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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Silicon Valley Arts Group Adds New Associate Director**

*Cultural Initiatives Silicon Valley Adds Former California Academy  
of Science Senior Development Officer as Associate Director*

San José, CA – Cultural Initiatives Silicon Valley, a public benefit organization with a comprehensive plan for the cultural transformation of Silicon Valley, today announced the addition of Associate Director Laura Jason, former Senior Development Officer with the California Academy of Sciences.

Jason joins Cultural Initiatives from the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco, where she served as Senior Development Officer, responsible for corporate and foundation programs. Previously, she was the Principal of Grants Management in Menlo Park, Grants Officer for the San José Museum of Art, and Founder and Executive Director of the Bay Area Writers Workshop.

Volunteer affiliations have included the Commonwealth Club of California, *Poetry Flash*, Villa Montalvo Center for the Arts, and National Association of Writers' Conferences and Retreats. She holds an M.F.A. in Creative Writing and a B.A. in English Literature with a minor in Asian Art History, both from Mills College.

Cultural Initiatives Silicon Valley is a public benefit organization formed in response to the research and planning efforts of over 1,000 committed community leaders, and dedicated to the development of a comprehensive plan for the cultural transformation of Silicon Valley. Its mission is to advance the vitality of Silicon Valley through broad cultural participation, quality creative education in our schools and a development of an informed and committed leadership in the community.

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