

Now+Next

Smithsonian Institution / 2015 Annual Report



The National Museum of African American History and Culture will open to the public Sept. 24, 2016.



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Wynton Marsalis performs at the Installation ceremony for 13th Secretary of the Smithsonian David J. Skorton.

Now+Next

Few events in my life have been as uplifting and humbling as that of Oct. 19, 2015, the day I was honored to become the 13th Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. The Installation ceremony began with a procession of the institution's scholars, curators and scientists, representing not only the more than 6,000 staff who dedicate themselves to the Smithsonian's mission today, but also the many thousands more who have advanced the fields of history, art and science since the institution's founding in 1846.

In 2015 alone we welcomed hundreds of thousands of people to the newly renovated Renwick Gallery (p. 6), our scientists peered to the edge of the black hole at the center of the Milky Way (p. 18) and our anthropologists helped identify the remains of leaders of the Jamestown colony (p. 28).

The theme of this year's annual report is "Now+Next" because the work we do today leads to the innovations of tomorrow. Thanks to the support of many generous private donations, Congress and the American people, we will continue to increase our understanding of the world, and to share that understanding with you.

Thank you.

David J. Skorton

Secretary David J. Skorton receives the symbolic key to the institution from Smithsonian Chancellor and Chief Justice of the United States John G. Roberts, Jr., during the Installation ceremony at the Arts and Industries Building, Oct. 19, 2015.

Now + Next

28.2M

IN PERSON VISITS

106.7M

UNIQUE VISITORS TO MORE THAN 200 WEBSITES

138M

COLLECTION OBJECTS

91

NEW EXHIBITIONS

205

AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS IN 45 STATES, PUERTO RICO AND PANAMA

121

COUNTRIES IN WHICH THE SMITHSONIAN CONDUCTS RESEARCH

5.2M

PEOPLE WILL BE SERVED BY SMITHSONIAN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS THIS YEAR

500K

DNA SAMPLES BEING COLLECTED BY THE GLOBAL GENOME INITIATIVE

49

STATES SMITHSONIAN TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS WILL VISIT, STOPPING AT ALMOST 400 LOCATIONS

13B+

YEARS INTO THE PAST THE GIANT MAGELLAN TELESCOPE WILL SEE WHEN IT DEBUTS IN 2021

100

LINEAR FEET OF RECORDS THE ARCHIVES OF AMERICAN ART WILL DIGITIZE THIS YEAR

View of artist Leo Villareal's *Volume (Renwick)*, installed above the stairway in the Smithsonian American Art Museum's Renwick Gallery and part of the *WONDER* exhibition.

► In the pages ahead, see what's happening Now and Next at the Smithsonian, in Art, Science, History & Culture and Education & Outreach

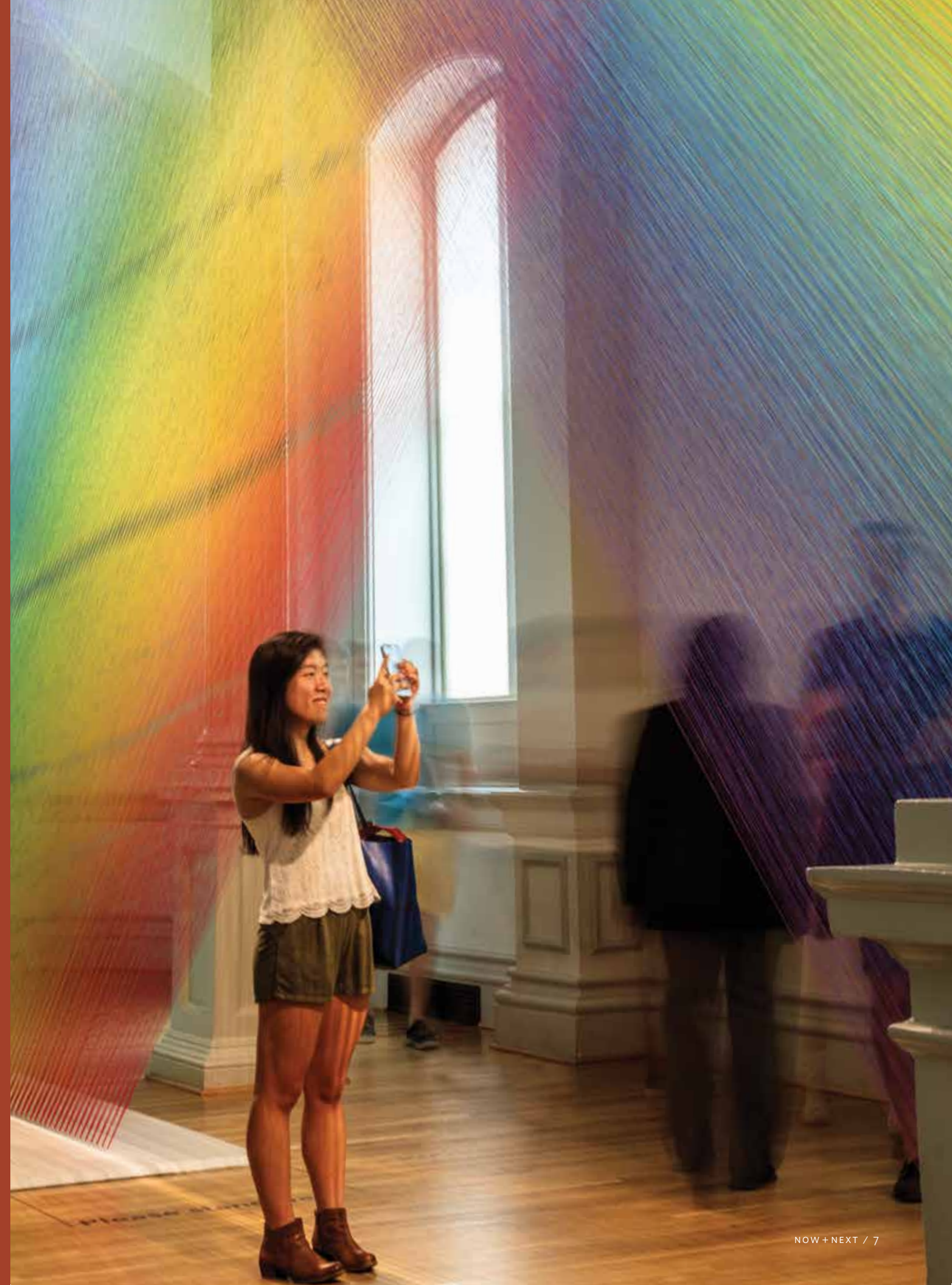
The Renwick Inspires *Wonder*

Thousands of strands of embroidery thread suspended like rays of colored light. Half a million cedar pieces linked in the shape of a hollow tree. Canyons winding between towers of stacked index cards. All around the nine installations that comprise *WONDER*, the debut exhibition of the Smithsonian American Art Museum's renovated Renwick Gallery, people pause to marvel at the painstaking craftsmanship, and take selfies with the art as a backdrop—after all, the sign says “Photography encouraged.”

“Visitors have a strong emotional response to *WONDER*. I’ve found people crying in the galleries, doing yoga, even getting engaged,” says exhibition curator Nicholas Bell. The exhibition, which opened in November, inspired more than 93,000 social media posts and attracted half a million visitors in its first five months, more than 10 times the average annual attendance before the gallery’s renovation.

Designed in 1858, the Renwick was the first purpose-built art museum in the United States. The two-year renovation updated infrastructure and uncovered long-hidden features, including windows and vaulted ceilings. Half the funding for the \$30 million renovation came from private philanthropy, including major gifts from David M. Rubenstein, Nancy Brown Negley, the Robert H. Smith Family Foundation, the Brown Foundation, Inc., of Houston and Robert and Arlene Kogod. “Through the generosity of its donors and the talent of *WONDER*’s artists, the Renwick has reaffirmed the value of the museum as a locus of wonder and a site for public experience,” says Betsy Broun, The Margaret and Terry Stent Director of the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Opposite: *WONDER*’s nine installations transformed the Renwick Gallery into an immersive work of contemporary art, capturing visitors’ imaginations. Shown is Gabriel Dawe’s *Plexus A1*.





ArtNext+

Curators Rescue Endangered Artifacts

“Most conservators don’t think about their museums being bombed,” says Richard Kurin, acting provost and under secretary for museums and research. “But sometimes that’s your challenge.”

Kurin and Cultural Heritage Preservation Officer Corine Wegener spearhead the Smithsonian’s Cultural Rescue Initiative, which they are working to expand into a global center for monitoring disasters, coordinating responses and training rescue workers.

The initiative, which has support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, had its inception in assisting Haiti after the devastating 2010 earthquake. It has assisted in Mali, Egypt and Nepal. In 2015, Smithsonian experts helped colleagues in Syria protect Roman and Byzantine mosaics at the Ma’arra Museum with glue, cloth and sandbags, which later saved the mosaics from a barrel bomb. Now they are training Syrians to protect the Ancient Villages of Northern Syria World Heritage Site.

“The Smithsonian is uniquely positioned to activate partnerships around the world for this work,” says Wegener. “When communities are threatened by disasters, saving their cultural heritage makes them more resilient and gives them hope.”

On May 9, 2016, President Barack Obama signed into law a bill establishing the Smithsonian as a member of the Coordinating Committee on International Cultural Property Protection. The law aims to protect and preserve international cultural property threatened by armed conflict, political instability or natural disasters. Opposite: Nepal Department of Archaeology staff and volunteers participate in training organized by the Smithsonian and partner organizations as part of the 2015 Nepal Earthquake Disaster Response.

Celebrating the Creative Mind



▲ Medal honors Ellsworth Kelly SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Honoring a career that spanned seven decades and his vibrant, dynamic influence on 21st-century contemporary art, the Smithsonian presented Ellsworth Kelly with the James Smithson Bicentennial Medal in April 2015. The medal honors those who have made exceptional contributions to the advancement of art, history, culture, science or education. “Kelly is one of our most important artists,” said Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden Director Melissa Chiu at the ceremony. “His abstract paintings, sculpture and prints are created with an independent aesthetic, diverging from any formal school or art movement.” Kelly’s work is defined by bright colors, hard lines and the interplay between shape, form and color. Kelly donated many pieces to the Smithsonian American Art Museum, and the Hirshhorn holds a large collection of his work. A member of the Smithsonian Campaign Honorary Committee, Kelly passed away Dec. 27, 2015.

“Cosmos” collection acquired ARCHIVES OF AMERICAN ART

Andy Warhol, the Beat Poets’ reunion and celebrity-studded Halloween parties at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel were subjects of Cosmos Andrew Sarchiapone’s camera lens in the 1970s. Best known simply as Cosmos, the prolific conceptual artist and photojournalist took more than 40,000 photographs of notable people and places in New York City’s avant-garde art scene. Now his remarkable work has joined the Archives’ permanent collection, a donation from his brother, Tom Sarchiapone. Including black-and-white prints, negatives, contact sheets and art world prints, Cosmos’ record of this moment in time captures the overlapping worlds of art, music and film with unmatched intimacy and candor. Cosmos’ photos also complement the Archives’ goal of collecting items related to artists of the 1960s and ‘70s, preserving and sharing through this collection an uncommonly thorough record of a key moment in America’s art history.



▲ Diverse programs, acquisitions mark 40th anniversary HIRSHHORN MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GARDEN

In her first full year at the museum, Director Melissa Chiu made the Hirshhorn’s 40th anniversary a year of broadening horizons and building collections. The exhibition *Shirin Neshat: Facing History* (above) explored the celebrated artist’s works in the context of modern Iran, and it signaled the beginning of a new international perspective Chiu brings to the museum. Acquisitions of works by Yoko Ono, Susan Philipsz, Park Seo-Bo, Natsuyuki Nakanishi, Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian and others strengthened the collection and promise broader and deeper narratives of modern and contemporary art in shows to come. The museum procured works by African American artists including Senga Nengudi and Charles Gaines as part of a focus on underrepresented American artists, and acquired works that will be shown in planned exhibitions on Cuban art and artists’ responses to the Vietnam War.

Jan Stuart appointed first Chinese Art curator FREER | SACKLER GALLERIES

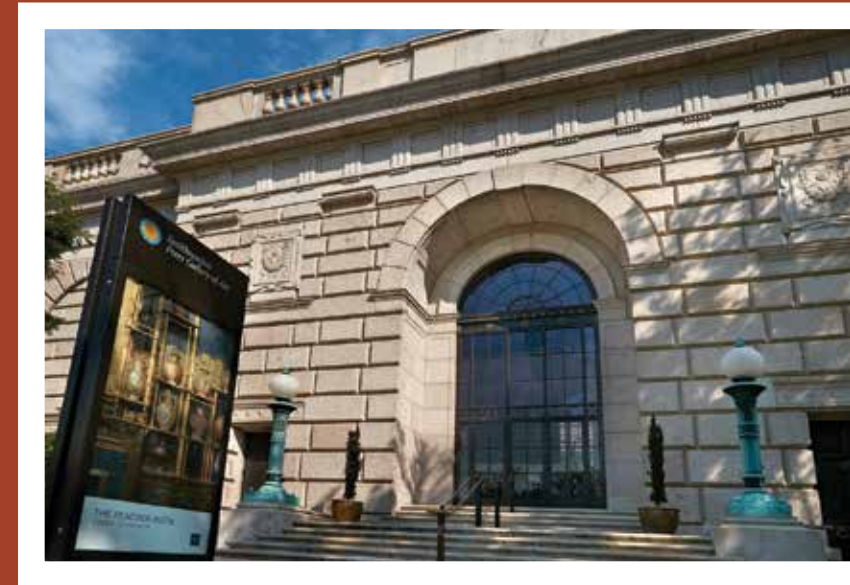
Among the most distinguished scholars in the field of Chinese art, Jan Stuart recently was reunited with a collection with which she previously spent 18 years, thanks to a gift from an anonymous donor. Appointed the Freer | Sackler’s first Melvin R. Seiden Curator of Chinese Art, Stuart returns to the Smithsonian after a hiatus of nearly 10 years at the British Museum, heading that institution’s Asian Department and helping create new galleries. Stuart oversees the Freer | Sackler’s collection of Chinese decorative arts, one of the finest outside of China, and joins in reimagining the Freer’s galleries for Song to Qing dynasty (10th–20th centuries) arts. The re-installation will combine ceramics, textiles, lacquer, jade, painting and calligraphy, emphasizing the objects’ interrelationships to explore themes of imperial patronage and archaism. Stuart contributes deep knowledge of the collection and global experience in the display of Asian art.

▼ *Divine Comedy* tours heaven, purgatory, hell

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN ART

What is your vision of heaven? Of hell? Or purgatory? In the first exhibition to occupy the entire museum, works by 40 of Africa's best emerging and established artists delved into the themes of Dante Alighieri's celebrated poetic work. Guest-curated by noted scholar Simon Njami, *The Divine Comedy: Heaven, Purgatory, and Hell Revisited by Contemporary African Artists* followed the poem's thematic sequence and presented works by artists

from 18 African nations and the African diaspora. "This is about a collective afterlife — to show that heaven, purgatory and hell belong to everyone," Njami said. The works explored politics, heritage, history, faith, form and identity. Exhibition highlights included Pélagie Gbaguidi's 42-foot canvas *Dans le vent reduserpent danhomê*, a mixed-media collage by Kenyan artist Wangechi Mutu and a series by Egyptian photographer Youssef Nabil. Support from **The Coca-Cola Company** and the **Ford Foundation** helped make the exhibition possible. Below, a piece from *The 99 series* by Aida Muluneh, 2013.



▲ Renewed Freer will open in 2017

FREER | SACKLER

Closed January 2016 to undergo only its second major renovation in 90 years, the Freer Gallery of Art is receiving long needed updates and will reopen in the summer of 2017. Home to the largest collection of works by James McNeill Whistler and to Charles Lang Freer's Asian art collection, the renovations will reinstate building elements to evoke the aesthetic vision of architect Charles A. Platt, including restoration of the original terrazzo floors.

Storage and conservation areas will be upgraded to improve the preservation and scientific study of the museum's art and artifacts. Wi Fi will be installed, and building infrastructure and climate control systems will be renewed. The renovation also provides an opportunity to reinterpret the collections galleries and improve the visitor experience throughout the museum. Funds

for the work are provided by federal appropriations, gifts and the museum's endowment, which was established with Freer's original bequest to the museum.

Gift builds photography collection

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

The discerning lenses of Mathew Brady, Alexander Gardner, Edward Steichen and Annie Leibovitz have captured some of the most recognizable and important Americans. Their evocative photographs tell the evolving story of our cultural identity, and their talents have changed the nature of portraiture itself.

So important is photography to the Portrait Gallery's mission that photographs make up over half of the portraits on view to the public, and, over the past decade, the majority of the new portraits it has acquired. A gift from the **Joseph L. and Emily K. Gidwitz Memorial Foundation** launches an endowment dedicated to photography acquisition, marking the museum's first

acquisition endowment and one of the largest gifts in the museum's history. The donor intends the gift as the first to a fund that, in perpetuity, ensures that the Portrait Gallery can expand and diversify a powerful and ever evolving storytelling medium.

Donor funds 10 year program

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY, SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM

Three museums are hosting a 10 year, interactive program series, *America Now*. Supported by the **Robert and Arlene Kogod Family Foundation**, *America Now* uses public programs to create civic engagement and cultural connections in American art, history and culture.

For its inaugural 2015 season, innovation was the theme, expressed through a modern dance workshop by dance company Pilobolus, at the National Portrait Gallery; musical performances and a summit examining American contributions to global innovation, at the National Museum of American History; and digital painting, virtual reality and a giant interactive game in the Kogod Courtyard, hosted by the Smithsonian American Art Museum. In the 2016 election year, the theme is participation. Through a partnership with **Rock the Vote**, new voters may register at events, which include jazz and folk music performances, lightning talks on democracy and a 20-foot mural visitors create that depicts what America means to them. Every year through 2025, *America Now* will present new and engaging public programming.

Bei Bei Captures the Hearts of Millions

The newborn announced his arrival with a vigorous squeal, delighting giant panda lovers around the world who watched the birth on the Smithsonian's National Zoological Park Panda Cam. One month later, in September, the first ladies of the United States and the People's Republic of China paid a visit to name him Bei Bei ("precious" or "treasure"). He quickly became a social media celebrity, inspiring thousands of Instagram posts featuring the cub at peak cuteness.

Bei Bei's star turn reflects the leading role played by the Zoo and Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute to save species from extinction. Smithsonian scientists are studying the biology and reproduction of coral polyps, amphibians, black footed ferrets, cheetahs, Przewalski's horses and Asian elephants, among others.

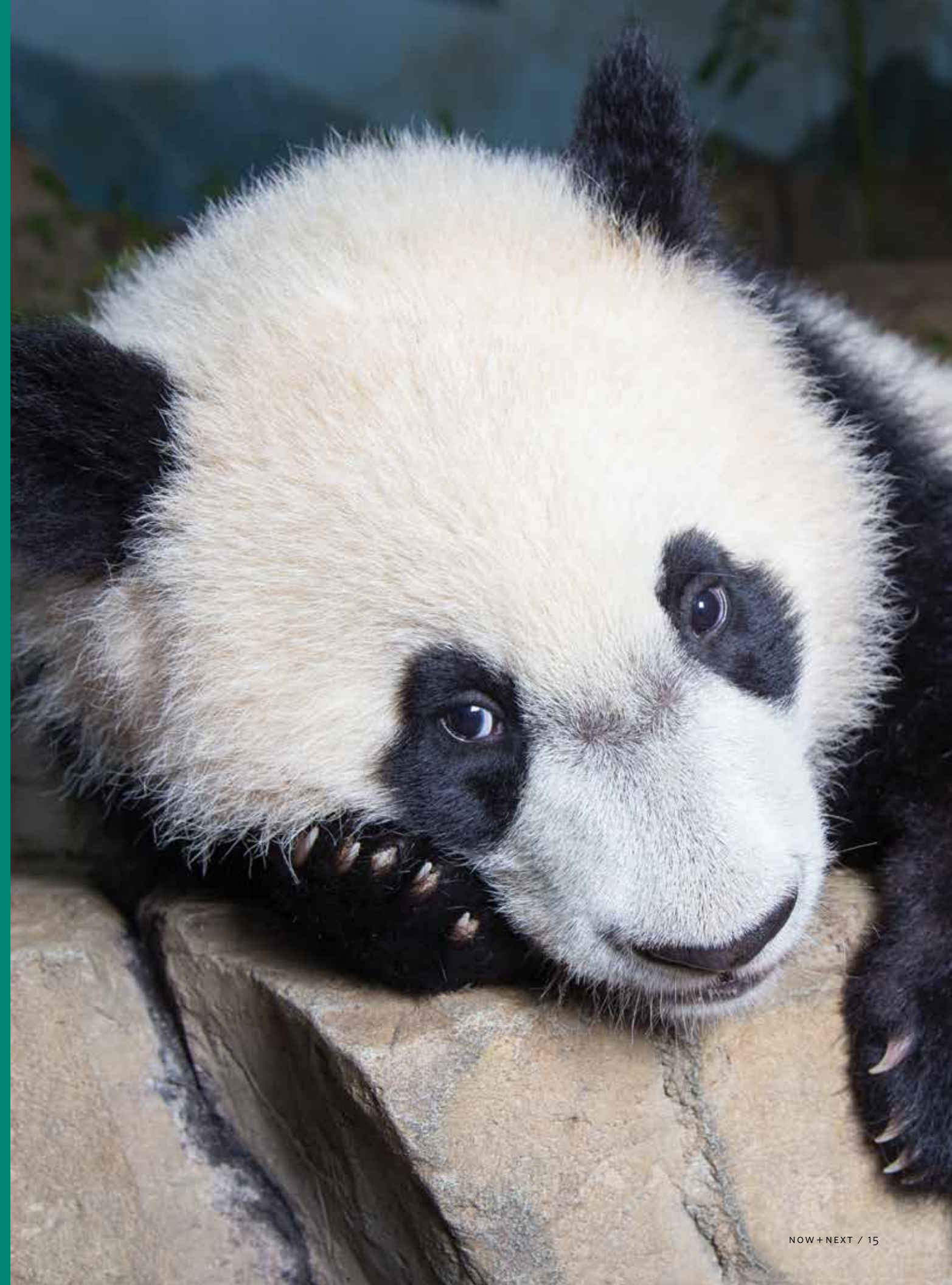
Bei Bei's birth is an outcome of this research: four months earlier, a team of Smithsonian scientists, veterinarians and panda keepers performed a successful artificial

insemination of his mom, Mei Xiang—the same procedure that produced her first two cubs in 2005 and 2013.

A generous gift from Smithsonian Regent and campaign Co-Chair **David M. Rubenstein** ensures that the Zoo will continue to conduct groundbreaking research on giant panda reproduction and restore their habitats in China. "Bei Bei's birth has given joy to millions of people," he says. "I congratulate the National Zoo for its extraordinary efforts in helping to make this birth possible."

Opposite: Bei Bei, born on Aug. 22, 2015, has become the most closely watched panda ever. By the end of the year, more than 6 million people visited Bei Bei via the Panda Cam, sponsored by the **Ford Motor Company Fund**.

LIFT TO SEE WHAT'S NEXT ►





Smithsonian Takes a Stand on Climate Change

In fiscal year 2015, the Smithsonian issued its statement on climate change, affirming that “the global climate is warming as a result of increasing levels of atmospheric greenhouse gases generated by human activities.” The Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute explored the impact of El Niño on coral reefs and forests in Panama, gathering data that will improve climate prediction models. The Smithsonian Environmental Research Center monitored greenhouse gas production in Chesapeake Bay wetlands. Other Smithsonian experts increased understanding of climate change impact through studies of marine biodiversity, ocean “dead zones,” the spread of invasive species and declines in pollinators.

“No other institution brings together such a breadth of scholarship on environmental change,” observes John Kress, director, consortium for understanding and sustaining a biodiverse planet and curator of botany. The institution-wide Living in the Anthropocene initiative, which issued the climate change statement, connects Smithsonian thought-leaders in fields as diverse as art conservation and human evolution so that, institution-wide, different perspectives are brought to bear on the complex challenge of climate change.

Coming years will see major exhibitions on the National Mall incorporating climate change themes, a global network of marine observatories and satellites monitoring atmospheric change—continuing Smithsonian contributions that help society make wise choices and ensure future generations inherit a sustainable world.

Opposite: Research Technician Luis Aguilar measures tree diameter on Barro Colorado Island, Panama, part of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute’s ForestGEO global forest monitoring project that provides data used to track climate change and forest health.

Investigating Our World and Beyond



▲ First look at our galaxy's black hole

SMITHSONIAN ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY

What we know about black holes is rapidly moving from the abstract to the concrete. Observatory astronomer Michael Johnson, together with an international team of collaborators, has directly detected the powerful magnetic fields around our galaxy's central, supermassive black hole. Previously predicted but never directly observed, these magnetic fields are essential to letting a black hole "eat" nearby material and to making this infalling material glow brightly.

The scientists accomplished the breakthrough using the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT), a global array of radio dishes linked to form an Earth-sized telescope. A larger telescope can see more detail, and the EHT is needed to reach across 25,000 light years to see an object so compact the effect is like spotting a bagel sitting on the surface of the moon. The scientists expect a much more detailed picture in 2017, when all nine telescopes in the EHT will be actively contributing data.

Partners preserve worldwide plant diversity

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Imagine a world without spring flowers, shady trees or grassy meadows. Yet with one in five of the world's estimated 380,000 plant species under threat, the importance of preserving nature's diversity becomes clear. In July 2015, the Smithsonian's Global Genome Initiative took its first steps toward capturing the genomic diversity of half the world's living plant families in less than two years, and half of all plant genera in the next five years. The initiative began working with the U.S. Botanic Garden, U.S. National Arboretum and the USDA Germplasm Farm to sample and preserve their collections, adding to the more than 2,000 families and nearly 7,000 genera of all of life already represented in the Smithsonian biorepository. As the lead collaborator in a worldwide network of partnerships including the Barcode of Life and the Global Genome Biodiversity Network, the Smithsonian is contributing to a fast, searchable database of genetic resources that can be accessed by scientists anywhere.



▲ Kickstarter campaign is most successful yet by a museum

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM

1969: Richard Nixon was President, Led Zeppelin released its first album and Neil Armstrong took humanity's first steps on the moon. Almost five decades later, his spacesuit (above) was the subject of the Smithsonian's first-ever Kickstarter crowdfunding campaign. The campaign was a runaway success, the most successful to date by a museum. It reached its initial \$500,000 goal in a mere four days and exceeded that goal by more than 40 percent.

The funds provide for the suit's conservation, a climate-controlled display case and digitization of the suit for viewing by the public anywhere in the world, as well as enabling it to be put on temporary display in 2019 for the 50th anniversary of the moon landing. The suit will be permanently featured in the museum's Destination Moon gallery, scheduled to open in 2020. The additional funds the campaign raised will conserve Alan Shepard's Mercury spacesuit.

Scientist studies shrinking moon

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM

Long the subject of poetry, the dance between the Earth and its silvery moon is well understood to cause our planet's tides to flow. But surprising new research by Tom Watters, a planetary geologist at the museum's Center for Earth and Planetary Studies and a science team member of NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter mission, reveals thousands of small, young fault scarps on the moon.

Watters, who also studies the tectonics of Mercury, analyzed images of these small, cliff-like landforms across the moon's surface — thought to be caused by contraction of the moon's crust as its interior cools.

Using computer models, Watters and his team found that the faults are highly aligned with tidal stresses. Just as the moon pulls on the Earth, our planet pushes back and the combination of tidal forces and contraction have created the young landforms, painting a new picture of the dynamic between Earth and its satellite.

▼ **Micro GPS tracks songbirds' migration**

SMITHSONIAN CONSERVATION BIOLOGY INSTITUTE

Where does an ovenbird from Maryland spend its winters? It's long been known that these little brown birds migrate to Cuba and Florida. But with super-miniature technology, Institute researchers Peter Marra and Michael Hallworth now pinpoint exactly where these birds go to escape the cold. The information allows much better-informed decisions about songbird conservation. Older GPS tracking tags weighed

up to 12 grams and could be used only on larger birds. The new super-lightweight tags — which do not hurt the birds — weigh a gram and can be carried by much smaller migrating songbirds like the ovenbirds. The svelte satellite tags collect the birds' locations with pinpoint precision, on the order of feet instead of miles; then the birds are relocated each year and the data collected. Though the ovenbird was the first, these tags can reveal the habits of many other species as well.



▲ **Gamboa Lab will broaden tropical studies**

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Continuing to evolve and expand upon more than 100 years of long term ecological studies in the region, the Institute will open the 41,710 square foot Gamboa Laboratory in September 2016 as the latest addition to its Panama research network. Made possible in part through gifts by the Hoch family, the laboratory is the centerpiece of the Institute's growing scientific enterprise in the region and will house signature programs in animal behavior, neurobiology, forest ecology and climate change.

Bordered by parklands protecting 54,000 acres of intact lowland forest, the new campus also will host experiments in the Panama Canal watershed and provide opportunities for new research and innovative collaboration for a broad community of scientists and students representing Smithsonian staff and roughly half of the 1,500 visiting scholars who come to the Institute each year.

Deep Time will find clues to future in fossil record

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Fossils reveal the evidence from tiny mosses and mammals to giant fern like trees and the infamous *T. rex* of how life on Earth has evolved through 4.6 billion years of relentless change. This story will unfold in *Deep Time*, a comprehensive exhibition set to open in the museum's 31,000 square foot Fossil Hall in 2019.

The exhibition will feature the latest findings about Earth and its distant past through spectacular fossil specimens, ecosystem re-creations, a working fossil lab and vibrant multimedia that connect visitors with active scientific research. In an innovative new twist, *Deep Time* will extend the story into the age of humans, exploring the themes of global change in a modern context and inviting audiences to reflect on their opportunity to shape the planet's future.

Giant telescope to probe exoplanets for signs of life

SMITHSONIAN ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY

When it sees first light early in 2021, one of the first tasks of the Giant Magellan Telescope (GMT) will be to detect worlds the size of Earth, located in the warm, habitable zones of distant stars, and compare their atmospheres to our own. With four of its seven mirrors each 27 feet across already complete, ground was broken and construction begun on the telescope facility in the Chilean Andes last November. The GMT is being built by an international consortium that includes the Observatory, universities and science organizations.

The Observatory is developing one of the first tools to be used on the GMT: the G CLEF, or GMT Consortium Large Earth Finder. This instrument will find promising small, rocky worlds throughout our galaxy and analyze their atmospheres for the presence of gases like oxygen, methane and water vapor — indicators of possible life.

Innovation Wing Tells the Story of American Ingenuity

What ideas and ideals make Americans a different kind of people? The first floor Innovation Wing at the National Museum of American History, which opened in July 2015, explores the distinctive history of business and invention in America.

“The dynamic interaction between capitalism and democracy has given American enterprise a unique character,” says David Allison, associate director for curatorial affairs. The *American Enterprise* exhibition in the Mars Hall of American Business chronicles this interaction over three centuries.

Nearby, visitors explore the American penchant for innovation. The hands-on Patrick F. Taylor Foundation Object Project features inventions that shaped everyday life, while Draper Spark!Lab encourages children to invent. Two exhibitions feature inventors and invention hotspots. The Innovation Wing also contains the Wallace H. Coulter Performance Plaza, the SC Johnson

Conference Center and the Wegmans Wonderplace learning space for young children.

Media coverage of the opening included the *Wall Street Journal*, CBS News and BuzzFeed.com, and the new wing received a record number of visitors in its first month. “It’s not like a regular museum. It’s a cool one,” said 7 year-old visitor Carra Brown. The \$63 million renovation was made possible by Congress, the American people and \$45 million in private support, including 12 gifts of \$1 million or more.

The second and third floors of the wing, launching in 2017 and 2018, will focus on other aspects of American distinctiveness: democracy and culture. “All three floors tell stories that resonate with each other,” says Allison.

Opposite: The Wallace H. Coulter Exchange within *American Enterprise* uses hands-on activities to engage visitors and explain markets and business practices. Visitors can light the Tower of Power, take a farming challenge or start a business.





African American Museum's Historic Opening Nears

Sept. 24, 2016: After 13 years of planning and construction, the National Museum of African American History and Culture will open to visitors. Galleries are being readied. Collections, which started at zero, now brim with 34,000 objects, like the marquee sign from legendary jazz nightclub Minton's Playhouse, and artworks by the likes of Frederick C. Flemister and Romare Bearden donated by Robert L. Johnson from his personal collection.

An astounding outpouring of private support has exceeded \$270 million, with 100,000 members and donors. More than 90 Founding Donors — one-third of them first-time Smithsonian contributors — have made gifts of \$1 million or more.

The 213 year-old Alfred Street Baptist Church in Alexandria, Va., epitomizes the deep commitment the museum inspires. The historic church made a Founding Donor gift of \$1 million, and members of its congregation have made additional gifts, including three other Founding Donor gifts of \$1 million or more.

Says church pastor the Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley, "We are proud to help build a place where all Americans can learn about the richness and diversity of the African American experience, and how it has helped shape this nation."

Opposite: Video projections transformed the museum building's façade into a spectacular 3-D canvas commemorating African American history at the museum's first-ever event, held Nov. 16, 2015.

Championing the Voices of Our Diverse Heritage



▲
Obama rendered in 3-D
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

Continuing his string of firsts, President Barack Obama has another: He's now the first sitting president to have his portrait rendered in 3-D. Experts from the Smithsonian's digitization team, collaborating with colleagues from the University of California, mapped the details of Obama's face from ear to ear in high resolution and used handheld scanners to create a highly accurate bust. Inspired by Abraham Lincoln's two life masks, which reflected drastic changes in his face during his presidency, Obama's digital visage took just 90 seconds of sitting time, and seven minutes from start to finish.

In the same way Lincoln's masks speak to today's audiences about his presence in the past, the printed nylon bust of Obama may speak to future generations with a similar power. The museum holds a complete set of presidential portraits in two dimensions. The official portrait of the President has not yet been commissioned for the museum.

Freedom Just Around the Corner
NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM

Letters carried by slaves, a mail bag with segregated pouches, abolitionist campaign flyers: These are the poignant touchstones that comprise the Postal Museum's first exhibition devoted entirely to African American history. With nearly 100 items on display, and complemented by pieces on loan from other institutions and private collections, the exhibition further delves into its complex story using mailed records of slave-related business transactions, correspondence between leaders of the civil rights movement and a large selection of original artwork from the U.S. Postal Service's Black Heritage stamp series. The exhibition opened on Feb. 12, 2015, the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War and the abolition of slavery in America. *Freedom Just Around the Corner* documents struggle and progress in a surprising and original way.



▲
Exhibitions travel the nation and world
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The Smithsonian has a worldwide reputation for engaging, high-quality content. What many might not know is that every year more than 40 Smithsonian exhibitions visit upwards of 4.5 million Americans beyond Washington, D.C., while others even travel internationally. Beyond U.S. borders, the Asian Pacific American Center and Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service brought *Beyond Bollywood* (above) to audiences in New Delhi, Goa, Chennai and Kolkata in India, showcasing Indian American contributions to America.

In New York, the National Museum of the American Indian and Smithsonian Latino Center opened *Cerámica* at the museum's Gustav Heye Center, bringing their first major bilingual exhibition to new audiences. *Cerámica* debuted in Washington, D.C., and uses 155 pre-Columbian pieces to illuminate ancient Central America. The National Museum of Natural History's *Exploring Human Origins* exhibition will have traveled to 18 states when its circuit concludes in 2017, featuring 3-D skull casts and a life-sized Neanderthal mother and child statue that illustrate the relationship of *Homo sapiens* with the natural world.

Digitizing at blazing speed
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

Technology is often lauded for its ability to make life easier or more efficient. This axiom is particularly true of the work done with the National Numismatic Collection, an assembly of the world's coins, currency and paper money from throughout history.

Part of the Smithsonian's first-ever "rapid capture" digitization project, the museum's numismatics team worked with the Digitization Program Office to scan a total of 274,340 currency proof sheets, all produced from 1863 to the mid-20th century. Conveyed on an automatic belt and photographed with a super-high-resolution camera, the team processed nearly 3,500 sheets every day at a cost of less than a dollar per sheet—and in only four and a half months, a previously unimaginable feat. Revealing details imperceptible to the naked eye, the freely available digital versions of the proofs deliver on technology's promise by making Smithsonian collections available to everyone, everywhere.



Owsley IDs Jamestown dead

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Hidden for 400 years beneath the chancel of the church where Pocahontas was married, the badly decayed bones of four men presented a historical mystery. Buried in a location that implied high status, discovering their identities became the focus of a comprehensive, collaborative and interdisciplinary investigation. Led by Smithsonian forensic anthropologist Doug Owsley (below, far left), with archaeologist Bill Kelso of the Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation, teams of scientists

used skeletal analysis, chemical testing, 3-D scanning and genealogical research to determine that the men were prominent in founding the English colony. The Rev. Robert Hunt and Capt. Gabriel Archer arrived on the first ship to Virginia, while Sir Ferdinando Wainman and Capt. William West came three years later to help save the settlement. Directly connected with the European settlement of North America, Owsley's work in identifying these personages adds insight to our understanding of Jamestown and our nation's story.



Exhibition will remember WWII relocations

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

As a teenager in 1942, following President Franklin D. Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066, the late Paul Terasaki and his family found themselves removed to Arizona's Gila River War Relocation Center. His future wife, Hisako, her family and more than 110,000 other Japanese Americans had similar experiences.

In 2017, on the Executive Order's 75th anniversary, the museum will open an exhibition highlighting the action prompted by racial prejudice and fear following the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Made possible by a lead gift from the Terasaki Family Foundation,

the exhibition will feature the original document signed by Roosevelt, and it will explore the impact this document had on many Japanese Americans using several other objects, images and personal narratives. The Terasaki family's gift also creates an endowment to support future Japanese American collections, exhibitions and programs.

Some languages thrive, others vanish

CENTER FOR FOLKLIFE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

A patchwork quilt of many tongues, Europe is home to more than 60 indigenous minority and regional languages, some of which have experienced a renaissance of interest and growth. Yet many remain

imperiled, in danger of being lost forever as their aging speakers vanish.

A gift from Ferring Pharmaceuticals enables the study of how to best renew and revive these languages as part of the center's Sustaining Minority Languages in Europe project. Over five years, the project's interdisciplinary teams will study six minority language communities to better understand the social, cultural, political and economic factors that enable certain language groups to thrive, with the ultimate goal of providing a framework for others to follow in their own language revitalization efforts.

Museum of the future

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN CENTER

Beneath the soaring Victorian roof of the Arts and Industries Building, one of the Smithsonian's original exhibition halls, a new kind of museum temporarily took shape in the summer of 2016.

CrossLines, one of the center's first Culture Labs, featured exhibitions and presentations by more than 40 artists and scholars from around the country.

The event was the first of several in person and digital pop up exhibitions to be presented in Washington, D.C., and communities around the country. It reflects curator Adriel Luis's belief that effective storytelling sometimes means breaking the mold that a museum need not have walls to have an enduring impact on perceptions. Made possible by a Ford Foundation grant, the Culture Labs showcase the vitality of the Asian Pacific American experience in America and are an investment by the donor in the center's vision of a more nimble, mobile, accessible and inclusive museum model for the 21st century.

iDescubra! Sparks Science Learning Across the Nation

Latinos in the United States remain significantly underrepresented in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). In response, the Smithsonian Latino Center's *iDescubra! Meet the Science Expert* program engages Latino families in STEM learning through one-on-one conversations with Latino scientists (in Spanish and English) and hands-on science activities.

The center has organized *iDescubra!* programs in Smithsonian museums in Washington, D.C., since 2011. But in 2015, with funding from NBCUniversal Telemundo Enterprises, the program expanded to museums and science centers in Miami, Houston, Oakland and Alexandria, Va., reaching more than 100,000 participants. In each location, *iDescubra!* focused on a theme of interest to the host museum and local community. At the Patricia and Phillip Frost Museum of Science in Miami, for example, *iDescubra!* featured marine science activities

led by researchers from the Smithsonian Marine Center at Fort Pierce, Fla., and the chance to talk with National Science Foundation marine biologist Sonia Ortega. At Chabot Space and Science Center in Oakland, *iDescubra!* featured space flight and former NASA "Mars czar" Orlando Figueroa. These activities and speakers have succeeded in reaching out to families who don't usually visit science museums.

"The experts we bring are able to explain, 'This is what I do every day and why I love being a scientist,'" says Emily Key, education program manager at the Smithsonian Latino Center. "They serve as role models and spark kids' curiosity to learn more."

Opposite: These *iDescubra!* volunteers demonstrate wearable technology and robotics at the KidMakers Expo at the Children's Museum of Houston, August 2015. The University of Houston students attended along with Dr. Jose "Pepe" Contreras-Vidal, university professor in electrical and computer engineering.





Design in the Classroom Scales Up

Can a bag filled with straws, pipe cleaners and construction paper teach kids to solve real-life problems? Yes, when it's part of a Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum classroom workshop. These everyday materials help schoolchildren learn to think like designers, build prototypes and work in teams to solve design challenges such as, "In the developing world, how might we transport clean water from its source to our home?"

Cooper Hewitt developed Design in the Classroom workshops in New York City and piloted a professional development program that has introduced design thinking to 540 teachers in New Orleans, San Antonio, Minneapolis, Cleveland and Washington, D.C.

This summer, the museum is launching this professional development program nationally, beginning in Los Angeles. It will also prototype an online version of the training to extend Design in the Classroom's reach to even more educators. Donors backing the museum's national launch include Cooper Hewitt friends across the nation and celebrities Ellen DeGeneres and Tim Gunn. Says DeGeneres: "Design education has the power to teach children to become critical thinkers and change the world."

Opposite: Students work on their solution to a Design in the Classroom challenge. The program brings design directly into young peoples' lives and teaches students in grades K-12 the importance of design thinking and how it can solve everyday problems.

Inspiring Discovery in Museums and Communities



▲ Gift expands popular Explainers program NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM

Did you know that the Wright brothers first tested their wing warping theory with a kite? Did you ever wonder how toilets work on the International Space Station? These questions and more are among the topics covered by the museum's corps of red-shirted high school- and college-age Explainers. Assisted by a remarkable assemblage of objects from the museum's collection and the interactive website *How Things Fly*, they lead discussions to guide visitors of all ages to a better understanding of aeronautics and space exploration. A gift from **GE Aviation** increases Explainers program hours at the National Mall museum and expands the program to include the museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, Va. It also creates a videoconferencing-based pilot program with elementary schools in Cincinnati. The high-tech distance-learning program allows the Explainers, for the first time, to take their object-based STEM teaching beyond museum walls to reach kids in their classrooms.

▲ Citizen scientists wet their feet SMITHSONIAN ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER ANACOSTIA COMMUNITY MUSEUM

Armed with sample bottles, clipboards, nets and, most importantly, waterproof boots, groups of middle and high school students sample their local streams. All attending school in the Anacostia River watershed of Washington, D.C., these young citizen scientists test the chemistry and biology of the waters and survey them for worms, snails and insect larvae. Their findings contribute to ongoing research and help determine the current and long-term health of their local streams.

The students and teachers gain hands-on experience with the ecology of their neighborhood watershed, while the Smithsonian shares the citizen-science initiative with its national Affiliate organizations as a model of how to engage students in exploring their local environs. The initiative is made possible with support from partners **State Farm** and the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**.



▲ Endowment shares donor's curiosity NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

What kid doesn't enjoy the opportunity to get up close and personal with weird, cool things? Whether it's bones, fossils, feathers or fronds, students of all ages can explore more than 6,000 natural and cultural history objects in *Q?rius*, the museum's interactive learning center. Because of **Coralyn Wright Whitney's** generosity, the center can expand its resources and programming and is available, in perpetuity, seven days a week to public, private and homeschooled students at every level.

Through hands-on experiences with collection objects, collaborating with museum scientists or staff to solve a natural history mystery or working with research-grade scientific equipment, *Q?rius* engages students in inquiry-based, team-oriented approaches that encourage them to become curious scientists themselves. The gift, the largest the museum has received for education, reflects Whitney's interest in passing on her abiding curiosity about the natural world, sparked by growing up in Florida and being fascinated by all that surrounded her.

▲ Students channel Dolores Huerta SMITHSONIAN CENTER FOR LEARNING AND DIGITAL ACCESS NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

Known for her tireless work in defense of farm workers' rights, Dolores Huerta has not only been a force of change in her community, but also sees her work as a family affair: "The whole family strikes together and pickets together," she says. Photographic essays by local families, created to depict their own visions of themselves as forces of change for their communities, were displayed as part of the *iSí se puede! Dolores Huerta Family Day* held in the Kogod Courtyard of the National Portrait Gallery.

Latin American immigrant mothers and their middle school-aged children created the essays together during a three-day photojournalism workshop held at an area school to document their stories of leadership and family. Huerta was the subject of the recent Portrait Gallery *One Life* exhibition, which inspired educators to bring her story into the schools.

Education&OutreachNow+

Youngest learners get education space

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

From finding owls in a model of the Smithsonian Castle and vegetable shopping at a farm stand to cooking in a kid-sized version of Julia Child's kitchen, tots at the museum's Wegmans Wonderplace explore the world on their own level. The first education space on the National Mall for children under six, the 1,700-square-foot interactive play area encourages these youngest learners to use all their senses to get excited about

American history. The Wonderplace lets them explore more than 100 museum collection objects and pose in kid-size frames to make their own portraits of notable historic figures.

A gift to the museum's first-floor Innovation Wing from Wegmans Food Markets opened the learn-through-play area and supports the wing's demonstration kitchen, part of the museum's Cooking Up History program. Wegmans also made in-kind donations of the farm stand and Julia Child-inspired play kitchen.



Education&OutreachNext+



Forgotten field books open their pages

SMITHSONIAN LIBRARIES

May 31, 1842: The red streak appears bright only after death it is visible slightly while living the dark streaks are not bright or bluer during life.

So goes one entry in Joseph Drayton's field book documenting his observations of a Redmouth sucker on the Columbia River during the U.S. Exploring Expedition (1838-42), just one example of the thousands of works like it that will be digitized for public access by the Libraries in a project now getting underway. Many of these unique primary sources have been tucked away in filing cabinets and drawers for generations.

Field books often contain photos, specimens and drawings, as well as observers' raw, original data, which exist nowhere else. The project is releasing the books to the world and making them accessible to all.

Reinventing how teachers plug into the Smithsonian

SMITHSONIAN CENTER FOR LEARNING AND DIGITAL ACCESS

For more than a decade, teachers have been downloading thousands of Smithsonian lesson plans, but research revealed that the educators want to be more involved. That feedback shapes the Smithsonian Learning Lab, a next generation website that puts teachers in the driver's seat. The Lab makes it easy to discover more than a million Smithsonian digital resources—lesson plans and images of the institution's collections, videos, magazine articles and more—then fashion them into materials that meet the needs of their classrooms.

Grable Foundation funding helps train teachers to use the Lab, and Carnegie Corporation funding supports user monitoring and continual improvements to it. The center's shift recalls Smithsonian Secretary Joseph Henry's words, written in 1850: "The worth and importance of the institution are not to be estimated by what it accumulates within the walls of its building, but by what it sends forth to the world."

American Art takes to the cloud

SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM

Imagine if you could instantly summon detailed descriptions of every work by Edward Hopper held by America's top museums. That's the scholarly vision behind the American Art Collaborative, led by the Smithsonian American Art Museum. The vision is within reach because of rapidly emerging tools for linking information in the digital cloud.

The 14 member museums of the collaborative are sharing and connecting their collections information using a common open format, so scholars and others may access them as one pooled holding. Work on an initial 100,000 records is underway. The initiative has the potential to revolutionize scholarship in the field of American art and enable member museums to uncover new and meaningful connections among their works. Leadership of the project comes naturally to the Smithsonian American Art Museum, which began publishing its collection in the cloud in 2014.

We Thank Those Who Make It Possible

America's Smithsonian

A wonder of the world and a source of pride for our country, the Smithsonian is free and open to the public 364 days a year. Congress and the American people provide its solid financial foundation, and generous donors, willing to invest in ideas, are transforming it to meet the needs of an increasingly diverse and interconnected world. In the pages that follow, we recognize those who make possible today's Smithsonian.

At the National Portrait Gallery, staff members ready Gilbert Stuart's iconic "Lansdowne" portrait of George Washington for its 18-month conservation, made possible by support from Bank of America. The painting is undergoing for the first time a complete analysis using digital X-rays, infrared reflectography and ultraviolet light.



Leadership Gifts

We thank 2015's most generous donors for their gifts of more than \$1 million

Helping to Build a Museum

BANK OF AMERICA



In 2015 Bank of America made a second \$1 million donation to help the Smithsonian complete the construction of the National Museum of African American History and Culture. In addition to a previous \$1 million gift, Bank of America has been the sponsor of the Save our African American Treasures program and has donated a collection of 61 black-and-white photographs by Jeanne Moutassamy-Ashe to the museum. The collection features Daufuskie Island, a South Carolina community whose distinctive language and culture remain strongly influenced by its African heritage. Bank of America has also made a grant to conserve eight paintings that are part of the museum's collection as part of the Bank of America Art Conservation Project. The company has supported a number of Smithsonian museums and research centers since 1992, including the Anacostia Community Museum, National Museum of the American Indian and National Portrait Gallery.

Sparking Discovery

DRAPER



The newly opened Draper Spark!Lab in the Jerome and Dorothy Lemelson Hall of Invention and Innovation at the National Museum of American History is a place where children aged 6 to 12 can try their hands at invention. Made possible by a generous grant from Draper, the renovated 2,000-square-foot space models an inventor's workshop and invites young visitors to create, collaborate, explore, test and experiment through the invention process. The lab shares objects from the museum's collection, presents inspiring stories of 24 inventors and displays some of the young visitors' creations. Draper has supported the museum since 2009.

Telling America's Whole Story

GE



Illuminating the rich lives and notable achievements of Americans is a cornerstone of the Smithsonian's mission. Scheduled to open in 2016, the institution's newest museum, the National Museum of African American History and Culture, will tell America's story as seen through an African American lens. The museum will preserve and display countless treasures and experiences from African American life for the benefit of future generations. Through its \$5 million gift, General Electric fuels the momentum toward completing the museum's new building, which will house 11 inaugural exhibits and focus on themes of history, culture and community. With examinations of slavery and freedom, the power of place, military history and expressions of culture through art and music, the museum will celebrate and share the remarkable contributions of African Americans to the nation. Dr. James Cash, a GE director, is a member of the museum's Council. With this gift, GE's generous support extends over six Smithsonian museums and research centers and three decades.

Inspiring Young Learners

THE HILLSIDE FOUNDATION
ALLAN AND SHELLEY HOLT



Allan and Shelley Holt know how the artifacts and stories of the National Air and Space Museum can stimulate the imaginations of middle-school students, inspiring in them curiosity and the desire to learn. With a gift of \$2.5 million to the museum through the Hillside Foundation, the couple has established the Holt Scholars Program, an endowed outreach effort that is building science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) competency among underserved middle-school students by harnessing the unique resources of the museum. Every year, in perpetuity, this program brings hundreds of middle schoolers into the museum on field trips and reaches them in their classrooms via webcasts. It also provides involvement opportunities for their parents and professional development for their teachers. Allan Holt is a member of the National Air and Space Museum Board. The couple has previously contributed to the museum through the Hillside Foundation.

Philanthropic Leadership

HELEN AND EDWARD HINTZ



Helen and Edward Hintz have made gifts totaling \$5 million to the Smithsonian Campaign. Their gifts fund the first five Smithsonian Secretary's Scholars, an initiative of Secretary Skorton's to recruit and nurture emerging scholars of exceptional promise who will be catalysts for tomorrow's great discoveries. Their gifts also support three initiatives at Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum. These are the exhibitions *Provocations: The Architecture and Design of Heatherwick Studio* and *Beauty—Cooper Hewitt Design Triennial* as well as education programs at the museum's Design Center in Harlem. Helen Hintz is a member of Cooper Hewitt's Exhibitions Committee. Edward Hintz is a member of the Smithsonian National Board and the Campaign Steering Committee. Together, Helen and Edward Hintz have generously supported the Smithsonian since 2009, including previous gifts to the National Air and Space Museum and the Office of the Under Secretary for History, Art and Culture.

Donors' Legacy Now Includes Curatorship

THE LUNDER FOUNDATION
PETER AND PAULA LUNDER



Peter and Paula Lunder are major collectors and dedicated friends of American art at the Smithsonian, with a long history of generous personal gifts and gifts made through the Lunder Foundation. Since 1991, they have supported staff positions, fellowships, acquisitions, exhibitions, a research consortium and conservation laboratories at Smithsonian museums. Their major challenge gift inspired and led to the creation of the Lunder Conservation Center at the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the National Portrait Gallery, the first facility to showcase art conservation for the public through glass walls. They established the Lunder Education Chair, Gurney Research Fellowship and Truettner Research Fellowship at the Smithsonian American Art Museum, where they also contributed to more than a dozen exhibitions and donated significant paintings and sculptures. At the Freer | Sackler, they created a consortium for scholarly study of James McNeill Whistler. This year, their gift through the Lunder Foundation endows the Lunder Curator of American Art at the Freer|Sackler; this gift will be matched with additional support from others. Peter Lunder is an emeritus Commissioner of the Smithsonian American Art Museum and alumnus of the Smithsonian National Board.

Leadership Gifts

We thank 2015's most generous donors for their gifts of more than \$1 million

Investing in Leadership

JOHN AND ADRIENNE MARS



Strong leadership is essential to direct an organization's strategy and assure the organization's impact. With this in mind, John and Adrienne Mars' gift establishes two endowed directorships, one at the National Air and Space Museum and another at the National Zoological Park's Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute. The new chairs ensure that the museum and institute will, in perpetuity, attract and retain the most talented individuals to guide them in fulfillment of their missions. Each new position is named the John and Adrienne Mars Director in recognition of the donors' generosity and foresight. The Mars' gift continues their tradition of support and service that began in 1978. Adrienne Mars serves on the Regents' Advancement Committee and is an alumna of the Smithsonian National Board and the National Air and Space Museum and National Zoological Park boards. Including this gift, the couple has supported eight Smithsonian museums, research centers and programs.

Matters of Place

THE MOORE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION / LOUIS BACON



When the National Museum of African American History and Culture opens in 2016, its exhibition *Power of Place* will examine the influence of regionalism in American and African American culture. A \$1.5 million gift from The Moore Charitable Foundation to the museum supports one of the exhibition's place-studies — *The Rice Fields of the Low Country*. Rice production is of particular interest to The Moore Charitable Foundation Chairman Louis Bacon, the owner of an historic lowland rice plantation started by his ancestors, which he is restoring and preserving. Through rice cultivation, enslaved Africans and African Americans transformed many areas in the southeastern seaboard of the United States. Louis Bacon also donated from his collection the painting *The Garden of Eden* by African American artist Robert Duncanson (1821–1872) to the museum, a painting similar to one the artist presented to abolitionist the Rev. Charles Avery for his efforts on behalf of the enslaved. The foundation previously has supported the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute.

American Giving, American Stories

DAVID M. RUBENSTEIN



With his \$4 million gift, David M. Rubenstein endows a Curator of Philanthropy position at the National Museum of American History, the first such position at the museum. The scholar holding the position will study philanthropy and its impact on the country, build a related collection and create exhibitions that share with the public the story of America's unique culture of charitable giving. Along with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, this gift launches the Smithsonian Philanthropy Initiative. In addition, David Rubenstein has established the *Great Americans* interview series, a two-year program of live events that features individuals who have made significant contributions to American history. David Rubenstein is a Smithsonian Regent, co-chairs the Smithsonian Campaign and serves on the boards of the National Museum of American History and National Museum of Natural History. Individually and with his wife, Alice Rogoff Rubenstein, he previously has made gifts to this museum, the Smithsonian American Art Museum, National Zoological Park and National Museum of Natural History.

Moving Pictures

SMITHSONIAN NETWORKS



In support of its mission to inspire awe and drive curiosity in people of all ages, Smithsonian Networks is producing and donating 132 videos to the National Museum of African American History and Culture. The videos, ranging in size from 50-foot installations to intimate 22-inch monitors, comprise nearly eight hours of programming that explores how the African American experience is integral to the history of our nation. In addition, Smithsonian Networks collaborated closely with the National Museum of American History to produce and donate *We The People*, the signature introduction film for the museum. The combined value of these gifts is more than \$4.35 million. The donations express Smithsonian Networks' strong support of both museums' missions and their contributions to essential national conversations about American values. Smithsonian Networks has previously supported the National Air and Space Museum, Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage and Smithsonian Center for Learning and Digital Access.

Gift Reflects Foundation's Civil Rights Support

STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION



A gift of \$2 million to the National Museum of African American History and Culture from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation supports construction of the new museum building and its *Defending Freedom, Defining Freedom: Era of Segregation 1876–1968* exhibition. The exhibition explores the years following Reconstruction, the restrictive laws and practices that defined segregated society and the great cultural shifts of the mid-20th century. The generosity of the foundation will be recognized in the Reflections Area, a quiet space where visitors may pause and reflect as they exit the exhibition. It will showcase a number of civil rights activists, including Greek Orthodox Archbishop Iakovos, who walked side by side with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., during the 1965 Selma marches in Alabama. This is the Stavros Niarchos Foundation's largest gift to date, and it has supported the Smithsonian since 2011, including gifts to the National Museum of American History and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.



Suspension bridge, Q'eswachaka, Apurímac River, Canas Province, Cusco, Peru, featured in the National Museum of the American Indian exhibition *The Great Inka Road: Engineering an Empire*.

Leadership Gifts

We thank 2015's most generous donors for their gifts of \$1 million

ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INCORPORATED



A \$1 million gift by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity supports the last stages of the design and construction of the National Museum of

African American History and Culture. When it opens in 2016, the museum will feature exhibitions, educational programming and resources to explore the African American experience and its impact on American life and the shaping of this nation. A donor to the Smithsonian since 2010, this is Alpha Phi Alpha's largest gift to date.

JUDY HART ANGELO AND JOHN M. ANGELO



A \$1 million gift by Judy Hart Angelo and her late husband, John M. Angelo, helps the Smithsonian further

its branding and marketing efforts, which include creating new digital content intended to help engage broader audiences over social media platforms. Judy Hart Angelo is a member of the Smithsonian National Board. Over almost a decade, philanthropic gifts made by the Angelos have supported Smithsonian branding and marketing efforts, initiatives of the Under Secretary for Science, the National Museum of Natural History's Encyclopedia of Life project and fellowships at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Center.

BLACKROCK

BLACKROCK®

With its \$1 million gift to the National Museum of African American History and Culture, BlackRock helps design and

build the Smithsonian's newest museum facility. The new museum building, when it opens in 2016, will be a place where people of all nations can learn about the vital role African Americans have played in our American nation since its inception and will continue to play into the future. BlackRock has previously supported the National Museum of the American Indian's George Gustav Heye Center in New York City.

DIANE AND HAL BRIERLEY



A \$1 million gift from Diane and Hal Brierley supports the Slate Hill Conservation Area in Front Royal, Va.

The 125-acre facility of the National Zoological Park and Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute hosts research that is helping to improve understanding of the biology, survival and recovery of animals that are endangered or extinct in the wild. The Brierleys' gift supports Slate Hill's clouded leopard and red panda facilities, its new Cheetah Ridge viewing area and the development of a master plan. In recognition of their generosity, the cheetah viewing area will be named for the couple. Hal Brierley serves on the Zoo's board and Diane serves on the board of the Dallas Zoo.

DR. N. ANTHONY AND MRS. ROBYN COLES



With their leadership gift, Dr. and Mrs. N. Anthony Coles help build momentum toward the completion of the National

Museum of African American History and Culture's new museum facility on the National Mall. The building's exhibitions and programs soon will contribute to

our national dialogue a rich, interwoven chronicle of the African American experience from the 15th century to the present, deepening understanding of this central chapter in the American story. Dr. Coles serves on the museum's Council. The gift is the couple's first to the Smithsonian and the museum.

ANDREAS C. DRACOPOULOS

A \$1 million gift from Andreas C. Dracopoulos benefits the National Museum of African American History and Culture. The facility, enclosed in its distinctive, three-part bronze corona, will be home to an ongoing conversation about the significance of African Americans in the history of this nation and how we can all transcend the divisive boundaries of race and injustice. This is the first gift by Andreas Dracopoulos to the Smithsonian and the museum.

FEDEX



FedEx continues its long tradition of support for the Smithsonian with a \$1 million gift to the National Museum of African American History and Culture. The diverse and unique African American experience has profoundly shaped the United States, and this new museum will soon share stories of our past, the challenges we still face and the potential our future holds. FedEx has, prior to this gift, supported six Smithsonian museums for more than 15 years, including the National Zoological Park, National Museum of Natural History and National Air and Space Museum.

LATANYA, ZOE AND SAMUEL L. JACKSON

A \$1 million gift from LaTanya, Zoe and Samuel L. Jackson to the National Museum of African American History

and Culture supports a key Smithsonian objective: to preserve and tell the African American story for the benefit of present and future generations. The three tiers of the new museum building on the National Mall represent the faith, hope and resiliency of the African American spirit. When it opens in 2016, the museum's artifacts, exhibitions and performances will share inspiring and empowering stories of African Americans with millions of visitors from across the nation and around the world.

CONNIE AND DENNIS KELLER



Dedicated friends of the Smithsonian Connie and Dennis Keller have made a \$1 million gift to the Smithsonian

Campaign, part of which hires one of the first Smithsonian Secretary's Scholars. Secretary Skorton's initiative is bringing the most promising thought-leaders to the institution to serve the nation and amplify the Smithsonian's global impact far into the future. Dennis Keller is a member of the Smithsonian National Board and chairs its Advancement Committee. Since 2006, the Kellers have supported the National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute and National Museum of African American History and Culture. They are Friends of the Smithsonian and members of the National Museum of African American History and Culture's Director's Circle.

THE J. WILLARD AND ALICE S. MARRIOTT FOUNDATION



A \$1 million gift from The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation supports the National Zoological Park's renovation

of its Bird House and the exhibition it contains. A new paved plaza at the entrance of the facility will be named for the foundation in recognition of its generosity. The facility will showcase the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center's 25 years of research with walk-through aviaries, interactions with live birds, technology-rich education stations and exchanges with Smithsonian scientists. The foundation's long history of Smithsonian support includes a gift to the National Museum of African American History and Culture, and funds to help bring giant pandas back to the Zoo in 2000 and to facilitate the expansion of the Zoo's Elephant Trails habitat in 2007.

BARRY AND WENDY MEYER FOUNDATION



A \$1 million gift from the Barry and Wendy Meyer Foundation to the National Museum of American History

fuels the transformation of the museum's west wing with support toward a major exhibition, educational programming and changing exhibitions on the third floor. The exhibition *On With the Show* will explore the history of American culture and identity through music, sports, entertainment and the arts when it opens in 2018. The wing's other two floors also explore themes in American history. The foundation has supported the museum since 2012.

MGM RESORTS INTERNATIONAL



MGM Resorts International's \$1 million gift continues the momentum of the design and construction of the Smithsonian's final museum on the National Mall, the National Museum of

African American History and Culture. Located adjacent to the Washington Monument, the new facility will be the only national museum devoted exclusively to the documentation and exploration of African American life, art, history and culture. It is expected to open in 2016. This is MGM Resorts International's first gift to the Smithsonian.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION



A \$1 million gift from the National Basketball Association will help the Smithsonian complete construction of the National Museum of

African American History and Culture. By detailing the stories of African Americans' historic, cultural and communal experiences, the museum will be both a home for history and a place that encourages discussion of current events in a scholarly, cultural and systemic context. This is the National Basketball Association's second gift to the Smithsonian and the museum.

NEW YORK LIFE



A gift of \$1 million by New York Life to the National Museum of African American History and

Culture advances the Smithsonian's efforts to complete the construction and design of the museum on the National Mall. Bounded by Constitution Avenue and Madison Drive near the Washington Monument, the five-level, 400,000-square-foot building will be the only national museum dedicated to exploring all dimensions of African American life, art, history and culture. This is the first gift by New York Life to the Smithsonian and the museum.

Leadership Gifts

We thank 2015's most generous donors for their gifts of \$1 million

OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INCORPORATED



A \$1 million gift from Omega Psi Phi Fraternity helps the Smithsonian share important African American stories with the nation and the world by supporting the design and construction of the National Museum of African American History and Culture. The museum will bridge a major gap in our national memory by focusing on a wide arc of previously untold history, while addressing contemporary issues and celebrating African American creativity and cultural expression. This gift is the donor's first to the museum and the Smithsonian.

THE DAVID AND LUCILE PACKARD FOUNDATION



With its gift of \$1 million to the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation helps build the Smithsonian's 19th and newest museum on the National Mall, a priority of the institution. The facility will further the Smithsonian's efforts to tell America's story by preserving and sharing the experiences of African Americans with people of all ages and nationalities. The foundation's gift is the most recent in its long history of funding to the Smithsonian, which began in 1985. With this gift, the Packard Foundation has supported 10 Smithsonian museums, research centers and programs.

THE JOHN L. PLUEGER FAMILY

A \$1 million gift from the John L. Plueger Family to the National Air and Space Museum establishes an endowment that provides for its director, in perpetuity,



general funds that he or she may use to pursue strategic objectives and meet emerging needs. In recognition of the donors' generosity, the Welcome Desk at the museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center is named in honor of the Plueger family. John Plueger serves on the museum's board and formerly chaired it. He and his family have supported the museum since 2003.

J.B. AND M.K. PRITZKER FAMILY FOUNDATION

With its \$1 million gift to the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the J.B. and M.K. Pritzker Family Foundation helps design and build the museum's new building. The museum facility will soon be home to exhibitions and public programs that will deepen scholarship and understanding of the American experience, from the earliest days of settlement and slavery on this continent, to the civil rights movement half a century ago, to today's evolving stories and beyond.

PUCCI FAMILY FOUNDATION



A gift of \$1 million from the Pucci Family Foundation, made possible by J.R. and Dawn M. Davis, furthers the Smithsonian Campaign and the Secretary's priorities. The gift in part hires one of the first Smithsonian Secretary's Scholars, fueling this vital initiative that is bringing dozens of early-career scholars of exceptional promise to the Smithsonian. It also supports plans for the first floor of the Arts and Industries Building. The gift is the first made by the Foundation and the Davis family to the Smithsonian.

SC JOHNSON



SC Johnson's gift of \$1 million to the National Museum of American History furthers the museum's mission to tell the story of American ingenuity and invention. In recognition of this generosity, the entrance to the museum's first-floor west wing is named the Johnson-Louis Gateway to Innovation. The name recognizes the fifth-generation-led family company, as well as its former advertising counsel Jack Louis. SC Johnson has been a corporate member since 2010 and a Smithsonian donor since 1983. Its philanthropy made it possible for the museum to build its first-floor west wing conference center. The company previously has given to the National Museum of Natural History and the National Air and Space Museum.

SIGMA PI PHI FRATERNITY/BOULÉ FOUNDATION



Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity/Boulé Foundation have made a gift of \$1 million to the National Museum of African American History and Culture to support the design and construction of the new museum. This leadership gift is reflective of the deep passion for education and excellence that have been the hallmarks of the fraternity and the foundation since their founding. The museum creates an opportunity to explore, learn and celebrate the rich African American history, culture and community. The Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity/Boulé Foundation are proud to support the first national museum that will tell a more complete American story through the lens of African American history and culture. They previously supported the National Portrait Gallery. This is their largest gift to a Smithsonian museum.

BILL AND TISH SLATTERY AND THE SLATTERY FAMILY FOUNDATION



A \$1 million gift from Bill and Tish Slattery and the Slattery Family Foundation supports the historic project to build the new facility for the National Museum of African American History and Culture. The Smithsonian's 19th museum, scheduled to open on the National Mall in 2016, will allow visitors from around the nation and the world to explore the rich heritage and culture of African Americans in the United States through stories of slavery, reconstruction, segregation, civil rights and the tension between sadness and resiliency. This is the first gift to the Smithsonian by the Slatterys and the foundation.

FOSTER AND COCO STANBACK

A \$1 million gift made on behalf of Foster and Coco Stanback establishes and endows a restoration internship program at the National Air and Space Museum. The gift was made through the Foundation for the Carolinas, a community fund. The museum conducts these internships in partnership with Base 11, a California-based organization that connects promising junior college students of limited economic means with science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) learning opportunities. The Stanback Base 11 Restoration Interns assist museum restoration staff members in their work preserving objects in the national collection and with archival materials, helping conduct research and assisting in the creation of treatment plans. The Stanbacks are members of the museum's National Air and Space Society.

TOYOTA



A \$1 million gift from Toyota to the National Museum of African American History and Culture helps build its new museum facility, located on the National Mall at the intersection of 14th Street and Independence Avenue. The museum will be a place where visitors of all ages and origins can explore the richness of African American history and learn how the ties between the trailblazers of African American history and ordinary Americans have been integral to change in America. Toyota is a past corporate member, and the company, in addition to this museum, has supported nine other Smithsonian museums and programs since 1994.

VERIZON



Verizon has generously supported Smithsonian museums and programs since 2002. Its gift of \$1 million this year to the National Museum of African American History and Culture is dedicated to furthering the museum's educational programming and learning initiatives. The gift will help visitors connect and engage in ways that expand their perspectives of the African American experience, spark curiosity and increase knowledge. The newest Smithsonian museum is scheduled to open in 2016 on the National Mall.

WELLS FARGO



With its \$1 million gift, Wells Fargo helps support the National Museum of African American History and Culture. From a sea-island slave cabin, to a Jim Crow-era segregated railcar, to an 1876 hymn

book carried by Harriet Tubman, objects and stories highlighted in the museum will bring into focus the nation's history as seen through the lens of the African American experience. Wells Fargo has previously supported the Anacostia Community Museum and the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

JOHN AND BARBARA WILKERSON

With their gift of \$1 million through the Actus Foundation, John and Barbara Wilkerson advance the institution's first national fundraising campaign. The Wilkersons will determine the purpose for their gift at a later date. John Wilkerson serves on the Smithsonian National Board. The couple are past members of the Friends of the Smithsonian and they have supported the Smithsonian since 2009.

THE XEROX FOUNDATION



With its gift of \$1 million toward the completion of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, The Xerox Foundation helps the Smithsonian meet one of its foremost priorities. With a mission to provide an opportunity for all people to explore and celebrate African American culture, the new museum will be a place where visitors from around the world can gain perspective on the central place African American history and culture hold in the life of the nation. The Xerox Foundation and its parent, the Xerox Corporation, are longtime donors to the Smithsonian whose gifts since 1986 have been to the National Museum of American History, the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden and many other Smithsonian museums and programs.

Board of Regents Report

Fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2015

Orderly transition, strong leadership and active engagement characterized the Smithsonian's governing Board in 2015.

Following its unanimous election of Dr. David J. Skorton as 13th Secretary, the Board this year oversaw the transition from the 12th Secretary to the 13th. Secretary G. Wayne Clough completed his six years of service on Dec. 31, 2014; Under Secretary for Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer Albert G. Horvath served with distinction as Acting Secretary for a six-month transition period; and Dr. Skorton commenced as the new Secretary on July 1, 2015.

The Board strongly supports Secretary Skorton's leadership and vision. In September, it hosted a reception to welcome him and his wife, Dr. Robin Davisson, to Washington, D.C. In October, it marked his official installation with a ceremony held in the Arts and Industries Building and presided over by Smithsonian Chancellor and Chief Justice of the United States John G. Roberts, Jr.

The Board ensured its leadership continuity by re-electing Board and Executive Committee Chair John W. McCarter, Jr.;

Vice Chair Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson; and Executive Committee Member David M. Rubenstein.

A priority for the Regents is to ensure that the Smithsonian will have the resources it needs to remain strong, secure and relevant in a rapidly changing world. The Board welcomed new Congressional Regents Senators John Boozman of Arkansas and David Perdue of Georgia. The Congressional Regents advocate for the Smithsonian and provide counsel on efforts to secure scarce federal resources. The Regents also appointed former Smithsonian National Board Chair Sakurako D. Fisher as fourth Co-Chair of the Smithsonian Campaign. She joins Citizen Regents Barbara M. Barrett and David M. Rubenstein and Regent Emeritus Alan G. Spoon.

The Regents advanced additional strategic priorities in 2015, including two major projects. The renovation of the Arts and Industries Building will enable it to host interim programming and events in 2016. The fundraising, construction and exhibition installation of the National Museum of African American History and Culture continue on track for a September 2016 grand opening.

The Board, inspired by the possibilities of the institution's mission, "for the increase and diffusion of knowledge," continues to strengthen the Smithsonian's reputation as a global leader in the arts, sciences and education.



Oct. 19, 2015, meeting of the Board of Regents: left to right, top row, Senator John Boozman, Ambassador Barbara M. Barrett, Steve Case, Representative Xavier Becerra; middle row, Dr. Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey, John Fahey, Michael M. Lynton, Robert P. Kogod, Representative Tom Cole;

bottom row, Senator Patrick J. Leahy, Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson (Vice Chair), The Chief Justice of the United States (Chancellor), John W. McCarter, Jr. (Chair), David M. Rubenstein, Representative Sam Johnson.

Endowment Report

Fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2015

A decade ago, the Board of Regents established the Regents Investment Committee. The committee sets the institution's investment policy and oversees the Endowment's investment management. Since 2005, the committee and Office of Investments staff have prudently stewarded the Endowment and advanced its performance.

The Smithsonian's first endowment dates to 1846, which underscores the institution's investment policy focus on the long term. The Smithsonian establishes an asset allocation mix that serves to generate attractive long-term returns with a higher allocation to equities, investments in marketable alternatives, real estate and natural resources to enhance returns, hedge against inflation and reduce risk.

Since 2005, the Endowment's 10-year annualized net investment return has averaged 6.0 percent, the Endowment has grown almost twofold from \$779.3 million to \$1,284.9 million and its annual payout has doubled to \$65.7 million. Cumulatively, since the appointment of the Investment Committee (or Jan. 1, 2005), the Endowment has contributed \$541.2 million in private support to institution-wide programs. Endowment performance consistently compares favorably against the Cambridge Associates peer group of foundations and universities, resulting in top-quartile ranking for the University fiscal years.

For the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2015, the Endowment's value was \$1,284.9 million and its return was 1.3 percent against the median return of the Cambridge peer group of -4.3 percent. Contributors to the Endowment's performance were investments in venture capital, private equity and real estate, as well as selection of investment managers. In fiscal year 2015, receipts from gifts and bequests added \$53.8 million to the Endowment.

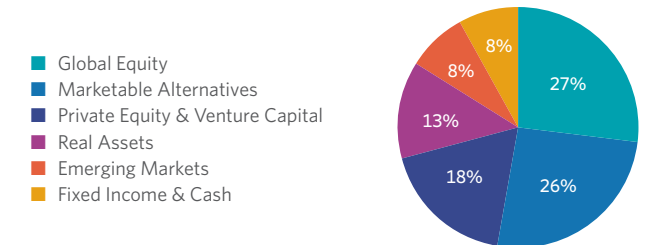
The Regents Investment Committee and Office of Investments staff work toward ensuring that the Endowment generates increasing streams of returns to benefit the future of one of America's most beloved institutions.



Albert G. Horvath served with distinction as Acting Secretary of the Smithsonian Jan. 1 to June 30, 2015, the six-month transition between 12th Secretary G. Wayne Clough and 13th Secretary David J. Skorton. Horvath is Under Secretary for Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer.

Asset Allocation

AS OF SEPT. 30, 2015

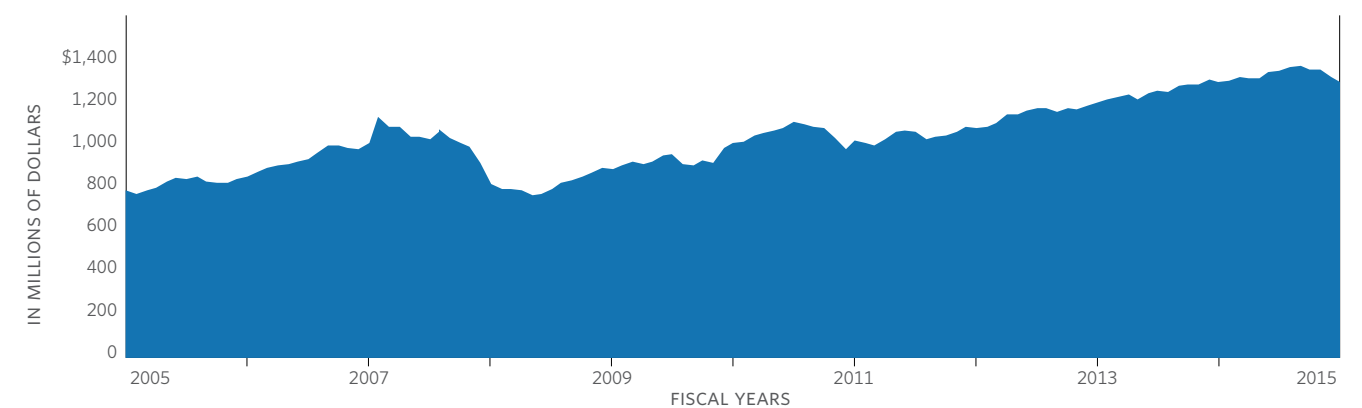


Comparative Performance

AS OF SEPT. 30, 2015



Endowment Value Over Time



Financial Report

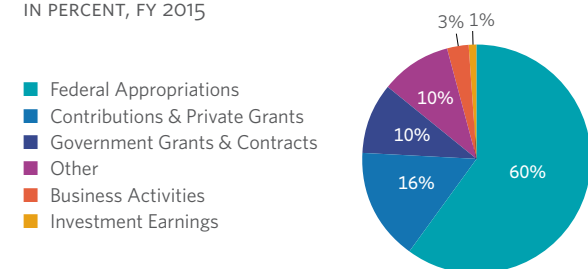
Fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2015

The Smithsonian finished another year in sound financial position, benefiting from the continuing performance of its operations. Sustained strength in contributions and grants, offset to some extent by unrealized losses in the endowment portfolio, led to an overall increase of \$51 million in net assets during the year.

The Smithsonian receives funding from federal government appropriations, other governmental entities and private sources. Public dollars conserve national collections, sustain basic research, educate the public, provide for administrative and support services and operate, maintain and protect the large Smithsonian museum and research complexes.

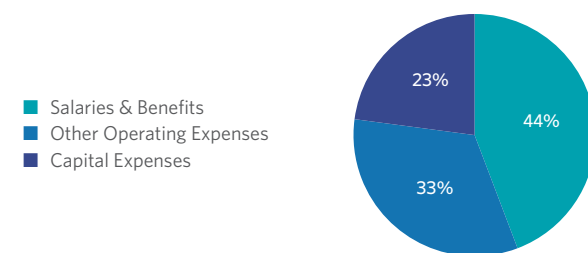
Revenues

IN PERCENT, FY 2015



Expenses

IN PERCENT, FY 2015



Growth in Net Assets

IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS, OVER FIVE YEARS



Private funds leverage federal dollars and provide the critical difference for endowing positions, carrying out innovative research, developing and building new facilities, opening groundbreaking exhibitions, reaching out to America's diverse communities and expanding and strengthening national collections.

The 2015 annual audit was conducted by KPMG LLP and is available at si.edu/About/Policies.

Financial Activity

IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS, FY 2015 AND FY 2014

	2015	2014
Operating Revenue	\$1,274	\$1,355
Operating Expenses	1,137	1,092
Increase in Operating Net Assets	137	263
(Decrease) Increase in Other Assets	(86)	84
Total Increase in Net Assets	51	347

Financial Position

IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS, FY 2015 AND FY 2014

	TOTAL FUNDS			
	Trust	Federal	2015	2014
Assets	\$2,709	\$1,808	\$4,517	\$4,400
Liabilities	456	422	878	812
Net Assets	2,253	1,386	3,639	3,588

Philanthropy Report

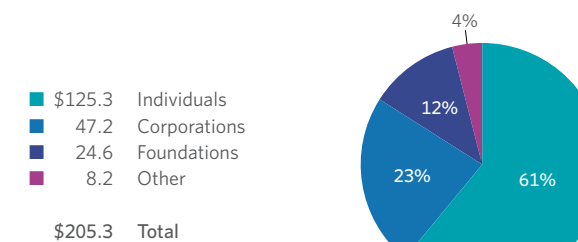
Fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2015

This report gratefully acknowledges the transformative generosity of our thousands of donors. Every gift to the campaign advances the Smithsonian's ambitious vision to discover new knowledge

and educate and inspire future generations. The charts below provide information on the sources and uses of private dollars contributed to the Smithsonian in 2015.

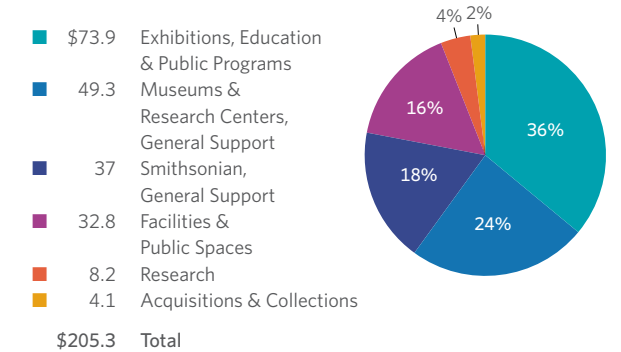
Funds Raised by Source

IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS, FY 2015



Purpose of Funds Raised

IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS, FY 2015



SMITHSONIAN ENTERPRISES REPORT

Smithsonian Enterprises provides general funds to the institution through its museum stores, restaurants, theaters, the Smithsonian Catalog, *Smithsonian* and *Air & Space* magazines, Smithsonian Books, Smithsonian Channel, Smithsonian.com, education and consumer product licensing and travel programs for adults, families and students.

In fiscal year 2015, Smithsonian Enterprises contributed \$40.7 million in net gain on revenues of \$156.1 million. This marked the ninth consecutive year of net gain growth and the fourth consecutive year of revenue growth.

Smithsonian Magazine's 2015 American Ingenuity Awards issue and event recognized Lin-Manuel Miranda, Alan Stern and others, while its third Future Is Here Festival examined cutting-edge science and technology topics that included Smithsonian research. *Smithsonian* was nominated for the National Magazine Award for excellence and won numerous design awards this year. *Air & Space* magazine created a special issue, *Flyover of the National Mall*, commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Allied victory in Europe.

Smithsonian Digital Media continued its rapid growth, increasing its audience 14 percent as nearly 56 million users visited its websites. The Digital Media team launched *Journey to the Center of Earth* Special Report with the National Museum of Natural History and expanded *Living in the Anthropocene*.

Smithsonian Books enjoyed a diverse year with successful books from many units garnering great reviews. *Time and Navigation: The Untold Story of Getting From Here to There* won the American Library Association's Outstanding Academic Title award.

Smithsonian Retail had a record-setting year, with never-before-achieved results in its museum stores. The program to develop unique, collection-based products continues with strong museum support.

Smithsonian Theaters saw strong growth after digital conversions of the National Air and Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center theater and the National Mall museum planetarium. Successful features included *The Martian*, *Dark Universe*, *Journey to Space*, *D-Day: Normandy 1944* and *Dinosaurs Alive*.

Consumer and Education Products managed more than 70 licensees. Education Products launched a digital archive product based on the history of flight and released four Great Courses. *Experiencing America: A Smithsonian Tour Through American History* won a prestigious Silver Telly Award.

Smithsonian Journeys continues its impressive string of revenue and net gain growth. A new college travel program was launched with partner World Strides.

Donors to the Smithsonian

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The Smithsonian gratefully acknowledges those donors who made gifts, pledges or pledge payments during the fiscal year 2015.

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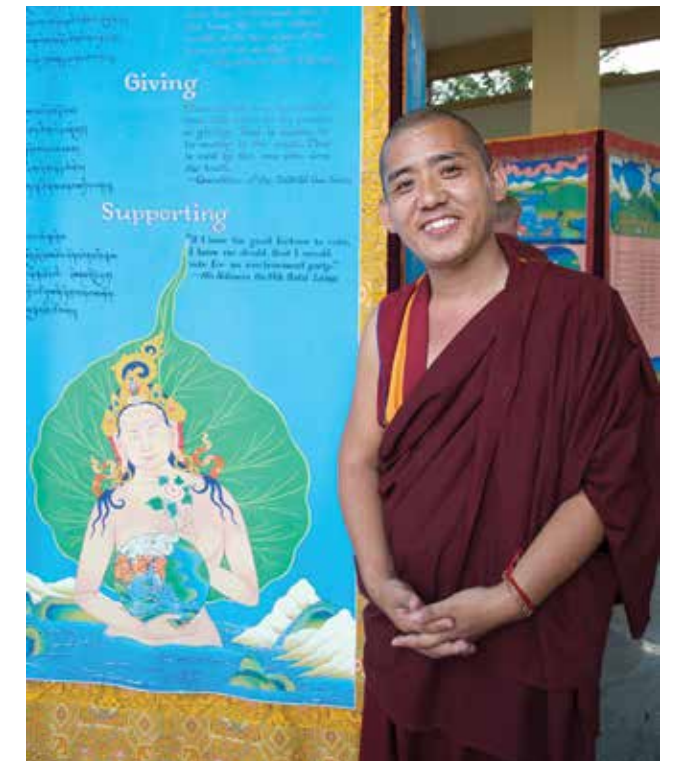
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Presented in Bylakuppe, India, the exhibition *My Earth, My Responsibility* highlighted collaborative perspectives of Buddhist and modern science on climate change. Part of the ongoing Science for Monks program, the exhibition was created in partnership with the monks, the Smithsonian Center for Learning and Digital Access, the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center and the Exploratorium.

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James Smithson Society

And Friends of the Smithsonian

Members of the Smithsonian's sole institution-wide giving circle are dedicated philanthropists committed to strengthening the institution's mission to discover, inspire and educate. The general funds they provide through their generous annual support advance collections, research and programs of every Smithsonian museum, program and research center and further the Smithsonian Campaign.

Members pursued their passion for lifelong learning through a range of exclusive opportunities. They attended the *Food for Thought* luncheon and lecture series, now in its 15th year, and private events including an after-hours reception with Melissa Chiu, new director of the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden. Nationwide, members were invited to exclusive events in Austin, Tex.; Portland, Ore.; and St. Petersburg and Vero Beach, Fl.

In May, 485 members and guests from 28 states attended the Annual Smithsonian Weekend, joined again this year by Smithsonian Legacy Society members and members of other giving circles. The weekend featured two days of private tours

and a black-tie dinner at the National Air and Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center. Board of Regents Chair John W. McCarter, Jr.; Acting Secretary Albert G. Horvath and museum Director John R. Dailey gave remarks, and museum leaders and curators were table hosts.

The Smithson Society's 540 member households reside in 43 states, the District of Columbia and overseas. In 2015, they provided \$2.1 million in total giving. In addition, many members participated in other Smithsonian giving circles and made gifts to philanthropic initiatives. This additional support contributed \$4.9 million to the Smithsonian.

FRIENDS OF THE SMITHSONIAN

Friends of the Smithsonian is a national community of members who have generously supported the Smithsonian for five decades. In 2015, 89,224 Friends households contributed more than \$13 million in general funds through dues and gifts. Friends experience the whole Smithsonian through books and publications, and they enjoy exclusive access to Smithsonian expertise and collections through gatherings that enlighten and inspire. Friends events included a National Zoological Park lecture on The State of the Birds 2014 and a National Museum of the American Indian reception and exhibition viewing of *Nation to Nation: Treaties Between the United States and American Indian Nations*.

The 2015 Annual Smithsonian Weekend included dinner at the National Air and Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center. Shown are Smithson Society members, left, Michael Tanner and Eileen Tanner, and, right, Smithsonian Legacy Society members Fanchon Silberstein and Manuel Silberstein.



JAMES SMITHSON SOCIETY

Members share a deep commitment to the advancement of the Smithsonian through their dues and special gifts. This list shows members as of Sept. 30, 2015.

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As Asian elephant habitat shrinks, human-elephant conflict threatens elephants, people and livelihoods. Together with Myanmar partners, Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute scientists are satellite-tracking elephants in the Bago Yoma mountains to ensure survival of people and elephants in this high-conflict area.

Smithsonian National Board

Leadership, advice and philanthropy

Through its 47 members and 184 alumni, the Smithsonian's institution-wide advisory board advises the Secretary and other Smithsonian leaders, acts as an ambassador for the Smithsonian in communities across the country, spreads the news of the Smithsonian Campaign and sets an example of philanthropic leadership that inspires giving in others.

In the first year of the campaign's public phase, National Board members and alumni were instrumental in forming Regional Host Committees and bringing the People>Passion>Purpose speaker series to cities nationwide. A highlight was the September New York City program, which included Secretary Skorton and Regent and campaign Co-Chair David Rubenstein. By the end of 2015, 21 board members and alumni had participated in 19 events in 10 cities, helping the Smithsonian connect with hundreds of new friends and community leaders.

The board continued investing in members' knowledge of the Smithsonian and its priorities. Fall and spring meetings

in Washington, D.C., focused on collections, strategic plan priorities and the campaign. The winter meeting in New York City gave members a chance to meet leaders and scholars at Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum; the National Museum of the American Indian—New York and the Archives of American Art.

National Board volunteers also serve the Smithsonian by contributing their advice and service through committees and ad hoc working groups. In 2015, 30 members and alumni served on 18 Smithsonian advisory boards and as non-Regent members of committees of the Board of Regents.



Above: Smithsonian National Board leadership, from left, Sakurako D. Fisher, Chair; Brenda J. Gaines, Vice Chair; Robert D. MacDonald, Vice Chair; absent: Edgar M. Cullman, Jr.

National Board members and alumni made gifts of \$29.08 million to fuel campaign momentum in its national rollout year. This figure includes \$1.47 million in unrestricted board annual giving.

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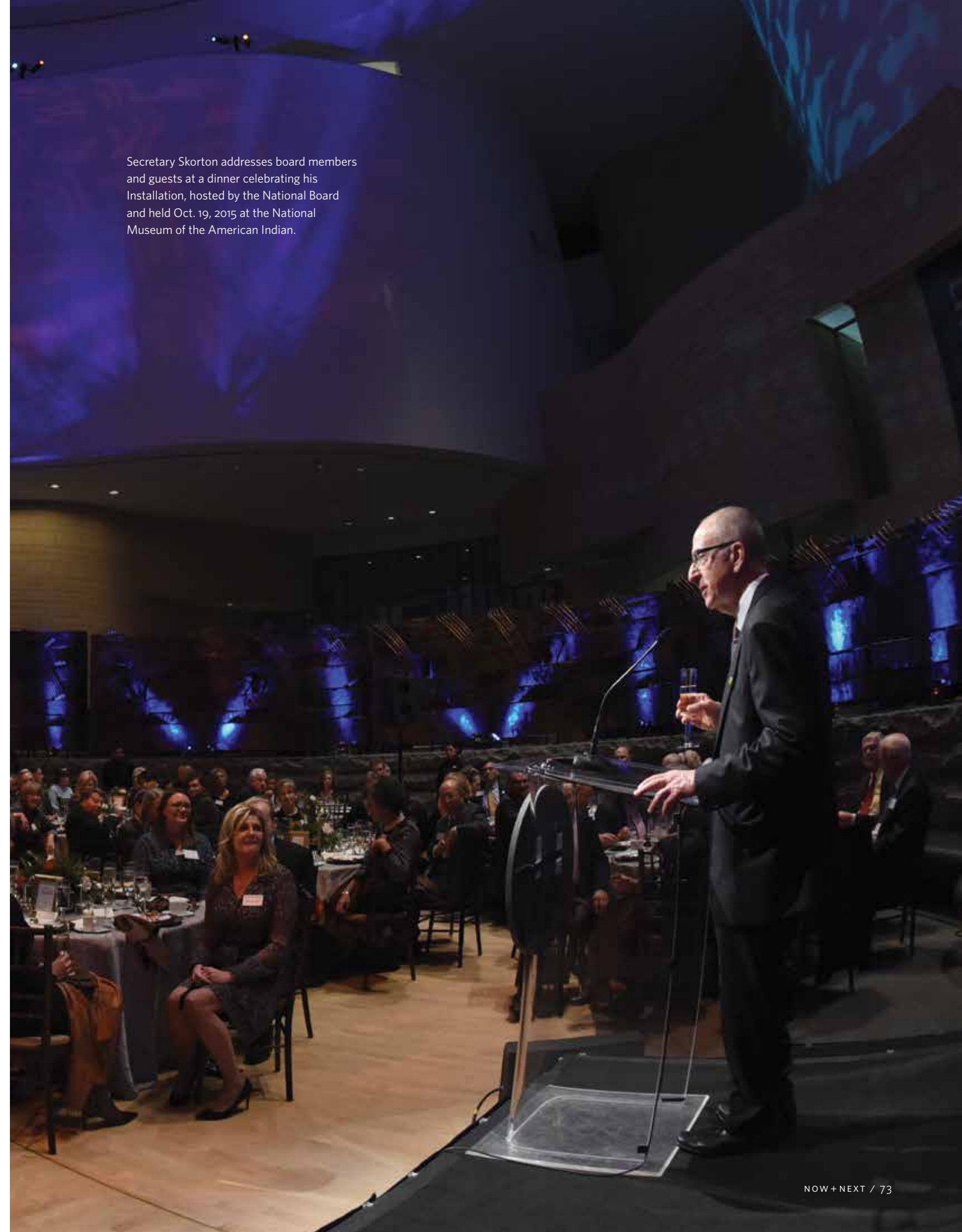
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Secretary Skorton addresses board members and guests at a dinner celebrating his Installation, hosted by the National Board and held Oct. 19, 2015 at the National Museum of the American Indian.

Campaign Steering Committee

Sharing the campaign with the nation

The Campaign Steering Committee is the all-volunteer board that provides fundraising leadership to the Smithsonian Campaign. Drawn from the advisory boards of Smithsonian museums, programs and research centers, committee members offer insight, expertise, relationships and guidance to the four campaign Co-Chairs, the Secretary and the Smithsonian's advancement staff.

The committee meets regularly to share ideas and mark the progress of the institution's first national campaign. At the committee's May meeting, Regent and campaign Co-Chair David Rubenstein interviewed Reynold Levy, former president of the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, who shared valuable insights for ensuring fundraising success.

Steering committee members play a vital role in maintaining campaign momentum. They engage their fellow advisory board members and reach out to their personal networks to identify



Smithsonian Campaign Co-Chairs, from left, Alan G. Spoon, Sakurako D. Fisher, David M. Rubenstein, Barbara M. Barratt.

prospective donors in Washington, D.C., and across America. This year, too, committee members gave their support to the campaign's People>Passion>Purpose speakers series, held in cities across the nation.

In fiscal year 2015, Campaign Steering Committee members, together with their fellow advisory board members, contributed \$79.5 million to the Smithsonian Campaign, about one-third of the fundraising total for the year, demonstrating their commitment to the campaign, the Smithsonian and the nation.

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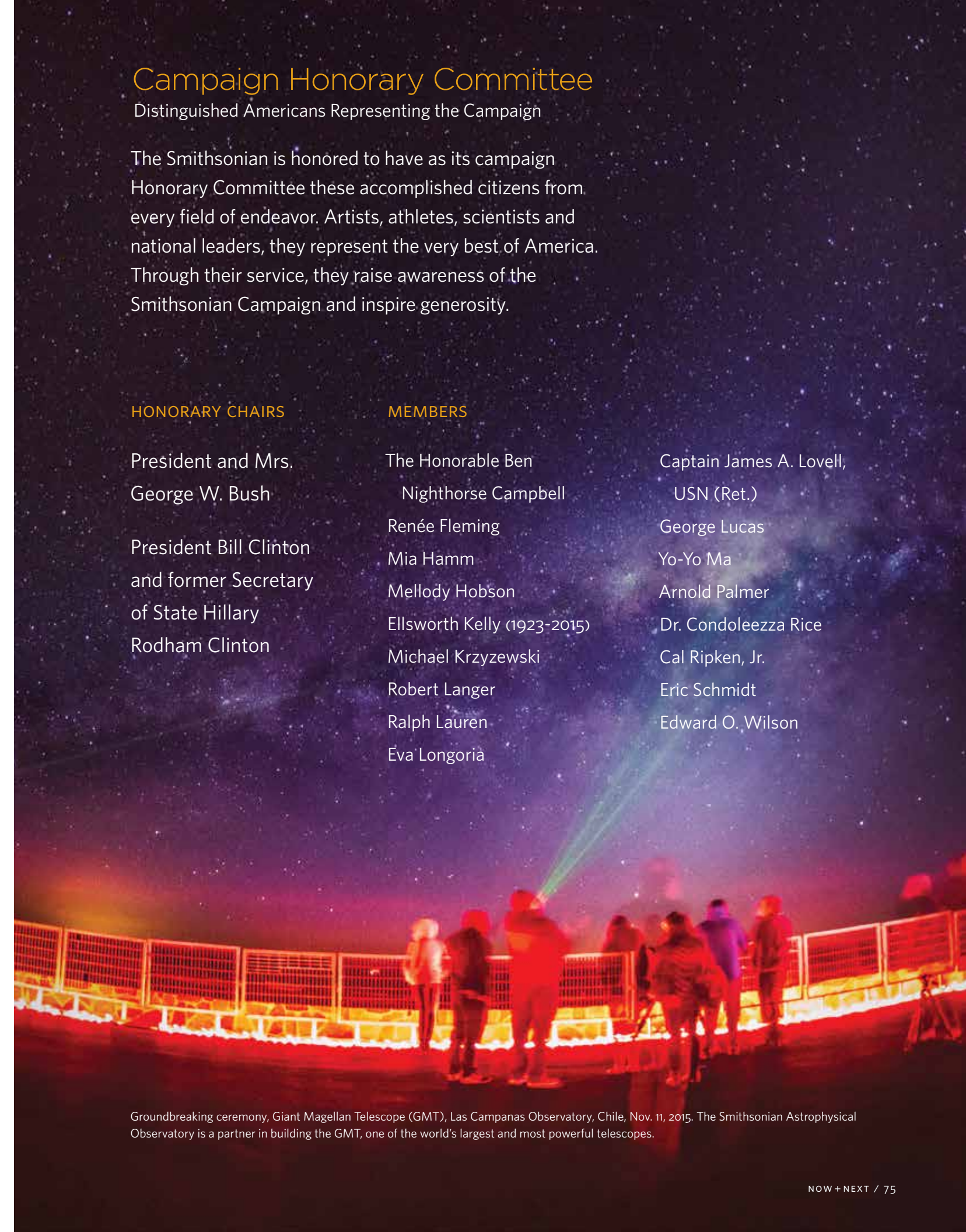
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Groundbreaking ceremony, Giant Magellan Telescope (GMT), Las Campanas Observatory, Chile, Nov. 11, 2015. The Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory is a partner in building the GMT, one of the world's largest and most powerful telescopes.

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To learn more, contact Laura Gobbi, director of programming and stewardship, at 202.633.5877 or smithsonianacademy.si.edu.



Regent and campaign Co-Chair Barbara Barrett and her husband Craig Barrett are founding Co-Chairs of the Smithsonian Academy.

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Front cover: When the Smithsonian American Art Museum's Renwick Gallery reopened Nov. 13, 2015, the site-specific installations of its inaugural exhibition, *WONDER*, filled its galleries. Shown is Gabriel Dawe's *Plexus A1*.