Berkshire Museum Board of Trustees Elects New President at September 23 Annual Meeting

Four New Trustees Join the Board

[Pittsfield, MA] – The Trustees of the Berkshire Museum held their Annual Meeting on Monday, September 23, 2019, where they elected new officers, and appointed four new board members. The Museum is excited to announce that Ethan Klepetar, member of the Board since 2011 and Trustee Vice President since 2015, is stepping into the role of President, a position previously held by Elizabeth McGraw. A Trustee since 2008, McGraw will continue to serve on the Museum’s Board as Vice President alongside Trustee Vice President Melissa Scarafoni.

“This is an exciting moment in the history of the Berkshire Museum, and I am excited about partnering with our Executive Director Jeff Rodgers, the Board of Trustees, and the entire staff as we work together on the evolution of this important community institution,” noted Ethan Klepetar. “The Museum is an integral part of the Berkshire community, and I am honored to follow in the footsteps of Ms. McGraw and continue to lead us towards a bright future.”

During her tenure as Trustee President, Elizabeth McGraw was vital in creating a strong financial base for the Berkshire Museum, allowing the institution to secure its educational impact in Berkshire County. Additionally, through her commitment and inspiration of others, the Museum raised support to provide all children free admission to the Museum in 2020.

Four new members were also elected to the Museum’s Board and welcomed at the September 23 meeting. The following new Trustees will serve two-year terms:
Dennis Egan, a resident of Pittsfield, is a partner at a local law firm that represents individuals and businesses in business succession planning, corporate governance, and institutional and private financing.

Evan Hickok, a resident of Pittsfield, is an engineer, program manager, and an involved member of the local community who is working to help Berkshire businesses continue to grow in a sustainable way through human capital strategy.

Judy Rush, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment at Pittsfield Public Schools, has extensive experience in creating organizational goals, collaborating with community partners, and developing innovative programming for grades K-12.

Brian Tremblay, a Pittsfield native who now resides in Richmond, is an experienced business executive with many years of experience in finance leadership for both Fortune 500 companies and non-profit boards.

The meeting included the election of the slate of officers: Ethan Klepetar, President; Melissa Scarafoni, Vice President; Elizabeth McGraw, Vice President; Stephen Bayne, Treasurer; and Rachel Melendez Mabee, Secretary.

Caitlin Pemble was re-elected for a three-year term. David Glodt was re-elected for a two-year term. Elizabeth McGraw, Ethan Klepetar, and Stacey Gillis Weber were re-elected for one-year terms. Trustees who continue to serve are Stephen Bayne, Douglas Crane, Catharine B. Deely, Wendy Gordon, Rachel Melendez Mabee, Suzanne Nash, Melissa Scarafoni, Josh Simpson, Jeffrey Thomas, and Michael Wynn.

About the new Trustees:

Dennis Egan is a partner at Cohen Kinne Valicenti & Cook, LLP in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. His law practice includes representation of individuals and businesses regarding business succession planning, corporate governance, institutional and private financing, mergers and acquisitions, and commercial real estate. Egan is a member of the Board of Directors of the Edward J. Madden Open Hearts Camp in Great Barrington and a Corporator of the Boys & Girls Club of the Berkshires.
Evan Hickok is an art enthusiast, engineer, and program manager who has been with General Dynamics in Pittsfield since 2003. He has worked across the product lifecycle and is currently working on the human capital strategy to help businesses to grow in a sustainable way here in the Berkshires. Hickok has served as a steering committee member of Berkshire Young Professionals and the Berkshire Initiative for Growth and currently runs the robotics club at St. Agnes Academy in Dalton. He is a co-founder of OP Berkshires, an organization within General Dynamics charged with boosting the morale and engagement of Pittsfield employees through social and community connection.

Judy Rush is an experienced pre-K to grade 12 educator who has been working with Berkshire county students for nearly 20 years. As principal at Egremont Elementary School in Pittsfield, and now Pittsfield Public Schools’ Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment for Title I and Title IIA, Rush has led teams in curriculum development and organizational goal-setting, and worked to ensure that all students are given equitable opportunities within their schools. Rush holds a Bachelor’s degree in business administration from Monmouth University and a Master of Education degree from Cambridge College.

Brian Tremblay is Managing Director and Partner at Berkshire Fairfield, a Pittsfield based insurance and financial services firm. Prior to joining Berkshire Fairfield, Tremblay was Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of NBC News, and before that served as Senior Vice President and Treasurer of NBC Universal. A 17-year veteran of General Electric, Tremblay held a variety of finance leadership positions within NBC Universal, GE Corporate Business Development, GE Energy, and GE Aerospace. He has volunteered his time extensively for non-profit organizations, including board roles as treasurer, finance committee chair, and trust chair. Tremblay is a graduate of Dartmouth College and has completed executive management programs at Kellogg Graduate School of Management and The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

About Berkshire Museum
Berkshire Museum is located at 39 South Street (Route 7) in Pittsfield, MA. The Museum is open Monday through Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday noon to 5 pm. Admission is $13 adult, $6 child (under 18); free admission for Museum members, EBT cardholders, and children age 3 and under. For more information, visit www.berkshiremuseum.org or call 413.443.7171.