Los Angeles East College’s Vincent Price Art Museum has appointed Pilar Tompkins Rivas, the former coordinator of curatorial initiatives at Los Angeles County Museum of Art, as its new director.

“It's important for us to have someone who not only has a deep knowledge of the artists who have developed in East Los Angeles, but also someone who has a connection to the contemporary art world—someone who serves as a bridge,” board chairman Pete Galindo said.

At LACMA, Rivas served as codirector of the institution’s Art History Practicum Initiative and the Andrew W. Mellon Undergraduate Curatorial Fellowship Program. She has been a museum professional since 2002, and has organized dozens of exhibitions throughout the US, Colombia, Egypt, France, and Mexico. Rivas has also worked as curator and director of artist-in-residence programs at 18th Street Arts Center, the arts project coordinator at the UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center, curator of the Claremont Museum of Art, and as director of the Latin American branch of the Artist Pension Trust.