

EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO

EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO RECEIVES \$8 MILLION GIFT FROM PHILANTHROPIST MACKENZIE SCOTT

Largest award in Museum's history will support long-term stability

NEW YORK, NY, June 16, 2021 - El Museo del Barrio is proud to announce an \$8 million gift from philanthropist, author and activist MacKenzie Scott, marking the largest single gift received in the Museum's history. Recognized as one of 286 high-impact organizations in categories and communities that have been historically underfunded and overlooked, the transformative grant will support the Museum's work to uphold its mission and provide long-term stability for the legacy institution—the first museum in the country committed to celebrating Latinx and Caribbean art and culture.

“This monumental gift represents a significant recognition of the historical and cultural contributions of more than 60 million Latinxs in this country, and of the mission and legacy of El Museo del Barrio. For more than 50 years, the Museum has been dedicated to this inspiring community, and artists who have made El Museo their home. We are inspired by the generosity of MacKenzie Scott and her team, and honored to continue expanding and advancing the artistic and cultural legacy of Latinxs. Pa'lante!,” said Patrick Charpenel, Executive Director, El Museo del Barrio.

“Arts and cultural institutions can strengthen communities by transforming spaces, fostering empathy, reflecting community identity, advancing economic mobility, improving academic outcomes, lowering crime rates, and improving mental health, so we evaluated smaller arts organizations creating these benefits with artists and audiences from culturally rich regions and identity groups that donors often overlook,” said Scott in a Tuesday, June 15 announcement posted [online](#).

“Gracias to MacKenzie Scott and her team for their exemplary leadership and vision. This gift will enable El Museo del Barrio to build on its important legacy as a community-centered institution, achieve long-term stability, and continue serving as the nation's leading Latinx cultural institution for years to come,” said Maria Eugenia Maury, Board Chair, El Museo del Barrio.

The gift forms part of the philanthropist's latest round of awards totaling \$2.74 billion to organizations across the United States. The timing and details regarding the use of the gift are currently being worked out by the Museum.

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ABOUT EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO

El Museo del Barrio, founded by a coalition of Puerto Rican educators, artists, and activists, is the nation's leading Latino and Latin American cultural institution. The Museum welcomes visitors of all backgrounds to discover the artistic landscape of these communities through its extensive Permanent Collection, varied exhibitions and publications, bilingual public programs, educational activities, festivals, and special events.

Currently on view is *ESTAMOS BIEN – LA TRIENAL 20/21*, El Museo's first large-scale national survey of Latinx art. Featuring 42 artists and collectives from across the U.S. and Puerto Rico, La Trienal addresses such on-going issues as identity politics, gentrification and displacement, climate change, as well as the particular effects of the global pandemic—especially as it relates to Latinx populations.

The Museum is located at 1230 Fifth Avenue at 104th Street in New York City. The Museum is open for limited hours until further notice: Saturdays and Sundays from 12:00pm – 5:00pm. Pay-what-you-wish. To connect with El Museo via Social Media, follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. For more information, please visit www.elmuseo.org.

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