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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **French American Museum Exchange (FRAME)**

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### **French American Museum Exchange Provides Emergency Grants to Museums in North America and France**

**ESSEX, CT / PARIS** -- The Board of Directors of the French American Museum Exchange (FRAME) unanimously agreed to establish an Emergency Grant Initiative to support its network of 32 museums in the United States, Canada and France. The grants will support content development for online programs during the COVID-19 crisis to help museums continue to engage their audiences while their doors are closed. The emergency grants aim to increase public accessibility to FRAME museums' collections and educational programming during the quarantine.

“FRAME’s deep commitment to cultural diplomacy in the context of museum exchanges and its dynamic fostering of collaboration is considered to be vitally important by its member museums. They also place great value on its active support, including financial support, which is typically only available to its members through a twice-yearly formal grant application process. Given the urgency of the health crisis, the Board of Directors agreed to create an additional emergency grant cycle so it could respond quickly and provide funds to its member museums who are trying to serve their constituents even while they are closed,” said William B. Beekman, North American Co-President of FRAME. “These funds will support new online programs that advance FRAME’s mission of transatlantic cooperation throughout its network and strengthen our museums accessibility to their local audiences as well as to a global audience,” said Anne-Solène Rolland, French Co-President of FRAME.

The grants can be used for a wide range of online programs for learning, education, personal health and spiritual fulfillment; or to prepare for the emotional healing process once the pandemic subsides.

The Board of Directors also entrusted an Emergency Support Committee to quickly distribute the funds. The Emergency Support Committee is chaired by Susan Talbott, Expert Director for FRAME in North America and includes : Nathalie Bondil (Director and Chief Curator, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts); Sophie Lévy (Director and Curator, Musée d’arts de Nantes); Dorothy Stapleton (Philanthropic Director, FRAME); Ronna Tulgan Ostheimer (Director of Education, Francine and Sterling Clark Art Institute, Williamstown, MA); Emilie Vanhaesebroucke, Executive Director, FRAME, France; and Marguerite d’Aprile Quigley, Executive Director, FRAME, North America.

This one-time special grant opportunity is intended to provide prompt support to FRAME museums wishing to strengthen their accessibility remotely through online outreach programs. The application procedure can be found on the FRAME website at: <https://framemuseums.org>. Projects receiving the emergency grant funds will start no later than Friday, May 15.

For more information or images, please contact:

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### **About the French American Museum Exchange (FRAME)**

FRAME is a consortium of 32 major museums in France and North America that promotes cultural exchange in the context of museum collaborations. FRAME fosters partnerships among its member museums to develop innovative exhibitions, educational and public programs, and professional exchanges among museum staff, and maintains a website to reach global audiences. At its founding in 1999, FRAME included 18 museums; twenty years later FRAME has grown into a network of 32 museums in France, the United States, and Canada. FRAME is the only international network of its kind. It provides an exemplar for collaborative work and has an extensive network of intellectual resources on both sides of the Atlantic. To learn more about FRAME visit: <https://framemuseums.org/>.

### **FRAME Member Museums:**

#### **NORTH AMERICA**

Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo  
The Cleveland Museum of Art  
Dallas Museum of Art  
Denver Art Museum  
Detroit Institute of Arts  
Wadsworth Atheneum and Museum of Art, Hartford  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston  
Newfields; Indianapolis Museum of Art Galleries  
The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City  
Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA)  
Montreal Museum of Fine Arts  
Portland Art Museum  
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond  
Saint Louis Art Museum  
de Young Legion of Honor; Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco  
The Francine and Sterling Clark Art Institute, Williamstown

#### **FRANCE**

Musées de Bordeaux  
Musées et Patrimoine de Dijon  
Musée de Grenoble

Palais Beaux-Arts de Lille  
Pôle Musée des Beaux-Arts | Musée d'Art contemporain, Lyon  
Musées de Marseille  
Musée Fabre de Montpellier  
Musées de Nancy  
Musée d'Arts de Nantes  
Petit Palais, Musée des Beaux-Arts de la Ville de Paris  
Musée des Beaux-Arts de Rennes  
Musées de la Métropole de Rouen Normandie  
Musée d'art moderne et contemporain de Saint-Etienne Métropole  
Musée de Strasbourg  
Musée des Augustins de Toulouse  
Musée des Beaux-Arts de Tours