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GRAND RAPIDS ART MUSEUM NAMES RANDY VAN ANTWERP DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR ADMINISTRATION AND CFO

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., December 1, 2011 – The Grand Rapids Art Museum’s Director and CEO, Dana Friis-Hansen, announces the appointment of Randy Van Antwerp to the position of Deputy Director for Administration and CFO. Van Antwerp most recently served as Interim Director, filling the position during a transitional phase. A national search was conducted after the resignation in March 2010 of former director Celeste Adams. Friis-Hansen was appointed to the position of Director and CEO on July 15, 2011. Prior to serving as Interim Director, Van Antwerp served as Finance Director of the Art Museum for eight years.

As Interim Director, Van Antwerp guided the Art Museum through its Centennial Year Celebrations, expanded collaborations with Festival of the Arts and ArtPrize, and oversaw the installation and staffing of the notable *Diana – A Celebration* exhibition. Van Antwerp also served on the Search Committee, assisting in the process that eventually named Friis-Hansen as the new Director and CEO of the Art Museum.

“We’re grateful for Randy’s history of service and commitment to the Art Museum, and also his professional growth over the years,” said Friis-Hansen. “We look forward to his expanded responsibilities and contributions to the future of GRAM.”

As Deputy Director for Administration and CFO, Van Antwerp’s responsibilities include overseeing the financial and daily operations of the Grand Rapids Art Museum to ensure effective management of Museum activities. The Deputy Director is responsible for developing and managing collaborations with other organizations as well and for planning, budgeting, accounting, reporting, and managing earned income activities and informational systems. The Deputy Director is also responsible for supervising human resource and volunteer issues.

Image of Randy Van Antwerp available upon request.

About the Grand Rapids Art Museum

The mission of the Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM) is: to inspire discovery, enjoyment, and learning about art; to serve as a welcoming and inclusive cultural resource; to collect, conserve, and interpret works of art of the finest quality. Established in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids, the new Art Museum is internationally known for its distinguished design and LEED Gold certified status. Established in 1910 as the Grand Rapids Art Association, GRAM has grown to include more than 5,000 works of art, including American and European 19th and 20th century painting and sculpture and more than 3,500 works on paper. Embracing the city’s legacy as a leading center of design and manufacturing, GRAM has a growing collection in the area of design and modern craft.

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