
Exhibition Bios

Dr. Lewis I. Sharp

Frederick and Jan Mayer Director, Denver Art Museum



Photo by Ray Ng

Dr. Lewis Sharp became Director of the Denver Art Museum in 1989, after serving as curator and administrator for the American Wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art from 1982 to 1989. Sharp, who received his Ph.D. from the University of Delaware, has published numerous works on American art. Under his directorship, the Denver Art Museum moved decisively to develop a national agenda, which has included refining and augmenting the Museum's collections and initiating one of the most innovative educational programs for children and adults in this country. In 1993 and 1997, Sharp led the Museum through major renovation projects, which included several new galleries, an education center and special exhibition galleries. Continuing his drive to enhance and improve the Museum, Sharp most recently managed the completion of the Frederic C. Hamilton Building, which nearly doubled the size of the current complex. Spearheading this expansion project, Sharp worked with world-renowned architect Daniel Libeskind to design the new building with expanded permanent gallery and exhibition space for the Museum.

Darrin Alfred

AIGA Assistant Curator of Graphic Design, Denver Art Museum



Darrin Alfred joined the Denver Art Museum in November 2007 as the AIGA Assistant Curator of Graphic Design. Alfred is curator of *The Psychedelic Experience: Rock Posters from the San Francisco Bay Area, 1965-71*, an exhibition organized by the Denver Art Museum. Previously, he served as Assistant Curator in the Department of Architecture and Design at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA), where he curated numerous architecture and design exhibitions. Prior to that position, he was a curatorial associate at SFMOMA, and has served as a guest curator for the San Francisco chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Alfred received his B.A. in architectural history from the University of Pittsburgh and obtained his master's from the University of Colorado Denver in landscape architecture. His role at the DAM includes management of the American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA) Design Archives—a collection donated to the Museum for display and study which consists of approximately 6,000 objects and is the most comprehensive collection in the world of American graphic design from 1980 to the present. He also oversees the Museum's graphic design collection and curatorial program.

Melora McDermott-Lewis

**Director of Education and Master Teacher for European and American Art,
Denver Art Museum**



Since starting at the Denver Art Museum in 1986, director of education Melora McDermott-Lewis has been instrumental in establishing the Museum's reputation as family-friendly and for developing innovative installed-learning opportunities for adults. She is also the master teacher for European and American art, and co-project director for European and American temporary exhibitions at the Museum, including a two-year exhibition program partnership with the musée du Louvre. McDermott-Lewis has been featured as a speaker at both the national and international level, recently discussing "Engaging the Art Novice" at the "Learning in Art Museums?" symposium at the Louvre. She was the project director for such publications as *Family Programs at the Denver Art Museum* and *Enriching Visitor*

Experiences: The Reinstallation of the Denver Art Museum's European and American Collections. Her research on art novices is frequently cited in museum education publications. Prior to working at the Denver Art Museum, McDermott-Lewis taught and created a variety of family and school materials for the Oakland Museum in California, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. McDermott-Lewis was a student of art history at Harvard and Boston Universities, and she received her B.A. in European History from Princeton University. She obtained her masters from the John F. Kennedy University Center for Museum Studies in museum studies/education.