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Media Contact:

Gayle Shupack
215-345-0210, ext. 131
gshupack@mercermuseum.org

MERCER MUSEUM & FONTHILL CASTLE NAME NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DOYLESTOWN, PA: (June 8, 2017) – The Bucks County Historical Society Board of Trustees has chosen Kyle McKoy as the new Executive Director of the Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle. This week, McKoy officially took over leadership responsibilities from Doug Dolan, who announced his retirement in March after 34 years.

“After a year-long nationwide search, the Bucks County Historical Society is extremely pleased that Kyle McKoy has accepted the position of Executive Director. Kyle’s nearly 20 years of museum experience, boundless enthusiasm and a proven ability to engage the local community makes her a great fit for the Castles and our region,” said Bucks County Historical Society Board Chair, John R. Augenblick.

Ms. McKoy, a native of St. Louis, Missouri, comes to the Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle after having served for four years as the Vice President for Education and Exhibitions at the Indiana Historical Society (IHS), in Indianapolis, Indiana, one of the oldest and largest historical societies in the United States. At IHS, McKoy oversaw an expansion of programs, exhibitions and collaborative community efforts which resulted in a significant increase in attendance and annual giving. She also successfully spearheaded efforts for IHS to increase its national footprint by attaining Smithsonian Affiliation and International Coalition of Sites of Conscience membership.

“I am excited about the opportunity to lead the Bucks County Historical Society and its two world-class museums,” said McKoy. “I am inspired by the organization’s commitment to educating its many audiences, and for the diversity of its exhibitions and programs. I look forward to working with the staff, trustees and volunteers to further the museums’ mission.”

Prior to the Indiana Historical Society, McKoy served as Museum Director for the Arizona Historical Society, in Tempe, Arizona (2011-2013), where she implemented the reopening of the library and archives after a 4-year closure. She also held the position of Director, Education & Outreach Division for the Arizona Historical Society (2004 – 2011).

Ms. McKoy earned her Master of Arts in Education and Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from the University of Arizona. She has trained in the American Association for State and Local History's Developing History Leaders program and received a scholarship from the National Council for the Social Studies to promote support for Social Studies education to Congressional leaders in Washington, D.C.

About the Mercer Museum & Fonthill Castle

The Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle are operated by The Bucks County Historical Society (BCHS), a private nonprofit organization. The Mercer Museum offers visitors a unique window into pre-Industrial America as seen through the implements used in everyday life. The Museum's collection includes more than 40,000 objects exhibiting the tools of more than 60 different crafts and trades, providing one of the world's most comprehensive portraits of material culture in America. Fonthill Castle, Henry Mercer's amazing concrete castle home, boasts 44 rooms and 18 fireplaces. The interior walls, floors and ceilings are elaborately adorned with an incredible array of Mercer's original handcrafted tiles. Both the Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle are open seven days a week. For more information , call [215-345-0210](tel:215-345-0210), or visit mercermuseum.org.

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