

**Bettwy, Greg**

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**From:** Smithsonian Secretary  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:29 PM  
**To:** risalavizzo [Ex. 6]; Doris Matsui; bb [Ex. 6] Stephen M. Case; John Fahey; roger [Ex. 6]; Michael Govan; Michael Lynton (snap; Denise O'Leary; FDRaines [Ex. 6]; Jeffrey P. Minear; Toni-Marie Higgins; Josh Yearsley; Dean, Trevor (Cortez Masto; McDonald, Kevin (Leahy; Jeremy Marcus; Victor.Castillo [Ex. 6] Monica Didiuk  
**Cc:** Lauren Stanley; Margarita Kofalt; Emoore [Ex. 6] Katie Byerly; Lauren\_Holly [Ex. 6] Anaisy\_tolentino [Ex. 6] Nora.Taktajian [Ex. 6] CHRISTINE.OCHOA [Ex. 6] Becca Salter; Mara Thill; Marissa Secreto; Johnette Lopiano; Office of Michael Govan; dzacarias [Ex. 6] ddavidson [Ex. 6] Sarah Bailey; Bunch, Lonnie; Park, Meroe S.; Marengo, Julissa; Leonard, Judith; Forester, Kate; Wilkinson, Porter N.; bettwyg@si.edu; Gover, Kevin; Williams, Anne B.  
**Subject:** Articles on Save America PAC Donation

Dear Regents,

I want to alert you to reports this weekend that Save America PAC, a political action committee led by former President Donald Trump, disclosed in a document filed with the Federal Election Commission that it had made a "charitable contribution" of \$650,000 to the Smithsonian Institution on July 14. The Washington Post has issued their story and we anticipate stories later today from Associated Press, The Washington Post, Financial Times, USA Today, The Daily Beast and Business Insider.

In our response, we indicated that all portraits of presidents at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum. The Save America donation of \$650,000 is accompanied by one additional private donation. It is specifically for the portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump.

Two artists have been commissioned, one for each portrait. The names will be released closer to the reveal of the paintings. The funds support the artists' fees, shipping, framing, installation and events. The creation of the portraits is underway. The timing of the artworks' reveal has not been determined yet. The \$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.

If you have questions or receive any media inquiries, please direct them to Julissa Marengo, Assistant Secretary for Communications and External Affairs/Chief Marketing Officer.

Sincerely,

Lonnie

Lonnie G. Bunch III | Secretary  
Phone: 202.633.1846  
Email: [SmithsonianSecretary@si.edu](mailto:SmithsonianSecretary@si.edu)



## Bettwy, Greg

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**From:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 4:15 PM  
**To:** Bettwy, Greg  
**Subject:** FW: Trump PAC donation to SI

Well, this did not take long!

**From:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 4:14 PM  
**To:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>; Marenco, Julissa <MarencoJ@si.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: Trump PAC donation to SI

I believe this is the tip of the iceberg.  
Read the articles. They list other things the PAC gives to. And there we are.  
linda

**From:** Blasco, Erin <BlascoE@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 4:10 PM  
**To:** Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>; Ostroff, Hannah <OstroffH@si.edu>; Weyand-Geise, Madeleine <Weyand-GeiseM@si.edu>; Fairchild, Alexandria <FairchildA@si.edu>; St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Trump PAC donation to SI

Good afternoon,

Just an update that we're seeing tons of angry tweets about the Trump portrait, from small and huge accounts. People do not seem to understand, of course, that we have portraits of all the presidents. They're upset that we're getting a Trump portrait but also there are plenty of people upset that this counts as a "donation," especially since their fundraising practices have been criticized.

Sampling of tweets:

- I hope by the time the artist starts to paint him he's wearing an orange jumpsuit. He likes orange.
- 
- Why would the Smithsonian even hang anything with that treasonous pig? Unless the exhibit talks about the crimes, abuse of power, and a portrait of Narcissism!
- 
- That is not a charitable donation! They commissioned portraits. And why would the Smithsonian agree?
- 
- Nice to see that @smithsonian is in bed with a Nazi pedophile wanna-be tyrant. Donation or bribe ?
- 
- This is f\*cking infuriating.
- 
- This is not how museums are supposed to work.
- 
- The last thing I need to see at a museum is a portrait of trump or his rather unimpressive First Lady! Would the dinosaur 🦖 museum not be the best place for trump though?! #TrumpTreason #TrumpTraitor #TrumpLiedALot
-



- It's disturbing to hear that the Smithsonian is accepting so much money from Trump's Save America PAC, which has been using what Business Insider calls "aggressive and deceptive" solicitations to squeeze money from the faithful.
- 
- Send the money back!!!!

Best,  
Erin

Erin Marie Blasco (she/her)  
Social Media Strategist  
Smithsonian Institution  
202.633.5476 | [blascoe@si.edu](mailto:blascoe@si.edu)

---

**From:** Williams, Anne B. <[WilliamsAB@si.edu](mailto:WilliamsAB@si.edu)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 8:43 AM  
**To:** Blasco, Erin <[BlascoE@si.edu](mailto:BlascoE@si.edu)>; Abbott, Greg <[AbbottG@si.edu](mailto:AbbottG@si.edu)>; Herbolsheimer, Nancy B. <[HerbolsheimerNB@si.edu](mailto:HerbolsheimerNB@si.edu)>  
**Cc:** LoPiccolo, Philip <[LoPiccoloP@si.edu](mailto:LoPiccoloP@si.edu)>; Koch, Lara <[KochL@si.edu](mailto:KochL@si.edu)>; Spiller, Robert <[Spiller@si.edu](mailto:Spiller@si.edu)>; St Thomas, Linda <[stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: Trump PAC donation to SI

Good morning,  
We have received media inquiries about this as well. Linda is working with Julissa and Concetta on a response.

Anne Williams

Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs

Smithsonian Institution

O: 202.633.7697

C: Ex. 6

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**From:** Blasco, Erin <[BlascoE@si.edu](mailto:BlascoE@si.edu)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 2:25 PM  
**To:** Abbott, Greg <[AbbottG@si.edu](mailto:AbbottG@si.edu)>; Herbolsheimer, Nancy B. <[HerbolsheimerNB@si.edu](mailto:HerbolsheimerNB@si.edu)>  
**Cc:** LoPiccolo, Philip <[LoPiccoloP@si.edu](mailto:LoPiccoloP@si.edu)>; Koch, Lara <[KochL@si.edu](mailto:KochL@si.edu)>; Williams, Anne B. <[WilliamsAB@si.edu](mailto:WilliamsAB@si.edu)>; Spiller, Robert <[Spiller@si.edu](mailto:Spiller@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: Trump PAC donation to SI

Definitely continuing to see questions about it on Twitter too.

<https://twitter.com/derekwillis/status/1561386570208395265?s=21&t=Bhb5DGFgV4Y2OqtZwNqBtg>

Erin Blasco  
Office of Public Affairs  
Smithsonian Institution

**From:** Abbott, Greg <[AbbottG@si.edu](mailto:AbbottG@si.edu)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 2:21:55 PM  
**To:** Herbolsheimer, Nancy B. <[HerbolsheimerNB@si.edu](mailto:HerbolsheimerNB@si.edu)>  
**Cc:** LoPiccolo, Philip <[LoPiccoloP@si.edu](mailto:LoPiccoloP@si.edu)>; Blasco, Erin <[BlascoE@si.edu](mailto:BlascoE@si.edu)>; Koch, Lara <[KochL@si.edu](mailto:KochL@si.edu)>; Williams, Anne B. <[WilliamsAB@si.edu](mailto:WilliamsAB@si.edu)>; Spiller, Robert <[Spiller@si.edu](mailto:Spiller@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: Trump PAC donation to SI

Ex. 5

I've seen it on Reddit too.

On Aug 21, 2022, at 11:42 AM, Herbolsheimer, Nancy B. <[HerbolsheimerNB@si.edu](mailto:HerbolsheimerNB@si.edu)> wrote:

Thanks for sharing this.  
NH

On Aug 21, 2022, at 10:47 AM, Abbott, Greg <[AbbottG@si.edu](mailto:AbbottG@si.edu)> wrote:

NM. Just saw this was from July filings.

On Aug 21, 2022, at 10:39 AM, Abbott, Greg <[AbbottG@si.edu](mailto:AbbottG@si.edu)> wrote:

Ex. 5

On Aug 21, 2022, at 10:06 AM, LoPiccolo, Philip <[LoPiccoloP@si.edu](mailto:LoPiccoloP@si.edu)> wrote:

Thanks. looping in Rob Spiller for his awareness. PI

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**From:** Blasco, Erin <[BlascoE@si.edu](mailto:BlascoE@si.edu)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 10:03 AM  
**To:** LoPiccolo, Philip <[LoPiccoloP@si.edu](mailto:LoPiccoloP@si.edu)>; Koch, Lara <[KochL@si.edu](mailto:KochL@si.edu)>; Williams, Anne B. <[WilliamsAB@si.edu](mailto:WilliamsAB@si.edu)>; Abbott, Greg <[AbbottG@si.edu](mailto:AbbottG@si.edu)>; Herbolsheimer, Nancy B. <[HerbolsheimerNB@si.edu](mailto:HerbolsheimerNB@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: Trump PAC donation to SI

Not that I'm aware of so far.

Erin Blasco  
Office of Public Affairs  
Smithsonian Institution



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**From:** LoPiccolo, Philip <[LoPiccoloP@si.edu](mailto:LoPiccoloP@si.edu)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 9:38:34 AM  
**To:** Blasco, Erin <[BlascoE@si.edu](mailto:BlascoE@si.edu)>; Koch, Lara <[KochL@si.edu](mailto:KochL@si.edu)>; Williams, Anne B. <[WilliamsAB@si.edu](mailto:WilliamsAB@si.edu)>; Abbott, Greg <[AbbottG@si.edu](mailto:AbbottG@si.edu)>; Herbolsheimer, Nancy B. <[HerbolsheimerNB@si.edu](mailto:HerbolsheimerNB@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: Trump PAC donation to SI

Thanks. I see it listed in the itemized spread sheet. Looping in my colleagues Greg Abbott and Nancy Herbolsheimer for their awareness. Has Rob Spiller been given a heads up? Pl

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**From:** Blasco, Erin <[BlascoE@si.edu](mailto:BlascoE@si.edu)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 7:58 AM  
**To:** Koch, Lara <[KochL@si.edu](mailto:KochL@si.edu)>; Williams, Anne B. <[WilliamsAB@si.edu](mailto:WilliamsAB@si.edu)>; LoPiccolo, Philip <[LoPiccoloP@si.edu](mailto:LoPiccoloP@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Trump PAC donation to SI

Good morning, Anne, Philip, and Lara,

There's some talk on social about this article saying Trump's PAC donated to Smithsonian. Will monitor.

<https://www.businessinsider.com/trumps-save-america-pac-money-fake-news-donation-smithsonian-legal-2022-8>

<https://twitter.com/derekwillis/status/1561134888916602881?s=21&t=UQELETnIrrcvLO5bT3KTLw>

Best,  
Erin

Erin Blasco  
Office of Public Affairs  
Smithsonian Institution

## Bettwy, Greg

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**From:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:13 PM  
**To:** Bettwy, Greg; Wilkinson, Porter N.; Sajet, Kim  
**Cc:** Duncan, Concetta; Abbott, Greg; Williams, Anne B.  
**Subject:** press interest in the \$650,000 from Trump PAC

The following went to Post, Business Insider, AP, and Financial Times. I expect more.

Some additional responses that have been given when asked: All presidential portraits are funded with private donations; we have not received money from a PAC in the past; Obamas had nearly 300 donors for total of \$1.3M which was public information at the time.

Ex. 5

Sources: Advancement director, communications and financial staff at NPG.  
Linda

All portraits of presidents at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.

The Save America donation of \$650,000 is accompanied by one additional private donation. It is specifically for the portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump.

Two artists have been commissioned one for each portrait. The names will be released closer to the reveal of the paintings.

The funds support the artists' fees, shipping, framing, installation and events.

The creation of the portraits is underway. The timing of the artworks' reveal not determined yet.

The \$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.  
linda

Linda St.Thomas  
Chief Spokesperson  
Smithsonian Institution  
202 633 5188  
Cell Ex. 6



## Bettwy, Greg

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**From:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:23 PM  
**To:** Earhart, Farleigh; Blackwell, Craig; Abbott, Greg; Bettwy, Greg  
**Cc:** Marengo, Julissa  
**Subject:** FW: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

.FYI, the original request included the FEC disclosure which is what led to questions about Trump's donating \$650,000 to Smithsonian.

Linda

---

**From:** Dave Levinthal <[dlevinthal@insider.com](mailto:dlevinthal@insider.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 4:55 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <[stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu)>; Williams, Anne B. <[WilliamsAB@si.edu](mailto:WilliamsAB@si.edu)>; Fairchild, Alexandria <[FairchildA@si.edu](mailto:FairchildA@si.edu)>; Ferrante, Riccardo <[FerranteR@si.edu](mailto:FerranteR@si.edu)>; O'Brien, Elizabeth <[OBrienE@si.edu](mailto:OBrienE@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

External Email - Exercise Caution

Dear Smithsonian media staff —

Insider this weekend reported that Save America PAC, a political action committee led by former President Donald Trump, disclosed in a document filed with the Federal Election Commission that it had made a "charitable contribution" of \$650,000 to the Smithsonian Institution on July 14.

Story here: <https://www.businessinsider.com/trumps-save-america-pac-money-fake-news-donation-smithsonian-legal-2022-8>

FEC filing here: <https://docquery.fec.gov/cgi-bin/forms/C00762591/1626559/sb/ALL>

My questions to the Smithsonian:

- 1.) Did Save America PAC indeed make a \$650,000 charitable contribution to the Smithsonian Institution on July 14?
- 2.) If not, please explain. If so, what was this particular contribution for — i.e., general support, a specific program, etc.?
- 3.) Was this contribution made in liquid form — i.e. cash — or in another form, such as an in-kind contribution? If the latter, please explain.

4.) Has the Smithsonian Institution accepted this contribution from Save America PAC? If not, what has the Smithsonian done with it?

5.) Anything else I should know about this contribution?

Thank you for your consideration. We intend to write again about this matter on Monday, and my hard deadline is **1 p.m. ET Monday**. Please respond to me by email or call me at **Ex. 6**

Sincerely,

**Dave Levinthal**

Deputy Editor

# INSIDER

C: **Ex. 6**

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**Bettwy, Greg**

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**From:** Ex. 6 Ex. 6  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2022 10:38 AM  
**To:** Bunch, Lonnie  
**Subject:** Trump's PAC will fund his Smithsonian portrait, in an unusual move - POLITICO

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Lonnie,

I think NPG —and you!—could be smacked for funding its official Trump presidential portrait with political PAC money....this is so blatantly political that it's not just "unusual" but naive in our polarized time. The museum thinks the PAC won't have any influence over the portrait's depiction, but...this could easily be a problem if the image lacks a halo.

best as always,

Ex. 6

<https://www.politico.com/news/2022/08/22/trumps-pac-smithsonian-portrait-00053204>

DEAR PEOPLE,

PLEASE DO NOT PUT A  
PORTRAIT OF TRUMP AND WIFE  
ON THE WALLS OF YOUR PRECIOUS  
BUILDING. HE'S BEEN A CRIMINAL  
MOST OF HIS LIFE, WE ARE THE SAME  
AGE. I HAVE SEEN THE DAMAGE HE'S  
DONE FOR YEARS. PLEASE, AT LEAST  
WAIT UNTIL AFTER THE DOJ AND FBI  
INVESTIGATION IS OVER, PLEASE,  
HE USED OUR PRECIOUS WHITE HOUSE FOR  
HIS CRIMES. WE'VE SEEN PHOTOS OF  
MELANIA SPREAD OVER CARS,



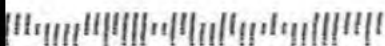
IT'S SHAMFUL TO USE THE WORD  
PRESIDENT BEFORE THE WORD TRUMP.  
HE WAS NEVER A PRESIDENT. EVERYONE  
AROUND HIM DID HIS WORK BECAUSE HE  
DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. PLEASE WAIT  
ON THE PORTRAIT, MONEY ISN'T EVERYTHING.  
PLEASE WAIT UNTIL AFTER THE TRIAL.

THANK YOU SO MUCH

Ex. 6

P.S. I LOVE YOUR  
CHANNEL ON TV,  
PLEASE DON'T DISRESPECT  
IT BY PUTTING TRUMP  
AND WAORR WIFE ON  
THE WALLS.

Ex. 6



016

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE  
1000 JEFFERSON DR. SW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20560



## St Thomas, Linda

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**From:** Taylor Dafoe <tdafoe@artnet.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2022 10:22 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Artnet article on presidential portraits

### External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Linda,

I hope this finds you well. I'm running a story shortly on the news—first reported by Business Insider and the Washington Post—that former president Trump's own political action committee will fund the portraits of him and former first lady Melania Trump for the National Portrait Gallery. I have a couple of questions about the portraits and their funding I'm hoping you can help me with:

- Can you tell me more about how presidential portraits are commissioned? Who raises the money and what are the stipulations for how they can be funded?
- When are the portraits expected to be completed?
- When and how will the artists behind the commissions be revealed?
- Has the Smithsonian considered barring Trump's Save America PAC from contributing to the presidential portrait fund? If not, would the museum like to comment on the precedent set by allowing a former president to essentially buy his own portrait for the museum?

Thanks as always for your help, Linda. We're hoping to run the story by 12:30pm today so if possible it would be great to hear back by then.

Taylor

**artnet**

**Taylor Dafoe**

News and Features Writer, Artnet News

Email [tdafoe@artnet.com](mailto:tdafoe@artnet.com)  
Office (212) 497-9700 **Ex. 6**

233 Broadway, 26th Floor  
New York, NY 10279, USA  
[artnet.com](https://www.artnet.com)

## St Thomas, Linda

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**From:** Caroline Vakil <CVakil@TheHill.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2022 8:59 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Media inquiry regarding Politico report on Save America PAC contribution, presidential portrait

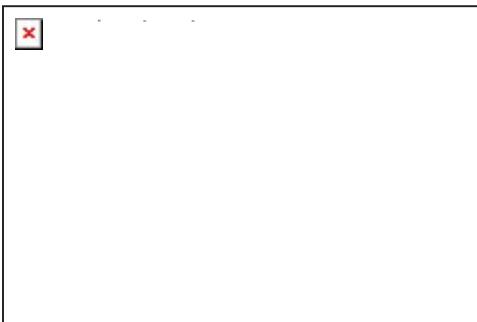
### External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Linda,

My name is Caroline Vakil, and I'm a reporter at The Hill. I understand that Politico is reporting that a \$650,000 contribution from former President Trump's Save America PAC will be going toward the artist, events and other fees associated with a portrait of himself and one of former first lady Melania Trump. A separate \$100,000 is also going toward the portraits, given from an undisclosed donor.

I wanted to know if the Smithsonian had a statement regarding this and if you could confirm that this is the first time a political action committee has financed a presidential portrait?

<https://www.politico.com/news/2022/08/22/trumps-pac-smithsonian-portrait-00053204>



### Trump's PAC will fund his Smithsonian portrait, in an unusual move

The portraits of former President Donald Trump and former first lady Melania Trump in the Smithsonian will be financed primarily by the 45th president's own political action committee, a ...

[www.politico.com](https://www.politico.com)

Best,  
Caroline

Caroline Vakil  
Campaign Reporter, The Hill  
Ex. 6  
cvakil@thehill.com

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Morley, Gillian <MorleyG@cbsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 8:01 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda; Fairchild, Alexandria; Williams, Anne B.  
**Subject:** CBS NEWS INQUIRY- President Trump's portrait

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hello!

I'm reaching out from CBS News regarding reports that President Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump's portraits will be financed by the Save America PAC. Would you be able to send me a statement about how this is being funded?

Thank you!  
Gillian



## St Thomas, Linda

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**From:** Williams, Anne B.  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 6:55 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda; Marengo, Julissa  
**Subject:** Fwd: Trump PAC donation to SI

FYI

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**From:** Blasco, Erin <BlascoE@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 6:53 PM  
**To:** Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>; Ostroff, Hannah <OstroffH@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Trump PAC donation to SI

Now there's a petition. [https://www.thepetitionsite.com/715/061/622/cancel-trump%E2%80%99s-official-portrait./](https://www.thepetitionsite.com/715/061/622/cancel-trump%E2%80%99s-official-portrait/)

526 signed so far apparently.

Erin Blasco  
Office of Public Affairs  
Smithsonian Institution

## St Thomas, Linda

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**From:** Schouten, Fredreka <Fredreka.Schouten@cnn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 6:14 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Cc:** Duncan, Concetta  
**Subject:** RE: Trump portraits for CNN

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### External Email - Exercise Caution

And a follow-up question: I saw that the final cost is expected to be \$750,000. So there's one, additional donation of \$100,000, correct?

---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 6:09 PM  
**To:** Schouten, Fredreka <Fredreka.Schouten@cnn.com>  
**Cc:** Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: Trump portraits for CNN

### EXTERNAL SENDER: Caution opening links or attachments

This may be more than you need but some people wanted to know who the donors were to Obama and Bush so I included that info here.

Below are the facts I have given out today. The artists are creating the works and I cannot even guess on a timeframe. We began fundraising for portraits of presents for the National Portrait Gallery for the George HW Bush portraits and have done so ever since. I will give you news release that lists the donors for Bush 44 (attached) and Obama (link to release below). A PAC has not donated in the past. I cc'ed Concetta who handles PR for the Portrait Gallery. All your questions are answered here, I think.

<https://americaspresidents.si.edu/portrait/barack-obama>

All portraits of presidents at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.

The Save America donation of \$650,000 is accompanied by one additional private donation. It is specifically for the portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump.

Two artists have been commissioned one for each portrait. The names will be released closer to the reveal of the paintings.

The funds support the artists' fees, shipping, framing, installation and events.

The creation of the portraits is underway. The timing of the artworks' reveal has not been determined yet.

The \$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.  
Linda

Linda St.Thomas

Chief Spokesperson  
Smithsonian Institution  
202 633 5188  
Cell [REDACTED] Ex. 6

---

**From:** Schouten, Fredreka <[Fredreka.Schouten@cnn.com](mailto:Fredreka.Schouten@cnn.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:50 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <[stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Trump portraits

**External Email - Exercise Caution**

Ms. St. Thomas –

Greetings. Fredreka Schouten here with CNN Politics. I don't know if a colleague has reached out, but just wanted to check in on the \$650,000 Save America donation. I'm seeing reporting that it will underwrite portraits of former President Trump and Melania Trump. Do you have a statement about this? Many thanks.

Best,  
Fredreka

Fredreka Schouten  
National political writer | CNN Politics [Fredreka.Schouten@cnn.com](mailto:Fredreka.Schouten@cnn.com)  
Twitter: @fschouten  
Office: 202-515-2208  
Mobile: [REDACTED] Ex. 6



## St Thomas, Linda

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**From:** Weyand-Geise, Madeleine  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:42 PM  
**To:** Williams, Anne B.  
**Cc:** Marenco, Julissa; St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Re: Media Clips on Trump Portrait Donation

Thanks, Anne. Clips will be distributed just before 6.

Cheers,  
Maddie

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**From:** Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:41:13 PM  
**To:** Weyand-Geise, Madeleine <Weyand-GeiseM@si.edu>  
**Cc:** Marenco, Julissa <MarencoJ@si.edu>; St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Media Clips on Trump Portrait Donation

Hi Maddie,  
The note just went to the Regents. Let's send clips in the next 15 - 20 minutes.

Thanks

**Anne Williams**  
Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Smithsonian Institution  
O: 202.633.7697  
C: Ex. 6

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**From:** Weyand-Geise, Madeleine <Weyand-GeiseM@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 4:28 PM  
**To:** Marenco, Julissa <MarencoJ@si.edu>; Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>; St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>; Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Media Clips on Trump Portrait Donation

Hi all,

I've attached a copy of today's clips report on the Trump portrait donation, along with a PDF copy of the Financial Times article. You can also view a live version of the Word document at this link (only accessible to SI staff): [Media Report on Trump Portrait Donation.docx](#)

This updated report includes the Post article. AP has yet to report.

Please feel free to share these documents. Let me know if you need anything else.

Best,  
Maddie

Madeleine "Maddie" Weyand-Geise (she/her)



## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Olivia Olander <oolander@politico.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:41 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Re: Inquiry Re: Save America Donation

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Linda,

I hope you're well! I was sent this information from my coworker Madison Fernandez, as I'm writing up a short story on the PAC donation. I just had a point of clarification: I see you wrote that the Smithsonian started fundraising for portraits of presidents at the National Portrait Gallery for HW Bush, and I also see that "all portraits of presidents at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum." Is the difference there commissioning vs. purchasing the portraits? Or would you be able to explain the distinction?

Thank you! Appreciate your help with this.

Best,  
Olivia Olander  
Breaking News Reporter  
POLITICO  
Ex. 6

---

**From:** Madison Fernandez <mfernandez@politico.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:24 PM  
**To:** Olivia Olander <oolander@politico.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: Inquiry Re: Save America Donation

---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:15 PM  
**To:** Madison Fernandez <mfernandez@politico.com>  
**Cc:** Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: Inquiry Re: Save America Donation

---

**EXTERNAL SENDER:** Use caution with links and attachments.

Let me send you what I pulled together for other reporters today.

The artists are creating the works and I cannot even guess on a timeframe. We began fundraising for portraits of presidents for the National Portrait Gallery for the George HW Bush portraits and have done so ever since. I will give you news release that lists the donors for Bush 44 (attached) and Obama (link to release below). A PAC has not donated in the past. I cc'ed Concetta who handles PR for the Portrait Gallery.



<https://americaspresidents.si.edu/portrait/barack-obama>

All portraits of presidents at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.

The Save America donation of \$650,000 is accompanied by one additional private donation. Total will be \$750,000. It is specifically for the portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump.

Two artists have been commissioned one for each portrait. The names will be released closer to the reveal of the paintings.

**The funds support the artists' fees, shipping, framing, installation and events.**

The creation of the portraits is underway. The timing of the artworks' reveal not determined yet.

The \$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.

Linda

Linda St.Thomas  
Chief Spokesperson

---

**From:** Madison Fernandez <mfernandez@politico.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:02 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Inquiry Re: Save America Donation

**External Email - Exercise Caution**

Hi Linda, Just following up on this. Thanks!

---

**From:** Madison Fernandez  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 11:10 AM  
**To:** [stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu) <[stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Inquiry Re: Save America Donation

Hi Linda,

Hope you're well. I'm Madison Fernandez, a reporter at Politico. I was wondering if you would be able to share what the [\\$650,000 contribution from the Save America PAC](#) on July 14 went toward at the Smithsonian.

Thanks in advance,  
Madison

**Madison Fernandez**  
POLITICO | Reporter, Morning Score

Ex. 6

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Madison Fernandez <mfernandez@politico.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 5:02 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Re: Inquiry Re: Save America Donation

---

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Linda, Just following up on this. Thanks!

---

**From:** Madison Fernandez  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 11:10 AM  
**To:** stthomasl@si.edu <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Inquiry Re: Save America Donation

Hi Linda,

Hope you're well. I'm Madison Fernandez, a reporter at Politico. I was wondering if you would be able to share what the [\\$650,000 contribution from the Save America PAC](#) on July 14 went toward at the Smithsonian.

Thanks in advance,  
Madison

**Madison Fernandez**  
POLITICO | Reporter, Morning Score

Ex. 6

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Marengo, Julissa  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 9:10 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda; Kasemeyer, Rebecca; Duncan, Concetta  
**Cc:** Williams, Anne B.  
**Subject:** Re: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

Let's craft answers. **Ex. 6** please send for review before 11am. Thanks.

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---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 9:08:27 AM  
**To:** Kasemeyer, Rebecca <KasemeyerR@si.edu>; Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>  
**Cc:** Marengo, Julissa <MarengoJ@si.edu>; Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>  
**Subject:** FW: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

**Ex. 5**

linda

---

**From:** Marengo, Julissa <MarengoJ@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 8:07 PM  
**To:** Spiller, Robert <Spiller@si.edu>; St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Cc:** Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

Yes, Linda. Let's connect in the morning. I **Ex. 6** can connect first thing. Also, please touch base with Concetta. Thanks.

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---

**From:** Spiller, Robert <Spiller@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 7:44:44 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>; Marengo, Julissa <MarengoJ@si.edu>  
**Cc:** Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>



**Subject:** Re: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

Linda. For his NPG portrait. Lonnie and Kevin aware. Probably best to talk through with Julissa in the am? Thanks Rob.

---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <[stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu)>

**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 5:58:00 PM

**To:** Spiller, Robert <[Spiller@si.edu](mailto:Spiller@si.edu)>; Marengo, Julissa <[MarengoJ@si.edu](mailto:MarengoJ@si.edu)>

**Cc:** Williams, Anne B. <[WilliamsAB@si.edu](mailto:WilliamsAB@si.edu)>

**Subject:** FW: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

Ex. 5

linda

---

**From:** Dave Levinthal <[dlevinthal@insider.com](mailto:dlevinthal@insider.com)>

**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 4:55 PM

**To:** St Thomas, Linda <[stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu)>; Williams, Anne B. <[WilliamsAB@si.edu](mailto:WilliamsAB@si.edu)>; Fairchild, Alexandria <[FairchildA@si.edu](mailto:FairchildA@si.edu)>; Ferrante, Riccardo <[FerranteR@si.edu](mailto:FerranteR@si.edu)>; O'Brien, Elizabeth <[OBrienE@si.edu](mailto:OBrienE@si.edu)>

**Subject:** Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

External Email - Exercise Caution

Dear Smithsonian media staff —

Insider this weekend reported that Save America PAC, a political action committee led by former President Donald Trump, disclosed in a document filed with the Federal Election Commission that it had made a "charitable contribution" of \$650,000 to the Smithsonian Institution on July 14.

Story here: <https://www.businessinsider.com/trumps-save-america-pac-money-fake-news-donation-smithsonian-legal-2022-8>

FEC filing here: <https://docquery.fec.gov/cgi-bin/forms/C00762591/1626559/sb/ALL>

My questions to the Smithsonian:

- 1.) Did Save America PAC indeed make a \$650,000 charitable contribution to the Smithsonian Institution on July 14?
- 2.) If not, please explain. If so, what was this particular contribution for — i.e., general support, a specific program, etc.?
- 3.) Was this contribution made in liquid form — i.e. cash — or in another form, such as an in-kind contribution? If the latter, please explain.
- 4.) Has the Smithsonian Institution accepted this contribution from Save America PAC? If not, what has the Smithsonian done with it?
- 5.) Anything else I should know about this contribution?

Thank you for your consideration. We intend to write again about this matter on Monday, and my hard deadline is **1 p.m. ET Monday**. Please respond to me by email or call me at **Ex. 6**

Sincerely,

**Dave Levinthal**  
Deputy Editor

**I N S I D E**

**C:** **Ex. 6**

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## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Duncan, Concetta  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 9:18 AM  
**To:** Marengo, Julissa; St Thomas, Linda; Kasemeyer, Rebecca  
**Cc:** Williams, Anne B.  
**Subject:** Re: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

Hi all,  
Working on these now.

Ex. 5

Ex. 5

Separately, just a reminder that the WH is announcing their Obama artists on Sept. 7.  
Thanks, Concetta



**Concetta Duncan** (she/her/hers)  
*Head of Communications & Marketing*  
Smithsonian  
National Portrait Gallery

duncanc@si.edu | 202.633.9989 | Ex. 6



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

---

**From:** Marengo, Julissa <MarengoJ@si.edu>  
**Date:** Monday, August 22, 2022 at 9:10 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>, Kasemeyer, Rebecca <KasemeyerR@si.edu>, Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>  
**Cc:** Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

Let's craft answers. Ex. 6 please send for review before 11am. Thanks.

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## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Duncan, Concetta  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:09 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Cc:** Marengo, Julissa; Williams, Anne B.; Kasemeyer, Rebecca  
**Subject:** Re: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline// Responses

Hi Linda and Julissa,  
Here are the responses.

Ex. 5

For your reference only at this time as I don't think anyone is asking but the Save American PAC funds are accompanied by 1 other private donation of \$100,000.

### Funding questions:

"Save America PAC's donation is accompanied by additional private funds."

"Fundraising for the new commissions has been completed but we continue to raise funds for the museum's America's Presidents gallery at large."

### Linda's questions:

Have other past presidents paid that much, specifically Obama. Looking into this.

Does this include a first lady portrait? Yes, the funding is used for both commissions.

Who is the artist The artists will be shared closer to the reveal of the artworks.

Does all the money go to the artist? NPG does not keep any, do we? The contribution was made towards the National Portrait Gallery's commission of new portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump. Funds support the artists' fees and the balance covers shipping, framing, installation and events.

When is the painting (I assume it's an oil) expect to begin and end?

The portraits are underway.

Ex. 5

Both are paintings but we have not shared that yet.

### Business Insider's questions:

1.) Did Save America PAC indeed make a \$650,000 charitable contribution to the Smithsonian Institution on July 14? Yes, it did.

2.) If not, please explain. If so, what was this particular contribution for — i.e., general support, a specific program, etc.? The contribution was made towards the National Portrait Gallery's commission of new portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump. Funds support the artists' fees and the balance covers shipping, framing, installation and events.



3.) Was this contribution made in liquid form — i.e. cash — or in another form, such as an in-kind contribution? If the latter, please explain. **A wire transfer was made on July 14, 2022.**

4.) Has the Smithsonian Institution accepted this contribution from Save America PAC? If not, what has the Smithsonian done with it? **Yes.**

5.) Anything else I should know about this contribution?

Best, Concetta



**Concetta Duncan** (she/her/hers)  
*Head of Communications & Marketing*  
Smithsonian  
National Portrait Gallery

duncanc@si.edu | 202.633.9989 | **Ex. 6**



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>

**Date:** Monday, August 22, 2022 at 9:31 AM

**To:** Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>

**Cc:** Marenco, Julissa <MarencoJ@si.edu>

**Subject:** RE: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

**Ex. 5**

linda

---

**From:** Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>

**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 9:18 AM

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Duncan, Concetta  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:10 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Re: another follow up from Rich

Ex. 5



**Concetta Duncan** (she/her/hers)  
*Head of Communications & Marketing*  
Smithsonian  
National Portrait Gallery

duncanc@si.edu | 202.633.9989 | Ex. 6



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---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Date:** Monday, August 22, 2022 at 10:07 AM  
**To:** Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>  
**Subject:** another follow up from Rich

Ex. 5

Linda

Linda St.Thomas  
Chief Spokesperson  
Smithsonian Institution  
202 633 5188

Ex. 6

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Weyand-Geise, Madeleine  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:11 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda; Fairchild, Alexandria  
**Subject:** Re: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

Thanks for keeping us in the loop. Ex. 5

Maddie

---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:05:34 AM  
**To:** Fairchild, Alexandria <FairchildA@si.edu>; Weyand-Geise, Madeleine <Weyand-GeiseM@si.edu>  
**Subject:** FW: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

See below. Answers are coming soon, I'm working with Concetta, yes, this is money toward his portrait and hers. Ex. 5

linda

---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 9:08 AM  
**To:** Kasemeyer, Rebecca <KasemeyerR@si.edu>; Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>  
**Cc:** Marengo, Julissa <MarengoJ@si.edu>; Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>  
**Subject:** FW: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

Ex. 5

linda

---

**From:** Marengo, Julissa <[MarengoJ@si.edu](mailto:MarengoJ@si.edu)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 21, 2022 8:07 PM  
**To:** Spiller, Robert <[Spiller@si.edu](mailto:Spiller@si.edu)>; St Thomas, Linda <[stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu)>  
**Cc:** Williams, Anne B. <[WilliamsAB@si.edu](mailto:WilliamsAB@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Dave Levinthal <dlevinthal@insider.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:19 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda; Williams, Anne B.; Fairchild, Alexandria; Ferrante, Riccardo; O'Brien, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** Re: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

External Email - Exercise Caution

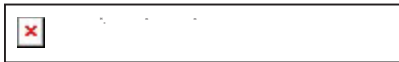
Hello —

Just checking back to make sure you received my message from yesterday and will be able to respond by my deadline at 1 p.m. today. Thank you again.

Best,

**Dave Levinthal**

Deputy editor, Washington Bureau



C: Ex. 6

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On Sun, Aug 21, 2022 at 4:55 PM Dave Levinthal <dlevinthal@insider.com> wrote:

Dear Smithsonian media staff —

Insider this weekend reported that Save America PAC, a political action committee led by former President Donald Trump, disclosed in a document filed with the Federal Election Commission that it had made a "charitable contribution" of \$650,000 to the Smithsonian Institution on July 14.

Story here: <https://www.businessinsider.com/trumps-save-america-pac-money-fake-news-donation-smithsonian-legal-2022-8>

FEC filing here: <https://docquery.fec.gov/cgi-bin/forms/C00762591/1626559/sb/ALL>

My questions to the Smithsonian:

- 1.) Did Save America PAC indeed make a \$650,000 charitable contribution to the Smithsonian Institution on July 14?
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- 3.) Was this contribution made in liquid form — i.e. cash — or in another form, such as an in-kind contribution? If the latter, please explain.
- 4.) Has the Smithsonian Institution accepted this contribution from Save America PAC? If not, what has the Smithsonian done with it?
- 5.) Anything else I should know about this contribution?

Thank you for your consideration. We intend to write again about this matter on Monday, and my hard deadline is **1 p.m. ET Monday**. Please respond to me by email or call me at **Ex. 6**

Sincerely,

**Dave Levinthal**  
Deputy Editor



**C:** **Ex. 6**

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## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Duncan, Concetta  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:19 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Cc:** Marengo, Julissa; Williams, Anne B.; Kasemeyer, Rebecca  
**Subject:** Re: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline// Responses

Ex. 5

Thanks, Concetta



**Concetta Duncan** (she/her/hers)  
*Head of Communications & Marketing*  
Smithsonian  
National Portrait Gallery

duncanc@si.edu | 202.633.9989 | Ex. 6



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Date:** Monday, August 22, 2022 at 10:13 AM  
**To:** Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>  
**Cc:** Marengo, Julissa <MarengoJ@si.edu>, Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>, Kasemeyer, Rebecca <KasemeyerR@si.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline// Responses

There is one additional private donation so we should say that. And fundraising is complete.

Ex. 5

I think it is fine to say paintings. We are certain the artist is not making sculptures so let's be clear up front.

Ex. 5

linda

---

From: Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>

Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 10:09 AM

To: St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>

Cc: Marengo, Julissa <MarengoJ@si.edu>; Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>; Kasemeyer, Rebecca <KasemeyerR@si.edu>

Subject: Re: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline// Responses

Hi Linda and Julissa,

Here are the responses.

Ex. 5

For your reference only at this time as I don't think anyone is asking but the Save American PAC funds are accompanied by 1 other private donation of \$100,000.

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"Save America PAC's donation is accompanied by additional private funds."

"Fundraising for the new commissions has been completed but we continue to raise funds for the museum's America's Presidents gallery at large."

Linda's questions:

Have other past presidents paid that much, specifically Obama.

Ex. 5

Does this include a first lady portrait? Yes, the funding is used for both commissions.

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When is the painting (I assume it's an oil) expect to begin and end?

The portraits are underway.

Ex. 5

Both are paintings but we have not shared that yet.

Business Insider's questions:

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Colvin, Jill <JColvin@ap.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:29 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Trump PAC donation

### External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Linda,

Jill Colvin with the AP. I hope all is well.

I was hoping you might be able to provide some details about former President Donald Trump's SAVE AMERICA PAC's recent \$650,000 contribution to the Smithsonian. What is that money being used to pay for?

Thanks much,  
Jill

-----  
Jill Colvin  
National Political Reporter  
The Associated Press  
Cell: [REDACTED] Ex. 6  
[jcolvin@ap.org](mailto:jcolvin@ap.org)

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## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Abbott, Greg  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:35 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Cc:** Marengo, Julissa  
**Subject:** Re: this is cleared with Concetta

Ex. 5

On Aug 22, 2022, at 10:32 AM, St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu> wrote:

All portraits of presidents at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.

The Save America donation of \$650,000 is accompanied by one additional private donation. It is specifically for the portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump.

Two artists have been commissioned one for each portrait. The names will be released closer to the reveal of the paintings.

The funds support the artists' fees and the balance covers shipping, framing, installation and events.

The creation of the portraits is underway.

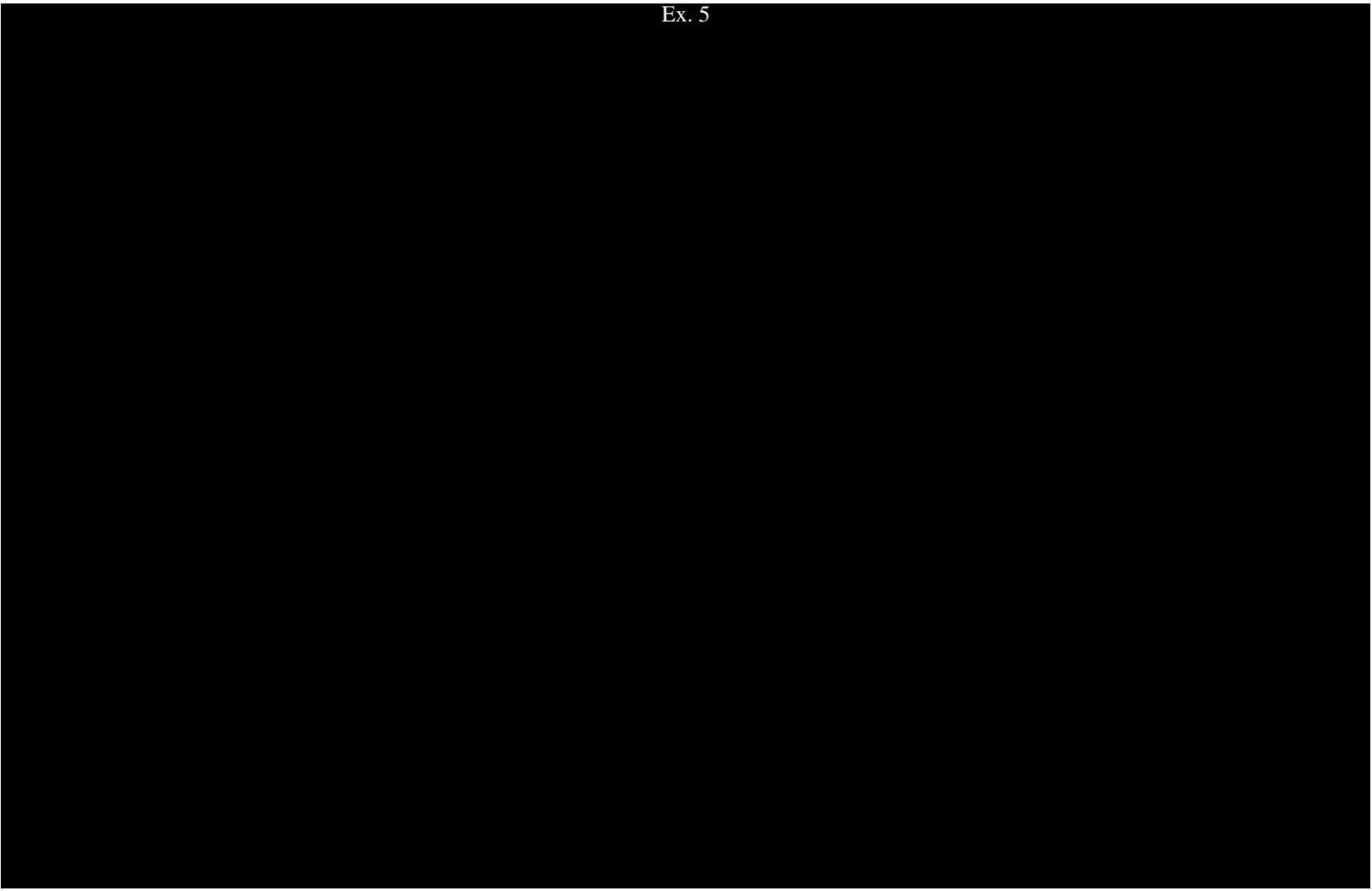
Ex. 5

The \$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.

Linda St.Thomas  
Chief Spokesperson  
Smithsonian Institution  
202 633 5188  
Cell Ex. 6







## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Duncan, Concetta  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:56 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Cc:** Marengo, Julissa; Williams, Anne B.; Kasemeyer, Rebecca  
**Subject:** Re: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline// Responses

And just a reminder we have this photograph by Pari Dukovic which we acquired during the pandemic up in America's Presidents until the new commissions are ready.

[https://npg.si.edu/object/npg\\_NPG.2021.1.2?destination=edan-search/catalog\\_of\\_america%3Fpage%3D600%26edan\\_fq%255B0%255D%3Dtopic%253A%2522Home%2520Furnishings%2522](https://npg.si.edu/object/npg_NPG.2021.1.2?destination=edan-search/catalog_of_america%3Fpage%3D600%26edan_fq%255B0%255D%3Dtopic%253A%2522Home%2520Furnishings%2522)

Thanks!



**Concetta Duncan** (she/her/hers)  
*Head of Communications & Marketing*  
Smithsonian  
National Portrait Gallery

duncanc@si.edu | 202.633.9989 | Ex. 6



[npg.si.edu](https://npg.si.edu)

---

**From:** Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>  
**Date:** Monday, August 22, 2022 at 10:19 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Cc:** Marengo, Julissa <MarengoJ@si.edu>, Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>, Kasemeyer, Rebecca <KasemeyerR@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline// Responses

Two different artists. Again, we really don't want to get into the names.

Ex. 5

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Dave Levinthal <dlevinthal@insider.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:16 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Re: response to your query about the \$650,000

### External Email - Exercise Caution

Linda,

Thanks very much for your response to my questions. I appreciate it.

Only one follow-up, just so I'm certain: the private donation you mention is a donation that's in addition to the \$650,000 from Save America PAC? If so, who made this private donation?

Best,  
Dave

On Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 11:08 St Thomas, Linda <[stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu)> wrote:

Dave,

All portraits of presidents at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.

The Save America donation of \$650,000 is accompanied by one additional private donation. It is specifically for the portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump.

Two artists have been commissioned one for each portrait. The names will be released closer to the reveal of the paintings.

The funds support the artists' fees, shipping, framing, installation and events.

The creation of the portraits is underway. The timing of the artworks' reveal not determined yet.

The \$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.

linda

Linda St.Thomas

Chief Spokesperson

Smithsonian Institution

202 633 5188

Cell **Ex. 6**

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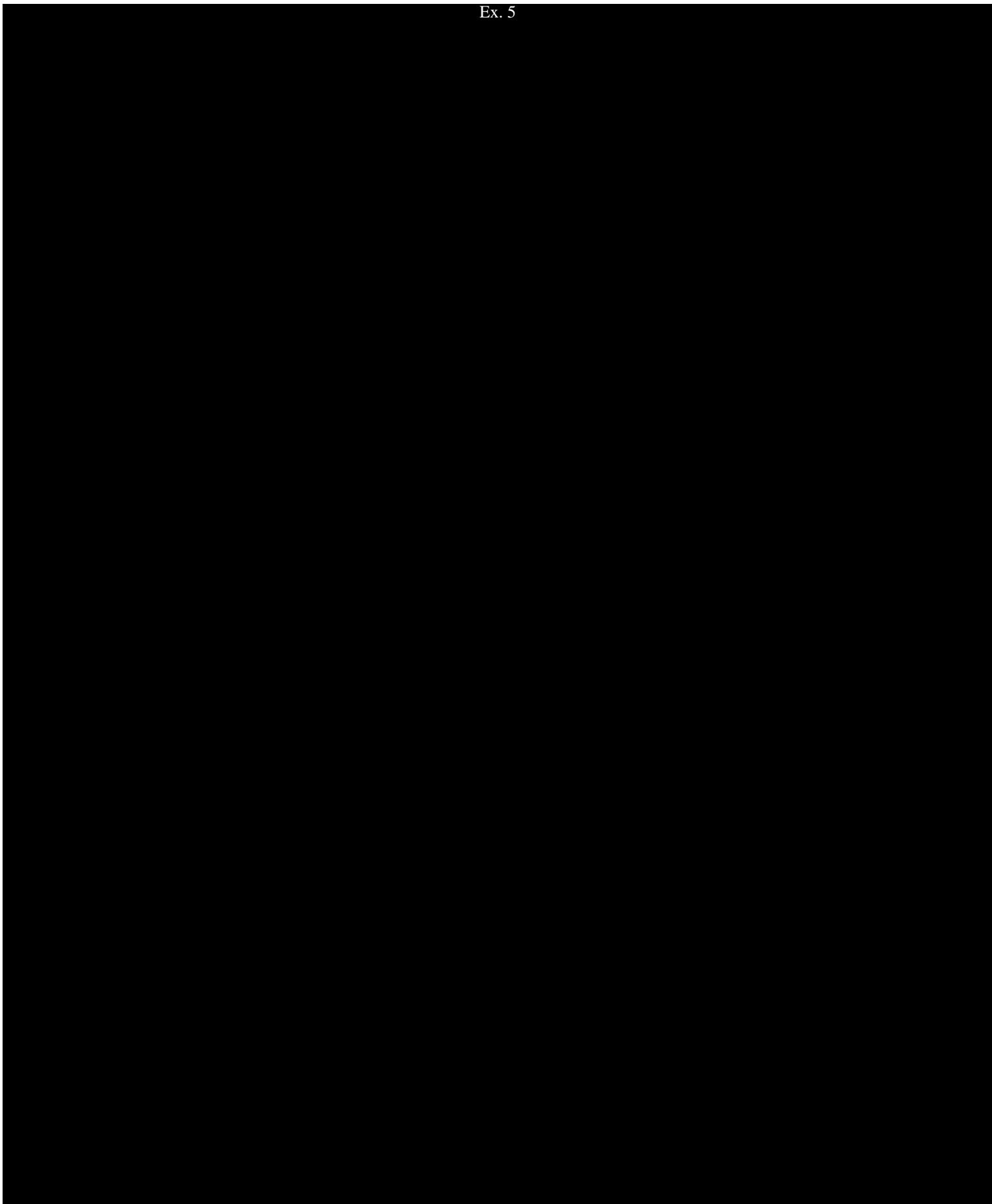
**Dave Levinthal**

Deputy Editor



C: **Ex. 6**

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## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Colvin, Jill <JColvin@ap.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:37 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Re: Trump PAC donation

---

External Email - Exercise Caution

Thanks so much! Can I ask: have you ever received a previous president's portrait payment from a political PAC?

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---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:47:59 AM  
**To:** Colvin, Jill <JColvin@ap.org>  
**Subject:** RE: Trump PAC donation

[EXTERNAL]

I am double checking now.

It is for the portraits of President Trump and Melania Trump; the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery always raises funds to pay for these. I will shoot you an email with more info in a few minutes.

Linda

Linda St.Thomas  
Chief Spokesperson  
Smithsonian Institution  
202 633 5188  
Cell [REDACTED] Ex. 6

---

**From:** Colvin, Jill <JColvin@ap.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:29 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Trump PAC donation

---

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Linda,

Jill Colvin with the AP. I hope all is well.

I was hoping you might be able to provide some details about former President Donald Trump's SAVE AMERICA PAC's recent \$650,000 contribution to the Smithsonian. What is that money being used to pay for?

Thanks much,  
Jill

-----  
Jill Colvin  
National Political Reporter  
The Associated Press  
Cell: [REDACTED] Ex. 6  
[jcolvin@ap.org](mailto:jcolvin@ap.org)

The information contained in this communication is intended for the use of the designated recipients named above. If the reader of this communication is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this communication in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify The Associated Press immediately by telephone at +1-212-621-1500 and delete this email. Thank you.

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## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Duncan, Concetta  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:38 AM  
**To:** Marengo, Julissa; St Thomas, Linda; Williams, Anne B.  
**Subject:** Re: response to your query about the \$650,000

Ex. 5



**Concetta Duncan** (she/her/hers)  
*Head of Communications & Marketing*  
Smithsonian  
National Portrait Gallery

duncanc@si.edu | 202.633.9989 | Ex. 6 cell



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

---

**From:** Marengo, Julissa <MarengoJ@si.edu>  
**Date:** Monday, August 22, 2022 at 11:29 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>, Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>, Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: response to your query about the \$650,000

Ex. 5

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---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:11:32 AM  
**To:** Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>; Marengo, Julissa <MarengoJ@si.edu>; Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>  
**Subject:** FW: response to your query about the \$650,000

So far, this has gone to

Jill Colvin, AP  
Peggy, Wash Post  
Dave at Business Insider

linda

---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:09 AM  
**To:** Dave Levinthal <dlevinthal@insider.com>  
**Subject:** response to your query about the \$650,000

Dave,

All portraits of presidents at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.

The Save America donation of \$650,000 is accompanied by one additional private donation. It is specifically for the portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump.

Two artists have been commissioned one for each portrait. The names will be released closer to the reveal of the paintings.

The funds support the artists' fees, shipping, framing, installation and events.

The creation of the portraits is underway. The timing of the artworks' reveal not determined yet.

The \$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.

linda

Linda St.Thomas  
Chief Spokesperson  
Smithsonian Institution  
202 633 5188  
Cell [REDACTED] Ex. 6



## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** McGlone, Peggy <Peggy.McGlone@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:40 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Re: response about the \$650,000

External Email - Exercise Caution

Thanks. Who paid for the Obamas portraits and how much did they donate?

On Aug 22, 2022, at 11:09 AM, St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu> wrote:

### CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER

Peggy,

All portraits of presidents at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.

The Save America donation of \$650,000 is accompanied by one additional private donation. It is specifically for the portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump.

Two artists have been commissioned one for each portrait. The names will be released closer to the reveal of the paintings.

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The creation of the portraits is underway. The timing of the artworks' reveal not determined yet.

The \$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.  
linda

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Marengo, Julissa  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:41 AM  
**To:** Duncan, Concetta; St Thomas, Linda; Williams, Anne B.  
**Subject:** Re: response to your query about the \$650,000

Ex. 5

---

**From:** Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:37 AM  
**To:** Marengo, Julissa <MarengoJ@si.edu>; St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>; Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: response to your query about the \$650,000

Ex. 5



**Concetta Duncan** (she/her/hers)  
*Head of Communications & Marketing*  
Smithsonian  
National Portrait Gallery

duncanc@si.edu | 202.633.9989 | Ex. 6 cell



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

---

**From:** Marengo, Julissa <MarengoJ@si.edu>  
**Date:** Monday, August 22, 2022 at 11:29 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>, Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>, Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: response to your query about the \$650,000

Ex. 5

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## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:46 AM  
**To:** Duncan, Concetta; Marenco, Julissa; St Thomas, Linda; Williams, Anne B.; Kasemeyer, Rebecca  
**Subject:** RE: response to your query about the \$650,000

Ex. 5



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: Ex. 6 (preferred)



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

Mailing Address

MRC 973  
PO Box 37012  
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410  
Washington, DC 20001

---

**From:** Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:43 AM  
**To:** Marenco, Julissa <MarencoJ@si.edu>; St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>; Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>; Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>; Kasemeyer, Rebecca <KasemeyerR@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: response to your query about the \$650,000

Ex. 5

NPG will reach out to Save America to inform them we are releasing details to media.  
Thanks, Concetta

---

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Kiran Stacey <kiran.stacey@ft.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:06 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Re: response to your query about the \$650,000

---

External Email - Exercise Caution

Perfect, thanks. And to check, are the portraits finished yet?

On Mon, 22 Aug 2022 at 12:03, St Thomas, Linda <[stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu)> wrote:

Yes, ok on spokesperson.

All past president portraits were funded by private contributions. The presidents themselves did not contribute.

linda

---

**From:** Kiran Stacey <[kiran.stacey@ft.com](mailto:kiran.stacey@ft.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:00 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <[stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: response to your query about the \$650,000

---

External Email - Exercise Caution

Thanks Linda. And what you told me about the Obama and Bush portraits - I can credit that to a spokesperson too?

On Mon, 22 Aug 2022 at 11:57, St Thomas, Linda <[stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu)> wrote:

Kiran,

All portraits of presidents at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.

The Save America donation of \$650,000 is accompanied by one additional private donation. It is specifically for the portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump.

Two artists have been commissioned one for each portrait. The names will be released closer to the reveal of the paintings.

The funds support the artists' fees, shipping, framing, installation and events.

The creation of the portraits is underway. The timing of the artworks' reveal not determined yet.

The \$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.

linda

Linda St.Thomas

Chief Spokesperson

Smithsonian Institution

202 633 5188

Cell Ex. 6

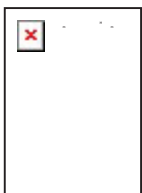
--

Kiran Stacey  
Washington Correspondent  
Financial Times

Office: +1 202 434 0982

Mobile: +1 Ex. 6

@kiranstacey



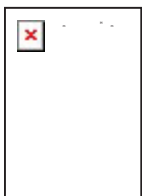
---

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--  
Kiran Stacey  
Washington Correspondent  
Financial Times

Office: +1 202 434 0982  
Mobile: +1 [REDACTED] Ex. 6

@kiranstacey



---

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## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Roger Sollenberger <Roger.Sollenberger@thedailybeast.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:30 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda; Williams, Anne B.; Fairchild, Alexandria  
**Cc:** Obusek, Gabrielle E.; Duncan, Concetta  
**Subject:** MEDIA INQUIRY — TRUMP CONTRIBUTION

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi, and hope you're well!

Reaching out for a report about the \$650,000 charitable contribution from Trump's Save America leadership PAC.

Was that contribution earmarked for a specific museum or center?

When presidential portraits are commissioned in general, how is that commission funded? Who pays?

Happy to have a call. Thanks!

Roger

Politics reporter  
The Daily Beast  
Cell/Signal/WhatsApp: [REDACTED] Ex. 6  
Personal: [REDACTED] Ex. 6  
Encrypted: roger.sollenberger@protonmail.com



## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Dave Levinthal <dlevinthal@insider.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:38 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Re: response to your query about the \$650,000

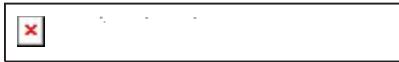
### External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi again, Linda. Just checking back on my follow-up question. Any additional details you have are greatly appreciated.

Best,

### Dave Levinthal

Deputy editor, Washington Bureau



C: Ex. 6

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On Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 11:16 AM Dave Levinthal <[dlevinthal@insider.com](mailto:dlevinthal@insider.com)> wrote:  
Linda,

Thanks very much for your response to my questions. I appreciate it.

Only one follow-up, just so I'm certain: the private donation you mention is a donation that's in addition to the \$650,000 from Save America PAC? If so, who made this private donation?

Best,  
Dave

On Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 11:08 St Thomas, Linda <[stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu)> wrote:

Dave,

All portraits of presidents at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.

The Save America donation of \$650,000 is accompanied by one additional private donation. It is specifically for the portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump.

Two artists have been commissioned one for each portrait. The names will be released closer to the reveal of the paintings.

The funds support the artists' fees, shipping, framing, installation and events.

The creation of the portraits is underway. The timing of the artworks' reveal not determined yet.

The \$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.

linda

Linda St.Thomas

Chief Spokesperson

Smithsonian Institution

202 633 5188

Cell [REDACTED] Ex. 6

--

**Dave Levinthal**

Deputy Editor



C: [REDACTED] Ex. 6

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## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Sajet, Kim  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:43 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda; Bettwy, Greg; Wilkinson, Porter N.  
**Cc:** Duncan, Concetta; Abbott, Greg; Williams, Anne B.  
**Subject:** Re: press interest in the \$650,000 from Trump PAC

### Ex. 5

**Dr. Kim Sajet**, (she/her/hers)  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#)  
Smithsonian Institution

750 9th St, NW. Suite 410.  
Washington D.C. USA  
(Office) 202 633 8274  
(Cell) Ex. 6  
(Email) [sajetk@si.edu](mailto:sajetk@si.edu)

This message is being created remotely, so please excuse any typos made in transit.

---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:13 PM  
**To:** Bettwy, Greg <bettwyg@si.edu>; Wilkinson, Porter N. <WilkinsonP@si.edu>; Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Cc:** Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>; Abbott, Greg <AbbottG@si.edu>; Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>  
**Subject:** press interest in the \$650,000 from Trump PAC

The following went to Post, Business Insider, AP, and Financial Times. I expect more.

Some additional responses that have been given when asked: All presidential portraits are funded with private donations; we have not received money from a PAC in the past; Obamas had nearly 300 donors for total of \$1.3M which was public information at the time.

### Ex. 5

Sources: Advancement director, communications and financial staff at NPG.  
Linda

All portraits of presidents at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.

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linda

Linda St.Thomas  
Chief Spokesperson  
Smithsonian Institution  
202 633 5188  
Cell **Ex. 6**

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Roger Sollenberger <Roger.Sollenberger@thedailybeast.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:50 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Re: [External] RE: MEDIA INQUIRY — TRUMP CONTRIBUTION

---

### External Email - Exercise Caution

Some follow-ups.

How are the commission amounts decided, and who decides them?

When the Obamas' portraits were commissioned, how did the museum/Obamas/artists settle on the \$500,000 cost?

---

**From:** Roger Sollenberger <Roger.Sollenberger@thedailybeast.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:39 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: [External] RE: MEDIA INQUIRY — TRUMP CONTRIBUTION

Thanks!

---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:36 AM  
**To:** Roger Sollenberger <Roger.Sollenberger@thedailybeast.com>  
**Subject:** [External] RE: MEDIA INQUIRY — TRUMP CONTRIBUTION

Roger,  
All portraits of presidents commissioned by the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.

The Save America donation of \$650,000 is accompanied by one additional private donation. It is specifically for the portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump.

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The \$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.

Linda

Linda St.Thomas

Chief Spokesperson

Smithsonian Institution

202 633 5188

Cell Ex. 6

---

**From:** Roger Sollenberger <Roger.Sollenberger@thedailybeast.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:30 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>; Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>; Fairchild, Alexandria <FairchildA@si.edu>  
**Cc:** Obusek, Gabrielle E. <ObusekGE@si.edu>; Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>  
**Subject:** MEDIA INQUIRY — TRUMP CONTRIBUTION

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi, and hope you're well!

Reaching out for a report about the \$650,000 charitable contribution from Trump's Save America leadership PAC.

Was that contribution earmarked for a specific museum or center?

When presidential portraits are commissioned in general, how is that commission funded? Who pays?

Happy to have a call. Thanks!

Roger

Politics reporter

The Daily Beast

Cell/Signal/WhatsApp: Ex. 6

Personal: Ex. 6

Encrypted: [roger.sollenberger@protonmail.com](mailto:roger.sollenberger@protonmail.com)

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Sajet, Kim  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 1:03 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda; Subramanian, Usha  
**Subject:** Re: press interest in the \$650,000 from Trump PAC

Ex. 5

**Dr. Kim Sajet**, (she/her/hers)  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#)  
Smithsonian Institution

750 9th St, NW. Suite 410.  
Washington D.C. USA  
(Office) 202 633 8274  
(Cell) Ex. 6  
(Email) [sajetk@si.edu](mailto:sajetk@si.edu)

This message is being created remotely, so please excuse any typos made in transit.

---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:48 PM  
**To:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>; Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: press interest in the \$650,000 from Trump PAC

Ex. 5

---

**From:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:43 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>; Bettwy, Greg <bettwyg@si.edu>; Wilkinson, Porter N. <WilkinsonP@si.edu>  
**Cc:** Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>; Abbott, Greg <AbbottG@si.edu>; Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: press interest in the \$650,000 from Trump PAC

Ex. 5

**Dr. Kim Sajet**, (she/her/hers)  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#)  
Smithsonian Institution

750 9th St, NW. Suite 410.  
Washington D.C. USA  
(Office) 202 633 8274



## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Mansfield, Erin <EMansfield@gannett.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 1:30 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda; Fairchild, Alexandria; Williams, Anne B.  
**Subject:** USA TODAY — Contribution from Save America

External Email - Exercise Caution

Good afternoon,

I'm looking at records that show a \$650,000 contribution from Save America to the Smithsonian Institution. Can you confirm that you received this money and what its purpose is?

--

Erin Mansfield  
D.C. Rapid Response Reporter



Ex. 6

emansfield@gannett.com

[usatoday.com](https://www.usatoday.com)

she/her/ella



## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Roger Sollenberger <Roger.Sollenberger@thedailybeast.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 2:16 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Re: [External] RE: MEDIA INQUIRY — TRUMP CONTRIBUTION

---

### External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi, Linda -- just flagging the follow up here. Can you reveal the name of the other donor?

---

**From:** Roger Sollenberger <Roger.Sollenberger@thedailybeast.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:49 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: [External] RE: MEDIA INQUIRY — TRUMP CONTRIBUTION

Some follow-ups.

How are the commission amounts decided, and who decides them?

When the Obamas' portraits were commissioned, how did the museum/Obamas/artists settle on the \$500,000 cost?

---

**From:** Roger Sollenberger <Roger.Sollenberger@thedailybeast.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:39 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: [External] RE: MEDIA INQUIRY — TRUMP CONTRIBUTION

Thanks!

---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:36 AM  
**To:** Roger Sollenberger <Roger.Sollenberger@thedailybeast.com>  
**Subject:** [External] RE: MEDIA INQUIRY — TRUMP CONTRIBUTION

Roger,

All portraits of presidents commissioned by the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.

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The \$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.

Linda

Linda St.Thomas

Chief Spokesperson

Smithsonian Institution

202 633 5188

Cell Ex. 6

---

**From:** Roger Sollenberger <Roger.Sollenberger@thedailybeast.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 12:30 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>; Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>; Fairchild, Alexandria <FairchildA@si.edu>  
**Cc:** Obusek, Gabrielle E. <ObusekGE@si.edu>; Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>  
**Subject:** MEDIA INQUIRY — TRUMP CONTRIBUTION

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi, and hope you're well!

Reaching out for a report about the \$650,000 charitable contribution from Trump's Save America leadership PAC.

Was that contribution earmarked for a specific museum or center?

When presidential portraits are commissioned in general, how is that commission funded? Who pays?

Happy to have a call. Thanks!

Roger

Politics reporter

The Daily Beast

Cell/Signal/WhatsApp: Ex. 6

Personal: Ex. 6

Encrypted: [roger.sollenberger@protonmail.com](mailto:roger.sollenberger@protonmail.com)

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Mansfield, Erin <EMansfield@gannett.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 2:22 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Re: USA TODAY — Contribution from Save America

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Linda,

Thank you again for the quick response. Is it unusual for a presidential portrait to be funded through this type of committee as opposed to by many donors whom the Portrait Gallery worked with individually?

Erin

--

Erin Mansfield  
D.C. Rapid Response Reporter



**Ex. 6**

emansfield@gannett.com

[usatoday.com](https://www.usatoday.com)

she/her/ella



**I am an ALLY**

Inclusion is  
What We Do

Diversity is  
Who We Are

Equity is  
How We Operate

---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 2:19 PM  
**To:** Mansfield, Erin <EMansfield@gannett.com>  
**Subject:** RE: USA TODAY — Contribution from Save America

The Portrait Gallery raises the funds, not the presidents. We raised \$750,000 for the Obama portraits from nearly 300 private donors; We have the donors listed on the Bush press release (Dec 18, 2008) but not the dollar amount. I have to research that was 14 yrs ago which will make a difference, obviously.

Linda

---

**From:** Mansfield, Erin <EMansfield@gannett.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 2:10 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: USA TODAY — Contribution from Save America

External Email - Exercise Caution

Linda,



Thank you for the information. Do you know how much previous presidents have raised money for their portraits, and how much they cost?

Erin

Erin Mansfield  
D.C. Rapid Response Reporter



703-576-7878

[emansfield@gannett.com](mailto:emansfield@gannett.com)

[usatoday.com](http://usatoday.com)

she/her/ella



---

From: St Thomas, Linda <[stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu)>  
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 2:03 PM  
To: Mansfield, Erin <[EMansfield@gannett.com](mailto:EMansfield@gannett.com)>  
Subject: RE: USA TODAY — Contribution from Save America

Erin,  
All portraits of presidents at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.

The Save America donation of \$650,000 is accompanied by one additional private donation. It is specifically for the portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump. Two artists have been commissioned one for each portrait. The names will be released closer to the reveal of the paintings as is the museum's tradition. The funds support the artists' fees, shipping, framing, installation and events. The creation of the portraits is underway. The timing of the artworks' reveal not determined yet. The \$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.  
Linda

Linda St.Thomas  
Chief Spokesperson  
Smithsonian Institution  
202 633 5188  
Cell [REDACTED] Ex. 6

---

From: Mansfield, Erin <[EMansfield@gannett.com](mailto:EMansfield@gannett.com)>  
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 1:30 PM  
To: St Thomas, Linda <[stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu)>; Fairchild, Alexandria <[FairchildA@si.edu](mailto:FairchildA@si.edu)>; Williams, Anne B. <[WilliamsAB@si.edu](mailto:WilliamsAB@si.edu)>  
Subject: USA TODAY — Contribution from Save America

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Marengo, Julissa  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 3:30 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda; Williams, Anne B.; Weyand-Geise, Madeleine  
**Subject:** Informing regents

Linda and Maddie-

Ex. 5

Thanks.

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** McGlone, Peggy <Peggy.McGlone@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 3:38 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** do you have statement about trump pac gift?

### External Email - Exercise Caution

Politics desk in interested? I texted you about Financial Times statement that this is the first time an organization has donated to the portraits. Is that true? And if you did issue a statement, can you share with me (!)  
Thanks

pmg

Peggy McGlone  
Arts Reporter  
The Washington Post  
(o) 202 334-4125  
(m) Ex. 6



## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Sajet, Kim  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 3:39 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Cc:** Duncan, Concetta  
**Subject:** Re: Presidential Portraits - Bush

Yes. The \$650 will cover the total cost. The only donors were **Ex. 5** and Save America.

**Dr. Kim Sajet**, (she/her/hers)  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#)  
Smithsonian Institution

750 9th St, NW. Suite 410.  
Washington D.C. USA  
(Office) 202 633 8274  
(Cell) **Ex. 6**  
(Email) [sajetk@si.edu](mailto:sajetk@si.edu)

This message is being created remotely, so please excuse any typos made in transit.

---

**From:** Mansfield, Erin <EMansfield@gannett.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 3:29 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Cc:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>; Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Presidential Portraits - Bush

External Email - Exercise Caution

Linda,

Thank you again for all your help. I have another question — potentially for you or for the Portrait Gallery:  
— Will \$650K cover the total cost?  
— Were there any additional donors to the portraits?

Erin Mansfield  
D.C. Rapid Response Reporter



**Ex. 6**

[emansfield@gannett.com](mailto:emansfield@gannett.com)

[usatoday.com](https://usatoday.com)

she/her/ella



---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 2:53 PM

**To:** Mansfield, Erin <EMansfield@gannett.com>  
**Cc:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>; Duncan, Concetta <DuncanC@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Presidential Portraits - Bush

<https://americaspresidents.si.edu/portrait/barack-obama>

Erin,

I can only give you the past two: the link lists the donors to the Obama portraits and the attached news release from 2008 gives the donors for the President and Mrs. Bush portraits. If a committee or group, such as a PAC, was a donor, we would have included it.

I cc'ed the director of the Portrait Gallery and its PR person.

linda

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Williams, Anne B.  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 3:48 PM  
**To:** Bettwy, Greg  
**Cc:** St Thomas, Linda; Marenco, Julissa  
**Subject:** Note for the Regents

Hi Greg,

Ex. 5

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sincerely,

**Anne Williams**  
Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Smithsonian Institution  
O: 202.633.7697

Ex. 6

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Weyand-Geise, Madeleine  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 4:26 PM  
**To:** Blasco, Erin; Williams, Anne B.; Ostroff, Hannah; Fairchild, Alexandria; St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** RE: Trump PAC donation to SI

Hi all,

I'll send a full clips round-up to this group shortly, but just FYI, the Post just published:  
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/08/22/trump-portrait-smithsonian/>

Best,  
Maddie

---

**From:** Blasco, Erin <BlascoE@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 4:10 PM  
**To:** Williams, Anne B. <WilliamsAB@si.edu>; Ostroff, Hannah <OstroffH@si.edu>; Weyand-Geise, Madeleine <Weyand-GeiseM@si.edu>; Fairchild, Alexandria <FairchildA@si.edu>; St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Trump PAC donation to SI

Good afternoon,

Just an update that we're seeing tons of angry tweets about the Trump portrait, from small and huge accounts. People do not seem to understand, of course, that we have portraits of all the presidents. They're upset that we're getting a Trump portrait but also there are plenty of people upset that this counts as a "donation," especially since their fundraising practices have been criticized.

Sampling of tweets:

- I hope by the time the artist starts to paint him he's wearing an orange jumpsuit. He likes orange.
- 
- Why would the Smithsonian even hang anything with that treasonous pig? Unless the exhibit talks about the crimes, abuse of power, and a portrait of Narcissism!
- 
- That is not a charitable donation! They commissioned portraits. And why would the Smithsonian agree?
- 
- Nice to see that @smithsonian is in bed with a Nazi pedophile wanna-be tyrant. Donation or bribe ?
- 
- This is f\*cking infuriating.
- 
- This is not how museums are supposed to work.
- 
- The last thing I need to see at a museum is a portrait of trump or his rather unimpressive First Lady! Would the dinosaur 🦖 museum not be the best place for trump though?! #TrumpTreason #TrumpTraitor #TrumpLiedALot
- 
- It's disturbing to hear that the Smithsonian is accepting so much money from Trump's Save America PAC, which has been using what Business Insider calls "aggressive and deceptive" solicitations to squeeze money from the faithful.
-

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Dave Levinthal <dlevinthal@insider.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:19 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda; Williams, Anne B.; Fairchild, Alexandria; Ferrante, Riccardo; O'Brien, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** Re: Business Insider questions about Trump political committee contribution to the Smithsonian — 1 p.m. ET Monday deadline

External Email - Exercise Caution

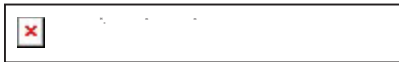
Hello —

Just checking back to make sure you received my message from yesterday and will be able to respond by my deadline at 1 p.m. today. Thank you again.

Best,

**Dave Levinthal**

Deputy editor, Washington Bureau



C: Ex. 6

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On Sun, Aug 21, 2022 at 4:55 PM Dave Levinthal <dlevinthal@insider.com> wrote:

Dear Smithsonian media staff —

Insider this weekend reported that Save America PAC, a political action committee led by former President Donald Trump, disclosed in a document filed with the Federal Election Commission that it had made a "charitable contribution" of \$650,000 to the Smithsonian Institution on July 14.

Story here: <https://www.businessinsider.com/trumps-save-america-pac-money-fake-news-donation-smithsonian-legal-2022-8>

FEC filing here: <https://docquery.fec.gov/cgi-bin/forms/C00762591/1626559/sb/ALL>

My questions to the Smithsonian:

- 1.) Did Save America PAC indeed make a \$650,000 charitable contribution to the Smithsonian Institution on July 14?
- 2.) If not, please explain. If so, what was this particular contribution for — i.e., general support, a specific program, etc.?
- 3.) Was this contribution made in liquid form — i.e. cash — or in another form, such as an in-kind contribution? If the latter, please explain.
- 4.) Has the Smithsonian Institution accepted this contribution from Save America PAC? If not, what has the Smithsonian done with it?
- 5.) Anything else I should know about this contribution?

Thank you for your consideration. We intend to write again about this matter on Monday, and my hard deadline is **1 p.m. ET Monday**. Please respond to me by email or call me at **Ex. 6**

Sincerely,

**Dave Levinthal**  
Deputy Editor



**C:** **Ex. 6**

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## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Abbott, Greg  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:35 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Cc:** Marengo, Julissa  
**Subject:** Re: this is cleared with Concetta

Ex. 5

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On Aug 22, 2022, at 10:32 AM, St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu> wrote:

All portraits of presidents at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.

The Save America donation of \$650,000 is accompanied by one additional private donation. It is specifically for the portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump.

Two artists have been commissioned one for each portrait. The names will be released closer to the reveal of the paintings.

The funds support the artists' fees and the balance covers shipping, framing, installation and events.

The creation of the portraits is underway. Ex. 5

[REDACTED]

The \$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.

Linda St.Thomas  
Chief Spokesperson  
Smithsonian Institution  
202 633 5188  
Cell Ex. 6

## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Dave Levinthal <dlevinthal@insider.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:16 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Re: response to your query about the \$650,000

### External Email - Exercise Caution

Linda,

Thanks very much for your response to my questions. I appreciate it.

Only one follow-up, just so I'm certain: the private donation you mention is a donation that's in addition to the \$650,000 from Save America PAC? If so, who made this private donation?

Best,  
Dave

On Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 11:08 St Thomas, Linda <[stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu)> wrote:

Dave,

All portraits of presidents at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.

The Save America donation of \$650,000 is accompanied by one additional private donation. It is specifically for the portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump.

Two artists have been commissioned one for each portrait. The names will be released closer to the reveal of the paintings.

The funds support the artists' fees, shipping, framing, installation and events.

The creation of the portraits is underway. The timing of the artworks' reveal not determined yet.

The \$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.

linda



Linda St.Thomas

Chief Spokesperson

Smithsonian Institution

202 633 5188

Cell **Ex. 6**

--

**Dave Levinthal**

Deputy Editor



C: **Ex. 6**

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## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Colvin, Jill <JColvin@ap.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 11:37 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Subject:** Re: Trump PAC donation

---

External Email - Exercise Caution

Thanks so much! Can I ask: have you ever received a previous president's portrait payment from a political PAC?

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:47:59 AM  
**To:** Colvin, Jill <JColvin@ap.org>  
**Subject:** RE: Trump PAC donation

[EXTERNAL]

I am double checking now.

It is for the portraits of President Trump and Melania Trump; the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery always raises funds to pay for these. I will shoot you an email with more info in a few minutes.

Linda

Linda St.Thomas  
Chief Spokesperson  
Smithsonian Institution  
202 633 5188  
Cell [REDACTED] Ex. 6

---

**From:** Colvin, Jill <JColvin@ap.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 10:29 AM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda <stthomasl@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Trump PAC donation

---

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Linda,

Jill Colvin with the AP. I hope all is well.

I was hoping you might be able to provide some details about former President Donald Trump's SAVE AMERICA PAC's recent \$650,000 contribution to the Smithsonian. What is that money being used to pay for?

Thanks much,  
Jill

-----  
Jill Colvin  
National Political Reporter  
The Associated Press  
Cell: [REDACTED] Ex. 6  
[jcolvin@ap.org](mailto:jcolvin@ap.org)

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## St Thomas, Linda

---

**From:** Duncan, Concetta  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 4:39 PM  
**To:** St Thomas, Linda  
**Cc:** Subramanian, Usha  
**Subject:** Obama donor #

Hi Linda,  
We realized Obama portrait donors were over 200. 209 donors. Not 300.  
If we can adjust for any new inquiries.  
Thanks, Concetta



**Concetta Duncan** (she/her/hers)  
*Head of Communications & Marketing*  
Smithsonian  
National Portrait Gallery

duncanc@si.edu | 202.633.9989 | **Ex. 6** cell



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

**From:** [Molly Michael](#)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 21, 2022 7:00 PM  
**To:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Cc:** Ortiz-Hernandez, Rebecca  
**Subject:** Re: Confirming call today at 2 EST

---

External Email - Exercise Caution

I will be available on my cell - Ex. 6

---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 21, 2022 6:59 PM  
**To:** Molly Michael Ex. 6 >  
**Cc:** Ortiz-Hernandez, Rebecca <Ortiz-HernandezR@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Confirming call today at 2 EST

Thank you! Ro; will you send a zoom?

Usha Subramanian (she/her)  
Director of Advancement  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery  
Cell Ex. 6

*This message is being sent via my phone. Please excuse my brevity and typos.*

---

**From:** Molly Michael Ex. 6  
**Sent:** Monday, March 21, 2022 6:51:02 PM  
**To:** Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>  
**Cc:** Ortiz-Hernandez, Rebecca <Ortiz-HernandezR@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Confirming call today at 2 EST

External Email - Exercise Caution

That will work! Thanks

---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 21, 2022 1:17 PM  
**To:** Molly Michael Ex. 6 >  
**Cc:** Ortiz-Hernandez, Rebecca <Ortiz-HernandezR@si.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: Confirming call today at 2 EST

No worries, Molly. Will 9am tomorrow work? If not, please let me know the time that you both might be available, so I can check her schedule.  
Usha



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: [REDACTED] Ex. 6 (preferred)



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

Mailing Address

MRC 973  
PO Box 37012  
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410  
Washington, DC 20001

---

**From:** Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 21, 2022 1:12 PM  
**To:** Subramanian, Usha <[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: Confirming call today at 2 EST

**External Email - Exercise Caution**

I am trying to see if I can have a representative from the organization join the call - I haven't been able to confirm with her, but I know she is more available tomorrow. Would that work for you? I am so sorry to delay speaking with you.

---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha <[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu)>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 21, 2022 1:09 PM  
**To:** Molly Michael [REDACTED] Ex. 6  
**Subject:** Confirming call today at 2 EST

Hi Molly: Want to confirm that you are available for fast call with Kim and I this afternoon. The number I have for you is: [REDACTED] Ex. 6 Is the best one to reach you?  
Thank you!  
Usha



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: **Ex. 6** (preferred)



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

Mailing Address

MRC 973  
PO Box 37012  
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410  
Washington, DC 20001

**From:** [Molly Michael](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 25, 2022 12:34 PM  
**To:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Cc:** Ortiz-Hernandez, Rebecca  
**Subject:** Re: Confirming call today at 2 EST

---

**External Email - Exercise Caution**

The best contact to follow up on the discussion we had is: Susie Wiles  
at Ex. 6

Thank you!

---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 21, 2022 7:19 PM  
**To:** Molly Michael <Ex. 6>  
**Cc:** Ortiz-Hernandez, Rebecca <Ortiz-HernandezR@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Confirming call today at 2 EST

Got it!

Usha Subramanian (she/her)  
Director of Advancement  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery  
Cell Ex. 6

*This message is being sent via my phone. Please excuse my brevity and typos.*

---

**From:** Molly Michael <Ex. 6>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 21, 2022 7:00:11 PM  
**To:** Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>  
**Cc:** Ortiz-Hernandez, Rebecca <Ortiz-HernandezR@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Confirming call today at 2 EST

**External Email - Exercise Caution**

I will be available on my cell - Ex. 6

---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 21, 2022 6:59 PM  
**To:** Molly Michael <Ex. 6>  
**Cc:** Ortiz-Hernandez, Rebecca <Ortiz-HernandezR@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Confirming call today at 2 EST



**From:** [Molly Michael](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 21, 2022 6:24 PM  
**To:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Subject:** Re: National Portrait Gallery: Presidential Portraits

---

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Usha,

I am sorry - the day got away from me. Can we connect on Monday?

Hope you have a wonderful weekend,

Molly

---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 21, 2022 6:04 PM  
**To:** Molly Michael <[REDACTED]> Ex. 6  
**Cc:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Subject:** National Portrait Gallery: Presidential Portraits

Dear Ms. Michael,

I am sorry we were unable to talk earlier this afternoon. I was following up on your call to Dr. Sajet (copied here) today. I want to be mindful of your time, as we head into the weekend. Might there be a moment for us to connect? Alternatively, if you have a minute, please call me [REDACTED] Ex. 6 anytime.

Hoping to speak with you soon.

Usha



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: [REDACTED] Ex. 6 (preferred)



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Mailing Address

MRC 973

PO Box 37012

Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410

Washington, DC 20001

**From:** [Molly Michael](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 4:36 PM  
**To:** [Sajet, Kim](#)  
**Cc:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Portrait Gallery Follow up

---

**External Email - Exercise Caution**

Thanks Kim! Yes, when is a good time to chat? Monday or Tuesday of next week works well for me.

---

**From:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 8, 2022 4:52 PM  
**To:** Molly Michael [REDACTED] **Ex. 6**  
**Cc:** Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Portrait Gallery Follow up

Hi Molly,

I hope you are well. I was wondering if you received all the information you needed from us, and whether you can share—over the phone—the name of the entity who have expressed an interest in supporting the NPG's work? We are starting to incur costs that will need to be paid, and we are keen to come to some close on the fundraising portion of our project.

With best wishes, Kim

**Dr. Kim Sajet**, (she/her/hers) D.L.S., M.B.A., M.A.  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#),  
Smithsonian Institution

750 9th St, NW. Suite 410.  
Washington D.C. USA  
(Office) 202 633 8274  
(Cell) [REDACTED] **Ex. 6**  
(Email) [sajetk@si.edu](mailto:sajetk@si.edu)

This message is being created remotely, so please excuse any typos made in transit.

**From:** [Molly Michael](#)  
**Sent:** Monday, February 14, 2022 1:27 PM  
**To:** [Sajet, Kim](#)  
**Cc:** [Subramanian, Usha](#); Ortiz-Hernandez, Rebecca  
**Subject:** Re: Set up time to catch up?

---

External Email - Exercise Caution

Yes, that works! Should I call your cell or prefer another method? Thank you

---

**From:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 14, 2022 12:03 PM  
**To:** Molly Michael <[REDACTED]> Ex. 6  
**Cc:** Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>; Ortiz-Hernandez, Rebecca <Ortiz-HernandezR@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Set up time to catch up?

Hi Molly, So sorry you were unwell. I hope you are feeling yourself again!  
Do you have any time this Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February around 2pm?

With best wishes,  
Kim

**Dr. Kim Sajet**, (she/her/hers) D.L.S., M.B.A., M.A.  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#)  
Smithsonian Institution

750 9th St, NW. Suite 410.  
Washington D.C. USA  
(Office) 202 633 8274  
(Cell) [REDACTED] Ex. 6  
(Email) [sajetk@si.edu](mailto:sajetk@si.edu)

This message is being created remotely, so please excuse any typos made in transit.

---

**From:** Molly Michael <[REDACTED]> Ex. 6  
**Sent:** Monday, February 14, 2022 10:45 AM  
**To:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Set up time to catch up?

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Kim,

I am sorry, I have been out sick. Are you available sometime mid week to chat?

Thank you!

Molly

---

**From:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 10, 2022 10:29 AM  
**To:** Molly Michael <[REDACTED]> Ex. 6  
**Subject:** Set up time to catch up?

Hi Molly,

I was wondering if we can set up a time to touch-base. Do you have any time today?

With best wishes, Kim

**Dr. Kim Sajet**, (she/her/hers) D.L.S., M.B.A., M.A.  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#)  
Smithsonian Institution

750 9th St, NW. Suite 410.  
Washington D.C. USA  
(Office) 202 633 8274  
(Cell) [REDACTED] Ex. 6  
(Email) [sajetk@si.edu](mailto:sajetk@si.edu)

This message is being created remotely, so please excuse any typos made in transit.



**From:** [Molly Michael](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 17, 2022 3:17 PM  
**To:** [Sajet, Kim](#)  
**Cc:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Commissioning portraits / NPG collections policy language

---

**External Email - Exercise Caution**

Thank you! We also chatted about the entities. Is there any language on that?

---

**From:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 17, 2022 3:05 PM  
**To:** Molly Michael <[REDACTED]> Ex. 6  
**Cc:** Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Commissioning portraits / NPG collections policy language

Hi Molly,

It was nice speaking with you again.

Please find attached an excerpt from the NPG's Collection's policy. The specific language is:

No living subject may be permitted to pay the costs of his or her own portrait. The NPG may approach a sitter's family members, friends, and acquaintances to cover the costs of the portrait commission as long as the NPG takes the lead in the negotiations and the solicited parties do not influence the choice of artist or price.

A sitter's family, friends, and acquaintances are permitted to recognize and/or celebrate the portrait commission either with event(s) and media coverage as long as it is done in partnership with the NPG and acknowledges the artist.

Usha Subramanian, our Director of Development, copied here, can help answer any questions or concerns you may have. We can absolutely make sure that the donor's name is kept confidential.

With best wishes,  
Kim

**Dr. Kim Sajet**, (she/her/hers) D.L.S., M.B.A., M.A.  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#)  
Smithsonian Institution

750 9th St, NW. Suite 410.  
Washington D.C. USA  
(Office) 202 633 8274  
(Cell) [REDACTED] Ex. 6

(Email) [sajetk@si.edu](mailto:sajetk@si.edu)

This message is being created remotely, so please excuse any typos made in transit.

**From:** [Susie Wiles](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2022 3:50 PM  
**To:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Subject:** agreement  
**Attachments:** [Smothsonian gift agreement\\_5.11.22\[68\].pdf](#)

---

External Email - Exercise Caution

Usha,  
Please find the executed agreement per your request.  
Susie

*Susie Wiles*

[Susan Summerall Wiles](#)

Ex. 6

Ex. 6

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May 11, 2022

Mr. Bradley T. Crate, Treasurer  
Save America  
138 Conant Street, 2nd Fl.  
Beverly, MA 01915

Dear Mr. Crate:

The Smithsonian Institution (the “Smithsonian”) is very grateful for the recent generous pledge of \$650,000 made by Save America. We are pleased to be able to formally acknowledge receipt of it for the benefit of National Portrait Gallery (“NPG”) in support of the official portrait commissions for President Donald J. Trump and First Lady Melania Trump, the installation of the portraits in the NPG America’s Presidents exhibition, and an unveiling ceremony.

Save America will fulfill this pledge in one payment of \$650,000 to be made on or before September 30, 2022.

We confirm our common understanding that this is a binding pledge on Save America, and that the Smithsonian will make commitments in reliance on this pledge. Save America alone will fulfill this pledge and it will not be fulfilled in whole or in part by a private foundation, charitable remainder trust, or donor-advised fund.

To recognize this generous support, the Smithsonian will recognize Save America on the object labels that will be displayed alongside the portraits when they are on exhibition and alongside images of the portraits on the NPG website. In addition, Save America will be recognized in the commemorative program for, and remarks delivered at, the unveiling ceremony and provided with invitations and reserved seating for 10 guests to attend that event. Once the portraits are installed, NPG will provide Save America the opportunity to arrange a private viewing of the portraits for up to five guests that will be scheduled for a date and time that is mutually agreed upon by the Parties. We will also be pleased to recognize Save America as a donor in the Smithsonian Annual Report. Please note that Save America may not transfer to another the recognition of its generosity that the Smithsonian has agreed to provide.

We appreciate your understanding that while we are deeply grateful for Save America’s support of our mission, the Smithsonian maintains exclusive discretion to determine the contents of its programs and exhibitions and to interpret its mission. The names of the Smithsonian Institution, the National Portrait Gallery, the Smithsonian sunburst logo, and certain other Smithsonian names and marks are



registered or common law trademarks of the Smithsonian. Save America may not use these names and marks, including in or on Save America's products or on product packaging or at point of purchase, or in advertising, promotion, publicity, or fund-raising, without the prior written approval of the Smithsonian.

The Smithsonian, as a public institution, will not treat this Agreement or its contents as confidential information. The Agreement and its contents will be released if requested by organizations or individuals who make such a request in a manner consistent with Smithsonian policy or applicable law. Should the Smithsonian receive such a request for information related to this gift, Save America will be notified.

This Agreement constitutes our full, mutual understanding concerning this gift. The Smithsonian invests a percentage of term gifts to build and support its fundraising program and further its mission with generous philanthropic and private support. Interpretation of this Agreement is subject to federal law and the laws of the District of Columbia. Should modification of this agreement be necessary, any amendment shall be made and signed by both parties. We intend, by accepting this gift, to create a philanthropic relationship. The signatures below indicate that these understandings and commitments are accepted by all parties.

Thank you again. We are very grateful for Save America's generous support of and interest in the National Portrait Gallery

SIGNED FOR THE SMITHSONIAN:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Sajet, Director  
National Portrait Gallery

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert J. Spiller  
Assistant Secretary for Advancement

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

ACKNOWLEDGED AND AGREED:  
Ex. 6

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bradley T. Crate, Treasurer  
Save America

\_\_\_\_\_  
July 7, 2022 | 6:37 AM EDT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date





**From:** [Susie Wiles](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 1:06 PM  
**To:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Fully executed agreement

---

**External Email - Exercise Caution**

Thank you, Usha. I appreciate you sending this.  
Best,

*Susie Wiles*

[Susan Summerall Wiles](#)

Ex. 6

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---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 11:29 AM  
**To:** Susie Wiles <Ex. 6>  
**Subject:** Fully executed agreement

Dear Susie: SO sorry for the delay on my part. Attached is the fully signed agreement for your records. Many thanks for all your help.

Best,  
Usha



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: Ex. 6 (preferred)



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

Mailing Address

MRC 973

PO Box 37012

Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410

Washington, DC 20001

**From:** [Susie Wiles](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2022 8:02 AM  
**To:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Subject:** Re: On the recommendation of Molly Michaels...following up

---

**External Email - Exercise Caution**

Usha,  
Please pardon my delayed response. I have gathered the information I hope will help.  
Please see below.  
Please direct correspondence and questions to me and I will run the interference necessary to get signatures, wire transfers or answer any questions.  
Best,  
Susie Wiles

[Susan Summerall Wiles](#)

Ex. 6

"Self-praise is for losers. Be a winner. Stand for something. Always have class, and be humble." - John Madden

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---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 4, 2022 1:51 PM  
**To:** Ex. 6 <Ex. 6>  
**Subject:** RE: On the recommendation of Molly Michaels...following up

Dear Ms. Wiles: A fast follow up on my email from last week. We are grateful to learn of your organization's interest in supporting the portraits of President and Mrs. Trump commissioned by the National Portrait Gallery. As Molly might have mentioned, we need a few details to create an official gift agreement. I would still appreciate a few minutes of your time for a quick conversation but in the meantime, may I ask for the following information (see below)? This will help us get started on finalizing the agreement. Many thanks for your assistance.

Please provide the following:

1. Legal Name of the Entity - [Save America](#)
2. Address [138 Conant Street, Beverly, Massachusetts 01915](#)
3. Name(s) of Authorized Representatives [Bradley Crate](#)
4. Name (s) of Signatories (if different from the Representative) [s/a/a](#)

5. How will the entity fulfill the gift (i.e.: method of payment - check, wire transfer etc.) **wire transfer preferred**
6. Payment schedule (i.e.: will the payment be made at one time, in installments etc. If installments, please let me know how many. We would appreciate receiving the full amount before September 30, 2022, which is the close of our fiscal year) **Payment will be made in full by September 30, 2022.**

Happy to answer any questions. Thank you!

Best,

Usha



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: **Ex. 6** (preferred)



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

Mailing Address

MRC 973  
PO Box 37012  
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410  
Washington, DC 20001

---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 30, 2022 1:03 PM  
**To:** **Ex. 6**  
**Subject:** On the recommendation of Molly Michaels

Dear Ms. Wiles: I am the Director of Advancement at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery and writing to you on the recommendation of Ms. Molly Michaels.

Would you have time for a brief phone call this week? I am available after 1PM EST tomorrow (Thur) and after 11AM EST (Friday). Many thanks for your consideration.

Best,  
Usha



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: **Ex. 6** (preferred)



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

Mailing Address

MRC 973  
PO Box 37012  
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410  
Washington, DC 20001

**From:** [Susie Wiles](#)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 3:10 PM  
**To:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Press Enquiry

---

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Usha. Yes, of course. Can you let me know how you will be responding? Thanks,

*Susie Wiles*

[Susan Summerall Wiles](#)

Ex. 6

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---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 1:02 PM  
**To:** Susie Wiles <Ex. 6>  
**Subject:** Press Enquiry

Hi Susie: We received some press enquiries about Save America's support of the President and Mrs. Trump's portraits today. We, of course, want to be transparent about the gift, and wanted to let you know in case you see these reports.

Best,  
Usha



Usha Subramanian (she/her)  
Director of Advancement  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | 202.633.8238 | Ex. 6 cell





[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

Mailing Address

MRC 973  
PO Box 37012  
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410

**From:** [Susie Wiles](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 3:00 PM  
**To:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Cc:** [Sajet, Kim](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery: Gift Agreement  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[SA\\_NPG gift agreement\\_5.11.22.pdf](#)

---

**External Email - Exercise Caution**

Many thanks, Usha. I will get this fully executed and return it to you.

Susie Wiles

Sent from my iPhone  
Please excuse typos

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On May 11, 2022, at 2:35 PM, Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu> wrote:

Dear Susie,

Hope you doing well! On behalf of the National Portrait Gallery and our director, Dr. Kim Sajet (copied), I am pleased to send you the attached formal agreement for Save America's support of President and Mrs. Trump's portrait commissions. We are grateful.

My apologies for the slight delay in getting this to you. Once the agreement is signed, I will provide information for transfer of funds. We are happy to answer any questions and I will follow up with you in the coming days.

With gratitude,

Usha

**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)

*Director of Advancement*

Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: **Ex. 6** (preferred)

[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

Mailing Address

MRC 973

PO Box 37012

Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410

Washington, DC 20001

**From:** [Susie Wiles](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 21, 2022 11:40 AM  
**To:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Cc:** [Molly Michael](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery: Gift Agreement...follow up

---

External Email - Exercise Caution

Usually,  
Sorry for the delay. I will check with our treasurer again to get this moving.  
Susie Wiles

Sent from my iPhone  
Please excuse typos

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On Jun 21, 2022, at 11:23 AM, Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu> wrote:

Hi Susie: Hope you are well. Checking in about the gift agreement. Please let me know and thank you!  
Usha

**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)

*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: [REDACTED] Ex. 6 (preferred)



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2022 4:12 PM  
**To:** Susie Wiles <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>  
**Subject:** RE: Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery: Gift Agreement...follow up

Hi Susie: Hope your week is off to a good start. Just checking in regarding the agreement. Please let me know if you need anything from our side. I will provide funds transfer instructions once the agreement is final. Thank you!  
Usha

---

**From:** Susie Wiles <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 3:00 PM  
**To:** Subramanian, Usha <[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu)>  
**Cc:** Sajet, Kim <[SajetK@si.edu](mailto:SajetK@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery: Gift Agreement

**External Email - Exercise Caution**

Many thanks, Usha. I will get this fully executed and return it to you.

Susie Wiles

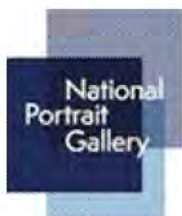
Sent from my iPhone  
Please excuse typos

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**From:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 17, 2022 5:46 PM  
**To:** [Molly Michael](#); [Sajet, Kim](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Commissioning portraits / NPG collections policy language

---

Hi Molly: Our policies regarding gift acceptance from entities follows the overall Smithsonian guidelines. I'm out through Monday but will get that to you next week. Hope that works.  
Best,  
Usha



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: **Ex. 6** (preferred)



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

Mailing Address

MRC 973  
PO Box 37012  
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410  
Washington, DC 20001

---

**From:** Molly Michael <**Ex. 6**>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 17, 2022 3:17 PM  
**To:** Sajet, Kim <[SajetK@si.edu](mailto:SajetK@si.edu)>  
**Cc:** Subramanian, Usha <[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: Commissioning portraits / NPG collections policy language

External Email - Exercise Caution

Thank you! We also chatted about the entities. Is there any language on that?



**From:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 22, 2022 1:16 PM  
**To:** [Molly Michael](#); [Sajet, Kim](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Commissioning portraits / NPG collections policy language

---

Hi Molly,

Below are some Smithsonian guidelines governing acceptance of types of gifts and from specific entities:

*The Smithsonian's fundraising activity is governed by a gift acceptance policy, and the institution retains the right to decline any gift at the discretion of Smithsonian management, specifically the Secretary, members of the Senior Leadership team, and the director of the unit to which the gift is directed. Certain gifts require consultation prior to acceptance, including gifts from companies in the alcohol, tobacco, firearms or gaming ("ATFG") industry sectors. In practice, the Smithsonian generally does not accept gifts from the firearms industry, but does accept gifts from companies in the alcohol, tobacco or gaming industries, depending on the type of program or event the gift will support, its intended audience, and the nature and extent of the recognition the gift will receive. The Smithsonian will not solicit or accept gifts from these companies to support programs that focus on children or families with children. The policy also outlines additional guidance around gifts that require consultation, including but not limited to gifts that may create or be perceived to create a conflict of interests, gifts that are likely to attract significant public attention, and gifts from donors whose reputation and mission are inconsistent with the reputation and mission of the Smithsonian.*

Please let us know if you have questions.

Usha



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: **Ex. 6** (preferred)



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

**From:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 25, 2022 1:48 PM  
**To:** [Molly Michael](#)  
**Cc:** Ortiz-Hernandez, Rebecca  
**Subject:** RE: Confirming call today at 2 EST

---

Thank you, Molly. I will reach out to her.



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: **Ex. 6** (preferred)



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Mailing Address

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PO Box 37012  
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410  
Washington, DC 20001

---

**From:** Molly Michael <**Ex. 6**>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 25, 2022 12:34 PM  
**To:** Subramanian, Usha <[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu)>  
**Cc:** Ortiz-Hernandez, Rebecca <[Ortiz-HernandezR@si.edu](mailto:Ortiz-HernandezR@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: Confirming call today at 2 EST

**External Email - Exercise Caution**

The best contact to follow up on the discussion we had is: Susie Wiles  
at **Ex. 6**



**From:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 7, 2022 3:25 PM  
**To:** [Molly Michael](#)  
**Subject:** Susan Wiles

---

Hi Molly: I have reached out to Susan twice but not heard back. Please see my last email below. Might you be able to get me this information so I can send you (or her) a gift agreement? Thank you



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: **Ex. 6** (preferred)



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

Mailing Address

MRC 973  
PO Box 37012  
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410  
Washington, DC 20001

---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha  
**Sent:** Monday, April 4, 2022 1:52 PM  
**To:** **Ex. 6**  
**Subject:** RE: On the recommendation of Molly Michaels...following up

Dear Ms. Wiles: A fast follow up on my email from last week. We are grateful to learn of your organization's interest in supporting the portraits of President and Mrs. Trump commissioned by the National Portrait Gallery. As Molly might have mentioned, we need a few details to create an official gift agreement. I would still appreciate a few minutes of your time for a quick conversation

but in the meantime, may I ask for the following information (see below)? This will help us get started on finalizing the agreement. Many thanks for your assistance.

Please provide the following:

1. Legal Name of the Entity
2. Address
3. Name(s) of Authorized Representatives
4. Name (s) of Signatories (if different from the Representative)
5. How will the entity fulfill the gift (i.e.: method of payment - check, wire transfer etc.)
6. Payment schedule (i.e.: will the payment be made at one time, in installments etc. If installments, please let me know how many. We would appreciate receiving the full amount before September 30, 2022, which is the close of our fiscal year)

Happy to answer any questions. Thank you!

Best,

Usha



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)

*Director of Advancement*

Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: **Ex. 6** (preferred)



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MRC 973

PO Box 37012

Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410

Washington, DC 20001

---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 30, 2022 1:03 PM

To: Ex. 6

Subject: On the recommendation of Molly Michaels

Dear Ms. Wiles: I am the Director of Advancement at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery and writing to you on the recommendation of Ms. Molly Michaels.

Would you have time for a brief phone call this week? I am available after 1PM EST tomorrow (Thur) and after 11AM EST (Friday). Many thanks for your consideration.

Best,  
Usha



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: Ex. 6 (preferred)



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Mailing Address

MRC 973  
PO Box 37012  
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410  
Washington, DC 20001

**From:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 11:29 AM  
**To:** [Susie Wiles](#)  
**Subject:** Fully executed agreement  
**Attachments:** [Fully executed agreement \\_Save America\\_NPG\\_August 2022.pdf](#)

---

Dear Susie: SO sorry for the delay on my part. Attached is the fully signed agreement for your records. Many thanks for all your help.

Best,  
Usha



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: **Ex. 6** (preferred)



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Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410  
Washington, DC 20001



May 11, 2022

Mr. Bradley T. Crate, Treasurer  
Save America  
138 Conant Street, 2nd Fl.  
Beverly, MA 01915

Dear Mr. Crate:

The Smithsonian Institution (the “Smithsonian”) is very grateful for the recent generous pledge of \$650,000 made by Save America. We are pleased to be able to formally acknowledge receipt of it for the benefit of National Portrait Gallery (“NPG”) in support of the official portrait commissions for President Donald J. Trump and First Lady Melania Trump, the installation of the portraits in the NPG America’s Presidents exhibition, and an unveiling ceremony.

Save America will fulfill this pledge in one payment of \$650,000 to be made on or before September 30, 2022.

We confirm our common understanding that this is a binding pledge on Save America, and that the Smithsonian will make commitments in reliance on this pledge. Save America alone will fulfill this pledge and it will not be fulfilled in whole or in part by a private foundation, charitable remainder trust, or donor-advised fund.

To recognize this generous support, the Smithsonian will recognize Save America on the object labels that will be displayed alongside the portraits when they are on exhibition and alongside images of the portraits on the NPG website. In addition, Save America will be recognized in the commemorative program for, and remarks delivered at, the unveiling ceremony and provided with invitations and reserved seating for 10 guests to attend that event. Once the portraits are installed, NPG will provide Save America the opportunity to arrange a private viewing of the portraits for up to five guests that will be scheduled for a date and time that is mutually agreed upon by the Parties. We will also be pleased to recognize Save America as a donor in the Smithsonian Annual Report. Please note that Save America may not transfer to another the recognition of its generosity that the Smithsonian has agreed to provide.

We appreciate your understanding that while we are deeply grateful for Save America’s support of our mission, the Smithsonian maintains exclusive discretion to determine the contents of its programs and exhibitions and to interpret its mission. The names of the Smithsonian Institution, the National Portrait Gallery, the Smithsonian sunburst logo, and certain other Smithsonian names and marks are



registered or common law trademarks of the Smithsonian. Save America may not use these names and marks, including in or on Save America's products or on product packaging or at point of purchase, or in advertising, promotion, publicity, or fund-raising, without the prior written approval of the Smithsonian.

The Smithsonian, as a public institution, will not treat this Agreement or its contents as confidential information. The Agreement and its contents will be released if requested by organizations or individuals who make such a request in a manner consistent with Smithsonian policy or applicable law. Should the Smithsonian receive such a request for information related to this gift, Save America will be notified.

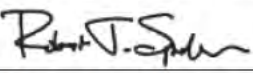
This Agreement constitutes our full, mutual understanding concerning this gift. The Smithsonian invests a percentage of term gifts to build and support its fundraising program and further its mission with generous philanthropic and private support. Interpretation of this Agreement is subject to federal law and the laws of the District of Columbia. Should modification of this agreement be necessary, any amendment shall be made and signed by both parties. We intend, by accepting this gift, to create a philanthropic relationship. The signatures below indicate that these understandings and commitments are accepted by all parties.

Thank you again. We are very grateful for Save America's generous support of and interest in the National Portrait Gallery

SIGNED FOR THE SMITHSONIAN:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Sajet, Director  
National Portrait Gallery

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert J. Spiller  
Assistant Secretary for Advancement

\_\_\_\_\_  
August 8, 2022

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

ACKNOWLEDGED AND AGREED:

**Ex. 6**

Bradley T. Crate, Treasurer  
Save America

\_\_\_\_\_  
July 7, 2022 | 6:37 AM EDT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



Smithsonian  
National Portrait Gallery

Office of Advancement • 202.633.2801 • NPGAdvancement@si.edu  
MRC 973 PO Box 37012 • Washington, DC 20013 • npg.si.edu



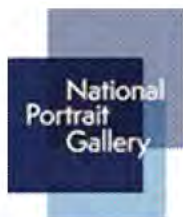
**From:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2022 9:53 AM  
**To:** [Susie Wiles](#)  
**Subject:** RE: On the recommendation of Molly Michaels...following up

---

Hi Susie: No apologies necessary and thank you for the info below. The next step is to draw up a formal gift agreement and send to you for review. This takes a bit of time from our side but I hope to send you something by the week of April 24.

Thanks again!

Usha



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: **Ex. 6** (preferred)



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

Mailing Address

MRC 973  
PO Box 37012  
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410  
Washington, DC 20001

---

**From:** Susie Wiles <**Ex. 6**>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2022 8:02 AM  
**To:** Subramanian, Usha <[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: On the recommendation of Molly Michaels...following up

External Email - Exercise Caution

Usha,



Please pardon my delayed response. I have gathered the information I hope will help.

Please see below.

Please direct correspondence and questions to me and I will run the interference necessary to get signatures, wire transfers or answer any questions.

Best,  
Susie Wiles

*Susan Summerall Wiles*

Ex. 6

"Self-praise is for losers. Be a winner. Stand for something. Always have class, and be humble." - John Madden

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---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha <[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu)>

**Sent:** Monday, April 4, 2022 1:51 PM

**To:** Ex. 6 Ex. 6

**Subject:** RE: On the recommendation of Molly Michaels...following up

Dear Ms. Wiles: A fast follow up on my email from last week. We are grateful to learn of your organization's interest in supporting the portraits of President and Mrs. Trump commissioned by the National Portrait Gallery. As Molly might have mentioned, we need a few details to create an official gift agreement. I would still appreciate a few minutes of your time for a quick conversation but in the meantime, may I ask for the following information (see below)? This will help us get started on finalizing the agreement. Many thanks for your assistance.

Please provide the following:

1. Legal Name of the Entity - **Save America**
2. Address **138 Conant Street, Beverly, Massachusetts 01915**
3. Name(s) of Authorized Representatives **Bradley Crate**
4. Name (s) of Signatories (if different from the Representative) **s/a/a**
5. How will the entity fulfill the gift (i.e.: method of payment - check, wire transfer etc.) **wire transfer preferred**
6. Payment schedule (i.e.: will the payment be made at one time, in installments etc. If installments, please let me know how many. We would appreciate receiving the full amount before September 30,2022, which is the close of our fiscal year) **Payment will be made in full by September 30, 2022.**

Happy to answer any questions. Thank you!

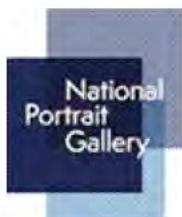
Best,  
Usha

**From:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 7, 2022 9:54 AM  
**To:** [Susie Wiles](#)  
**Cc:** [Sajet, Kim](#); Pinzini, Brandon  
**Subject:** RE: President Trump's portrait

---

Dear Susie: I echo Kim's thanks! I would also appreciate having the signed gift agreement back from you so we may record it. Many thanks and do let us know if you need anything else.

Best,  
Usha



**Usha Subramanian (she/her)**  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: **Ex. 6** (preferred)



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

Mailing Address

MRC 973  
PO Box 37012  
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410  
Washington, DC 20001

---

**From:** Pinzini, Brandon <PinziniB@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 7, 2022 9:20 AM  
**To:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>; Susie Wiles <**Ex. 6**>  
**Cc:** Subramanian, Usha <SubramanianU@si.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: President Trump's portrait

Dear Susie,

Please see our wire instructions attached, please let us know if you have any questions.

Best,

Brandon

---

**From:** Sajet, Kim <[SajetK@si.edu](mailto:SajetK@si.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 7, 2022 7:02 AM  
**To:** Susie Wiles <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>  
**Cc:** Subramanian, Usha <[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu)>; Pinzini, Brandon <[PinziniB@si.edu](mailto:PinziniB@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: President Trump's portrait

Dear Susie (if I may),

Tha would be wonderful. Usha or Brandon (both copied) can forward on the Smithsonian's wire instructions.

Thank you. I am so appreciative.  
Kim

**Dr. Kim Sajet, (she/her/hers)**  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#)  
Smithsonian Institution

750 9th St, NW. Suite 410.  
Washington D.C. USA  
(Office) 202 633 8274  
(Cell) [REDACTED] Ex. 6  
(Email) [sajetk@si.edu](mailto:sajetk@si.edu)

This message is being created remotely, so please excuse any typos made in transit.

---

**From:** Susie Wiles <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 6, 2022 11:15 PM  
**To:** Sajet, Kim <[SajetK@si.edu](mailto:SajetK@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: President Trump's portrait

**External Email - Exercise Caution**

Kim,

We can be ready to begin processing the payment any time. How about August 1st? That is comfortably before your year-end. Please advise if that is acceptable and I'll initiate a wire from our end.

Thank you,  
Susie

**From:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2022 3:00 PM  
**To:** [Susie Wiles](#)  
**Cc:** [Sajet, Kim](#)  
**Subject:** RE: President Trump's portrait

---

Good afternoon Susie: A fast check-in to see if we might have the gift agreement back from you asap. Smithsonian requires us to have that in place. Please let me know and if you need anything else from us.

Thank you!

Usha



**Usha Subramanian (she/her)**  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: **Ex. 6** (preferred)



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

Mailing Address

MRC 973  
PO Box 37012  
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410  
Washington, DC 20001

---

**From:** Subramanian, Usha  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 7, 2022 9:54 AM  
**To:** Susie Wiles <**Ex. 6**>  
**Cc:** Sajet, Kim <[SajetK@si.edu](mailto:SajetK@si.edu)>; Pinzini, Brandon <[PinziniB@si.edu](mailto:PinziniB@si.edu)>  
**Subject:** RE: President Trump's portrait

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**From:** Sajet, Kim <[SajetK@si.edu](mailto:SajetK@si.edu)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 6, 2022 12:14 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] Ex. 6 <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>

**Cc:** Subramanian, Usha <[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu)>; [REDACTED] Ex. 6 <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>

**Subject:** President Trump's portrait

Dear Ms. Wiles,

[REDACTED] Ex. 5

To that end, I know you have been in communication with Usha Subramanian at the Portrait Gallery about supporting the commission and was wondering how that was progressing? We will be absorbing costs shortly for artists' fees, framing, and transportation, and would very much appreciate if payment might be possible before September 30 -- the end of our financial year.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns,  
Kim Sajet

**Dr. Kim Sajet, (she/her/hers)**  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#),  
Smithsonian Institution

750 9th St, NW. Suite 410.  
Washington D.C. USA  
(Office) 202 633 8274  
(Cell) [REDACTED] Ex. 6  
(Email) [sajetk@si.edu](mailto:sajetk@si.edu)

This message is being created remotely, so please excuse any typos made in transit.

**From:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2022 8:04 PM  
**To:** [Susie Wiles](#)  
**Cc:** [Sajet, Kim](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Press Enquiry: some details

---

Hi Susie: Sorry for the delay. Below is the information we have shared with media. I will be out of the country starting Wed, but if you have specific questions, you may reach NPG Director, Kim Sajet (copied here) or any of our communications team members. Linda St. Thomas who is the Smithsonian's Chief Communications officer or the museum's Head of Communications, Concetta Duncan, are handling inquiries. They can be reached at [stthomasl@si.edu](mailto:stthomasl@si.edu) and [duncanc@si.edu](mailto:duncanc@si.edu) respectively if you receive anything that can best be answered by us. Any specific questions about Save America's other donations or donation history are probably best handled by your team. We are *not* sharing any information about the artists at this time. Below are the facts they have shared with media:

[Commissioned portraits of the presidents and first ladies at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery are paid for with private funds raised by the museum.](#)

[The Save America donation of \\$650,000 is accompanied by one additional private donation. It is specifically for the portraits of former President Donald Trump and former First Lady Melania Trump.](#)

[Two artists have been commissioned. The names will be released closer to the reveal of the paintings.](#)

[The funds support: the artists' fees and the balance covers shipping, framing, installation and events.](#)

[The creation of portraits are underway.](#) Ex. 5

[The \\$650,000 came to the National Portrait Gallery as a wire transfer on July 14.](#)

Best,  
Usha

**Usha Subramanian (she/her)**  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: Ex. 6 (preferred)



**From:** [Subramanian, Usha](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 22, 2022 3:59 PM  
**To:** [Susie Wiles](#)  
**Cc:** [Molly Michael](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery: Gift Agreement...follow up

---

Thank you, Susie. I'll wait to hear from you.

Best

Usha



**Usha Subramanian** (she/her)  
*Director of Advancement*  
Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu) | cell: **Ex. 6** (preferred)



[npg.si.edu](http://npg.si.edu)

Mailing Address

MRC 973  
PO Box 37012  
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Street Address

750 Ninth Street NW, Suite 410  
Washington, DC 20001

---

**From:** Susie Wiles <**Ex. 6**>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 21, 2022 11:40 AM  
**To:** Subramanian, Usha <[SubramanianU@si.edu](mailto:SubramanianU@si.edu)>  
**Cc:** Molly Michael <**Ex. 6**>  
**Subject:** Re: Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery: Gift Agreement...follow up

External Email - Exercise Caution



**From:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 10:09 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] Ex 6 [REDACTED] Ex 6  
**Cc:** Moss, Dorothy <MossD@si.edu>  
**Subject:** President Trump's Portrait

Dear Ms. Michael,

Thank you for the conversation this morning about being able to start the process of commissioning a portrait of former President Trump for the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery. Copied on this email is Dr. Dorothy Moss, curator of painting and sculpture who will help shepherd the commission along. Please know that all our conversations are **highly confidential**.

Ex. 5

Of course, if Mr. Trump has thoughts of other artists we would welcome the suggestions. The goal is to come up with a painter whom both the museum and the sitter feel will create a good likeness for the America's Presidents gallery in perpetuity. Mr. Trump would have final approval / disapproval of the painting before it goes on display. The museum will cover all the costs of the commission and contract directly with the artist. We raise private funds for this purpose. \* Please note that this portrait is for the Smithsonian and separate from the one that is commissioned by the White House Historical Association for the White House collection, although we do communicate / coordinate our efforts.

Mr. Trump may wish to meet a few artists before he decides; then once he has chosen someone, there are generally two in-person sittings. We would work around your / his schedule to make this as enjoyable as possible.

Please know that in the interim period, when the museum reopens, we have acquired and will have in place a photograph of President created by Parr Dukovic that was made for TIME magazine in 2019 (See attached). This will be in the America's President's gallery until the official portrait is completed.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns. My cell phone is [REDACTED] Ex 6 With this email I will ask Dorothy to be in touch with you directly.

In appreciation,  
Kim Sajet

Kim Sajet  
Director, National Portrait Gallery  
Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC.  
(Office) 202 633 8274  
(Cell) [REDACTED] Ex 6  
(Email) [sajetk@si.edu](mailto:sajetk@si.edu)

This message is being created remotely, so please excuse any typos made in transit.

**From:** Moss, Dorothy <MossD@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 10:18 AM  
**To:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>; Molly Michael [REDACTED] Ex 6  
**Subject:** Re: President Trump's Portrait

Dear Ms. Michael,

I am glad to be in touch with you and look forward to starting the process of commissioning Mr. Trump's official portrait for the National Portrait Gallery. [REDACTED] Ex 5 [REDACTED]

I am always happy to talk by phone to answer any questions.

With all best wishes,  
Dorothy

**Dorothy Moss, PhD** (she/her/hers)  
*Acting Director of Curatorial Affairs*  
Coordinating Curator, Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative  
Smithsonian  
National Portrait Gallery

[MossD@si.edu](mailto:MossD@si.edu) | 202 633 8312 | [REDACTED] Ex 6

Re: President Trump's Portrait



Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>  
To: Moss, Dorothy; Sajet, Kim



Fri 8/18/2021 12:50 PM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Received. Thank you! I will be in touch after speaking with President Trump.

For your records, my "work" cell is [REDACTED] Ex. 6 I will likely call from that number.

Thank you,

Molly

Re: President Trump's Portrait

① You replied on Fri 4/30/2021 9:16 AM



Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>  
To: Sajet, Kim  
Cc: Moss, Dorothy



Thu 4/29/2021 6:13 PM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Good afternoon Kim and Dorothy,

[REDACTED] Ex. 5

Thank you! [REDACTED] Ex. 6

[REDACTED] Ex. 6

**From:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 5:02 PM  
**To:** Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>  
**Cc:** Moss, Dorothy <MossD@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Follow Up

Hi Molly,

[REDACTED] Ex. 5 They are going to do a walk through the gallery and discuss the contract. We should have a better sense of next steps, including costs and timing in about a week or so. As soon as I know more, I'll be in touch.

Similarly, if there is anything I can do for you, please don't hesitate to reach out.  
Best wishes, Kim

Kim Sajet  
Director, National Portrait Gallery  
Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC.  
(Office) 202 633 8274  
(Cell) [REDACTED] Ex. 6  
(Email) sajetk@si.edu

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## Re: Follow Up

🕒 You replied on Mon 5/3/2021 5:33 PM



Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>

To: Sajet, Kim

Cc: Moss, Dorothy



Mon 5/3/2021 5:18 PM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Thank you for the update. We are looking forward to the process!

Molly

**From:** Moss, Dorothy <MossD@si.edu>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 6, 2021 8:40:03 PM

**To:** Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>

**Cc:** [REDACTED] Ex. 6, Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>

**Subject:** Portrait of President Trump

Dear Molly,

[REDACTED] Ex. 5

[REDACTED] It is always exciting to see a President's portrait come into being!

[REDACTED] Ex. 5

Many thanks,

Dorothy

Dorothy Moss, PhD (she/her/hers)

Acting Director of Curatorial Affairs

Coordinating Curator, Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative

Smithsonian

National Portrait Gallery

MossD@si.edu | 202.633.8313 | [REDACTED] Ex. 6



Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>

To: Moss, Dorothy

Cc: [REDACTED] Ex. 6, Sajet, Kim



Fri 5/7/2021 1:00 PM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Dorothy,

That's wonderful news. Yes, we are all thrilled.

I have been collecting photographs, and will be sending those as soon as I can, likely next week.

Kim was also getting back with me on some more information, so I can provide some donor candidates. Kim - please let me know when you can share!

Have a great weekend all,

Molly

**From:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 28, 2021 10:07 AM  
**To:** Molly Michael <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Moss, Dorothy <MossD@si.edu>; Combs, Rhea <CombsR@si.edu>; Pinzini, Brandon <PinziniB@si.edu>  
**Subject:** National Portrait Gallery follow up

Dear Molly,

I hope you are well.

Ex. 5

The National Portrait Gallery advancement office takes on the responsibility of raising private funds for all presidential portraits. All financial donations to cover the costs are tax-exempt and individuals would have their names on the labels and all other places (website, press release etc.) describing the portraits in perpetuity. They would also be invited to the official unveiling which is a much sought-after event.

I would be so appreciative of any help contacting friends and admirers of the Trumps who might support these commissions. To maintain a respectful distance between their personal lives and public legacies, we would prefer not to approach Trump family members or have any of the Trump businesses contribute. We would of course keep any information you share with us in *strictest confidence*.

With best wishes,  
Kim

**Kim Sajet**, (she/her/hers) D.L.S., M.B.A., M.A.  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#)  
Smithsonian Institution



Molly Michael <[REDACTED]>

To: Sajet, Kim

Cc: Moss, Dorothy; Combs, Rhea; Pinzini, Brandon



Fri 6/4/2021 9:21 AM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Thank you for the update Kim! I will have something for you shortly!

**From:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 4, 2021 9:39:56 AM  
**To:** Molly Michael <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Moss, Dorothy <MossD@si.edu>; Combs, Rhea <CombsR@si.edu>; Pinzini, Brandon <PinziniB@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: National Portrait Gallery follow up

Thanks so much.  
Have a great weekend.  
Kim

**Kim Sajet**, (she/her/hers) D.L.S., M.B.A., M.A.  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#)  
Smithsonian Institution

350 9th St, NW Suite 110  
Washington D.C., USA  
(Office) 202 633 8274  
(Cell) [REDACTED]  
(Email) [sajetk@si.edu](mailto:sajetk@si.edu)

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Molly Michael

Ex. 6

To: Sajet, Kim

Cc: Moss, Dorothy; Combs, Rhea; Pinzini, Brandon



Mon 6/7/2021 9:05 PM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Good evening,

Good news — We have identified several donors who, as individuals, would likely give the full amount. I'll be sending over names and contact information in the coming days, just getting our ducks in a row and ascertaining POTUS' final preferences.

Could you share just a little bit more about what a potential donor should anticipate — meaning, a phone call from a particular person? Etc?

Thank you again for all your help!

Molly



Molly Michael

Ex. 6

To: Sajet, Kim



Thu 6/24/2021 9:02 AM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Kim,

Pardon the brevity. Please note the order!

Ex. 6

A dozen more to come if needed. No one is expecting any kind of call.

Molly

First sitting today

① You replied on Mon 9/27/2021 9:24 AM



Molly Michael

Ex. 6

To: Sajet, Kim



Mon 9/27/2021 9:05 AM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Kim,

Are you available for a very quick call ahead of our first sitting today?

Ex. 5

Thank you!

Molly

---

**From:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 27, 2021 9:24 AM  
**To:** Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>  
**Subject:** Re: First sitting today

Can I call you now? What is the number I should use?  
Kim

**Kim Sajet**, (she/her/hers) D.L.S., M.B.A., M.A.  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#)  
Smithsonian Institution

750 9th St, NW, Suite 410,  
Washington D.C., USA  
(Office) 202 633 8274  
(Cell) [REDACTED] Ex. 6  
(Email) [sajetk@si.edu](mailto:sajetk@si.edu)

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## Re: First sitting today



Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>  
To: Sajet, Kim



Mon 9/27/2021 9:25 AM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Yes - that would be great! [REDACTED] Ex. 6

## Follow up



Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>  
To: Sajet, Kim



Tue 10/19/2021 2:50 PM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Kim,

I have been meaning to give you an update. [REDACTED] Exs. 5 and 6  
[REDACTED] Exs. 5 and 6

Thank you!

Molly



Molly Michael  
To: Sajet, Kim

Ex. 6



Tue 10/19/2021 3:22 PM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Ex. 6

I will reach out to others this week.

---

**From:** Molly Michael  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 19, 2021 2:50 PM  
**To:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Subject:** Follow up

Hi Kim,

Ex. 5 and 6

Thank you!

Molly

---

**From:** WAYNE REYNOLDS  
**Sent:** Monday, January 17, 2022 7:49 PM  
**To:** Molly Michael  
**Subject:** Trump's Presidential Portraits at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery

Molly,

Catherine and I are the Founding Chairs of the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery gala in Washington, D.C. We have been asked by the Director of the NPG, Kim Sajet, to work with them on the commissioning of the President and Mrs. Trump's official portraits at the Smithsonian. I would greatly appreciate a brief phone conversation about their portraits and what they've asked me to be of special assistance. I have attached the information prepared by the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery on the President's and First Lady portraits. I look forward to talking to you at your convenience.

Best wishes,

Wayne Reynolds  
Ex. 6

Wayne and Catherine Reynolds  
Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation  
American Academy of Achievement  
1222 16th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
[www.cbrf.org](http://www.cbrf.org)  
[www.achievement.org](http://www.achievement.org)

Ex. 6



## Fw: Trump's Presidential Portraits at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery

① Flag for follow up.

① You replied on Tue 1/18/2022 10:32 AM



Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>

To: Sajet, Kim



Tue 1/18/2022 9:51 AM

Trump Presidential Portrait C...  
4 MB

External Email - Exercise Caution

Good morning Kim,

I just wanted to verify this is correct before I reach out?

Molly

---

**From:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 18, 2022 10:32 AM

**To:** Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>

**Subject:** Re: Trump's Presidential Portraits at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery

Hi Molly. Yes, the attached information is correct.

I am so glad to hear from you. I wanted to make sure we had reached out to as many people as we could before following up for your advice. Wayne and Catherine Reynolds are good friends of the museum and Founding Chairs of our gala.

Kim

**Dr. Kim Sajet**, (she/her/hers) D.L.S., M.B.A., M.A.  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#)  
Smithsonian Institution

## Re: Trump's Presidential Portraits at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery

① You replied on Tue 1/18/2022 10:41 AM



Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>

To: Sajet, Kim



Tue 1/18/2022 10:37 AM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Wonderful. I hadn't heard from you all in awhile. Could you please share an update on the fundraising, either by phone or email today?

Thank you!

Molly

**From:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 18, 2022 10:41 AM  
**To:** Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>  
**Subject:** Re: Trump's Presidential Portraits at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery

Love to. Can I call you around 1pm EST today?

Kim

**Dr. Kim Sajet**, (she/her/hers) D.L.S., M.B.A., M.A.  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#)  
Smithsonian Institution

750 9th St, NW, Suite 410  
Washington D.C. USA  
(Office) 202 633 8274  
(Cell) [REDACTED] Ex. 6  
(Email) [sajetk@si.edu](mailto:sajetk@si.edu)

This message is being created remotely, so please excuse any typos made in transit.



Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>  
To: Sajet, Kim



Tue 1/18/2022 11:53 AM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Are you available at 3:30?

**From:** Sajet, Kim <SajetK@si.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 10, 2022 10:29 AM  
**To:** Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>  
**Subject:** Set up time to catch up?

Hi Molly,

I was wondering if we can set up a time to touch-base. Do you have any time today?

With best wishes, Kim

**Dr. Kim Sajet**, (she/her/hers) D.L.S., M.B.A., M.A.  
Director, [National Portrait Gallery](#)  
Smithsonian Institution



Molly Michael <[REDACTED] Ex. 6>  
To: Sajet, Kim



Mon 2/14/2022 10:45 AM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Hi Kim,

I am sorry, [REDACTED] Ex. 6. Are you available sometime mid week to chat?

Thank you!

Molly

# NPG Collecting Plan

Updated 12/8/2021

## Collecting Mission, Process, and Goals

### National Portrait Gallery:

Public Law 87-443, April 27, 1962, provided for the establishment of the National Portrait Gallery (NPG) as a bureau of the Smithsonian Institution. The NPG is governed in accordance with those portions of the Smithsonian Institution Charter specifically applicable to NPG (20 U.S.C. § 75 a-g) and the Bylaws of the National Portrait Gallery Commission, hereafter "NPG Bylaws" approved by the Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents (January 1963, most recently revised April 11, 2016).

The National Portrait Gallery is a free public museum for the exhibition and study of portraiture and statuary (hereafter "portraits") depicting men and women who have made significant contributions to the history, development, and culture of the people of the United States and of the artists who created such portraits (20 U.S.C. § 75 b). The term "portraiture" includes portraits and reproductions thereof made by any means or process, whether invented or developed heretofore or hereafter. (20 U.S.C. § 75 e.) A part of the larger Smithsonian Institution whose mission is the increase and diffusion of knowledge, the National Portrait Gallery is located in Washington, D.C., the nation's capital, in the former Patent Office Building, now known as the Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art and Portraiture. The Reynolds Center, which is also home to the Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM), spans two entire city blocks, and currently attracts over 1.2 million visitors a year.

### Mission:

To tell the story of America by portraying the people who shape the nation's history, development, and culture.

### Vision:

The National Portrait Gallery will be recognized and celebrated across the United States and abroad as *the* place to meet the people who make America.

### Guiding Statement:

The National Portrait Gallery is unique in the United States in its mission, collection, and role. We believe in the combined power of art and biography to communicate and illuminate the American experience and effect change. We champion artistic excellence and historical accuracy. We are motivated by a desire to remember our nation's history-makers and take seriously our role in interpreting their stories fairly, in contemporary terms. We strive to respect all points of view including differences of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, ability, political and religious affiliations, and socioeconomic status. We understand that our two greatest resources are our

collection and our staff, and we share a responsibility to provide both with the highest standards of care and support.

**Overarching goals:**

- 1) Fiscal stability and funding innovation
- 2) Diversity and inclusion
- 3) National reach and impact

**Intellectual Framework:**

The National Portrait Gallery is a museum that uniquely combines historical biography with fine-art portraiture in order to recognize those individuals who have contributed to the making of American society, both contemporary and historical. The first responsibility of the NPG is to make visible the history of America as it is embodied in portraiture. This means attention to the past and how the actions of individuals shape American history. Portraiture is the quintessential art form of modern individualism and it is an especially vibrant form for the depiction of Americans. Since its founding in 1968, the NPG has responded to American democratic culture. In order to enhance the institution's Permanent Collection, the NPG has expanded its collecting mandate to widen and deepen the definition of who has had a significant national impact on our history. Moreover, to further augment its public programming and contribute to its mission, the NPG mounts special exhibitions, large and small, and commissions performance art to explore questions and problems in American history, biography, culture, and art. The panoply of America is defined by its diversity and our continual re-definition of what it means to be an American. The core of the NPG's collection may always be the "political nation" — presidents, states people, and other public officials who are directly involved in the nation's governance — but the collection also represents the civil society and public culture of America, ranging from business and science to sports and popular music.

As the NPG is sensitive to the expansion of American democracy, so it is open to the artistic media of portraiture. Originally the NPG was not permitted to collect photographic portraits—a ban that was quickly overturned because it would have eliminated many significant people for whom no other form of portraiture exists. In addition to the traditional categories of paintings, sculpture, prints, drawings, and photographs, the NPG is beginning to collect media arts (the umbrella term for film, video and digital art). Moreover, the NPG now actively seeks to add sitters to our collection by commissioning portraits from some of the world's major artists. Specifically, we commission portraits of exemplary candidates for whom we cannot otherwise find a good likeness. Part of this effort is to hold a triennial portrait competition which not only ensures the NPG's leadership in the advancement of the art of portraiture but also augments our collection: the winner of the competition creates a portrait for the NPG.

Because of its congressional charter, the NPG will never be a museum of social history, representing all Americans by demographic or social categories. Instead, through the lens of history, we draw attention to the particular individuals who have substantively affected the course of our history. In so doing we also advance the art of portraiture by honoring its past



achievements and by pointing to its future as an art form in dialogue with the global contemporary art world and fully engaged with the society of which it is a part.

### **Scope of Collections Statement:**

In furtherance of its mission, the National Portrait Gallery collects objects in all media (including painting, sculpture, drawing, prints, photographs, media arts, and new methods and materials as they are developed) and preserves them within the following kinds of collections: a Permanent Collection; a Contemporary Collection; a Support Collection; a *Time* Collection; a Meserve Collection; an Associative/Decorative Arts Collection; and a Patent Office Building Collection. Approximately 100-150 new works of art are added each year to the collection, which currently numbers around 22,000 items. Acquisitions of objects representing new subjects and/or objects with values exceeding \$25,000 are approved by the NPG Commission.

Additionally, the NPG collects and maintains information and images documenting portraits of Americans or by American artists held in public and private collections across the country and abroad, and preserves these materials in the Catalog of American Portraits Collection. The NPG also collects audio/visual material for and of exhibitions and histories of the National Portrait Gallery, as well as primary-source material of artists and influential figures describing their views, lives, and work, and preserves these materials in the Audio/Visual Special Collection.

Permanent Collection: The Permanent Collection consists of works of art representing subjects of major significance in the history, development, and culture of the United States. These works are deemed to have aesthetic merit as well and/or to be the best available artistic representation of the noted individual.

Contemporary Collection: The Contemporary Collection, approved by the Commission on December 6, 2010, consists of portraits of certain living sitters. Portraits in this category represent individuals who have the potential to merit future inclusion in the Permanent Collection, but whose achievement and enduring significance are difficult to assess at the time of their acquisition. The biographies of individuals accepted into the Contemporary Collection are reviewed after ten years or at their death (whichever comes sooner) to determine if they are appropriate candidates for the Permanent or Support Collections.

Support Collection: The Support Collection (name change from Study Collection approved by the Commission on December 6, 2010) consists of portraits the Commission or the staff believe merit acquisition although they do not meet the criteria of the Permanent Collection. Objects may enter the Support Collection if (1) a pair of portraits is available to NPG through purchase or gift and only one of the individuals is of national significance, the museum will retain the companion portrait because of the historical importance of the paintings as a pair; (2) a representation of a significant individual is of less artistic merit than those objects that we have in the Permanent Collection, we will retain the work for study purposes or for use as part of our loan program; (3) the work represents an important person, but it is not in excellent physical condition; (4) an individual is a secondary figure in a major historical movement, we will keep the object for

use in a future exhibition; (5) an item of popular culture ephemera relates to major historical event or personage; (6) the work is part of a collection that has both primary and secondary figures; (7) the image is significant in terms of the medium employed in the history of portraiture; (8) the image represents an anonymous group gathered for a significant historical moment; (9) the object is a work that relates to the history of Washington, DC.

Portraits of sitting elected officials (local, state, or national) will automatically be directed to the Support Collection rather than the Contemporary or Permanent Collection while the subject is in office.

Special consideration: if the work is of or by a member of the Commission or a member of his/her family, it will be retained in the Support Collection until the end of the Commission member's term, at which time its place vis-à-vis the Permanent, the Contemporary or the Support Collection will be reviewed.

There is no need for Commission approval of a Support Collection item if the value of the object is within the Director's discretionary authority (defined below).

Time Collection: This collection consists of the original artwork created for *Time* magazine covers. This collection began in 1978. No works have been received from *Time* magazine since 2002, in part because of the magazine's one-time use contracts with artists and in part because fewer covers now feature portraits. The Curator of the *Time* Collection continues to seek portraits still held by the magazine or in private hands. Subjects on *Time* covers are not subject to vetting by the Commission. For this reason, the presence of a subject in the *Time* Collection does not signify that the person automatically qualifies for the Permanent Collection. The role of the Commission is to accept or reject the artwork offered.

Meserve Collection: This collection was a one-time acquisition of 5450 glass-plate negatives made by Mathew Brady and the Mathew Brady Studio and one unique vintage photograph of Abraham Lincoln by Alexander Gardner. Special funds were allocated in 1976 by Congress for the acquisition of this collection. Modern prints made from these negatives are grouped with this collection by means of related accession numbers.

Associative/Decorative Arts Collection (A/D): This collection consists of objects other than portraits. They are collected because they either relate to a portrait or enhance the understanding of an era. Furniture, swords, artists' palettes, and letters about a commission are examples of A/D objects. The Commission will be asked to approve an A/D object only if the value of the object(s) exceeds the Director's discretionary authority.

Patent Office Building Collection: This collection consists primarily of photographs, prints, and documents related to the history of the Donald W. Reynolds Center building, formerly known as the Old Patent Office Building. Items are accepted into this collection at the discretion of the director; there is no requirement for Commission approval.

Catalog of American Portraits Collection: The Catalog of American Portraits (CAP) was chartered by the National Portrait Gallery Commission in 1966. The CAP was approved as a National Portrait Gallery collection by the NPG Commission in November 2013. The CAP collects and maintains information and images documenting portraits of Americans or by American artists in public and private collections across the country and abroad. New material is added regularly from various sources, including an ongoing survey of portraits, curatorial research, curatorial correspondence or correspondence sent to the Collections Information and Research department, and library and online research.

Generally, only one of a kind likenesses are recorded, such as paintings, sculpture, drawings, miniatures, silhouettes, and daguerreotypes. Certain medals and images in the decorative arts are also included. Photographs, engravings, etchings, lithographs, and other graphic arts are generally not recorded by the CAP except when they have come to NPG for exhibition or they are of particular significance. Information on portrait prints and photographs is available from other departments within the National Portrait Gallery including the NPG Graphics File, which is housed in the CAP archives facility.

The CAP is a non-accessioned collection primarily made up of individual manual portrait files that contain, whenever possible, an image of the portrait, a portrait survey form containing standard catalog data (medium, support, dimensions, condition), a description, current ownership, provenance, biographical sketches of subject and artist, bibliographic references, and exhibition and conservation history. Often, archival correspondence, and primary and secondary research material are included as well. In rare instances, portrait material may be in notebooks rather than files. The CAP also contains artists' files, (generally containing secondary research material on the artist), regional files (containing archival correspondence with the owners of portrait collections), and subject files, (generally containing secondary research and reference material).

Audio/Visual Special Collection (AVSC): The Audio/Visual Special Collection was approved as a National Portrait Gallery collection by the NPG Commission in November 2016. The AVSC is a non-accessioned collection comprising audio/visual material related to exhibitions and histories of the NPG, as well as primary-source material of artists and influential figures describing their views, lives, and work. New material is added regularly from various sources, including but not limited to the departments of Exhibitions; Design and Production; Education, New Media, and Communications; as well as third-party vendors providing work-for-hire video production services to the National Portrait Gallery.

"Audio/Visual" primarily refers to audio and video, whether in physical or digital formats. Still images in digital format are generally not maintained unless they were used in the production of original videos or interactives. The AVSC does not acquire nor does it maintain artwork, including but not limited to performance artwork, time-based media art, photographs, painting, and sculpture.



## Collecting Plan

### **NPG Collection Goals:**

To carry out the mission described in the museum's founding legislation and acquire, properly preserve, and make accessible portraits of individuals who have played an important role in our nation's history.

To build a collection that serves as an intellectual base for scholarship, exhibitions, and education.

To use the collection to educate the public about American history, biography, and the many styles, techniques, and media employed to create a portrait.

## Collection Process

### **Overview:**

Collecting portraits for the NPG is a complex process involving all of the curators and historians on staff, the Director, and the NPG Commissioners, who approve all new candidates for the collection and who ultimately approve or confirm all acquisitions made by the museum.

### **Role of the Director:**

Portrait recommendations from the staff go to the Director for approval before they are presented to the Commission for action.

The Director has the authority to purchase or accept as gifts portraits of subjects already in the collection, if the object is valued at \$25,000 or less. The cost of objects accepted by the Director of subjects already represented in the collection cannot exceed 25 percent of the annual federal collections budget. The Director has the authority to purchase works representing new subjects for the collection if the value of the object is \$12,500 or less. The Director's discretion in this category is limited to \$50,000 per year.

The Director's discretionary purchases of new subjects for the collection are subsequently voted on at Commission meetings. If the subject is approved by the Commission, he/she is admitted to the Permanent Collection or placed in the Contemporary Collection. If the subject is not approved, the object will be placed in the Support Collection. Discretionary purchases of works representing subjects in the Permanent Collection or those designated for the Contemporary or Support Collections are recorded in the Director's report to the Commission.

Occasionally, the Director may poll the Commission between their semi-yearly meetings to ask for approval for an object or group of objects. The poll is usually conducted via email, and Commissioners' votes are counted and retained in the registrar's files.

**Role of the Staff:**

The collecting process begins when a curator locates an object and brings it to the attention of the curatorial review committee. This committee consists of the Director, chief curator, curators of painting and sculpture, prints, drawings and media arts, and photographs, and the historians. This group meets monthly to vet objects for consideration. Prior to this meeting the historians, chief curator and Director have evaluated biographical materials to determine the eligibility of any new subject for the collection. Their recommendation is debated and accepted or rejected by the assembled group. The curatorial committee then determines the artistic merit of the object and its relevance for the collection. If the subject is already represented, a determination is made whether or not the proposed object adds to the biography of the individual, to the greater historical moment, and/or to the study of portraiture. If the Director is not in attendance, he/she is informed of the committee's recommendations.

Most portraits recommended to the Director and the Commission represent subjects who are appropriate for the Permanent Collection or the Contemporary Collection.

If the curatorial committee wishes to recommend a portrait representing a new subject for the collection, a report is written to explain the historical importance of the sitter and the importance of the object for the collection. The report contains a short biography of the sitter and a statement about the artist, the historical importance of the artwork, and the circumstances surrounding the creation of the portrait, if they are known.

A written proposed acquisitions report is prepared for each portrait or group of portraits by one artist that will be presented to the Commission for their review and approval.

From time to time, the curators will recommend that an object enter the Support Collection. Portraits of sitting elected officials (local, state, or national) will automatically be directed to the Support Collection rather than the Contemporary or Permanent Collection while the subject is in office. If the object recommended for the Support Collection is of a high value (more than \$25,000), it will be brought before the Commission; otherwise Support Collection objects do not require Commission approval. They will, however, be listed in the Discretionary Acquisitions section of the Director's Report to the Commission. Objects recommended for the Support Collection fit the criteria listed above.

**Role of the NPG Commission:**

The Commission determines which portraits enter the Permanent Collection. The Commission has no restrictions regarding who is qualified to enter the collection of the National Portrait Gallery, other than that the person must have made a significant contribution to the history, development, and culture of the United States. There is no requirement that an individual have been born in the United States. It is presumed, however, that an individual impacted American history and culture because he/she spent a significant period of his/her career in the United States. There is also no requirement that the significant contribution to American history and culture be a positive one.

Subsequent misdeeds, a checkered career, or personal shortcomings are not reasons to remove an individual from Permanent Collection status.

Tasked with taking a long-range historical view of American history we do not collect every vice president, Supreme Court justice, federal politician, Olympic champion, Nobel Prize recipient, or other major awardee. However, persons of national significance must be recognized as such by outside and independent public sources, and their contributions must be widely accepted within their profession.

Objects are first presented to the Collections Committee of the Commission by the curators and historians. The Collections Committee approves or rejects all portraits proposed for the Permanent Collection, the Contemporary Collection, and the Support Collection (if the object is valued at more than \$25,000). Subsequently, the full Commission meets to review all proposed acquisitions valued at more than \$25,000 and accepts or rejects the decisions of the Collections Committee for all other proposed acquisitions.

If the Commission is unsure whether or not an individual's contribution will be of lasting rather than transitory significance, it may place a portrait in either the Contemporary or the Support Collection. Individuals placed in the Contemporary or Support Collection may be reviewed at a later period if the Commission feels that their subsequent deeds qualify them for elevation to Permanent Collection status.

The Commission will seek to build a collection that is broadly representative of different cultures, occupations, and periods of history. Geographic, gender, and ethnic diversity are essential. Selected portraits will both build on core strengths, such as the presidency, and address perceived occupational and historic gaps.

The Commission will seek to bring artistically strong representations of individuals into the collection. Its selection of portraits should also reflect the changing styles of portraiture and the many media that are used to create portraits.

New sitters and individual portraits are accepted into the collection at the Commission's semi-annual meetings, usually held in November and April or May. Upon occasion, time-constraints may lead to a poll of the Commission by email regarding the acquisition of a work for the collection.

A Commissioner may suggest a new subject for the collection by contacting the Chair of the Collections Committee, or the Director, Chief Curator or Senior Historian who gives the name to the NPG historians. The historians research the person and with the chief curator and Director make a recommendation.

If the recommendation is positive, then staff will consider the new subject for a future acquisition or commission, and will convey this decision to the Chair of the Collections Committee, who will inform the Commissioner making the suggestion.

If the recommendation is negative, the historians will forward their research to the Chair of the Collections Committee and the Chair will engage the Collections Committee for their review and debate. If the Commissioner suggesting a new subject is a member of the Collections Committee, he/she must be recused from the Committee's discussion of the subject.

The decision of the Collections Committee, either upholding the negative recommendation, or overturning it, will be communicated by the Chair to the Director and to the Commissioner who originally made the suggestion.

If a newly approved subject is considered for a commissioned portrait, the full Commission would be asked to approve the subject at their next meeting.

### **National Portrait Gallery Collecting Objectives:**

The following list expresses the museum's collecting priorities. Given the museum's goals for diversity, inclusion and national impact, particular emphasis will be given to our commitment to represent the diversity of the American population. A special effort will be made to find portraits of women and hitherto underrepresented groups, including but not limited to, Native Americans, African Americans, and Americans of Asian and Hispanic descent.

The museum maintains that portraits acquired should be authentic records of the sitter's appearance, and that the portraits should, when possible, be taken from life. We prefer original artworks created during the lifetime of the subject, and give lower priority to later copies of historic portraits, unless this is the best available means of representing a subject.

The museum recognizes that some artists work from secondary sources or photographs, and that the museum has always collected derivative images through prints, posters, and other works on paper, or later casts from historical sculptures. The NPG has also at times collected replicas of life portraits and copies by other artists of original portrait paintings. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century artists increasingly draw on appropriated images, ranging from historical photographs to video drawn from the internet as material for contemporary portraits. Therefore, while the traditional idea of a portrait "from life" still guides the museum's collecting in certain areas, we are open to considering important and aesthetically appealing or conceptual portraits made from secondary images.

The museum is also interested in collecting work that adds to the public's understanding of the art of portraiture; often these objects are added to the Support Collection or the Associative / Decorative Arts Collection.

The museum will always be aware of Smithsonian cross-unit collecting and will work to complement, not compete with, other units' collection plans and goals.

**Collecting Priorities, by Category:**

*To expand the NPG's collection of portraits of historically significant subjects who are underrepresented minorities, including women.*

*To enhance the NPG's collection of portraits of distinguished living individuals.*

*To enhance the NPG's presidential portrait collection and portraits of first ladies.*

*To enhance the NPG's collection of portraits of leaders in underrepresented professions, such as business, technology, sports, science, popular culture, and religion.*

*To enhance the NPG's collection of rare pre-1860 portraits in all media of historically significant individuals in any field.*

*To enhance and embellish thematic collections and build on strengths.*

**Photographic Acquisitions by the National Portrait Gallery:**

Most acquisitions by the museum are unique objects or artwork created in editions, such as prints or video and new media art. However, the collecting of photographs by the NPG requires further definition.

Definition of Terms

Vintage Print: A photographic print made close to the time of its negative (or digital file), either by or under the supervision of the photographer.

Modern or Later Print: A print made from the original negative, or digital file, presumably by the photographer or under the photographer's supervision, but at a later date than that of the negative. Printing papers or printing method may differ from those of earlier prints.

Posthumous or Estate Print: A print made from the original negative after the death of the photographer.

Copy print: A print that reproduces an image and is not derived from an original negative or digital file.

**Guidelines for Collecting Photographs for the NPG:**

NPG will seek vintage photographic prints when possible because they are historic artifacts of the era in which they were produced *and* because they often have the greatest visual impact as portraits. A vintage print by a fine art photographer is likely to command a higher price, however,

many of the vintage photographs that the NPG collects are the work of lesser-known or even unknown photographers and are quite modestly priced.

The NPG's photographs collection includes many modern or later prints - photographs printed at a later date by the photographer, or under the photographer's supervision, from the original negative or digital file. This is particularly true of work by photojournalists, who often retained few if any vintage examples of their work. In such instances, a modern print is an acceptable alternative, provided that the print quality is high. Many noted photographers continued throughout their lifetimes to print from their earlier negatives, and the NPG's collection includes later prints by photographers such as Berenice Abbott, Richard Avedon, Arnold Newman, and Irving Penn. Today, as chemical printing is giving way to ink or pigment printing, the NPG is receiving more and more offers from photographers of digital prints produced from scans of their earlier negatives. Such prints can vary widely in quality and must be evaluated on a print by print basis.

Although the NPG has no formal policy prohibiting the acquisition of posthumous or estate prints, it has been the preference of the staff to collect prints made during the photographer's lifetime. If lifetime prints of a particular portrait do not exist, we typically search for another suitable portrait of the sitter, possibly by a different artist. The decision to pursue an estate print is made on a case by case basis.

Copy prints, which in essence are reproductions, are not desirable for the NPG's collection.

#### **Commissioning Portraits for the National Portrait Gallery's Permanent Collection:**

Beginning in 2006, the National Portrait Gallery launched a new initiative—to commission portraits of important living Americans not yet represented by a major portrait in the NPG collections. Because of the staff time and financial expense involved in such commissions, the museum typically undertakes only one or two such projects each year.

Subjects for portrait commissions are approved in advance by the NPG Commission (with the exception of Presidents, First Ladies, and former Smithsonian Secretaries).

Commissioned portraits are reserved for those individuals whom the NPG Commissioners, through consensus, consider exemplary persons in their field who have made a major contribution to American history and culture. In the event that a commission would be of more than one person, each individual in the portrait must be considered on their own merit. A consensus is defined as a majority vote of the full Commission. The definition of exemplary is an excellent model or example, or a sample worthy person or thing.

While the sitter is approved in advance by the NPG Commission, the object is not approved until the portrait is complete. The museum enters into contractual agreements with artists for these portraits, and typically requests copyright. Additional guidelines are listed below:



### **Portrait Design Decisions**

The National Portrait Gallery determines the overall dimensions, including frames, of its commissioned portraits, considering the spaces and designs of its galleries to best present the portraits. Artists and sitters make decisions about the orientation and how much of the sitter to depict within the overall dimensions. The overall dimensions are an integral part of the commission, and the portrait will not be accepted if the dimensions are exceeded.

For two-dimensional portraits, NPG also chooses whether to have the artist or a framer, the latter to be selected with the consultation of the artist, frame the completed portrait.

### **Portrait Approvals and Acceptances**

The final payment and approval of the portrait is based solely on the acceptance by the National Portrait Gallery Board of Commissioners.

The artist, in his or her discretion, may allow the sitter to view the portrait in process.

### **Portrait Copyright**

The National Portrait Gallery seeks to obtain copyright to the completed portrait in its contract with the artist. NPG may use images of the portrait on certain goods available for sale in Smithsonian gift shops to raise funds to further the Smithsonian educational mission.

### **Fair Use of Portrait Images**

Sitters and other third parties may use images of finished portraits for personal, educational, and other non-commercial uses consistent with the principles of fair use. Sitters and other third parties may not use images of finished portraits for other purposes, including commercial, marketing, or fundraising purposes, or in campaigning for office.

### **Portraits of Elected Officials**

The National Portrait Gallery only commissions portraits of former elected officials. If during a commission a sitter begins or resumes an active campaign for office, or is re-elected to office, the portrait creation and approval processes will continue. However, if approved, the portrait will not be unveiled or accessioned into the Permanent Collection until the campaign is completed and, if elected, the term of office completed.

The criteria for Commissions emerge in several distinct ways:

- 1. Portraits of Presidents and First Ladies are automatically approved**

The NPG works with the White House to identify artists, approved by the subjects, to create a portrait of the President and a portrait of the First Lady, usually just before or after the President leaves office. Typically, these are paintings. Funds are raised privately to cover the costs of these commissions.

**2. Winners of the Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition**

The first-prize winner for each competition is commissioned to create a portrait for the NPG. This is in addition to the \$25,000 first prize. The staff identifies categories of achievement specified in the NPG's collecting plan and of interest to the artist, and then works to identify an appropriate subject for Commission approval. NPG commissioning funds are used for these portraits.

**3. Commissions initiated by NPG staff for new subjects and approved by the Commission**

These should be exemplary people who are clearly candidates for the Permanent Collection, for whom a good existing portrait cannot be sourced from elsewhere and acquired, and who is willing to sit for their portrait. Ideally, they are also at the height of their career or at a point in their lives where an engaging portrait can be created that resonates with the American people. These people may also be desirable honorees for a Portrait of a Nation Award that will be presented at a future gala.

A Commissioner may, on occasion, also suggest a subject for the NPG collection (see Role of the Commission, above). Such suggestions will be vetted by the museum's historians, and if the person suggested is deemed to be a candidate for the Permanent Collection, the Commission will be asked to review and approve the subject at their next meeting.

The NPG Director will maintain a Commission List of approved sitters by the full Commission. This list will be regularly updated and reviewed yearly at the Spring meeting. Approved sitters may also be removed for commission consideration by the Director if after a period of three years no action has been taken.

The curators will determine the medium for the portrait and select the artist for all commissions, bearing in mind any suggestions from the Commission. Commissions are always contingent upon available resources.

No living subject may be permitted to pay the costs of his or her own portrait. The NPG may approach a sitter's family members, friends, and acquaintances to cover the costs of the portrait commission as long as the NPG takes the lead in the negotiations and the solicited parties do not influence the choice of artist or price.

A sitter's family, friends, and acquaintances are permitted to recognize and/or celebrate the portrait commission either with event(s) and media coverage as long as it is done in partnership with the NPG and acknowledges the artist.

**4. Commissions initiated by the Smithsonian Regents for portraits of former Smithsonian Secretaries.**

These portraits are funded by the Regents, but the logistics of the commissions and artist agreements are handled by NPG curators, and the resulting portraits are accessioned by NPG.

**Portrait of a Nation Award honoree portraits:**

The NPG curators may acquire high-quality existing portraits of sitters already in the collection or approved for commission who have yet to have their portraits completed, for the purposes of celebrating their achievements at the Portrait of a Nation Gala. Often in the form of a photograph, the cost of these portraits may be sourced from gala proceeds. These additional portraits must still be approved by the Commission.

**Ethical Standards for collecting:**

NPG curators and the Director adhere to all professional ethical standards established by the Smithsonian Institution, the American Association of Museums (AAM), the Association of Art Museum Directors (AAMD), and the Association of Art Museum Curators (AAMC). However, collecting portraiture is fundamentally different from collecting other major forms of art because the focus is on the sitter as opposed to the work of art. Indeed, the search for good works of art that depict a particular person is challenging, and the three greatest sources of acquisition material—particularly paintings, sculptures, and other unique objects—may be from the desired sitter, families of desired sitters now deceased, and the artists who depicted them. While prints, drawings, and photographs do turn up on the professional art market and/or have a high collector's resale value, this is not always the case. This poses a dilemma in terms of ethical practice for art acquisition because the museum considers anathema the idea that a sitter, their family, and/or an artist be perceived as 'donating' their way into the national collection. Therefore, NPG Curators may solicit and/or accept proffered portraits from sitters, their families, and artists as long as:

1. The chosen portrait is considered the best of its type available.
2. The price being requested (for a purchase) is set at the fair-market value and there is sufficient documentation to support the agreed upon terms (i.e previous auction records, other works acquired by the NPG, etc.).
3. The agreement to acquire is supported by the consensus of the NPG curatorial review committee (historians and curators); that is, the work is vetted for the subject's national significance, and the portrait's aesthetic quality.
4. The Director has reviewed the method of acquisition and reviewed any possible areas of ethical conflict. If such potential conflicts are present, they are clearly documented and communicated to the NPG Commission.

**Commercial galleries:**

While discounts from vendors are allowed and encouraged, any significant donation of the value of a work of art by a vendor is to be treated as a bargain sale (or donative sale), which requires an independent appraisal. Private owners are also required to follow SI bargain sale guidelines and complete a bargain sale agreement when donating the partial value of a work of art.

**Cultural Patrimony:**

NPG curators will be compliant with all Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) rules and regulations if and when we might consider the acquisition of any objects of cultural patrimony.

**Gifts of Art:**

NPG will not purchase works of art previously belonging to an NPG employee or Commissioner. Nor will the NPG accept gifts of works of art created by a Commissioner or a Commissioner's immediate family member while that person is a member of the Commission.

**Funding for Acquisitions:**

The National Portrait Gallery relies on donated works of art and even more heavily on an annual federal acquisition allocation, formerly \$350,000 per year, but currently at \$272,000 (in 2017). For an organization less than fifty years old, and charged with documenting American history, operating without a dedicated acquisition fund would be tantamount to asking a library to attract and serve future audiences without acquiring new books. The NPG could soon find itself out of relevance with future generations if it does not secure and continue to expand its acquisition funds.

Historically, the NPG has only been able to purchase "spectacular" items, through special fundraising drives, as was the case in 2001 with the Gilbert Stuart painting of George Washington, known as the "Lansdowne" portrait. In the long term the NPG wishes to build a dedicated acquisition endowment to augment the current federal allocation. A \$1 million gift from the Joseph L. & Emily K. Gidwitz Memorial Foundation in 2015 has allowed NPG to establish a photography acquisitions endowment.

**Collecting Plan 2017-2021:**

For the next five years, the National Portrait Gallery will follow the collecting priorities outlined above, but the museum will also give attention to the following short-term collecting goals:

To ensure that at least 50% of all collections purchases advance the museum's goal to increase diversity in the collections, including adding more portraits of women.

To focus attention on portraits of subjects in underrepresented fields of endeavor, such as business, technology, sports, science, popular culture, and religion. 25% of portraits acquired each year should focus on these fields.

To establish a plan for collecting portraits created in film, video, digital media and other media arts, including works created earlier in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

To focus collecting of traditionally under-represented groups to align with available funding.

To commission only portraits from a short list of nationally significant individuals not yet represented adequately in the collections and portraits created by important artists not yet represented in the collections

**Collections Management:**

A separate collections management policy details the appropriate manner of caring for objects. This policy details the accessioning procedure and the manner in which information is entered electronically into The Museum System (TMS), a database used throughout the Smithsonian Institution. It also defines the procedure for deaccessioning.

TMS information on sitters in the NPG collection is available to the public on the NPG and SI Web sites through the Smithsonian-selected e-museum program.

*Document last updated: November 2021*



# Trump Portrait Commissions

Creating the Official Portraits of  
President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump

National  
Portrait  
Gallery

## THE HISTORY OF OUR COLLECTION

Assembling an outstanding collection of portraits of the American presidents seemed like a daunting task when the National Portrait Gallery opened in 1968. By that year, 35 presidents had been in office, and many of their life portraits were already in public institutions.

Driven by our congressional charter to recognize the people who have made a significant contribution to America's history and culture, our curators worked tirelessly—and successfully—to secure portraits of each president and bring them together before our public opening on October 7, 1968.

Over the years, as each successive president neared the end of his term, National Portrait Gallery curators worked with the White House to collect portraits for the museum.

It was through this process that we acquired official portraits of Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, and Ronald Reagan, all made from life during or just before/after their terms of office. Starting with George H. W. Bush, we have taken an even more active role in the process, acquiring portraits that were specifically commissioned for the Portrait Gallery's permanent collection.



## THE COMMISSIONING PROCESS

Near the end of a president's term, the National Portrait Gallery's Director of Curatorial Affairs works closely with White House staff to begin the process of selecting artists to make four official portraits: one of the President for the White House collection, one of the President for the Portrait Gallery's collection, and one of the First Lady for each collection as well.

Official portraits signify the status and attainments of the person portrayed while also sharing something of the sitter's character. Everything from the way the subject is posed and their facial expression to the colors and setting of the portrait conveys something about the sitter.



Above: "Melania Trump, Donald Trump" by Kevin Dietsch, Pool via CNP / MEGA; "President Donald J. Trump for Time magazine in 2019" by Pari Dukovic, inkjet print, 2019 (printed 2020). Published in Time magazine, July 1, 2019. National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution. / © 2019 Pari Dukovic.





## THE COMMISSIONING PROCESS, continued

With all this in mind, our curators work to identify artists who might be a good match for each president and first lady, thinking about their interests, backgrounds, and artistic/stylistic preferences.

White House staff compile these suggestions alongside others and share them with the President and First Lady, who personally make the selections. They choose not only which artists are commissioned but also which artists will make which portraits for which collection.

There is no requirement that the official portrait be a painting. To date, however, all of them have been. In addition to the prestige associated with the medium, this is also a practical consideration as paintings can be on display for longer periods of time whereas photographs and drawings are more fragile and light-sensitive, and therefore cannot be on permanent exhibition.



Once artists are chosen, the Portrait Gallery contracts with the two artists who will create our portraits and begins fundraising for the portraits, planning for the unveiling ceremony, and determining when the completed portraits will be able to go on public display.

At the same time, the selected artists are having sittings with the President and First Lady, sharing sketches and plans for their portraits, and working to complete the finished products.

After completion, our two portraits are voted on by the Portrait Gallery's Board of Commissioners, officially becoming part of the museum's permanent collection. They are unveiled at an invitation-only portrait presentation ceremony with the President and First Lady, to which individuals from the former president's administrations, donors to the portraits, and other VIPs are invited.



Gerald Ford speaks at the unveiling of his portrait at the museum in 1988. George W. and Laura Bush at the museum's unveiling ceremony in 2008 (courtesy of SAUL LOEB/AFP/Getty Images.). Former President Ronald Reagan speaks during the unveiling of his portrait at the White House in 1989 (UPI Photo/Joe Marquette/FILES)

# The Artists

Exs. 5



# Ex. 4

## CONTACT

For more information about our presidential portrait commissions and opportunities for support, contact:

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