Dear Friends,

Thanks to your generous support, this past year has been a landmark one for the Museum Education Roundtable (MER). Many of our new projects helped us meet our key goals to grow and strengthen the Journal of Museum Education (JME). At the annual American Alliance of Museums conference in Baltimore, MER presented an interactive session featuring co-Editor in Chief Cynthia Robinson and guest editor Rainey Tisdale exploring content and themes raised in the articles from the (JME) V38.1, City Museums and Urban Learning. Later on at the conference, we hosted our first-ever MER Happy Hour as well as a joint reception with colleagues on the Education Committee (EdCom) at AAM, sharing resources, networking and celebrating the work of museum educators from across the country. Keep your eyes peeled for another round of MER activities at the upcoming AAM meeting in Seattle!

This year was also our first in partnership with Maney Publishing; a collaboration that has grown seamlessly thanks to the leadership of Jill Orr, out-going MER Board President. Throughout her 6 years on the Board, Jill has been instrumental in supporting MER’s own organizational growth and leveraging strategic partnerships. And she has championed the Journal, advocating greater access for a widening circle of readers and contributors.

In 2014, we’ll continue to build upon these new initiatives, expanding the reach of JME content and working to add further value to MER membership. We’ve already started with our first-ever Reader Guide, out this fall. We hope this tool will provide readers with another way to inspire discussion and take advantage of all that the JME has to offer - wherever they are and in their own professional circles.

On behalf of MER staff and the Board of Directors, I’d like to thank our members, donors, volunteers and supporters for making it possible for MER to continue to serve the museum education field, encouraging the exchange of ideas, insight and inspiration. Wishing you a Happy New Year!

Beth Maloney
Board President
**Action Team Reports**

Board members are volunteers. They serve as officers, and on action teams and task forces to offer member services, to advocate for the importance of our work as educators, and to maintain and strengthen MER.

Our three MER action team chairs submitted the following summaries of their work during 2012–13:

**Editorial Action Team**  
*Dr. Victoria Ramirez, Chair*

The JME is committed to serving as the field’s primary resource. This year, MER began compensating the JME’s Editors-in-Chief, a key piece in ensuring the journal’s professionalism and sustainability. The Editorial Team initiated plans to collaborate with relevant blogs, virtual book clubs, and discussion groups. Work continued on celebrating the JME’s stellar contributors with a list of exemplary articles from past journals for our publisher’s publicity campaign, and determining 2014 themes and authors.

**Reader Engagement Action Team**  
*Elisabeth Nevins, Chair*

The Reader Engagement team was formed during the August 2012 MER Board Retreat in response to MER’s decision to make the JME and its content central to the organization’s work. Reader Engagement assumed the responsibilities of the membership, marketing, and programs committees in order to streamline communication with and develop engaging experiences for readers of the JME. Our accomplishments during the 2012-13 fiscal year include: developing a JME Reader Profile to better understand and serve our audience, launching a new membership database and online payment system, providing more consistent communication with members and readers through eblasts, website updates, and social media, and generating discussion around JME content through programs at regional and national conferences.

**Revenue & Resources Action Team**  
*Karleen Gardner, Chair*

As a newly formed committee in 2012, the Revenue and Resources team developed strategies and a plan to ensure the continued financial sustainability of the JME. We focused on expanding membership and launched a board member contribution campaign. Our efforts came to fruition as membership increased for the year and we had 100% board member contributions.

**Nominations Task**

The Museum Education Roundtable Board of Directors is going strong having received a record number of applicants for the 2013 term. From east coast to west, children’s museums to science museums, we saw a diverse range of museum education professionals apply to join the board. Your opportunity to apply for the next term is just around the corner! Stay tuned for nominations announcements in early 2014 or contact DeDee Ludwig directly for more information at dedee.ludwig@msichicago.org.

**New Board Members**

- **Jon Carfagno**  
  Grand Rapids Art Museum  
  Grand Rapids, MI

- **Alexa Fairchild**  
  Brooklyn Museum  
  Brooklyn, NY

- **Vivian Kung Haga**  
  Balboa Park Online Collaborative  
  San Diego, CA

- **Heather Johnson**  
  Association of Children’s Museums  
  Arlington, VA

- **Brandy Vause**  
  Bay Area Discovery Museum  
  Sausalito, CA

- **Lexie Waite**  
  Exploratorium  
  San Francisco, CA
FROM THE EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

We are happy to report that the redesigned Journal of Museum Education, which now contains a range of articles on a variety of topics along with a thematic guest edited section, has been very well received and our transition to Maney Publications has been a seamless and productive one. As we continue to build future issues and work with guest editors, we want take a moment to encourage members of the museum education field to consider contributing articles. The writing process itself has so many benefits, and sharing opinions, research, and case studies in the journal format fosters a robust culture of communication, building a rich archive for scholarship. Moreover, contributing an article to a published journal is a career-booster, putting the writer’s name into circulation and demonstrating expertise and commitment to the museum field. If you are interested in submitting a single manuscript or guest editing an issue, you can find more detailed guidelines on the MER website. Please be in touch via email at JMuseEd@gmail.com.

— Cynthia Robinson & Dr. Tina R. Nolan
Editors-in-Chief

Farewell to Editor-in-Chief Tina Nolan

For the past 4 years, Tina Nolan has served the field as one of the Editors in Chief of the Journal of Museum Education (JME). Under her leadership, the JME grew tremendously and experienced a complete graphic and editorial redesign to better meet the needs and interests of our readers. Her close collaboration with co-Editor in Chief Cynthia Robinson, as well as members of the MER Board, guest editors, peer reviewers and dozens of authors has ensured that the journal remains a vital resource to working practitioners – a place to publish their work, and a place for professional development and inspiration. After the Spring 2014 issue of the JME goes to print, Tina will be leaving her position to focus on her other professional pursuits. On behalf of the members of MER, the MER Board, MER staff, JME readers, authors, guest editors and peer reviewers, I’d like to thank Tina for all she has done both for the JME and the field of museum education and look forward to collaborating in other ways in the future.

— Beth Maloney
Board President

READER VOICES: THE IMPACT OF THE JME

“For almost 30 years, the JME has guided and continues to inform my sense of how museum educators have been at the forefront of so many of the most important issues facing museums, especially how to creatively engage with audiences and why we should constantly document, evaluate, analyze and re-invigorate our work.”

— Marjorie Schwarzer
University of San Francisco
Museum Studies

JOURNAL OF MUSEUM EDUCATION
VOLUME 38, NUMBERS 1–3

Spring 2013
City Museums and Urban Learning

Summer 2013
Shared Authority: The Key to Museum Education as Social Change

Fall 2013
Engaging Visitors to Create Positive Futures
2012–2013 Financial Highlights

MER continued to end the fiscal year with a healthy balance sheet. The organizational assets will further the publication of the *Journal of Museum Education* and support more regional and national programing. Further, the generous contributions of our supporters have allowed for the continued growth of the David M. Ebitz Memorial Endowment.

Matt Hill, Treasurer

### Condensed Balance Sheet
October 1, 2012–September 30, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td>12,956.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Fees</td>
<td>672.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalties</td>
<td>19,424.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$35,053.72</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consultant Expenses</td>
<td>$4,148.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Journal of Museum Education</em></td>
<td>6565.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program and Administrative Expenses</td>
<td>3,826.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,576.36</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**End-of-Year Balance**

**$20,476.64**

**Organization Assets**

**$50,628.72**

### MER at AAM

Where can you find MER at the AAM Annual Meeting? Everywhere! At the 2014 Conference in Seattle let’s celebrate and advocate for museum education together at:

- Interactive sessions focused on critical topics explored in the *Journal of Museum Education* (featuring editors and contributors)
- The Marketplace of Ideas, co-hosted by MER and EdCom
- The 2nd Annual informal MER Happy Hour
- A MER/EdCom joint reception at a Seattle hotspot

Stay tuned for more!
2012–2013
Museum Education Roundtable

Brooke DiGiovanni Evans
Museum of Fine Arts
Boston, Massachusetts

Anna Forgerson Hindley, DC Liaison
National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution
Washington, DC

Karleen Gardner
Minneapolis Institute of Arts
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Matt Hill, Treasurer
Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul, Minnesota

Jessimi Jones
Philbrook Museum of Art
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Michael Kates
Fort Des Moines
Des Moines, Iowa

Carole Krucoff, Secretary
Education Consultant
Chicago, Illinois

Joy Kubarek-Sandor
John G. Shedd Aquarium
Chicago, Illinois

DeDee Ludwig
Museum of Science and Industry
Chicago, Illinois

Beth Maloney, Vice President
Education Consultant
Baltimore, Maryland

Sarah Marcotte
Jet Propulsion Laboratory
Pasadena, California

Elisabeth Nevins
Seed Education Consulting
Boston, Massachusetts

Dr. Victoria Ramirez
The Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum
Austin, Texas

Jill Orr, President
Denver Art Museum
Denver, Colorado

Nancy Richner
Hofstra University Museum
Hempstead, New York

Paige Simpson Faulkner
Independent Museum Professional
Pfafftown, North Carolina

Susan Spero
John F. Kennedy University
Berkeley, California

Journal of Museum Education Editors-in-Chief

Dr. Tina R. Nolan
Tina Nolan Consulting
Chicago, Illinois

Cynthia Robinson
Tufts University
Medford, Massachusetts

MER Staff

Claire Smith
Membership & Marketing Manager

Rose Stapp
Office Manager

Annual Board Retreat, Natural History Museum, August 2013

Last row: Jon Carfagno, Alexa Fairchild
Sixth row: Brandy Vause, Matt Hill
Fifth row: Susan Spero, Brooke DiGiovanni Evans, Claire Smith
Fourth row: Karleen Gardner, Lexie Waite, Elisabeth Nevins, Heather Johnson
Third row: Victoria Ramirez, Jessimi Jones
Second row: Beth Maloney, Carole Krucoff, DeDee Ludwig, Jill Orr
First row (left to right): Anna Forgerson Hindley, Paige Faulkner Simpson

Outgoing Board Members: Thank you for your service & dedication to MER!

Jessimi Jones
Board Member, 2010-2013

Michael Kates
Board Member, 2010-2013

Sarah Marcotte
Board Member, 2007-2013

Dr. Victoria Ramirez
Board Member, 2010-2013

Jill Orr
President, 2009-2013 Board Member, 2007-2013

Nancy Richner
Board Member, 2007-2013