



MUSEUM DIRECTOR WHITNEY DONHAUSER TO DEPART MCNY IN DECEMBER
Chief Curator and Deputy Director Sarah Henry Steps In As Acting Interim Director

New York, NY (September 30, 2022) – Museum of the City of New York today announced the resignation of Whitney Donhauser, Ronay Menschel Director and President, who will depart the institution in early December. She will begin her new role as Deputy Director and Chief Advancement Officer at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in January 2023, where she will manage the art institution’s global fundraising opportunities and capital expansion campaigns under Max Hollein’s leadership.

“Working at the Museum of the City of New York as Ronay Menschel Director and President for the last seven years has truly been a career highlight,” said Whitney W. Donhauser. “I am very grateful for the incredible staff, unwavering support from the board, and the fantastic, award-winning content we’ve shared with visitors from all over the globe. I’m particularly proud of increasing the Museum’s visibility and making the institution’s content relevant to a wider audience.”

During her tenure, the Museum has made significant investments in its digital marketing and content infrastructure, boosting the Museum’s digital visitor engagement and fundraising through innovative, award-winning content and campaigns. Ms. Donhauser leaves the museum in a strong place and well-positioned -- from a staffing, programming, and financial position -- for the lead up to the Museum’s Centennial in May 2023.

Under her leadership, the Museum opened such blockbuster exhibitions including: *New York at Its Core*, *Through A Different Lens: Stanley Kubrick Photographs*, *Rhythm and Power*, *City Game: Basketball in New York*, *New York Responds: The First Six Months*, and *New York, New Music: 1980-86* exhibitions. The Museum has been host to many authors, thought leaders and visionaries with its public programs including distinguished speakers like Roz Chast, Ruth Bader Ginsberg, Tony Kushner, Norma Kamali, Lynn Nottage, Faith Ringgold, Robert Stern, and Colson Whitehead.

“Whitney has brought solid and thoughtful leadership to the Museum and although we are sorry to see her depart, we feel she leaves MCNY in a stronger, more vibrant place.” William Vratatos, MCNY Board Chair. “As we approach our Centennial in May 2023, the Museum is in prime position to celebrate our role as New York City’s Storyteller for nearly a century.”

MCNY Chief Curator and Deputy Director Sarah Henry will step in as Acting Interim Director, with the support of our VP of Development Keith Butler while the Board conducts a search for a new Director and President.

About the Museum of the City of New York

The Museum of the City of New York fosters understanding of the distinctive nature of urban life in the world’s most influential metropolis. Winner of "Best Museum" in *Time Out New York's* "Best of the City 2021" and multiple American Alliance of Museums (AAM) awards, MCNY engages visitors by celebrating, documenting, and interpreting the city’s past, present, and future. To connect with the

Museum's award-winning digital content, visit www.mcny.org; or follow us on Instagram and Twitter at @MuseumofCityNY and on Facebook at Facebook.com/MuseumofCityNY.

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