



September 5, 2012

## Herron School of Art and Design announces Abbey Chambers as Basile Center Director



Abbey Chambers

Image credit: Herron staff

Herron School of Art and Design announced today that Abbey Chambers has been appointed as the new director of the Basile Center for Art, Design and Public Life.

Chambers joined Herron in January 2008 as an administrative support specialist for the Herron Galleries and the Basile Center. She was promoted to the role of academic advisor and recruiter in February 2011. She is also an associate faculty member in Art History.

Her role as the director of the Basile Center will draw on this experience while allowing her to continue teaching her popular courses on Art Appreciation, American Art and the History of Fashion. Chambers also plans to continue her research on American art and culture from the Colonial period through the first half of the 20th century.

She is a past president of the Board of Directors of the Indianapolis Downtown Artists and Dealers Association (IDADA) and remains deeply involved in the local arts community.

Chambers holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Art History from Kendall College of Art and Design, where she was valedictorian. Her master's degree is in Art History from Indiana University, Bloomington.

Following her graduate studies, Chambers worked for the Community Programs Center at the University of Indianapolis, where she matched students with appropriate service learning opportunities. She also has worked at the Wheeler Arts Community, coordinating public arts events and programs with the resident artists.

Chambers said, "I am honored to have been selected as the Director of the Basile Center. The Basile Center already is a great asset to Herron, its students and to the community. It holds a lot of potential for developing new and innovative partnerships that can enrich our students' learning and enhance our communities even more."

### About the Basile Center

The Frank and Katrina Basile Center for Art, Design and Public Life is Herron's laboratory for applying the talents and skills of Herron students and faculty to the needs of businesses, nonprofit organizations and government agencies. It connects artists in all media with

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community partners who are interested in providing real-world and professional practice experiences through public art commissions, art and design competitions and civic engagement opportunities. The skill and knowledge students gain from conceptualizing and competing for community-based commissions better prepares them for the world outside college. Students often work with architects, engineers, electricians, fabrication design houses, printer companies and landscape architects to get the job done, resulting in an extraordinarily well-rounded practical experience.

For more information, visit <http://www.herron.iupui.edu/basile-center>.

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