

THE RENEE & CHAIM GROSS FOUNDATION



PRESS RELEASE

Renee & Chaim Gross Foundation awarded a Conservation Treatment Grant of \$7,500 by the Greater Hudson Heritage Network (GHHN) and the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA)

Dec. 2, 2022, New York City—The Renee & Chaim Gross Foundation is pleased to announce a Conservation Treatment Grant of \$7,500 awarded by the Greater Hudson Heritage Network (GHHN) and the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA).

The Foundation, located in New York County, has been awarded \$7,500 for the conservation of a late 19th century Nigerian face mask (Mwaw) surmounted by double-headed antelope, horse, and two leopards and Face Mask and Handle with Large Up-Curled Nose. Conservator: Found Object Conservation. The masks will be featured in an upcoming exhibition and programming. The conservator is Found Object Conservation.

The Greater Hudson Heritage Network (GHHN) and the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) are awarding \$191,886 in conservation treatment grants to 32 organizations, located in 16 New York counties. Conservation Treatment Grants fund professional conservation to stabilize and preserve historical objects and works of art in New York museums, history centers, and cultural organizations.

The [Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation](#) is generously providing 50% of the funding for conservation treatment projects on Nassau & Suffolk counties and New York City. This includes the grant awarded to the Renee & Chaim Gross Foundation.

Over the past year, the GHHN/NYSCA Conservation Treatment Grants guidelines were revised to make funding more accessible for projects that reflect the spectrum of communities and cultures across New York State. Supported conservation projects include five stoneware vessels made by 19th century African-American potter Thomas Commeraw at the New-York Historical Society; the preservation of a Mohican/Munsee wood-splint basket at the Historic Huguenot Street in New Paltz; and a portrait of Lucille Armstrong by Samuel Countee at the Louis Armstrong Museum. A full list of recipients can be found below.

“The field of conservation is continually changing,” noted Greater Hudson Heritage Network Executive Director Priscilla Brendler. “It requires practitioners who have demonstrated high levels of proficiency and advanced knowledge, adherence to the ethics and standards of the American Institute of Conservation (AIC),

and are recognized for their expertise in the museum field. We are so pleased that these awards will involve 13 individual conservators and 5 conservation labs - all members of the AIC.”

NYSCA Executive Director Mara Manus said, “Working with the Greater Hudson Heritage Network, NYSCA funding will measurably contribute to the conservation of our rich cultural heritage. From the sculptures of Emma Stebbins, the first female to receive public art commissions in New York City to an early example of a WWI Blue Star Mother’s Flag, these fascinating objects will share the stories of their creation for generations to come. On behalf of the entire NYSCA team – we are grateful to all the grantees for their essential contributions to preserving our history and contributing to the cultural bounty of New York.”

About Chaim Gross

Chaim Gross (1902-91) was an American sculptor whose prolific career spanned seven decades. He is known primarily for his direct carvings in wood as well as his bronzes, often of families or acrobats. His work is in public and private collections throughout the United States, with a significant portion at the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington, D.C. A philanthropist as well as a collector, Gross donated hundreds of objects to museums worldwide. He collected broadly, with a focus on the work of his American contemporaries and African arts.

About the Foundation

The Renee & Chaim Gross Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization incorporated in New York State in 1989. The Foundation’s mission is to further the legacy of Chaim Gross through high-quality research, exhibitions, and educational activities around the historic building and art collections for audiences in New York City and beyond. For more information, please visit the Foundation’s website at www.rcgrossfoundation.org.

The [NYSCA/GHHN Conservation Treatment Grant Program](#) is made possible with funds from the [New York State Council on the Arts](#), with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature. The [Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation](#) has provided additional dedicated support for conservation treatment projects in Nassau & Suffolk counties and New York City.

About Greater Hudson Heritage Network (GHHN)

GHHN is the statewide 'go-to' service organization for responsive assistance, interpretation and collections care. Our program services are local, professional and statewide. GHHN offers grants, workshops, webinars, consultations, technical assistance, a resource network and professional development opportunities to advance the work of historical societies, historic house museums, heritage centers, historic sites, archives and libraries. For more information, please visit www.greaterhudson.org

About the New York State Council on the Arts

NYSCA preserves and advances the arts and culture that make New York State an exceptional place to live, work and visit and upholds the right of all New Yorkers to experience the vital contributions the arts make to our communities, education, economic development, and quality of life. NYSCA further advances New York's creative culture by convening leaders in the field and providing organizational and professional development opportunities and informational resources. Created by Governor Nelson Rockefeller in 1960 and continued with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature, NYSCA is an agency that is part of the Executive Branch. For more information, please visit <http://www.arts.ny.gov>, and follow NYSCA's Facebook page, Twitter @NYSCArts and Instagram @NYSCouncilontheArts.

About The Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation

The Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation, established in 1987, primarily supports the study of New York State history. Robert David Lion Gardiner was, until his death in August 2004, the 16th Lord of the Manor of Gardiner's Island, NY. The Gardiner family and their descendants have owned Gardiner's Island since 1639, obtained as part of a royal grant from King Charles I of England. The Foundation is inspired by Robert David Lion Gardiner's personal passion for New York history. For more information, please visit www.rdlgfoundation.org



***For more information about the Renee & Chaim Gross Foundation,
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