I write to you in late March 2020, in the midst of the coronavirus epidemic, and my message to you is necessarily bittersweet. Thanks to your continuing generosity, I am happy to say that we are confident about both the present as well as the path forward. I hope that by the time you read this the situation in Los Angeles and beyond has improved further and this is all somewhat “old news,” but I thought it prudent to give you a bit of an update about where we stand today, as well as reflect on some of the happier times that rang in the new year.

Along with other museums and cultural institutions, and for the safety of the public, our staff, and volunteers, we made the decision in mid-March to close temporarily to visitors, as well as to cease work on upcoming exhibitions and programs. We are currently paying all staff, including hourly staff, their normal salaries. Hourly staff who are required to show up to work by dint of their job functions—including security, facilities, and collections conservation personnel—are being paid time-and-a-half.

We are able to take this step due to your continuing pledges to support the Autry during this time, and thus I cannot underscore enough the appreciation the Autry staff, including myself, have for your contributions made in the past, present, and future. Thanks to you, we are also able to bring more of the museum online—kicked off with a popular Instagram Live video walkthrough of the Masters exhibition, now archived on our YouTube channel. Stay tuned for more digital activities and initiatives as we seek to bring the museum experience to those at home. We have received countless e-mails and social media messages about how much people miss the Autry, especially during this challenging time, and we want to do all we can to continue serving the public.

This issue of In the Loop features a donor profile of Sandy and David Berman as well as some pleasant memories from earlier in the year, particularly our very successful Masters Art Exhibition and Sale. Highlights include the amazing artists’ salon hosted by Gayle Garner Roski and Ed Roski at their beautiful home and studio in Toluca Lake; a tour of the Jonathan Club; artist talks (archived on our website) by Billy Schenck and Kim Wiggins; a successful art sale; and a festive after-sale soirée.

I hope you, your family, and friends are all healthy and well, and I hope the profile and the event photos herein brighten your day. Please stay tuned to the Autry website and social media channels for more brightness. We will all get through the coming days together, and hopefully be stronger for it.

President and CEO

DEAR FRIENDS

AN INTIMATE EVENING WITH UNITED STATES POET LAUREATE JOY HARJO

January 16, 2020

JOY HARJO SIGNS BOOK FOR MARGUERITE MARSH

JOY HARJO POETRY READING

DAVID CARTWRIGHT, MARY BETH WEST, RICK WEST, JOY HARJO, MARSHALL MCKAY

JOY HARJO, RICK WEST
Masters Artists’ Salon
Hosted by Gayle and Edward Roski - January 25, 2020

Masters Artists’ Day Tour and Luncheon
Jonathan Club - February 7, 2020
MASTERS ARTISTS’ DINNER AND EXHIBITION PREVIEW
February 7, 2020

ALAN WHITMAN, AMY WHITMAN, JIM PARKS

LOIS RICE, DAVID MAROLD

HOWARD POST, KIM WIGGINS, MARK MAGGIORI

ALAN WHITMAN, AMY WHITMAN, JIM PARKS

ELAINE ADAMS, PETER ADAMS,
ALYCE WILLIAMSON, CARLOS JIMENEZ

DAN BILES, JEAN KEATLEY, FRAN BILES, JIM KEATLEY

JOE HORSE CAPTURE, JENNIFER DOYLE, RICK WEST

CYNTHIA ICARDO, GARY ICARDO

DEAN MITCHELL

BILLY SCHENCK, REBECCA CARTER, JIM PARKS

MARGARET SIMMS, THOMAS SIMMS

CARLOS JIMENEZ, ALYCE WILLIAMSON, CONCHITA O’KANE, JIM O’KANE, DONNA SCHROEDER,
ERNEST SCHROEDER, VALERIE FOSTER HOFFMAN

Marilyn Gross, Cal Gross

KEITH RENKEN,
SARA CASTILLO

Derek Nielsen, Amery Bohleng, Nicholas Coleman, Meta Coleman, Jen Rohrig, Cyndi Hall

CARLOS JIMENEZ, ALYCE WILLIAMSON, CONCHITA O’KANE, JIM O’KANE, DONNA SCHROEDER,
ERNEST SCHROEDER, VALERIE FOSTER HOFFMAN

Joe Horse Capture, Jennifer Doyle, Rick West

Cynthia Icardo, Gary Icardo

Dean Mitchell

Alex Chavez, Nadine Chavez

Andrew Krane, Jennifer Lang, Amy Krane, Kristin Hoert, Jennifer Halstead, Christopher Halstead

Carol Barmore

Daniel Pinkham, Bill Anton, Amery Bohleng, Eric Bowman, Joshua Rose, Grant Redden, Jim Morgan, Walter Matia

Margaret Simms, Thomas Simms

Bruce Corbin, Michael Friedman, Libby Short, Laura Dreyer, Dwight Dreyer, Joann Corbin
MASTERS ARTISTS’ PRESENTATIONS AND LUNCHEON
February 8, 2020

TULA THOMPSON, MICHEL THOMPSON
LOGAN MAXWELL HAGEGE, MISTY HAGEGE, FAMILY
KIM WIGGINS PRESENTS TO ARTISTS AND GUESTS
VICTORIA PINKHAM, AARON WESTERBERG, DANIEL PINKHAM

RAY BROWN, DUSTIN VAN WECHEL, YVONNE VAN WECHEL, WALTER ROSS, VICTORIA ROSS
KEITH BATCHELLAR, SANDI BATCHELLAR
TREVOR GORING, SANDY MCDANIEL

DANIEL PINKHAM, TERRI KELLY MOYERS, LEN CHMIEL, TONY ABETYA, STEVE KESTREL,
MICK DOELLINGER, KIM WIGGINS, KYLE POLZIN
BILLY SCHENCK PRESENTS TO ARTISTS AND GUESTS
DENNIS NEWELL, JORDAN POPE

KEITH BATCHELLAR, SANDI BATCHELLAR

KIM WIGGINS PRESENTS TO ARTISTS AND GUESTS

MASTERS SALE AND AFTER-SALE SOIRÉE
February 8, 2020

MARGERY TORREY, CHRIS HAMILTON
JODIE REA, JIM REA
RICK WEST, STAN SCHNEIDER, MARY BETH WEST

WALTER MATIA

HAROLD PIAZZA, MARK MAGGIORE, KATHLEEN PIAZZA

LOGAN MAXWELL HAGEGE, MISTY HAGEGE, FAMILY
Sandy also came to love Western art along with Native American art and jewelry, and she appreciated how the art community was central to their Montana social life. “Most of all,” Sandy shared, “I was happy that David could connect with his brother in such a meaningful way.”

Tragically, Mike was killed in a car accident in 2014. Among family and friends at his memorial were many of the artists he had supported as an art collector. Artist Tom Gilleon convinced David to continue his love of Western art in his brother’s stead. David eventually broadened his collection to include such artists as Kevin Red Star, Logan Maxwell Hagege, Mark Maggiori, Krystii Melaine, John Moyers, and Dean Mitchell.

Sandy and David’s first Masters at the Autry was in 2008. David has attended every year since, along with museum visits to fan his childhood passion for the American West. This year, Sandy and David sponsored Billy Schenck’s artist talk at Masters because of their long-standing friendship with Billy, their passion for Western art—and Billy’s work in particular, and their growing engagement with the Autry.

The Bermans were thrilled to learn that the Masters of the American West® Art Exhibition and Sale, including their sponsorship, helps fund the Autry’s dynamic education programs. Education is a priority in their lives, as parents, grandparents, and advocates of learning that stresses inclusivity, diversity, and openness. They appreciate the Autry’s educational initiatives that inspire deliberative discourse, critical thinking, and active listening, and foster civically engaged students.

Philanthropy is a priority for the Bermans in general. They are grateful for all that they have, and for their ability to share—supporting various arts and cultural institutions, schools, and health organizations. They love seeing the direct impact of their giving.

David and Sandy look forward to getting more involved at the Autry beyond Masters. They are particularly excited about the future Family Play Gallery, which will serve as a destination for intergenerational play and learning that will transform the Autry campus for future generations.

We at the Autry are most grateful to them for their warmth and generosity, especially during this challenging time. Thank you, Sandy and David.