



THE LOIS ROTH ENDOWMENT

November 20, 2019

Dear Friend,

Once again the accomplishments of our laureates, outlined in the enclosed Annual Review, are exemplary. Through literary translation, international research projects and cultural diplomacy, they demonstrate refreshingly positive ways in which cultural and educational initiatives are strengthening and deepening US engagement abroad. Even in these increasingly difficult times, our laureates work across borders to connect people the world over.

Many of you will remember that the Roth Endowment's founder, Dick Arndt, was a career diplomat. This fall, to honor the contributions of both professional and people-to-people ambassadors, he has offered \$5,000 to fund a unique matching challenge:

**Gifts from current or former employees of
the U.S. Department of State and Bureau of Cultural and Educational Affairs
will be matched 1:1.**

In addition to the awards, projects and programs listed in the Annual Review, the Roth Endowment is pleased to be piloting a new literary translation initiative, in cooperation with the International Prize for Arabic Fiction (IPAF). We will co-sponsor the US tour of an IPAF-winning author and his or her translator to visit US universities and colleges, reading from their work and discussing the writing and translation process with students, faculty and the public. Established in 2008 and managed in association with the Booker Prize Foundation in London, IPAF also sponsors an annual writers' workshop for emerging authors.

Once again we are very grateful for the steady management of our assets that makes our work possible. Thanks to our long-term advisor Shawn O'Reilly, co-founder of RBC's The Columbia Group, and his deputy Emily Ferry, our endowment continued its steady rise over the course of the 2019 fiscal year (7/18-6/19), gaining 3.13% to end at an all-time high of \$801,498. Our year-to-date growth has been 12.67%.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and the team supporting our laureates, I thank you for your sustained interest and commitment to furthering international cultural dialogue on a human scale. We encourage you to share our work with friends, family and colleagues. Please consider making a contribution this holiday season, or to discuss making a recurring gift or a bequest write me at contact@rothendowment.org.

With warm wishes for a lovely holiday season,

Skyler J. Arndt-Briggs
Chair

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