

WOODMERE

September 2026

Short Bio: William Valerio

Since 2010, William R. Valerio, Ph.D., has served as the Patricia Van Burgh Allison Director and CEO of Woodmere, guiding the museum through a transformative sixteen-year period of expanded community engagement, strengthened financial health, increased cultural relevance, and enhanced visibility within the field of American art museums. Under his leadership, Woodmere has advanced its mission to engage audiences with the art and artists of Philadelphia through ambitious exhibitions, programs, collection growth, and publications that amplify the city's diverse artistic voices.

In 2025, Woodmere expanded with the completion of a \$29 million capital project that created Frances M. Maguire Hall, a near adjacent historic mansion with fourteen new galleries that showcase the strengths of the museum's permanent collection.

Previously, Valerio served as Assistant Director for Administration on the executive team of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. In that role, he participated in numerous campaigns and strategic initiatives, led government-affairs efforts, and secured major funding from Federal, Commonwealth, and City sources. Earlier in his career, he was Curator at the Queens Museum of Art, where he oversaw the World's Fair design collections, the Neustadt Collection of Tiffany Art, and contemporary art.

Valerio holds a Ph.D. in art history from Yale University, an MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, an M.A. in art history from the University of Pennsylvania, and a B.A. cum laude from Williams College. He is a fellow of the American Academy in Rome and the Fondazione Roberto Longhi in Florence. A respected thought leader and community advocate, he serves on several boards and hosts Woodmere's podcast, *Diving Board*. He and his husband, Glen Sacks, are active in Philadelphia's civic, cultural, and educational sectors. Their son Samuel is an actor living in New York.