FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BMA APPOINTS NINE NEW MEMBERS TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

BALTIMORE, MD (September 15, 2016)—The Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA) announced today nine new trustees: Ellen R. Dame, John A. Gilpin, Robyn Brenza Kress, Daniel Leraris, Rhonda Overby, William Taylor IV, Kenneth Ulman, David W. Wallace, and Leana S. Wen. These prominent Baltimore community leaders were elected to the board in June 2016, joining Board Chair Clair Zamoiski Segal and the recently appointed Dorothy Wagner Wallis Director Christopher Bedford in leading the BMA. The Board of Trustees is responsible for the governance and oversight of the Museum, fostering ongoing support for the BMA’s ambitious mission and vision. This group is comprised of a diverse group of regional and national leaders in art, philanthropy, and business who are deeply engaged and deeply committed to ensuring the long-term strength of the BMA.

“We are delighted to welcome these new trustees to the BMA’s board and we are extremely grateful to have their professional expertise and passion for art with us,” said Board Chair Clair Zamoiski Segal. “This is a particularly exciting time to be involved with the BMA as we work with Christopher Bedford to envision the future of this great museum.”

NEW TRUSTEES

Ellen R. Dame

Ellen Dame is a founder, partner, and vice president of the Dame Company, a restaurant and catering operation established in 1988. Prior to this, Ellen was a general assignment and state political reporter for WXEX-TV (now WRIC-TV) in Richmond, VA and reporter/morning anchor for WHSV-TV in Harrisonburg, VA. She earned a B.A. in Art History and English at Brown University and a M.S. in Journalism at Northwestern University Medill School of Journalism. Ellen is currently on the BMA Contemporary Accessions Committee and served previously on the Paintings and Sculpture Accessions Committee. Her community involvement includes the Maryland Historical Society Women’s Committee, the board of Meals on Wheels, the board of the Rothschild Charitable Foundation, and The Family Tree’s Great Chefs Committee. She was the 2016 co-chair of Great Chef’s Dinner.

John A. Gilpin

John Gilpin, a Senior Vice President and Senior Trust Officer, joined U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management in October 2002 as a Private Client Advisor and was tapped to head the Baltimore Trust Team in June 2004. He has 30 years of experience in trust administration, estate planning, philanthropic planning and investment management. He holds a B.A. degree from the University of Virginia and a J.D. from the University of Baltimore School of Law and holds the Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy designation from the American College. He is a member of the Maryland State Bar Association, the Baltimore Estate Planning Council (past president), and the Estate & Gift Tax Study Group (past chair) of the Maryland State Bar Association.

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Robyn Brenza Kress

Robyn Kress is CEO of Feats Inc., a creative strategy and engagement agency that focuses on events, live experiences and environments that engage audiences and produce measurable results. Robyn has led projects for a broad range of institutions such as Harvard Business School, Smithsonian, Duke University, and Rice University. She has held leadership positions at major research universities and national nonprofit organizations, leading staff and cultivating and closing multimillion dollar gifts. She currently serves on the board of the Pride of Baltimore II.

Daniel Leraris

Dan Leraris is Vice President of Men’s Training Apparel at Under Armour. Since joining the company in 2011, he has been a director of Men’s Product and VP North America Brand House. Prior to joining Under Armour, Dan led the men’s product team at Urban Outfitters in Philadelphia. He also has held positions with Sears Roebuck and Gap, Inc. Dan received a B.A. in marketing from Washington University in St Louis.

Rhonda Overby

Rhonda Overby is President/CEO of Camera Ready Incorporated—an award winning, marketing, PR and media production company. Overby began her career in television and has won regional and national Emmy and Telly awards. As an actor, she portrayed Dawn Daniels on HOMICIDE: Life on the Street, in addition to roles in other major theatrical releases. Overby serves as Board Director of Entrepreneurs Organization (EO) Baltimore, serves on the board of the B&O Railroad Museum, and is a member of The Center Club and Baltimore Country Club. Originally from Norfolk, Virginia, Overby earned a B.A. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and conducted graduate studies in business at The Johns Hopkins University.

William Taylor IV

Will Taylor is a partner at McKennon Shelton & Henn LLP, a law firm that focuses primarily on public finance law, including tax-exempt and taxable financings. He represents primarily governmental issuers as bond counsel and has also represented investment banking firms in public finance transactions. Before joining McKennon Shelton & Henn LLP, he was Of Counsel in the Business and Technology Group at DLA Piper LLP (US). He completed undergraduate studies at Pennsylvania State University and attended law school at College of William and Mary, Marshall-Wythe School of Law.

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Kenneth Ulman

Ken Ulman is President of Margrave Strategies LLC, a consulting firm providing economic development, planning and visioning services to institutions, businesses and organizations. The firm’s anchor client is University of Maryland, College Park, where Ken serves as Chief Strategy Officer. He was the Howard County Executive from 2006 through 2014. He previously served on the Howard County Council and as Secretary of the Cabinet and Director, Board of Public Works in the Glendening administration. He is a graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park, and Georgetown Law School.

David W. Wallace

David Wallace is partner emeritus at RK&K, an engineering firm providing planning, engineering, environmental and construction services to private and public clients in 15 states and Washington, D.C. David’s 43-year transportation career with RK&K, 25 of them as partner, has encompassed the management and design of many of the firm’s major planning and transportation projects. In his current role, David continues to be engaged with a portion of the firm’s transportation practice, including planning and design of transportation infrastructure and site development for educational, recreational, medical, research and other institutional projects. David is currently on the Board of Visitors for the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Sciences (UMCES) and Living Classrooms (Historic Ships of Baltimore). David currently serves on the BMA’s Building and Capital Planning Committee.

Leana S. Wen

As Baltimore City’s Commissioner of Health, Dr. Wen leads the oldest continuously operating health department in the U.S., with more than 1,000 employees. A board-certified emergency physician, Dr. Wen received her medical training at Washington University and Brigham & Women’s and Massachusetts General Hospitals. She was a Rhodes Scholar, a Clinical Fellow at Harvard, a consultant with the World Health Organization, and a professor at George Washington University. She has published more than 100 articles, including in The Lancet, JAMA, and Health Affairs. When Doctors Don’t Listen: How to Avoid Misdiagnoses and Unnecessary Tests, written by Dr. Wen, is regularly featured on NPR, CNN, MSNBC, The New York Times, and The Washington Post. Her TED talk on transparency in medicine has been viewed nearly 1.5 million times.

THE BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART

The Baltimore Museum of Art is home to an internationally renowned collection of 19th-century, modern, and contemporary art. Founded in 1914 with a single painting, the BMA today has 95,000 objects—including the largest public holding of works by Henri Matisse. Throughout the museum, visitors will find an outstanding selection of American and European painting, sculpture, and decorative arts; works by established and emerging contemporary artists; significant artworks from China; stunning Antioch mosaics; and an exceptional collection of art from Africa. The BMA’s galleries also showcase examples from one of the nation’s finest collections of prints, drawings, and photographs and exquisite textiles from around the world. The 210,000-square-foot museum is distinguished by a grand historic building designed in the 1920s by renowned American architect John Russell Pope and two beautifully landscaped sculpture gardens. As a major cultural destination for the region, the BMA hosts a dynamic program of exhibitions, events, and educational programs throughout the year. General admission to the BMA is free so that everyone can enjoy the power of art.

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