New York Times art critic Holland Cotter to give deCordova’s annual Cronin Lecture on May 2

Lincoln, MA, March 6, 2018—DeCordova is pleased to announce that award-winning The New York Times art critic Holland Cotter will give the 2018 Paul J. Cronin Memorial Lecture on Wednesday, May 2, at 6:30 pm.

One of today’s foremost art critics, Cotter is known for his wide ranging reviews of art that are marked by “acute observation, luminous writing, and dramatic storytelling,” as described by the Pulitzer Prize committee. Cotter plans to speak on the vital role of art in our current social and political moment and will also address the importance of growing up in the Boston area.

“We’re delighted to welcome Holland Cotter back to Massachusetts, where he was born and raised,” says deCordova Executive Director John B. Ravenal. “I’ve long admired his writing—as a stylist, and more importantly, as a clear, compelling voice championing truth and untold stories. We count on courageous voices like Holland to shine a bright light into all corners.”

Says Cotter, “When I was a kid in the late 1950s and early 1960s, deCordova was where I first saw modern art—Abstract Expressionism. I loved it enough to try my pre-teen hand at it. For a short while I took drawing lessons in an upstairs gallery in the Museum’s main building. As it turned out, the hands-on part didn’t last, but the love did.”

Cotter was raised in Weston, MA (not far from Walden Pond and the cabin of Henry David Thoreau, who was a childhood hero). He is a co-chief art critic for The New York Times, where he has been on staff since 1998. He has also been a writer and editor for the New York Arts Journal, Art in America, and Art News. In 2009, Cotter received the Pulitzer Prize for Criticism. He writes on a wide range of art, and has brought particular attention to global art practices.
through his extensive travels to Africa, China, and other regions for *The Times*. A fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cotter received an A.B. from Harvard College, where he studied poetry with Robert Lowell and was an editor of the Harvard Advocate. He later received an M.A. from the City University of New York in American modernism, and an M. Phil in early Indian Buddhist art from Columbia University, where he studied Sanskrit and taught Indian and Islamic art.

**About the Paul J. Cronin Memorial Lecture**
The Paul J. Cronin Memorial Lecture series was established in 1981 to consider topics broadly focused on changing attitudes towards twentieth and twenty-first century art. The Cronin Lecture series is made possible by a generous grant to deCordova from the Grover J. Cronin Memorial Foundation.

**Event Details**
Cronin Lecture with Holland Cotter
Wednesday, May 2, 6:30 pm
deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln, MA 01773

Lecture attendees are welcome to arrive early for a casual reception with Holland Cotter at 6 pm. Wine, beer, and nonalcoholic beverages will be served.

**Tickets:** $5 for members and students with ID; $10 for nonmembers

*Please note that seating is on a first come, first served basis. Space is limited and latecomers are not guaranteed a seat.*

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**About deCordova**
Established in 1950 and located just twenty miles west of Boston, deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum is dedicated to fostering the creation and exploration of contemporary sculpture and art through a dynamic slate of rotating exhibitions, innovative learning opportunities, a constantly changing thirty-acre landscape of large-scale, outdoor, modern and contemporary sculpture, and site-specific installations.

**General Information**
DeCordova’s summer hours (Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day weekend) are every day, Monday–Sunday, 10 am–5 pm. DeCordova’s winter hours (beginning after Columbus Day weekend) are Wednesday–Friday, from 10 am–4 pm, and Saturday and Sunday, 10 am–5 pm. Admission: $14 for adults, $12 for seniors, $10 for students (ages 13 and up), and free for children 12 and under. Members, cyclists, Lincoln residents, and active duty military personnel and their families are admitted free of charge with proper ID. Visit [decordova.org](http://decordova.org) or call 781.259.8355 for further information.