

April 21, 2021

Dear Oregon Joint Committee on Ways and Means – Sen. Betsy Johnson, Elizabeth Steiner Hayward Rep. Dan Rayfield,  
My name is Jane Beebe, Owner and Director of PDX CONTEMPORARY ART for 25 years and former trustee of the Portland Art Museum,

The Portland Art Museum is THE major anchor institution of visual arts in our state and as you know it is an economic and educational engine. The museum's leadership has accomplished a fantastic job of increasing the diversity in its programing and its audience as well as proving to be trusted stewards of funding. Granting financial support to the Portland Art museum is a prudent and effective investment towards Oregon's pandemic recovery.

From a more philosophical point of view. Individuals simply see things differently. Each of us has our own lens. Experiencing art can teach us tolerance and understanding of different views. Artists tend to have very specific ways of seeing and interpreting life. Sometime the most perplexing works to viewers can teach the most.... But first, citizens need to feel welcome into the museum so they can have that experience. I believe the Rothko Pavilion and the museums programing around it, will do just that.

The Rothko Pavilion is glass... transparent both literally and in idea...a welcoming attraction which will increase the number of museum visitors, provide a place of beauty and vitality which will enrich individual citizen's lives as well as society in general. Finally, the Rothko Pavilion will will put the Portland Art Museum "on the map" both nationally and internationally creating a destination attraction. Granting funding for the Rothko Pavilion It is a great investment in Oregon's future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jane Magavern Beebe