



Washington
Project for the Arts

NEWS

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LISA J. GOLD NAMED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF WASHINGTON PROJECT FOR THE ARTS

Washington Native to Lead Region's Top Non-Profit Contemporary Fine Arts Organization

[Washington, DC] – Today the Board of Trustees of the Washington Project for the Arts (WPA) announces the appointment of Lisa J. Gold as the new Executive Director of the organization, now entering its 34th year as a leader in the support of regional contemporary fine art. Ms. Gold begins her new role on March 18, as the leader of the storied and highly successful non-profit organization that has come to be recognized as one of the most influential and important arts groups in the region, and the U.S.

Ms. Gold's appointment follows the nearly five-year leadership of Kim Ward, who successfully guided the WPA through the 2007 separation from the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and subsequent re-establishment of the WPA as a fully independent force in the arts community.

"The Washington Project for the Arts is very fortunate to have found Lisa Gold from such a great pool of highly qualified candidates," said Board of Trustees Chair Andres Tremols. "Her experience, insight, familiarity with Washington, DC and with the world of contemporary art will be a great asset for WPA and the greater region."

Most recently, Lisa Gold was the Public Relations and Marketing Director at The Drawing Center in New York City, where she managed the institution's public programs and communications. Ms. Gold has over twenty years of diverse experience in arts management, fundraising, development, programming, outreach, marketing, advertising and public relations. With a career that began in Washington, DC, her previous roles have included Director of Development and Communications at Socrates Sculpture Park in Long Island City, NY; as Outreach and Development Director at apexart in New York City; as well as Associate Director and Account Management positions at advertising and marketing agencies in the private sector in Washington, DC and New York. Her experience is enhanced by an extensive resume of volunteerism, including serving as the Chair of the New Leadership Alliance of the New York City Chapter of ArtTable, as the Open Studios Director for the Downtown Arts Festival, and in various roles with a number of New York City visual arts organizations.



***WPA Executive Director Appointee
Lisa J. Gold***

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"I am incredibly grateful for the trust the Board of Trustees and staff of the WPA have placed in me. I am looking forward to working with their support, and with the artists and art community of Washington, to ensure a remarkable future for the WPA," said Gold. "It's a tremendous privilege to be handed the reins of such a celebrated and important organization. I am excited to bring new ideas and energy to the WPA and to the community."

The Washington Project for the Arts has recently hosted a number of successful exhibitions, programs and educational seminars including: *AQUIFER*, a sculpture show in conjunction with the Washington Sculptor's Group; *When Absence Becomes Presence*, the fourth iteration of the WPA Experimental Media Series in partnership with The Phillips Collection; *Uncommon Beauty* at the Ellipse Arts Center, and *No Artist Left Behind*, a 'how-to' self-help video campaign to help motivate artists and encourage them to take advantage of WPA opportunities.

On Saturday, March 7, 2009 the WPA will host the 30th Art Auction Gala, to be held at the Katzen Arts Center, which includes a silent auction of more than 125 original works by regional contemporary artists. For more information on the WPA, visit www.wpadc.org.

About the WPA

Originally established in 1975, the WPA operated out of various locations in Washington DC until its merger with the Corcoran Gallery of Art in 1996, when the organization was reconstituted as the Washington Project for the Arts \ Corcoran. While based at the Corcoran, the WPA\C initiated and supported a broad range of exhibitions and projects both at the museum and at off-site locations in Washington, DC.

In 2008, the WPA returned to full autonomy and formally separated from the Corcoran. From its current Dupont Circle location, the Washington Project for the Arts continues to provide opportunities for local artists to gain exposure for their work, and fosters connections between artists, curators, arts patrons, and the general public.

Mission

Washington Project for the Arts provides essential resources to support the creative spirit and success of regional artists. We present contemporary art through imaginative and provocative programs, and we connect artists with the community in both traditional and unexpected ways.

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