

THE BIG DRAW

PRESS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 9 April 2019

Global Visual Literacy Charity The Big Draw announces new Chair of The Board of Trustees

David Graham, managing-director of international publishers Pavilion Books, has been announced as the new Chair of visual literacy charity, The Big Draw - founder of the global, month-long festival celebrating the universal language of drawing. David takes over his tenure as Chair from Christopher Goodhart who has led in this role for the last eight years.

Commenting on his recent appointment David Graham said:

"I am thrilled to be joining The Big Draw as its new Chair. I have long admired the fantastic work the charity has done over the years - encouraging over 4 million people to pick up a pencil or a pen to engage and create. I look forward to working with Kate, her extraordinarily dedicated team and my fellow trustees to continue and develop the charity's vital work.

I'd also like to thank Christopher for his many years of dedicated service - and hope I can emulate his calm and effective stewardship of The Big Draw."

Christopher Goodhart commenting on his successor said:

"I am delighted that after an extensive search my fellow trustees have unanimously approved the election of David Graham as the new Chair of Trustees for The Big Draw. David's passion for visual literacy come from his experience running publishing companies over the last twenty years and seeing the impact that it can have on communities. I am sure that David's past commitment to the publishing charity BTBS and driving Pavilion Books' regular charitable campaigns will be an enormous asset to the Big Draw.

It has been an honour to Chair the Board of Trustees of The Big Draw for the last eight years, a period where the charity has taken great strides to becoming self-sufficient. I'd like to pay tribute to my fellow trustees but in particular to Kate Mason, the Director, for the extraordinary work that she and her small outstanding team achieve."

Christopher remains Chairman of the Bankside Gallery, home to the *Royal Watercolour Society* and *The Royal Society of Painter Printmakers*, as well as being a director of *The London School of Picture and Frame Conservation* and the *Restorers Without Frontiers* charity project.

David Graham has worked in book publishing for over 30 years - first joining the art book publishing company Phaidon Press in 1987. He has managed a variety of independent publishing businesses since 2000. He joined Pavilion Books, the award-winning illustrated publisher as its managing director in 2014 and was closely involved the international colouring phenomenon, publishing Millie Marotta's books in over 30 countries delivering sales of over 7 million copies. Alongside this

phenomenon Pavilion continues to publish across a variety of illustrated categories including an illustrated children's list, art technique books and a growing range of books on artists, designers and architecture
He is a member of the board of the Independent Publisher's Guild and also a trustee of the book industry charity BTBS. He lives in London with his wife and two daughters

To find out more about the work of The Big Draw and The John Ruskin Prize (organised by The Big Draw) visit thebigdraw.org and ruskinprize.co.uk

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CONTACT

For further information, quotes, comments, images and interviews.

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#TheBigDraw #BDF19 #DrawnToLife #RuskinPrize #AgentOfChange #Ruskin200

NOTES TO EDITORS

The Big Draw

Founded in 2000, The Big Draw is an arts education charity that promotes visual literacy and the universal language of drawing as a tool for learning, expression and invention. The charity leads a diversified programme encompassing advocacy, empowerment and engagement, and is the founder and driving force behind The Big Draw Festival – the world's biggest celebration of drawing.

The Big Draw manages collaborative research projects, campaigns and educational conferences on visual literacy, digital technology and STEAM. The charity supports professional and emerging artists through The John Ruskin Prize and exhibition, and through events, awards, and competitions, creates platforms for each and everyone who wants to draw.
www.thebigdraw.org.

The Big Draw Festival

Launched in October 2000, The Big Draw Festival has encouraged over four million people back to the drawing board. It has notched up two world records – for the longest drawing in the world (one kilometre) and the greatest number of people drawing simultaneously (over 7,000).

The first Big Draw Festival in 2000 attracted 180 partner organisations. Since then, the number had risen to over 1,000, with over 400,000 people participating each year. What began as a one day celebration of drawing in October 2000 in the UK, is now an annual month-long festival of drawing across the world. To find your nearest event or find out more about organising one visit: www.thebigdraw.org

The John Ruskin Prize

Inaugurated in 2012 by The Guild of St. George and The Big Draw (formerly the Campaign for Drawing). The John Ruskin Prize is the fastest growing multi-disciplinary art prize in the UK. The Prize aims to uphold John Ruskin's beliefs whilst challenging the nation's artists to respond to challenging themes. The resulting exhibitions have attracted diverse audiences and received wide critical acclaim. On the bicentenary of Ruskin's birth (8 February) The Big Draw announced the call for entries for The 5th John Ruskin Prize, inviting UK based artists, designers and makers to respond to the theme: *Agent of Change*. The deadline for entries is Sunday 12 May 2019. For further information on past winners, prizes, programme, eligibility, submission and exhibition dates please visit: ruskinprize.co.uk