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SCOTT METZNER AND MERRYL ZEGAR NAMED CO-CHAIRS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT THE LOWER EAST SIDE TENEMENT MUSEUM

August 28, 2014, New York, NY—The Lower East Side Tenement Museum has announced that Scott Metzner and Merryl Zegar will become co-chairs of the museum’s Board of Trustees effective immediately. They will succeed Paul J. Massey, Jr. who has chaired the Board since 2010.

Mr. Metzner is the Founder and President of The Janus Property Company. Over the last 25 years, Janus has become a recognized leader transforming obsolete buildings and underutilized land in New York’s low and moderate income communities into dynamic structures and vibrant neighborhoods. Prior to Janus, Mr. Metzner held senior positions with several national firms focusing on both agency and principal-related real estate activity. He has been a member of the Tenement Museum’s Board of Trustees since 2011 and is also on the Board of Trustees for Phipps House, the nation’s oldest developer/owner of affordable housing.

Ms. Zegar is the Managing Director and a Trustee of the Zegar Family Foundation. An accomplished attorney, she served as Deputy General Counsel at Bank Leumi Trust Company of New York and then as Associate General Counsel of the Dime Savings Bank of New York. Ms. Zegar has been a member of the Tenement Museum’s Board of Trustees since 2011.

As Board Co-Chairs, Mr. Metzner and Ms. Zegar will help guide The Tenement Museum as it enters an exciting new chapter in its history with its plans to continue expansion. The Museum has announced plans for a new exhibit that will allow the Museum to continue the immigrant story after 1935 and explore the stories of Chinese immigrants, Jewish Holocaust survivors, and Puerto Rican migrants who began new lives on the Lower East Side after World War II. The new exhibit will combine technology and immersive environments inviting visitors to explore re-created homes of past residents in a historic tenement at 103 Orchard Street. They will be located on an upper floor of the building which currently houses the Museum’s Sadie Samuelson Levy Immigrant Heritage Center.

During his tenure as Board Chair, Mr. Massey oversaw a period of tremendous growth which included the museum raising \$11 million in Capital Campaign contributions. The museum also opened its new Visitor Center and Museum Shop as well as its most recent tour and program in its National Historic Site at 97 Orchard Street, *Shop Life*. Under Mr. Massey’s leadership, the museum saw its annual visitorship grow from 140,000 to 210,000 visitors a year. Mr. Massey will remain on the Board.

“We want to give great thanks and appreciation to the tremendous work Paul has done over the past four years,” said Museum President Morris J. Vogel. “He has been exceptional to work with during an important time in this museum’s history. We are extremely excited that Scott and Merryl will be leading Museum as we continue to expand the stories we tell at The Tenement Museum and build the foundation for the future.”

About the Lower East Side Tenement Museum

The Lower East Side Tenement Museum, founded in 1988, is located in a landmarked tenement building at 97 Orchard Street. The building was home to more than 7,000 immigrants from more than 20 nations between 1863 and 1935. The Museum is dedicated to using the history of its site as a tool for addressing issues that are still relevant today, including immigration. In 2008 the Museum was honored with the Preserve America Presidential Award and the National Medal for Museum Service.