

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lyman Allyn Art Museum
Press Contact: Ellen Anderson, Director of Development
860.443.2545 ext. 2136 / anderson@lymanallyn.org

LYMAN ALLYN ART MUSEUM RECEIVES STATE GRANT FOR LYMAN ALLYN PARK

Will Receive \$1.6M from Connecticut's Community Investment Fund

New London, CT - The Lyman Allyn Art Museum is delighted to announce that it has been awarded a second major award from Connecticut's Community Investment Fund (CIF) to support the Lyman Allyn Park, a project that will transform the Museum's outdoor space into a twelve-acre urban art park in the heart of New London. Leadership of the Museum is thanking the CIF Board, the City's legislative delegation, the Speaker of the House, and Governor Ned Lamont for the generous grant and for recognizing the Museum for the gem that it is and the future that it promises for people throughout the region.

The grant, totaling \$1,620,357, will be instrumental in improving the grassy campus of the Museum into an engaging, dynamic, and accessible community space that will be available for community gatherings, free musical and theatrical performances, educational programs, interfaith services, recreation, free Wi-Fi, and more. The funds will be used to implement major features of the Lyman Allyn Park Master Plan such as the new pedestrian entry plaza, the Vitale pathway, an eco-friendly waterfall and filtration pond, the Great Lawn and Sledding Hill, a pollinator meadow, a new rain garden parking area, and more.



In addition to this most recent grant, the Lyman Allyn was awarded \$1.1 million from the CIF in September 2023 and \$500,000 from the Good to Great Program in June 2023. In total, the Museum has received more than \$3.2 million from the State of Connecticut to support Lyman Allyn Park.

"We are absolutely thrilled to receive this very generous grant," said

Museum Director Sam Quigley. "These funds will enable the realization of our Founder's farsighted vision by creating a Park as a splendid setting for the Museum. This support from the State of Connecticut is essential in our ongoing efforts to serve our community as a cultural institution that engages all visitors in new and meaningful ways. The Lyman Allyn Park will not only enrich the cultural landscape of New London but also provide a safe, inspiring, and educational space for people of all backgrounds to connect with the arts and nature."

State Senator Martha Marx expressed her enthusiasm, "The Lyman Allyn Museum is a beautiful landmark in our local community and holds a dear place in my heart. It is so exciting to know this funding will support its efforts to continue providing gorgeous and enriching resources for Southeastern Connecticut."

"The Lyman Allyn Museum and Park plays a unique and critical role in our New London community, and I'm thrilled to see the CIF board approve the funding to complete this project that will continue to attract tourists and interested residents," thoughtfully remarked State Representative Christine Conley.

State Representative Anthony Nolan pointed to positive economics, "I believe the project has the potential to produce positive and concrete benefits for the residents of New London and southeastern Connecticut. By enhancing the vibrancy of the community of New London, Lyman Allyn Park will help bolster the regional economy by attracting businesses and workers to the area."

Lyman Allyn Park will feature a variety of artistic installations, sculptures, and interactive exhibits in environmentally sustainable settings that celebrate local talent and diverse cultural influences. It will serve as a gathering place for residents and visitors alike, offering a tranquil oasis for reflection, artistic exploration, and a variety of community events. The Park will include natural and ecologically healthy areas for learning about responsible stewardship of our planet. In addition to seeking state funding, Lyman Allyn is engaged in a robust fundraising campaign to match public support with private resources.

About the Lyman Allyn Art Museum

The Lyman Allyn Art Museum welcomes visitors from New London, southeastern Connecticut and all over the world. Established in 1926 with a gift from Harriet Allyn in memory of her seafaring father, the Museum opened the doors of its beautiful neoclassical building surrounded by 12 acres of green space in 1932. Today it presents several changing exhibitions each year and houses a fascinating collection of over 18,000 objects from ancient times to the present, including art from Africa, Asia, the Americas and Europe, with particularly strong collections of American paintings, decorative arts and Victorian toys and doll houses.

The Museum is located at 625 Williams Street, New London, Connecticut, exit 83 off I-95. The Museum is open **Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 - 5 p.m.**; it is closed on Mondays and major holidays. For more information call 860-443-2545, ext. 2129 or visit www.lymanallyn.org.