Joan B. Hunter joins Berkshire Museum Board of Trustees

[Pittsfield, Mass.] – Joan B. Hunter has joined the Berkshire Museum Board of Trustees as its newest member. Hunter, a Pittsfield native and Williamstown resident, brings a wealth of experience as a dedicated volunteer in the cultural community here in the Berkshires as well as her professional expertise in the field of education.

The Trustees and staff of the Museum are currently engaged in a long-range strategic master planning process, making this an exciting time to join the governing board for the Museum. The goals of the master plan are to create a sustainable, relevant institution that continues to provide high quality experiences for its participants in the 21st century.

“Growing up in Pittsfield, Joan Hunter has long had a deep understanding of what the Berkshire Museum means to our community. With her experience and skills, we are confident she will make a strong contribution to our organization as we work to determine how best to fulfill the Museum’s mission and serve the people of the Berkshires,” says Bill Hines, Board president. “Through our master planning process, Joan and her fellow Trustees are participating in a once-in-a-generation opportunity to shape the course of our future.”

Hunter is a former special education teacher in the Pittsfield School District. While raising a family, she and her husband James Hunter owned and operated the House of Walsh in Williamstown. She has been a member of the Board of Directors at Jacob’s Pillow Dance in Becket since 2001, and served as chair from 2009 to 2014. She has volunteered extensively in the Williamstown community, including serving as co-chair for the capital campaign to build the Milne Public Library. Past board service includes Williamstown Elementary School, Pine Cobble School, Williamstown Public Library, Child
Care of the Berkshires, Williamstown Chamber Concerts, Williamstown Film Festival, and Williamstown Theatre Festival.

**About the Berkshire Museum**

Located in downtown Pittsfield, Massachusetts, at 39 South St., the Berkshire Museum, a Smithsonian Affiliate, is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is $13 adult, $6 child; Museum members and children age 3 and under enjoy free admission. For more information, visit www.berkshiremuseum.org or call 413.443.7171.

In association with the Smithsonian since 2013, Berkshire Museum is part of a select group of museums, cultural, educational, and arts organizations that share the Smithsonian's resources with the nation. Established by Zenas Crane in 1903, Berkshire Museum integrates art, history, and natural science in a wide range of programs and exhibitions that inspire educational connections between the disciplines. **ArtZoo** will be on view January 23 through May 1, 2016. **Liminal Artifacts: Recent Paintings by Joe Goodwin** is on view through June 19, 2016. Little Cinema is open year-round. Spark!Lab, Feigenbaum Hall of Innovation, Worlds in Miniature, Aquarium, and other exhibits are ongoing.

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