



ASSOCIATION OF ART MUSEUM DIRECTORS TO MEET IN SEATTLE

Program Includes Public Panel Discussion on Women and Leadership in the Workplace

New York, NY – May 18, 2017 – The Association of Art Museum Directors (AAMD) will hold its annual meeting in Seattle, Washington, from Saturday, May 20 through Monday, May 22, 2017. This will be the final meeting under the presidency of Brian Ferriso, Director and Chief Curator of the Portland Art Museum. At the conclusion of the meeting, Ferriso will be succeeded as AAMD President by Lori Fogarty, Director and CEO of the Oakland Museum of California. During the meeting, AAMD will visit the Frye Art Museum, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle Art Museum, and the Tacoma Art Museum.

In March 2017, AAMD published [*The Ongoing Gender Gap in Art Museum Directorships*](#) in collaboration with the National Center for Arts Research. The report is designed to deepen understanding of the current state of gender disparity in directorships of art museums in North America. As an extension of this dialogue, the meeting in Seattle will feature a **public panel discussion**, [*“Women & Leadership: A Spotlight on Current Perspectives”*](#), on Monday, May 22 at 5:30 p.m. (PDT), at Benaroya Hall in downtown Seattle.

The forum will examine the causes of women’s underrepresentation in leadership roles in business, politics, and the arts, with perspectives from the art museum field, higher education, and the private sector. The conversation will also explore potential strategies and opportunities to create greater gender equity in the workplace. The discussion will feature:

- **Moderator:** **Laurie Nash**, Executive Vice President of Russell Reynolds Associates, leadership advisory and executive search consultants
- **Panelists:**
 - **Phyllis Campbell**, Chairman, Pacific Northwest division of JPMorgan Chase & Co.
 - **Kathryn Kolbert**, Constance Hess Williams ‘66 Director, Athena Center for Leadership Studies at Barnard College
 - **Sheila Edwards Lange**, President, Seattle Central College
 - **Kimerly Rorschach**, Illsley Ball Nordstrom Director and CEO, Seattle Art Museum
 - **Sylvia Wolf**, John S. Behnke Director, Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington

This event is free and open to the public, and admission will be on a first-come, first-served basis. The discussion will be live-streamed to <http://bit.ly/AAMDLive>.

In addition to committee meetings, visits to cultural institutions, and informal sessions that provide members opportunities to share information on topics and issues in the field, AAMD’s annual meeting will also include the following programs:

- **“Different Voices: A Social, Cultural, and Historical Framework for Change in the American Art Museum – 25 Years Later”:** In 1990 and 1991, AAMD presented [*Different Voices*](#), a program focused on ideas and processes in art historical scholarship and institutional engagement. This session invites some of the original participants of *Different Voices*, as well as contemporary thought-leaders, to explore how museums have evolved over the last 25 years.

Moderator: **Chon A. Noriega**, professor in the UCLA Department of Film, Television, and Digital Media and adjunct curator at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Panelists:

- **Amalia Mesa-Bains**, renowned artist, scholar, psychologist, curator, and author
 - **Carol Becker**, Professor of Arts and Dean of Faculty at Columbia University School of the Arts in New York
 - **Madeleine Grynsztejn**, Pritzker Director, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago
- **Philanthropy in a Changing America:** This session addresses the changing nature of philanthropy, from giving for capital projects and programs to building endowment.

Moderator: **Janet Brown**, President and CEO of Grantmakers in the Arts

Panelists:

- **Huong Vu**, Community Investor – Arts, Culture, and Civic Engagement, The Boeing Company
 - **David Wertheimer**, Director of Community and Civic Engagement, Gates Foundation.
- **Crisis Management:** This session features a presentation on best practices for crisis management for the art museum field, led by Ron Hartwig, Vice President, Communications, J. Paul Getty Trust.
 - **Directors' Dialogue:** AAMD President Brian Ferriso will moderate a conversation on the most pressing issues facing the museum field with Glenn Lowry, Director, Museum of Modern Art; Kimerly Rorschach, Illsley Ball Nordstrom Director and CEO, Seattle Art Museum; and Susan Taylor, Montine McDaniel Freeman Director, New Orleans Museum of Art.

AAMD is grateful for the support of art insurance specialist AXA ART Americas as principal sponsor for the meeting.

The Association was invited to hold its meeting in Seattle by directors of four member institutions in the region: Joseph Rosa (Frye Art Museum), Sylvia Wolf (Henry Art Gallery), Kimerly Rorschach (Seattle Art Museum) and Mark Holcomb (Interim Director, Tacoma Art Museum).

The 2017 meeting will have an active social media presence, with attendees encouraged to live-tweet and Instagram their experiences with the hashtag #AAMDSeattle.

The Association of Art Museum Directors advances the profession by cultivating leadership capabilities of directors, advocating for the field, and fostering excellence in art museums. An agile, issues-driven organization, AAMD fosters engagement, leadership, and shared learning. Further information about AAMD's professional practice guidelines and position papers is available at www.aamd.org.

Generous support for the meeting is provided by:



For more information, the press can contact:

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[Schedule of Events] -----

Saturday, May 20

8:00AM - 4:00PM

**Day of Learning
With National Arts Strategies**

Location: Benaroya Hall, Founders Room

Registration Opens

Room: Cabinet, Assembly Row

4:30PM

Visit to the Tacoma Art Museum

Bus will depart from the Fairmont Hotel lobby

8:00PM

Free for Dinner

Sunday, May 21

8:00AM - 9:30AM

Continental Breakfast

Room: Spanish Foyer, Upper Level

New Member Orientation

Open to AAMD members attending their first meeting only

Room: Parliament, Assembly Row

9:30AM - 10:45AM

College & University Museum Directors Meeting

Room: Congress, Assembly Row

Task Force on Archaeological Material and Ancient Art Meeting (closed)

Room: Senate, Assembly Row

Spouse/Companion Breakfast

Room: Council, Assembly Row

11:00AM

Opening Welcome

Room: Spanish Ballroom, Upper Level

Welcome by Chris Anagnos, AAMD Executive Director; and Brian Ferriso, AAMD President

11:15AM - 12:30PM

Different Voices: A Social, Cultural, and Historical Framework for Change in the American Art Museum: 25 Years Later

Room: Spanish Ballroom, Upper Level

Moderated by Chon A. Noriega, UCLA Department of Film, Television, and Digital Media
Presented by Carol Becker, Columbia University School of Arts; Madeleine Grynsztejn, MCA Chicago; Sandra Jackson-Dumont, Metropolitan Museum of Art; and Amalia Mesa-Bains, psychologist, curator, author, artist.

In June 1990 and February 1991, AAMD presented a two-part program, "Different Voices," focused on the current ideas and processes in art historical scholarship as well as options for institutional engagement in a clearly more ethnically and racially diverse and culturally challenging age. More than 25 years later, some of those same issues still remain relevant and questions remain unanswered. This session invites back some of the original authors of "Different Voices", and current thinkers to debate and discuss how museums have evolved and the issues that they currently face today.

1:00PM - 2:15PM

Committee Meetings

Lunch boxes will be provided to bring into the committee meetings.

Education & Community Issues Committee Meeting

Room: Congress, Assembly Row

Professional Issues Committee Meeting

Room: Parliament, Assembly Row

Membership Committee Meeting (closed)

Room: Senate, Assembly Row

2:30PM - 4:00PM

Philanthropy in a Changing America

Location: Gates Foundation

Bus will depart from the Fairmont Hotel lobby at 2:30pm

Moderated by Janet Brown, Grantmakers in the Arts

Presented by Huong Vu, The Boeing Company; and David Wertheimer, Gates Foundation

Arts and culture philanthropy have evolved significantly in recent years. This conversation will address the changing nature of giving from capital to endowment to programming.

4:00PM - 4:30PM

Tour of the Gates Foundation Visitor Center

4:30PM - 5:45PM

Visit to the Olympic Sculpture Park

Bus will depart from the Gates Foundation

5:45PM - 7:30PM

Cocktail Reception at the Henry Art Gallery

Bus will depart from the Olympic Sculpture Park

7:30PM

Dinner at the Seattle Art Museum

Bus will depart from the Henry Art Gallery

Monday, May 22

7:00AM - 8:00AM

Yoga

Room: Council, Assembly Row

8:00AM - 9:00AM

Continental Breakfast

Room: Spanish Foyer, Upper Level

Board of Trustees Meeting (closed)

Room: Parliament, Assembly Row

9:30AM - 10:45AM

Contemporary Art Museum Directors Meeting

Room: Congress, Assembly Row

Art Issues/Government Affairs Briefing

Room: Spanish Ballroom, Upper Level

11:00AM - 12:15PM

Directors' Dialogue

Room: Spanish Ballroom, Upper Level

Brian Ferriso, AAMD President, will moderate a conversation with Glenn Lowry, MoMA; Kimerly Rorschach, Seattle Art Museum; and Susan Taylor, New Orleans Museum of Art, on the most pressing issues facing the field.

12:30PM - 1:45PM

Business Session Luncheon

Room: Spanish Ballroom, Upper Level

2:00PM - 3:15PM

Crisis Management

Room: Spanish Ballroom, Upper Level

Presented by Ron Hartwig, J. Paul Getty Trust

In every museum, a crisis can come completely unexpectedly like a bolt from the blue. Sometimes you may know beforehand that a problem or a threat is building, and sometimes you will not know anything before the crisis breaks out. In some cases, you may even have the chance to break the bad news yourself, at least on some platforms. But more often than not, you will not have a clue what will happen - or when.

3:30PM - 4:45PM

Budget Size Affinity Group Meetings

\$5 Million and Under | Room: Congress, Assembly Row

\$5 - \$10 Million | Room: Metropole, Lower Level

\$10 - \$20 Million | Room: Parliament, Assembly Row

\$20 Million and Up | Room: Senate, Assembly Row

5:30PM - 6:45PM

Women & Leadership: A Spotlight on Current Perspectives

Location: Benaroya Hall, Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall

Option to walk (5 minutes) or take the bus from the Fairmont Hotel lobby

Moderated by Laurie Nash, Russell Reynolds Associates

Presented by Phyllis Campbell, JP Morgan Chase & Co; Kathryn Kolbert, Athena Center for Leadership Studies at Barnard College; Sheila Edwards Lange, Seattle Central College; Kimerly Rorschach, Seattle Art Museum; and Sylvia Wolf, Henry Art Gallery.

Women in positions of power continue to operate within a paradox - positioned and looked upon to mentor and empower other women, all the while dealing with inherent workplace biases and unrealistic expectations of performance and work/life balance. This panel hopes to examine the causes of women's underrepresentation in leadership roles in business, politics, and arts, as well as suggest what we can do to change the status quo.

6:45PM

Cocktails and Light Hors D'oeuvres at the Frye Art Museum

Bus will depart from Benaroya Hall