



BOARD MEMBERS ELECTIONS 2025 - 2028

NOMINEES



ALI MAHFOUZ
Board Member Candidate
CULTURAL HERITAGE CONSULTANT
FALCONVIZ – KAUST, SAUDI ARABIA

My name is Ali Mahfouz, and I am a Cultural Heritage Consultant at FalconViz, based at King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) in Saudi Arabia.

I have been an active member of ICOM-ICME since 2018, and I have contributed regularly to the committee's activities. I served as Member of Conference Scientific Jury Committee for abstracts and papers submitted to the ICME annual conferences in Prague, Baku, Mexico City, and Dubai, and I remain strongly committed to supporting ICME's mission of promoting inclusive, community-based, and innovative approaches to ethnographic and world culture museums.

My primary goals, if elected to the board, will include:

- Expanding ICME's outreach across the Arab world and Africa, where ethnographic collections are rich yet often underrepresented in global dialogue.
- Attracting new members from these regions to strengthen ICME's diversity and inclusivity.
- Advocating for Cairo to host a future ICME conference, especially following the recent opening of the Grand Egyptian Museum, which offers a significant opportunity for global engagement.
- Fostering collaboration with ethnographic museum communities in Saudi Arabia, where I am currently based and where there is growing interest in museum development and heritage documentation.

I also have a strong interest in research and academic publishing. I hope to develop the ICME journal into a more dynamic and inclusive platform, supported by a multicultural editorial team that reflects the diversity of our committee and the communities we serve.

I believe that my regional experience, long-standing engagement with ICOM, and academic and professional background in archaeology and heritage management position me to contribute meaningfully to ICME's future direction.

Thank you for considering my nomination. I would be honored to serve the ICME community and support its growth and impact in the coming years.

CURRENT POSITIONS

FalconViz, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology KAUST, Full-time

Cultural Heritage Consultant
Jeddah and Abha, KSA.
Jan. 2024 – Present

Egypt Heritage Association

Director & Co-Founder
Jun. 2021 – Present

ICOM Egypt

Board Member
Jan. 2022 – Present

PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

PhD degree in Archaeology

First Class Honors, Archaeology Department,
Faculty of Arts, Mansoura University, Egypt.
Mar. 2021 – Jun. 2025

Master's degree in Archaeology

Excellent Class A, Faculty of Arts,
Mansoura University, Egypt.
Apr. 2013 – Jan. 2017

Bachelor of Arts

Archaeology Department, Faculty of Arts,
Mansoura University, Egypt. Grade: very good.
Sep. 2006 – Jun. 2010

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

Mansoura Storage Museum – Ministry of Tourism & Antiquities

Director

Sept. 2018 – Dec. 2023

MENDES Archaeological Site and Mansoura Storage Museum – Ministry of Tourism & Antiquities

Supervisor

Aug. 2015 – Sept. 2018

Egyptian Antiquities Sector – Ministry of Tourism & Antiquities

Field Archaeologist
Jan. 2012 – Aug. 2015

INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Saudi ICOMOS

Member
Jan. 2025 - Present

PMI - Project Management Institute

Member
Jan 2025 - Present

ARCE – American Research Center in Egypt

Member
Oct. 2023 – Present

AAM – American Alliance of Museums

Member, No: 469315
Mar. 2022 – Present

CAA – College Art Association of America, USA

Member, No: 162420
Sep. 2019– Present

ICON – The Institute of Conservation, London, UK

Associate Member, Member ID: 32129
Apr. 2019– Present

ICOM – International Council of Museums

Board Member ICOM EGYPT, Individual ICOM No.
111677
Oct. 2017– Present

Arab Archeologists Union

Member
Oct. 2013– Present

JURY COMMITTEES

ICOM ICME Annual Conference 2024

Member of Conference Scientific Jury Committee,
Mexico City, Mexico
Feb. 2024 – Sep.2024

CAA-Getty International Program 2023

Jury Member - 111th CAA Annual Conference, New
York, NY, February 15–18, 2023
Jun. 2022 – feb.2023

ICOM General Conference 2022

Member of ICOM-ICME Conference Jury Scientific Committee, Prague, Czech.
Oct. 2021 – Sep. 2022

ICOM ICME Annual Conference 2021

Member of Conference Scientific Jury Committee, Baku, Azerbaijan.
Oct. 13 – 15, 2021

TRAINING

Combating Art Trafficking Part 2: Cultural Heritage Restitution

Online training course, Qatar National Library.
Jan. 11-13, 2021

Combating Art Trafficking

Online training course, Qatar National Library.
Nov. 22-24, 2020

Site by site Advanced Site Management Egyptian Professionals training supported by Dutch coaches.

The Museology Faculty of the Amsterdam School of the Arts, and The Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands in Cairo at Minya, Egypt.
Oct. 27: Nov. 2, 2019

Icon-Getty Continuing Professional Development Programme

ICON – THE INSTITUTE OF CONSERVATION, funded by Getty Foundation, London, UK.
Jun. 10-11, 2019

Cultural Management Workshop

Carpet Diem Cairo, Save Mansoura, Nut, and The Danish Egyptian Dialogue Institute at Mansoura, Egypt.
Feb. 21- 23 - 22, 2019

Meaning in the Making: A training program for Egyptian museum and heritage professionals 2018

Reinwardt Academy, the Museology Faculty of the Amsterdam School of the Arts, and The Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands in Cairo at Sohag, Egypt.
Nov. 4- 9, 2018

PROJECTS

ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF EGYPT IN THE LAST TWO CENTURIES

Director, the goal of the project is to document the history of Egyptology and to show the role of its Egyptian scholars who contributed to many archaeological discoveries attributed to foreigners within the framework of the study of the concepts of Decolonization. Founder, Egypt Heritage Association
Oct. 2021 - present

ENGAGING OUR PAST: CELEBRATING THE DISCOVERIES IN THE DAQAHLIYA GOVERNORATE PROJECT

Director and Co-Founder, the project funded by ARCE and USAID
Apr. 2020 - present

DOCUMENTATION OF ARCHITECTURAL AND URBAN HERITAGE OF THE MANSOURA CITY PROJECT

Consultant, the project Funded by L'Agence universitaire de la Francophonie "AUF".
Aug. 2018 - Present

USAID-FUNDED MANAGEMENT OF CULTURE HERITAGE, MEMPHIS SITE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (MSCD)

Member, University of York, Ancient Egypt Research Associates (AERA) and Ministry of Antiquities, Cairo, Egypt.
Sep. 2016

TV SERIES

TAYEA – طابع TV Series

Consultant and Reviewer, TV Series addresses issues of looting and smugglers of Antiquities. Revising the archeological information in the script, Revising the design of the tombs, and observe the TV series shooting <https://www.netflix.com/eg/title/81049774>
Jan.- May 2018

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES & FORUMS

College Art Association's 113th Annual Conference

Speaker - CAA-Getty New York, NY, USA.
Feb. 12 - 15, 2025

ICOM Conference on Museum Storage - Current Situation and New Challenges

Speaker - Sorbonne Nouvelle University, Paris, France.
Oct. 29 - 31, 2025

College Art Association's 111th Annual Conference

Speaker - CAA-Getty Alumni Ambassador - New York, NY, USA.
Feb. 12 - 18, 2023

ICOM PRAGUE 2022 - 26th ICOM General Conference "The Power of Museums"

Speaker - Prague Congress Centre, Prague, Czech Republic.
Aug. 20 - 28, 2022

CIDOC Conference "Symbiosis of Tradition and Digital Technology"

Attendance – Tallinn, Estonia.
May 22-27, 2022

College Art Association's 108th Annual Conference

Speaker - Chicago, IL, USA.

Feb. 9-16, 2020

UNESCO Arab World Heritage Young Professionals Forum

Participation - Arab League Education Cultural and Scientific Organization ALECSO, Tunis, Tunisia

Dec. 1-6, 2019

ipres 2019 – 16th International Conference on Digital Preservation

Attendance - Eye Film Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Sep. 16-20, 2019

ICOM KYOTO 2019 – 25th ICOM General Conference "Museums as Cultural Hubs: The Future of Tradition"

Attendance - Kyoto International Conference Center (ICC Kyoto), Kyoto, Japan.

Sep. 1-7, 2019

ICON-The Institute of Conservation's 2019 Triennial Conference "New Perspectives: Contemporary Conservation Thinking and Practice".

Attendance - ICC Belfast, Waterfront Hall, Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Jun. 12-14, 2019

The Sixth Delta Survey Workshop

Speaker - Organized by The Egyptian Exploration Society in collaboration with Mansoura University and the Ministry of Antiquities, Egypt.

Apr. 11-12, 2019

The 2nd International Conference of the Faculty of Tourism and Hotels Mansoura University "Tourism Marketing of the Delta Area"

Coordinator - Held at Cairo Opera House, in collaboration with The Italian Archaeological Centre of the Italian Cultural Institute, Egypt.

Mar. 4-5, 2019

IIC 2018 Turin Congress 'Preventive Conservation: The State of the Art'

Attendance - organized by The International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, London, UK in co-operation with the Conservation and Restoration Centre of La Venaria Reale, the Italian Regional Group of IIC (IGIIC), the City of Turin and Turismo Torino e Provincia. Turin, Italy.

Sep. 10-14, 2018

The 1st International Forum of Youth Researchers "Cultural Heritage and the Future of Tourism in Egypt"

Coordinator - Held at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, in collaboration with the Faculty of Tourism and Hotels Mansoura University, Egypt.



HEIDI MCKINNON
ICME Chair Candidate
CURATORS WITHOUT BORDERS,
FOUNDER
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO, USA

“Since I began attending ICME conferences in 2009 in South Korea, I have offered my time and support to the work of ICME as a contributor to edited volumes, proofreader for the newsletter, and most recently, as a board member from 2022-2025. It has been an honor to serve our community in this capacity in collaboration with my board colleagues, under the leadership of ICME Chair, Ralf Ceplak Mencin.

What I have learned these last few years is that assuming the responsibility of being an ICME board member is a job that requires serious dedication and time. It has offered inspiration and learning through collaborations and conversations with our colleagues during conferences, online panel discussions, and nascent working groups.

As a curator and researcher, my focus has been social justice, human rights, intellectual property and migration issues. Over the past two decades I have worked with indigenous communities and civil society organizations throughout Latin America for both the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian as well as independently as a consultant in Guatemala and Panama, where I created a national museum of human rights.

Most recently, I have been working as a curator for the UNESCO Creative City program in Santa Fe, New Mexico, developing long-term programming to support cultural heritage and heritage arts in decline within northern New Mexico. This has led me to coordinate with and work to support programs within our major museums and cultural institutions in Santa Fe and New Mexico. I am working at present with ten UNESCO Creative Cities around the world for a convening and encounter for thirty international heritage artists and culture bearers at the height of their careers which will take place in Santa Fe this October. Working within this UNESCO framework informs the possibilities and opportunities I see for future museum collaborations within our ICME network.

As a current ICME board member, some of my accomplishments as Conference Chair include:

- Expanding and diversifying the abstract submission review process from the Scientific Committee to up to fifteen reviewers from at least four continents to ensure greater diversity of opinions and participation.
- Implementing a rotating schedule for annual conferences that takes us to each region over a period of five years. This will ensure that members have the possibility of attending a conference closer to home every few years. For 2026, I worked with ICME members from the Museum Association of Taiwan to host our conference in Taipei. This will allow the next board have a head start on conference preparation, which is time consuming.
- Instituting a program of onsite capacity building workshops into the annual conference schedule.
- Creating regional working groups to support conference development and information dissemination.

To build on my previous work and expand upon it as ICME Chair, my main areas of focus for the next board would include the following:

- Collaborating closely with Anamaria Rojas Múnera as Vice Chair (She is the current ICME Secretary.) to continue expanding the diversity of voices and opportunities for participation and decision making within ICME from professionals in regions and communities that have historically been the focus of research in our field. My first museum position at the Smithsonian Institution's Center for Folklife and Cultural Studies came out of an institutional focus to diversify "minority" Latino voices within the Institution. Therefore, diversifying voices and perspectives within an institutional framework has defined my career.
- Ensuring that our ICME Newsletter is properly published on a regular basis in as many UN languages as we can afford. We need to share opportunities for collaborations, touring exhibitions, research projects, grants, publications and conference opportunities and more among our members on a regular basis and the publication has fallen behind its goals.
- Publishing an edited volume that highlights the papers presented in our Museum and Change series from 2022-2025.
- Facilitating and implementing sustainable working groups on shared stewardship and co-curatorial practices begun after the Mexico City conference.
- Working with our ICOM colleagues to develop research collaborations and workshops that benefit the diversity of our committees and generate tangible learning opportunities for our members.
- Implementing a fundraising plan to support the consistent and timely translation of all ICME documents in all UN languages.
- Creating a robust communication strategy to highlight the work of our member museums and their staff and the collections they steward.

In closing, as a candidate for the position of ICME Chair, I offer my time and dedication to supporting our community through collaboration with institutional and individual members, other ICs and regional committees.

For 20 years, I've worked to support cultural heritage, social cohesion and systemic change as a curator, writer, public speaker, and entrepreneur on issues of indigenous history, human rights, and women's rights throughout Latin America. My greatest strengths are my vision, sense of ethics, empathy, and pragmatic, entrepreneurial leadership. I am fluent in Spanish and currently live in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

As an experienced director with a demonstrated history of working with the museum and international development sectors, I am skilled in nonprofit organizations, budgeting, fundraising and communications. I have deep expertise in human rights, museum strategy and planning, vision making and master planning, partnership development, qualitative research, oral history, writing, and public speaking. I thrive in positions involved in exhibition-making, philanthropic outreach and partnership building, and thought partnerships with museum management teams and board members.

KEY QUALIFICATIONS

- Eighteen years of experience in exhibition content development and management with museums and nonprofits
- Ten+ years of experience conducting field work, interviews, oral histories, and analysis with community stake holders and partners in indigenous communities in the US and Latin America
- Five years of experience in organizational management and planning, budgeting and strategic communications
- Graduate of Getty Leadership Institute, an internationally-recognized museum leadership program
- Fluent in Spanish; competent in Portuguese and basic French

EXPERIENCE

December 2022- 2025

Board Member, Conference Chair

International Council of Museums/ICME

October 2024-Present

UNESCO Creative City Curator and Consultant

City of Santa Fe, New Mexico (United States)

September 2022- 2024

Arts Commissioner

City of Santa Fe, New Mexico (United States)

May 2012- Present

Executive Director

Curators Without Borders, Inc. (United States)

November 2016- June 2019

Director, Planning and Exhibitions

Museum of Freedom and Human Rights (Panama)

July 2014- March 2015

Director, Exhibitions and Community Programs

Sandy Spring Museum (Sandy Spring, MD)

September 2008- March 2012

Independent Curator/ Latin American Coordinator

Asociación Agua, Ríos y Pueblos (Spain/Guatemala)

May 2010- to July 2010

State Department Fellow

Partners of the Americas (US/Chile)

March 2008- May 2009

Peace Fellow

The Advocacy Project (US/Guatemala)

November 2004- August 2008

Founder

Materiaprima, LLC, (Santa Fe, NM)

October 1999- October 2004

Museum Specialist

Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of the American Indian (Washington, DC; Brazil; Chile)

August- September 1999

Museum Assistant/Researcher

Jay I. Kislak Foundation (Miami, FL)

March-April 1999

Research Assistant

Puerto Rico Industrial Development Company, Craft Development Office, (San Juan/Puerto Rico)

April-September 1998

Program Coordinator

Smithsonian Institution, Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies, (Washington, DC)

August-December 1997

Field Worker

Smithsonian Institution, Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies- (Washington, DC)

EDUCATION

Oxford Cultural Leaders, 2024

Certificate in Cultural Leadership from the Oxford University GLAM Program

Getty Leadership Institute. Claremont, CA, 2018

Claremont Graduate Institute, Certificate of Museum Management from Getty Foundation Museum Leaders program

Museum Leadership Seminar, Washington, D.C., 2014

George Washington University, Dept. of Museum Studies

University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, 1992-1997

Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology/Spanish, cum laude

EXHIBITIONS

- *Conserving America's Wildlands: The Legacy of Ted Turner*, Traveling exhibition, United States, 2023-2027 (Exhibition management and curation)
- *Derechos Humanos: tuyos, míos, universales*, Permanent Exhibition, Museum of Freedom and Human Rights, Panamá. May 2019-present (Curator)
- *The Learning Kiosk and the Displaced Pavilion*, London Design Biennale, London, England, September 2018 (Invited presenter)
- *Syria: Cultural Patrimony Under Threat*, New Mexico History Museum, June-December 2017. (Guest Curator for CWB program, The Learning Kiosk, for refugee emergency education)
- *Push Factors: Perspectives on Guatemalan Migration*, Corcoran Museum of Art, Washington, D.C., Fall 2015; University of Illinois, Winter 2017; University of Idaho, Winter 2019 (Curator)
- *Between You and Me*, Idyllwild Arts Center, California, July 2016 (Curator Contemporary migration narratives with artists from Canada, Cuba and Guatemala)
- *Migrating Lives/Vidas Migratorias*, Sandy Spring Museum, Sandy Spring, Maryland, March-May 2015 (Curator)
- *Lost Opportunities: A Lens on Head Start and the Sequester*, National Head Start Association, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C., January 2014 (Curator)
- *Pakistan Through Our Eyes: Emerging Photographers from the Tribal Areas*, National Geographic Photo Camp,

USAID, Internews, United States Institute of Peace, Washington, D.C., June 2013 (Curator)

- *Women Are the Fabric*, UNFPA and The Advocacy Project, Traveling Exhibit: United National Headquarters, New York City, March-April 2012
- (Curatorial Consultant, Photographer)
- *Water, Rivers and People*, Fundación para una Nueva Cultura del Agua, Traveling Exhibit: Barcelona and Madrid, Spain; Oslo, Norway; Mexico City, Mexico; Antigua, Guatemala; Rio de Janeiro, Brasil, 2010-2013 (Local Curator, Guatemala; Curatorial Consultant, International Tour; Latin American Coordinator)
- *Our Peoples*, Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of the American Indian, Permanent Exhibit: Washington, DC, 2004-2014 (Curatorial Specialist)
- *Our Lives*, Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of the American Indian, Permanent Exhibit: Washington, DC, 2004-Present (Curatorial Specialist)
- *Callaloo*, Jay I. Kislak Foundation, Temporary Exhibit: Miami, FL, 1999 (Catalog Researcher)
- *Ethnographic Hall*, Museum of Toa Baja, Permanent Exhibit: Toa Baja, Puerto Rico, 1999-Present (Curatorial Researcher)
- *Culture and Environment along the Rio Grande/ Rio Bravo*, Smithsonian Institution, Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies, Temporary Exhibit: Washington, DC, 1998 (Researcher, Program Coordinator, Fundraiser)
- *Inventing the Southwest: The Fred Harvey Company and Native American Art*, Heard Museum, Temporary Exhibit: Scottsdale, AZ, 1995 (Catalog research through research assistantship at University of New Mexico)

PUBLICATIONS

2020. Contributing author. *"This Is Ours, Not Yours: Breakthroughs in Protecting Indigenous Intellectual Property Rights in Latin America."* In *First American Art*, Spring 2020.
2015. Contributing author. *"Dancing with Fire: The Majestic and Dangerous Work of Indigenous Theater in Guatemala."* In *First American Art*, Winter 2015.
2014. Contributing author. *"Dreams, Tears, and the Work of a Retrafe: Mapuche Silver of Chile."* In *First American Art*, Fall 2014.
2014. Contributing author. *"Proposing a Museum of Memory: Maya Achí Reparations and Museums of Memory in Latin America."* In Annette B. Fromm, Viv Golding, Per Rekdal (ed.), *Museums and Truth*. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.
2009. Contributing author, *"The Río Negro Massacres: Chixoy Dam, Guatemala."*

- In *Water Rivers and People*, Málaga, Spain: Diputación Provincial de Málaga.
2009. Author, "Advocacy Project Supports Social Justice." In *Weave a Real Peace Newsletter*, Spring.
2009. Author, ADIVIMA Blog. <http://advocacynet.org/blogs/index.php?blog=109>.
2008. Author, ADIVIMA Blog. <http://advocacynet.org/blogs/index.php?blog=109>.
2004. Contributor, *Native Universe: Voices of Indian America*, National Geographic Press, October 2004. Inaugural Book of the National Museum of the American Indian.
2004. Contributor, *National Museum of the American Indian Souvenir Book*. National Geographic Press, October 2004.
1998. Co-author "Culture and Environment in the Rio Grande/Rio Bravo Basin: A Preview." In *Smithsonian Folklife Festival 1998*. Pp. 79-93. Washington: Smithsonian Institution (with Olivia Cadaval and Cynthia Vidaurri).
1993. Author, "Mediation between Conservation and Tradition: The Ache of Paraguay." In *UNM Anthropology*, Vol. 12.1. Pp. 14-17. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico, Department of Anthropology.
2009. Invited Speaker, "Rebuilding after Genocide in Guatemala." Paper presented at Georgetown University Human Rights Forum and the Institute for the Study of International Migration.
2001. Invited speaker, "Repatriating Intellectual Knowledge: Developing Responsive and Responsible Exhibit Research Methods." Paper presented at Preserving Our Past or Gambling on Our Future? Research and Cultural Preservation, Association of College and Research Libraries/New England Chapter. Annual Meeting.
2000. Session Organizer, "Making Big Medicine at the National Museum of the American Indian: Collaborative Strategies for Developing a National Museum." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting.
2000. First author, "Flexible Research Strategies: Responding to Native Communities." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting.
1998. Presenter/moderator, "Art Traditions Along the River" narrative session in Spanish/English at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival, Washington, D.C.

PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

2025. Invited Speaker, "Let's Talk About Appropriation. A Review of Indigenous Intellectual Property Rights Law." Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico.
2020. Invited Speaker, "The Human Right to Culture and Emergency Education." New Mexico Museum Association, November 2020.
2016. Guest Lecturer, "Migration and Emergency Education," Idyllwild Arts Center, California, July 2016.
2015. Invited Speaker, "Museums and International Development." Lecture presented at Museum Next conference Geneva, Switzerland, April 19-21, 2015.
2015. Invited Lecturer. "Indigenous Rights and Civil Society Struggles in Guatemala." Briefing presented to The Foreign Service Institute, Western Hemisphere Area Studies, Department of State, Washington, DC, February 25, 2015.
2012. Invited Speaker, "Evolving Responsibilities: Social Relevance and Expanding Museum Constituencies." Paper presented at ICOM-ICME conference Windhoek, Namibia, September 12-15, 2012.
2009. Invited Speaker, "Proposing a Museum of Memory: Maya Achi Reparations and Genocide in Guatemala." Paper presented at 2009 ICOM-ICME conference on Museums of Peace and Reconciliation in Seoul, South Korea, Oct 19-21, 2009.



ANAMARÍA ROJAS-MÚNERA
Board Member Candidate
MUSEOLOGIST
COYHAIQUE, AYSÉN REGION-
PATAGONIA, CHILE

“I am a museologist and curator born in Barranquilla, Colombia. Currently, I am a PhD candidate in Museum and Heritage Studies at Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington (Aotearoa New Zealand). Over the past 10 years, I have worked with small and medium-scale community-based museums in Chilean Patagonia as a project coordinator, focusing on exhibition development, education and research. I am passionate about collaborating with communities to promote new understandings of local and regional identities, challenge stereotypes and advocate for more plural and diverse narratives.

From 2022-2025, I served on the ICME board as the secretary, where my main contributions were supporting my colleagues with the development of our conferences in Budapest, México City and Dubai, as well as maintaining communications with members and contributing to our newsletter ICME News.

This time, I am seeking to take a step further, offering my energy, charisma, and optimism for the leadership role of Vice-Chair. My goal is to directly support my colleague Heidi McKinnon, who is running for Chair, and to work alongside her to ensure the success of our conferences, academic publications, and general programmes. My focus will be on taking practical steps to ensure that perspectives and voices outside dominant narratives are included in our decision-making.

I am particularly committed to addressing one of ICME’s key challenges: increasing participation from diverse and historically marginalised voices in museology. I propose to develop strategies for positioning Oceanic, African, Asian, Latin American, Caribbean and Middle Eastern museologies at the center of our committee’s work by promoting themes, venues, and collaborators relevant to these cultural contexts. I would like to identify ways of expanding ICME’s presence in those areas where our committee is still little known with great potential to grow, particularly in Latin America, my home region. I will make sure ICME is an organisation where every new member feels valued and empowered to contribute.

If given the opportunity to serve as Vice-Chair, I envision ICME as an inclusive committee, one where decisions are made with respect, humility and cultural understanding, and where the perspectives of all board members are valued equally. I am committed to fostering an environment where people can engage with collaborative spirits, irrespective of their cultural backgrounds, interests, roles or the size of their institutions. I believe that every member's contribution is equally valuable, and that ICME's strength lies in the diversity of its voices.

I look forward to continuing to collaborate with ICME, and contribute to its growth in the future.

ANAMARÍA ROJAS MÚNERA is a museologist, curator, and museum educator, bilingual in Spanish and English, with over 10 years of experience collaborating with small and medium-scale community-based museums in isolated territories from South America.

EDUCATION

PhD candidate in Museum and Heritage Studies from Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington (Aotearoa New Zealand)
2024- Expected finish 2027
Thesis (working title): The social role of museums: Community-based curatorial practices in Chilean Patagonia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

Master of Arts in Museum Studies from University of Leicester (UK)
Finished 2017
Thesis: Design thinking and museums. The elements of design thinking that are transforming museum practices in England.

Bachelor of Arts in International Relations from Universidad del Norte (Barranquilla, Colombia)
Finished 2014

CAREER HISTORY

Board Member and Secretary at International Committee for Museums and Collections of Ethnography, from the International Council of Museums (ICOM-ICME)
Period 2022-2025

Founder and Coordinator – Escuela de Mediadores (School of Museum Mediators) Museo de Cochrane & Museo de la Patagonia Padre Antonio Ronchi
Aug 2023 - Dec 2024

Museum Educator, Curator & Project Lead at Red de Museos Aysén (Aysén Region, Chilean Patagonia)
Sep 2017 - Dec 2024

Editor at Revista de Aysenología
Peer-reviewed journal on the cultural and natural heritage from Aysén Region.
Jun 2015 - Jan 2024

Creative Director of Museology at Fundación Aysén Mira al Mar (Aysén Region, Chilean Patagonia)
Mar 2021 - May 2022

Member at Committee for Education and Cultural Action (CECA) from the International Council of Museums
Jan 2019 - Dec 2021

English Teacher - Maestros Líderes en el Aula Project at Universidad Tecnológica del Choco Diego Luis Cordoba (Quibdó, Colombia)
Jan 2017 - Dec 2017

Human Resources Intern, Project Access for All at The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust (Stratford upon Avon, England)
Jun 2016 - Sep 2016

Museum Educator at Museo Arqueológico de Pueblos Karib (MAPUKA) - Universidad del Norte (Barranquilla, Colombia)
Jun 2013 - Jun 2015

Tour Guide – Titanoboa: Monster Snake (Smithsonian Institution, travelling exhibition) at Museo Arqueológico de Pueblos Karib (MAPUKA) - Universidad del Norte (Barranquilla, Colombia)

Aug 2014 - Oct 2014
Education Area Intern at Parque por la Paz Villa Grimaldi, Site Museum (Santiago, Chile).

Jan 2014 - Jul 2014
Education Volunteer at Biblioteca Piloto del Caribe (Barranquilla, Colombia)
May 2013 - Aug 2013



HUANG SING DA
Board Member Candidate
CHIEF OF THE RESEARCH DIVISION
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF HISTORY,
TAIWAN

As a museum professional based in Taiwan, I am honored to be considered as a candidate for the ICME board. With a strong commitment to ethnographic representation and international collaboration, I aim to contribute to ICME's mission by offering regional perspectives and supporting cross cultural dialogue.

ICME is concerned with the challenges facing ethnographic museums and collections in a changing world while representing people and their cultures. It is also dedicated to promoting and safeguarding the human rights of all the peoples of the world, their cultures, societies, and environments, as well as the tangible and intangible heritage held in museums. I deeply resonate with these missions and have endeavored throughout my career to uphold these values. My professional background spans key cultural institutions and museums in Taiwan. I have served at the National Taiwan Museum and the National Museum of Natural Science and am currently with the National Museum of History. My experience has equipped me with hands--on expertise in ethnographic curation, collection management, and public engagement. Additionally, my tenure at the Bureau of Cultural Heritage of the Ministry of Culture allowed me to engage deeply with cultural preservation policies and practices, reinforcing my understanding of the importance of safeguarding both tangible and intangible heritage.

I also serve as the Secretary--General of the Taiwan Museum Association (TMA), which plays a vital role in connecting Taiwan's museum community with international networks and promoting sustainable and inclusive museum development. Through this role, I have been actively involved in organizing academic events, policy dialogue, and cross--border collaboration. Such experience has enabled me to understand the evolving challenges faced by ethnographic museums and offer practical, regionally informed solutions aligned with ICME's goals.

If elected, my contributions to ICME will include but not be limited to:

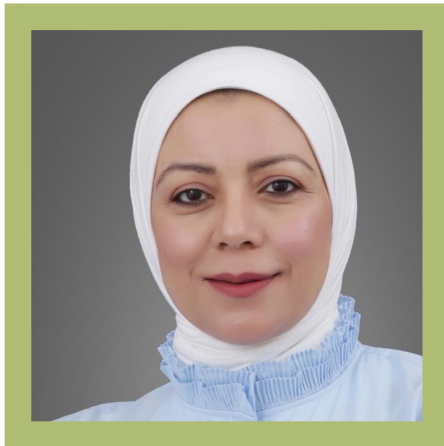
- Organizing the ICME Annual Conference and workshops in Taiwan, including the 2026 Annual Conference;
- Expanding ICME’s visibility and membership in the Asia--Pacific region;
- Promoting ICME’s mission through academic publications, research dissemination, and social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram.

I am fully prepared and committed to assisting with the coordination and successful execution of the 2026 ICME Annual Conference in Taiwan. I believe my broad-based experience in museum governance, cultural policy, and international exchange will help strengthen ICME’s presence in Asia and foster greater global collaboration.

HUANG SING DA holds a Ph.D. in communication from the College of Communication at National Chengchi University. He currently serves as Chief of the Research Division at the National Museum of History, Secretary General of the Taiwan Museum Association (ROC), Editor in Chief of the museum’s quarterly newsletter, and editorial board member of the Bulletin of the Taiwan Hakka Culture Development Center. Additionally, he is an adjunct assistant professor at National Dong Hwa University. His primary research interests encompass museology, museum governance, mediatization, technology, society, communication, cultural policy

and analysis, pop culture, narratology, education, psychology, and ethnic representation.

His major publications include “Probing the Mediatization Process of Museums Combining Concepts of the Virtual and the Real Worlds: A Narrative Analysis of the Online Display of Collections” (2020), “Managing Communication in Contemporary Museums” (2022), and “From Objects to Institutions: Reconstructing Mediation, Classification, and Governance in Museum Collections” (2025).



SHAIMAA MATAR
Board Member Candidate
SENIOR CURATOR
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF EGYPTIAN
CIVILIZATION, EGYPT

I am currently a Senior Museum Curator at the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, where I manage collections and coordinate exhibitions. My experience includes leading the Scenario Scientific Committee for permanent exhibitions and participating in various committees focused on Coptic and Islamic heritage.

With a Master's in Museum Studies and extensive knowledge in exhibition management and community engagement, I am passionate about advancing the role of museums in cultural heritage. My professional membership include the International Council of Museums (ICOM) (12784) and I paid a fee for 2024-2025, where I contribute to scientific reviews and newsletters.

I believe my skills in leadership, effective communication, and strategic planning would be an asset to the ICME board.

Shaimaa Matar is an Egyptian museum professional and heritage specialist with more than 20 years of curatorial leadership and innovative exhibition design. Currently Senior Museum Curator at the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC), she oversees collection management in line with international standards, coordinates the Scenario Scientific Committee for permanent galleries, and contributes to strategic planning with the Board Committee. She also leads visitor-experience initiatives, public-engagement workshops, and staff training programs.

Before her current role, Shaimaa served as Curator and Assistant Curator at NMEC, contributing to the main gallery and temporary exhibition committees, supervising archaeological object transfers, and documenting the museum's growing collections. Her career began as an archaeologist with Egypt's

Supreme Council of Antiquities, conducting fieldwork and cataloging key finds.

Shaimaa holds a Master of Museum Studies (Helwan University & University of Würzburg, 2024), a Diploma in History of Arts (Cairo University, 2011), and a BA in Egyptology (Tanta University, 2001). She has enriched her expertise through professional training with UCL Qatar, Bocconi University, the German-Egyptian Museums Online Forum, and the Louvre Museum, and has volunteered with Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art in Qatar.

A committed member of the International Council of Museums (ICOM), Shaimaa contributes as a reviewer and translator for its newsletter. Fluent in Arabic and English, she is dedicated to advancing museums as spaces of cultural sustainability and active community participation.



YAAROB ALABDULLAH
Board Member Candidate

**FORMER DIRECTOR
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF DAMASCUS,
SYRIA**

I have been an active member of the committee since 2022, and I have consistently participated in various ICME activities — including publishing scholarly articles in ICME NEWS and contributing to the scientific committees of several ICME conferences, such as the 2024 conference in Mexico and the upcoming 2025 conference in Dubai. I have also served as a member of the ICOM Standing Committee for the Museum Definition, representing ICOM-Arab, where I contributed to drafting the newly adopted museum definition.

My candidacy is driven by a clear vision for enhancing member engagement, particularly from underrepresented regions, and for strengthening ICME's support for community museums and institutions operating in fragile or conflict-affected contexts. I believe in empowering early-career researchers through mentoring initiatives and opportunities for academic publishing, as well as offering open-access training workshops on current museological themes such as decolonization, narrative reframing, and the ethical management of ethnographic collections. I also seek to expand ICME's presence in the Arab region through multilingual outreach, broader participation in conferences, and the organization of a regional ICME-affiliated event.

If elected, I am committed to working collaboratively with fellow board members to advance ICME's mission and to support cultural diversity and ethical practices within the global museum community.

EDUCATION

Lebanese University -Faculty of Arts and Humanities-
Department of Archaeology.
1999

Diploma in Museum Management - Sharjah Heritage Institute
2022

WORK EXPERIENCE

1. Former Director of the National Museum of Damascus.
2. Former Researcher at Orient House University of Lyon 2 Illicit trafficking of Syrian cultural property (2018).
3. Former Chairman of the confiscations and evaluate the archaeological and scientific DGAM.
4. Former Head of the Department of Antiquities and Museums of Deir Ezzor.
5. Former Chief of Excavation section of the Department of Deir Ezzor.
6. Former Head of the Archaeological Buildings Division and Documentation of the Department of Deir Ezzor.
7. Member of the International Council of Museums (ICOM) .
8. Member of the ICOM Arab Executive Office (2019-2022) -(2022-2025)
9. Member ICOM Define (2020-2022) (2023-2025).
10. Member ICOM-ICME.
11. Member AAM.
12. I transferred the contents of the Deir Ezzor Museum during the ISIS attack on the city. Where more than 36 thousand artifacts were transferred to a safe location (2014-2015).
13. I assisted in the evacuation and transfer of many museums' contents in the Syrian cities that have been in conflict. And Save the in safe places (2014-2017)
14. Associate member and field director in the Syrian- German mission in Tell-Ayash in Euphrates. (2004-2006)
15. Director of the national mission in Tell Al-kasra (2004-2010)
16. Representative of the Directorate in the German mission in Tell Chuera 2010.
17. Director of the Syrian side of the Syrian- German mission in Tell Chuera sahira (2010-2011).
18. Director of the Syrian side of the Syrian- French mission in Halabiya site 2011.
19. Director of the Syrian side of the Syrian-British mission in Zalabiya site 2010.
20. Participant member in National Syrian mission in Blue Beach (Aldiar AL qatariah) 2010.
21. Participant member in the Syrian-Spanish

mission in the process of the survey of the Middle Euphrates (2005-2010).

22. Field director in the Syrian-Spanish mission in Tel-Qaber Abu Ateeq in the Middle Euphrates 2010.
23. Director of the Syrian side of the Syrian-Spanish working in Tel Humeida 2011.
24. Participant member of the Syrian- French mission working in the survey of Malha -Zour Site 2010.
25. Member of the project committee for Halabiya dam construction on the Euphrates 2007-2010.
26. Member in the specialized committee in restoration of the old Ottoman markets in Deir Ezzor 2009-2010.
27. Participant in the study established and carried out for the restoration of the Ottoman gate in Deir Ezzor in coordination with the UNDEP 2010.

TRAINING

1. Course in the use of nuclear techniques in Archeology science by the international Atomic Energy Agency 2007.
2. Course in pottery drawing by using computer 2008.
3. A training course on the protection of transferred heritage during and after the conflict and protecting museums from looting (UNESCO in Beirut) 2015.
4. Participated in the First Aid Course to protect the Syrian heritage (UNESCO in Beirut) 2015.
5. Participated in the 'IT MEETING ON THE PILOT PROJECT 'DIGITIZING THE INVENTORY OF THE MUSEUM OF DEIR AZ-ZOR' Within the framework of the project: Emergency Safeguarding of the Syrian Cultural Heritage (UNESCO) Freie Universitaet Berlin, Germany, 2015
6. A workshop on the protection of museums during armed conflicts - under the auspices of the University of Balamand and Qatar Museums Authority (UNESCO Office - Beirut, 2015).
7. Participant in International Syrian Congress on Archaeology and Cultural Heritage 3-6 December 2015.
8. Associate INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS MEETING BERLIN, 2-4 JUNE 2016.THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNESCO ACTION PLANFOR THE EMERGENCY SAFEGUARDING OF SYRIA'S CULTURAL HERITAGE.
9. Participant in the meeting / hour start / in the German Archaeological Institute in Berlin in order to protect the Syrian heritage from 4 to 9 June 2016.
10. Participant in Meeting on the project: "Digitizing the Inventory of the Museum of Deir ez-Zor" September 19-20/ 2016 with Freie Universitaet Berlin in Regional Office of the UNECO Beirut.

SKILLS

Languages: Arabic

English: good

Computer: Word/Excel/ Photoshop /AutoCAD

INFORMATION

1. Participant in an article about tell Kasra a book "A History of Syria in One Hundred Sites" edited by Youssef Kanjou and Akira Tsuneki Archaeopress Archaeology Printed in England by Oxuniprint, Oxford 2016.
2. Published a joint article in English language about Application of radioisotope XRF and thermoluminescence (TL) dating in investigation of pottery from Tell AL-Kasra archaeological site, Syria - 2015
3. Lecturer in the cultural demonstration - Fifty years after the discovery of Ebla- Tel Mardikh - 2014.
4. Publish an article about Tel- Kasra in the scientific chronicle journal (Archaeological Facts Magazine) 2012.
5. Published a joint article in the annual book of the Spanish Ministry of Culture about Tel- Humeida in Euphrates In Spanish language 2012.
6. Published an article about Tel- Kasra in English language in the annual book (Historical Studies) in University of Lisbon 2011.
7. Published a joint article in English language about in Tel-Qaber Abu Ateeq on Euphrates in "Aula Orientalis" 2010.
8. Lecturer the in Interactional Symposium of archaeological monuments which held in Deir Ezzor 2010.



BOARD MEMBERS ELECTIONS 2025 - 2028

NOMINEES
