

The Pollock-Krasner Foundation, Inc. mourns the loss of its  
Chairman and CEO, Charles C. Bergman (1933-2018).

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEW YORK, NY, February 27, 2018- The Pollock-Krasner Foundation mourns the loss of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Charles C. Bergman, who organized the Foundation at its inception and guided it for more than three decades with great wisdom and generosity.

Born in 1933 and raised in Boston, Baltimore and Pittsburgh, Mr. Bergman graduated from Harvard in 1954 and dedicated the early part of his career to the field of mental health. After serving as a Vice President of the People to People Health Foundation (Project HOPE), he became a special advisor in mental health and mental retardation (as it was then called) under Presidents Nixon, Ford and Carter. Beginning in the early 1970s he was the head of the largest psychotherapy training program in the United States, the Institutes of Religion and Health, which he formed by merging the Academy of Religion and Mental Health with the American Foundation of Religion and Psychiatry.



*Charles C. Bergman (1933-2018)*  
*photo courtesy of Joe Fornabaio*

In 1984, at the request of Lee Krasner's attorney, Gerald Dickler, Mr. Bergman agreed to serve as a consultant on forming a charitable foundation, to be established with the assets of the estates of Ms. Krasner and her husband Jackson Pollock. When the foundation was granted legal approval in April 1985, he became Executive Vice President of the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, serving at first with President Eugene V. Thaw (co-trustee of Lee Krasner's estate). He soon assumed the role of Chairman and CEO and was joined by Kerrie Buitrago as Executive Vice President, and upon Mr. Thaw's retirement as President worked closely with his successor, Samuel Sachs II.

It was largely because of Mr. Bergman's insight that the Pollock-Krasner Foundation defined its mission as providing cash grants to worthy individual artists in need, in the United States and around the world. Under Mr. Bergman's leadership, the Pollock-Krasner Foundation awarded more than 4,400 grants totaling more than \$71 million to artists in 77 countries. Mr. Bergman took special pleasure in personally informing each grantee of his or her award.

In addition to his many years of service at the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, Mr. Bergman served on the Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission of New York City, the Overseers' Committee of the Harvard University Art Museums and the New York State Council on the Arts and was Vice President of the Inter-American Foundation for the Arts. He served on the boards of the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers, the National Young Arts Foundation, the Children's Radio Foundation, the sculpture committee of the Park Avenue Malls Planting Project, the National Council of the Glimmerglass Opera, and the philanthropy committee of the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, among many others.

Mr. Bergman is survived by his husband Stuart Levy, whom he married in 2015.