ELLIOT BOSTWICK DAVIS, Ph.D.
www.elliotbostwickdavis.art

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

BRANDYWINE RIVER MUSEUM OF ART, Chadds Ford, PA **April 2025 to present**
Guest Curator, "Call & Response: The Early Work of Stuart Davis" working title.
Exhibition and publication, Brandywine River Museum of Art and additional venues to be confirmed, October 16, 2027-January 30, 2026.

HARVARD ADVANCED LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE ("ALI"), SOCIAL IMPACT REVIEW, Cambridge, MA **January 2023-January 2025**
Senior Editor, Arts and Culture Domain, responsible for sourcing, writing, and editing timely articles on social impact initiatives and practitioners in the arts and culture sector.

HARVARD ADVANCED LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE, Fellow **January 2022 to December 2022**
Pan-Harvard Program (one of only two at the University) based at the Harvard Business School and devoted to address a range of complex social impact issues. The 2022 ALI Cohort includes 46 former CEOs from distinguished national and international arenas.

- Awarded one of four fellowships reserved for MA residents for proposed project, the "Art Museum IDEA Tool Kit," an open-source, online aggregation of best practices for meeting IDEA (inclusion, diversity, equity, accessibility) goals in art museums. Resources organized to address physical space, programming, and governance and management topics. Available via personal website: www.elliotbostwickdavis.art, created during final quarter of fellowship.
- Filmed pilot for educational art programming with ALI 2022 fellow, Augustus "Gus "Johnson, leading sports commentator.
- Developed "F.E.E.L.S. Art Prompts" to foster well-being with art museum collections; tested to date by over 125 students, with highly positive results.

CAPE ANN MUSEUM (CAM), Gloucester, MA **January 2021 to October 2023**
Guest Curator and Exhibition Catalogue Author for "*Edward Hopper & Cape Ann: Illuminating An American Landscape*,"
July 22, 2023-October 16, 2023. Exhibition catalogue published by Rizzoli/Electa, May 2, 2023.
2023 Finalist, College Art Association, Alfred H. Barr, Jr. Award, Best Museum Publication for Museums with Annual Operating Budgets under $10 MM
2024 New England Museum Association, **Best Museum Publication**
2025 Smithsonian American Art Museum, Nomination, Charles C. Eldredge Prize.

- Exhibition and publication mark the 100th anniversary of Hopper's transformational summer of 1923 spent on Cape Ann.
- Reinstates Hopper's fellow artist and future spouse Josephine Nivison, also working in Gloucester that summer, as his most important creative partner and producer.
- Catalogue published in partnership with Rizzoli/Electa; exhibition in partnership with the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, includes fifty-seven works by Edward Hopper in all media and seven by Josephine N. Hopper.
- Exhibition achieved historic attendance results, revenue (net over $1.8 MM), community impact, and highly positive national and international media coverage.

NORTON MUSEUM OF ART (NMA), West Palm Beach, FL **January 2019 to June 2020**
Director and CEO
Responsible for managing all areas of operation (curatorial, finance, education and outreach, earned income, capital fundraising) for the "new" Norton following the completion of Foster + Partners acclaimed building expansion in Feb. '19; recruited with a mandate to transform a regional institution into the acknowledged leader of arts and culture in the Southeast.

- Founded by Ralph and Elizabeth Norton in 1941, the Norton holds 7,600 objects in five collecting areas: American; European; Contemporary; Chinese; and Photography (4,300 works).
- Foster + Partners expansion transformed the Norton into an even more welcoming and vibrant destination in Palm Beach County's cultural landscape, attracting 218,000 visitors during its opening year, an increase of 218%.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Unanimous board approval of Norton Museum's Strategic Plan, updated with COVID-Response Tactical Plan (CRTP) incorporating financial models, protocols and metrics for reopening, public and staff communications plans, May '20. Strategic Plan also accompanied by Norton IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility) Task Force Report.
- Greatly enhanced finances & debt reduction for FY '20 starting with $3.6MM board-approved deficit thanks to: launching the Norton New Reality Fund, raising $2.8MM between March and April '20; securing $1.3MM PPP Grant through active participation in the AAMD (Association of Art Museum Directors); hosting a successful Gala netting $1.8 MM in Feb. '20; expanding partnerships, such as a permanent home for the Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach, and projected earned revenue sources.

- Launched first artist-in-residence program to address gender and racial parity with support of the Davis Dauray Foundation, one of only three such artists' residencies with this mandate in the U.S. Prior to COVID-19 lockdown, hosted three artists, two identifying as women and three identifying as BIPOC.
- Supervised the creation of innovative virtual reality app, "Norton Art +," funded by the Kellen Foundation, to engage younger visitors ages 6 to 12 and beyond in the museum's contemporary art collections. Norton Art+ debuted to very positive reviews in Sept. '20.
- Launched in April '20 "#NortonfromHome," first online platform, and "Norton@Home," simple kits of art supplies and activities distributed to over 600 children bi-weekly through community partners for after school arts programs, featured on AAMD website and copied by other museums.
- Developed from scratch and later updated vibrant exhibition program to reflect COVID-19 impact through FY '24: secured major Robert Rauschenberg exhibition in partnership with the Whitney Museum of American Art (2020); Frida Kahlo and Mexican modernism show partnering with the Jacques Gelman Foundation (2021); Andy Warhol collection in partnership with a private foundation; secured major private collection of Old Masters never shown before and masterpieces of American 20th-century art from local private collectors; planned immersive exhibition of work by major Latin American artist, Carlos Cruz-Diez; established partnership with the Brandywine River Museum and High Museum for a Joseph Stella show on view in fall 2022.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON (MFA), Boston, MA **2000 to 2018**

Department Head, Art of the Americas (AOA), John Moors Cabot Chair

Responsible for vision, innovation, and execution of all AOA activities, including: active participation in fundraising for MFA Capital Campaigns ($504MM Building Campaign and $200MM Endowment Campaign); stewardship of $2MM departmental operating budget; recruitment and management of up to 10 curators and 4 administrative staff within AOA, and a large volunteer corps, ultimately funded within AOA to promote diverse perspectives among future museum professionals from traditionally underrepresented communities.

Art of the Americas Wing, opened November 2010:

- **Collections of over 16,000 paintings, sculpture, decorative arts**, produced throughout the Americas in all media, spanning three millennia, from 900 B.C.E. to the later twentieth century, supported through collaboration with all MFA departments.
- **Features 60,000 sq. ft. of exhibition space and 130,000 sq. ft. overall**, created with design teams from Foster + Partners, London, Museo Technico, Milan, all departments at the MFA, and insights from many colleagues in the U.S. and abroad.
- **53 AOA galleries** (10 period rooms) represent one third of the MFA's galleries, comparable in size to the Cleveland Museum of Art.
- **Seven In-gallery Touch Screens; Four Behind-the-Scenes Learning Galleries; Two Hand-held Media Guides.**
- **Selected Awards**: ***Outstanding Permanent Collection Installation of 2010*****,** Association of Art Museum Curators; ***Finest Building in Boston in Past Decade*** **(2015)**, Boston Society of Architects.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- **Curatorial Innovation and Engagement:** Selected in a national search by the Luce Foundation, American Art Program, as the only $100+ million museum awarded an $825,000 innovation grant. As project manager, designed cutting-edge exhibitions and research programs with the Art of the Americas and MFA team that provided data-driven understanding of the potential for art museums to be catalysts for empathy and well-being.
- **Transformative Collection Development and Diversity:** As Director of the American Galleries Team, conceived and implemented a new paradigm for presenting American Art that continues to reflect a more inclusive perspective. Acquired over $70MM of art, including a major collection of African American art; also achieved greater representation of art by women, Native American, Latinx, Spanish Colonial, LGBTQ(IA+), and "self-taught" artists:
    - African American art collection transformed from three paintings (one on paperboard) to one of the top three in the nation documented in *Common Wealth: Art by African Americans in the MFA, Boston* (2014)
    - Achieved many "firsts," including first Frida Kahlo painting, *Dos Mujeres (Salvadora y Herminia)*, 1928, to enter any public collection in New England and the thirteenth in any public institution in the U.S. in 2016.
- **Museum Director Collaboration:** Served as an innovative curatorial partner and highly successful collaborator for three directors at major civic art museums: Philippe de Montebello; Malcolm Rogers; and Matthew Teitelbaum. At the MFA, helped transform the institution through the implementation of the Master Site Plan developed by Malcolm Rogers, for which the Art of the Americas Wing represented $380MM of the overall $504MM campaign to expand the building and endow new staff positions and programs.
- **Partnerships and Community Inclusion**: Director and lead curator for a new Pilot Program still in development with Art Bridges and the Terra Foundation to create traveling exhibitions from our permanent collection in collaboration with four museums chosen in rural and underserved communities throughout the New England and New York State.
- **Strategic Deployment of Resources**: Demonstrated success with creative fundraising strategies in the face of shrinking support. Successful collaboration in securing grants from private and public foundations, government granting agencies, and corporations. Led strategic deaccessioning of American paintings and American decorative arts, including over 300 American paintings and a five-year furniture review yielding over 100 pieces.
- **Talent Management and Development**: Built a curatorial team known nationally and internationally for innovation, excellence, and collegiality despite workforce reduction post-Wing opening of 75% of administrative staff and 40% of curatorial staff. Hired for over

40 positions, advocated for 12 promotions within AOA, 10 major promotions to positions externally, and 6 promotions to prominent, Museum-wide positions.

- **Author and Spokesperson:** Creative and highly-productive author with over 25 catalogues, volumes, and articles published while at the MFA. Able to make art engaging and compelling in person, print, television, radio, and social media channels, including Facebook Live gallery talk on Kahlo accessed by 26,000 people on the first day.

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART (MMA), New York, NY **1990 to 2000**
Assistant Curator, Drawings and Prints, 1992-1999; Pre-Doctoral Fellowships in Prints and Photographs, 1990-1992;
Assistant Curator, American Paintings, 1999-2000.
Responsible for American, British, and Contemporary collections, approximately 500,000 works of art in Dept. of Drawings and Prints:

- Tripled the size of the Leonard A. Lauder American Art Poster Collection; conceived and implemented four New York State Library Grants to restore British Illustrated Books and Trade Catalogues; actively acquired contemporary American prints and books with major acquisition fund, John B. Turner, for artists living or dead within five years.
- Curated many rotations in the Johnson Gallery and over half a dozen exhibitions, including the cross-departmental "Art and the Empire City: New York, 1825-1861," which required cataloguing over 1,500 works in the Arnold Collection; served as co-author for the accompanying catalogue, named one of the 25 most important books published in the year 2000 by the New York Public Library.
- Mounted the first exhibition of "Baseball Cards from the Collection of Jefferson R. Burdick," in May 1993 and thereafter, still a popular feature of the American Wing galleries.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Cambridge, MA **1989 to 1990**
Teaching Assistant, Literature & Arts, Undergraduate Core Program, Profs. Seymour Slive, Simon Schama, Henri Zerner
Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, Award for Excellence in Teaching **1989 & 1990**
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, Princeton, NJ **1997 to 1998**
Graduate Seminar, "American Prints, 1825-1861," developed in conjunction with "Art and the Empire City,"
Co-taught with Prof. John Wilmerding
SOTHEBY'S AMERICAN ART INSTITUTE, New York, NY **1992 to 1993**
Teaching Assistant, American Arts Course

EDUCATION

2017 **UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, Ross School of Business, Senior Management Institute.**
National Arts Strategies, Arts and Culture Strategy; Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship, Sept. '16 to Feb. '17, Certificate**.**

2016 **UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, School of Social Policy and Practice.**
National Arts Strategies, Arts and Culture Strategy, Executive Program, Jan. '16 to Aug. '16, Certificate.

2003 **HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL**, **Strategies for Non-Profit Management Program**, Certificate.

1992 **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, Ph.D**., **Art and Archaeology**, Dissertation on American Drawing Books, 1800-1880.

1998 **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, M.A. and M.Phil., Art and Archaeology**, 19th- and 20th-century European Painting and Sculpture, Minors in American Art and Dutch and Flemish Art; M.A. Thesis on Eugène Delacroix's Medieval Battle Paintings.

1985 **NEW YORK UNIVERSITY**, **M.A**., **Liberal Studies** (History; Philosophy; Art History).

1984 **PRINCETON UNIVERSITY**, **A.B. cum laude**, **Art and Archaeology**; Premed Curriculum, '80-'82. Senior Thesis on Winslow Homer's 1867 Sojourn in France.

1980 **GROTON SCHOOL, Diploma, magna cum laude**.

PUBLICATIONS (Selected)

Current:

- ***The Field Guide to Awe & Joy: Discovering Art That Makes Us Happier,*** text completion anticipated December 2024.
- ***Edward Hopper & Cape Ann: Illuminating An American Landscape*****,** Rizzoli/Electa, May 2023.
- ***America's Collections, Diplomatic Reception Rooms*****, 60th Anniversary Publication,** works on paper collection essay, Rizzoli/Electa, 2023.

- **"Art Museums as a Catalyst for Human Flourishing,"** Selma Holo, editor for the Visual Arts Volume, part of the Humanities and Human Flourishing Series of nine volumes edited by James Pawelski, Director of Education at The University of Pennsylvania Center for Positive Psychology, forthcoming, Oxford University Press, 2024**.**
- **Podcasts**, "FEELS Art Prompts," new approach for art and wellness developed and tested at Harvard University during the 2022 ALI Fellowship year and "Art by African Americans," highlights from the MFA, Boston's collection, ongoing.

At the Norton Museum of Art: Palm Beach Post, *Point of View*, **"Why Art Matters During COVID-19,"** May 20, 2020.

At the MFA, over 25 catalogues, volumes, and articles produced while serving as Department Chair:

- **"Jamie Wyeth's Tableaux Vivants: Miniatures at Play in Creative Space,"** Elliot B. Davis and Taylor A. Poulin, *American Arts Quarterly*, Spring 2016, Vol. 33, no. 2, 13-22.
- ***George Washington and Thomas Sully's Passage of the Delaware*****,** Boston, MFA Publications, Spotlight Series, 2015, conceived and developed Spotlight format in collaboration with MFA Publications and authored this volume on Sully's historical portrait.
- ***Common Wealth. Art by African Americans in the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston*****,** MFA Publications, 2014. Raised funds, assembled curatorial team of writers including lead author, Lowery Sims, edited, and co-authored. Launched with a Scholars' Day, January 2015, supported by funds raised for an endowment to develop public programs in the Art of the Americas Department.
- ***Jamie Wyeth*****.** Exh. cat., with an essay by David Houston. MFA Publications, 2014.
- **"A Place in the World of Art: Cassatt, Degas, and American Collectors,"** co-author with Erica Hirshler, for *Degas/Cassatt*, Exh. cat., National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., **Finalist for Alfred Barr, Jr. Award, College Art Association, 2014.**
- **Art of the Americas Paintings Catalogue Online, MFA Publications, 2012.** First online publication produced at the MFA, representing 450 paintings on view in the Art of the Americas Wing at the 2010 opening and subsequent updates. Raised funds and grants to support publication design and research; conceived and collaborated with several Museum departments and online experts; and co-authored.
- ***A New World Imagined. Art of the Americas.*** **MFA, Publications, 2010.** Raised funds to produce, conceived, edited, and coauthored publication.
- ***"Communicating through Design and Display: The New American Wing at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston*****,"** in Selma Holo and Mari-Tere Alvarez, eds., *Beyond the Turnstile: Making the Case for Museums and Sustainable Values*. Lanham: Altamira Press, 2009, 182-185.
- **Introduction and Entries, *Highlights of American Paintings Collection*,** MFA Publications, 2003. **Awarded "Outstanding Academic Title" by the American Library Association Division, *Choice*, from over 23,000 titles submitted.**
- ***"The Currency of Culture," in Art and the Empire City: New York, 1825-1862.*** **Exh. cat., MMA, 2000. Selected as one of the 25 most important books published in the year 2000 by the New York Public Library.**

EXHIBITIONS (Selected)

- **Edward Hopper & Cape Ann: Illuminating an American Landscape, Cape Ann Museum,** Gloucester, MA**, 2023.**
- ***Mark Rothko: Reflection*****, 2017, MFA, Boston.** Initiated and curated show of 11 Loans from the National Gallery of Art reflecting Rothko's entire career. His early self-portrait, *Thru the Window*, 1938, seen for the first time in the U.S., paired with Rembrandt's *Artist in the Studio*, 1628, which entered the MFA's collections in 1938.
- ***Making Modern*****," MFA, 2016.** Lead Curator for the reinstallation of six galleries on Level Three of the Art of the Americas Wing, a new collaboration with then director, Matthew Teitelbaum, and pilot to present our permanent collection as a special exhibition. During its first year on view, over 275,000 visitors saw the exhibition, approximately 25% of all MFA visitors; highly positive critical response from press and public.
- ***Jamie Wyeth*****, MFA, 2014.** The most highly-attended exhibition ever mounted in the Torf Gallery since the MFA has kept records, with over 181,000 visitors and a total of over 270,000 visitors during national tour to the Brandywine River Museum of Art, the San Antonio Museum of Art, and the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, the first project initiated by the MFA with Crystal Bridges.
- ***Loïs Mailou Jones,*** **MFA, 2013.** First mini-retrospective mounted in the Art of the Americas Wing and a pilot installation of 30 works spanning nine decades of Jones's career that engaged visitors through "slow looking."
- ***Art of the Americas Wing*****, Chair of the American Galleries Team of curators from AOA and other departments, educators, designers, and architects, 2000-2010. Management of all aspects of the Art of the Americas Wing curatorial program.** The Wing's 53 galleries opened in November 2010, with nearly 5,000 objects on view, of which 500 were new acquisitions and 175 were on loan from private or institutional collections. Led large teams responsible for developing the architectural and design plans as an expression of the curatorial and educational programs, managed gallery displays, finishes, installation, interpretative materials (labels, text panels, in-gallery touch screens, interactive hand-held, multimedia guide, and Art of the Americas Collection Page

accessed via the museum's website), as well as staffing, opening programming, and extensive, national and international press launch.

- ***Edward Hopper*, MFA, 2007,** catalogue contributor, "Hopper's Foundation."

GOVERNANCE EXPERIENCE (Selected)

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, Special Collections Committee, Co-chair, September 2022 to present
MASS HUMANITIES, Trustee, 2011-2017. Chair, Nominating Committee, 2013-14.
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, Art History and Archaeology Department, Advisory Council, 2012-2017.
AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY, Trustee, 2004-2014.
ASSOCIATION OF ART MUSEUM CURATORS, Trustee, 2006-2009; 2017 to 2018. Governance and Development Committees.
GROTON SCHOOL, Trustee, 1993-1999; 2000-2007. Chair, Committee on Trustees; Chair, Ad Hoc Arts Committee;
Co-chair, Strategic Planning Committee; Chair, Mission Statement Committee; One of Five-Member Search Committee for Head of School, 2003; Chair, Educational Policy Committee.
SHELBURNE MUSEUM, Trustee, 1993-2002. Member, Search Committee for Director, 1996;
Chair, Strategic Planning Committee, 1995-1996; Chair, Curatorial Committee, 1997-2002.
NEW YORK ACADEMY OF ART, Trustee, 1993-2000. Development and Academic Policy Committees.

AWARDS

2024 **COLLEGE ART ASSOCIATION, Finalist, Alfred H. Barr, Jr. Award** for Scholarly Distinction for author(s) of catalogues produced by small museums with less than $10 MM annual Operating Expenses, Finalist for *Edward Hopper & Cape Ann: Illuminating an American Landscape*
NEW ENGLAND MUSEUM ASSOCIATION, Best Museum Catalogue for *Edward Hopper & Cape Ann: Illuminating an American Landscape*

2015 **BOSTON SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS,** Art of the Americas Wing, **Harleston Parker Award** for the single most beautiful building erected in the Boston Metropolitan area in the past decade.

2011 **ASSOCIATION OF ART MUSEUM CURATORS, Annual Exhibition Prize** Honoring the Outstanding Permanent Collection Installation of 2010, Art of the Americas Wing.

2011 **THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL FOR AESTHETIC RESEARCH,** Art of the Americas Wing, **Best Historical Show; People's Choice** and **Critics' Choice**.

'96-'98 **METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, Theodore Rousseau Travel Grant**

'90-'92 **METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, Jane and Morgan Whitney Fellow; Chester Dale Fellow**.

'89-'90 **HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Award for Excellence in Teaching**, Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning.

'86-'88 **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, President's Fellow** for Academic Excellence

'86 **GERMAN ACADEMIC EXCHANGE SERVICE (D.A.A.D.),** Summer Fellow for Study of German in Germany

'85 **Metropolitan Squash Racquets Association (MSRA, now New York Squash),** President's Prize

'81-'84 **PRINCETON UNIVERSITY,** Varsity Squash Team; N.C.A.A., Division I, Women's National Squash Team Champions, Howe Cup, Winner 1983 and 1984.

AFFILIATIONS

2021- **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FORUM, Massachusetts Chapter; Palm Beach Chapter, 2019-20**
2019-'20 **ASSOCIATION OF ART MUSEUM DIRECTORS ("AAMD")**
2023- **AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS**