

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Carroll County Arts Council Names New Executive Director**

**WESTMINSTER, MD** -- Following an extensive search process, the Carroll County Arts Council's Board of Directors is pleased to announce Eric Kerchner as the next Executive Director to lead the vibrant arts organization, replacing Judy Morley, PhD.

Kerchner brings extensive experience as an executive director, leading arts centers throughout the country. His educational background includes a BA in Theatre from Wake Forest University, a certificate in Non-Profit Leadership from Duke University, a MA in Arts Administration from City University of London, and a MSc in Innovation from Cass School of Business. He has served as the Director of the Preston Arts Center in Henderson, KY, the Executive Director of the Children's Museum of Winston-Salem, and the Executive Director of the Tryon Fine Arts Center in North Carolina. He was also the Associate Dean of Cultural Affairs at Broward College in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

"Eric's infectious enthusiasm, inclusive management style, and arts knowledge are a perfect combination for the CCAC," said Thomas Sterner, President of the Arts Council Board of Directors and chair of the Search Committee.

"We are so excited to welcome Eric to the Arts Council," says Morley, "It feels great to know I'm turning the reins over to someone so eminently qualified."

Born in Baltimore and raised in Pottstown, PA, Kerchner is eager to return to the area and lead the Arts Council long term. "It will be my privilege to serve Carroll County by bringing the best the arts have to offer," adds Kerchner, "I am looking forward to hitting the ground running, and meeting everyone I can."

In September, Kerchner will begin working alongside Morley to ensure a smooth transition before Morley departs at the end of that month. The public is invited to say farewell to Morley and meet Kerchner at the opening reception for the Arts Council's Members Show on September 30 from 5pm - 7pm.

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The Carroll County Arts Council is located at 91 West Main Street in the magnificently renovated Carroll Arts Center, formerly the Carroll Theatre in downtown Westminster, MD. The art deco building now houses a 263-seat theatre, galleries, Gift Shop, classrooms, and offices. CCAC's mission is to enrich our community, both culturally and economically, by presenting, promoting and supporting a wide variety of arts opportunities for our residents, visitors, and artists. For more information, call 410-848-7272 or visit [www.CarrollCountyArtsCouncil.org](http://www.CarrollCountyArtsCouncil.org).

PHOTO: Eric Kerchner, the new Executive Director of the Carroll County Arts Council