



UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

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ART MUSEUM AT UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH RECEIVES HIGHEST NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Awarded Accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums

WEST HARTFORD, Conn – March 15, 2019 – The Art Museum at University of Saint Joseph (USJ) has achieved accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM), the highest national recognition afforded the nation’s museums.

Alliance accreditation brings national recognition to a museum for its commitment to excellence, accountability, high professional standards, and continued institutional improvement. USJ’s Art Museum is one of only two academic art museums accredited in Connecticut.

“We are thrilled with AAM’s acknowledgement of the Art Museum’s dedication to its educational mission and service to University and community audiences” said Ann H. Sievers, director and curator of the Art Museum. “It is not only a tribute to the work of the Museum staff, but also a reflection of the strong support the Museum has received from the University and the Greater Hartford public.”

The Art Museum will celebrate achieving first-time AAM accreditation on Thursday, March 28 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. at the exhibition opening for *James Daugherty: Fairfield Court Murals and the Portrayal of Family*. The event is free and open to the public.

Accreditation is a very rigorous but highly rewarding process that examines all aspects of a museum’s operations. To earn accreditation a museum must first conduct a year of self-study, and then undergo a site visit by a team of peer reviewers. The Alliance’s Accreditation Commission, an independent and autonomous body of museum professionals, considers the self-study and visiting committee report to determine whether a museum should receive accreditation. “Accredited museums are a community of institutions that have chosen to hold themselves publicly accountable to excellence,” said Laura L. Lott, Alliance president and CEO. “Accreditation is clearly a significant achievement, of which both the institutions and the communities they serve can be extremely proud.”

The Art Museum, University of Saint Joseph is located in Bruyette Athenaeum on the University's main campus at 1678 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford. It is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Thursday: 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.; and Sunday: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; closed Monday. Admission is free. The Art Museum is a member of the Connecticut Art Trail. For more information, visit www.usj.edu/artmuseum. Tel: 860.231.5399.

The American Alliance of Museums has been bringing museums together since 1906, helping to develop standards and best practices, gathering and sharing knowledge, and providing advocacy on issues of concern to the entire museum community. Representing more than 35,000 individual museum professionals and volunteers, institutions, and corporate partners serving the museum field, the Alliance stands for the broad scope of the museum community. For more information, visit www.aam-us.org.

The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of coeducational undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with opportunities for mentored research, community service, clinical field work, and internships. Programs are taught on the University's two campuses in West Hartford and Hartford, Connecticut; at off-campus locations throughout the state; and online. Founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy, the University of Saint Joseph offers degrees with value and values. To learn more, view our website at www.usj.edu.

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