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**Eliot School of Fine & Applied Arts
Announces Jane Hirschi as Interim Executive Director**

Boston, MA

The Eliot School of Fine & Applied Arts is pleased to announce Jane Hirschi has been named Interim Executive Director.

Hirschi served as the Executive Director of CitySprouts until 2023. She has more than 22 years of nonprofit experience in the Greater Boston community.

"We're pleased to welcome Jane to the Eliot School," said Melony Swasey, Chair of the Board of Trustees. "With decades of like-minded nonprofit leadership and shared values, Jane will ensure stability as the Eliot School continues its search for a permanent new leader."

The Eliot School of Fine & Applied Arts has four core focus areas. It holds classes at its Jamaica Plain Schoolhouse for adults and children ages 2 to 100; sends teaching artists into Boston schools and community centers; nurtures teen artists and carpenters through its Teen Bridge and Career Pathways in Carpentry and Craft programs; and facilitates artisans' talks, faculty exhibitions, and other events throughout the year. As interim executive director, Hirschi will guide the board and staff during the transition from current executive director, Abigail Norman, to a yet-to-be-chosen permanent executive director.

<https://eliot-school.org/>

As Interim Executive Director, Hirschi will guide the board and staff during the transition from current Executive Director, Abigail Norman, to a yet-to-be-chosen permanent Executive Director. She begins her new position on December 8.

“The Eliot School fulfills such an important role in Boston, having nourished the artistic spirit in so many lives since it was founded,” Hirschi said. “I am delighted to join the team as the school's interim leader as it enters yet another chapter.”

The Eliot School has been led by Abigail Norman since 2007. She leaves the Eliot School at the end of this month after 17 years of transformative leadership.

“I have loved my time working with this vibrant, creative group of artists, teachers, and learners,” Norman said. “Together we’ve built programs and community that have brought so many people joy.”

Building on an extraordinary 340-year history of educating people from all races, ages, and walks of life, the Eliot School’s mission is to inspire lifelong learning in craftsmanship and creativity for all. It cultivates welcoming environments where people convene across a continuum of age, economic means, and backgrounds to build skills, craftsmanship, and community.

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For photographs or further information, please contact Angela Lett at alett@eliotsschool.org or at 617.553.4897.

The Eliot School of Fine & Applied Arts inspires lifelong learning in craft and creativity for all. We offer classes to people of all ages in woodworking, sewing and yarn, fiber arts, book arts, drawing, painting, photography, and other crafts and fine arts. We reach thousands of people each year from Boston and beyond.