



Rothko Chapel

2021 Annual Report



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Fiscal Year 2021 / July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

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All Chapel restoration and campus expansion photography by Hester + Hardaway

Dear Friends,

In the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, the Rothko Chapel continued to creatively and faithfully serve our community while celebrating the Chapel's 50th Anniversary. This "golden anniversary," which runs through the first part of next year, provides the opportunity to remember past accomplishments, engage current priorities and develop future plans. Central to the festivities are the people who envisioned and made the Chapel possible including John and Dominique de Menil and Mark Rothko, as well as those who have and continue to support the Chapel in so many ways. We are reminded time and time again, that the Rothko Chapel is a community of people that spans both the ages and the world joined in the spirit of the Chapel's mission "to create opportunities for spiritual growth and dialogue that illuminate our shared humanity and inspire action leading to a world in which all are treated with dignity and respect."

Along with the people, we continue to engage important social inequities, human rights violations, societal divisions and "imperialistic" tendencies (to borrow a phrase from Dominique) that keep the world in constant turmoil. The Chapel continues to offer a platform for leaders from a wide range of disciplines using diverse mediums to further peace and justice both locally and globally. Both people and values important to the Chapel were on full display on February 28, 2021, when we held the 50th Anniversary Interfaith Service and Community Celebration. From seasoned civil rights veterans such as Rutha Mae Harris, Dolores Huerta and the Rev. William Lawson, to young and upcoming leaders like Saachi Jain and Yuna O'Brien, to International Voices Houston and Nur Ashki Jerrahi Community, we were privileged to receive their words of appreciation and hopes for the Chapel's future. Another exciting aspect of the 50th Anniversary Celebration was the publication and launch of *Rothko Chapel: An Oasis for Reflection*—the first monograph on the Chapel in twenty years published by Rizzoli Electa.

In addition to these important moments in the life of the Chapel, Dr. Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor was the featured speaker at the annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration whose transformative lecture addressed the topic "The Radical King and the Quest to Change America." The annual Frances Tarlton "Sissy" Farenthold



Endowed Lecture Series in Peace, Social Justice and Human Rights presented in partnership with the Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice at the University of Texas at Austin School of Law featured *New York Times* columnist Charles M. Blow. Music was also an important aspect of this program season with the Twelve Moments meditation series focused on how faith and spiritual communities engage music and sound as part of their meditative practices, while the "Rothko in Jazz" concert with the Māris Briežkalns Quintet celebrated Rothko's Latvian roots. A lecture by Professor Sheldon Nodleman and conversation with Christopher Rothko on the genesis and development of Rothko Chapel and the annual crystal bowls meditation on New Year's Day filled out an exciting program season.

With the Chapel restoration complete along with Phase 1 of the *Opening Spaces* site development project, attention is now turned to finalizing the designs for Phase 2 which include the new Program Center, Administration-Archives Building, Meditation Garden and Guest House. We anticipate design plans will be complete by the end of the year and once they are approved by the Chapel's Board of Directors, the permitting process will begin with the hope that we can begin construction late in 2022 with the entire project completed by early 2024. We are especially grateful for all the support given to date and look forward to additional generous gifts to the *Opening Spaces* Campaign furthering the Chapel's mission and service goals.

As we prepare for the next year, we do so with anticipation that the current pandemic will soon end. We are grateful for everyone on the frontlines dealing with the crucial public health and spiritual crises caused by COVID-19, as well as those whose lives are dedicated to addressing the systemic issues that keep so many people from recognizing their full humanity and potential. As was true for the first fifty years, the Rothko Chapel remains a place for renewal and community dedicating our resources to further justice and provide a sacred space where each of us can discover the most important aspects of life that lead to a more resilient, ethical, sustainable and equitable world.

We thank you for your support and look forward to our future work together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Piana".

Michael Piana
Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Leslie".

David Leslie
Executive Director



EXPLORING
PROGRAM
HIGHLIGHTS



50th Anniversary Celebration

“All those who have been welcomed here have found a place of safety, of refuge and of deep contemplation. Rothko Chapel has become a temple of respect for all, for opening hearts, and generating hope for unifying community. These past 50 years have given birth to a culture where, in the words of Dominique de Menil, ‘communities continue to find in their common aspiration the possibility to dialogue with one another in a spirit of respect and love.’ We have witnessed the wonder and joy of the human spirit at Rothko which has contributed to a unique culture in our city, and with the continuing support of all of us will continue to blossom in the future.”

—Bishop Myokei Cain-Barrett, Shonin Resident Priest of Myoken-ji Temple

In 2021, Rothko Chapel celebrated 50 years as a landmark of modern sacred art and as a celebrated site for transformative experiences and inspirational conversations on urgent spiritual and social justice issues.

Coinciding with the public opening of the Rothko Chapel on February 26-28 in 1971, the virtual anniversary celebrations began February 26-28, 2021, with panel conversations on the recent Chapel restoration and a new publication, followed by an interfaith service and community celebrations featuring leaders and community members reflecting on the Chapel's past impact and future influence.

“Rothko Chapel & the Journey of Its Restoration” explored the original Chapel design, lighting

transformation in the restored sanctuary, the Chapel's growing campus and the creative process of the *Opening Spaces* Design Team, presented by panelists Adam Yarinsky, Principal, Architecture Research Office; George S. Sexton III, Principal, George Sexton Associates; and Thomas L. Woltz, Principal, Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects; moderated by Carol Mancusi-Ungaro, Melva Bucksbaum Associate Director for Conservation and Research, Whitney Museum of Art.

Published by Rizzoli Electa upon the occasion of the Chapel's 50th Anniversary and *Opening Spaces* restoration, *Rothko Chapel: An Oasis for Reflection*, the book was launched with a panel discussion and book release. This large-format volume provides photographic testimony of the Chapel's solace and inspiration, along with insights from scholars giving an intimate look into the Chapel's history and how the restoration project came to fruition. Panelists included book contributors Stephen Fox, architectural historian and Fellow of the Anchorage Foundation of Texas; Paul Hester, architectural photographer, Hester + Hardaway; and Pamela Smart, Associate Professor, Binghamton University; and moderator Ashley Clemmer, Director of Programs and Community Engagement, Rothko Chapel.

The 50th Anniversary weekend celebrations culminated in an interfaith ceremony and community celebration, harkening back to the dedication ceremonies that commemorated the Chapel's opening in 1971. The service featured prayers, blessings, songs, and reflections from a wide array of local, national, and international community members, spiritual leaders, and social justice advocates. Highlights included blessings from longtime friends of the

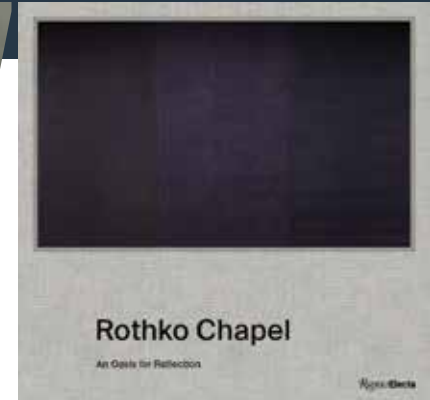


Chapel Rev. Joseph Fiorenza, and the Islamic Society of Greater Houston, Cantor Rollin Simmons & Rabbi David Segal, Rev. William A. Lawson, Dolores Huerta, Former President Jimmy Carter, and His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama; the reading of “Litany for the Journey Ahead” by Houston interfaith youth leaders; performances by International Voices Houston choir and SNCC Freedom Singer Rutha Mae Harris; and the presentation of a Sufi Sema Whirling Ceremony by Nur Ashki Jerrahi Communities of New York & Mexico City. This inspirational interfaith service renewed and strengthened the Chapel’s commitment to serving as a welcoming sanctuary for all and a place to rally around today’s significant social justice issues.



Highlighting the extraordinary impact of the Rothko Chapel on both artists and the public since opening in 1971, the Moody Center for the Arts at Rice University organized a celebratory exhibition *Artists and the Rothko Chapel: 50 Years of Inspiration*. Curated by Frauke V. Josenhans, the exhibition restaged the immersive 1975 show *Marden, Novros, Rothko: Painting in the Age of Actuality*, organized at Rice University by Harris Rosenstein and supported by Dominique de Menil, and highlighted works by contemporary artists of diverse ages, nationalities and backgrounds — Sam Gilliam, Sheila Hicks, Shirazeh Houshiary, and Byron Kim — exploring the wide-reaching influence of the Chapel and its legacy, manifested through various media and aesthetics.

As a part of the exhibition and celebrations, the Moody Center and the Menil Collection hosted a virtual screening of renowned architect and son of Dominique and John de Menil, Francois de Menil’s documentary “The Rothko Chapel” (1972). The film was followed by a conversation with Francois de Menil and David Leslie, Executive Director of the Rothko Chapel, moderated by Frauke V. Josenhans, Associate Curator at the Moody Center for the Arts. The discussion centered on the challenges of filming the



non-denominational space, and both speakers evoked the emotional and transcendental power of the Chapel as well as its humanistic vocation.

The 50th anniversary celebrations closed with a livestream lecture by art historian Sheldon Nodelman on Mark Rothko’s design and creative process, followed by a conversation with the artist’s son and chair of *Opening Spaces* campaign, Christopher Rothko. In 1997, Nodelman authored *Rothko Chapel Paintings: Origin, Structure, Meaning*, where he explored the Rothko Chapel as “a masterpiece of twentieth century art and incontestably the greatest work of pictorial installation to date, both dauntingly complex and enigmatic.” The lecture and conversation illuminated new understandings of the painting design phases that culminated in the finished work we see today.

These celebrations reached 2225 unique viewers from 45 US states and 48 countries outside of the US, reinvigorating the Chapel’s renown as a space for inspiration and contemplation for the next 50 years ahead.

“This Rothko Chapel invites us to a serious reflection of the importance of human fraternity. A world without true fraternity among all people is a world fraught with danger to our civilization, our way of life, and world peace. Rothko Chapel for 50 years has been a sacred place where human fraternity is a reality and where love and the search for truth embraces those of religious faith and all people of good will.”

—The Most Reverend Joseph A. Fiorenza, Archbishop Emeritus, Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Continuing 50th anniversary celebrations, the Chapel partnered with the World Affairs Council of Greater Houston and the Honorary Consulate of Latvia for the State of Texas to present “Rothko in Jazz” with Māris Briežkalns Quintet. In honor of Mark Rothko’s Latvian heritage, the jazz ensemble commissioned ten Latvian composers to each create an original jazz composition illustrating the moods and atmospheres evoked by an iconic Rothko painting selected by the composer. Performers included Māris Briežkalns (drums, band leader); Viktors Ritovs (piano, keys); Raimonds Macats (harmonica, cello, keys); Kristaps Lubovs (saxophone); and Andris Grunte (double bass).



Practicing Spirituality and Living Mindfully

Twelve Moments: Contemplation & Sound

Since 2005, the Rothko Chapel has organized “Twelve Moments: Experiencing Spiritual & Faith Traditions,” a monthly series that foregrounds diverse contemplative practices. Led by community leaders from different spiritual traditions, the series provides practical tools for reflection and education on different faith perspectives in Houston and beyond.

The Chapel continued this longstanding series and pivoted to a livestream format, due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic. Titled “Contemplation & Sound,” the series highlighted the role of music and sound in spiritual practices and explored how these practices can sustain us in the face of ongoing challenges. Presenters focused on enhancing

attention to the present moment in order to find balance amidst the heightened stressors of the pandemic, racial injustices, hurricanes, wildfires, and the 2020 election season, among other complex, intersectional issues. Sessions invited us to discover joy, gratitude, and peace around and within ourselves through music and sound.

The series featured 13 spiritual communities and traditions represented in Houston, including chanting, singing, recitations, contemplative performances, and a variety of musical instruments like drums, guitar, keyboard, violin, and harmonium. Spiritual traditions, presenters, and modalities included:

- Ancient Kemetic (Nubian Egyptian)**
Aset Hetep from Shemsu Ra
—Chanting & Drumming
- Jewish**
Cantor Rollin Simmons from Congregation Emanu El
—Vocals & Guitar
- Jain**
Samani Punya Pragya Ji from JVB Preksha Meditation Center
—Mantras & Breathwork
- Bön Buddhist**
Lama Geshe Denma Gyaltsen & Alejandro Chaoul from Ligmincha Texas
—Chanting
- Christian**
Minister Leon Lewis, Sabrina Gatson & Jamie Perry from Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church
—Gospel Music Performance

- Mindfulness**
Dana Shamas
—Crystal Bowls
- Baha’i**
Marcel Wormsley, Badie Khaleghian, TJ Stapleton, Robyn Smith Retzlaff & Kamal Khanjani from Spiritual Assembly of the Baha’is of Houston
—Contemplative Performances
- Hindu**
Dr. Hansa Medley, Doug Sauer & Damodar Sharan from ISKCON
—Maha-Mantras
- Zarathushti**
Kaemerz Dotiwala from Zoroastrian Association of Houston
— Scripture Recitation
- Islamic**
Mohamed Hussein, Fatimah Ali, Imam Dr. Basem Hamid & Mouaz Al Nass
—Scripture Recitation

- Unitarian Universalist**
Rev. Colin Bossen, Rev. D. Scott Cooper, Mark Vogel, Tawanna Grice, Alma Viscarra, Karen Carlson & Carol Burrus
—Contemplative Service for Pride Month
 - Family-Friendly Modern**
Stephen Findley
—Laughter Meditation
 - Family-Friendly Mindfulness**
Marial Biard & Hillary Gómez from Texas Children’s Hospital Music Therapy Program
—Mindful Music Practices
- The series reached a total of 1938 unique viewers from 42 states and 56 countries outside of the United State, and provided inspiration to establish an upcoming 2022 program series “Songs for Justice: Exploring the Power of Music in Social Justice Movements.”



Inspiring Action for Social Change

Frances Tarlton “Sissy” Farenthold Endowed Lecture Series in Peace, Social Justice and Human Rights

“If we want a racial reckoning, we can have one. But it will take far more dismantling of systems than we have seen this summer.”

—Charles M. Blow

New York Times columnist, CNN commentator and author Charles M. Blow gave an address reflecting on the current state of racial justice movements as the featured speaker for the 2020 Frances Tarlton “Sissy” Farenthold Endowed Lecture Series in Peace, Social Justice and Human Rights, presented in partnership with the Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice at the University of Texas’ School of Law. Named in honor of Sissy, who dedicated her life to exposing and responding to injustices as a lawyer,

legislator, and global leader in human rights, the lecture series inspires audiences to think and act creatively in response to the greatest human rights challenges of the 21st century. Blow shared observations on the similarities between the protests of the 1960s and 2020, the inevitable backlashes to progress, and the need for long-term commitment to racial equity to create true structural changes. Following his lecture, ABC13 news anchor Melanie Lawson moderated a Q&A session with Blow and the virtual audience.



The Radical King and the Quest to Change America

Continuing to reflect on what constitutes effective and lasting change in the US, particularly around racial equity, professor, author, and MacArthur Fellow, Keeanga-Yamahatta Taylor engaged in a lecture and conversation on “The Radical King and the Quest to Change America” for the Chapel’s Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration. Speaking a few days after the January 6th insurrection at the US Capital, Taylor reflected on King’s call for a “radical reconstruction” of the US at the end of his life and career, noting how many of the same issues persist today: white nationalism, poverty, healthcare, and

labor inequities, which are exacerbated by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Brandon Mack, community activist and lead organizer for Black Lives Matter: Houston moderated a Q&A session with Taylor and the virtual audience following her address.

These important conversations reached 961 unique viewers from 42 states and 23 countries outside of the United States, calling upon each of us to examine our personal and institutional relationships to power and privilege, and to commit to life-long action toward racial equity.



Spirituality and Social Justice Cohort

In anticipation of the Chapel's campus expansion including a new Program Center, The Rothko Chapel convened the Spirituality and Social Justice Cohort, a strategic planning project funded by the Henry Luce Foundation. The cohort is comprised of a group of eight change leaders who convened virtually between the fall of 2020 and the spring of 2021 to help further contemporary understandings about relationships between spirituality and social justice, and how they can inform future directions of the Chapel's programming and community engagement efforts.

The cohort included recognized leaders in the arts, academic, religious and social justice sectors who brought insight and experience to the interplay between spirituality and long-term social justice advocacy and engagement.

The project was organized and administered by Rothko Chapel's Executive Director, David Leslie, M.Div., and Director of Programs and Community Engagement, Ashley Clemmer, M.A., in collaboration with Rothko Chapel Advisor, Anthony B. Pinn, M.Div., Ph.D., the Agnes Cullen Arnold Professor of Humanities and Professor of Religious Studies at Rice University.

The Cohort grappled with questions such as "how do activists from diverse disciplines sustain their activism and social engagement? What spiritual, psychological, creative, and existential resources are needed and drawn upon to be effectively engaged in the struggle for social justice? How can the Rothko Chapel further cross-sector understanding and collaboration that supports both current and future generations of activists and social change leaders?"

The Chapel will share the results from the cohort efforts at the Chapel's 2022 Spring Symposium, which focuses on the state of human rights in the US and will engage symposium participants in the ongoing framing of spirituality-social justice connections.

Cohort Members

Elia Arce, a conceptual artist working in a wide variety of media, Costa Rica

Suzanne Benally, Navajo and Santa Clara Tewa, board chair of the International Funders for Indigenous Peoples, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Sean Fitzpatrick, Ph.D., LPC, Executive Director of The Jung Center, Houston, TX

Ash-Lee Woodard-Henderson, Executive Director of the Highlander Research & Education Center, New Market, Tennessee

Matthew Russell, M.Div., Ph.D., Co-Managing Director of projectCurate, one of the Executive Pastors at Chapelwood United Methodist Church, the Co-Founder and Executive Director of Iconoclast Artists and an Assistant Professor of Recovery Ministry at Fuller Theological Seminary, Houston, TX

Najeeba Syeed, J.D., Associate Professor of Muslim and Interreligious Studies at Chicago Theological Seminary and Director of the Center for Global Peacebuilding

Caron Tabb, visual artist, Boston, MA

John H. Vaughn, M.Div., Executive Pastor of the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA

Expanding the Chapel's Engagement

While the Covid-19 Pandemic has changed spatial conditions of community gathering and connection, it has not impeded the creation of meaningful opportunities for collaboration, cross-pollination, and shared learning. This year the Chapel participated in a series of partnerships with organizations and institutions in Houston and nationally which included a variety of activities.

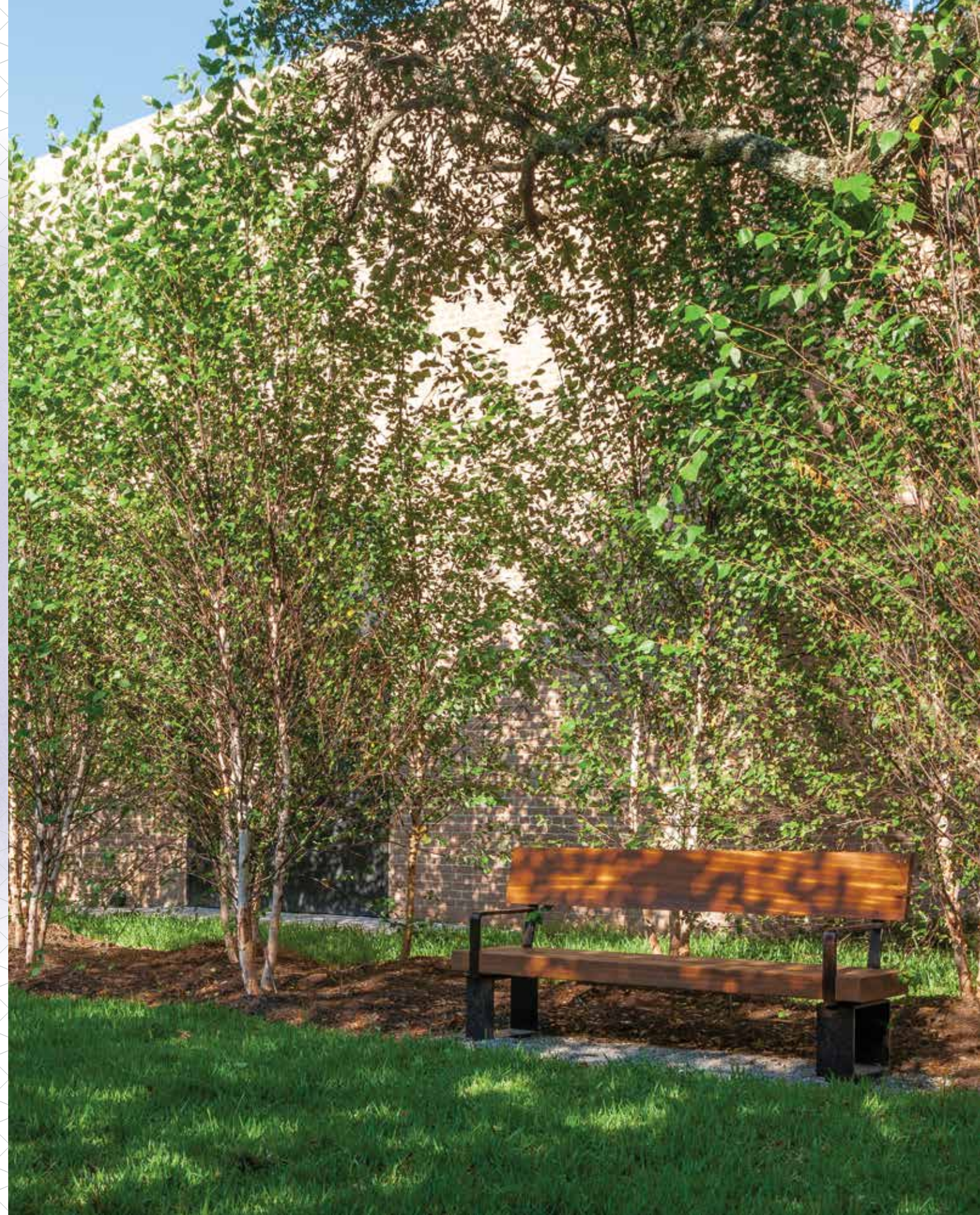
In February, in conjunction with the Chapel's 50th Anniversary and recent restoration, Rothko Chapel's Board member Christopher Rothko participated in "Contemporary Conversations: The Rothko Chapel" hosted by Sotheby's. This program also included contributions by critic and Professor Shahidha Bari; international curator, critic and art writer Dr. David Anfam, and Sotheby's Executive Vice President, Chairman Lisa Dennison.

In March, Rothko Chapel's Executive Director David Leslie participated in a virtual vigil hosted by the Institute for Spirituality and Health, to collectively experience and move through the intense emotions surrounding the death of George Floyd, the trial of Officer Derek Chauvin, and to discuss the broader racial and cultural contexts.

In May, in honor of the Rothko Chapel's 50th Anniversary, Pace Gallery presented a virtual guided meditation led by Tibetan meditation teacher, Dr. Alejandro Chaoul, recorded from inside the Chapel. Following the meditation, Marc Glimcher, President & CEO of Pace Gallery and David Leslie, Executive Director of the Rothko Chapel joined Dr. Chaoul in conversation to discuss the Rothko Chapel as a historic place for inspiration and contemplation, the importance of sacred spaces, and the value of solo meditation practice.

2020-2021 Program Season Partners

- Architecture Research Office (ARO)
- Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice at the University of Texas at Austin
- Congregation Emanu El
- First Unitarian Universalist Church of Houston
- Garden Club of Houston
- George Sexton Associates
- International Voices Houston
- ISKCON of Houston
- Islamic Society of Greater Houston
- JVB Preksha Meditation Center
- Ligmincha Texas
- Māris Briežkalns Quintet
- Menil Collection
- Minaret Foundation
- Moody Center for the Arts at Rice University
- Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects (NBW)
- Nur Ashki Jerrahi Community
- Pace Gallery
- Rizzoli Electa
- Shemsu Ra Inc
- Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Houston
- Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church
- Zoroastrian Association of Houston





As one of Houston’s most beloved and iconic institutions, the Rothko Chapel plays a vital role in our city’s cultural, spiritual and social justice ecosystem. The Chapel is dedicated to actively meeting the evolving needs of the nation’s most diverse city. This commitment drives our vision for the Chapel’s growth and takes shape in the implementation of the Opening Spaces masterplan.



OPENING spaces

A Campaign for the Rothko Chapel

This \$35-million visionary masterplan is the most ambitious and transformational capital effort the Chapel has undertaken since it was constructed 50 years ago. The project aims to fulfill an array of objectives, including the realization of the founders’ and artist’s original vision; setting the stage for programmatic expansion; and building on the Chapel’s organizational capacity.



OPENING spaces

The following components of the masterplan re-envision the Chapel’s campus and facilities:

The restored Chapel will enhance the meditative quality of the sanctuary and allow for the paintings and space to be experienced as they were intended by the artist and founders. The building interior will be restored to its original proportions, with a reconfigured skylight, lighting design and reimagined entryway. In the sanctuary, louvers will provide a gentle light that will preserve the paintings while enhancing their presentation. *(Completed 2020)*

The Construction of a north campus on land owned by the Chapel (on the north side of Sul Ross Street), which will feature new collaborative public spaces:

- Suzanne Deal Booth Welcome House, to preserve and present didactic and historical displays and a bookstore, and to serve as a gathering point for groups and tours *(Completed 2020)*
- Administration and Archives Building, to foster research and support expanded operations.
- Program Center, to accommodate an enriched range of public programs, receptions and presentations: dance, music, art and historical exhibitions and film screenings, as well as symposia, lectures and workshops

New energy facility that employs second-floor placement of mechanical and control equipment, and a new back-up generator to ensure that the Chapel will be protected from weather disasters. Landscape and drainage improvements will also work to safeguard the campus. *(Completed 2020)*

Guest House a renovated bungalow to host Chapel speakers and special guests, as well as artists or scholars in residence.

The Chapel’s landscaping and greenspaces will be enhanced to create a unified campus that preserves and defines a sense of quiet sanctuary. Elements of the newly landscaped grounds include:

- Tranquil new garden spaces for reflection
- Redesigned landscaping to provide a fluid transition between the Chapel grounds and Menil Park *(Completed 2020)*
- New plantings and improved seating around the Broken Obelisk *(Completed 2020)*
- The planting of more than 300 new trees in groves on the Chapel grounds and along the street, to provide welcome shade and screens from increased commercial activity in the neighborhood *(Completed, in part)*



Phase 1 of the Opening Spaces site development project is now complete which included the creation of the Suzanne Deal Booth Welcome House and Chapel restoration. We are excited to embark on Phase 2 to create a new Program Center, Administration-Archives Building, Meditation Garden and Guest House.

This expansion will allow us to augment our work in civil rights and social justice and expand the Chapel's reach.



OPENINGspaces

Rothko Chapel now moves into Phase 2 of the project, which includes a new meditation garden; a guest bungalow to provide dedicated housing for Chapel speakers, fellows and other visitors; and the construction of two new buildings—an Administration and Archive Building and a Program Center.

When completed in 2024, the Program Center and North Campus will feature approximately 11,500 square feet of dedicated indoor and outdoor multi-use spaces for programming and community gatherings, bolstered by critical infrastructure and state-of-the-art audio/visual equipment. The centerpiece of the new Program Center is the 2,400 square-foot Community Room, which will be dedicated to housing multi-day trainings, seminars and workshops led by the Chapel, and by local, national and international mission-aligned partners.

The Program Center’s technological capabilities will enhance Chapel productions and allow us to engage with partners through livestreaming and remote platforms. Our Community Room will also serve as a meeting ground for local community members, artists and human rights advocates, and will strengthen the Chapel’s “rapid response” capabilities as we address major, emergent social issues with partners and activists on a national and international level.

This new facility opens new possibilities for the Chapel to host and develop programming that integrates film, dance, and expanded musical, literary and theater productions. Bolstered by state-of-the-art audio/video infrastructure and theatrical lighting, this new facility opens new possibilities for the Chapel to host and develop programming that integrates film, dance, and expanded musical, literary and theater productions. The flexible nature of the space will provide an important platform to further existing relationships and develop new partnerships committed to shared social-change objectives. The new Program Center also includes a nearly 800 square foot gallery that will host rotating exhibitions of mission-aligned visual art to enrich the Chapel’s programming. Combined, the community room and gallery spaces in the new Program Center offer exciting new avenues to complement Chapel symposia, create new dimensions of multidisciplinary programming and open new possibilities for inter-organizational collaboration. These indoor and outdoor spaces will offer expanded art and cultural programming that furthers our social justice, spiritual, and human rights mission, while allowing the Chapel sanctuary to remain a space of tranquility and contemplation in service of the community.





OPENINGspaces

A Campaign for the Rothko Chapel

\$5,000,000+

The Rothko Family

\$2,000,000 - \$4,999,999

Matt Mullenweg
The Brown Foundation Inc.
Houston Endowment, Inc.
Lynn Wyatt

\$1,000,000 - \$1,999,999

Suzanne Deal Booth

\$500,000 - \$999,999

Michael R. Piana
The Cullen Foundation
The Glimcher Family

\$100,000 - \$499,999

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
The John R. Eckel, Jr. Foundation
The Fondren Foundation
Donna and Marvin Schwartz
Texas Commission on the Arts
Dr. Nancy Crown and Dr. Samuel Weisman

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Peggy and Richard Danziger
The Rosenblatt Charitable Trust

\$20,000 - \$49,999

Chinhui Juhn and Edward R. Allen III
BBVA
Kristina Van Dyke Fort and Jeff Fort
Ann and J. Kent Friedman/Esther Friedman
Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Lahourcade
John P. McGovern Foundation
Judy and Scott Nyquist
Paddle8 Inc.
Isabel and Ignacio Torras

\$10,000 - \$19,999

Anne and Albert Chao
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The Garden Club of Houston
Molly Gochman
Hobby Family Foundation
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Karen Rosa and Jim King
Jo Backer Laird
Rheda Becker and Robert E. Meyerhoff
The Mnuchin Foundation
Michael R. Piana
Clifford Ross
Sotheby's
Lois and George Stark

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Bank of America
Maire and David Baldwin
Joan and Robert Feitler
Carolyn Pardue & Michael Foulard
Hugh J. Freund
George and Mary Josephine Hamman
Foundation
Catherine and Steven Hollerbach
Mike Loya
Frances Lummis
Tatiana and Craig Massey
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Andres Reiner
Joyce and Mohammed Salhoot
Michael Spalter
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Carol Mancusi-Ungaro Steen
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ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Wes Anderson
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Victoria Goldstein
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Mr. Glen Gonzalez and Mr. Steve Summers
Thuy M. Tran and James E. Tiebout

PRESS COVERAGE

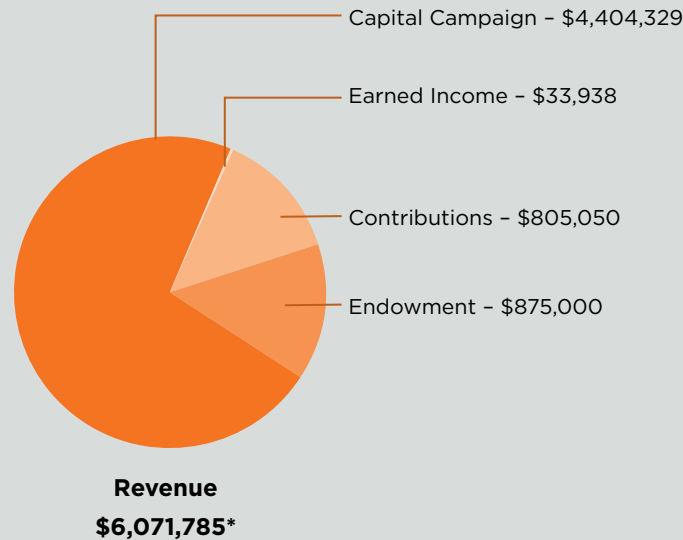
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National Review
Paper City
Sotheby's
Wall Street Journal

As of June 2021

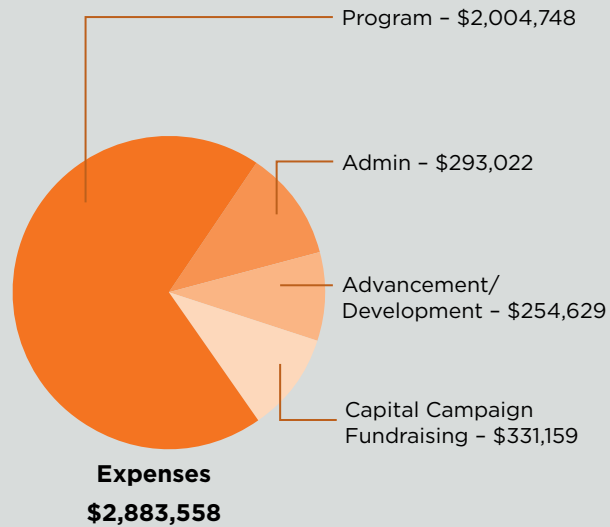


By The Numbers

For Fiscal Year 2021



*Includes loss on disposal of property - \$46,532



The data are derived from the audited financial statements of the Rothko Chapel as of June 30, 2021.

Our Supporters

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Chairman's Circle \$25,000+

The Brown Foundation, Inc.
Houston Arts Alliance
Houston Endowment Inc.
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Director's Circle \$10,000+

Lori Cohen and Christopher Rothko
The Cultural Heritage Preservation Fund
Dudley T Dougherty Foundation, Inc.
The Ford Foundation
The Jacob and Terese Hershey Foundation
Texas Commission on the Arts

Benefactor's Circle \$5,000+

Ann and J. Kent Friedman
Mary and Tony Gracely

George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation
CC Lee
R. R. Littman
Michael R. Piana
Christina and Troy Porter
Peter Ragauss
Kate Rothko Prizel and Ilya Prizel
Lois and Arthur Stainman
Mary Welch and Ernesto Maldonado

Sustainer \$2,500+

Clare Casademont
Sanford L. Dow
Marilyn Oshman
Lillie Robertson
John Robertson
Karen Rosa and Jim King
Arwa and Aziz Shaibani
Sandra Tirey and Jan R. van Lohuizen

Patron \$1,000+

Marta E. Calleja and John Biggs
Gayle and Mike DeGeurin
Jerry & Nanette Finger Foundation
Cece and Mack Fowler
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For more information about making a gift, please contact the Advancement Office at 713.660.1409.



In Memoriam: Pierre Marcel Schlumberger (1942-2020)

Pierre Marcel Schlumberger, or "Pete" as he was known to family and friends, passed away on October 1, 2020, in New Braunfels, Texas after a courageous battle with Parkinson's Disease. Born in Houston, Texas on June 29, 1942, Pete was known as a devoted family man and community advocate, serving on numerous nonprofit boards, including as Corporate Secretary of Rothko Chapel. Pete is survived by his college sweetheart, best friend, and wife Lesley McCary Schlumberger, to whom he was married for 58 years. The Chapel extends our deepest condolences to the Schlumberger family during this time. In lieu of flowers, his family graciously designated the Rothko Chapel as a beneficiary.

The following donors contributed in Pierre's memory:

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Thanks to the time, dedication, and generosity of the many individuals listed here, the spirit of the Rothko Chapel lived on in our community throughout the 18-month *Opening Spaces* restoration project and closure, and the COVID-19 Pandemic. From leadership, administrative staff and new visitor services team members, to interns, advisors and volunteers, the Chapel is able to sustain the community through trying times, provide a safe, quiet, and open space to connect to yourself and others, and illuminate our shared humanity.

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