



news release



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BOARD ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF DANIELLE RICE AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR DELAWARE ART MUSEUM



WILMINGTON, DELAWARE (MARCH 24, 2005) – The Board of Trustees of the Delaware Art Museum is pleased to announce the appointment of Danielle Rice as Executive Director. Dr. Rice succeeds Stephen T. Bruni, who officially retires March 31, and will begin full time on June 1, 2005. Melissa Mulrooney, who is serving as Interim Executive Director, will continue on through the end of June to insure a smooth executive transition and, most importantly, to guide the long awaited opening of the new Museum.

Susan Stalnecker, President of the Board comments, “We are especially pleased to welcome Danielle Rice to the Delaware Art Museum as we prepare to unveil a new Museum for the community, the region, and the nation. Dr. Rice brings exceptional qualifications as a distinguished advocate for arts education, community accessibility, and scholarship to this important leadership role.”

Dr. Rice joins the Museum following nineteen distinguished years at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. During her tenure there Dr. Rice served as Curator of Education (1986-1997), Senior Curator of Education (1997-2001), and Associate Director for Program since 2001. As Associate Director for Program, she oversaw the departments of Special Exhibitions, Education, Publications, the Library and the Archives. Dr. Rice has also headed the education departments of the Wadsworth Atheneum in Hartford, Connecticut and the National Gallery in Washington, D.C.

She has over twenty-five years experience in designing and implementing innovative new programs to communicate art to the public, working with diverse community members and through community partnerships. She shares with the Delaware Art Museum a dedication to making museums more accessible, visitor friendly, and community minded.

Dr. Rice states, “I am delighted and deeply honored to have been selected as Director of the new Delaware Art Museum. With its unique collections of world-class English Pre-Raphaelite art, its superb holdings in modern American art, and its elegant and expansive new building, the Delaware Art Museum is ideally positioned to serve, inspire, and delight its community through enhanced exhibitions, installations and programs. I look forward with great anticipation to adding my skills and talents to those of an already very talented and committed group of individuals—the Board and the staff of the Delaware Art Museum—who have dared to dream big dreams and worked so hard to make these dreams a reality.”

She has coordinated exhibitions, developed new interpretive strategies for permanent collections, engineered large-scale celebrations, scholarly symposia, and community outreach projects, in addition to numerous highly successful and on-going lecture series, courses, and family programs. Dr. Rice also has substantial experience with new technologies in the museum setting. She has authored and produced interactive CD-ROM's, kiosks and web sites, random access audio tours and distance education through videoconferencing.

Dr. Rice holds a Ph.D. in the history of art from Yale University (1979) and a B.A. from Wellesley College (1973). A recipient of numerous awards, including the American Association of Museums' Museum Educators' Award for Excellence (1988) and the Pennsylvania Art Education Association's Museum Educator of the Year Award (1996), she has lectured and published broadly.

In addition, Dr. Rice looks forward to working closely with city and state governments and with colleagues in museums throughout the area to sustain a regional strategy for attracting national and international tourists to Wilmington and the Brandywine Valley.

ATTRACTION LISTING UPDATE – DELAWARE ART MUSEUM

The Delaware Art Museum has been transformed with two floors of glorious new galleries, Delaware's first Sculpture Park, and wonderfully enhanced exhibition and education programs that have been the hallmark of the Museum since its founding in 1912.

The new Delaware Art Museum experience includes: seventeen customized galleries showcasing, in this inaugural year, thematic installations of the Museum's renowned collections of 19th and 20th Century American art; the DelArt Café & Outdoor Terrace; the Museum Store brimming with artful gifts; beautiful public spaces relating to the nine-acre Sculpture Park, which creates an indoor-outdoor experience; auditorium, meeting room, and reception areas to serve community groups and special events; the Helen Farr Sloan Library & Reading Room; and the MBNA Foundation Education Wing, with dedicated studio space for a full schedule of art classes for children and adults.

Effective Tuesday, June 28, 2005, the new Delaware Art Museum Hours of operation and Admission prices:

<u>HOURS</u>		<u>ADMISSION PRICES</u>
Tuesday	10 a.m.–4 p.m.	Museum Members Free
Wednesday	10 a.m.–8 p.m.	Adults \$10
Thursday	10 a.m.–4 p.m.	Seniors \$8
Friday	10 a.m.–4 p.m.	College Students (with I.D.) \$5
Saturday	10 a.m.–4 p.m.	Youth \$3
Sunday	noon–4 p.m.	Children (6 and under) Free
Monday	Closed	FREE Admission on Sundays

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