



SANTA FE ART INSTITUTE

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CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP AT SFAI

Jamie Blosser Appointed Interim Executive Director of Santa Fe Art Institute

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO- The Santa Fe Art Institute (SFAI) Board of Trustees announced today the appointment of Jamie Blosser as Interim Executive Director, effective September 28, 2015. A resident of Santa Fe for almost 20 years, Blosser is a licensed architect working to creatively address equity in the built environment through community dialogue. SFAI welcomes her leadership and commitment to issues of social justice through its innovative, interdisciplinary programming.

Blosser recently completed a Loeb Fellowship at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, focusing on equity, resilience, and effects of global urbanization in rural communities. Significant local projects of hers as Director of the Santa Fe office of Atkin Olshin Schade Architects (2005-2015), include the CCA Muñoz Waxman Gallery, El Mirador Administration Building, and the Santo Domingo Safety Complex. Her community design work with Ohkay Owingeh over the last fifteen years has led to revitalization of their historic plaza area, and has been published in several magazines and books, including *Architectural Record* and the *Public Interest Design Practice Guidebook*. Blosser founded the Sustainable Native Communities Collaborative as a forum for peer networking, advocacy, and education supporting culturally appropriate and sustainable development in American Indian communities. She is Executive Producer of a PBS Natural Heroes documentary, airing in Spring 2016. She received her Masters in Architecture from the University of Pennsylvania.

Blosser joins SFAI at a key moment for the organization. This fall, SFAI launches its social entrepreneurship incubator SFAI Works, begins its thematic focus on Immigration/Emigration, undertakes renovations from a crowdfunding campaign, and welcomes new members to its core team- including new Education Program Manager Janet Gilchrist, and SFAI Works Manager Sylvia Johnson. SFAI's former Executive Director, Sanjit Sethi, will become Director of the Corcoran School of Arts and Design at George Washington University. Under his leadership, SFAI created a clarion mission framed as a question: how can SFAI cultivate creative practices (from fine art to design to urban planning and beyond), engage with diverse communities, and address the most pressing social issues of our time? Blosser will steward an important next step for SFAI, leading a strategic and creative re-imagining of how SFAI can best embody its mission, cultivate meaningful collaborations, and harness the region's significant artistic and cultural resources to engage its most pressing issues.

ABOUT SFAI: 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, public programs that celebrate local innovators and activists in events like SFAI 140, and our creatively progressive social entrepreneurship incubator SFAI Works. To learn more and find out how you can get involved, visit www.SFAI.org.