

**STAR OF HOPE FOUNDATION NAMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

ROCKLAND, Maine – The Star of Hope Foundation, established by the late artist Robert Indiana to support artists and cultural initiatives in Maine and beyond, has named two new members to its board of directors.

Elizabeth Finch of Waterville, Maine, is an independent curator, writer, and editor whose areas of expertise include American art, contemporary art, and works on paper. She also consults with arts organizations on the strategy, conception, and management of programs and initiatives.

Finch, who has degrees in art history from the University of California at Berkeley (B.A.) and the Graduate Center, City University of New York (PhD), previously worked at the Colby College Museum of Art as Lunder Curator of American Art and as head curator. She also has experience in New York at the Whitney Museum of American Art and the Drawing Center, where she was assistant curator and then curator.

Also named to the board is Patrick Benzie, who moved to Vinalhaven from Boston with his family in 2020. He currently serves as the board treasurer of the Learning Project Elementary School in Boston and as a member of the board of PieRSquared, a non-profit math tutoring and mentoring program.

Benzie, a graduate of Harvard University, began his professional career working in finance in London and then spent more than a decade working in the tech industry in Shanghai, China.

“We are excited to have Beth and Pat join other leaders from the community and the art world on our board as we work to fulfill the legacy of Robert Indiana through the artist-endowed foundation he created,” said board chair Emily Lane, a Vinalhaven resident and seafood industry consultant. “Their expertise and experience will enhance our mission to support the visual arts and serve as stewards of Mr. Indiana’s personal collection.”

The Star of Hope Foundation was established by the artist Robert Indiana prior to his death in 2018 and is the sole beneficiary of his estate. The Foundation’s purpose is to support arts education and working artists in Maine and on the island of Vinalhaven, Maine, where Mr. Indiana made his home for several decades prior to his death.

[www.starofhopefoundation.org](http://www.starofhopefoundation.org)