

LAWNDALE ART CENTER

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Lawndale Art Center Announces Appointment of Stephanie Schuman Mitchell as Executive Director

Houston, Texas, September 14, 2015 – The Board of Directors of Lawndale Art Center is pleased to announce the appointment of **Stephanie Schumann Mitchell** as Executive Director. Mitchell has worked in the arts for over a decade. She brings to Lawndale curatorial and development experience from institutions including The Whitney Museum of American Art and The Drawing Center in New York City, as well as The Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, MA, where she received her Master's in the History of Art from Williams College. Before relocating to Houston with her husband, Mitchell co-directed the first on-line art fair, VIP Art Fair, and directed the curatorial program at Leo Koenig, Inc., a contemporary art gallery in Manhattan's Chelsea district.

“Stephanie's extensive and varied experience will lend itself well to lead Lawndale into the future, we are thrilled to have her at the helm beginning September 14, 2015,” said Nicole Laurent Romano, Lawndale's Board Chair, who led the international search to fill the position. The Lawndale Board of Directors and staff are also extremely grateful to Denise Furlough who served as Interim Director during the transition.

Lawndale Art Center is a non-profit alternative space for the exhibition of contemporary works in all media, unique in its focus on Houston area artists. Founded in 1979, Lawndale has owned its present location on Main Street in Houston's Museum District since 1993. With four galleries in its locally significant Art Deco building, Lawndale includes close to 500 artists annually in changing exhibitions. Over twenty exhibitions, informal talks and special events are offered yearly including annual events such as *Día de los Muertos* /Day of the Dead, Design Fair and The Big Show.

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