

# CURRIER MUSEUM *of* ART

## **Alan Chong Announces Resignation as Director and CEO of the Currier Museum of Art**

**Manchester, NH – April 3, 2023** – The Currier Museum of Art and Alan Chong announce that Chong is resigning as Director and CEO, a position he has held for nearly seven years.

“This is the ideal moment for both me and the museum to start new chapters in our work,” stated Chong. “The Currier Museum has emerged from the pandemic in excellent shape, and now needs to seek innovative and exciting leadership.”

Under Chong's leadership, the Currier Museum experienced significant growth and development. The museum's collection has expanded and diversified, with major additions in sculpture and decorative arts, as well as significant acquisitions from Norman Lewis, Judith Leyster, and Chinese export paintings for New England traders. Perhaps the most notable acquisition was the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Kalil House, which the board decided to acquire and was bolstered by a generous, anonymous gift.

Steve Duprey, president of the board of trustees of the Currier, expressed his gratitude for Chong's dedication and service. “Under his leadership, the Currier Museum’s commitment to helping veterans coping with PTSD expanded and has become a national model. Our art therapy programs for those fighting addiction are pioneering, and our art programs for children, adult art students, and those with cognitive challenges are likewise recognized nationally. We use art to help people live better lives. That is a wonderful legacy,” stated Duprey.

“I am proud to have helped the museum strengthen its ties to the local community,” stated Chong. “Our program to help families struggling with opioid addiction is the first by a museum. The new Artist-in-Residence program offers visitors and residents direct encounters with the rich and complex creative process. And our summer block party is now an annual feature of Manchester’s social calendar, with art, food trucks, music, and fun. I believe the Currier is well positioned to move to a new and exciting phase as it nears its centennial – one which will require and benefit from new leadership.”

Chong expressed his thanks to the Currier’s board, staff, community partners, members, visitors, and friends of the museum. Over the next two months he will work closely with the Currier’s stakeholders to ensure a smooth transition before he moves to Asia. Karen Graham, Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer of the Currier will serve as interim director while a national search is conducted to find Chong’s successor.

"I deeply love the Currier Museum, and while I leave with a touch of sadness, I know the Currier will be embarking on an exciting new adventure in art," stated Chong.

### **About the Currier Museum of Art**

The Currier Museum is an internationally renowned art museum located in Manchester, New Hampshire. The museum features paintings, sculpture, decorative arts, and photographs, including works by Monet, Picasso, O’Keeffe, Hopper, and Wyeth. It presents exhibitions, tours, art classes, and community programs year-round. Two houses designed by Frank Lloyd Wright are part of its permanent collection.

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