

PRESS RELEASE

Contact:
Susannah Abbott
Addison Gallery of American Art
978.749.4027
sabbott@andover.edu

**Rebecca L. Hayes is New Curator of Education at
Addison Gallery of American Art**

Andover, Mass., July 3, 2012 — The Addison Gallery of American Art, located on the campus of Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, is pleased to announce that Rebecca L. Hayes has joined the staff as curator of education. Rebecca brings to the Addison 17 years of experience at such institutions as the Peabody Essex Museum, the Williams College Museum of Art, the American Folk Art Museum in New York, and the Museum of Modern Art in New York. Brian T. Allen, the Addison's Mary Stripp and R. Crosby Kemper Director noted, "Because of the Addison's deep commitment to partnering with regional schools and organizations, as well as serving the Phillips Academy community, Rebecca's expertise in working with students of all ages to develop visual and critical thinking skills and her ability to build partnerships with teachers and administrators from a wide range of community organizations made her a standout applicant. We are thrilled to have her leading our education department." Rebecca follows Julie Bernson, who accepted the position of deputy director for learning and engagement at the deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum in Lincoln, Massachusetts in March, after a 17-year tenure at the Addison.

A Merrimack Valley native, Rebecca also brings a special appreciation for the Addison to the post, having discovered her love of museum education during her first job, as the education outreach coordinator at the Addison. Rebecca notes, "It's wonderful to be back at the Addison Gallery of American Art after 16 years. The Addison's incredible collection and innovative exhibitions make the museum a unique part of Phillips Academy, the local community, and the larger world. Our mission as a teaching museum and commitment to sharing the collection with as broad an audience as possible is what inspired my career in museum education. I'm so happy to have this opportunity to reconnect with former colleagues and friends in the community and heartened to see that our local partnerships from 16 years ago continue to flourish as new ones develop. I am looking forward to an exciting year of programs and collaborations with the Phillips Academy community and educators, students, and members of our local community organizations."

The Addison is committed to serving the public through educational programs that reach diverse audiences, including teachers, students from pre-kindergarten through grade 12, college classes, and adults. All Addison education programs are offered free of charge. In a typical year, the Addison presents 12 different exhibitions touching on a wide range of subjects, providing opportunities for teachers in different disciplines to incorporate museum shows into their classroom work. The Addison's Museum Learning Center offers a flexible classroom and exhibition space that makes the museum's entire collection accessible for programs tailored to the specific interests of individual groups. In addition to classes in art and art history, the Addison's collection lends itself to use by history, language arts, math, and science classes.

Photo Caption:

Rebecca Hayes, curator of education at the Addison Gallery of American Art, explores the work of artist Elizabeth Enders with first graders from the Lawrence Family Development Charter School

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About the Addison Gallery of American Art

Devoted exclusively to American Art, the mission of the Addison Gallery of American Art is to acquire, preserve, interpret and exhibit works of art for the education and enjoyment of all. Opened in 1931, the Gallery has one of the most important collections of American art in the country that includes nearly 17,000 works by prominent American artists such as George Bellows, John Singleton Copley, Thomas Eakins, Winslow Homer, Georgia O'Keeffe and Jackson Pollock, as well as photographers Eadweard Muybridge, Walker Evans, Robert Frank and many more. The Addison Gallery, located on the campus of Phillips Academy in Andover, offers a continually rotating series of exhibitions and programs, all of which are free and open to the public. For more information, call 978-749-4015, or visit the website at www.addisongallery.org.