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## **Cooper-Hewitt Announces Two New Additions to Board of Trustees**

The Smithsonian Institution's Board of Regents voted to appoint Michele Gerber Klein and Karen A. Phillips to the board of trustees of Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum.

Cooper-Hewitt's board of trustees, led by Chairman Dinny Morse and President Paul Herzan, is comprised of distinguished civic and business leaders dedicated to the continued growth of the museum.

"I'm pleased to have such outstanding individuals join the board," said director Paul Warwick Thompson. "Klein and Philips will supremely complement the experience and leadership of Cooper-Hewitt's board."

### **Biographical Information**

Michele Gerber Klein, a graduate of the Brearley School and Bryn Mawr College, is vice president of the Libberman Foundation, and the founder of joan vass u.s.a. She has served as a trustee of the Dia Center for the Arts and is currently on the boards of the New Museum for Contemporary Art, Bomb magazine, and the Alliance Française. Klein is also a member of the photography acquisition committees at the Whitney Museum of American Art and the Museum of Modern Art. Currently, she writes for Quest magazine and is a contributing editor for Hamptons Cottages and Gardens magazine and License magazine, a trade publication. She and her husband, Jeffrey P. Klein, reside in New York.

Karen A. Philips serves on the New York City Planning Commission and is a consultant in community development and urban planning. She was one of the founders, and later president and chief executive officer, of the Abyssinian Development Corporation, a non-profit organization that invested almost \$200 million in the Harlem community under her leadership.

Philips received a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Georgia's School of Environmental Design and a master's degree from the Harvard University Graduate School of Design, with a concentration in real estate development and urban planning. She also serves on the Fannie Mae North East Regional Office Housing and Community Development Advisory Board, the State Farm Bank Community Reinvestment Advisory Board and the coordinating committee of New York 2050, a participatory visioning process for the metropolitan region.

### **About Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum, Smithsonian Institution**

Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum, Smithsonian Institution is the only museum in the nation devoted exclusively to historic and contemporary design. The museum presents compelling perspectives on the impact of design on daily life through active educational programs, exhibitions and publications. Founded in 1897 by Amy, Eleanor and Sarah Hewitt – granddaughters of industrialist Peter Cooper – as part of The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, the museum has been a branch of the Smithsonian since 1967.

The museum is housed in the Andrew Carnegie Mansion at the corner of Fifth Avenue and 91st Street in New York City. Public transit routes include the Lexington Avenue 4, 5 and 6 subways (86th or 96th Street stations) and Fifth and Madison Avenue buses. The museum is open Tuesdays through Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Fridays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sundays, noon to 6 p.m. The museum is closed on Mondays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. General admission is \$10; for senior citizens and students over age 12 it is \$7. Cooper-Hewitt members and children under age 12 are admitted free. For more information, call (212) 849-8400 or visit [www.cooperhewitt.org](http://www.cooperhewitt.org). The museum is fully accessible.

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