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## **The Center for Contemporary Arts, Santa Fe hires Digital Media Arts Director and announces open house for the Digital Media Lab**

The Center for Contemporary Arts, Santa Fe, is pleased to announce the appointment of **Teresa Foley** to the position of **Digital Media Arts Director**.

Ms. Foley, who joined CCA in this newly created position on June 26<sup>th</sup> 2007, comes from the Pittsburgh Filmmakers - one of the largest media arts centers in the U.S. - where she was the director of the Annie Seamans Media Arts Lab, and headed up the K-12 Media Literacy Arts Education program for nine years, creating opportunities for students, parents and teachers to better analyze and produce in the language of photographic media.

CCA's relationship with Ms. Foley began in January 2007 when she consulted with the organization to help distill staff vision for the new Digital Media Arts program and workspaces. As the Digital Media Lab project, with the assistance of funding from the Lannan Foundation, The George & Fay Young Foundation; The Stranahan Foundation; The Genesis Group and others, became a reality, Ms. Foley was invited to join CCA and help fulfill their mission to provide CCA with the region's first state-of-the-art Digital Media Lab. Before working with the CCA, Ms. Foley designed and implemented workshops for GirlsFilmSchool at the College of Santa Fe (2003-2005), the Taos Talking Picture Festival (2002-2003), and, for the New Mexico Media Literacy Project's Teacher Catalyst Institute in Albuquerque (Spring 2007).

As both Director and hands-on educator, Ms. Foley's programming began in early July with three week-long 'Teens Only' summer workshops, which provide an exciting learning environment, together with valuable skills development. All of the courses welcome introductory and advanced students, and are as diverse as an Intro to Motion Pictures, Making Original Music Videos and Audio Design for Motion Pictures. CCA's model of digital media education will adapt aspects of film and art school practices within our community program, to cultivate skills for critical reflection, essential for an informed audience of media makers and watchers.

Ms Foley says "We'll have course offerings reflective of broad types of cinema (narrative, documentary, and avant-garde), suited to beginners and pros, senior citizens and teens. We'll run classes where folks can talk about movies, and we'll also program master classes, where notable filmmakers, editors, and producers will come to teach what they know. Our labs will be a place for firsts: making an animated movie, exploring interactive media and software, or simply learning how to use the more sophisticated buttons and menus on your digital still camera or video camcorder for taking and making better still and motion pictures.

The Digital Media Arts Lab includes two educational spaces—a large Moving Image Lab and a smaller Digital Classroom. It's so exciting to be at a contemporary arts center where educational programming can connect to the kick-ass programming of the Cinematheque, Language Arts and Visual Arts director-colleagues and to their upcoming gallery, cinema and live shows."

CCA's Executive Director, Steve Buck, says "We are excited to have someone of Teresa's caliber and professional acclaim complementing the team at CCA. Her precise vision for the Lab, together with her commitment to media arts literacy, can only increase our ability to serve and educate the community with the latest in digital media arts".

The Digital Media Lab will have its official opening at **12 - 3pm on Saturday, July 28th**, with screenings of students' work, and equipment demonstrations.

#### **About Teresa Foley**

Ms. Foley is an award-winning artist whose films and videos have been shown at various screening venues nationally and internationally. A former Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Media Arts Fellow (2001), Ms. Foley also received a fellowship award from the Pittsburgh Foundation (2003). In 2005, Ms. Foley received a fellowship to work with other youth technology educators from around the world at the IDEAS Institute within the Lifelong Kindergarten at MIT's Media Laboratory. She had her first solo show in Pittsburgh, at SPACE gallery in early 2006. The show featured nine of her videos, one interactive computer installation, and a section of student work curated by Ms. Foley. This past fall, Ms. Foley participated in the MacArthur Foundation's excitingly progressive Online Forum on Digital Media & Learning.

#### **About the Digital Media Lab**

Opened in May 2007, CCA's Digital Media Lab is the region's first and only media arts facility focused on arts education in digital media programming, and is specifically designed to impact middle and high school students, working artists and community members. The recently constructed Digital Media Lab consists of two new media arts classrooms, each comprising 10 computer workstations, video projectors, cinema screens and related equipment. The Digital Media Lab provides workshops and opportunities to create original works in electronic media, including digital documentaries, video art projects, and animation together with an exploration of media literacy.

#### **About The Center for Contemporary Arts**

The Center for Contemporary Arts (CCA) is a community-based nonprofit arts organization presenting exemplary programming in visual arts, performing arts, cinema and arts education for youth and adults. Dedicated to exposing multi- and interdisciplinary contemporary art, CCA provides emerging and established artists with opportunities to explore new ideas and take creative risks. CCA's Cinematheque is the community's #1 venue for alternative film, and is the home to numerous film series and festivals, including The African Effect and Native Cinema Showcase. The newly opened Digital Media Lab will provide access to, and use of, media technology to improve media literacy and to support the professional development of media artists in our region. Serving more than 70,000 visitors annually, CCA has introduced the arts of our time as a vital element in the region's cultural dialogue for nearly 30 years.

**Learn more about Teresa Foley and the workshops, lectures and screenings at the Digital Media Lab at [ccasantafe.org](http://ccasantafe.org), or call our media director, Jill Battson, 505 982 1338 ext 20  
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