ASSOCIATION OF ART MUSEUM DIRECTORS
TO MEET IN MIAMI

New York, NY – January 19, 2017 – The Association of Art Museum Directors (AAMD) will hold its mid-winter meeting in Miami from Monday, January 23 through Wednesday, January 25, 2017. The meeting will feature presentations from experts inside and outside the art museum community, as well AAMD committee and task force meetings and visits to local cultural institutions. The meeting will also include informal sessions for members to share information on key issues and trends emerging in the field. In Miami, the meeting will focus on entrepreneurial leadership, collaborative partnerships, and inclusive strategies, with presentations from AAMD members and leading academics and practitioners.

The opening keynote will be presented by Porchia Moore, doctoral candidate in the University of South Carolina’s Museum Management Program; a regular contributor to InCluseum; and frequent presenter on race, culture, and museums. Amy C. Edmondson, Novartis Professor of Leadership and Management at Harvard Business School, an expert on the study of human interactions in the creation of successful enterprises, will also give a keynote address on “The Power of Teaming in an Uncertain World.” Nancy F. Koehn, the James E. Robinson Chair of Business Administration at Harvard Business School, will present the closing keynote. Koehn’s research focuses on effective business leadership, and she will speak on “Leadership in Turbulent Times: Rising to the Challenge.”

The AAMD mid-winter meeting will also feature a session on “Public Partnerships in Miami”, a conversation between Silvia Karman Cubiñá, Executive Director and Chief Curator of The Bass; Franklin Sirmans, Director, Pérez Art Museum Miami; and Michael Spring, Senior Advisor to the Mayor and Director of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs.

Two case study presentations, featuring Chicago’s Museum of Contemporary Art’s “Coyote” project and The Frick Film Project, will highlight the ways AAMD museums are advancing their missions through the integration of inclusive practices and programs to better serve their communities.

“Seeing with Words: Visual Description and Web Accessibility,” presented by Susan Chun, Chief Content Officer, MCA Chicago, and Sina Bahram, Founder, Prime Access Consulting, is a participatory session that will report on insights and best practices from the MCA Coyote project, which aims to describe every image on the MCA’s website. The initiative is part of the MCA’s commitment to web accessibility and providing rich content for all visitors to their site, including those with vision impairment.

“The Frick Film Project” will be presented by Joseph Hall, Executive Director, Ghetto Film School, and Ian Wardropper, Director, The Frick Collection. This session, moderated by Elizabeth Easton, Director, Center for Curatorial Leadership, will share insights on The Frick Film Project, a collaboration between the Bronx-based Ghetto Film School and The Frick Collection. The partnership promotes cross-discipline arts learning by providing on-site arts education across the fine and cinematic arts, while demonstrating best practices for making museums inclusive spaces for people from all backgrounds.

“Challenges of Leading in Uncertain Times,” facilitated by Gretchen Dietrich, Executive Director of Utah Museum of Fine Arts, will invite AAMD members to share questions, challenges, and issues they are currently facing.
“De-Risking a Leveraged Portfolio”, presented by Jeremiah Wise, Chief Financial Officer, Indianapolis Museum of Art, will examine the measures museums can put in place to improve long-term financial stability in the wake of the 2008 and 2011 financial downturns, as well as other external factors that put pressure on museum budgets.

AAMD is grateful for the support provided by Phillips for the mid-winter meeting, and is pleased to welcome Arnold Lehman, Senior Advisor at Phillips, Director Emeritus of the Brooklyn Museum, and former president of AAMD, who will give a presentation to members.

The Association was invited to hold its meeting in Miami by the directors of three of its member institutions in the region: Silvia Karman Cubiñá (The Bass), Jill Deupi (Lowe Art Museum), and Franklin Sirmans (Pérez Art Museum Miami). In addition to events hosted by those member museums, attendees will also visit the Rubell Family Collection, the de la Cruz Collection, and the Margulies Collection at the Warehouse.

As with previous meetings, the meeting in Miami will have an active social media presence, and attendees will be encouraged to live-tweet and Instagram their experiences with the hashtag #AAMDMiami.

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 mid-winter meeting is provided by:

PHILLIPS

For more information, the press can contact:

Christine Anagnos / Alison Wade
Association of Art Museum Directors
212-754-8084
canagnos@aamd.org
awade@aamd.org

Elizabeth Chapman / May Wijaya
Resnicow and Associates
212-671-5159 / 212-671-5167
echapman@resnicow.com
mwijaya@resnicow.com
Monday, January 23

1:00PM

Registration
Room: Gallery 3, 4th Fl.

1:00PM - 2:00PM

Buffet Lunch and Coffee Available
Room: Met Ballroom 2,3,4, 3rd Fl.

1:30PM - 2:45PM

Committee Meetings

Professional Issues Committee Meeting
Room: Met Ballroom 5, 3rd Fl.

Membership Committee Meeting (closed)
Room: Plaza Room 1, 5th Fl.

3:00PM - 4:15PM

New Member Orientation
Open to AAMD members attending their first meeting only
Room: Met Ballroom 6, 3rd Fl.

4:30PM - 5:30PM

Opening Welcome
Room: Met Ballroom 1, 3rd Fl.

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

Keynote by Porchia Moore, University of South Carolina
Opening Keynote by Porchia Moore, a fourth year doctoral candidate enrolled in the School of Library and Information Science and McKissick Museum’s Management Program at the University of South Carolina.

5:45PM

Cocktails at the Lowe Art Museum
Sponsored by: University of Miami, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, Sotheby’s, International Arts & Artists, Academic Arrangements Abroad, and Edventure Promotions
Bus will depart from the Marriott hotel lobby

8:00PM

Dinner on own
Bus will bring everyone back to the Marriott hotel
Free for dinner on own
Tuesday, January 24

7:00AM

Yoga
Room: Yoga Room, 20th Fl.

8:00AM - 9:30AM

Continental Breakfast
Room: Met Ballroom 2,3,4, 3rd Fl.

Contemporary Art Museum Directors Meeting
Room: Met Ballroom 7, 3rd Fl.

9:30AM - 10:45AM

Seeing With Words: Visual Description and Web Accessibility
Room: Met Ballroom 1, 3rd Fl.

Presented by Sina Bahram, Prime Access Consulting, Inc.; and Susan Chun, MCA Chicago
Though not required, attendees may wish to bring a laptop or tablet to the session. Those who do will have the opportunity to describe images on their own museum website using the newly developed Coyote bookmarklet.

This participatory session will report on novel insights and reproducible best practices that the MCA Chicago and her partners have learned while embarking on the Coyote project - which aims to describe every image on the MCA's website.

11:00AM - 12:15PM

Challenges of Leading in Uncertain Times
Room: Met Ballroom 1, 3rd Fl.
Open to AAMD members only

Program of the Education & Community Issues Committee
Moderated by Gretchen Dietrich, Utah Museum of Fine Arts
In this session, several AAMD members will lay out a series of questions, challenges, issues we are all grappling with during these divisive and uncertain times. Our hope for this session is a productive chance to dialogue with our colleagues about the challenges we all face as leaders.

12:15PM - 1:30PM

De-Risking a Leveraged Portfolio
Room: Met Ballroom 2,3,4, 3rd Fl.
Lunch will be served.

Presented by Jeremiah Wise, Indianapolis Museum of Art
Many museums have financed expansion projects through the issuance of long-term debt. After the financial downturns of 2008 and 2011, interest costs on outstanding debt have put pressure on museum budgets. The IMA is putting measures in place to improve long-term financial sustainability while de-risking its endowment by reducing debt and increasing earned revenue.
1:30PM - 2:30PM

The Power of Teaming in an Uncertain World
Room: Met Ballroom 1, 3rd Fl.

Keynote by Amy Edmondson, the Novartis Professor of Leadership and Management, Senior Associate Dean for Culture and Community at Harvard Business School

2:30PM - 3:30PM

Art Issues/Government Affairs Legislative Briefing
Room: Met Ballroom 1, 3rd Fl.

3:45PM

Visit to the Rubell Family Collection
Bus will depart from the Marriott hotel lobby

5:00PM

Visit to the de la Cruz Collection
Bus will depart from the Rubell Family Collection

6:30PM

Cocktails at The Bass
Bus will depart from the de la Cruz Collection

8:00PM

Return to Hotel

Wednesday, January 25

8:00AM - 9:30AM

Continental Breakfast
Room: Met Ballroom 2,3,4, 3rd Fl.

Board of Trustees Meeting (closed)
Room: Plaza Room 1, 5th Fl.

9:30AM - 10:45AM

Task Force on Archaeological Material and Ancient Art Meeting (closed)
Room: Plaza Room 1, 5th Fl.

College & University Art Museum Directors Meeting
Room: Met Ballroom 7, 3rd Fl.
11:00AM - 12:00PM
Public Partnerships in Miami
Room: Met Ballroom 1, 3rd Fl.
Conversation between Silvia Cubiñá, The Bass; Franklin Sirmans, Pérez Art Museum Miami; and Michael Spring, Miami-Dade Department of Cultural Affairs

12:15PM - 1:15PM
Speaker: Arnold Lehman, Phillips
Room: Met Ballroom 1, 3rd Fl.
Business Session Luncheon
Room: Met Ballroom 1, 3rd Fl.

1:30PM - 2:30PM
The Frick Film Project
Room: Met Ballroom 1, 3rd Fl.
Moderated by Elizabeth Easton, Center for Curatorial Leadership
Presented by Joseph Hall, Ghetto Film School; and Ian Wardropper, The Frick Collection
This session delves into the successful partnership between the The Frick Collection and the Ghetto Film School. It’s a partnership that promotes cross-discipline arts learning and best practices for making museums more accessible to people from all backgrounds. Students are led in college-level art history courses using the Frick as source material; and then write, produce, and edit a short film based on pieces in the Frick Collection and shot in the museum.

2:45PM - 4:15PM
Leadership in Turbulent Times: Rising to the Challenge
Room: Met Ballroom 1, 3rd Fl.
Closing Keynote by Nancy F. Koehn, the James E. Robison Chair of Business Administration at Harvard Business School

4:30PM
Visit to the Margulies Collection at the Warehouse
Bus will depart from the Marriott hotel lobby

6:00PM
Dinner at the Pérez Art Museum Miami
Bus will depart from the Margulies Collection at the Warehouse

8:30PM
Meeting Adjourns
Bus will depart from the Pérez Art Museum Miami and return to the Marriott hotel