



HONOLULU ACADEMY OF ARTS

July 26, 2010

Dear Academy Member,

As some of you may know, the Boards of Trustees of the Honolulu Academy of Arts and The Contemporary Museum have been in preliminary talks since October 2009 regarding a possible integration of the two institutions. This letter is intended to update you, as a valued stakeholder in the museum, on the progress of these exploratory talks.

On Monday, July 26, I and Vi Loo, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Contemporary Museum, will sign a Letter of Intent—a non-binding agreement for both museums to formally review the possibility of integrating The Contemporary Museum with the Honolulu Academy of Arts to create a single financially-stable fine arts institution that has an encyclopedic collection, with a continuing strong program dedicated to the collection and exhibition of contemporary art.

With the signing of the Letter of Intent, we now enter a period of due diligence, wherein the two parties will analyze the issues of continuing the mission of The Contemporary Museum by combining exhibitions, collections, education programs, the boards, assets, staff, galleries, and storage.

This is not an endeavor we approach lightly. Trustees and staffs of both museums are hard at work examining how the two operations could successfully become one, taking every aspect of museum work into account, from installing exhibitions to fundraising. We are also looking into the possibility of hiring an outside consultant to facilitate the process and anticipate concluding due diligence work by the end of November.

The trustees of both museums are working toward an outcome that would be best for the museums, and especially for our community, to ensure that Honolulu continues to have a strong, thriving arts scene.

We want to thank you for your ongoing support. It is your generous commitment of money, time and interest in art that allows the Honolulu Academy of Arts to continue to serve the people of Hawaii and beyond.

Sincerely,

Lynne Johnson
Honolulu Academy of Arts
Interim Director
Chairman of the Board of Trustees