

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **New Museum Los Gatos Appoints New Executive Director**

**LOS GATOS, CA, DECEMBER 2020** -- New Museum Los Gatos is pleased to announce the appointment of a new Executive Director, Ami Davis, beginning January 2021. Davis has extensive experience working in museums throughout California for the past 22 years as an educator, curator, and fundraiser. “After engaging in a thorough search process, and taking time internally to evaluate our strategic plan, the NUMU board of directors is confident in its choice of Davis. She has the experience and passion for art, history and community to lead NUMU into its next chapter,” NUMU Board Chair Jan Schwartz said in a statement.



In the coming year, the NUMU team, led by Davis, will focus on advancing several important and exciting initiatives including the newly launched [Los Gatos History Project](#), an ambitious effort to tell untold stories of Los Gatos and surrounding communities through an exploration of NUMU’s permanent art and history collections. In the spring, the Museum is celebrating the 10th anniversary of its popular [ArtNow](#) Santa Clara County High School Juried Art exhibition and educational program. And, in response to challenges and opportunities brought on by the pandemic, NUMU is presenting its inaugural auction benefit exhibition, [Art in the Time of Corona](#) (Dec 11-Mar 6). Davis will expand NUMU’s public programs to include a new and robust selection of virtual programs including its Meet



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the Artist Series, Coffee Talk to Go, Museum Explorer (Gr K-5), and virtual exhibition tours. “I am so excited to work with the NUMU team to connect with the local community, and help create a place, whether in person or virtually, where we can all find comfort and inspiration,” says Davis. “Nothing lights my fire more than when someone has a transformative moment with a work of art, or learns something new about their local history. Art and history are basic needs; they keep us going and remind us of our shared humanity.”

The changeover in leadership comes after the successful two year tenure of current Executive Director, Maureen Cappon-Javey, during which she guided the organization to a sustainable relationship with the Town of Los Gatos, amplified donor engagement and tightened organizational systems. Cappon-Javey will be joining the board to provide guidance in what can now be considered a tradition for this organization, following in the footsteps of former Executive Director Lisa Coscino who joined the board following her tenure. NUMU is financially sound and poised for growth and further engagement with the community.

Ami Davis holds an M.A. in Art History from California State University, San Jose, and a B.A in Art History from the University of California, Santa Cruz. She has served institutions such as the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Monterey Museum of Art, the Orange County Museum of Art, San Jose Museum of Art, and the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History. She has also served as an instructor for courses in contemporary art at UCLA Extension and has been a panelist and presenter at numerous national museum conferences. Davis lives in Santa Cruz, California with her family.

#### **ABOUT NEW MUSEUM LOS GATOS**

New Museum Los Gatos (NUMU), formerly The Museums of Los Gatos founded in 1965, is a public non-profit art and history museum. NUMU’s mission is to engage the community at the intersection of art, history and education through innovative, locally connected and globally relevant exhibitions, programs and experiences. NUMU offers equal and equitable representation, opportunities and services to all stakeholders through our operations, exhibitions, public programs, and permanent collection. Visit: [numulosgatos.org](http://numulosgatos.org). Photo credit: @Crystal Birns

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