

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

James J. Hill Center Board Selects Tamara Prato as New Executive Director

Hub Connecting Business, Entrepreneurs, and Community Welcomes Prato Back to St. Paul After Serving as Group Publisher of Tiger Oak Media's Minnesota Business Magazine.



Tamara Prato

St. Paul, MN – March 8, 2016 – The James J. Hill Center in St. Paul is pleased to announce that Tamara Prato, currently Group Publisher at Tiger Oak Media, will become its Executive Director effective April 4.

“I am thrilled to be back in St. Paul and have the opportunity to lead an organization that has been serving the public for nearly 100 years” said Ms. Prato. “The Hill Center’s mission of connecting business, entrepreneurs, and community is more important than ever as St. Paul and the surrounding metro look to accelerate economic development and job growth. With all of the momentum at The Hill I could not be joining at a better time.”

“Tamara has more than twenty years’ successful management, community commitment, and marketing experience with a demonstrated track record of business success. Her experiences at Tiger Oak Media, Twin Cities Public Television, and the St. Paul *Pioneer Press* will serve us well at The Hill” said Patrick H. O’Neill Jr., The James J. Hill Center’s newly elected Board Chair. “The process we used to select Tamara, led by Board member Sandi Schmiesing and facilitated by our external search partners, was absolutely top notch” added O’Neill.

Ms. Prato received her B.A. from the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire and completed post-graduate work at The University of St. Thomas. She spent more than six years in advertising and marketing at Twin Cities Public Television and The St. Paul *Pioneer Press* before becoming the group publisher at Tiger Oak Media. In that role she had general management oversight of more than a dozen magazines including *Minnesota Business*, *Saint Paul Magazine*, and *Minnesota Bride*. “As the new Executive Director at The Hill I will bring my passion and skills back to St. Paul and look forward to working with the many stakeholders who are vested in the ongoing success of the non-profit that is all about continuing the legacy of one of America’s finest entrepreneurs. I feel the organization is well positioned to succeed today and accelerate future growth.”

About the James J. Hill Center – Opened in 1921, the James J. Hill Center supports the legacy of one of America’s greatest entrepreneurs. Today, The Hill’s focus is supporting business, entrepreneurship, and community. It delivers its mission by providing an iconic place to learn, convene and connect – in the community, business, and the arts. Our goal is to build sustainable and lasting relationships that enable entrepreneurial activities and economic prosperity by providing services, programming, and events. Learn more at www.jjhill.org, or find us on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/jjhillcenter) and on Twitter [@JJHillCenter](https://twitter.com/JJHillCenter).

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