

# AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME

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4 May 2009 -- THE AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME OPENS SEARCH FOR NEW DIRECTOR TO SUCCEED  
PROF. CARMELA VIRCILLO FRANKLIN WHO WILL STEP DOWN IN THE SUMMER OF 2010

## POSITION DESCRIPTION DIRECTOR AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME

### ORGANIZATION

The American Academy in Rome, founded in 1894, is an independent, privately funded institution that provides opportunities for American artists and scholars to pursue scholarly or artistic projects in close association with the cultural heritage of Rome. The core of this group is approximately 30 Fellows (Rome Prize winners selected each year by rotating juries who review up to 1000 applications from across the United States). In addition, about twenty Affiliated Fellows are sent to the AAR by member institutions, and a small number of distinguished artists and scholars are invited to be Residents by the Director.

The Academy occupies approximately eleven acres on the Janiculum, the highest hill within the walls of Rome, and ten buildings -- including the McKim, Mead & White-designed Academy Building, and the 17th Century Villa Aurelia. The annual operating budget for the Academy totals \$11 million including the Library, plus the capital budget.

### POSITION SUMMARY

Reporting to the President in New York, the Director provides intellectual and managerial leadership for all the activities and programs of the Academy in Rome. The Director manages a culturally and linguistically diverse staff of approximately 40-50, with direct reports from the Andrew W. Mellon Professor, the Andrew Heiskell Arts Director, the Drue Heinz Librarian, the Executive Secretary to the Director; the Assistant Directors of Operations, Properties (Properties is a joint report to the President in NY), Finance (Finance is a joint report to the Vice President for Finance and Administration in NY) and the Executive Chef.

The Director:

- Mentors, nurtures and advances the work of the Fellows and strives to provide the optimal conditions to sustain their Rome Prize projects.
- Stimulates and enlarges the spirit of intellectual and social community among Fellows, Residents and the Academy's extended family;
- Assures the enrichment of the Fellows' experience in Rome through introductions and exposure to that city's artistic and scholarly communities;
- Represents the American Academy with leaders in the arts, academia, philanthropy, commerce, and government in Rome and, as appropriate, throughout Italy and Europe.
- Oversees development, public relations, and media relations in Rome.
- Confers regularly with the President and assists and coordinates closely with her and appropriate senior staff on both sides of the Atlantic on fund-raising activities.

## MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide scholarly and/or artistic leadership in the cultural world of Rome.
- Serve as the Academy's chief resident officer and spokesperson in Rome.
- Lead and manage all Academy activities in Rome through key staff including the Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities, the Andrew Heiskell Arts Director, the Drue Heinz Librarian, the Assistant Directors of Operations, Properties, and Finance, and the Executive Chef.
- Maintain a presence with the cultural leadership in Rome, and provide access and interaction among scholars and artists.
- Assure that the programs and activities in the arts and humanities promote interest and interchange both among disciplines and between Americans and Europeans.
- Entertain frequently within the Academy family, bringing in and cultivating appropriate members of the international community in Rome, and visiting supporters of the Academy from the United States; coordinate closely with the President in proposing, planning, delivering, and reporting on entertainment of potential donors; assist the President in identifying and attracting funding in both countries.
- Participate in meetings of the Board of Trustees as an ex-officio member.
- Develop and implement the Rome portion of the institution's budget, in keeping with the goals of the Academy, and supervising the appropriate use of all funds expended in Rome in consultation with both the Rome and NY staff.
- Assist the President, both in Italy and the U.S., in building and strengthening relationships with supporters of the Academy, including former Fellows and Residents, friends, potential patrons, and peer professional organizations.
- Work closely with the President to keep New York and Rome entities operating in harmony and as a unified institution.

## IDEAL EXPERIENCE

- Fluency in Italian is critical; the experience of having lived in Italy, and knowing Italy and its culture, especially Rome, would be extremely helpful.
- Outstanding achievement in his/her professional field sufficient to engender respect from Fellows and distinguished professionals.
- Deep commitment to, and broad education in the arts and humanities;
- Proven ability to mentor talented and diverse individuals, and engage with their work.
- Successful leadership and management experience, preferably in an educational or cultural institution with an international component.
- Experience and successful interaction with government agencies, including those of foreign governments, and other institutions.
- Successful experience in obtaining grants, including assisting or advising in the preparation of proposals, and raising funds from individuals.
- In good health, capable of managing the demands of a demanding schedule.

## IDEAL PERSONAL PROFILE

- Is urbane and outgoing, with a good sense of humor; energetic and articulate; a natural host to Americans as well as the international community; eager and able to foster a collegial community embracing Fellows, staff and visitors.
- Has the presence and personal record of achievement to be perceived as a leader both within the Academy and by the community at large.
- Is devoted to Rome and Italy.
- Enjoys, and is good at, frequent entertaining.
- Is able to build and sustain a complex and constantly changing community.
- Has the desire, and the family situation, to commit to two to five years in this position.

TO APPLY, PLEASE SUBMIT A RESUME TOGETHER WITH A COVER LETTER EXPLAINING YOUR PERCEPTIONS OF THE ACADEMY, HOW YOU VIEW THE JOB OF DIRECTOR, WHY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THE POSITION, AND WHY YOU FEEL PARTICULARLY QUALIFIED TO DO THE JOB. MATERIAL MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 15 JUNE 2009:

PLEASE SUBMIT TO: [DirectorSearch@aarome.org](mailto:DirectorSearch@aarome.org) and [fsanchisIII@gmail.com](mailto:fsanchisIII@gmail.com)

ALL APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED BY E-MAIL WITHIN ONE WEEK. IF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IS NOT RECEIVED, IT IS THE APPLICANT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO FOLLOW UP BY CALLING FRANK SANCHIS AT 914-659-0914. THANK YOU.

CANDIDATES TO BE INVITED FOR AN INTERVIEW WILL BE NOTIFIED THAT THEY ARE FINALISTS ON JULY 17TH. INTERVIEWS WILL BE SCHEDULED FOR LATE JULY OR EARLY AUGUST.

THE SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR THE DIRECTOR  
C/O FRANK E. SANCHIS, MANAGER OF THE SEARCH  
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