Art is a source of insight into the world, for which there is, and can be, no substitute.

—Dr. Albert C. Barnes, preface to Art and Education, 1929

Dear Friends,

At the Barnes Foundation, we strive to be true to the values of our founder. Each day we work to further Dr. Barnes’s ideals of inclusion and access by sharing the power of art with an ever-larger and increasingly diverse audience. In the last five years, we have significantly expanded our educational offerings, launched a critically acclaimed special exhibitions program, and grown our connections to Philadelphia through thoughtful collaboration with community partners.

We are grateful for the commitment and trust of the benefactors who have made these accomplishments possible. These successes have allowed us to grow exponentially as an organization and lay the strong foundation necessary for a vibrant future. We are thus excited to announce an ambitious new initiative to raise critical endowment support: the Second Century Campaign, with a $100 million goal.

As we approach the 100th anniversary of the Barnes’s public opening in 2025, the Second Century Campaign will enable us to evolve the ways in which we fulfill our mission, creating new models of exceptional programming for our many audiences while caring for our peerless collection. Your support, and that of others near and far, will extend the great legacy of this unique institution.

Please join our journey into the Barnes’s second century.

With gratitude,

Thom Collins
Neubauer Family Executive Director and President

On the cover:
Henri Rousseau. Woman Walking in an Exotic Forest, 1905.

Second Century Campaign
Dear Friends,

When we announced the Barnes’s relocation to the heart of Philadelphia over a decade ago, we made important commitments to our community—and we kept them. We built a state-of-the-art building to safely house and care for the collection, and we enabled hundreds of thousands of people from the region and all over the world to experience exceptional works of art and participate in an extensive and varied set of programs. More than two million visitors from all 50 states and 130 countries have visited the Barnes in the past nine years, including thousands of schoolchildren and community members.

We are delighted that the Barnes is now an integral part of Philadelphia’s cultural fabric. Yet we must already look to the future. As we move toward our second century, we are recommitting to sharing our collection more broadly, furthering our educational mission, growing our endowment, and ensuring the financial strength of the Barnes. With the Barnes’s strong record of public service and innovative exhibition, education, and community engagement programs, the impact of the Second Century Campaign and of each gift to it will be felt immediately by those we serve today, and, without question, by generations to come.

Yours sincerely,

Aileen K. Roberts
Chair, Barnes Foundation Board of Trustees

Joseph Neubauer
Chair, Second Century Campaign

Claude Monet.
The Studio Boat, 1876.
Introducing the Second Century Campaign
Goal: $100 million

At 100, the Barnes is vital to the international cultural landscape

The Second Century Campaign will raise endowment and multi-year operating support to increase and enhance the myriad services the Barnes provides to the people of Philadelphia and visitors from around the world. It will sustain our founding commitments to accessible education through the visual arts; to diversity, inclusion, and social justice; and to the conservation and stewardship of our distinguished collection.

Our Campaign will support these four crucial priorities:

- Stewarding Our Collection $20,000,000
- Creating Innovative Programs $40,000,000
- Engaging Diverse Audiences $20,000,000
- Ensuring Future Excellence $20,000,000
- Total $100,000,000
Why Is a Campaign Needed Now?

It will sustain the Barnes’s far-reaching impact as a laboratory for programmatic innovation and a leader in arts education.

It will ensure our permanency at the center of the cultural landscape of our city and the world.

It will support our forward-thinking, energetic, and meaningful commitment to engaging diverse audiences onsite, online, and in their respective communities. This is in keeping with Dr. Barnes’s original and unique vision.

It will guarantee a sound and stable financial footing that will maintain outstanding facilities and programs for the Barnes’s second century.

It will transform lives.
The Barnes collection is exceptional in its depth and concentration, and our greatest responsibility is its wise stewardship and care. The art world rightly demands this, and our audiences expect it.

A cross-disciplinary team will continue to provide treatment and technical analysis, and will conduct research to illuminate artistic practice and intentions and to promote understanding of our treasured artworks. Priorities include:

- Impressionist, post-impressionist, and early modern paintings, including those by Cézanne, Soutine, Modigliani, and Picasso
- African art and material culture
- Antiquities
- Works on paper

New discoveries will advance our understanding of global art history and culture, and will further interest in our collections.
Since its founding, the Barnes has been in the vanguard of arts education and community engagement. It offers the public an experience with art unlike any other, while deepening access for historically underrepresented communities, where art has been proven to be impactful in community development, health, and well-being.

Through this campaign:
- We will continue to connect with audiences through our dynamic exhibitions, public programs, and online resources.
- We will continue to teach visual literacy in groundbreaking ways, including new interpretive routes through our collection and access points enabled by new technologies.
- Our curriculum-aligned, three-touchpoint K–12 education programs will both inspire students and support state-mandated learning outcomes.
- We will host graduate students and advanced scholars to produce new research on the Barnes collections, the Foundation’s history, and related subjects. Symposia and Scholar Days will bring together art historians, conservators, and conservation scientists for focused discussions fostering opportunities for national and international collaboration.
- We will continue to build partnerships with community and social service organizations across the city, integrating the Barnes into the larger fabric of Philadelphia and breaking down traditional barriers to participation in the arts.

Creating Innovative Programs

Annual Education Accomplishments
- 12,000+ Pre-K–12 Students Reached
- 30 Undergraduate Interns Trained
- 3–4 Publications Produced
- 300 Scholarships Awarded to Adult Education Students
- 1,200+ Community Members Engaged in Our Virtual Reality Program

Left: Photos by Darren Burton. Right: Photo by Michael Perez
THE BARNES ON THE PARKWAY: 2012–2021 HIGHLIGHTS

2m+
Visitors Welcomed from 50 States and 130 Countries

50+
Community Collaborations

82,000+
School-age Students Served

16,000+
Members

3,000+
Adult Learners Enrolled in Education Courses with 300+ Scholarships Awarded Annually

4m+
Individuals Engaged Online

40,000+
Guests Admitted for Free Annually

The Barnes is now an integral part of Philadelphia’s cultural fabric
In support of our goal to develop audiences that mirror the diversity of Philadelphia, we are committed to offering inclusive cultural and educational experiences. We seek to enhance the visitor experience by using our campus, facilities, staff, and amenities to make all visitors feel welcome and engaged.

Our classes and community programs inspire and empower, meeting audiences where they live, work, and play. For example, our Virtual Reality Program, which allows individuals to explore the Barnes’s art galleries virtually in local libraries and recreation centers, is part of an educational program designed to engage Philadelphians in areas where access to the Barnes may pose geographic hurdles, or where there are fewer opportunities to participate in the city’s cultural life.

This commitment is rooted in Dr. Barnes’s historical support for diversity, equity, access, inclusion, and social justice. We aim to reach:

- Regional audiences who traditionally have not had broad access to cultural experiences
- The academic community and undergraduates that have historically been unable to access the Barnes’s collections and other resources
- Culturally engaged individuals and families in the Philadelphia region
- Visitors from across the US and around the world
Endowments and targeted investments support staff positions, academic and professional partnerships, technologies critical to the analysis of art and progressive pedagogy, and the preservation of our facilities, all of which make the Barnes a vital center of discovery.

The Barnes is committed to investing in thought leadership through the production of cutting-edge scholarship and its dissemination through innovative exhibitions, publications, digital platforms, public programs, and cultural partnerships.
Our Heritage

Dr. Albert C. Barnes, a Philadelphia-born pharmaceutical entrepreneur, became interested in art through his classmate, the artist William Glackens. In the first half of the 20th century, Dr. Barnes assembled a legendary collection of impressionist, post-impressionist, and early modern paintings, as well as old master works and important examples of African sculpture; Native American ceramics, jewelry and textiles; early American furniture; and decorative art.

Dr. Barnes believed that art played a critical role in the enrichment of communities, and that direct experiences with original works would improve minds and transform lives. In 1922 he established the Barnes Foundation to “promote the advancement of education and the appreciation of the fine arts and horticulture.”

Inspired by the writings of philosopher John Dewey, Dr. Barnes was a pioneer in the field of inquiry-based art education. He taught a rigorous method, largely of his own devising, designed to encourage students to develop skills of visual analysis and to speak in a nuanced way about visual experience. His approach to the display of paintings and objects in “ensembles,” carefully organized to impart purely formal lessons through suggestive juxtaposition, was intended as didactic support for his curriculum. Ultimately, his method was aimed at helping individuals improve themselves through cultivated self-awareness.


Albert C. Barnes lecturing to a class in the Cret Gallery, 1942. Photograph Collection, Barnes Foundation Archives.

Unidentified artist, Baule. Mask: Portrait of a Bearded Man (Mblo), c. 1890–1915.}

Photograph: Pinto Studios

Second Century Campaign

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Special Exhibitions and Counting

800,000+ Visitors

Clockwise from top: Installation photographs of Ellsworth Kelly: Sculpture on the Wall, 2013; Kiefer Rodin, 2017; Elijah Pierce’s America, 2020; Berthe Morisot: Woman Impressionist, 2018; 30 Americans, 2019

Our Invitation

We invite you to invest in the Second Century Campaign.

Your support will help the Barnes:
- Preserve Collections
- Create Innovative Programs
- Engage Local, National, and Global Audiences
- Inspire and Educate Adults and Schoolchildren
- Expand Community Programs and Partnerships
- Support Scholarly Research
- Endow Staffing and Operations
- Ensure Excellence for Future Generations

All gifts are greatly appreciated, and every gift makes an impact. The Barnes Foundation accepts:
- Gifts of Cash or Securities
- Matching Gifts
- Bequests
- Income-producing Planned Gifts

We thank you in advance and welcome you as a partner in creating a strong and vibrant second century for the Barnes!

For further information on how to make a gift, please contact our Advancement Office at: 215-278-7111 or ndiefenbach@barnesfoundation.org

"Living with and studying good paintings offers greater interest, variety and satisfaction than any other pleasure known to man."

— Dr. Albert C. Barnes

Art is not something apart, not something for the few, but something which should give meaning to all the activities of life.

— John Dewey, in Art as Experience, 1934