



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Hilliard Art Museum Welcomes New Staff Members: Nicodemus Bernard, Marketing Manager and Callie Smith, Educator

Lafayette, La. - [The Hilliard Art Museum](#) is excited to announce two recent staff appointments to its esteemed team. Nicodemus Bernard joins as Marketing Manager, bringing his extensive experience in strategic marketing and brand campaigns. In her role as Educator, Callie Smith brings her passion for education, research and the arts to the Hilliard. Both Nicodemus and Callie will play pivotal roles furthering the museum's mission to inspire and engage the Lafayette community through art and cultural experiences.

Originally from Eunice, Louisiana, Nicodemus' work mantra is "Innovation through Observation." With 15 years in the industry as a creative and marketing director in Los Angeles, New York and Hong Kong, his breadth of work includes major lifestyle brands, museums, retailers, networks, agencies, celebrities, and influencers. Nic received his bachelor's degree in Industrial Design from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and his master's degree in Industrial Design and Marketing from Auburn University and taught in their extension program in Taipei, Taiwan. Nic was a finalist in the International Science and Engineering Design Fair and featured on Project Runway: Fashion Start-Up on Lifetime channel.

Callie Smith earned her doctorate in English from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in May 2023. She holds an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Central Arkansas, and a BA in English Secondary Education from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She is an editor for Viewfinder, a museum education journal focused on social justice published by the National Art Education Association. Callie is also a poet and a researcher. Her poems have been published by Notre Dame Review, Grist, RHINO, Sugar House Review, Blue Earth Review, Quarterly West, and Santa Clara Review, among others. She is a podcast host for the Animal Studies Channel of the New Books Network, the largest open-access collection of author interviews about new scholarly books. Callie loves teaching and learning in the Hilliard's galleries. She looks forward to working with students and faculty on the UL campus and with the wider Lafayette community.

"We are delighted to welcome Nicodemus and Callie to the Hilliard Art Museum," says Louanne Greenwald, Director of the Museum. "Their exceptional talents and experiences align perfectly with our mission to inspire, educate and engage the community through art. We are confident that both Nic and Callie will contribute significantly to the cultural landscape in Lafayette."

The Hilliard Art Museum eagerly anticipates the fresh perspectives and innovative ideas that Nicodemus Bernard and Callie Smith will bring to their respective roles. Their passion for the arts will undoubtedly propel the museum in its pursuit of excellence.

Museum Hours, Admission & General Information

The Hilliard Art Museum is located at 710 E. Saint Mary Blvd. on the campus of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Museum hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Sunday and Monday. For general information, please visit HilliardMuseum.org or call 337-482-2278.

About the Hilliard Art Museum

Our Museum is a bridge. Our Museum is a catalyst. Our Museum is for everyone. We connect art and education, our university and our community, generations, heritage and cultures. The Hilliard Art Museum-University of Louisiana at Lafayette is not just a place to look at art. It is a place where visitors are encouraged to truly see art. It is a place of learning, where students sketch in the galleries and artists talk about their work. It is a destination for families, where kids express their own creativity through hands-on

activities. And it is a resource for academic research and observation. Museum experiences build skills that extend into every aspect of life. Viewing art promotes dialogue and understanding between individuals, among families, and throughout our community. Art makes life richer and better for everyone.

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