



## **Docent Council FAMSF Cultural Glossary**

**July 1, 2021**

We are pleased to announce the Docent Council FAMSF Cultural Glossary as a resource for docents. The Glossary can be found under the gray Tour Reentry Resources Menu [FAMSF Docent Council Cultural Glossary](#) . During our MERG training, many docents requested a resource with common cultural terms and language for touring. During our review of words, we actively discussed contemporary, cultural language, especially that which directly involves touring situations. Since it is Contemporary, it will need to be actively monitored and updated regularly. Many hands contributed to the work, and we are proud of the Docents who created this resource.

### **1. Why was the Cultural Glossary Study Group formed?**

During our MERG training breakout sessions, many docents expressed uncertainty as to the appropriate use of various expressions, terms, and words. The IDEA Committee formed our Docent Council FAMSF Cultural Glossary Study Group as response to this concern.

### **2. Who is in the Group?**

#### Founding Members:

Denise Cartmill  
Doris Chun  
Alfred Escoffier  
Tricia Hagey  
Penny Finocchiaro  
Karen Francois  
Ana Gonzalez-Lane  
Lisa Sabatini

#### Contributing Members:

Anne Burns-Johnson  
Joyce Thorn

### **3. What is the purpose of the Cultural Glossary?**

In March of 2021, the Cultural Glossary was designed as an elective reference for docents who may have questions about current cultural language as well as the museum's revised chat panels, wall texts, brochures, museum catalogues, and signage. The Cultural Glossary is designed as an optional resource to help docents as we return to active touring.

#### **4. From what sources do the terms come?**

Our initial source was the *Diversity & Social Justice Glossary*, published by the Diversity Resource Center of the University of Washington. (This is available on the MERG page, Week 4 February 25: Microaggressions and Glossary of Key Terms, Guest Speaker: Ami Gaston)

<https://famsfdocents.org/committee-resources/idea/merg/>

This original source inspired further reference which offered new terms. Also, our group became very aware of how the media inserts these terms into their content.

#### **5. Are either the Museum Staff or the Docent Council compelling docents to use these terms in their tours? Does the museum have a Cultural Guide?**

No. This is simply a resource. The Publications Department of the Museum is developing a Style Guide. When this is available to docents, we will incorporate any necessary changes to the Docent Council Cultural Glossary.

#### **6. Who may participate in Cultural Glossary Group Meetings?**

All docents are welcome to participate in all group meetings.

#### **7. Whom do I contact should I have further questions?**

The Cultural Glossary Study Group, via Chair: Lisa Sabatini – [lisa7866@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lisa7866@sbcglobal.net)

#### **8. Whom do I contact if I want to add another term or provide additional or corrective information to the existing terms?**

The Cultural Glossary Study Group, via Chair: Lisa Sabatini – [lisa7866@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lisa7866@sbcglobal.net)

#### **9. How is the Glossary maintained and on what platform?**

The Glossary is located on an interactive platform. Currently, the Cultural Glossary is available to docents printed as a PDF and posted to the Docent website.

#### **10. What is the schedule for future Cultural Glossary Group meetings? How can I learn more?**

The proposed schedule is for four meetings per calendar year. We will resume our meetings in the Fall of 2021. During the Contemporary Arts Study Group ZOOM meeting of 10:30 a.m. on August 18th, 2021, an overview of the Cultural Glossary will be presented to the docents.