

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***VMFA Paul Mellon Educator and Statewide Manager Jeffrey Allison
Named a Richmond Times-Dispatch 2019 Person of the Year Honoree***

Richmond, Virginia — Jeffrey Allison, VMFA’s Paul Mellon Collection Educator and Manager of Statewide Programs and Exhibitions, was named a Richmond Times-Dispatch Person of the Year honoree.

Allison received his award for the instrumental role that he played in the design and successful implementation of *VMFA on the Road: An Artmobile for the 21st Century*. The museum’s new artmobile was launched in October 2018 and since that time has received more than 160,000 visitors.

In addition to his work at VMFA, Allison is a professional photographer. He has worked at VMFA for more than 20 years, growing the VMFA statewide partner program from 32 to more than 1,200 partners. Allison has curated numerous exhibitions, including the exhibition *How Far Can Creativity Take You: VMFA Fellowship Artists*, the inaugural *VMFA on the Road* artmobile exhibition.



Photo: David Stover © Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. Jeffrey Allison, Paul Mellon Collection Educator and Manager of Statewide Programs and Exhibitions.

Allison serves on the boards of the Virginia Poverty Law Center and the Virginia Children’s Book Festival, as well as the Virginia Association of Museums Governing Council and the Torpedo Factory Advisory Board. He is also an advisor to Pocahontas Reframed: The Virginia Native American Film Festival and acted as moderator at the 2018 festival directors and actors panel.

“VMFA is honored to have great leader within our community,” says VMFA Director and CEO Alex Nyerges. “Throughout the Commonwealth, Jeffrey has been a terrific ambassador for the museum and truly personifies our mission to bring art to all Virginians.”

Allison currently teaches Advanced Photography and the History of Photography at VMFA’s Studio School and has taught at institutions such as Virginia Intermont College, Virginia Commonwealth University, East Tennessee State University, the Visual Arts Center of Richmond, and Virginia Highlands Community College for more than thirty years.

About the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond, Virginia, is one of the largest comprehensive art museums in the United States. VMFA, which opened in 1936, is a state agency and privately endowed educational institution. Its purpose is to collect, preserve, exhibit, and interpret art, and to encourage the study of the arts. Through the Office of Statewide Partnerships program, the museum offers curated exhibitions, arts-related audiovisual programs, symposia, lectures, conferences, and workshops by visual and performing artists. In addition to presenting a wide array of special exhibitions, the museum provides visitors with the opportunity to experience a global collection of art that spans more than 6,000 years. VMFA’s permanent holdings encompass nearly 50,000 artworks, including the largest public collection of Fabergé outside of Russia, the finest collection of Art Nouveau outside of Paris, and one of the nation’s finest collections of American art. VMFA is also home to important collections of Chinese art, English silver, and French Impressionist, Post-Impressionist, British sporting, and modern and contemporary art, as well as renowned South Asian, Himalayan, and African art. In May 2010, VMFA opened its doors to the public after a transformative expansion, the largest in its history.

The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts is the only art museum in the United States open 365 days a year with free general admission. For additional information, telephone 804.340.1400 or visit www.VMFA.museum.

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