

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jeff Jones  
Marketing & Communications Manager  
414.390.5783 | [JeffJ@MilwaukeeJewish.org](mailto:JeffJ@MilwaukeeJewish.org)

## Jewish Museum Milwaukee Hires New Executive Director

*Patti Sherman-Cisler joins JMM from the John Michael Kohler Arts Center*

Patti Sherman-Cisler, a well-respected leader in the Museum sector, will become executive director of Jewish Museum Milwaukee on June 15, 2015. Sherman-Cisler currently serves as the Deputy Director of Operations for the John Michael Kohler Arts Center, a nationally recognized art center and museum located in Sheboygan.

Sherman-Cisler has been with the organization for the past nine years and has led functions across the enterprise; Finance, Human Resources, Volunteer Engagement, Information Technology, Facilities, Security, Retail, Hospitality and Rentals. In addition she has played key roles in Strategic Planning, Fundraising, Marketing, Special Events and is the staff liaison to several Board Committees.

Prior to working with the Kohler Art Center, Sherman-Cisler served as the VP of Organizational and Business Enterprise Development for the Milwaukee Public Museum. She was at the museum for nine years in various roles and had oversight for contract negotiations, staff management, training and development, hospitality, retail, rental and café operations. While at the Milwaukee Public Museum, Sherman-Cisler began a group sales department and significantly changed the business models for retail businesses including a café, retail stores and facility rentals. Earlier in her career, Sherman-Cisler also worked at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts and owned her own business for three years.

In addition to her extensive museum, business, and art center experience, Sherman-Cisler holds a MS in Business Management from Cardinal Stritch University, a BA in Cultural Anthropology from UW-Milwaukee and is on the Management Committee of the American Association of Museums and Women in Management. She was awarded the Woman of Influence Award by the Milwaukee Business Journal in 2003.

Sherman-Cisler will join JMM following the retirement of the museum's founding executive director Kathie Bernstein, who has worked at the Milwaukee Jewish Federation for more than 30 years. Bernstein has devoted over a decade to preserving and presenting the history of Jewish Milwaukee, serving as the founding director of the Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society prior to becoming executive director of Jewish Museum Milwaukee, which opened its doors in 2008.

### **About the Jewish Museum Milwaukee**

*The Jewish Museum Milwaukee is dedicated to preserving and presenting the history of the Jewish people in southeastern Wisconsin and celebrating the continuum of Jewish heritage and culture. The history of American Jews is rooted in thousands of years of searching for freedom and equality. We are committed to sharing this story and the life lessons it brings with it, so that we may enhance the public's awareness and appreciation of Jewish life and culture.*

### **About the Milwaukee Jewish Federation**

*For more than 100 years, the Milwaukee Jewish Federation has been dedicated to building a strong Jewish community. We distributed \$20 million last year to Jewish and non-Jewish organizations locally and around the world, and manage philanthropy through our \$150 million Jewish Community Foundation.*

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