

Bank of America Names Georgia O'Keeffe Museum as a 2019 Grant Winner

The Museum will use the Art Conservation Project grant to conserve the artist's iconic painting Spring.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—October 17, 2019 (Santa Fe, NM)— The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum is honored to be a 2019 recipient of Bank of America's Art Conservation Project Grant. The award will support conservation of the pivotal Georgia O'Keeffe painting, *Spring*.

"We are so grateful for Bank of America's generosity. It gives us the ability to best repair and protect this important work in Georgia O'Keeffe's history," says Dale Kronkright, the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum's Head of Conservation. "This grant from Bank of America will not only support our research and conservation of the painting, it will enable us to share our work online and with related public programs. We will better understand *Spring*'s creation, and share it with new audiences around the world."

Painted in 1948, *Spring* marks a turning point in Georgia O'Keeffe's personal and artistic lives. Her husband, famed photographer Alfred Stieglitz, died in 1946. For three years, she suspended her regular trips to New Mexico, staying in New York to settle his estate. *Spring* is one of her few creations from that transitional period. Measuring 7-by-4 feet, it was her largest landscape to date, and combined her most iconic New Mexican subjects: flowers, antlers, a bone, and the flat-top mountain Cerro Pedernal.



Georgia O'Keeffe. Spring, 1948. Oil on canvas, 48 ¼ x 84 ¼ in. Georgia O'Keeffe Museum. Gift of The Burnett Foundation © Georgia O'Keeffe Museum. [1997.06.028]

The conservation work will address cracks, flaking

paints, and darkening surface stains. The painting also has a history of water damage caused by a leak in the ceiling of Georgia O'Keeffe's Abiquiú home. The conservation and research into the painting's past treatments are expected to take about a year to complete.

The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum is one of 22 major art restoration projects from 9 countries and 12 U.S. cities and territories that will be funded by an Art Conservation Project Grant.

The recipients are historically and culturally significant works in danger of deterioration that will benefit from the award. Bank of America established the Art Conservation Project ten years ago. It is a key element of Bank of America's program of arts support worldwide, and part of the company's environmental, social, and governance program.

The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum is also a participant in Bank of America's Museums on Us program. Museums on Us provides free admission to Bank of America, Merrill Lynch, and US Trust card holders at more than 200 participating cultural institutions across the US during the first weekend of each month.

The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum will announce public events related to *Spring*'s conservation in 2020.

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Supplemental materials: One (1) image, provided in email

Image credits: Georgia O'Keeffe. *Spring*, 1948. Oil on canvas, 48 ¼ x 84 ¼ in. Georgia O'Keeffe Museum. Gift of The Burnett Foundation © Georgia O'Keeffe Museum. [1997.06.028]

ABOUT THE BANK OF AMERICA ART CONSERVATION PROJECT: The Art Conservation Project is a key element of Bank of America's program of arts support worldwide, and part of the company's environmental, social and governance program. Bank of America believes in the power of the arts to help economies thrive, educate and enrich societies, and create greater cultural understanding. The program includes loans of its private art collection to museums at no cost, sponsorships, and grants to arts organizations for arts education, as well as the preservation of cultural treasures. For more information, please visit the <u>Art Conservation Project website</u>.

ABOUT THE GEORGIA O'KEEFFE MUSEUM:

Since 1997, the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum has shared the art, life, and story of Georgia O'Keeffe to visitors from around the world. Located in New Mexico, where Georgia O'Keeffe lived the final decades of her life, the O'Keeffe has sites and experiences in two historic destinations, Santa Fe and Abiquiú. For more information, please visit okeeffemuseum.org.