It is amazing how time flies! It has been a little over a year since I was hired as the director of the New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks! and a lot happened since then. I am pleased to have this opportunity to share some of the highlights that have occurred since my appointment in November 2017. But before I get to that, first and foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our Board of Trustees and Board Chair, Caroline Conzatti, for their ongoing support of and commitment to this institution.

Over the past year, I have been struck by the quality and investment of the Museum staff and volunteers; all are exceptional people whom I value tremendously. I sincerely thank all of our participating artists, teachers, members, supporters, visitors, trustees, and our extraordinary team of museum professionals for making our progress over the past year possible and for joining us as we look forward to the year ahead. What friends of the New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks! may not be aware of is how hard we are working behind the scenes to ensure the institution’s long-term sustainability. With the launch of the Museum’s strategic plan in August 2017, benchmarks began to be used in measuring our progress in both short and long term achievements.

With these benchmarks in mind, we strive to create exhibitions that feature regional as well as national and international artists. In doing so,
the Museum develops its reach and reputation as a culturally diverse institution. During 2018 a database was created to document and analyze information about exhibiting artists, including geographic origin and media from the past three years. In the area of education and outreach, we continue to partner with the community and cultural events to develop relevant educational offerings. We continue to improve the Museum’s capacity to evaluate and prioritize education programs with an annual assessment that is both quantitative as well as qualitative.

The seeds of sustainability, relevance, and access were planted as the Museum and Board of Trustees revisited expanding this institution to the second floor of 608 Pleasant Street. This investigation of incorporating the building’s second floor into the Museum’s active footprint began with a vision for the City’s art collection. We are researching the feasibility of undertaking a multi-year project to create gallery and education space. There will be much more to come on this project as we move through 2019.

Without a doubt, museums are joint ventures. This is your museum. Without you, we cannot exist. Our continued success depends upon your continued participation and enthusiasm.

Sincere thanks to all,

Ashley Occhino
Executive Director
SKYLIGHT GALLERY

SCAPES: Placemaking in the 21st Century
10/25/2017 – 3/11/2018

CVPA UMASS DARTMOUTH MFA EXHIBITION
3/31 – 5/12/2018

BIRDS OF THE FIRST LIGHT & LONGHOUSES
5/25 – 10/14/2018
Featuring works from the New Bedford Free Public Library Collection
Curated by Louie Doherty

MEMBERS EXHIBITION
11/30/2017 – 3/3/2018

MEMBERS EXHIBITION

HERITAGE GALLERY

MEMBERS EXHIBITION
11/30/2017 – 3/3/2018

UNUSUAL GROWTH PATTERNS
Mixed Media works by Alison Wells
5/23 – 8/19/2018

TEN YEARS AFTER...
Works by Adrian Tió Diaz
9/5 – 11/11/2018

WHO SAVED WHO?
12/1/2018- 3/3/2019
CITY GALLERY
Curated by Janice Hodson

FLAGRANT FOWLS
12/11/2017 – 5/21/2018

AUDUBON IN NEW BEDFORD
5/25 – 10/14/2018

EX LIBRIS
11/19/2018 – 6/8/2019

FIBER OPTIC CENTER
NEW MEDIA GALLERY

VISITING THAHAB Video by Nabeela Vega
11/29/2017 – 3/25/2018

TAIP Teen Artist Internship Program
4/4 – 5/4/2018

MULTITUDES Video by Don Burton
5/30 – 7/15/2018

LATE 4 THE BUS
Saturn’s Returning Like Right Now
Videos by Mimi Chrzanowski
7/18 – 10/7/2018

HAYLEY MORRIS
10/17/2018 – 1/13/2019

Image: Andrew Kepinski
Educational programs and community outreach are at the heart of our mission. New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks! serves learners and explorers of all ages from newborns to seniors. Whether in classrooms and studios at the Museum, or via the artMOBILE traveling the city’s playgrounds, or through collaborations off-site with community partners, we strive to make art accessible for everyone.
• Over 3,500 children, teens, and adults were served in structured art education programs.

• The artMOBILE with two vans, visited 20 sites every week bringing summer art activities to more than 800 children.

• More than 400 adults enjoyed classes and workshops in a variety of art mediums.

• Art educators from across the state of Massachusetts received Professional Development Points for their day of education and workshops at the Museum in partnership with Southeastern Massachusetts Education Collaborative and UMASS Dartmouth.

• We activated our Teen Arts Council (TAC) which is based on the idea of Choice = Voice. The program paid qualified teen applicants to spearhead a series of community outreach efforts in downtown New Bedford.

• Our Teen Artist Internship Program (TAIP) celebrated 15 years of pairing high school students with an established local artist. This program allows the teens to work with a creative mentor in an actual studio while creating artwork. At the end of the internship, the artists and teens get the opportunity to exhibit the work that they’ve made at the New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks!. 

Image: V. Sutherland Photography
2/1/2018, Arts Community Reacts to Potential Game Changer
3/1/2018, Visiting Thahab: Extraordinary Ordinariness, Artscope Magazine
4/26/2018, Artweek offers free events, ArtWeekMa.org
5/5/2018, Events for May 05, 2018, 7 News Boston
5/30/2018, Massachusetts Museums offer free admission
5/30/2018, Massachusetts museums offer free admission
6/7/2018, Audubon Prints on Exhibit in New Bedford, South Coast Today
8/11/2018, All New Set of Audubon Prints to Be Displayed
9/5/2018, Ten Years After...works by Puerto Rican Artist Adrian Tio Diaz, Puerto Rico Art News
9/26/2018, ‘We’re thrilled’: Major arts grants announced for local arts organizations, Fall River, The Standard Times
9/27/2018, City Arts Score Big, Fairhaven Neighborhood News
10/18/2018, Project adding more fun to ‘New Bedford’s backyard’ launched, The Standard Times
10/26/2018, Massachusetts Foundations Team Up To Launch $25 Million Arts Initiative, Artforum
12/13/2018, NBAM hits the paws button with new exhibit, The Standard Times
12/16/2018, Exhibit looks at our bond with pets, The Standard Times
12/18/2018, New Exhibit at New Bedford Art Museum is dog-gone purrfect, The Providence Journal
In 2018, the Museum Shop sold hand-crafted merchandise from 42 local and regional vendors - this includes 35 artists based right here in Massachusetts.

Museum Shop revenue is up 20% from 2017, with over $10,000 in sales.
Museum Shop Artists Highlights

Beverly Carter - S. Dartmouth ceramicist, her work has also been represented by Dedee Shattuck Gallery in Westport.

Adrian Tio - Current professor of Printmaking at UMass Dartmouth (CVPA Star Store), former UMass Dartmouth CVPA Dean.

Marjorie Puryear - Former professor of Textile Arts at UMass Dartmouth. She travels to Guatemala and works with fair trade artists to have her own custom pattern and designs woven into scarves, beaded purses and bracelets.

Tilla Rodemann - Jamaica Plain-based ceramic artist, known for her playful, hand-illustrated depictions of animals on her functional wares (mugs, sugar bowls, creamers, etc.)

Andrew Kepinski - New Bedford photographer and friendly neighborhood bartender at The Pour Farm.

Deb Ehrens - Dartmouth-based photographer, her captivating leaf photograph was accepted into this year’s Member’s Exhibition.

Image: V. Sutherland Photography
Year in Numbers

Gallery Visitors: 5,685

Social Media Followers: 6,766

Community Events and Class Attendance: 4,342
The power of partnerships and collaboration continues to support our core mission of engaging a diverse audience as a vital innovative center for the arts. We saw partnerships with several active community organizations grow – as founding members of the New Bedford LGBTQ Winter Film Series, in collaboration with MassDevelopment, New Bedford Folk Festival, and Viva Portugal!, and with the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park in support of their new Makerspace through a shared AmeriCorps VISTA Steward.

In 2018, we welcomed the Seaport Cultural District Annual Meeting/NB Creates Annual Meeting, the first New Bedford Historical Society Annual Frederick Douglass Humanitarian Award, New Bedford’s #ArtsMatterDay photo, Leadership Southcoast Arts and Culture Day, a welcoming reception for New Bedford superintendent Dr. Thomas Anderson, and audience-driven events with UMass Dartmouth CVPA Artists in Residence Roz Cruz (2017-2018) and Lauren Moran (2018-2019).
Our Members

Membership is Growing!

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<th>Year</th>
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Membership is Growing!
It is the ongoing patronage of our members, whether local, national or international, that enables New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks! to pursue its mission in so many different ways. We are extremely grateful for the support we receive. From exhibition openings to gallery talks, tastings, art classes to concerts, film screenings, and special events, there are many meaningful ways that our members connect to each other and to the Museum.

![Image: Carly Costello]
2018 held moments of celebration with The Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts unveiling its Creative Commonwealth Initiative to bring public art to New Bedford and Fall River. The Museum’s Creative Courts project was awarded the maximum possible funding. Through this support, we will revitalize and renovate public basketball courts in Fall River and New Bedford through a transformative, mural-style court project.

Our celebrating continued into the Fall, as the Museum received an invitation to participate in the Barr-Klarman Massachusetts Arts Initiative, a partnership between two Boston-based foundations (Barr and The Klarman Family Foundations). All 29 participating organizations receive flexible, multi-year operating support grants, in addition to training and technical assistance from TDC, a nonprofit consulting and research firm. Our engagement in the initiative will span three years with two grants totaling over $100,000 – a ringing endorsement of New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks!’s hard work and potential.
Amelia Peabody Foundation
Barr and The Klarman Family Foundations
Bristol County Savings Bank Charitable Fund
City of New Bedford, Community Development Block Grant
City of New Bedford, Invest In Kids
Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts
Island Foundation, Inc.
John Lipsky-George Whittaker Fund Local Cultural Council of Acushnet
Kaplan Charitable Foundation
Ladera Foundation
Local Cultural Council of Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Freetown, New Bedford, Rochester, and Westport
Massachusetts Cultural Council
Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities
Maurice and Anne Makepeace Family Foundation
New Bedford Education Foundation
New Bedford Economic Development Council, Inc.
New Bedford Day Nursery
New Bedford Rainy Day Foundation
Polaroid Foundation
Schrafft Charitable Trust
Target
United Way Community Impact Grant
Walmart
Wicked Cool Programs

Image: Andrew Kepinski
The financial support we receive comes from individuals, foundations, businesses, government grants, in-kind contributions, class and workshop tuition, and the Museum Shop. We invest this support in our mission – bringing relevant exhibitions, exemplary education and creative experiences to our community and beyond.
We would like to recognize the following donors whose contributions were received between January 1 and December 31, 2018. Gifts of all sizes are valued and vital to our success. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to each and every donor for their generosity and support.

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John Deknatel and Carol Taylor

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Charles E. and Christina Bascom
Christine Parks
Christopher and Patricia Arnold
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Fiber Optic Center
GateHouse Media Operating LLC
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Jean Bennett
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Nye Lubricants
Robert and Victoria Cunningham
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Our Mission

New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks! is dedicated to engaging a diverse audience in relevant exhibitions, exemplary education and creative experiences as a vital innovative center for the arts.

WAYS TO SUPPORT NBAM/ArtWorks!

You can make a positive impact through your generosity with a membership, by making a donation, or as a volunteer.

Please consider becoming involved as a supporter of NBAM/ArtWorks!.

New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks!
608 Pleasant Street
New Bedford, MA 02740
508-961-3072
newbedfordart.org