



World Federation of Friends of Museums
Federación Mundial de Amigos de los Museos
Fédération Mondiale des Amis des Musées

Newsletter November 2024

I am delighted to see the second edition of the newsletter produced since the new executive committee was elected in May. In the content, you can see there are clear objectives, a plan of action, and already developments ranging from re-engaging strongly with Young Friends, ICOM, and developing a new website. A warm welcome to our new members.

President Italo Scaietta



European meeting 26th October 2024 in Parma.



The meeting was arranged by the Friends of Pilotta, Parma. Concert and reception at the Palazzo Ferrari-Pelati with a light meal on the Friday.

The meeting the next day was in the old and beautiful Palatina Library in the catalog room of the library. Nine countries participated with a total of 13 persons.

The meeting in Parma had two purposes. First, to share experiences from the Second European Day and agree on the third. Second, to discuss the future work of WFFM as proposed by the Executive Committee. An underlying objective was to meet members and reignite the spirit of our organisation.

WFFM has had a decline in membership and an analysis has shown that there has been a structural decline over the years. A SWOT analysis was presented for WFFM as an attempt to show the strengths and weaknesses of the organisation.

The Executive Committee's primary effort is to increase membership. One of WFFM's main functions is to exchange information between members. The VPs have been tasked to increase membership in their world region – both by recovering previous members and attracting new members.

At the end of the day, we were shown some old and valuable books, some of them more than 1000-year-old that is kept under lock.





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Report from second European Day

Presentation from the different federations on their experience of the second European Day. All federations that had an arrangement were asked to fill out a form on experience. WFFM will make a report of the experience that can be input for next year.

Theme and logo 2025

A joint agreement that we already have a strong logo (European stars) and a strong statement (Your Museum. Our Passion). We will keep the statement and the logo for at least 3 years to make them known/familiar. Each year will make us increasingly visible.



Thank you to the local friends that worked hard to make this event a success.

Generously and warmly welcomed by the Friends of the Pilotta and their curators, we were able to immerse ourselves in Parma's rich and long cultural heritage. From the National Archeological Museum to the Farnese Theater and the colorful graces of the Correggio and Parmigianino painters throughout the city.





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한국박물관회연맹은 KFFM/FNMK 50th anniversary ceremony on September 26th 2024

Friends of National Museum of Korea was founded in 1974 and celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2024. To commemorate this, the '50th Anniversary Ceremony of FNMK' was held on September 26, 2024, at 6 PM at the Shilla Hotel. The event invited many supporters and stakeholders who have offered considerable support from 1974 to the present, providing an opportunity to review the 50-year history of FNMK and explore future directions.

Additionally, plaques of appreciation and commendation were awarded to those who have significantly contributed to FNMK's growth. Additionally, to mark this occasion, FNMK published '50 Years of Friends of National Museum of Korea, 1974-2024.'



This book comprehensively covers FNMK's support activities, social education, and volunteer work from its inception until now. Through the accompanying promotional brochure, FNMK aims to raise awareness of its activities among the broader public and promote a culture of donating to museums, as well as the importance of protecting and preserving cultural heritage.

ICOM

From the letter to Director-General, Mrs. Medea Ekner :

"The World Federation of Friends of Museums (WFFM) is pleased to apply for affiliation to the International Council of Museums as an ICOM affiliated organization with the purpose of serving the interest of museums. WFFM applies for such an affiliation to give a permanent frame for a close cooperation on subjects of mutual interest, such as educational activities in museums, outreach to the public, safeguarding of cultural heritage, and to allow ICOM and WFFM to participate to their major reciprocal events"

The Funchal Document The ICOM-WFFM Funchal declaration has been updated, signed, and delivered from Maria Alvellos, FAMP, to First Vice President of Europe, Rene Faure, in the beautiful and old Palatina Library, Pilotta, Parma.





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New members from Romania and Czech Republic



Marina Bundac and Emanuela Ghyka, Romania, in a selfie with Anne Asserson

From left : Kateřina Kotápišová, Czech Republic, admiring the old documents with Catherine, Maria and Daniel.



Dedicated area for Friends of Museums

At the congress in Sevilla 2005, the then president, of ICOM, Alexandra Cummings, underlined in her speech to the 350 participants, that ICOM wished that all new museum buildings allocate space for the Friends of the Museums. She stressed the importance of the friends to be close to the visitors. Also, museums give the Friends high exposure in a prominent place in the museum.

The Friends of Pilotta are fortunate to have a garden and two nice rooms to their disposition. This is something we would wish for all Friends of Museums.



Emanuela and Daniel in one of the friends rooms. Andrew, Paul and Daniel in Pilotta garden.



WFFM Young Friends project 2024

WFFM sent a letter to the national federations asking to nominate one or two young friends to the WFFM Young Friends Project 2024, [WFFM and Young Friends.docx - Google Dokumenter](#). For this first meeting with newly nominated Young Friends 14 young friends participated and represented 8 countries. WFFMs plan of action was presented also presented [Action plan.pptx - Google Presentasjoner](#)

We asked them to organise a workshop at the upcoming General Assembly in June 2025 in Naples. This project is in line with the Plan of action for the new Executive Committee. We encourage you to find a priority in the action plan that can be worked on. [YF WFFM Verona Charter 21 mai 17 \(1\).docx - Google Dokumenter](#)

There was a discussion how this group of new friends would organise themselves. The present group has been nominated by their federations. Discussed also how to establish a Young Friends Council.

The participants agreed that the countries should be represented, not the individual persons. This will secure continuity and also give the National federation a responsibility. The group will select a country to be the leader for one year, and then circulate among the countries. WFFM will send a letter to the federations, explaining the structure of organizing this Young Friends project.

Web site

Initial work on a new website has been undertaken. Plan to replace our present website in February.