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EXPANDING A LEGACY OF EDUCATION:

COLIN M. ROBERTSON APPOINTED CHARLES N. MATHEWSON SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Reno, NV (January 11, 2023) – For nearly a century, the Nevada Museum of Art has been at the forefront of arts education in the state of Nevada. As the Museum continues with a multi-phase \$60 million expansion project, Colin M. Robertson has been appointed as the Charles N. Mathewson Senior Vice President of Education and Research. In this executive role, Robertson will shape a vision and organizational structure that will align the Museum’s education and research initiatives with the completion of the Education and Research Center, slated to open its doors early 2025.

The three-phase expansion project will add over 50,000 square feet to the existing Museum, which will include spaces dedicated to education and research. As a result of the expansion, more than 12,000 pre-K-12th grade students will be able to access the Museum each year, doubling the current capacity for school tours and other educational programs. The Museum’s internationally-recognized Center for Art + Environment will feature an expanded research library and increased access to books, archives, special collections, and digital assets.

“Education and research rest at the core of the Nevada Museum of Art, and I’m honored to be part of this remarkable growth of the institution and its role to support education in the State,” said Robertson, who will begin this new role on February 13, 2023. “I couldn’t be more excited to be part of a new chapter in the nearly 100-year history of the Museum as we prepare plans for opening the new Charles and Stacie Mathewson Education and Research Center. The Museum is a visionary organization, and I look forward to contribute to this transformative moment in the organization’s history.”

Robertson is no stranger to the Museum; from 2008-2016, he served as the Museum’s Charles N. Mathewson Curator of Education, a role in which he expanded the education and public programs agenda, refined the docent program, shaped the Center for Art + Environment as well as its triennial Art + Environment Conferences, and initiated the early development of the Museum’s robust STEAM initiatives. During this time, Robertson also curated the exhibition *Modernist Maverick: The Architecture of William L. Pereira* in which the work of this American architect was re-examined by contrasting the modest spaces Pereira created early in his career to the large-scale structures and master plans for which the architect is largely remembered.

“I am thrilled to welcome Colin back to the Nevada Museum of Art, especially during this unprecedented time of institutional growth,” said Nevada Museum of Art CEO David B. Walker.

Colin earned his M.A. in English (Literature & Environment) from the University of Nevada, Reno, and B.A. in English with a Minor in Art from Saint John’s University in Collegeville, Minnesota. In 2016, Colin’s interest in design, urban planning and environmental sustainability led him to join the Don J. Clark Group in Reno as Director of Communications and Strategy, and later as Vice President of Switch WORKS. Since 2019 he’s been Administrator for the Nevada Division of Outdoor Recreation, a state agency dedicated to fostering Nevada’s outdoor recreation economy.

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The Nevada Museum of Art is the only art museum in Nevada accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM). A private, nonprofit organization founded in 1931, the statewide institution is supported by its membership as well as sponsorships, gifts and grants. Through its permanent collections, original exhibitions and programming, and E.L. Cord Museum School, the Nevada Museum of Art provides meaningful opportunities for people to engage with a range of art and education experiences. The Museum’s **Center for Art + Environment** is an internationally recognized research center dedicated to supporting the practice, study, and awareness of creative interactions between people and their environments. The Center houses unique archive materials from more than 1,000 artists working on all seven continents, including Cape Farewell, Michael Heizer, Walter de Maria, Lita Albuquerque, Burning Man, the Center for Land Use Interpretation, Great Basin Native Artists Archive, Ugo Rondinone’s *Seven Magic Mountains*, and Trevor Paglen’s *Orbital Reflector*. Learn more at nevadaart.org.

Land Acknowledgement

The Nevada Museum of Art acknowledges the traditional homelands of the *Wa She Shu* (Washoe), *Numu* (Northern Paiute), *Newe* (Western Shoshone), and *Nuwu* (Southern Paiute) people of the Great Basin. This includes the 27 tribal nations that exist as sovereign nations and continue as stewards of this land. We appreciate the opportunity to live and learn on these Indigenous homelands.