



## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

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**Canton Museum of Art Announces  
New Education Director Amanda Crowe**  
*Art Educator, Artist, and Museum Professional Dedicated  
to Advancing CMA's Education Programs*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Canton, Ohio):** August 9, 2024, Canton, Ohio – The Canton Museum of Art (CMA) is pleased to announce that Amanda Crowe is CMA's new Education Director. A passionate art educator, artist, and museum professional, Amanda is committed to advancing CMA's School of Art and Museum education programs, while being meaningfully present in our community through outreach.

"Amanda is a strong teacher, program designer, a collaborative leader, and an advocate for art and arts education," said CMA Director & CEO Max R. Barton II. "She brings energy, vision, passion, and inspiration to a role and knows that art builds and strengthens communities. She is committed to powerfully advancing that part of CMA's mission through our education initiatives both inside and outside of the Museum."

Amanda has been with CMA since 2022 as Museum To Go and Education Outreach Coordinator, energizing these programs and connecting with students, families, and neighborhoods. For Museum To Go, she has bridged that gap between the classroom and the Museum experience for Stark County 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students through in-class lessons, while improving academic achievement and excellence. She has developed original arts-immersion and common core curriculum lesson plans utilizing works of art from the Museum's Collection, incorporating a virtual tour and other interactive technology.

In education outreach, Amanda's work has delivered art-inspiring and learning benefits across the community. She has worked extensively with JRC's Intergenerational Program that brings children and seniors together to benefit both generations; created an Art Coping Cart for Cleveland Clinic Mercy Hospital and (soon) Aultman Hospital that combines art therapy and creative coping mechanisms to staff and others as part of the Code Lavender programs at the hospitals; and has represented CMA extensively across our community in partnership with the Stark County Educational Services Center, YMCA, Stark Library, ArtsInStark, Leadership Stark County, and other cultural, arts, and service agencies.

Before joining CMA, she was Education Coordinator at the Akron Art Museum for seven years, where she developed classes, outreach programs, and education initiatives that helped to increase attendance and engagement.

Amanda holds a Bachelor of Arts in Teaching from Thiel College in Pennsylvania. She also earned a Bachelor of Arts in Art History from Kent State University.

### **Get to Know Amanda Crowe: Four Questions with Amanda**

***What has made you want to work in museums — what draws you to them?***

“My initial love for museums stems from my artist-parents introducing me to their love for collecting antiques, uncovering the stories behind old things, and incorporating these items into their own works of art.”

***As an art educator, what is your favorite part of connecting with students of all ages?***

“Being raised by artists who made their living as art educators opened a new world to me. Through the process of experimenting with materials and techniques, and learning about the lives of artists, I fine-tuned my curiosity for the meaning behind objects and the ideas that sparked their creation. Nurturing students at all stages of life in exploring the many ways they can express themselves, and build deeper connections with others, is my soul purpose as an art educator!”

***What is your vision for the education programming at CMA — what impact do you hope to grow in our communities?***

“My vision for education programs at CMA is for the Museum to outgrow its walls by becoming a source of resilience, and a learning lab for creative coping and emotional health. By investing in intentional creativity and meeting the diverse needs of the Stark County community, I hope to weave the arts into the infrastructure of our local schools and neighborhoods by bridging partnerships that contribute to a future, cultural story.”

***Share some of the things that you are most passionate about . . . in your work, in your home, in your community.***

“Sharing the vibe of inspiration with others is the fuel behind my passion for the arts. Life is framed by the meaningful moments we share with others; I fill mine with raising my three sons, adopting multiple (unruly) canines, long walks stuffing pockets full of pinecones and pebbles, and always embracing that inner wild child by making a glorious artful mess that results in deeper, instinctual human consciousness and empathy for self and others.”

### **About Canton Museum of Art**

Recognized for powerful exhibitions focused on American art and its influences, the Canton Museum of Art makes the discovery and exploration of art accessible to all. The Museum’s education outreach programs, School of Art classes, and workshops serve thousands of students of all ages. CMA’s acclaimed Collection focuses on American works on paper, primarily watercolors, and contemporary ceramics. The CMA Shop is open during regular Museum hours. Founded in 1935, CMA serves more than 48,000 visitors each year. Visit [cantonart.org](http://cantonart.org) and follow the Museum on Facebook for updates, or call 330.453.7666 for more information.

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