ATHENÆUM INDEX  2019-2020

Years since the Athenæum’s founding: 206
Years in our current home: 173
Number of libraries in the American Membership Libraries Group: 17
Oldest library in the MLG: Redwood Library and Athenæum, Newport, RI (f. 1747)
Newest member of the MLG: Folio-The Seattle Athenæum (f. 2015, admitted in 2018)
Number of Libraries in the Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries (PACSCL): 40
Newest member of PACSCL: Wolfgram Memorial Library of Widener University

New Athenæum members in 2019-2020: 96
Active memberships at year’s end: 1,974
Active members for over 25 years: 82
Active members for over 50 years: 8
Longest current membership: 64 years
Number of Lifetime Shareholders: 106
Number of Sustaining Shareholders: 51
Number of Young Friends (under the age of 35): 39
Members who live in Philadelphia: 712
Members who live in PA: 1107
Members who live outside of PA: 155
Number of events held at the Athenæum: 35

Most popular Fall program:

Most popular Virtual program:
Richard Bell, “Hamilton: How the Musical Remixes American History”

Program podcasts added to the Athenæum website: 10
Number of Athenæum-sponsored trips: 7
Most popular trip: Uptown Theater Tour

Most popular new programming at the Athenæum: Opera Philadelphia pre-opera talks
Musical program partnership: Allegro Presents at the Athenæum
Youngest Audience: First Fridays at the Athenæum
Hippest First Friday: Pop-up Gallery featuring artist Perry Milou

On The Cover: Painting of The Athenæum Reading Room by Michael Frechette.  michaelfrechette.com
Most kid-friendly: **Architectural Toys: The Building Blocks of Inspiration**

Most popular afternoon programming: **At the Movies with Carrie Rickey**

Most popular movie: **A Room with a View**

Book & A/V donations added to the Library’s collection: **44**

Number of books purchased through book funds established by Athenæum members: **357**

Total checkouts for books, CDs, & DVDs: **2,655**

Total e-books checkouts: **858**

Items borrowed from the University of Pennsylvania by Athenæum members: **213**

Athenæum items borrowed by University of Pennsylvania community: **596**

Research visits to the Busch Room: **175**

Total research requests (remote & in-person): **1,732**

Total requests served remotely between March 14 - June 30, 2020: **330**

Number of unique users of Athenæum’s websites: **150,770**

Increase in usage of the Philadelphia Architects & Buildings website during quarantine: **68%**

Number of sales on the online art store, November 5, 2018 - April 24, 2020: **93**

Number of sales on the online art store from April 24, 2020 introduction of face masks to June 30, 2020: **927**

Most popular design since April 24, 2020: **The Cat That Walked by Himself by Rudyard Kipling**

Followers of our Instagram account as of June 30, 2020: **1,717**

Facebook Friends: **2,448**

Twitter Followers: **834**

Number of weekly “Brain Treats” emails sent since the start of the pandemic: **18**

Number of receptions during season: **12**

Most popular hors d’oeuvres at our receptions: **Deviled Eggs**
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

To Shareholders, Subscribers and Friends of The Athenæum of Philadelphia:

We are pleased to present this annual report for The Athenæum of Philadelphia for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2020. Despite the unfortunate constraints imposed by the coronavirus pandemic, it was a year of considerable progress at the Athenæum.

The most evident change was the July 2019 arrival of Beth Shalom Hessel as our new Executive Director. A PhD in American history as well as an ordained Presbyterian minister, she quickly breathed new life into the Athenæum with energy, imagination and a breadth of programming—including lectures, film series, concerts, and First Friday open houses—that generated healthy attendance and considerable buzz throughout Center City. The Athenæum also mounted significant exhibitions on the work of architect Louis Magaziner and the important legacy of structural engineering firm Keast & Hood.

Once the pandemic struck, forcing the closing of almost every cultural institution worldwide, Beth and her staff responded with an engaging series of online events, as well as weekly "Brain Treats" memos that challenged our membership to engage with a variety of architectural, artistic, social, and literary topics.

During the year, we also strengthened our Board of Directors with the addition of an outstanding new member, David B. Rowland, President and Chief Executive Officer of Second Federal Savings and Loan Association of Philadelphia.

After a disappointing six months of enforced closure necessitated by the Coronavirus pandemic, the Athenæum was finally able to reopen its doors—in a careful and highly limited manner—on September 8, 2020. At this writing, no one can say when we will be able to throw open our doors more widely in full confidence that the global health crisis is behind us. What we can promise, however, is that despite the exceptional care we must exercise to protect people's health and well-being, all of us at the Athenæum will keep working to reward our membership, now and in the future—by making the Athenæum more welcoming and engaging, more stimulating and more vibrant.

With deep appreciation for your ongoing support,

Edward E. Scharff
President, The Athenæum of Philadelphia

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Edward E. Scharff, President
Frank G. Cooper, Vice President
Penelope McCaskill Hunt, Secretary
Donald H. Roberts, Jr., Treasurer

Richard Bartholomew
David B. Brownlee, Ph.D.
Joan Countryman
F. Scott Donahue, Esq.
Margaret P. Duckett
Michael Gary
Francis R. Grebe

Robert E. Linck
Hyman Myers, FAIA
Satoko Izumi Parker, Ph.D.
Hon. Gregory P. Montanaro
David B. Rowland
Lea Carson Sherk
Robert Morris Steiner, M.D.
John C. Tuten, Jr.

Directors Emeritus
John Otto Haas
James F. O’Gorman, Ph.D.
MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Athenæum Members and Friends:

The 2019-2020 fiscal year coincided with my first year as the executive director of The Athenæum of Philadelphia. What a year! It began with an intellectually rich tour of the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., with its director Dr. Michael Whitmore. It ended during quarantine with a stimulating Zoom Summer Speaker Series, which included such fascinating authors as Lydia Denworth and Richard Bell. Through it all, each of you has made each day special through your support and engagement with all that we do.

Last fall we staged a record number of programs and attracted a record number of new members. We launched two impressive exhibits: on architect Louis Magaziner and structural engineering firm Keast & Hood. We hosted convivial First Fridays that brought many new faces into our building. The Athenæum also fostered new partnerships that enhance the benefits we offer members. Two notable examples: our new partnerships with Opera Philadelphia and Allegro Presents, which bring new musical offerings and new musical insights to our beautiful space. A personal highlight of the fall was attending the Soane Museum Foundation gala in New York City, where the Athenæum received the Foundation’s prestigious Visionaries award.

In the Spring, the coronavirus pandemic threatened to slow our momentum as our city and world moved into lockdown. Athenæum staff rallied to produce weekly “Brain Treat” emails that brought our collections to your inbox, started virtual book clubs, and expanded our e-book selections and vestibule pick-up of books. We continued during the quarantine to foster relationships with area cultural and historic institutions and the national network of member-supported libraries. The surprise hit of this past season were our Athenæum face masks, which sold like hot cakes on our website!

Throughout the quarantine period, I was grateful that we were able to support our staff with full salary and benefits, thanks to a strong endowment and the procurement of a federal PPP loan and a Small Business Administration grant.

As we move into a new fiscal year -- my second at the helm of this venerable organization -- the Athenæum continues to bring you relevant and challenging Speaker Series; a new Afternoon with the Athenæum line-up of programs; enhanced membership benefits; and continued opportunities to connect online and in person with our renowned research collections. Even so, we eagerly await the day when the pandemic is behind us and we can safely throw our doors open to members and guests. We are planning a course for our future that ensures our programs, collections, and library make the Athenæum the place in our community for engagement and connection with the beating heart of our city, past, future, and today.

With joy and appreciation,

Beth Shalom Hessel, Ph.D.
Executive Director

STAFF

Beth Hessel, Ph.D., Executive Director
Jim Carroll, Imaging Specialist- Regional Digital Imaging Center
Denise Fox, Collections Care Manager
Tess Galen, Administrative and Events Assistant
Bruce Laverty, Gladys Brooks Curator of Architecture
Jill LeMin Lee, Librarian
Lois Reibach, Resource Description and Access Librarian
Gabrielle Rodriguez, Membership and Communications Associate
Michael Seneca, Director- Regional Digital Imaging Center
Louis Vassallo, Building Supervisor
**VOLUNTEERS**

The Athenæum is extremely grateful for the long-time support of volunteers who help Board and staff move our mission forward:

Linda Ellsworth; Isabella Fidanza; Jeanne Pond and Mary Ellen Weber collectively gave more than 500 hours of service this year to the architecture and library departments. Their work included inventory, cross-referencing catalog entries, scanning, and processing of collections.

Donna Baker and Carol Miller inaugurated our Athenæum Ambassador’s program. Their excitement for our programs and members meant they were eager to help at evening programs by welcoming guests, staffing the front entry, and connecting participants at receptions.

Michael Bedrosian, who has found the Athenæum a genial place to work as an independent contractor, is helping staff create a more up-to-date website after serving on our Membership Task Force (Winter 2020).

Mrs. G, whom many remember from her years keeping everything in the front office running smoothly, brings her sunny disposition to the Athenæum on days we are short-staffed.

Our many members who volunteer their time and skills on Athenæum committees and task forces:

Finance Committee: James H. Hill, Jr.

Literary Award Committee: Louise Beardwood (deceased), Helen-Ann Comstock, Mike Eleey, Jane Fischer, Faith Midwood, Theodore R. Robb, Kathy M. Shelton, Karen D. Stevens (deceased), Marta Barbeosch Varela

Literary Award (Art and Architecture): Jeanne Pond, Samuel A. Streit, Daniel H. Traister

Collections Committee: Charles Burnette, Peter Conn, Jon Cresswell, Richard deWyngaert, Connie Hershey, Joan Johnson, Pam Schreiber, Wesley Sessa, Jr., Maria Thompson, Sara Thompson, Leanna Yoo

Superintendence Committee: Ed Jakmauh

Marketing & Communications Task Force (Winter 2020): Ed Tettener

We are so thankful to each one of you!

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**New Staff**

After 16 months with us, Membership Coordinator Alexandria Lang returned to her hometown of Buffalo, NY to serve as the Annual Fund and Grants Manager at the Aquarium of Niagara in August 2019.

In November 2019, we welcomed Gabrielle Rodriguez as our Membership and Communications Associate. A graduate of Amherst College where she majored in Anthropology with a concentration in Environmental Systems and History, Gabrielle comes to us from the Museum of the American Revolution. She says, “As a proud history nerd, I truly love the wealth of stories and range of characters that live within the halls of the Athenæum. You could often find me napping between the stacks at my favorite library or bookstore as a child, exhausted from hours of diving into new worlds within the pages of books - and I find the same sense of excited wonder here every single day whether I’m exploring the vault, researching our collections, or sharing stories with an enthusiastic member.”

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Gabrielle Rodriguez
ATHENÆUM HONORED BY THE SIR JOHN SOANE MUSEUM FOUNDATION

In 2019, the Sir John Soane Museum Foundation designated The Athenæum of Philadelphia as the institutional recipient of the annual Soane Foundation Honors. Each year, their Board of Directors honors “present day innovators, leaders, and visionaries in the fields of architecture, design, urban planning, architectural education and philanthropy” at a gala in New York City. The Gala proceeds benefit the Sir John Soane’s Museum Foundation and the Soane Museum in London.

Soane Foundation Chair Paul Whalen, FAIA, wrote of the Athenæum, “Today, as a result of its major investment in preservation, expansion, and accessibility of resources, the Athenæum has become a vibrant twenty-first century institution; an integral part of the cultural fabric of Philadelphia and beyond; and a vital resource for the architectural profession at large as well as an informative pleasure for enthusiasts.”

The Athenæum hosted a genial and enthusiastic visit from several Soane board members in September 2019. On Wednesday, October 23, 2019, executive director Beth Hessel, board President Ned Scharff, board members Scott Donahue and Robert Steiner, and Athenæum shareholder Barbara Eberlein joined several hundred revelers at the Rainbow Room of the Rockefeller Center for a celebratory evening. Mr. Scharff received the award on the Athenæum’s behalf; you may view the medal in the executive director’s office!

“Congratulations...and for those of you who might find yourselves in London, do yourself a favor and pay a visit to the Soane’s Museum which is just remarkable.”

Frank G. Cooper

“A great award for an amazing institution. Congratulations!”

Kathy Dowdell
Our Library Reading Room inspires with its sunlight-dappled yellow walls, its lofty windows that invite reflection on our place in the panoramic City of Philadelphia, and the wonderful smell and sight of books and periodicals lining shelves and tables and awaiting our discovery. Visitors are amazed to learn that we are a circulating library where new releases mingle with the classics to which we return year after year.

The Athenæum Reading Room is a place to lose yourself in a book, to focus and write your own book, or to mingle with friends at lecture receptions, when the tables groan with delicious bites from Day By Day Catering. It transports us back in time and propels us into the future. Our books and spaces help connect us as a community of avid readers and learners. The Reading Room served as a space of wonder and connection this past year.

Our architectural archives celebrate the rich and diverse history of architecture, urban planning, and historic preservation in Philadelphia. Philadelphia architects have broken new ground in our city and around the world. Practitioners, students, and homeowners rely on our in-house and digital collections to inspire and guide their own projects. Scholars use our collections to investigate the cultural history of our built environment. Those with a passion for the past use our records to deepen appreciation of their neighborhoods.

Our museum collections enhance the beauty and interest of our National Historic Landmark building: the paintings and furniture that grace our halls, the artifacts in our Bonaparte room, and the items that we use in telling fascinating stories on First Fridays.

We are delighted by the many partnerships we forged this past year—partnerships that expand access to our collections and the stories that they help us tell. Our 33 new accessions add value to our collection.

“The Athenæum’s dedication to the pursuit of knowledge, historical integrity, and community makes it a very special place in Philadelphia.”

Ryan Bonner, Young Friend/Shareholder

There is always an extra buzz in the air at the Athenæum on program days. Our halls and grand staircase bustle with members and guests, visitors and staff sharing greetings and anticipation for an hour of “back in school” learning with distinguished authors and scholars. We all delight in the crowded, convivial receptions and the thoughtful questions our fellow participants pose to speakers.

Athenæum lecture series, conversation groups, book clubs, and classes, tours, and exhibits connect the riches of our library, museum, and research collections with the past, present, and future in vibrant and meaningful ways. Through our programs, we make new friends and grow in our knowledge of our city. In 2019-2020, we increased the scope and strength of our offerings and found new ways to connect amid the COVID-19 shutdown.

The Athenæum created RDIC in 2004 to serve as the technology center for Athenæum projects. Its large format scanner digitizes the Athenæum’s oversized architectural collection materials while serving as a regional digitization hub for external clients. Through RDIC, we have developed rich partnerships with other Philadelphia institutions and our city’s vibrant artist community. They rely on our scanner capacity to create museum quality prints of their artwork. RDIC makes our collections and the collections of other entities accessible to an expanding global audience.
During 2019-2020, staff increased member access to book selections with:

- Monthly “themed” bookshelves that highlight staff favorites and interesting themes
- Increased promotion of our resource sharing agreement with the University of Pennsylvania, which provides shareholders with access to millions of volumes
- Growth of our e-book selection and the number of users during the pandemic
- Implementation of contactless “vestibule” pick-up and drop-off service in June 2020
- New book clubs

“The National Historic Landmark building makes the Athenæum special to me. In addition, being able to borrow books from the University of Pennsylvania is a fantastic resource. I like getting out of my comfort zone of topics with the variety of speakers.”

Sandra Myers, Shareholder

**POPULAR BOOKS**

- *The Beneficiary* by Janny Scott
- *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett
- *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean
- *Unto Us a Son is Given* by Donna Leon
- *New Girl* by Daniel Silva

**TOP E-BOOKS**

- *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett
- *The Long Call* by Ann Cleeves
- *The New Girl* by Daniel Silva
- *The Beneficiary* by Janny Scott
- *A Better Man* by Louise Penny

**POPULAR DVDS**

- *Downton Abbey: the Motion Picture*
- *Shetland* (Season 5)

**TOP PERIODICALS**

- *Country Life*
- *The New Yorker*
- *The Atlantic*
- *Consumer Reports on Health*
- *Architectural Digest*
PROGRAMS

TOP DRAWS

Amy Cohen, “Louis Magaziner and Julian Abele: The Story of an Unusual Friendship” (180 attendees)
Signe Wilkinson, “Political Cartooning: From Martin Luther to Frank Rizzo and Donald Trump” (126 attendees)
Eric Foner, The Second Founding: How the Civil War and Reconstruction Remade the Constitution (124 attendees)
Tom Keels, “Designing for the Dead: Art and Architecture of Philadelphia Cemeteries” (123 attendees)
Nancy Moses, Fakes, Forgeries and Frauds (122 attendees)

TOP DRAWS ON ZOOM

Richard Bell, “Hamilton: How the Musical Remixes American History” (81 households)
Thom Nickels, “Beyond Bricks and Mortar: Real Life Stories” (75 households)

EXHIBITIONS

A Venturesome Spirit: Louis Magaziner in 20th Century Architecture
September 25 - December 20, 2019
Curator: Bruce Laverty

Structure & Purpose: The Legacy of Engineering at Keast & Hood
January 9 - March 31, 2020
Curator: Izzy Kornblatt

“The Keast & Hood exhibition, Structure & Purpose, provided a rare opportunity for a current practicing firm to stop and reflect on our company’s history, while honoring the legacy of the founding partners. To share with the public the culmination of 65+ years of practice was an honor and there could have been no better partner in doing so than with the Athenæum of Philadelphia.”

Dean Doukakis, Principal, Keast & Hood

Photos Left column from top:
- The Folger Shakespeare Library Tour
- Structure & Purpose Exhibition
- First Friday with Artist Perry Milou

Photos Right column from top:
- Verdi’s Requiem by Opera Philadelphia
- Architectural Toys First Friday
"As it became clear that both archives and childcare would likely soon be shutting down, I knew I had to squeeze in any last research that I could manage. It should be no surprise that the Athenæum was high on my list! As I’ve done many times in the past, I headed to the library to examine several volumes from its wonderful collections related to Philadelphia’s urban and planning history. I look forward to the chance to return again in person, hopefully soon!"

Dr. Francesca Ammon, Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning and Historic Preservation at the University of Pennsylvania

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**RESEARCH & MUSEUM COLLECTIONS**

**Selected Acquisitions**

**Architectural**

- Group of 27 blueprints of the PSFS Building
- Two blueprints of a house for Miss Helen S. Pearson, Bryn Mawr, William L. Price, Architect, 1900
- 1,500 photo prints and negatives by photographer Jerome Lukowicz
- A collection of 4,500 assorted photographs of the Philadelphia area
- A group of seven historic theater photos including the Sedgwick Theatre

**Museum**

- A rare watercolor painting depicting the country estate Waln Grove in Frankford, Philadelphia as it appeared in 1797
- A collection of 19th century French Napoleon memorabilia, including figurines, paintings and engravings
- Building on our collection of antique German Richter’s Blocks, the Athenæum acquired additional toys that have sparked children’s creativity and inspired future architects for generations. Among the additions are the Mysto Erector Structural Steel Builder set, circa 1912, the forerunner of the classic Erector Set; and an early Lincoln Logs set, circa 1928, manufactured by J.L. Wright, son of architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

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Middle: Roland Bauman Rare Books, Locust Street, Philadelphia, Jerome Lukowicz, Photographer
Gift of the Estate of Jerome Lukowicz
Bottom: Napoleon memorabilia. French, 19th century.
Gift of Chantal Westby"
REGIONAL DIGITAL IMAGING CENTER

In 2019-2020, RDIC completed several major internal digitization projects that included:

- The Sarah Josepha Hale (1788-1879) Collection of letters with funding from PACSCL’s “In Her Own Right” project. As editor of the 19th century women’s magazine *Godey’s Lady’s Book*, Hale influenced 19th century women’s fashion, politics, and intellectual ideas. omeka.philaAthenaeum.org

“Dolan/Maxwell are dealers in distinguished Modern and Contemporary art since 1984. We rely on RDIC to create large image files for the prints, drawings and paintings we offer to our clients who are museums, corporations and private collectors. Image quality has only become increasingly important in these days of Covid 19 and sheltering at home. We need to make the best case for the works of art we represent and RDIC’s friendly and always professional staff provide an excellent service.”

Ron Rumford, Dolan/Maxwell Gallery

“I have called upon RDIC staff for help with two major projects: a complete redo in 2016-2017 of the company history galleries with exhibit design by Metcalf Architecture and Design, LLC, and, more recently, a wide range of displays for the Grahame Wood Center for Servant Leadership designed by jacobswyper architects. Working with Michael Seneca and Jim Carroll is a pleasure and their professionalism assures a superior visual outcome no matter the medium. RDIC is a valued partner in bringing history to life.”

Maria M. Thompson, Historian, Wawa Inc.

Opening of Wawa’s 200th store, Souderton, PA, June 9, 1978
Mr. Pierce Archer
Mrs. Edith Eglin
George Ross Fisher
Janice Taylor Gordon

Mr. & Mrs. Philip Price
Hugh A.A. Sargent
Miss Joanne B. Williams

Mrs. Flora L. Becker
Mrs. Sandra B. Boyd
Mrs. Nelly M. Childress
Mr. John Hines Chimples
Mr. Mark Chimples
The Honorable Theodore Z. Davis
Mary Werner DeNadai
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin F. Donohoe
Mr. Robert W. Driscoll
Ms. Margaret P. Duckett
Matthew D. Dupee

Paula K. Fischer
Mr. Wm. Roderick Gagne
Mrs. Wanda S. Gunning
Mrs. Norma Martin Milner
Mrs. Constance C. Moore
Ms. Susan D. Ravenscroft
Mr. John A. Simkiss
Mr. Arthur R.G. Solmssen
Dr. Carol E. Soltis
Mr. William L. Weiner
Mr. Barry S. Wildstein

MEMBER

60+ Years
50 Years (Joined 1969)
40 Years (Joined 1979)
30 Years (Joined 1989)

Mrs. Mary Ivy Bayard
Robert E. Booth
Charles H. Burnette
Mrs. Rebecca R. Clark
Mrs. Sonya D. Driscoll
James Lowell Fales Green
Mrs. William D. Hershey
Alvin H. Holm
Mr. Frederick J. M. LaValley
Mr. Mark Frazier Lloyd
The Reverend John E. & Dr. Faith Midwood
Mr. Daniel Patrick O’Connell
Mr. Alfred Wynne Putnam
Suzanne Root
Mr. Charles C. Savage
Mr. Martin Avery Snyder
Ms. Mary James Vaux
Mr. J. William Widing
MILESTONES

25 Years  
(Joined 1994)

Mrs. Benjamin Hoffman Barnett  
Ms. Cheryl A. Bombeck  
Mr. John M. Briggs  
Ms. Janet Burnham  
Mrs. Julia B. DeMoss  
A. Louis Denton  
Mrs. Oliver D. Dickerson-Maier  
Ms. Linda V. Ellsworth  
Ms. Elizabeth L. Gagne  
Mrs. Carole Haas Gravagno  
Mr. Nathaniel P. Hamilton  
Stephen J. Harmelin  
John Freeman Hayes  
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard G. Heinzen  
Ms. Hope Coppage Hendrickson  
Mr. Francis Hughes

Mrs. Joan Lee Kremer  
Mrs. Suzanne K. Lammers  
Cynthia J. Little  
Mr. David K. Marshall  
Mr. Terrence M. McDermott  
George H. Pearson  
Mr. Peter S. Reed  
David J. Richards  
Mr. Dan H. Rothermel  
Denise Scott Brown  
Mr. Peter A. Sears  
Ms. Rebecca Pepper Sinkler  
Mr. Edward D. Slevin  
Mrs. Julia Solmssen  
Mr. Mark-Allen Taylor  
Peter J. Tucci

20 Years  
(Joined 1999)

Cecil Baker  
Mr. F. Jay Bowden  
Ms. Jessamine Brandt  
Mr. Robert A. Cerasoli  
Ms. Anne Clattenburg  
Peter Conn  
Mrs. Helen W. Drutt English  
Mrs. William Thomas Fleming  
Ms. Elizabeth H. Gemmill  
Mr. William B. Irvine  
Mr. Stephen J. Kaufman  
Mr. Kirby E. Kean  
Mr. Thomas H. Keels  
Daniel Kelley

Mr. David A. Linfoot  
Ms. Madeline E. Miller  
Mr. Jonathan W. Miller  
Mr. Walter Bayard Peterson  
The Very Reverend Craig A. Phillips  
Ms. Nancy D. Pontone  
Mr. John Randolph  
Mrs. Elizabeth S. Roberts  
Miss Dorothy Roseman  
Mrs. Donna Stroud  
Mr. John Tyson  
Ms. Laurie Wagman  
Mrs. Helen S. Weary

10 Years  
(Joined 2009)

Ms. Susan R. Behr  
Ms. Susannah Carroll  
Ms. Mary Ellen Comly  
Mr. Albert M. Comly  
Kathleen M. Comly  
Mr. Carl Corde  
Mr. Edwin D. Coyle  
Donna Weaverling Daley  
Ms. Joan D’Antonio  
Mr. P. Justin Detwiler  
Ms. Mary G. DiGirolamo  
Ms. Sandi Foxx-Jones  
Mr. Steven Alan Grasse  
Ms. Linda J. Harris  
Mr. Paul M. Hirshorn  
Mrs. Joan M. Johnson  
Ms. Allison Kelsey  
Professor William C. Lubenow  
Mr. George H. McNeely  
Thomas J. Morton  
Mark W. Nester

Ms. Diane Newbury  
Mr. Scott O’Barr  
Mrs. Barbara Oldenhoff  
Ms. Ruth A. Parker  
Ms. Siobhan Reardon  
Mr. Eric Michael Rich  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward E. Scharff  
Mr. Laurits Halverson Schless  
Mr. Neil H. Shah  
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Smyth  
Ms. Anna Coxe Toogood  
Mr. Jeffrey Totaro  
Ms. Julia Myer Ward  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward A. Webber  
Ms. Donna Wechsler  
Mr. John J. White  
David P. Wilmot  
Mr. David W. Wright  
Alan Yuspeh
LITERARY AWARD

Established in 1950, the Athenæum Literary Award recognizes and encourages literary achievement among authors who are “bona fide residents of Philadelphia or Pennsylvania living within a radius of 30 miles of City Hall” at the time their book was written or published. Nominees are reviewed on the basis of their significance and importance to the general public as well as for literary excellence. The Literary Award has expanded to two committees: one focused on literary works and a second that considers art and architecture books. The awards come with a lectureship at The Athenæum of Philadelphia.

The Winners for 2019:

Edward Posnett  
Strange Harvests: The Hidden History of Seven Natural Objects

Witold Rybczynski  
Charleston Fancy: Little Houses & Big Dreams in the Holy City

CHARLES E. PETERSON FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Fellowship was endowed by Athenæum shareholder, Charles E. Peterson, FAIA (1906-2004), his colleagues, and his friends. The largest named fund administered by The Athenæum, it supports advanced research and publication in areas which reflect Mr. Peterson’s life-long dedication to the study, recording, and preservation of early American architecture and building technology (pre-1860). It also supports an internship program at the Athenæum, providing students with hands-on experience with historic building documents. This year’s interns worked on collection processing, scanning, and moving.

Fellows

Lori Aument
To support the creation of Found in Philadelphia, a six-episode podcast based on Philadelphia History.  
https://foundinphiladelphia.com/

Carpenters Company of the City and County of Philadelphia  
To support the scanning of the minutes of the Carpenter’s Company of the City and County of Philadelphia; completing biographical research on its earliest members; adding this research to the Philadelphia Architects and Buildings database; and creating an online exhibit based on this work.  
https://archive.carpentershall.org/

Interns

Dorothy Fitzgerald  
Dorothy, recently graduated from Thomas Jefferson University, East Falls with a B.S. in Architectural Studies, will pursue graduate studies in Historic Preservation at Jefferson.

Jeremiah DiBease  
Jeremiah, a 4th year architectural studies student at Drexel, plans to become a licensed architect.
CHARLES E. PETERSON PRIZE

A student competition of measured drawings, the Charles E. Peterson Prize is presented jointly by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) of the National Park Service, the Athenæum of Philadelphia, and the American Institute of Architects. The annual competition honors Charles E. Peterson (1906-2004), founder of the HABS program, and is intended to heighten awareness about historic buildings in the United States and to augment the HABS/HAER/HALS collection of measured drawings at the Library of Congress. It represents a long-standing and meaningful partnership for the Athenæum.

FIRST PLACE AWARD: $5,000
Project: Vizcaya, Casino (HABS FL-608-A)
Location: Miami, Florida
Program: University of Miami, School of Architecture
Instructor: Ricardo Lopez
Student Team: Laura Leichtman, Sydney Matsumoto, Adrianna Rivera, Andrew Schneider, Wenxin Jiang, Kyrah Williams, Yuxuan Niu

SECOND PLACE AWARD: $3,000
Project: Taliesin West, Drafting Studio (HABS AZ-218-D)
Location: Scottsdale, Arizona
Program: University of Texas at San Antonio, College of Architecture, Construction and Planning
Instructor: Sue Ann Pemberton, FAIA
Student Team: Valeria Brizuela, Laura Bustillos, Jonathan Gonzalez, Marcus Huerta, Stephanie Mendiola, Gustavo Ochoa, Diana Rodriguez, Maitreyee Satia, Troy Tynan, Mansour Yousefpour

THIRD PLACE AWARD: $2,000
Project: Attanas Viaux Homestead, Log Barn (HABS MT-182-A)
Location: Gallatin Gateway vicinity, Montana
Program: Montana State University, School of Architecture
Instructor: Maire O’Neill Conrad
Student Team: Nima Safaeian

“My internship at the Athenæum of Philadelphia has been a tremendous learning experience for me, and I thank everyone at this institution for the opportunity and for the welcoming, friendly atmosphere.”

Dorothy Fitzgerald, Peterson Intern
DONORS

$10,000+
Anonymous
William M. Davison IV
Robert E. Linck*
Walter J. Miller Trust
Mrs. Joseph T. Beardwood

$5,000-$9,999
John Otto Haas
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George Ross Fisher
Dennis Hummel

“The Athenæum is indeed one of Philadelphia’s greatest treasures. As shareholders, we have enjoyed twelve years of intellectual stimulation and refreshment through books, exhibits, lectures, and gallery talks. (We’ve even been honored to serve as chairpersons for two such exhibits.) Furthermore, we cherish the opportunities to meet old and new friends at receptions following these events. The digital imaging service has also been an invaluable resource for John as an artist. Few cities have such a gem. We are so thankful for our Athenæum.”

John & Ted Schmiechen, Shareholders

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“When you step into the Athenæum, you’re not only stepping into history, you’re adding to it. Everyone who walks through those doors leaves their own mark there, and takes some of it home with them.”

Bradford Pearson, Young Friend

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“My certificate of membership (Number 116) entitles me to ‘one share,’ and that one share has given me unlimited opportunity to enjoy all that the Athenæum offers its members. As a volunteer Ambassador, I am happy to enhance my ‘one share’ even more by greater involvement with members and staff.”

Donna Baker, Shareholder and Volunteer Ambassador

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$100-$499

“The excursions I have attended—Folger Library, Laurel Hill Cemetery, and the Michener Museum—were as interesting, informative, and enjoyable as the in-house programs we have come to expect and enjoy at the Athenæum. I look forward with anticipation to many more.”

Jan Stephano, Shareholder
Above: Blueprint Elevation of House for Miss Helen S. Pearson, Bryn Mawr, William L. Price, Architect, 1900, Gift of Aaron Wunsch

Right: Thomas Carstairs. Artist unknown, c. 1800. During (detail) and after conservation treatment by Steven Erisoty. Gift of Gaynor Roberts Shane. Conservation made possible by a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

“The Athenaeum exhibited my work exclusively in their gorgeous 2nd floor library during Philadelphia’s First Friday Art Event! I have been printing fine art giclées at The Regional Digital Imaging Center for over 10 years. They offer high resolution scanning and printing capabilities that are second to none on the Eastern Seaboard of the United States.”

Perry Milou, Artist
In-Kind Donations

Estate of Stanley and Dorothy Abelson  
Concha Alborg  
Beacon Press  
Arlene Bennett  
Elizabeth S. Browne  
Carl Claus  
Florinda Doelp  
Randy Dolnick  
Charles Duff  
Linda Greenig Ernst  
Grace Farmer  
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Lea Carson Sherk  
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Ed Snyder  
Sam Streit  
Viking  
Richard Webster  
Frank S. Welch  
Chantal Westby  
Wendy Woloson  
Aaron Wunsch  
Clifford W. Zink

“In the fall of 2017 Christ Church Preservation Trust was awarded a large CLIR Digitizing Hidden Collections grant to scan through RDIC and place online the records of Philadelphia’s oldest congregations. The Athenæum’s partnership in this process strengthened our proposal and the staff’s meticulous scanning and careful handling of manuscript materials has enabled this project to move forward smoothly. It’s a project I would have been hesitant to undertake without their participation and I’m so grateful that they’re a resource for us and Philadelphia’s cultural community.”

Carol Smith, Christ Church Preservation Trust

“The tours offered by the Athenæum are rich and varied, complementing the mission of the Library. Each well planned and well executed trip affords members and guests the opportunity to discover new cultural venues or become reacquainted with familiar sites and to explore and expand horizons with timely and topical subjects which I hope will resume when the pandemic subsides.”

Mary DiGirolamo, Shareholder

Top: www.PhiladelphiaCongregations.org

Bottom: The Folger Shakespeare Library Tour
## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

### Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

**Total Income: $1,580,410**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Endowment Income Designated For Current Operations</th>
<th>Contributions and Grants</th>
<th>Income From Designated Trust</th>
<th>Membership Dues</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Endowment income designated for current operations</td>
<td>$550,066</td>
<td>RDIC Services</td>
<td>$99,410</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions and Grants</td>
<td>$413,457</td>
<td>Other investment income</td>
<td>$29,742</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income from dedicated trust</td>
<td>$270,000</td>
<td>Miscellaneous income</td>
<td>$21,261</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td>$192,170</td>
<td>Sales of publications</td>
<td>$4,004</td>
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**Total Expenses: $1,255,414**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personnel</th>
<th>Professional Fees</th>
<th>Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>$703,076</td>
<td>Utilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional fees</td>
<td>$107,303</td>
<td>Insurance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programs-exhibitions and lectures</td>
<td>$90,562</td>
<td>Building maintenance and service contracts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research fellowships and awards</td>
<td>$64,500</td>
<td>Collection and acquisition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collection storage off-site</td>
<td>$56,033</td>
<td>Conservation of collections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office expenses</td>
<td>$51,449</td>
<td>Professional society dues</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Administrative and Events Assistant, Tess Galen and her husband, Daniel Dagorn at the Uptown Theatre tour

The Athenæum of Philadelphia
219 S. Sixth St.
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Kosher Jazz performing at the October 2019 First Friday event

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