Build Your Skills: Charcoal Drawing
Take an art class in the comfort of your home! This series of intimate making sessions connects you with artists and educators as you practice the basics of techniques such as charcoal, watercolor, ink wash painting, photography, and more. Gain a deeper understanding of work in the Museum’s collection through hands-on making and share your creations with fellow members.

Build Your Skills: Bookmaking
Learn how to hand craft a book from the comfort of your home! This series of intimate making sessions connects you with artists and educators as you practice the basics of techniques such as charcoal, watercolor, ink wash painting, photography, and more. Gain a deeper understanding of work in the Museum’s collection through hands-on making and share your creations with fellow members.

Virtual Artist Studio Visit: Saya Woolfalk
Visit the home and studio of acclaimed multi-media artist Saya Woolfalk. Hear first-hand how she creates work in her personal spaces and enjoy delightful conversations as she shares the joy of creating and collecting with us.

A Learning & Engagement Showcase
All our teaching has gone virtual, but how has the Learning & Engagement team been able to capture the imaginations of our youngest art fans? Get a behind-the-scenes look at the Museum’s biggest early education hits, and see your impact in action.
Virtual Artists Studio Visit: Phillip K. Smith III
Visit the home and studio of contemporary artist Phillip K. Smith III. Hear first-hand how he creates work in his personal spaces and enjoy delightful conversations as he shares the joy of creating and collecting with us.

Build Your Skills: Embroidery
Take an art-embroidery class in the comfort of your home! This series of intimate making sessions connects you with artists and educators as you practice the basics of techniques such as watercolor, printmaking, figure drawing, photography, and more. Gain a deeper understanding of work in the Museum’s collection through hands-on making and share your creations with fellow members.

New Jersey Arts Annual Curator CloseUp
Join Newark Museum of Art’s Associate Curator of Decorative Arts, Amy Simon Hopwood and Juror Kristen J. Owens, Associate Curator (Programs) for Rutgers University-Newark’s Paul Robeson Galleries for a Curator CloseUp of the 2021 show. Featuring artist from across New Jersey, this show shines a light on our state’s talents.

Virtual Artists Studio Visit: Phillip K. Smith III
Visit the home and studio of contemporary artist Phillip K. Smith III. Hear first-hand how he creates work in his personal spaces and enjoy delightful conversations as he shares the joy of creating and collecting with us.
Conservator CloseUp with Paintings Conservator Yeonjoo Kim

Join Newark Museum of Art conservator Yeonjoo Kim in the conservation lab to explore her techniques for reading the Museum's collection for exhibition. See works in progress and hear more about efforts underway to prepare a special group of paintings for exhibition.

Build Your Skills: Watercolor

Take an art class in the comfort of your home! This series of intimate making sessions connects you with artists and educators as you practice the basics of techniques such as watercolor, printmaking, figure drawing, photography, and more. Gain a deeper understanding of work in the Museum's collection through hands-on making and share your creations with fellow members.

Virtual Artists Studio Visit: Adebumni Gbadebo

Visit the studio of Adebumni Gbadebo, a contemporary artist who uses human hair from people of the African Diaspora as a medium to reject the narrative and materials of traditional art, which emphasizes white men as the only worthy artists and subjects. Learn how her artworks are community collaborations, giving new life to cut hair. Gbadebo's art is held in celebrated collections like the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art and Minneapolis Institute of Art, among others.

2020

Preview Reception of Norman Bluhm: Metamorphosis

Enjoy an expansive presentation of large-scale canvases by American painter Norman Bluhm (1921-1999) and never-before-exhibited pieces from the artist’s studio, assembled in partnership with the artist’s estate ad private collectors. Hear from special guest curator Jay Grimm and the Museum’s Curator of American Art Tricia Laughlin Bloom.
The European Fine Art Fair (TEFAF)
Founder's Society members are invited to secure their VIP Pass to TEFAF featuring Modern & Contemporary Art and Design at The Park Avenue Armory.

Collectors’ Corner with Curator Emeritus Ulysses G. Dietz
During a special hour together, experts will respond to submissions of beloved decorative arts objects from your own collection. Hear from fellow Founder’s Society members about beloved family heirlooms and learn from our curatorial experts about craftsmanship and historical context.

Virtual Artists Studio Visit: Bisa Butler
Visit the home and studio of acclaimed textile artist and quiltmaker Bisa Butler. Hear first-hand how she creates work in her personal spaces and enjoy delightful conversations as she shares the joy of creating and collecting with us.

Build Your Skills: Sumi Ink Wash Painting
Take an art class in the comfort of your home! This series of intimate making sessions connects you with artists and educators as you practice the basics of techniques such as charcoal, watercolor, ink wash painting, photography, and more. Gain a deeper understanding of work in the Museum’s collection through hands-on making and have the opportunity to share your creations with fellow members.

Virtual Artists Studio Visit: Shinique Smith
Visit the home and studio of acclaimed contemporary artist Shinique Smith. Hear first-hand how she creates work in her personal spaces and enjoy delightful conversations as she shares the joy of creating and collecting with us.
New York City daytrip to Poster House, The Shed and The Vessel
A director’s tour of Chelsea’s newest museum space, Poster House, dedicated to the global presentation of poster art. Followed by lunch and a behind-the-scenes look at The Shed, Manhattan’s newest arts center and architectural wonder on the West Side and its new and already iconic architectural attraction, the Vessel.

The Zen of Tea: Exclusive Tea Ceremony and Curator tour
An Omotesenke-style tea demonstration led by Tea Master Keiko Kitazawa, with matcha tea and handmade traditional Japanese sweets, paired with a private viewing of Beyond Zen: Japanese Buddhist Art led by special guest curator Midori Okä, Associate Director of the Mary Griggs Burke Center of Japanese Art at Columbia University, New York.

A Bird in the Hand: Ornithology Tour and Study of Rare Illustrations
An indoor birding experience in the Pat and Art Ryan Arts of Asia Galleries. A look at the temporary exhibition Birding in Asian Art with special guest Claus Holzapfel, PhD, ornithologist and Chair of the Biological Sciences Department at Rutgers University--Newark. A hands-on study of rare illustrations by naturalists and bird specimens from the Museum’s collection led by Librarian William Peniston.

Afternoon Tea and Collecting, East Brunswick, New Jersey
Private viewing of a the glass collection at a lakeside home in East Brunswick. Conversation led by Chief Curator Emeritus Ulysses Dietz and Associate Curator of Decorative Arts Amy Hopwood about the call to make and collect glass.

Private Tour of Louise Nevelson’s Chapel of the Good Shephard and VIP Access to TEFAF New York at the Park Avenue Armory
A hard-hat tour inside the sensational renovation of Saint Peter’s Church on Lexington Avenue and Louise Nevelson’s unique sculptural environment, Chapel of the Good Shepherd. Following lunch, a private walk and historical overview of Park Avenue Armory led by TEFAF’s Chief Curator.
3rd Annual Progressive Cocktail Party
An after-hours roaming cocktail party at the Museum. Curators and teen Explorers took Founder’s on a tour of “culture stops,” including the 1885 Ballantine House, the Modern & Contemporary Galleries and a hands-on MakerSPACE experience

VIP Preview and Artist Reception, Seeing America
The preview of thirteen newly renovated second floor galleries with artists in the museum’s contemporary collection. Remarks by new Director and CEO Linda Harrison and Newark’s Mayor Ras Baraka

Artist Meet-and-Greet and Installation Preview
An insider’s look led by artist Wendy Red Star into her installation in progress for A Scratch on the Earth, with insight provided by collaborators Deputy Director of Exhibitions Tim Wintemberg and American Art Curator Tricia Laughlin Bloom, PhD

2018

Artist Reception and Private Planetarium Screening
Advance screening of commissioned full-dome projection piece by New York-based visual artist Kambui Olujimi and opening reception of new lithograph series relating to astrological signs and multi-layered cultural narratives, with a reception in The Charles W. Engelhard Court

Exclusive Tour of Louise Bourgeois & Robert Goldwater Townhouse, Chelsea
An all-access tour of the home and studio of Louise Bourgeois, not open to the public, led by archivists from the artist’s estate and the Curator the Easton Foundation. A personal walk through living and working spaces and presentation of intimate journals and photographs from Bourgeois’ archives.
Curator’s Preview of *Kimono Refashioned*
A behind-the-scenes look at planning and final presentation of stunning fashion pieces from the Kyoto Costume Institute never before seen in the US, and signature work from the Museum’s formidable collection. Led by Kyoto Costume Institute curators and Arts of Asia Curator Katherine Anne Paul, PhD

A Daytrip to the Great Houses of the Victorian Era, Hudson Valley
A curated journey through Hudson River School painting led by Thomas Cole scholar and Associate Curator of American Art William Coleman, PhD, including all-access tour of Olana, Frederick Church’s expansive estate, including a view of the fall foliage over lunch in Olana’s carriage house. Followed by a visit to Cedar Grove, Church’s private home and a new interpretive space for Victorian and contemporary art and design, hosted by the site’s Executive Director

Field Study and Lunch with Photographer Matthew Brandt
Morning pontoon ride along the waterways of the Meadowlands district with Conservancy scientists, horticulturalists and photographer Matthew Brandt. Lunch in the Trustees Room and portfolio presentation by Brandt of work and a commission in progress led by Curator of American Art Tricia Laughlin Bloom, PhD

Afternoon Tea and White Gloves Session in Ceramics
Afternoon tea service in the 1885 Ballantine House and curator’s highlight tour of *Hot, Hotter, Hottest: New Jersey Ceramics*. Guided hands-on session with objects from the Museum’s extensive ceramics collection with a focus on New Jersey potteries and study of firing techniques, markings and finishes led by Chief Curator Emeritus Ulysses Grant Dietz and Associate Curator of Decorative Arts Amy Hopwood

Daytrip to the High Line and the Whitney Conservation Lab
A behind-the-scenes tour of the newly opened section of the High Line and the new 2018 season of commissions hosted by High Line Art Curator Melanie Kress, followed by lunch in Chelsea’s meatpacking district and an exclusive tour of the state-of-the-art Conservation Lab at the Whitney Museum of American Art, hosted by Conservators Eleonora Nagy and Carol Mancusi-Ungaro
Curator’s Tour of Asia Society, New York
A private tour of Asia Society’s critically acclaimed Unknown Tibet, with remarks by Asia Society’s Adria Proser, PhD, and the Museum’s Arts of Asia Curator Katherine Anne Paul, PhD, about international expeditions to Tibet in the mid-20th Century and the practice of preserving and presenting Buddhist art and artifacts.

2nd Annual Progressive Cocktail Party
An after-hours roaming cocktail party at the Museum. “Culture stops” with flavorful bites and fun facts about the collection hosted by Museum directors and curators in the 1885 Ballantine House, Planetarium, American Art galleries, Tibetan Art galleries, and a hands-on porcelain painting activity in the MakerSPACE.

Curator’s Tour and Reception, The Rockies & The Alps
A curators tour hosted by American Art Curator Tricia Laughlin Bloom, PhD, Associate Curator William Coleman, PhD, and guest curator Katherine Manthorne, PhD, giving context for Hudson River School introducing paintings, works on paper and nature journals, stereographs and lantern slides documenting the global phenomenon of mountaineering.

Private Viewing of Chinese Works of Art, Christie’s New York
Christie’s auction house opened its doors exclusively for Founder’s Society to private collections during Asian Art Week, hosted by Christie’s International Asian Art specialists.

Private Curator Talk for Arts of Global Africa Galleries
Private tour and reception for the new Art of Global Africa gallery hosted by Arts of Global Africa Curator Christa Clarke, PhD, and Deputy Director of Exhibitions Tim Wintemberg. An informative discussion about the process of installing one of the nation’s most formidable collections of African art and commissioning a new mural by renowned Nigerian artist Odili Donald Odita for the Museum’s new Christine Chambers Gilfillan Welcome Center.
Curator talk and white-gloves textiles session
A private tour of *Dramatic Threads* and a white gloves session on theatrical costume and ceremonial textiles joined by collectors and embroidery artists, featuring hands-on study of garment structures, traditional designs and motifs, and aspects of connoisseurship.

Musical Arts of Asia
Curator talk on the multi-media exhibition *Musical Arts of Asia* hosted by Arts of Asia Curator Katherine Anne Paul, PhD, featuring musical performances by traditional Korean instrumentalists and reception in the Trustees Room

2017

Celebrating Global Collections
Preview and reception of two newly re-opened galleries *Arts of Global Africa* and *Art of the Ancient Mediterranean* hosted by Museum Curators

Museum Vault Tour
A private reception and a rare look at Museum collections in storage at New Jersey’s largest museum, hosted by Museum Curators exclusively for Founder’s Society

Scholar’s Talk and Jewelry Presentation, lower Manhattan, NY
A private viewing of never-before exhibited ceremonial jade masterpieces assembled by the China Institute, and a hands-on lesson in jade connoisseurship led by collector and Museum Trustee Sophia Sheng, followed by lunch at View of the World overlooking the September 11th Memorial
Artist Loft Living Daytrip, SoHo, NY
An artist-led tour of the home and studio-turned museum of Minimalist artist Donald Judd, a presentation of the SoHo Memory Project by SoHo Historical Society Founder Yukie Ohta, PhD, and private studio visit with large-scale fresco artist David Novros, with lunch at SoHo’s Bistro Les Amis

White Gloves Silver Session in the 1885 Ballantine House
High tea services in a Victorian mansion and a guided session on silver collecting and provenance, with presentation and hands-on study of pieces from the Museum’s collection guided by Chief Curator and Curator of Decorative Arts Ulysses Grant Dietz

An Evening of Ceramics, West Orange, NJ
Cocktails and salon conversation in a collector’s home with ceramic artist Molly Hatch, hosted by Museum Director Steven Kern and Chief Curator and Curator of Decorative Arts Ulysses Grant Dietz

A Progressive Cocktail Party
A roaming cocktail party hosted by the Museum’s Director and Curators, with hors d’oeuvres and culture stops in the Planetarium, African, American and Decorative Arts galleries, concluding with a hands-on wine glass etching project in the MakerSPACE

A Day of Artist-run Spaces in the Village, New York, NY
A private presentation of Inventing Downtown: Artist-run Galleries in NYC, 1952-1965, hosted by NYU Grey Art Gallery guest curator Melissa Rachleff Burtt, PhD, and a behind-the-scenes tour of the home and studio of sculptor Chaim Gross by Renee and Chaim Gross Foundation Director Susan Fisher, PhD, followed by lunch in the West Village
Private Tour and Lunch, China Institute, New York, NY
A guided tour by the Institute’s Trustees and Curators of the inaugural exhibition in its new lower Manhattan galleries, Art in the Time of Chaos: Masterworks from Six Dynasties of China, 3rd-6th Centuries, followed by a private lunch in lower Manhattan

Winter Party in the Ballantine House
A private tour and seated dinner hosted by Chief Curator and Curator of Decorative Arts Ulysses Grant Dietz to benefit The Ballantine House Fund

An Evening of Art and Northern Chinese Cuisine, Alpine, NJ
A personal tour of a private collection of historic and contemporary Asian art, a noodle making demonstration by a guest chef, and a seated dinner featuring Chinese cuisine hosted by Museum Trustee Sophia Sheng

Artist Studio and Gallery Tour, Hudson, NY
An artist studio visit hosted by artist Jeffrey Gibson in his public high school-turned-workshop, gallery excursion and lunch in downtown Hudson with the artist

Preview Tour and Reception, Native Artists of North America
A curator’s tour and reception of the inaugural exhibition in the newly renovated American wing hosted by Curator of American Art Tricia Laughlin Bloom, PhD, guest curator Adrianna Greci-Green and artist DY Begay Diné

An Evening with the Author, West Orange, NJ
An author’s lecture and book signing by historian Linda Forgosh celebrating Louis Bamberger, hosted by Museum Director Steven Kern. Presentation with complimentary book signed by the author and reception held at Vizcaya