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NHAA NAMES LISA POLAY AS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Succeeds 29-year veteran Angus Locke

PORTSMOUTH, NH – A former design and production manager at The Museum of Modern Art in New York has been named the new Executive Director of the New Hampshire Art Association.

NHAA President Robert Thoresen announced that Lisa Polay will succeed Angus Locke, who led the non-profit association for 29 years. She will take over the reins on Dec. 1.

“We must first extend our most sincere and profound gratitude to Angus Locke, whose tireless and intelligent dedication to the NHAA and its mission cannot truly be measured or expressed,” said Thoresen. “And the fact that we were able to find someone of Lisa’s quality and commitment is testimony not only to her talents, but also to the stability and health of the NHAA.”

Polay has been with MoMA for the past nine years. She traveled the world to oversee art reproductions, exhibition materials and original designs for products sold through the design store at the museum.

“I’m looking forward to welcoming new members, to promoting and expanding the artists’ forum series, and seeking new ways to help the NHAA grow and develop. This is an incredible and exciting opportunity and I’m grateful to the Board of Directors for their confidence in me,” Polay said. “The NHAA has a bright and robust future.”

Polay had decided to relocate to the Portsmouth area after visiting friends here for several years in order to pursue her interests in photography and other personal projects. When the Executive Director position opened up at the NHAA, she thought it would be a good match with her interests and skills. She has a background not only in art, but also advertising and fundraising, in the New York and the Seattle areas. Polay received her B.A. from Syracuse University, where she studied advertising and geology.

The “Art of Holiday Giving” show opens at the Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery on Nov. 8 and will run through Friday, Dec. 29. Artists drop off days are Nov. 4 – 5, noon to 4 p.m. The reception will be Friday, Nov. 10 from 5 - 8 p.m.

The Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery is located at 136 State Street in Portsmouth. The phone number is (603) 431-4230 or email at nhartassn@juno.com.

About NHAA

Formed in 1940, is a non-profit, educational, and professional association formed for the following purposes: To promote the arts and the profession of those artists who create art. To stimulate interest and participation of its members in exhibition and professional endeavors. To exhibit and sell members' works (paintings, sculpture, graphic arts, mixed media, and drawings) in a variety of juried and non-juried exhibitions. To advance the public understanding and appreciation of the arts.

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