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Lyman Allyn Art Museum

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LYMAN ALLYN ART MUSEUM NAMES FRANK H. GOODYEAR AS NEXT DIRECTOR

*Nationally recognized museum leader and scholar Frank H. Goodyear
to succeed retiring Director Sam Quigley*

NEW LONDON – The Lyman Allyn Art Museum is pleased to announce the appointment of Frank H. Goodyear, Ph.D., as its next Director. A nationally recognized museum leader, curator, scholar, and author, Goodyear most recently served as Co-Director of the Bowdoin College Museum of Art, where he and his co-director, Anne Collins Goodyear, led the institution for 13 years.

Goodyear will assume leadership of the Lyman Allyn on October 26, 2026, succeeding Sam Quigley, who announced his retirement earlier this year following 12 years of transformative leadership at the Museum.

Goodyear joins the Lyman Allyn at an especially exciting moment in the Museum's history. The institution is completing the development of Lyman Allyn Park, a 12-acre urban green space designed to extend the Museum's mission beyond its walls and fulfill founder Harriet Upson Allyn's vision of a park and museum for the "free use and enjoyment" of the people of New London. The renovated art park will create new opportunities for sculpture, environmental learning, public programs, and community gatherings.

The Museum is also preparing to open its fall exhibitions, including, *Isaac Sheffield: Portraits from New London's Whaling Era*, and *The Land You Stand On: Contemporary Art of Native and Indigenous Identity*, further expanding its presentation of contemporary art and its engagement with artists and audiences throughout southeastern Connecticut and the wider region.

"We could not be more pleased to welcome Frank Goodyear to the Lyman Allyn," said Eliza Sharp, President of the Museum's Board of Trustees. "Frank brings an extraordinary combination of curatorial expertise, scholarship, leadership, and an uncommon understanding of the role museums play in the life of their communities. His experience at Bowdoin and the Smithsonian, his national network of colleagues, and his commitment to



*Frank H. Goodyear, Ph.D. in the
Hendel Library at the Lyman Allyn
Art Museum*

making museums welcoming and relevant to broad audiences make him an exceptional fit for the Lyman Allyn at this important moment in our history.”

The appointment follows an extensive national search led by Dan Yeager of Museum Search & Reference, who worked closely with the Lyman Allyn’s Search Committee, and Board of Trustees throughout the process.

A Distinguished Museum Career

Goodyear comes to the Lyman Allyn following a distinguished career at the forefront of American art and museum practice. Before joining Bowdoin in 2013, he served as Curator of Photographs at the Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. He holds an A.B. from Princeton University and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin. His scholarship focuses particularly on the history of photography and American art.

During his tenure at the Bowdoin College Museum of Art, Goodyear helped guide the institution through significant growth and development. Among the Museum’s accomplishments was the acquisition of more than 5,000 works of art, including major gifts of contemporary art and photography. He also helped establish the New Media Arts Consortium, enabling academic museums in New England to jointly acquire and share video and digital artwork. Under the leadership of Goodyear and Anne Collins Goodyear, the Museum received major grants and recognition from national arts agencies, foundations, and corporations.

Goodyear has built an impressive record as a curator and author. He has curated more than forty exhibitions during this career and is the author or co-author of 13 books and exhibition catalogues, including *Winslow Homer and the Camera: Photography and the Art of Painting* (2018); *In Light of Rome: Early Photography in the Capital of the Art World, 1842–1871* (2022); and *Gordon Parks: Herklas Brown and Maine, 1944* (2025). His exhibition catalogues *Marcia Resnick: As It Is or Could Be* (2022) and *Art, Ecology, and the Resilience of a Maine Island: The Monhegan Wildlands* (2024) were awarded book prizes from the Photography Network and Historic New England, respectively.

At the National Portrait Gallery, he co-curated *Recognize: Hip Hop and Contemporary Portraiture* (2008); *American Cool* (2014); and *Unintended Journeys: Photographs of Environmental Displacement* (2014), among other major projects. Goodyear has also had significant experience working with interns at both museums, often providing opportunities for students to participate in the development of new exhibitions and other projects.

Looking Ahead

“I am thrilled to be joining the Lyman Allyn at such an exciting moment in its history,” said Frank H. Goodyear. “The Museum has an extraordinary collection, a remarkable history, a dedicated staff and board, and a growing relationship with the community. I am especially excited by the opportunity to build on all that the Museum has accomplished thus far, while leading the Lyman Allyn into its next chapter.

"I want to express my deep gratitude to Sam Quigley for his extraordinary leadership of the Lyman Allyn, and to the trustees, staff, and generations of supporters who have helped make the Museum what it is today. I look forward to building on that strong foundation and continuing the Museum's tradition of excellence in serving southeastern Connecticut and the wider region through great exhibitions, public programs, and meaningful community engagement.

"What makes the Lyman Allyn particularly compelling is the opportunity to think expansively about what a museum can be and what it can mean to the people it serves. The Museum's commitment to its collection, to artists, to education, and to the community—and the extraordinary opportunity presented by the renovated Lyman Allyn Park—provide an exciting foundation for the future.

"I look forward to meeting the artists, educators, supporters, neighbors, and all those who share a love for the arts and for this community. I am eager to listen, to learn, and to work together to build on the Museum's remarkable history and its tremendous potential."

Goodyear will inherit an institution entering a significant new phase. During Quigley's 12-year tenure, the Lyman Allyn underwent a major transformation, including the development of new galleries, significant acquisitions, expanded community engagement, and a renewed emphasis on the Museum's collection. His leadership also brought new attention to the work of Louis Comfort Tiffany in New London and established the *American Perspectives* galleries as a distinctive interpretation of American art through the lens of the region.

Perhaps most significantly, Quigley launched Lyman Allyn Park, extending the Museum's mission beyond its walls and advancing Harriet Upson Allyn's vision for a park and museum serving the people of New London.

"Sam has left the Lyman Allyn in an extraordinarily strong position," said Sharp. "We are deeply grateful for his 12 years of leadership and for all that he has accomplished with the Museum's staff, trustees, supporters, artists, and community. Frank is an exceptional choice to build on that legacy. He brings fresh ideas, curiosity, and a national perspective to the conversation about what it means to be a museum in the 21st century."

"The Lyman Allyn is a museum with a remarkable story to tell and an equally remarkable future ahead," Goodyear said. "I am honored to have the opportunity to become part of its long and rich history."

Frank H. Goodyear will officially begin his tenure as Director of the Lyman Allyn Art Museum on October 26, 2026.

About Lyman Allyn Art Museum

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 19,000 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. It is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 - 5 p.m., and closed on Mondays and major holidays. For more information call 860.443.2545, ext. 2129 or visit www.lymanallyn.org.