

**NEW PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD AND FOUR NEW TRUSTEES
BRING DIVERSITY OF EXPERIENCES & PERSPECTIVE TO WORCESTER ART MUSEUM**

**New President of the Board Is Joseph J. Bafaro Jr.
New Trustees Are Malcolm Rogers, Former Director of MFA Boston,
Former WAM Board President Sarah Berry, and
Worcester Philanthropists James Donnelly and Mark Fuller**

Worcester, MA—November 17, 2015—The Worcester Art Museum announced today at its Annual Meeting that Joe Bafaro Jr. will be the next President of the Board, and will be joined by four new Trustees: Sarah G. Berry, James C. Donnelly, Jr., Mark W. Fuller, and Malcolm A. Rogers. Former President of the Board, Cliff Schorer, and former Chair of the Governance Committee, Marie Angelini, will be rotating off.

Joseph J. Bafaro Jr. takes over from outgoing President Catherine M. Colinvaux, under whose leadership the Board supported Matthias Waschek, the C. Jean and Myles McDonough Director, in accomplishing a number of strategic objectives. Among them was the integration of the Higgins Armory collection, institutional capacity building, and increasing the Museum's visibility on a national level. The Board also provided crucial support for the creation of the new access bridge. Designed by Kulapat Yantrasast of the architecture firm WHY, this distinguished addition to the Salisbury entrance opens this week and makes the Museum universally accessible. Mr. Bofaro, who has been a Trustee since 2007, has served as Board Treasurer—and in that role has been essential to helping the Museum manage the growth of its earned revenue in support of its long-term financial planning and wider institutional goals.

“Our four new Trustees will add a range of skills, ideas, and networks,” said Mr. Bafaro, the incoming Board President. “With Sarah’s return, as well as Jim’s and Mark’s engagement, we are further strengthening our philanthropic reach while adding senior experience in not for profit oversight.” Matthias Waschek added “Malcolm’s wisdom as the former director of the MFA Boston will help us with the implementation of WAM’s 2020 Long Range Plan, which has four goals: Reinvigorate the Mission; Build the Board and Corporation of Tomorrow; Reach 200,000 Visitors by 2020; and Define the Path to Sustainable Mission.”

Additional biographical information about the new trustees is as follows:

Sarah G. Berry has worked with Wells Fargo Advisors and its predecessor firms since 1978. During that time, she spent eleven years managing the Worcester office and six years managing the Boston Institutional and Retail office. In 2009, Sarah created The Berry Group, working with clients of her own. She has served as president of the Higgins Armory Museum, Greater Worcester Community Foundation and Community Healthlink; and as a Trustee at the Worcester Area Chamber of Commerce, UMASS Memorial Health Care System, Bancroft School, Tower Hill Botanic Garden and the YMCA. She is also a former president of the Worcester Art Museum Board of Trustees.

James C. Donnelly, Jr. is a partner at the Worcester law firm of Mirick O’Connell in Worcester where he focuses on complex civil litigation and business disputes. He was named a Massachusetts “Super Lawyer” by *Boston* magazine and *Law & Politics* 2009-2014 and is a graduate of Dartmouth College and Boston College Law School. He is active in the Worcester community as president of the former Higgins Armory Museum, treasurer of the American Antiquarian Society, and a corporator at Greater Worcester Community Foundation. The Donnelly family has a history of service and involvement at the Worcester Art Museum: the American Paintings gallery on the 4th floor is named after Jim’s father, James Corcoran Donnelly.

Mark W. Fuller has for the past ten years been a Vice President at Benefit Development Group in Worcester, a brokerage firm offering group benefits insurance in medical, dental, life and disability. BDG is now a Risk Strategies Company offering all types of business insurance. Mark is Chairman and Treasurer of the George F. & Sybil H. Fuller Foundation, a leading philanthropic organization in Worcester. Dedicated to serving his community, he has been on various boards including MCPHS, Barton Center for Diabetes Education, Ecotarium, Worcester Education Collaborative, and United Way.

Malcolm A. Rogers, a native of Scarborough, North Yorkshire, recently retired as the Ann and Graham Gund Director of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, a position he held for two decades—the longest-tenured director in the Museum’s 144-year history. His achievements there include re-opening of the MFA’s historic side entrances, extending the Museum’s opening hours, diversifying audiences and the collections, and completion of a \$500 million fundraising campaign for the Art of the Americas Wing, opened in 2008. Prior to his appointment at the MFA, Rogers served as deputy director at the National Portrait Gallery in London.

About the Worcester Art Museum

Founded in 1896, the Worcester Art Museum’s encyclopedic 38,000 piece collection covers 51 centuries of art. Highlights include the Medieval Chapter House, Renaissance Court, and Worcester Hunt Mosaic, as well as the recently integrated John Woodman Higgins Armory Collection of arms and armor. The Museum is internationally known for its collection of European and American art. It was the first in America to acquire paintings by Monet and Gauguin and one of the first to collect photography. As the first U.S. museum to focus on collaborating with local schools, it has been at the forefront of engaging audiences and giving them a meaningful and personal experience.

The Worcester Art Museum, located at 55 Salisbury Street in Worcester, MA, is open Wednesday through Friday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and every third Thursday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is \$14 for adults, \$6 for children 4-17, \$12 for seniors 65+, and \$12 for college students with ID. Members and children under four are free. Parking is free. For more information, visit worcesterart.org.

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