



JORDAN SCHNITZER
MUSEUM OF ART AT PSU

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PSU Names Maryanna G. Ramirez Director of Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art



[PORTLAND, OR, November 9, 2020] - Portland State University announced today it has named Maryanna G. Ramirez as Director of the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at Portland State University (JSMA @ PSU).

Ramirez will join PSU on November 30, bringing two decades of experience serving university cultural institutions. She currently oversees strategic initiatives at the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum at Florida International University in Miami. In this role she has curated exhibitions, directed museum programming and led fundraising efforts. Most recently, Ramirez oversaw the museum's re-opening efforts and guided

virtual outreach during COVID-19.

As JSMA @ PSU director, Ramirez will develop a long-term strategy for the new museum, which opened its doors in November of 2019. She will collaborate with guest curators to create spirited exhibitions, and drive programs to engage PSU's diverse student body and the community.

"Maryanna's broad experience and strong commitment to advancing accessibility and inclusion in the arts make her an ideal fit for PSU," said Provost Susan Jeffords. "She will lead a museum built on the idea that art and art experiences should be accessible to all."

"University museums have the opportunity to introduce students to new ideas and perspectives through art," said Ramirez. "As a first-generation college student, I know how powerful it is to engage with art as a young person. My goal as director is to provide students and the community with a sense of belonging and ownership at this important urban museum."

Prior to Frost, Ramirez served in curatorial, programming, and advancement roles at Syracuse University, DePaul University and the University of Michigan. She was also a curatorial associate at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. Ramirez earned her M.A. in art history from Syracuse University and B.A. in art history and women and gender studies from DePaul University.

“I am very excited to welcome Maryanna Ramirez as the new director of the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at PSU,” said Jordan D. Schnitzer, whose philanthropic support allowed PSU to establish the museum. “She brings extensive experience to our museum and I look forward to working with her in the future.”

Launched in 2019, JSMA @ PSU offers rich and accessible art experiences to Portland State students and to the public. Its galleries feature art by Northwest artists, faculty and students as well as exhibitions by national and international artists. The museum is currently open on Thursdays and Fridays from 11am - 5pm. A PSU ID is required for entry at this time. Press are welcome to make an appointment to visit.

Oregon's urban research university, recognized for excellence in sustainability and community engagement, is located in the heart of downtown Portland. PSU's motto is “Let Knowledge Serve the City,” and it offers more than 200 degrees with opportunities to work with businesses, schools and organizations on real-world projects. www.pdx.edu

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For more information, please contact Emily Stennes at jsma@pdx.edu. Visit our website at www.pdx.edu/museum-of-art/.