

For Immediate Release  
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Contact: Andrea Fulton, 720-913-0116  
Kristin Altman, 720-913-0114

## Denver Art Museum Completes Mid-Year Evaluation

(Denver, CO)— As part of a planned mid-year evaluation process following the opening of the Frederic C. Hamilton Building, the Denver Art Museum has implemented changes to bring staff levels into alignment with the ongoing program and operation of the Museum. Thirty staff members at the Denver Art Museum took advantage of a voluntary resignation program offered by the Museum nearly two weeks ago. In addition to the voluntary resignations, the Museum has eliminated an additional eight positions effective this week. These reductions total approximately 14%; however, staffing remains 15% higher than pre-expansion levels.

The Museum increased its operation to an unprecedented level during the opening season of the Frederic C. Hamilton Building and the voluntary resignation program and staff cuts were part of a larger plan to bring the operations to a more appropriate level for the ongoing program of the Museum. The resignation program was offered to the entire benefited staff and was accepted by individuals in a variety of positions at the Museum including security, conservation, technology, communications, publications, development and membership. The positions eliminated this week come primarily from membership, development, visitor services and the Museum Shop—all of these departments experienced a significant increase in staff due to opening the new building.

“We are moving into a new era of the Denver Art Museum and it is time to shift the focus from the building project to the ongoing program of the institution,” said Lewis Sharp, director of the Denver Art Museum. “This mid-year evaluation puts us on track for the future as we continue our dedication to enriching the visitor experience and launching our traveling exhibition program this fall with *Artisans & Kings: Selected Treasures from the Louvre*.”

The first major expansion of the Denver Art Museum in more than 30 years, the Hamilton Building opened in October 2006 and added 146,000 square feet of overall space to the Museum, including more than 50,000 square feet of new galleries. While attendance has been strong—with nearly 380,000 visitors in the first six months of the fiscal year—harsh holiday weather and soft revenues in some areas contributed to budget tightening and staff reassessment.

Founded in 1893, the Denver Art Museum is one of the largest art museums between Chicago and the West Coast, with more than 60,000 works of art from around the world in its collection. The Museum's holdings include an internationally renowned American Indian art collection, outstanding architecture, graphics and design galleries, Asian, Pre-Columbian, and Spanish Colonial galleries. The Denver Art Museum is located in downtown Denver on 13th Avenue between Broadway and Bannock Street. The Museum is open Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday and Friday until 10 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; closed Mondays and most major holidays. For more information, call 720-865-5000 or visit the Museum's website at [www.denverartmuseum.org](http://www.denverartmuseum.org). For information in Spanish, call 720-913-0169.

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