

CONTACT

Jan Daddona
Development Manager
203.562.4927 ext. 20
Jan@cawmail.org

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New Haven, CT – Creative Arts Workshop (CAW) Board of Directors Chair, Antoinette Brim, today announced that Anne Coates will be joining CAW as Executive Director, effective November 8th.

Ms. Coates has nearly 30 years of experience working with nonprofit arts, civic and advocacy institutions throughout the tri-state area in strategic planning, program and resource development, marketing and community building, and equity and inclusion. Some of the organizations with which she has been affiliated include, ARTS East NY, Dance/NYC, the Municipal Art Society of New York, the New Jersey Theater Alliance, the Alliance for the Arts and the New-York Historical Society.

Ms. Coates received her Bachelor of Arts (Anthropology and Education) from Syracuse University, Master of Arts (Arts Administration) from Columbia University and a Certificate in Photography from the Rhode Island School of Design.

"The Creative Arts Workshop has a storied history. Its school and galleries have offered access to the arts to Greater New Haven for 56 years. Innovating and growing to meet the challenges of the future is imperative to continuing and building upon that legacy. Anne's aspirational vision coupled with her expertise in arts management makes her the perfect person to lead the Creative Arts Workshop. The CAW family is excited to welcome Anne Coates as our new Executive Director," Ms. Brim said.

"I am delighted to join the Creative Arts Workshop and am excited about this extraordinary opportunity to lead CAW to realize its enormous potential," said Ms. Coates. "CAW is a gem and a critical arts institution in New Haven -- a living, breathing center for visual arts and culture that nurtures creative expression and artistic pursuit in people of all ages and from all backgrounds," Ms. Coates said. "The arts and access to them are at the nexus of my experience and passion. There is little more important than keeping the arts alive, relevant and accessible in this generation, and teaching generations to come the value of creating art. "I look forward to working with the board, faculty, staff and the full range of artists and lovers of the arts in the New Haven region to fully activate CAW as a place where art can happen, nurturing a dynamic and inclusive place for the visual arts."

Creative Arts Workshop is a nonprofit regional center for the visual arts and art education that has served the Greater New Haven area since 1961 with its school, studios and gallery spaces. Located in the heart of the award-winning Audubon Arts District, CAW offers a wide range of classes in the visual arts and fine crafts in its own three-story building with fully equipped studios and an active exhibition. More than 2,000 adults and young people enroll annually in the over 300 courses offered by Creative Arts Workshop and its 55 teaching faculty. Thousands of visitors enjoy the exhibitions in the galleries throughout the year, and during its annual holiday Celebration of American Crafts. CAW is supported by its membership, tuition fees, grants from private and public sources, sponsorships, individual contributions, and arts-related fundraising events.