



2023

Annual Report to the Community

MOHAI
MUSEUM OF HISTORY & INDUSTRY

VISION

Treasured locally and respected nationally as a vibrant resource where history inspires us to build a better future.

MISSION

To serve our region, we bridge the past, present and future by collecting, preserving, and sharing stories through compelling, innovative exhibits and community engagement.

VALUES

Legacy, trust, inclusion, relevant, excellence, and fun.

—MOHAI MISSION STATEMENT, 2023

Dear MOHAI Community,

As we reflect on 2023, I think of initiatives that ranged from the history of contemporary art in the Northwest to the enduring traditions of Indigenous cultures, from the legends of Seattle baseball to our region's Olympic heroes, that drew over seventy thousand visitors and program participants to MOHAI.

These visitors included young people and their teachers, residents from all 50 states, guests from more than 35 foreign countries, and researchers from around the region and across the world.

School programs were a special highlight this year, with students from Seattle and Puget Sound classrooms coming to MOHAI for hands-on lessons in history and civic literacy, with a special focus on the museum's presentation of Roots of Wisdom, which explored the intersection of Native traditions and modern science in addressing the challenges of climate change.

Although in-person programs returned in full force in 2023, the museum also continued to support a robust digital presence, reaching new audiences through YouTube programs, webinars and simulcasts.

Throughout the year, MOHAI maintained its seven-days-a-week schedule, with 45% of museum attendees enjoying the museum free of charge or at a discounted rate, including free admission for all young people under 15 and free or reduced admission for students, seniors, military personnel, veterans, and those without the ability to pay. As in past years, MOHAI participated in the Teen Tix, Museums for All and Seattle Public Library museum pass programs and offered free transportation and scholarship support to students and teachers from classrooms throughout the region. MOHAI made all its digital programs fully accessible and free of charge online, available remotely at any time and to any Wi-Fi-enabled location.

Of course, none of the museum's activities are possible without the generous support of our members and donors, who are gratefully acknowledged in the last pages of this report.

Please enjoy more amazing highlights from 2023 in the following pages and I hope to see you at MOHAI, soon.

Leonard Garfield

MOHAI Executive Director





SPECIAL EXHIBIT

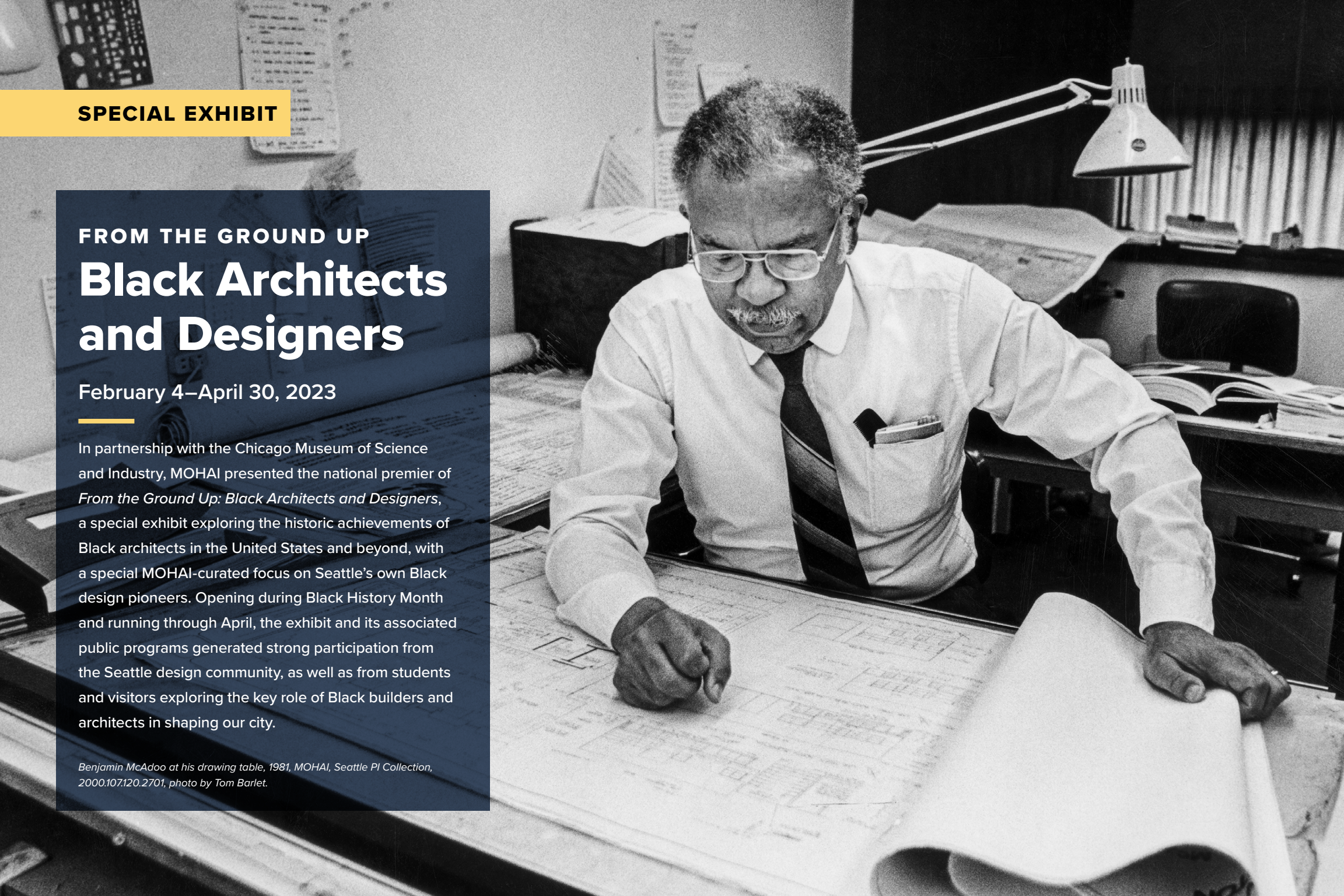


ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Your Mind & The Machine

October 15, 2022–January 08, 2023

The year opened at MOHAI with the continuation of the West Coast premiere of *Artificial Intelligence: Your Mind & The Machine*, the first-ever traveling exhibit in the United States to focus on the history and potential of artificial intelligence, exploring its past and future. The exhibit presented the evolution of A.I. from the development of machine learning and large language models and allowed visitors to experience an up-close look at how A.I. will be part of our future. The show had particular resonance in our community, a historic and global hub for A.I. development.



SPECIAL EXHIBIT

FROM THE GROUND UP **Black Architects and Designers**

February 4–April 30, 2023

In partnership with the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, MOHAI presented the national premier of *From the Ground Up: Black Architects and Designers*, a special exhibit exploring the historic achievements of Black architects in the United States and beyond, with a special MOHAI-curated focus on Seattle's own Black design pioneers. Opening during Black History Month and running through April, the exhibit and its associated public programs generated strong participation from the Seattle design community, as well as from students and visitors exploring the key role of Black builders and architects in shaping our city.

Benjamin McAdoo at his drawing table, 1981, MOHAI, Seattle PI Collection, 2000.107.120.2701, photo by Tom Barlet.



SPECIAL EXHIBIT

CELEBRATING PACIFIC
NORTHWEST ARTISTS:

25 Years of the Neddy Awards

June 4–September 5, 2023

In the summer of 2023, MOHAI collaborated with Cornish College of the Arts and the Behnke Foundation to present a major retrospective of the history of contemporary art in Seattle, featuring works by the most distinguished artists of the last quarter century—all winners of the prestigious Neddy Award in visual arts. *Celebrating Pacific Northwest Artists: 25 Years of the Neddy Awards* celebrated a broad range of creative media over nearly three decades, and featured works by such ground-breaking artists as Juan Alonzo, Marita Dingus, and Mark Takamichi Miller, in the first-ever group presentation of these historic artists.

Myron Curry, *Howlin Wolf*, 2023. Acrylic on canvas. Courtesy of the artist.

NEDDY
ARTIST
AWARD
EXHIBITION
25
YEARS



SPECIAL EXHIBIT

Baseball All-Stars

July 1–November 5, 2023

Seattle is historically a sports town—united by the games and the players that have shaped our sense of place and play. In the summer of 2023, coinciding with Seattle's role as host city for the Major League Baseball All-Star Game, MOHAI presented a rare selection of artifacts from one of the most important private baseball collections in the world, generously loaned for display by a Seattle-based collector. The Baseball All-Stars display included game-worn and game-played artifacts from such legends as Babe Ruth, Willie Mays, and Roberto Clemente, as well as rare artifacts from Seattle history, including the Seattle Sockeyes of the West Coast Negro Baseball League and the Seattle Rainiers of the Pacific Coast League.

SPECIAL EXHIBIT

PULLING TOGETHER

A Brief History of Rowing in Seattle

November 24, 2023–August 11, 2024

in the Fall, MOHAI opened a very special look at the “Boys in the Boat”—the University of Washington Olympic heroes whose success in rowing became an enduring symbol of the power of democracy over the tyranny of Nazism. Designed in partnership with the University of Washington, the Pocock Center, the National Maritime Center, and many others. *Pulling Together: A Brief History of Rowing in Seattle* included artifacts from the 1936 Olympic games, as well as treasures from the boatbuilding Pocock family, tribal canoe races, college competitions, subsequent Olympic winners, and the stunning Husky Challenger eight-person racing shell designed and built by the Pococks themselves.





SPECIAL EXHIBIT

ROOTS OF WISDOM

Native Knowledge. Shared Science.

October 7, 2023–March 3, 2024

2023 finished with the October opening of an exhibit that explored the rich tapestry of Indigenous knowledge and its intersection with scientific advancements in *Roots of Wisdom: Native Knowledge. Shared Science*. Featuring stories from four Native communities across the region and the nation. The exhibit gave visitors real-life examples of Native knowledge and ecological science working together to protect food supplies and traditional cultural practices. The exhibit was produced by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry and was developed locally in partnership with the Snoqualmie Tribe, the Muckleshoot Tribe, the Suquamish Tribe, the Duwamish Tribe, and Tulalip Tribe and Hilibul Cultural Center.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

A Public Commons

MOHAI welcomed people from around Puget Sound for several community events.

In April, the annual Innovation Exchange's theme was Aerospace Technology and the results were "out of this world." Space fans, students, professionals, and hobbyists were fascinated to hear industry leaders and innovators explore Seattle's national and global influence on the aerospace industry.

In June, families of all ages gathered in Lake Union Park for two special events. Pride Family Fun Day shared the skill of Voguing and other Runway styles with Playground Kiki, an organization that is growing the Pacific Northwest ballroom scene.

Then the Seattle Fire Department teamed up with MOHAI to celebrate the 134th Anniversary of the Great Seattle Fire with fire engine tours, safety demonstrations, and a chance to meet real-life hero fire dogs. Over 1,200 young people and their grown-ups attended.



History Uncovered

One of MOHAI's most important roles is serving as a steward of Seattle's past. The care and preservation of our growing collection of objects, including more than 100,000 artifacts and 6.5 million images and archival materials housed at the McQuaid MOHAI Resource Center, is a major undertaking.

Linda Lee, MOHAI's 2023 Curator's Fellow, worked with the museum's collections team on her project "Transformation Through Immigration." The project entailed researching the stories of often-uncredited immigrants, with emphasis on MOHAI collections donated by two women, Lillian Goon Dip and Ann Dulien.

COLLECTIONS

As part of a 4Culture Collections Care grant, MOHAI's Library team completed a six-month digital inventory project, surveying 69 collections of digital materials, uncovering more than 2.6 million individual digital images, which were identified for a digital preservation pilot project in 2024.

Through a generous donation, the museum was able to keep a 1916 terra cotta sculpture that once graced the White-Henry-Stuart building downtown and is now installed on MOHAI's Stack Family Terrace.

Meanwhile, the collection continued to grow and MOHAI accessioned 164 objects and several multi-faceted archival collections including political ephemera; photographs; artwork; sports artifacts; clothing; materials from television; media, and major local events; and much more. One special acquisition was a collection of baking utensils and the shop sign from the beloved Remo Borracchini's Bakery and Mediterranean Market—a century old Rainier Valley store that closed in 2021. Other accessions of note include the last and final issues of the Seattle Chinese Post and the NW Asian Weekly from 2023, and a whimsical Spacie the Needle costume headpiece that won a Seattle Mariners mascot competition in 1979. These objects and many others are featured in MOHAI's online collection, which continues to grow, adding 574 new records and updating 181 more in 2023 alone.

COLLECTIONS BY THE NUMBERS

164

Accessioned objects of
historical significance

299

Historically significant
object records added to the
online collection

275

Photographs, ephemera,
and oral histories added to
the online collection



Spacie the Needle costume headpiece, 1979
MOHAI, 2023.32.1, Gift of Brian Keil

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Social Networking

In 2023, MOHAI saw steady growth, driven by its mission to preserve and share the Pacific Northwest's rich history. This was reflected in the museum's ability to engage diverse audiences across various platforms, including Facebook (26,500 followers), Instagram (12K followers), X (16K followers), and YouTube. Our popular biweekly e-newsletter, History at Home, along with quarterly brochures, reached approximately 15,000 households per issue, providing updates on museum news, free admission days, exclusive opportunities, and expanded digital programming.

MOHAI continued to be recognized as a top destination for visitors, offering engaging exhibits, programs, and events. Throughout the year, the museum garnered strong media coverage, with mentions in outlets including USA Today, The Boston Globe, The Seattle Times, Journey Magazine, and KING 5's Evening Magazine. This visibility helped highlight MOHAI's role in preserving Seattle's history and connecting the community to the region's stories.



26,500

Followers



12K

Followers



16K

Followers

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Engaging Children with History

In January 2023, MOHAI offered a full program of K-12 facilitated fieldtrips—for the first time since the pandemic. Autumn saw especially strong demand, driven by the special exhibit Roots of Wisdom, which has strong curricular connections for K-12 education. The self-guided gallery scavenger hunts, used by all students on field trips, were updated and translated into Spanish, creating distinct, age-appropriate options for middle and high school groups, as well as refreshing the younger levels. Portable Museum trunks, kits, and digital trunks continued to see growing demand, serving a wide geographical area.

In total, MOHAI provided on-site educational programs in 2023 for students from 320 classrooms, representing 158 schools; delivered Portable Classroom materials to an additional 124 classrooms in 41 schools; and served 54 classrooms with special online programs. Fully a quarter of our students received educational services completely free of charge, with the remaining paying a nominal fee. MOHAI continued to subsidize bus transportation and provide learning materials free of charge to ensure that no student and no classroom was ever hindered by a lack of financial resources.



EDUCATION PROGRAMS

EDUCATON PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS

21%

Scholarships recieved

18K

Students and teachers served
with educational programs

10,700

enjoyed field trip visits

MOHAI also welcomed all school teachers and other employees to enjoy free admission during mid-winter break; explore MOHAI's collections in our spring workshop "Marching Through History"; and learn about our K-12 programs at the autumn Educator Open House.

To support our Youth and Family audiences, we continued to develop hands-on programs for MOHAI's Idea Lab, creating a rotating series of new activities, as well as complementary online content and activities.

In 2023, the MOHAI Youth Advisors high school students who engage directly with the museum and worked on projects including Rainy Day History podcast, a guide to creative Seattle landmarks, a "this day in Seattle history" Google calendar, and

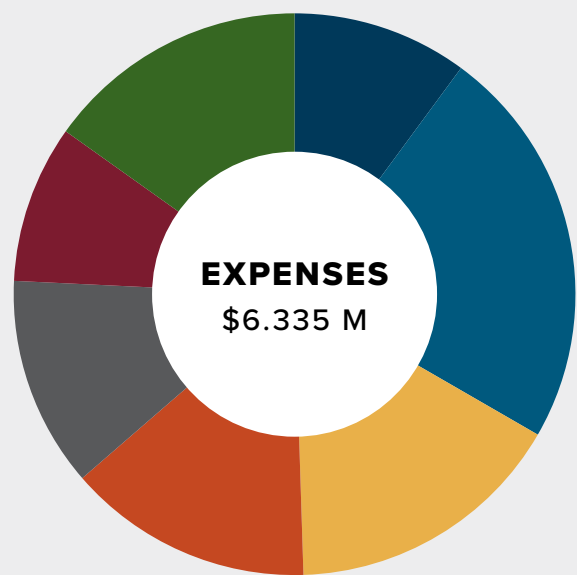
a coloring book inspired by MOHAI's collection and Seattle history. All of these projects are available for the community to enjoy on the MOHAI website.

The summer saw a return to summer camps as well as History Hijinks, a partnership with the Seattle Children's Theatre, which had K-2 students exploring a history mystery in the museum. History Lab, our two-week research-intensive for high schoolers, returned for a second year, with participants creating unique history projects.

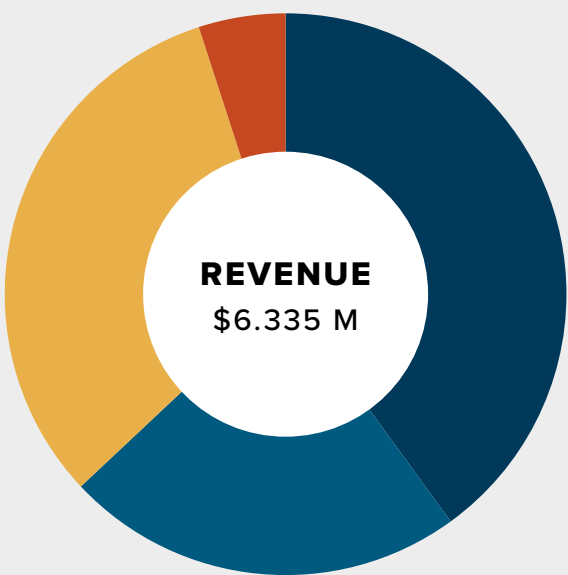
The 5th Avenue Theatre's Educational Touring Company returned to MOHAI too, with a production of Northwest Bookshelf, delighting guests of all ages with an exploration of some amazing stories from regional authors.



2023 Financial Statement



■ Education and Public Programs	10%
■ Facilities and IT	23%
■ Exhibits and Collection Care	16%
■ Administration	14%
■ Printing, Marketing, Communications	12%
■ Membership and Advancement	9%
■ Visitor's Services, Events, Store, Café	15%



■ Investment Distributions	42%
■ Earned Income	23%
■ Contributed Support	32%
■ Releases to Programs	5%

With Gratitude

MOHAI recognizes the people who gave generously to support exhibits, programs, and educational activities in 2023. Thank you!

4Culture

Daren and Wendi Abella

Chap and Eve Alvord

Amazon

Janice Anderson

Lisa and Michael Anderson

Virginia Anderson

Colleen Ando

Apex Foundation

Artsfund

B2Launch

Alicia Barnes

Robyn and Les Baron

George and June Bartell

Roger J. Bass and Richard B. Nelson

Daryl Bates and Christy Cowley

Robert Baxter and Angeli Kakade

Jennifer Beatty

Judi Beck

Harald and Elizabeth Becker

Ben Bridge Jeweler

Black Heritage Society of Washington State

BlackSky

Andrew and Brenda Bor

Dana Bostrom

Bottlehouse

Susan Boyle

Jon and Bobbe Bridge

Daniel Bridge and Simcha Shtull

Julie and Peter Brink

Betsy Bruemmer and Tom Freisem

Diane Butler

Canlis Restaurant

Michael Cannon

Tom and Cynthia Captain

Careage Home Health

Harry Chan

Riley Chapin and Björk Del Riego

Gabriella Chavarria

City of Seattle

Sandi Clark and Bob Karaban

Kevin Cole and Alison Ivey

Comcast

George Corley

Carolyn Corvi and John Bates

Laura Corvi and Robert Davis

James and Barbara Crutcher

Katie D'Amato

Sylvia and Stephen DeForest

Maria Denny and James Kodjababian

Michael Dey and Susan Lantz Dey

Charles Dickey and Sheila

Wyckoff-Dickey

Dee Dickinson

Donna DiFiore

Michael Dix

Rebecca Dolan

Patricia Donahoe

Raymond and Barbara Donaldson

Ryan Donaldson and Lori Beth White

Aimee Donaldson

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Jackie Durbin and Adrian Archer

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Jean Gardner

Leonard Garfield and Thomas Wolfe

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Anne Gittinger

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Enrique Gonzalez

Grandmothers Against Gun Violence

Douglas Granum and Jane Shanaman

Michael and Patricia Green

Krista and Charles Grinstein

Paula and Bernd Guetschow

Gina Hall

John and Kristin Halunen

Lenore Hanauer

Erika Handley

Alexandra Harmon

Jane Hastings

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Lynn Hays and Nancy Nordhoff

Margaret Heldring

Maren and Brandon Higbee

Delney and Gil Hilen

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Richard and Deborah Hopp

William G. Horder

Stephanie and Mike Horstmanshof

Estate of Marilyn Huey

Humanities Washington

Peter and Jeanette Illsley

Frank Immel and Kim Frost

Institute of Museum and Library Services

Carol and Keith James

Linda and Ted Johnson

Junior League of Seattle

Juniper Foundation

Sunanda Kakade

Madhu Kakade

Gabriel Kean and Deniz Anders

Debbie Killinger

Margaret Kineke

Nicole Klein and Ken Coler





Dr. Christof Koch
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 Kristi Mathisen
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 Robert and Constance Moser

Erin Moyer and Jason Barber
 Tim and Mary Nelson
 Monica Nelson
 Virginia Nelson
 John and Laurel Nesholm
 Gary and Susan Neumann
 Charles Nordhoff and Maribeth O'Connor
 Nordstrom
 Estate of Mary Anne Olmstead
 Olson Kundig Architects
 Declan O'Neill and Patricia Pearson
 Oola Distillery
 Roger and Kay Ottenbach
 Catherine Pepper Milo and Yoram Milo
 Kathleen Perkins
 Ronald Peterson
 Michael Pickett and Ann Watson
 Judy Pigott
 Ana Maria Pinto da Silva
 Lawrence Pitre
 Sven Pleyer
 Herb and Lucy Pruzan
 Jerry and Wendy Pugnetti
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 Raven Foundation
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 Mike Repass
 Chad and Tara Richardson
 Christine and Allen Rickert
 Tim and Laura Marie Rivera
 Robert Roblee
 Kate Rooney and Ian Smith
 JT and Allison Rose
 James and Susan Rupp
 Beth Rutherford and Carl Robinson
 Kate Rutherford
 Meg Rutherford
 Margaret Scholtz and Michael Burger
 Seattle Office of Arts & Culture
 Seneca Group
 Susan Shaver
 Marilyn Sherron
 Rachel Shrewsbury and Cory Brooks
 Lauren Shrewsbury and Matt Beam
 Paul Siegel
 Robin Sigo
 Charles Simonyi and Lisa Persdotter Simonyi
 Brooks and Kathy Simpson
 Sam Skrivan

Kevin and Karen Smith
 Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition
 Service
 Snoqualmie Tribe
 Mike and Kathy Stanley
 Starbucks
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 Suquamish Foundation
 Tony Swan and Kayley Runstad Swan
 Maryanne Tagney
 Tai Tung Restaurant
 Rashelle Tanner
 The Boeing Company
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 The Norcliffe Foundation
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 Burton-Tidwell
 Matthew and Jennifer Tilghman-Havens
 David and Christine Towne
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 Tandy and Susan Trower
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 True-Brown Foundation
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 Ken Worzel and Mimi Worzel
 Lin Wu
 Virginia Wyman
 Dee Wyman
 Wyman Youth Trust
 Evelyn Yenson
 Vicki Young
 Chase and Kelly Young
 Amy Zimerman
 Rodney Zollinger

ʔəstʰilč ti mʰxʰtkʷ ʔal tə səstuhəʔkʷ gʷəl daʔxʷ swatixʷtəd gʷəl
skʷitʰ ʔə tə dxʷdəwəbš, suqʷabš, bəqəlšut gʷəl swatixʷtəd ʔə tə
kʷaalq dʰixʷ ʔacʔacitʰalbixʷ. ʔusuxʷtxʷ čət tiitʰ tuditʰtubid ʔə ti
ʔacitʰalbixʷ ʔalalal ʔə ti swatixʷtəd gʷələ ʰusšəqəd ti ʰuləsʔa ʔə ti
dxʷdəwəbš gʷat kʷi ʰustatʰil ʔal tə dišəʔ

Lushootseed translation courtesy of Tami Hohn (Puyallup)
and Nancy Jo Bob (Lummi/Duwamish), Southern Lushootseed
Research and Revitalization, through the American Indian
Studies Department of the University of Washington

**MOHAI stands on the historic and contemporary lands and shores
of the Duwamish, Suquamish, Muckleshoot, and other Coast
Salish Nations.** We acknowledge the forced displacement of Native
Communities from this land while honoring the endurance of the
Duwamish people who still live here.

MOHAI
MUSEUM OF HISTORY & INDUSTRY

860 Terry Ave North | Seattle, WA 98109 | [MOHAI.org](https://mohai.org)