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Janice Monger is new CEO & President of Staten Island Museum

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By [Rob Bailey](#)

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- "After a national search, the Board is in unanimous agreement that Janice Monger is uniquely qualified to shape a 21st Century vision for the Staten Island Museum," Board Chair David Businelli announced Friday. Monger will take over as President & CEO, effective Sept. 13.



"She brings deep experience in the museum field and has proven her ability as a leader and creative thinker," Businelli said. "The Trustees look forward to working with Janice as we build on the Museum's 136 year history."

Since April 2013, Monger has served as Executive Director of the historic Alice Austen House, the Rosebank museum dedicated to trailblazing American photographer Alice Austen (1866-1952).

"I am excited to work with the dedicated board and staff to ensure that the Staten Island Museum is regarded as a vital community hub. We want every Islander to feel welcome and come participate in fun and creative experiences with art, science and history," Monger said. "The beautifully renovated building at Snug Harbor offers many programming possibilities, including partnering with artists and local groups, to also draw visitors from farther afield. I look forward to collaborating with fellow organizations on the campus as we continue to grow as a cultural destination."

During Monger's tenure, the Alice Austen House has thrived -- increasing its profile across NYC and worldwide. Most recently, Monger garnered a \$250,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to update the museum's permanent installation, and led the effort to receive designation as a national site of LGBTQ history.

"Under Janice's stewardship, the Alice Austen House has reached a larger and more diverse audience than ever before," said Austen House Board President Donna Hakim. "We are well-positioned to continue the pattern of growth and are committed to our expanded mission. The board is grateful for Janice's tremendous contributions to the museum's success."

Monger will take the helm just in time to welcome the Staten Island Museum's 67th Annual Fence Show on Saturday, Sept. 16. Artists and craftspeople are currently registering for this pioneering pop-up gallery where thousands gather to view (and hopefully purchase) diverse and original pieces of art hung on the fence yearly.

But what about the vacant role she leaves -- after four years of unprecedented progress at Clear Comfort? Monger said she's confident Alice Austen is in good hands.

"For the NEH grant work to update the permanent display, Denise Rompilla is project manager and she worked with the scholar team in our planning stages that led to the public program at the Whitney," Monger said. "And with Paul Moakley, Ann Marie McDonnell and others, too, the forward-looking vision will continue. What let me step away is that everything is in motion and the framework is in place such that someone else really can take it forward from here."

MORE ABOUT THE NEW BOSS

Monger holds an MA in Visual Arts Administration from New York University and a BA in Art History from Whitman College in Washington State. She was previously Associate Director at the Brooklyn Historical Society where she oversaw the exhibition program, visitor services operations, and capital projects. Ms. Monger has also worked in the education department of The Museum of Modern Art, New York and was formerly a director of Davidson Galleries, a fine art gallery in Seattle, Washington.

Monger is a recipient of the 20 under 40 Leadership Award (2015) from the Staten Island Economic Development Corporation (2015), and a Women in History Honoree, recognized by Councilwoman Debi Rose (2014). She currently resides on Staten Island's North Shore with her husband and two children.

ABOUT THE STATEN ISLAND MUSEUM: Founded in 1881, the Staten Island Museum, New York City's only general interest museum, engages visitors with interdisciplinary exhibitions and educational programs that explore the connections between natural science, art and history based on its diverse collections. Staten Island Museum is located on the grounds of **Snug Harbor Cultural Center & Botanical Garden**, 1000 Richmond Terrace, Livingston. Hours: Wednesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Universally accessible. For current exhibits, visit StatenIslandMuseum.org.