



## Foundations in Art: Theory and Education

*"Facilitating Excellence in Art Foundations"*

STATE OF FATE | 04.12.23

On behalf of the 2021-23 FATE Board and the RMCAD planning team, I welcome you to Denver. This is FATE's 24th Biennial Conference, Serious Play, hosted by the Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design. It's been a long four years since we've been together in person. We are very glad to be in Denver with you.

In our 45th year as a national organization, FATE continues to remain relevant among the changes and challenges experienced by both faculty and students. As you experience the wide-ranging session programming, we would like you to know how thankful we are to have you here. FATE is a community that builds connections through our conference attendance. Now that we are back together in person, we hope that you will take full advantage of engaging with other FATE members. The diverse range of sessions this year will provide you no shortage of points of discussion and the FATE lunches, game room and social mixer will give you the opportunity outside of sessions to meet and discuss.

The past two years have been active ones for the FATE Board. One of the primary accomplishments of the Board was the completion and adoption of the greatly expanded FATE Guidelines for Foundations. This document, developed by a committee of FATE membership, grew out of a document ratified in 2007. The updated version of the Guidelines considers the many changes in Foundations Studies of the past 15 years, the effects of pandemic, and diversity awareness.

The Board has worked to make FATE as transparent as possible organization. That transparency has come in the form of improved record keeping and better delivery of that information to membership. Diversity and equity have also played a large role in shaping the agenda of the past two years. Based on data gathered during member information sessions and membership surveys, we have moved to adopt a new Diversity and Inclusion Statement. The FATE DEIA committee was expanded, with the Chair reporting directly to the Board. Ultimately, it was determined that this role was too important to remain as an ad hoc position. The Board voted to make the FATE DEIA representative a full and voting member of the Board. The position is included in this year's Board election ballot.

Shannon Lindsey, VP of Finance, has worked diligently to expand and improve the financial record keeping of the organization. The fruits of Shannon's labors can be found in the biannual financial report. Shannon and Meredith Starr, VP of Membership, have developed new means to better track membership and resolve that information with the organization's finances. This has vastly improved the organization of membership records and eased communication with you. Libby McFalls, VP of Communication, has streamlined membership communication and done an amazing job with the FATE website, often in ways that are not obvious. For two years Adam Farcus, SECAC Representative, has served double duty on the Board. As SECAC representative Adam delivered and chaired several exciting sessions for the SECAC conferences. Additionally, Adam served as the DEIA representative and a dynamic leader of FATE DEIA. Heidi Hogden, CAA Representative, also developed and chaired several sessions at CAA and spearheaded the development of the Professional Development Workshop held at this year's conference. Kariann Fuqua, VP of Development, did an amazing job reviving the position after many of our sponsors did not participate in the virtual conference two years ago. Michael Kellner, Editor of FATE in Review, put together a fantastic issue of FATE in Review under difficult conditions. Jessica (JB) Burke, VP Regional Programming, was instrumental in reviving regional events after a near two-year pandemic hiatus. Elizabeth Folk, Social Media Coordinator, has helped define the role of what was a new position created just two years ago. Finally, Jaime Carrejo, VP of Conference, has done an amazing job heading the team that has developed this conference, Serious Play.

It's been a pleasure serving as President of FATE these past two years. I've appreciated the hard work and dedication of the Board as well and the passion of FATE's membership. This is an incredible organization to be part of. I've met and made great friends in my time in FATE. I look forward to what the 2023-25 Board has in store.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Raymond Gaddy', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Raymond Gaddy  
FATE President