

GOVERNOR  
Tony Evers

Board Chairperson  
Kevin Miller  
Chippewa Falls

BOARD MEMBERS

La'ketta Caldwell  
Milwaukee

Jayne Herring  
Kenosha

Karen Ann Hoffman  
Stevens Point

John W. Johnson  
Madison

Brian Kelsey  
Fish Creek

Leah Kolb  
Madison

Susan Lipp  
Madison

John H. Potter  
Hudson

Gerard Randall  
Milwaukee

Mary K. Reinders  
Mount Horeb

Lynn Richie  
Land O Lakes

Jennifer Schwarzkopf  
Oregon

Robert A. Wagner  
Milwaukee

Matthew Wallock  
Madison

Executive Director  
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# PRESS RELEASE

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## Governor Evers Appoints New Wisconsin Arts Board Members

Governor Tony Evers has appointed three new board members – and reappointed another – to the Wisconsin Arts Board, the state agency which nurtures creativity, cultivates expression, promotes the arts, supports the arts in education, stimulates community and economic development and serves as a resource for people of every culture and heritage.

The new members are **Jayne Herring**, Kenosha; **John W. Johnson**, Madison; and **Leah Kolb**, Madison. (*See attached biographies.*) The reappointed board member is **Brian Kelsey**, Fish Creek.

The new and reappointed members join the continuing members of the Arts Board: **La 'Ketta Caldwell**, Milwaukee; **Karen Ann Hoffman**, Stevens Point; **Susan Lipp**, Madison; **Kevin Miller**, Chippewa Falls; **John Potter**, Hudson; **Gerard Randall**, Milwaukee; **Mary K. Reinders**, Mount Horeb; **Lynn Richie**, Land O Lakes; **Jennifer Schwarzkopf**, Oregon; **Robert A. Wagner**, Milwaukee; and **Matthew Wallock**, Madison.

“The arts not only make life more beautiful and enjoyable,” said Governor Tony Evers, “they also strengthen communities and local economies, improve academic performance and nurture creativity within the comprehensive education of our youth, bring people together across divides, and appeal to visitors outside the state.”

“We welcome the new members to the Arts Board and look forward to working with them and continuing our work with Mr. Kelsey,” said George Tzougros, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Arts Board. “We also take this moment to recognize and thank the following board members who completed their terms and who served the Arts Board with distinction, for their guidance, expertise, and good counsel: **Ann Brunner** of Kewaunee (7 years), **Mary Gielow** of Mequon (7 years), and **Frederick C. Schwertfeger** of Elm Grove (6 years).”

The Wisconsin Arts Board is governed by a fifteen-member board appointed by the Governor to serve three-year terms. Board members are Wisconsin citizens recognized for their accomplishments in the arts, humanities, business, education or public service. The board includes members from urban and rural areas across the state and from diverse racial, economic and cultural backgrounds. Board members set policy for the agency and approve funding recommendations made by the peer review panels. The members meet a minimum of four times per year, and all meetings are open to the public.

The Wisconsin Arts Board is the state agency responsible for the support and development of the arts throughout Wisconsin. Since 1973, the Arts Board has supported artists and art organizations with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information on the Wisconsin Arts Board, please visit [artsboard.wisconsin.gov](http://artsboard.wisconsin.gov).

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*Short bios and photos are attached to this press release.*

Links to the photos:

- [Jayne Herring](#)
- [John W. Johnson](#)
- [Brian Kelsey](#)
- [Leah Kolb](#)



**Jayne Herring**

**Kenosha**

Jayne Herring is a fused and blown glass artist who teaches fused glass workshops in southeast Wisconsin and northern Illinois. Her work can be found in Kenosha's "Lemon Street Gallery." She is the coordinator of the Racine Art Guild's Starving Artist Fair and a part time host of WGTD public radio's Community Matters public affairs program. The retired Director of Marketing for Gateway Technical College, she is also a founding member of the City of Kenosha Commission on the Arts which she chaired for three years.



**John W. Johnson**

**Madison**

Dr. John W. Johnson, Madison, directs the Literacy and Mathematics Team at the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), and serves as an adjunct instructor of Educational Leadership at Edgewood College. Over the past three years at DPI, John directed revision of standards in Arts and Creativity resulting in adoption of new sets of standards in Art and Design, Music, Dance and Theatre. His volunteer service includes the boards of the WASCDC (Wisconsin Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development), Wisconsin Literacy, Inc., Grace Presents concert series, and the vestry of Grace Episcopal Church in Madison. He lives in

Madison with his wife and three daughters, all of whom participate in the arts.



**Brian Kelsey**  
**Fish Creek**

Brian comes to the Wisconsin Arts Board with a broad range of for-profit & not-for-profit business experience, gained both in the US & Europe, in the fields of operations, finance, marketing & public relations. He has spent more than seventeen years as Executive Director in nonprofit arts & humanities and is currently the Managing Director of Peninsula Players Theatre (America's oldest residential summer theatre). Brian serves on the marketing committee of the Door County Women's Fund, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee of the Wisconsin Department of Tourism, and on the board of Peninsula Arts & Humanities Alliance (President).



**Leah Kolb**  
**Madison**

Leah Kolb, Madison, is Curator of Exhibitions at the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art. There she oversees the museum's rotation of special exhibitions and installations, and curates exhibitions largely focused on contemporary artists who address complex sociopolitical concerns and offer alternative perspectives to dominant narratives. In 2016, she collaborated with Milwaukee-based artist and educator Jason S. Yi to co-found Bridge Work, a professional development program for Wisconsin-based emerging artists. The program aims to forge a more interconnected arts community throughout the Milwaukee-Madison region by facilitating meaningful artistic exchanges and dialogs among emerging artists, arts-oriented leaders, and organizations.