PHOENIX (October 22, 2019) – Arizona Costume Institute (ACI), an affiliate group of Phoenix Art Museum, will present its 2019 Holiday Luncheon on Monday, December 9 at 11 am, with Tonne Goodman, author of Point of View and former Vogue fashion director, as its guest of honor and keynote speaker. Tickets to the annual fundraiser, which will feature a champagne reception, lunch, a book-signing with Goodman, and a raffle, range from $250 to $1,000 and are available at tickets.phxart.org. All proceeds benefit the Museum's fashion exhibitions and education programming.

“For more than 50 years, Arizona Costume Institute has played a pivotal role in the success of the esteemed fashion design program at Phoenix Art Museum, with the annual Holiday Luncheon providing a vital infusion of generous support for our fashion exhibitions and related programming,” said Mark Koenig, Interim Sybil Harrington Director and Chief Financial Officer. “We are incredibly grateful to the ACI board and its members and the 2019 luncheon planning committee for their tireless efforts in support of Phoenix Art Museum and our community.”

Each year, the ACI Holiday Luncheon features an internationally recognized fashion icon. The 2019 event, chaired by Jennifer Carmer and honorary chair Priscilla Nicholas, will present keynote speaker Tonne Goodman. A native New Yorker, Goodman began her career in fashion at The Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum of Art with Diana Vreeland. From there, she moved on to work at The New York Times Magazine with Carrie Donovan, before becoming a stylist for various clients including LIFE magazine. In 1988, she was appointed vice president of
advertising for Calvin Klein, where she created iconic imagery for the company. Subsequently at Harper’s Bazaar, she worked alongside Liz Tilberis before ultimately joining Anna Wintour at Vogue in 1999. During her nearly 20-year tenure as Vogue’s fashion director, she was responsible for dramatic editorials and countless eye-catching covers. Goodman was awarded the Eleanor Lambert Award in 2010 from the Council of Fashion Designers of America, a special recognition granted by the industry to those who offer a unique contribution to the fashion world. Goodman’s book, Point of View, chronicles her career from her modeling days, to her freelance fashion reportage, to her editorial and advertising work, through to her time at Vogue.

In addition to a presentation by Goodman, the elegant event, which is presented by To Be Continued consignment boutique, will feature a champagne reception and cuisine provided by Santa Barbara Catering. Guests will also enjoy a raffle, featuring items from such retailers as Trina Turk, Stuart Weitzman, Morphe, and Kashwere, among many others.

Arizona Costume Institute is led by Kathie May, who serves as the organization’s president, along with a board composed of local Valley community leaders and working professionals. For nearly 20 years, Dennita Sewell, who was recently named the Museum’s Curator Emerita of Fashion Design, led the fashion design program at Phoenix Art Museum. In October 2019, Helen Jean, a representative of the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising (FIDM) who served as Sewell’s curatorial assistant at the Museum from 2007 to 2012, was named interim curator of fashion design. Over the next year, Jean will curate exhibitions presented in the Kelly Ellman Fashion Design Gallery, drawing from the Museum’s fashion collection of more than 8,000 objects of both historical and contemporary fashion, while also working closely with Arizona Costume Institute. For more information about Arizona Costume Institute, visit arizonacostumeinstitute.org.

About Phoenix Art Museum
Since 1959, Phoenix Art Museum has provided millions of guests with access to world-class art and experiences in an effort to ignite imaginations, create meaningful connections, and serve as a brave space for all people who wish to experience the transformative power of art. Located in Phoenix’s Central Corridor, the Museum is a vibrant destination for the visual arts and the largest art museum in the southwestern United States. Each year, more than 350,000 guests engage with critically acclaimed national and international exhibitions and the Museum’s collection of more than 19,000 works of American and Western American, Asian, European, Latin American, modern and contemporary art, and fashion design. The Museum also presents a comprehensive film program, live performances, and educational programs designed for visitors of all ages, along with vibrant photography exhibitions made possible through the Museum’s landmark partnership with the Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona. To learn more about Phoenix Art Museum, visit phxart.org, or call 602.257.1880.

About the Fashion Design Collection at Phoenix Art Museum
Founded in 1966, the fashion design collection of Phoenix Art Museum is notable for its quality and comprehensiveness. More than 8,000 objects comprise the collection, including American and European men’s, women’s, and children’s dress and accessories dating from the late 17th century to the present. The Museum organizes two exhibitions annually in the Kelly Ellman Fashion Design Gallery. Phoenix Art Museum is one of only a handful of art museums in the country with a long and continuously active fashion program.

About Arizona Costume Institute
Arizona Costume Institute was founded in 1966 to support the fashion design department of Phoenix Art Museum in the acquisition and preservation of garments and accessories of historical and aesthetic significance. It also promotes appreciation of fashion design through programs and support of the Museum’s exhibitions. ACI’s support of this collection area depends on the enthusiasm of dedicated volunteers to help maintain and expand the collection and educational programs. To learn more about Arizona Costume Institute, visit arizonacostumeinstitute.org.

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