



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CAMBRIDGE ARTS PROGRAM NAMES NEW DIRECTOR

CAMBRIDGE, MA (December 2016) Catherine Kernan, Director of the Maud Morgan Arts Center, announced last month she was retiring from the directorship to cede the position to Haley MacKeil, Site Coordinator of the center for the past two years. Maud Morgan Arts (MMA) is a community art center established in 2010 by Cambridge-based, non-profit Agassiz Baldwin Community.

"It's been an incredible six and a half years of learning curves and challenges," said Ms. Kernan when she announced the coming changes to staff and supporters at an intimate gathering in MMA's Print Studio. In announcing her retirement, she assured her supporters that she leaves the art center in capable hands.

"I was the right person at the right time; now Haley is the right person to lead the center to the next level," said Ms. Kernan. "We have worked together as a team over the last three years and the transition will be perfect."

Ms. Kernan, a celebrated local printmaker and artist, was recruited by the center's architect Wendy Prellwitz and its board of directors to help design the studio space. Ms. Prellwitz noted that she and the board of directors incorporated Ms. Kernan's suggestions and then enticed her to remain as a part-time interim director through the design phase and the subsequent opening of the center.

"She has achieved a Herculean task here," Ms. Prellwitz said, praising Ms. Kernan's commitment to artistic excellence and her ability to create exciting classes and recruit quality teaching staff. She noted that the classes and workshops are fully enrolled.

"This is a bitter-sweet moment for us, as we reflect on where we came from," said Maria LaPage, Executive Director of Agassiz Baldwin Community. "Catherine's support and enthusiasm was instrumental in the creation of the arts center. We're sad to see her go, but we celebrate her vision, hard work and fearless leadership that brought us here."

In recognition of Ms. Kernan's leadership, dedication and her influence in designing the artist space, the print studio was named in her honor.

Ms. MacKeil, a graduate of Bowdoin College, assumed the directorship as a full-time position in December.

“I have met the most incredible community of artists, teachers and advocates and I am grateful to be a part of it,” Ms. MacKeil said. The transition will encompass certain changes; including a new Site Coordinator and the deepening of established relationships with local institutions.

Maud Morgan Arts is a program under the umbrella of the Agassiz Baldwin Community, a private, non-profit organization that has provided quality programs and services in the Cambridge community for over 40 years. Maud Morgan Arts comprises a full arts program of classes and workshops for all ages, the Chandler Gallery, and a collection of original art by noted artist and community resident Maud Morgan (1903-1999). The agency works to reflect the diversity and talents of the community, bringing people together to make art, share art, and support visual arts education.

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Dear Terry,

I'm writing to share some important staffing changes at Maud Morgan Arts. After six years as the Director of MMA, Catherine Kernan will be stepping down next month. We are expanding the role of director to a full-time position, and our current MMA Site Coordinator Haley MacKeil will become the new Director of Maud Morgan Arts.

Please join us for a reception to honor Catherine and welcome Haley!

When: Tuesday, December 6th, 6-7:30pm

Where: Maud Morgan Arts Center, 20A Sacramento Street (backyard, down the driveway)

Light refreshments will be served.

Catherine started at Maud Morgan Arts just after the center was built, and she has guided the program from its infancy to the thriving, dynamic arts center it is today. She has been instrumental in developing programming and collaborations, building a faculty of excellent teachers, and making MMA an essential part of the Cambridge arts community. Catherine is looking forward to having more time in her studio to focus on her artwork. We are sorry to see her go, but we are grateful for the ways her vision and dedication have shaped MMA. I hope you will join me in wishing her the best of luck!

Haley has been the Site Coordinator at Maud Morgan Arts since 2014, and she is involved in the day-to-day workings of MMA. She is committed to furthering the mission of the arts center by continuing to increase scholarships, reaching out to underserved groups, and developing strategic collaborations while maintaining MMA's high-quality programming and teaching. We are very fortunate to have found such a qualified and enthusiastic leader to usher the arts center into this next stage of growth.

This is an important moment in the history of MMA, as this will be the first time the program will have a full-time director. Catherine and Haley have been working closely together over the past few months to prepare for this transition. Haley will also be hiring a new part-time Site Coordinator. During this time, Maud Morgan Arts will continue to provide the classes, workshops, and vibrant arts community that you love.

To read statements from Catherine and Haley, [click here](#).

I hope to see you at the reception!

Best,



Maria LaPage
Executive Director
Agassiz Baldwin Community

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Maud Morgan Arts is a program of Agassiz Baldwin Community

Agassiz Baldwin Community, 20 Sacramento Street, Cambridge , MA 02138

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Dear Maud Morgan Arts Community,

Change is underway at Maud Morgan Arts.

I will be stepping down as Director of Maud Morgan Arts to return to my career as a studio artist and teacher. Updates on my work, exhibitions, contact information, and teaching will be at catherinekernan.com. Please stay in touch.

Since Maud Morgan Arts opened in 2010, I have worked “part-time” as Director. My experience at MMA has been extraordinary. My capacities have been challenged and stretched. I have learned the deep meaning of community and non-profit, and I have met many wonderful, dedicated people.

Now MMA has grown to need a full-time director. Haley MacKeil will take over as Director of Maud Morgan Arts.

Haley needs no introduction to anyone who had taken a class or workshop at MMA. As full-time Site Director for three years Haley has been closely involved in all aspects of operations and registration. No one could be better qualified or better prepared than Haley to take MMA to the next level, and I am thrilled that she agreed to take on the challenge. Please give Haley a huge welcome and continued support as she steps into to her new position. Please read her letter following mine.

After six years, Maud Morgan Arts is thriving. Classes are near capacity and have waiting lists. Our programs are expanding, and we are always creating new ones. Our autumn Spirit Awards fundraiser has been a growing success. I credit teamwork, flexibility, and creative thinking by the entire MMA and ABC team for how far MMA has come. Most critically, we have you: a strong and committed community of artists, teachers, students, parents, loyal friends, supporters, and donors. You are the ‘sine qua non’ of Maud Morgan Arts.

With sincere thanks to every one of you,

Catherine Kernan
Director



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Dear Maud Morgan Arts Community,

It has been a great pleasure to support and see you and your children grow with Maud Morgan Arts over the past three years. I am honored to take on the new role of full-time Director and am very excited to continue supporting and working alongside you all on multiple levels.

Whether this fall marks your first class or workshop or you have attending programming for many years, your involvement is the cornerstone to this organization. It is powerful to see both children and adults build relationships with fellow students and teachers that extend beyond the classroom and into the community. We hope to inspire this vibrant community by continuing to offer a positive and creative art environment.

You, our community, are the core of this organization and I will continue to be present in the center. I will continue to receive your valuable feedback about your experience with Maud Morgan Arts. Please feel welcome to share your thoughts, ideas, concerns and feedback. Having your support at this time is most valuable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Haley MacKeil".

Haley MacKeil



Honoring Catherine Kernan



Haley MacKeil, incoming Director of Maud Morgan Arts