



Association of Art Museum Directors

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Message from the President

As an association serving museums in Canada, Mexico, and the United States, AAMD is naturally very focused on how our members serve public audiences in communities throughout North America. However, in our very globalized world, there is also an evolving consciousness of the art museum's many international roles, both as a programmatic partner and a promoter of cultural understanding.

Museums facilitate cultural dialogue not only through the exchange of objects and ideas, but through our collective appreciation and oversight of a shared cultural heritage. Because most of our international museum partners operate within some level of government oversight and support, discussion around the international role of AAMD has included the degree to which the Association should assume a greater role in advocacy. This includes, but is not limited to, working with the U.S. State Department and other governmental and non-governmental agencies to advance the interests of art institutions.

Given our increasingly globally-conscious and interconnected world, the AAMD can serve a valuable role in advancing our art museums as international partners, and in the process give the members of our communities the best possible experiences with original works of art.

Michael Conforti
AAMD President
Director, Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute