

MORVEN

MUSEUM & GARDEN

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Elizabeth Allan, Interim Director

eallan@morven.org / 609-924-8144 ext. 102

Morven Trustees Appoint Rhonda DiMascio Executive Director of Morven Museum & Garden

DiMascio brings more than a quarter-century museum and gardens experience to post Takes helm as National Historic Site Morven prepares to celebrate the Declaration's 250th.

Princeton, NJ (February 21, 2024) – The Morven Museum & Garden Board of Trustees has named veteran museum and gardens leader Rhonda DiMascio to serve as the new Executive Director of Morven Museum & Garden, the home of Richard Stockton, one of New Jersey's five signers of the Declaration of Independence.

DiMascio, a New Jersey native, has spent more than a quarter century as an executive at museums and gardens and brings significant leadership experience in program and fund development, a passion for history and preservation, and a commitment to educational programming and community outreach.

"We are delighted to have Rhonda take the lead at Morven as we build on Morven's record of historical scholarship, exhibitions and world-class garden," said Morven Chairwoman, Liza Morehouse. "We have exciting times ahead, and an excellent team in place with Morven about to celebrate its 20th Anniversary and with the nation about to celebrate the 250th anniversary of our Declaration of Independence."

“Morven has had such an important role in the history of our state and of Princeton, from the days when Richard Stockton lived here, to its tenure as the Governor’s Mansion, to today where it features best-in-class gardens and a rich record of preserving history,” DiMascio said. “It is an honor and privilege to be entrusted by the Morven Board with this role.”

DiMascio has served as Executive Director of Friends of Laurel Hill Cemetery in Philadelphia for the past four years. Laurel Hill is one of the oldest cemeteries in the country and a National Historic Landmark that offers programs focused on history, arts, science, and nature. She was responsible for program development, fundraising to support capital projects and special educational programs, and strategic planning for the nonprofit affiliate of two nationally recognized historic cemeteries.

DiMascio also served as the first Development Director of Grounds for Sculpture, a 42-acre sculpture park in Hamilton, NJ where she created a sustainable fundraising program that contributed to a 47% increase in revenue due in large part to individual donations, corporate sponsorships, special events, and grants from private and government agencies.

Earlier in her career, she served as the Executive Director of the Alice Paul Institute (API) in Mount Laurel, NJ, a National Historic Landmark and family home and birthplace of suffragist and women’s rights activist Alice Stokes Paul. At API, she managed a multimillion-dollar historic restoration and rehabilitation project, raised funds for programming and operations, established a major gifts initiative and a planned giving program, and expanded the staff and board.

DiMascio holds a Master of Science from Drexel University in Arts Administration and a Bachelor of Arts from Rosemont College.

She will assume her responsibilities as Executive Director of Morven on March 25, 2024.

Morven engaged Kittleman & Associates, LLC to conduct a search for its Executive Director. Kittleman & Associates is a national executive search firm that specializes in the recruitment of CEOs for tax-exempt nonprofit organizations for the entire nonprofit sector including museums and historic sites, public gardens, and foundations. For more information, visit <https://www.kittlemansearch.com/>

About Morven

A National Historic Landmark, Morven is situated on five pristine acres in the heart of Princeton, New Jersey. The home of Richard Stockton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and the former New Jersey Governor's Mansion, Morven showcases the rich cultural heritage of the Garden State through regular exhibitions, educational programs, and special events. For more information, visit <https://www.morven.org/>