



PRESS RELEASE

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COUNCIL PRESIDENT LAVARRO ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF CHRISTINE GOODMAN AS NEW DIRECTOR OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Jersey City, NJ – **Council President Rolando Lavarro, Jr.** is pleased to announce the appointment of **Christine Goodman**, a leading figure in the Jersey City art and culture community, as the new Director of Cultural Affairs for the City of Jersey City.

The founder and creator of Arts House Productions, Christine has successfully dedicated her professional life to expanding the city's arts scene and has been a prominent voice in the city's movement to build a professional, permanent arts community. Since its inception in 2001, the nonprofit organization has worked to promote arts in the community by presenting plays, art exhibitions, and more. She also helped spearhead the popular quarterly free citywide art event, JC Fridays.

"Elizabeth Cain has done an incredible job in her 3+ years at Cultural Affairs as evidenced by the recent success of Jersey City's Freedom and Fireworks Festival," said **Council President Lavarro** who referenced the City's recent July 4th celebration that was moved from Liberty State Park to Downtown Exchange Place within 72 hours.

"As Elizabeth Cain exits stage left, we wish her the best of luck in her new endeavors and welcome Christine Goodman to fill her big shoes. Christine has been at the vanguard of Jersey City's arts scene for a long time. Christine's leadership, intimate relationship with the arts community in Jersey City and the region will build on Elizabeth's success and take Jersey City's cultural arts to the next level."

Goodman's extensive background in cultural affairs includes serving as a city Arts Commissioner and on the advisory board for development of the Hudson County Arts Master Plan. She's been awarded a key to the city and was named a Local Hero through the Bank of America Neighborhood Excellence Initiative. She was also previously named the #1 Most Influential Figure in the city's arts and culture scene by *Jersey City Magazine*.

ROLANDO LAVARRO

Jersey City Council President

“I believe that arts and culture are a vital component of any healthy, vibrant city,” said **Goodman**, a resident of the Heights. “Arts and culture have the power to encourage dialogue among our citizens. They impact our quality of life and our economy. I am thrilled to move this vision forward through the Department of Cultural Affairs on behalf of the Mayor and to serve the residents of Jersey City.”

In addition to her professional work with **Art House Productions**, Goodman is a professional actress, producer and playwright.

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