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**CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FINE ARTS DEANS
ASSOCIATION DES DOYENS EN BEAUX-ARTS DU CANADA**

CAFAD Response Statement

The Board of Directors of the Canadian Association of Fine Arts Deans (CAFAD) endorses the statement by Universities Canada (January 29, 2017) and shares its concerns about threats to “the free flow of people and ideas and to the values of diversity, inclusion and openness that are hallmarks of a strong and healthy society.” Such sentiments are echoed in the Association of Independent Colleges of Art and Design (AICAD) statement (January 31, 2017) that “we stand united against policies that are counter to the principles of diversity, equity, inclusion and the global sharing of knowledge that are core to the educational missions of all our members.” In accord with its mission to be a national voice for post-secondary programs in the Fine Arts to the public at large, government and within the academic community, the Board of Directors of CAFAD supports the proposition that arts education promotes intercultural understanding and respect for difference.

CAFAD Board of Directors