

Dear members and friends,

At the Rubin we've worked to make 2016 a year of timeless art, new discoveries, and meaningful experiences. As the year comes to a close, I'd like to thank you for supporting that work and for being a part of our community.

The Museum celebrated many successes this year (including record attendance). We're passionate about the art we share, the ideas it represents, and, most of all, its power to inspire fresh perspectives, spark transformation, and transmit wisdom. And we have renewed our commitment to our mission to foster global understanding, connect visitors to their shared humanity, and inspire personal reflection and growth.

One of the many gifts offered by an institution dedicated to Himalayan art is the gift of perspective. The art helps us understand that many of the challenges we face today are not new. Cultures across the world have been grappling with life's largest questions—the nature of reality, the meaning of life, our role in the universe—for centuries, and we that inquiry reflected in the art in our galleries. I feel inspired when I see a group of engaged kids taking a tour through the galleries or I visit a weekly mindfulness meditation session or musical performance and I am among so many visitors of all ages and diverse perspectives who are getting pleasure and insight from art created centuries ago. There can be no denying that while our world confronts a host of diverse challenges, including climate change, displacement, human rights abuses, and divisive partisanship, we are not the first to tackle these issues, and we can learn much from those who have come before us.

As we look back on 2016 and forward to the coming year, we are renewed in our commitment to serve as a resource; a place for mindful, cultural exchange; and a refuge. And we want to hear from you about how we can fulfill that commitment. What conversations do you want to be having at the Rubin? What programs, exhibitions, and experiences would you like to see offered here? How can we, together, cultivate the kind of understanding that is needed to act with an open mind and compassion? [Click here to tell us what you think.](#)

Thank you again for your support of the Rubin Museum and for making 2016 a year of community, celebration, wonder, and exploration of art and the issues of our time. We look forward to seeing you often during the holidays and in the year ahead!

Happy holidays to you and yours,



Patrick Sears  
*Executive Director*