About the Art Dealers Association of America

The Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA) is a nonprofit membership organization that supports the economic and cultural contributions of the nation’s leading fine art galleries. It serves as a resource and advocate, raising awareness of dealers’ critical roles in the international art market and the cultural community.

Founded in 1962, the ADAA is dedicated to promoting a holistic understanding of the art market’s participants and resources. Through professional lectures, discussions, forums, and other programs throughout the year, the ADAA provides a platform for members and the broader professional arts community to engage in active dialogue on timely issues facing the cultural field. As a leader on issues pertaining to connoisseurship, conservation, scholarship, ethical practice, and public policy, the ADAA engages in pending legislation, legal matters, and international trade policies, representing the voices of its members in setting ethical business standards and practices.

The ADAA includes nearly 180 members from 29 cities in the United States, with extensive expertise across primary and secondary markets and established reputations for upholding best practices in the field. At the forefront of ideas and innovations in the cultural world, ADAA members spur the creative economy and support the vitality of their communities. They contribute to art historical scholarship through research, publications, and exhibitions; represent thousands of established and emerging artists internationally; nurture new artistic talent; and engage diverse audiences with a spectrum of art from the extraordinary work of Old Masters through the most important artists working today.

The Art Show
The ADAA’s activity culminates annually in The Art Show, held at the historic Park Avenue Armory in support of Henry Street Settlement. The fair offers collectors, arts professionals, and the public the opportunity to engage with an incredible range of artworks through thoughtfully curated solo exhibitions and group shows.

Intimately scaled to encourage conversation with experts on the floor, The Art Show features 72 galleries drawn from the ADAA’s membership and selected through a peer review process. The selection criteria ensure that each year The Art Show will showcase a diverse mix of artists, genres, periods, and geographies, inviting visitors to experience premier works from established names as well as those new to the market. Committed to providing a leisurely viewing experience that will appeal to both the seasoned and young collector, The Art Show offers a singular moment of respite during the flurry of spring fairs and auctions. Now in its 30th year, The Art Show has become synonymous with connoisseurship and expertise, underscoring the importance of the one-to-one connections between visitor, gallerist, and artwork.

ADAA Appraisal Service
The ADAA is further distinguished by its Appraisal Service, which has been valuing works of art for donation, estate tax, gift tax, and insurance for over 50 years. The department’s
appraisers have a depth of art historical and market knowledge, and they are known for their personalized service to their clients, guiding them through the valuation process. With the expertise of the ADAA membership available to the department, it has achieved an exceptional track record in appraising work from Old Master paintings to contemporary installations.

**ADAA Foundation**

The ADAA Foundation, a distinct but connected entity to the ADAA, was established in 1970 to encourage and promote the appreciation of art and art history through its support of vital scholarship and curatorial research. Generously funded by donations from ADAA member galleries, the Foundation has distributed grants to museums, archives, and arts organizations around the country to advance art historical research and exhibition development. Four grants were awarded in 2017 to support exhibitions representing meaningful contributions to art historical scholarship. The recipients were the Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum (Ridgefield, CT), the Eskenazi Museum of Art at Indiana University (Bloomington, IN), the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center at Vassar College (Poughkeepsie, NY), and the Michael C. Carlos Museum at Emory University (Atlanta, GA).

**ADAA Relief Fund**

Formed in 2012 in response to Hurricane Sandy, the ADAA Relief Fund provides grants and loans to galleries and arts nonprofits across the country that have been affected by natural and manmade disasters. In support of recovery efforts, the ADAA identifies recipients according to need, demonstrated by catastrophic damage that prohibits day-to-day and future operations, production, and programming. In 2017, the ADAA Relief Fund provided funds to support emergency grants for artists impacted by Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico.