

Dear Friends,



The summer months have brought a sense of possibility, hope, transition, and perhaps most welcome of all – visible smiles! We are thrilled to welcome our constituency back to the Museum in greater numbers, to explore our galleries and special exhibitions, to enjoy our recently reopened café, and to attend any number of our community days, art happy hours, and social events. Following one of the most difficult years in our lifetimes, the NBMAA remains a steadfast resource for inspiration, discovery, and connection for all.

Our current exhibition, *NEW/NOW Jennifer Wen Ma: An Inward Sea* marks the final installation of our 2020/20+ Women @ NBMAA initiative. Launched in January 2020, the initiative has sought to increase representation of women artists through special exhibitions, permanent collection installations, and acquisitions; and to enhance diversity in the galleries by encompassing artists from wide-ranging historical periods as well as social, racial, and cultural backgrounds. We are proud of the tremendous success of the initiative, made possible through the support and collaboration of our Museum community, staff, sponsors, and participating artists—despite the challenges of the pandemic. As the initiative comes to a close, it marks the beginning of a long-term commitment to bring greater gender equity and more expansive notions of American art to our institution for years to come.

As one chapter ends, others begin, and we now prepare for two major milestones at the NBMAA. This fall, we open *Strict Beauty: Sol Lewitt Prints*—the first retrospective of prints by Sol LeWitt, a New Britain native and pioneer of conceptual and minimal art. This month, we are honored to celebrate the grand reopening of the Grace Judd Landers House—the historic portion of our building which has undergone a remarkable restoration over the last year, thanks to the incredibly generous funding of Mark and Theresa Bonney in memory of Sylvia Bonney, Stanley Black & Decker, and the State of Connecticut Department of Economic & Community Development (DECD). We are grateful to the many individuals and organizations who contributed to the transformation of this historic space, including staff, trustees, and partners Skanska USA Building, Inc., Diversity Construction Group, JZJN Architecture, Thomas Mach Interiors, Duratherm Windows, John Canning & Company, PJK Electrical, Simon Metz Woodworking, and many others. We look forward to welcoming you soon, to explore and enjoy one of the oldest—and newest—parts of the NBMAA!

Don't miss our Summer Spectacular—a free family outdoor extravaganza of fun—as well as countless forthcoming programs, workshops, and events. Bring friends or family and be sure to say hello. We can't wait to see you again.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Min Jung Kim', with a horizontal line underneath.

Min Jung Kim
Director & CEO