

NEWS RELEASE

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The Frick Pittsburgh Appoints Amanda Dunyak Gillen, the museum's Director of Learning & Visitor Experience, as Interim Executive Director



PITTSBURGH – The Frick Pittsburgh has appointed Amanda Dunyak Gillen, its Director of Learning & Visitor Experience, as Interim Executive Director. Gillen has served the museum for more than 20 years, holding various roles spanning the Curatorial and Education departments before becoming head of the Learning department in 2013.

"As we look to chart an exciting course forward for the Frick, we've determined the museum will be best served by appointing an Interim Executive Director who can fully empower our talented team of department heads to accelerate our progress without missing a beat—someone who knows the Frick well and can have an immediate impact," said Bob Hernandez, Chair of the Board of Trustees. "Amanda has earned the enthusiastic support of the Board of Trustees and our department heads

as well as the respect of the museum's extraordinary staff. She is very much looking forward to the opportunity to further serve an organization she has known and loved for more than two decades, taking on the challenges and pursuing the many opportunities ahead of us."

"I am honored to have the opportunity to work with my very talented colleagues in this new role, as we continue to welcome and serve visitors by presenting exciting exhibitions, thoughtful historical interpretation, and high-quality programing. My career at the Frick has been endlessly interesting and rewarding, and I am thrilled to put my experience to use in supporting this valuable museum in its continued growth and success."

In addition to overseeing all adult, student and family programs related to the museum's diverse collection, Amanda has been responsible for initiatives under the Frick's Strategic Plan and supported the recent award-winning reinterpretation project at Clayton. In prior years, she was part of the design team for the Frick's \$15 million dollar expansion that resulted in the creation of a new Visitor Center, a renovated Car & Carriage Museum, collections storage, and a new Education Center with facilities to support programming for learners of all ages and needs.

Since 2017, Amanda has been a member of the board of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Museums, the region's professional museum organization, and has served as vice-chair for the past year. She is an Adjunct Professor at Duquesne University, where she teaches a graduate course on museum education and public programming and an undergraduate course on the introduction to public history. She is also active with the Historical Society of Mount Lebanon where she is serving as the organization's President through 2024.

Amanda earned a B.A. in History from Allegheny College, where she also received a certificate in Elementary Education, and an M.A. in Public History from Duquesne University. She lives in Mt. Lebanon with her husband Eric, an attorney at Ebara Elliott Energy, their daughter Josie, their dog Parker and two rescue cats, Violet and Willow.

For additional information or images, please contact Kristin Garbarino, Director of Marketing and Communication, at Media@TheFrickPittsburgh.org or 412-342-4075.

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About The Frick Pittsburgh

The Frick Pittsburgh offers authentic experiences with art, history and nature that inspire and delight. Visitors of all ages and backgrounds are warmly welcomed to explore collections of fine and decorative arts, vehicles, historic objects, and buildings—including Clayton, the Frick family home and only intact Gilded Age mansion remaining from Pittsburgh's Millionaire's Row—left as a legacy to the people of Pittsburgh by Helen Clay Frick, daughter of noted industrialist and art collector Henry Clay Frick. Alongside these treasures, the Frick offers an active schedule of temporary exhibitions and programs on our 10-acre garden campus in the heart of Pittsburgh's East End. Information about The Frick Pittsburgh is available online at TheFrickPittsburgh.org.