



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Prestigious Goodwin Medal Awarded to David W. Dangremond  
by Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art**

The Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art awarded its Board of Trustees President David W. Dangremond the prestigious Goodwin Medal at its Annual Meeting in November. The Goodwin Medal is awarded on occasion to persons who have rendered extraordinary service to the museum. The last time the Goodwin Medal was awarded was to the museum's Docent Council in 2009.

It was said during a tribute to Dangremond at the meeting that his nearly quarter-century tenure as a museum trustee and his immeasurable efforts as Board President redefine true arts patronage. Honorary Trustee and long-time friend Robert H. Smith lauded the honoree as a "...much admired—yet modest—role model, his work on all fronts fueled by his passion for art of all forms and of all periods, and by his eager embrace of both innovation and connoisseurship." Smith also offered that one of Dangremond's "most commendable and selfless and endearing traits is his mentoring of staff, of curators and scholars at the Atheneum and around the country—unfailingly generous and so affirming and patiently empathetic."

A dinner held after the meeting honored Dangremond with remarks by Susan L. Talbott, Director and C.E.O. of the Wadsworth Atheneum; Karen Cronin Wheat, fellow Wadsworth Atheneum Trustee; Jeffrey Andersen, Director of the Florence Griswold Museum; and a heartfelt letter from Dangremond's two sons, Sam and Gus, who are based in New York City.

"David's leadership abilities can be characterized by clarity of thought, courage, loyalty and generosity," said Anderson. "I have never met someone who is more endlessly encouraging of others. I have seen this attribute with his students at Trinity, in his discussions with our curators, with our trustees, and, yes, with me."

“David is our true Renaissance Man,” said Wheat. “We celebrate him for his steadfast leadership, mentorship, wisdom, kindness, elegance, patience, humanity and grace under pressure.”

“David is a most deserving recipient of the Goodwin Medal,” said Talbott. “His unwavering support of, and championing spirit for, the Wadsworth Atheneum through challenging years and our ongoing renovation has given us incredible forward momentum.”

“For as long as we can remember, the Wadsworth Atheneum has been incredibly important to Dad,” wrote Dangremond’s sons. “His infectious enthusiasm for this museum, which we grew up visiting, instilled in both of us an appreciation for art that has shaped our lives and careers. Through his tireless devotion to the Atheneum—combined with his dedication to the art history students at Trinity—he has helped to transform Hartford into a place where the arts community is truly thriving.”

Both Smith and Wheat also acknowledged Dangremond’s wife, Mary Dangremond, for her contributions through her devoted support of her husband and the museum.

Dangremond’s unparalleled contributions to the Wadsworth Atheneum began in 1992 when he became trustee, since serving as Chair of the museum’s Curatorial Committee for twelve years, co-Chairing the Director Search Committee in 2008, and Chairing the museum’s first Ethics Committee. He has also served on the Executive, Strategic Planning, Building, Architect Selection, Finance and Austin House Committees of the museum. Dangremond was elected to the post of Vice President in 1998, and in 2011 rose to President—a role in which he has steered the museum out of difficult times and onto the cusp of one of the most pivotal moments in the Wadsworth Atheneum’s celebrated history.

In addition to his service to the Wadsworth Atheneum, Dangremond is a member of the Art History faculty at Trinity College and is Vice President of the Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme. He has also served as a trustee of many other museums and cultural organizations throughout Connecticut, including the Connecticut Historical Society, the Connecticut Humanities Council and the Hill-Stead Museum. Nationally, he is a trustee of The Winterthur Museum in Delaware, a member of the National Advisory Board of Mount Vernon in Virginia and Chairman of the Newport Symposium for the Preservation Society of Newport in Rhode Island.

## **About the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art**

Founded in 1842, the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art is the oldest public art museum in the United States. The museum's nearly 50,000 works of art span 5,000 years, from Greek and Roman antiquities to the first museum collection of American contemporary art. The museum's five connected buildings—representing architectural styles from Gothic Revival to modern International Style—are located at 600 Main Street in Hartford, Conn. Since 2010 the museum has been undergoing a major, \$33 million renovation, slated to be complete 2015. Hours: Wed – Fri: 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sat and Sun: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; First Thursdays: 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. Admission: \$5 – 10; discounts for members, students and seniors. Phone: (860) 278-2670; website: <http://thewadsworth.org>.

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