WASHINGTON - The National Gallery of Art announced today the appointment of Ruth Kaplan as Information Officer, effective March 23, 1987. Within the office of External Affairs, Ms. Kaplan will head the Public Information Office, overseeing the Gallery's press and media relations and public information activities.

Ms. Kaplan, who is Vice-President for Promotion and Advertising at WETA television and radio, Washington, D.C., has headed the station's promotion department since 1982. In that capacity she has supervised the station's international, national and local public relations and advertising, including production of the Washington edition of DIAL Magazine.

Prior to joining WETA, Ms. Kaplan worked as a consultant for WNET television, New York and American Playhouse, developing prospective drama projects, preparing funding proposals and serving as script supervisor.

From 1974-81 Ms. Kaplan was director of press relations for the Royal Shakespeare Company in London and Stratford-upon-Avon, where she promoted all RSC productions both in the UK and abroad, including the premiere of Nicholas Nickleby in London and New York.

A native of White Plains, New York, Ms. Kaplan attended Goucher College (B.A., English) and the University of London (M.A., English and Drama).