

FOM Council Nominees 2018-19



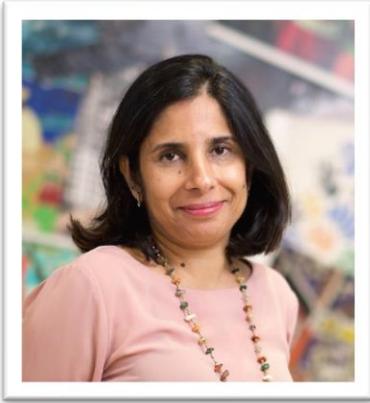
PRESIDENT, GARIMA LALWANI

Garima is an American of Indian descent who has lived in Singapore for 16 years. She joined FOM in 2007 and completed docent training at the Asian Civilisations Museum (ACM) in 2008 and Singapore Art Museum (SAM) in 2009. She is passionate about history, art and volunteering. She has held many leadership roles in FOM including Co-Head of docent training for SAM 2009-10, participating in the development and running of the Foundation Course for FOM 2010-11 and the Overall Head of Docent Training from 2011 to 2012. Over the last 10 years, she has delivered Gallery in Focus tours, Friday Highlight tours, DOT talks and Monday Morning Lectures for FOM. Her other volunteering efforts include serving as President of the Indian Women's Association, Chair of the Arts Committee for American Club, serving on SAS Boosters and PTA Boards and the George Washington Ball committee for AAS. She holds a Master of Arts and a Master of Philosophy in Psychology.



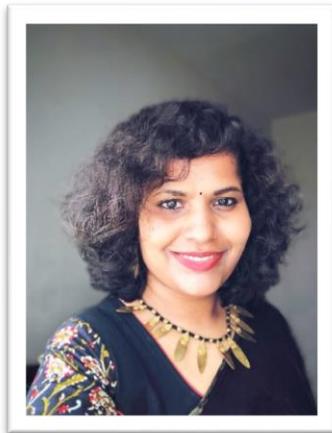
VICE-PRESIDENT, MELISSA YEOW

Melissa is a Singaporean and a sixth generation Peranakan. In 2013, Melissa embarked on a journey to discover her roots, which led her to join FOM's docent training program. Since then, Melissa has become a docent at The Peranakan Museum, and subsequently took up the roles of Speaker Coordinator and Co-Head of Docent Training for 2014-15. She has also guided at The Malay Heritage Centre. To date, Melissa has served as the Honorary Treasurer of FOM from 2015 to 2016. She is also the current Vice President of FOM since 2017. A physiotherapist by profession, Melissa has worked in both public hospitals and in private practice. She is currently doing home therapy & rehabilitation for the elderly. Melissa believes that the best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.



HONORARY TREASURER, DURRIYA DOHADWALA

Durriya is a Singaporean who was born in Pakistan, grew up in Tanzania, and has been calling the island home since 1996. She joined FOM in 2011 and guides at the Singapore Art Museum (SAM) as well as the Singapore Tyler Print Institute (STPI). She was Co-Head of docent training at SAM in 2011-12 and has been a member of the editorial team at Passage since 2012. Durriya's first career was in the area of financial analysis and business planning and she worked with MNCs in Pakistan and Singapore for 6 years. Her current interest in the arts has led to an MA in Asian Art Histories and she now writes independently on South and Southeast Asian contemporary art. She is also a board member of the non-profit organisation Art Outreach. In her time outside of the FOM domain she enjoys reading, travelling and learning how to cook foods from around the world.



HONORARY SECRETARY, DURGA ARIVAN

Durga was born in India and is now a PR of Singapore. She joined FOM in 2015 and guides at IHC, ACM and NMS. She nurtures a keen interest in research work and has been building the Reading Resources for IHC (2017/18), ACM (2017) & NMS (2018) training. She was also part of the research team for the following special exhibitions: *Once Upon a Time in Little India, Symbols & Scripts, Angkor, Exploring Cambodia's Sacred City* and *Chetti Melaka of the Straits*. She is Special Exhibitions coordinator at IHC and manages Yahoo groups for IHC and IHC/NMS training. Durga is a trained Physiotherapist with specialization on Psychology and Rehabilitation in Geriatrics & Special needs. She continues her work on Clinical research and mentors undergraduate dissertations. She also designs cakes, travels, chases bugs for photography and is a befriender at homes for the elderly and women empowerment NGOs and is a firm believer in the importance of doing voluntary work.



COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE – MEMBER ACTIVITIES, GISELLA HARROLD

Gisella is from Germany and became an FOM member the moment she arrived in Singapore in 1995. In 2010 she once again became an active FOM member by completing the ACM docent training. Since then she has volunteered in various leadership roles, including ACM Training Co-head, ACM Coordinator and Overall Co-head of Training.

Travelling, cooking, history and the arts are some of her hobbies and through FOM's study tours she has been able to cover all these areas. She has co-lead some of FOM's study tours. She has also developed an interest in photography and often provides photos for FOM use in Passage, on the website and Facebook pages. In December 2016 she was elected to the Council as Representative for Communications and has played an important role revamping FOM's website and membership system.



COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE – MUSEUMS, LAURA SOCHA

Laura is from Scotland. She joined FOM in 2014 and completed the ACM Docent Training Programme in 2015. She was then part of the Training Team, where she was both a Group Leader and Mentor Coordinator. In 2015 Laura also became ACM Committee Secretary. In the Spring of 2016 she co-headed the Christianity in Asia Special Exhibition Research Group and in August 2016 became Coordinator for the ACM FOM Docents. Currently she is the ACM Yahoo & Website Coordinator. In her spare time Laura is part-way through a distance learning History of Art Certificate with the University of Oxford.



COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE – MEMBERSHIP AND VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION, JYOTI RAMESH

Jyoti Ramesh is a PR of Singapore. She is Museum Coordinator at IHC. IHC was her first foray into museum guiding with FOM and she was the co-head of training in 2017. She is also a docent at NMS and guides NHB's Little India 1900s Heritage trail. Born in India, Jyoti has lived in different parts of India. She studied economics at Delhi University and completed her MBA with specialisation in finance. Jyoti worked in financial services in India and London, and moved to financial services recruitment in Hong Kong where she lived for 11 years. While there she was bitten by the entrepreneurial bug and started her event management and exhibition firm which has been running in Hong Kong and Singapore for the past 15 years. In addition to being a voracious reader, Jyoti is an aficionado of handwoven textiles and performing arts, and is a closet tech nerd.



COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE - COMMUNICATIONS, HOLLY HAGLUND SMITH

Dedicated to raising awareness of the arts, Holly is an accomplished communications professional. Originally from the US, she has lived abroad for over 20 years and in Singapore since 2006. Previous incarnations include, manufacturing manager, teacher, fund-raiser, and relocation consultant. She's a voracious podcast junky, outdoor enthusiast and knitter. Holly is currently involved with the Textile Enthusiast Group, Field Studies and Asian Film Studies Group in Singapore and has published the FOM newsletters for the last two years.