

Bay Area Glass Institute Appoints Joan Phillips as its New Executive Director

(San Jose, CA) The Board of Directors of the Bay Area Glass Institute (BAGI) has announced the appointment of Joan Phillips as Executive Director. Joan has been involved in all aspects of arts and cultural management in multiple non-profit organizations in the Philadelphia area.

Joan's selection as BAGI's Executive Director comes after an extensive search to identify the best leader for the organization committed to expanding the organization's impact by bringing glass art to more members of the community. "Joan has spent her career in the non-profit world, with a strong focus on community and arts education," said Steven Aldrich, Chair, BAGI Board of Directors. In selecting Joan Phillips, Aldrich said that board members felt that her experience in multiple aspects of arts administration and programming, her willingness to get hands-on with the community and her passion for the arts and teaching would continue BAGI's growth.

When asked about coming to BAGI, Joan said, "I am excited to have this opportunity to continue the organization's mission and to work with a community that has such a variety of talented people."

Joan has a Bachelor's degree of Fine Arts in Photography from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia and a Masters degree in Professional Studies in Arts and Cultural Management from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. She is a photographer and a founding member of Gallery One, the first student-run gallery at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia.

For the past three months, Tom Upchurch has led BAGI, another example of his long-standing dedication to the organization. Tom has been a critical link to continue BAGI's programming and allowed the Board to conduct a thorough search to identify its next leader. "The Board of Directors is deeply grateful to Tom for again stepping in as Executive Director. He has done an outstanding job, keeping BAGI moving forward and preparing for a busy fall," said Steven Aldrich.

ABOUT THE BAY AREA GLASS INSTITUTE

The mission of the Bay Area Glass Institute (BAGI) is to make the celebration of glass art accessible to all and provide continued artistic and educational growth to artists, patrons and the community. BAGI is the only public access glass-working facility in the Santa Clara County. A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, BAGI is funded in part by the City of San Jose and the Arts Council Silicon Valley. We educate the public about glass art by teaching a variety of glass-working classes, offering tours of our facility, bringing in internationally renowned as well as local guest artists to conduct free demonstrations & lectures. BAGI's two signature events are the Great Glass Pumpkin Patch® and the Annual Great Glass Auction. BAGI is located at 401 E. Taylor Street, Suite 115, San Jose, CA 95112. Phone:

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