

## **The Adler Planetarium Welcomes New Vice President of Development, Kate Brueggemann**

CHICAGO – January 23, 2017 – The Adler Planetarium is pleased to welcome Kate Brueggemann as the museum’s Vice President of Development. Reporting to the Adler’s President and CEO, Michelle B. Larson, PhD, Brueggemann will be leading the museum’s fundraising initiatives.

“I am thrilled to join the Adler at such an exciting time,” said Brueggemann. “The museum’s leadership has big plans for the future, and I look forward to helping the organization build a strong fundraising foundation to reach those goals.”

Kate Brueggemann is formerly the Director of Principal Giving at the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis where she oversaw major donations, planned giving, and the capital campaign. During Brueggemann’s tenure at the Garden, annual fundraising increased by over 40 percent. Her previous experience also includes Development Director positions at the Missouri History Museum and Paraquad, a disability rights organization.



Brueggemann is extremely active in local and national fundraising communities, recently serving as President-Elect for the St. Louis Chapter of the Association for Fundraising Professionals (AFP). She is regularly asked to present on development and institutional advancement topics at conferences for AFP, American Public Garden Association (APGA) and American Alliance of Museums (AAM). She also lends her fundraising talents to advocacy organizations: She served as Chair of the Development Committee and as a member of the Executive Board for PROMO, Missouri’s statewide group working for LGBTQ equality.

“Kate brings a wealth of experience in all aspects of fundraising to our Development team at the Adler. Her record of having significantly increased annual fundraising during her time at Missouri Botanical Garden is impressive. Her proven skill set will help move the Adler forward as we continue to build a financially strong and sustainable organization,” says Larson. “Kate will be an outstanding addition to our innovative and collaborative Adler team.”

### **About the Adler Planetarium:**

The Adler Planetarium—America’s First Planetarium—is more than a museum; it is a laboratory, a classroom, and a community exploring the Universe together. Each year, nearly 570,000 visitors experience the museum’s interactive exhibitions, live planetarium shows, hands-on, minds-on STEM education programs, and world-class collections. Founded in 1930 by Chicago business leader Max Adler, the Adler Planetarium is a recognized leader in public engagement. The museum’s scientists, historians, and educators inspire the next generation of explorers and invite you to explore space with us.