

# MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## SENATE DEPUTY LEADER MICHAEL GIANARIS ANNOUNCES \$5 MILLION IN STATE FUNDING FOR MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE, ENHANCING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

**Funding to Support Furthering Museum's Educational Work in Film,  
Television, and Digital Media**



Astoria, New York, December 2, 2022 — Senate Deputy Leader Michael Gianaris joined the Museum of the Moving Image's (MoMI) annual gala Thursday night to announce \$5 million in state funding he secured to advance the Museum's educational work in film, television, and digital media.

This year's esteemed Gala honorees, including acclaimed filmmaker Sarah Polley (*Women Talking*), renowned storyteller Kazuo Ishiguro (*Living*), Academy Award-winning documentary filmmaker Laura Poitras (*All the Beauty and the Bloodshed*), and two-time Emmy-nominated composer Michael Abels (*Nope*), were celebrated by friends and collaborators with a special program in the Museum's grand Sumner M. Redstone Theater. The evening also included a tribute to late filmmaker and visual effects pioneer, Douglas Trumbull (*2001: A Space Odyssey*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*, *Blade Runner*), and a performance by The Harlem Quartet.

“The Museum of the Moving Image is a powerful space to experience the history and project the future of film, television, and digital media. It has appropriately made its home in Astoria, Queens—the core of New York’s film and television industry—for years,” said Senate Deputy Leader Michael Gianaris. “I am so proud to announce this funding to support their educational mission and enhance access to the incredible exhibitions they have for all to enjoy for generations to come.”

“We are absolutely thrilled to have the ongoing support of Senator Gianaris,” said Carl Goodman, Executive Director of Museum of the Moving Image. “We are enormously grateful to him for securing funding that will help take the Museum, its educational mission, and visitor experience to the next level.”

“Education lies at the heart of the Museum’s mission and this major support from the state will provide us with a strong foundation as we look to the future,” added Ivan Lustig, Co-Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Museum of the Moving Image.

Senator Gianaris secured this funding in the 2022–23 state budget. His funding will go towards situating educational tools at the core of the Museum’s exhibitions space and giving greater public access to the Museum’s media and game labs.

MoMI's Digital Innovation Lab for Media and Games is a venue for free digital literacy classes, workshops, and media design challenges, aimed at people of all ages and abilities. Participants learn to create their own digital games, short videos, apps, and digital artworks using mixed media, virtual media, and augmented reality, with opportunities to earn industry-standard badges in media and tech. The Lab offers two related opportunities for participants: (1) guidance and inspiration in charting their own adventures in digital literacy, from the rudimentary level to digital fluency and innovation, and (2) job skills development that will be invaluable in an increasingly competitive digital job market. Lab programs are available in English and Spanish, with some also in Arabic, Urdu, and Cantonese. By offering free guided experimentation with creative technologies to underserved audiences, MoMI can extend an extraordinary opportunity to participants that will put them on the road to digital literacy.

###

**Press contacts:**

Alexander Marion, [marion@nysenate.gov](mailto:marion@nysenate.gov) | (315) 439-9806

Tomoko Kawamoto, [tkawamoto@movingimage.us](mailto:tkawamoto@movingimage.us)

Sunshine Sachs for MoMI, [momi@sunshinesachs.com](mailto:momi@sunshinesachs.com)

**MUSEUM INFORMATION**

Museum of the Moving Image (MoMI) is the only institution in the United States that deals comprehensively with the art, technology, enjoyment, and social impact of film, television, and digital

media. In its stunning facility in Astoria, New York, the Museum presents exhibitions; screenings; discussion programs featuring actors, directors, and creative leaders; and education programs. It houses the nation's largest collection of moving image artifacts and screens over 500 films annually. Its exhibitions—including the core exhibition *Behind the Screen* and *The Jim Henson Exhibition*—are noted for their integration of material objects, interactive experiences, and audiovisual presentations. For more information about the MoMI, visit [movingimage.us](http://movingimage.us).

Hours: Thurs, 2:00–6:00 p.m. Fri, 2:00–8:00 p.m. Sat–Sun, 12:00–6:00 p.m.

Museum Admission: \$20 adults, \$12 senior citizens (ages 65+) and students (ages 18+) with ID, \$10 youth (ages 3–17). Children under 3 and Museum members are admitted free. General admission is free every Thursday, 2:00–6:00 p.m.

Film Screenings: Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, and as scheduled. Unless otherwise noted, tickets: \$15 adults, \$11 students and seniors, \$9 youth (ages 3–17), free or discounted for Museum members (depending on level of membership). Advance purchase is available online.

Location: 36-01 35 Avenue (at 37 Street) in Astoria.

Subway: M or R to Steinway Street. N or W to 36 Ave or Broadway.

Program Information: Telephone: 718 777 6888; Website: [movingimage.us](http://movingimage.us)

Membership: [movingimage.us/join-and-support/become-a-member](http://movingimage.us/join-and-support/become-a-member) or 718 777 6877

Museum of the Moving Image is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and has received significant support from the following public agencies: New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; New York City Council; New York City Economic Development Corporation; New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature; Institute of Museum and Library Services; National Endowment for the Humanities; National Endowment for the Arts; and Natural Heritage Trust (administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation). For more information, please visit [movingimage.us](http://movingimage.us).