



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January Parkos Arnall Named Executive Director of Compound Long Beach

*Parkos Arnall's appointment coincides with the art and wellness nonprofit's full
programmatic reopening in September 2024*



January Parkos Arnall. Photo by Maria Ponce.

LONG BEACH, CA (August 27, 2024) – Compound, the 501(c)(3) nonprofit art space and community hub located in the Zaferia district of Long Beach, is excited to announce the appointment of January Parkos Arnall as its new Executive Director, effective September 23, 2024. This leadership transition marks a significant moment for Compound, which has emerged from its Covid-related closure in 2022 stronger and more committed than ever to its mission of connecting art, culture, community, and wellness.

January Parkos Arnall brings over 20 years of experience in the arts and cultural sector to her new role at Compound. Her background includes key leadership roles at the Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) Chicago, the Hammer Museum, and most recently, the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art.

Reflecting on her distinguished career and her vision for Compound, Parkos Arnall shared:

“At the heart of everything I’ve done, from my curatorial work at the Hammer, to building the Commons space at the MCA, to developing a new institution at the Lucas Museum, my passion lies in connecting people through art and creating sites of belonging. Personally and professionally, I feel deeply aligned with Compound’s artist and community-led approach, holistic range of programming, and affirming mission. I look forward to serving the community in Long Beach and beyond, and fostering a sustainable architecture of connection at Compound.”

Compound, a creative and cultural complex designed by Founder, Megan Tagliaferri, fosters the intersection of contemporary art, wellness, and community impact. The nonprofit organization operates from the belief that culture shifts consciousness. More than just an art space, Compound serves as a philanthropic hub where art, healing, and culture are made accessible and unite the entire community. Compound’s 13,000-square-foot complex includes two former art deco warehouses, an outdoor courtyard, a sculpture garden, an indoor wellness space, as well as the on-site restaurant, Union.

Over 60 cultural and community organizations have sustained and collaborated with Compound since its founding in 2020, actualizing the mission through the community response post-closure. Bolstered by this remarkable grassroots support, Compound has gradually reopened its doors since January 2024 and reintroduced many of its most beloved programs, such as Community Markets and its free Art for All workshops, and the opening of its on-site restaurant, Union, with Chef-in-Residence Eugene Santiago of Baryo at the helm.

The appointment of January Parkos Arnall as Executive Director, along with *When the Veil Thins*, a forthcoming group exhibition curated by Tofer Chin and Mari Orkenyi (September 19, 2024 – January 12, 2025), and the reactivation of Compound’s community and wellness offerings, marks the complete return of the organization’s programmatic pillars, fulfilling its mission.

Megan Tagliaferri, Founder, Interim Executive Director, and future Board Chair of Compound, reflected on the journey that led to this moment:

“The incredible response and support from our community, along with the collaboration of 60 local organizations, have allowed us to fully realize our mission. This moment is a testament to the power of art and community working in tandem. January Parkos Arnall’s extensive experience at the MCA and Hammer Museums, coupled with her MBA background, warmth, and demonstrated ability to create spaces of belonging and kinship, made her a natural fit for Compound. Her appointment marks a new chapter in our journey, and we are eager to see where her leadership takes us.”

Compound Board Member, Angela Gulliver said of Compound’s mission and Arnall’s appointment:

“Compound has been so many things to me and my son – a place of safety, kindness, artistic expression, nature, nourishment, education, health, healing, community, and connection. This is a place many of us have been looking for and I’m thrilled for January Parkos Arnall to join in the mission of continuing to nurture this space for art, beauty, and connection.”

As Compound moves forward under Parkos Arnall’s leadership, the organization remains dedicated to its founding mission of connecting art, culture, community, and wellness. With renewed energy and vision, Compound looks forward to expanding its impact and continuing to serve as a vital cultural resource for Long Beach and beyond.

About January Parkos Arnall

January Parkos Arnall is a strategic museum leader and curator focused on operational and artistic impact in the culture sector. She was most recently Director, Public Programs and Creative Practice at the Lucas Museum, where she was tasked with delivering initiatives that connect people to one another and the world around them. Prior to the Lucas, Parkos Arnall was Curator and head of the Performance and Public Practice department at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago. At the MCA, she oversaw The Commons, a site for artistic and civic engagement, and with her department, spearheaded hundreds of talks, programs, and performances, as well as the museum’s partnership and engagement portfolio. Before the MCA, she held a curatorial appointment at the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles, where she focused on Public Engagement and facilitated the Artist Council, bringing the voices of living artists into the museum’s strategic and programmatic planning. Parkos Arnall holds a PhD in cultural studies and museum theory from Claremont Graduate University, an MBA from the University of Southern California, an MFA from Temple University, Tyler School of Art, and a BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

About Compound

Compound is located at the corner of East 14th Street and Coronado Avenue within the thriving Zaferia District of Long Beach. At the intersection of art, culture, and community, this dynamic creative space is centered on the belief that culture shifts consciousness. Inspiring artworks of emerging and intergenerational artists invite guests to explore, discover, and connect. Compound operates as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) entity with public programming, including contemporary art exhibitions and immersive experiences, talks, wellness classes, workshops, community markets, and youth programs. A selection of programs are free and accessible thanks to the generous support of Compound's partners and funders. Compound welcomes locals, regulars, and new visitors to experience the cultural diversity of its neighborhood.

About Union

Union, the on-site restaurant at Compound, is led by Chef in Residence Eugene Santiago of Baryo. The Southeast Asian-inspired menu showcases California-fresh ingredients, bringing bold and vibrant flavors to every dish. For reservations and more information, please visit the website at www.unionlb.com.

Visiting Compound

General admission to Compound is free, and parking is available at Compound's nearby structure at 1326 Obispo Avenue for \$5 with validation at Compound or Union. Ride sharing is also strongly encouraged. Compound is open Wednesday through Saturday from 4:00 pm to 10:00 pm, and Sunday from 11:00 am to 8:00 pm.

For more information on Compound's programs and events, please visit the website at www.compoundlb.org, follow Compound on Instagram, or subscribe to the newsletter. For direct inquiries, please contact info@compoundlb.org or call 562-534-5060.

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