial judgment.

Receiving this prestigious award reflects the effort that goes into the *Storyteller* magazine, directly or indirectly, from staff throughout the museum. Read the award-winning *Storyteller* issues at this link: eiteljorg.org/storyteller-magazine



Employee honored at ROSE Awards event

The museum nominated Peter Drummond, Eiteljorg maintenance technician, for the Visit Indy ROSE Award, which honors frontline workers in the tourism industry who provide exceptional customer service. During the 33rd annual ROSE Awards ceremony May 9, 2024, he was honored for his diligent work in making the museum building a pleasant environment. Pete Drummond retired in June 2025 and we wish him the best in retirement.

Image courtesy of Bayanote Photography Inc.

Sign up to receive the Eiteljorg's biweekly eNewsletter:
eiteljorg.org/visit/tickets-discounts/membership/

CONTINUE YOUR IMPACT: REACH OUT TO THE EITELJORG MUSEUM

Donations and Planned Giving

To support the museum, contact:

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317.275.1365

Kevin Andrews

Director of Development

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Curatorial and Collections

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EITELJORG MUSEUM 2024 GRATITUDE REPORT

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Michael Durr
George Jesse
Bob Zyromski
Sarah Deregán
Zach Malmgren



Fifth Third Bank Jingle Rails: The Great Western Adventure

Image courtesy of Michael Durr



For comments or questions about this Gratitude Report, contact
communications@eiteljorg.com



Eiteljorg Museum

**Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians
and Western Art**

White River State Park
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Indianapolis, IN 46204

[Eiteljorg.org](https://eiteljorg.org)



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