



SANTA FE ART INSTITUTE

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CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP AT SFAI

Sanjit Sethi Named Director of the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO- Sanjit Sethi will step down as executive director of the Santa Fe Art Institute (SFAI) on September 30, 2015. Sethi leaves SFAI to join George Washington University to lead the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design as its inaugural director. Board Chair Joyce Idema stated “SFAI will continue to be a hub for creativity and social change and I am enthusiastic about its potential for growth and development.” The board of trustees of SFAI will announce an interim executive director and plans for a nationwide search shortly.

Sanjit Sethi has transformed and refocused SFAI since his arrival in July 2013. Programs developed under his direction include SFAI 140, a thematic residency program focusing on such issues as food justice, immigration, and water rights, the SFAI Design Workshop and SFAI Works. These new directions exemplified by SFAI’s mission question have made a profound impact not only in Santa Fe but also in SFAI’s local, national and international reputation. He became executive director in 2013 following a nationwide search, from California College of Arts where he was director of the Center for Art and Public Life and Barclay Simpson Chair of Community Arts.

During Sethi’s tenure at SFAI he has worked to secure funding from philanthropic entities such as the National Endowment of the Arts, the Burnett Foundation, the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, the McCune Foundation, and the Andy Warhol Foundation. “While I am sad to leave SFAI and this incredible community in Northern New Mexico” said Sethi “I am excited about the momentum that SFAI has built and look forward to seeing what it will accomplish in the future.”

Said Joyce Idema chair of the SFAI board of Trustees: “The Board of Directors of SFAI is grateful for Sanjit’s amazing leadership. We are fortunate to have had him in Santa Fe and wish him success as he assumes his new post. SFAI will continue its exciting programming and cultivating the important partnerships it has developed during his tenure.”

ABOUT SFAI (www.SFAI.org) :

Santa Fe Art Institute (SFAI) is a cultural organization that seeks to address a critical question: how can SFAI cultivate creative practices (from fine art to design to urban planning and beyond), engage with

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diverse communities, and address the most pressing social issues of our time? SFAI is a hub for creative engagement and social change. We facilitate this through a renowned residency program bringing together creative practitioners from all over the world, to educational programming that includes the groundbreaking Project 8, and public programs that celebrate local innovators and activists in events like SFAI 140.