



## NEWS RELEASE

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### ***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

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## **The Discovery Trail Welcomes New Executive Director**

(Ithaca, NY) - On May 14th, 2019 the Discovery Trail officially welcomed its new Executive Director, Beth Pallace. An upstate New York native and former lead teacher at Ithaca Montessori school, Beth is no stranger to the important role local organizations play in cultivating creative thinkers and innovators through education. With a passion and deep reverence for community partnerships, she brings over 10 years of experience in the education and nonprofit sectors. She's a creative, business-minded educator fully prepared to roll out the Discovery Trail's new vision statement which invites Tompkins County residents and visitors to engage their curiosity, entertain multiple perspectives, and expand their worldview to become engaged world citizens.



Beth Pallace in the Tompkins Center for History and Culture, the new home of the Discovery Trail

Star Bressler, Executive Director for the past four years, is happy to pass the reins to Beth and expresses complete confidence in her successor. Star worked to expand the Discovery Trail's flagship program *Kids Discover the Trail!* to include all children in Tompkins County. She believes her departure comes at the right time. "With the transition of the Discovery Trail headquarters downtown to the new Tompkins Center for History and Culture and our new vision, it's the perfect time for new leadership to shepherd in the next phase of the Discovery Trail", she said.

Discovery Trail Board Chair Warren Allmon (who is Director of the Paleontological Research Institution) said that he was enormously grateful for Star's role in maturing and expanding *Kids Discover the Trail!* "Star was our first full-time employee", said Allmon, "and she did a great job of growing the KDT! program from serving 65% to 82% of the eligible students in the County. She has established a solid foundation for Beth Pallace to build on".

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