

President's Message + Introduction

In Spring 1973, the first Roundtable Report—the precursor to the Journal of Museum Education (JME)—was published as the outcome of convenings by the Museum Education Roundtable (MER).

While this year we celebrate our 50th anniversary of publishing, MER actually began gathering in 1969 before we began writing. As we mark this year, we pay particular attention to the connections and gatherings that are so central to museum education.

This Annual Report serves as a measure of transparency and sharing of MER's organizational priorities, celebrations, and standings.

During this past fiscal year, we finalized our strategic plan in order to articulate the direction for our work through 2025, enclosed here.

We also made important structural changes for better power sharing between board and contracted staff as well as reworking our organizational chart to welcome in two new contracted staff positions: Communications Manager and Operations Manager, held respectively by the fantastic Liz Baidoo and Emma Trone.

And of course, we kicked off a year of celebrating our anniversary by gathering with colleagues at the American Alliance of Museums annual meeting as well as assembling the spring issue 48.2 of the JME in the same hopes as our predecessors of the early

Roundtable Reports: to hold space for thinking about research and practice, and to advocate for making connections across museum educators' work.

Stay tuned for other initiatives, including a special issue 48.2 later this year, that will provide more reasons to celebrate!

Although this year marked my final year of board service, I am honored to hand over the President role to the inimitable Wendy Ng, and I am excited by the infusion of energy being brought by new board members and contracted staff, continued investment from past founders and board members, and support from our many volunteers and contributors.

I want to extend special thanks to the JME Co-Editors Michelle Moon and Nathaniel Prottas, George Cooper and the Taylor & Francis team, David Sterling for IT support, former MER Membership and Marketing Manager Aubrey Beam, and our past presidents network.

Finally, I want to close with an acknowledgement of and gratitude for our members, authors, and writers who make the Museum Education Roundtable and Journal of Museum Education possible—we exist because of you!

Warmly,



Michelle Dezember
MER Board President FY2023

Strategic Plan



2022 -2025 STRATEGIC PLAN OVERVIEW

GOAL 1

Operationalize our commitment to DEAI, increasing how our outputs reflect internal values.

- 1.1 Hold ourselves accountable to our values, taking action to grow equity and inclusion.
- 1.2 Grow and diversify JME and Blog by making the process more inclusive.
- 1.3 Ground our internal teamwork more in shared principles of accessibility and equity.

GOAL 2

Recenter our work as a membership-based organization, developing a robust community of stakeholders and diversified finances.

- 2.1 Grow our community of members, subscribers, and content users through our journal, blog, and educational opportunities for practitioners.
- 2.2 Expand revenue sources to increase our independence & sustainability.
- 2.3 Strengthen our digital and in person presence.

GOAL 3

Effectively and responsibly steward personnel and resources in commitment to equity.

- 3.1 Ensure board continuity through turnover and succession.
- 3.2 Activate past members, contributors, and staff to provide support and continue institutional knowledge building.
- 3.3 Align personnel capacity to projects, including expanding paid staff support.

Accomplishments

Journal of Museum Education & Editorial Accomplishments

- Publication of four issues of the JME:
 - 47.3 Collaboration: Notes from the Field
 - 47.4 Activist Pedagogies in Museum Studies and Practice
 - 48.1 WORDS MATTER
 - 48.2 Learning Connections
- Revised bylaws and improved process for proposal review between board and Co-Editors.
- Increased and diversified peer reviewers.
- Published Virtual Special Issue: "Burnout."

- Published 13 blog posts on Museum Visions. Free access to an article in each JME issue promoted through the blog.
- Improved website accessibility functions.
- Conducted member survey, which affirmed that access to the JME is the top motivator for joining MER. Respondents cited that articles around DEAI, interpretation, and museum practice resonated the most.
- Reframed staff role as "Communications Manager" and hired Liz Baidoo.

Communications Accomplishments

Accomplishments

Sustainability Accomplishments

- Secured an investment account for greater financial stability.
- Recruited five new board members.
- Created new “Operations Manager” role and hired Emma Trone.

- Finalized strategic plan and action tracker to help MER efforts focus on goals (Operationalize our commitment to DEAI, increasing how our outputs reflect internal value; Recenter our work as a membership-based organization, developing a robust community of stakeholders and diversified finances; and Effectively and responsibly steward personnel and resources in commitment to equity) as well as implement a tool to help facilitate asynchronous work across continents.

- Hosted a table at New England Museum Association conference in November 2022.
- Presented a poster and talk entitled “Learning through Publishing: JME at 50” at the AAM annual meeting in May 2023.

Other Accomplishments

- Hosted a happy hour for museum educators in Toronto in August 2023 as part of the annual board retreat.
- Hosted a three-part writers workshop with Joyce Young in September 2023 to support participants to develop journal articles and blog posts.

Financial Report

October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2022

| Income | Actuals |
|---|-----------------|
| Membership Dues | \$18,583 |
| Taylor & Francis: Royalties, Advances, Other Income | \$40,153 |
| Investment Income (Net of Fees) | (2,678) |
| Total Income | \$56,058 |

| Expenses | Actuals |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Contracted Staff Expenses | \$27,954 |
| Administrative Expenses | \$2,192 |
| Legal & Professional | \$808 |
| Advertising & Marketing | \$215 |
| Communications | \$8,977 |
| Board Expenses | \$5,828 |
| Insurance | \$1,370 |
| Program Expenses | \$4,721 |
| Total Expenses | \$52,066 |

| Net Assets | Actuals |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Money Market | \$71,495 |
| Fixed Assets (Website) | \$10,000 |
| Total Assets | \$81,495 |

*As of September 30, 2023

Membership Report

As of September 2023

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|---|-----------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Individual - US | 320 | Individual - International | 38 | Total Individual | 358 |
| Retired - US | 9 | Retired - International | 1 | Total Retired | 10 |
| Student - US | 42 | Student - International | 1 | Total Student | 43 |
| Personal Financial Hardship | 11 | Personal Financial Hardship - International | 1 | Total Personal Financial Hardship | 12 |
| Honorary - US | 12 | Honorary - International | 0 | Total Honorary | 12 |
| Total US | 382 | Total International | 41 | Total Members | 423 |

Journal of Museum Education Reach

October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023

Top Downloaded Article

“Pausing, Reflection, and Action: Decolonizing Museum Practices”
By Brandie Macdonald

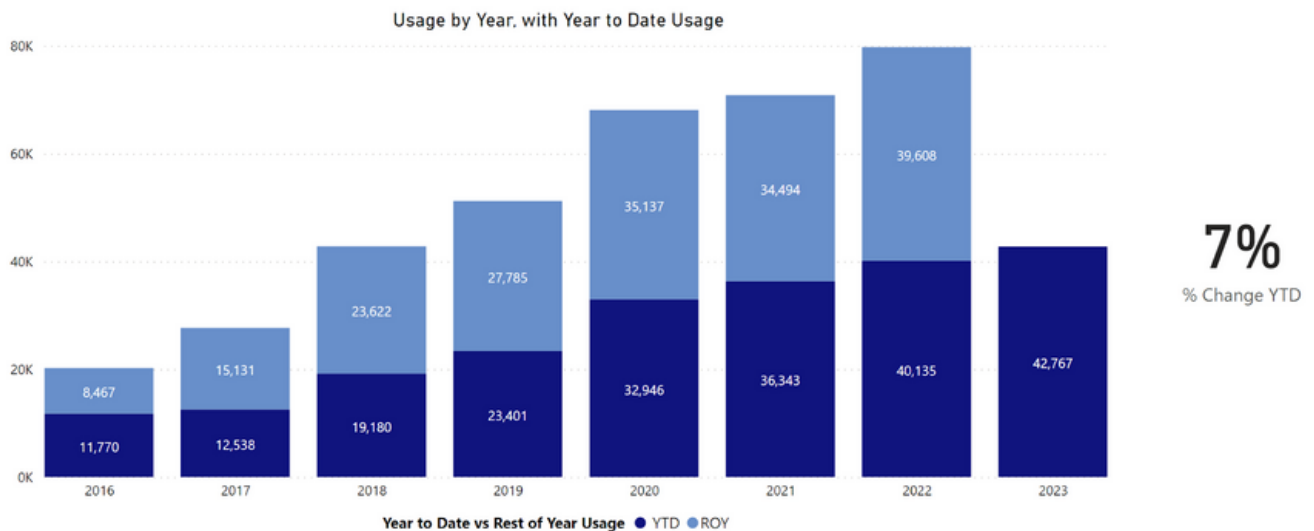
47.1 Radical Reimaginings in Museum Education

Top Cited Article

“Community Ecology: Museum Education and the Digital Divide During and After COVID-19,”
By Rachel Zollinger & Carissa DiCindio

46.4 Snapshot: Documenting Museum Education during Intersecting Pandemics

Article Downloads - Taylor & Francis Online (TFO) Usage



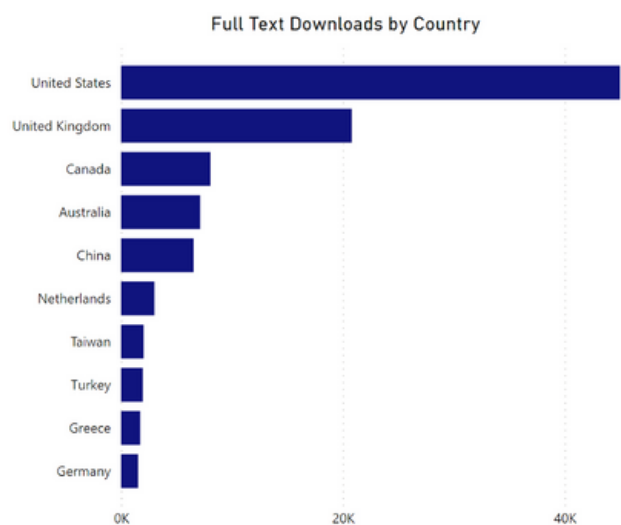
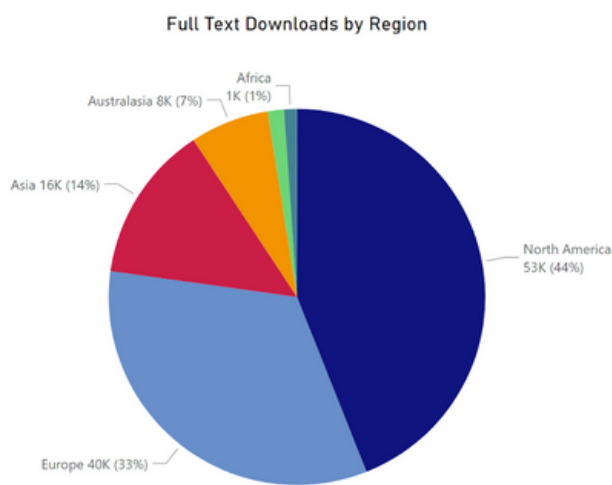
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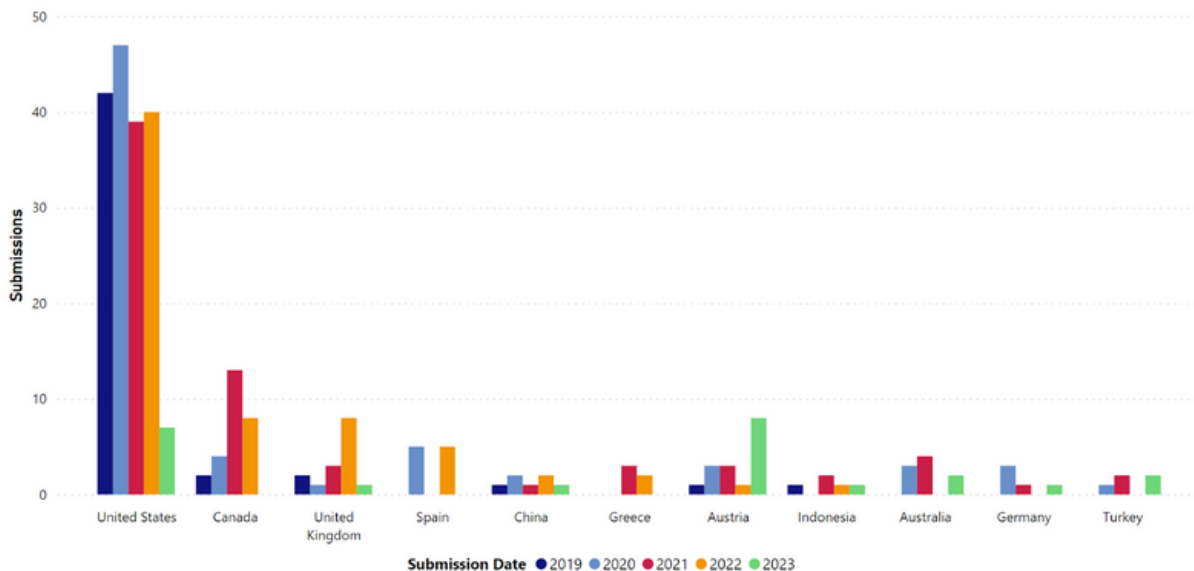


Article Downloads - Usage by Country & Region

Usage shown is for the last full year, plus the current year.



Geography of Submissions



Museum Education Roundtable People

Staff

Aubrey Beam, Membership and Marketing Manager (2021–2023)
Liz Baidoo, Communications Manager (started 2023)
Emma Trone, Operations Manager (started 2023)
Michelle Moon, Co-Editor of the Journal of Museum Education
Nathaniel Prottas, Co-Editor of the Journal of Museum Education

Board of Directors

Michelle Dezember, President
Wendy Ng, Vice President
Adria Brown, Vice President and Sustainability Team Co-Chair
Rebecca Ljungren, Co-Treasurer and Sustainability Team Co-Chair
Marta Torres, Co-Treasurer
Hazel Theriault, Secretary
Wade Berger, Communications Team Co-Chair
Alexandra Morris, Communications Team Co-Chair
Kimaada LeGendre, Communications Team Co-Chair
Andrea Kim Neighbors, Editorial Team Co-Chair
David O. McCullough, Editorial Team Co-Chair
Kate Zankowicz, Editorial Team Co-Chair
Sarah Bloom, External Liaison
Abigail Diaz, External Liaison
Jordia Benjamin
Adrienne Lei
Brandie Macdonald
Brindhya Muniappan
Asami Robledo-Allen Yamamoto

