

Kalamazoo Art League
Proposed slate of Board Members beginning July 2017
April 5, 2017

Respectfully submitted by the Nomination Committee:

Diane Eberts, Chair, Barbara Brose, Janae Aasen and Marissa Harrington, ex-officio

Laura Cathcart

Laura Cathcart has recently retired after a 25-year leadership career in retail where she was responsible for teams of up to 22 people. She is often seen volunteering at KIA events, where she puts her customer-service skills to work with great aplomb. In February Art League invited her to join the Board as an appointed Director and chair of Hospitality. Laura's interests include all the arts, travel and food.

Veronica Harik

Veronica Harik retired from the Social Security Administration after 35 years. She has been the Volunteer Coordinator for The Gilmore for the past five festivals. FYI, She has been an active volunteer at First Presbyterian Church for over 35 years in a variety of areas (Elder, Deacon, Chair Christian Education Committee, Chair of Nominating Committee, Chair of Health Ministry Committee, Church Archivist, Youth Group leader, Sunday School teacher). She is also a volunteer with the KSO with the Petting Zoo program in the schools.

Nancy Kern

Nancy Kern retired two years ago after having worked for various companies and organizations in the Kalamazoo area. Most notably, she served as Programming and Public Relations Manager at WWMT-Channel 3 for almost twenty years and most recently as Kalamazoo Valley Habitat for Humanity's Director of Development. She is currently a Board member of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra League, the Jim & Lois Richmond Center for Visual Arts, and Kalamazoo Valley Habitat for Humanity. Nancy is active in the community as a member of Kalamazoo Women Who Care, and volunteers with other community organizations such as Ministry With Community and Animal Rescue Project.

Kym Mulhern

Kym Mulhern has enjoyed following a meandering career path. Beginning as an elementary school teacher, Kym became a CPA practicing tax accounting with Ernst & Young before settling in for 17 years as the President/CEO of the Nokomis Foundation in Grand Rapids, and finally, serving as the Vice President of Communications and Patron Development for the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra. Now "retired," Kym has written grants for several Kalamazoo-area arts organizations, and managed transportation for the 2012 Gilmore International Keyboard Festival. Kym has served in a variety of community volunteer roles, most recently as an adult reading tutor with the Kalamazoo Literacy Council and as a Kalamazoo County Master Gardener.

Jodie Palmer

Jodie Palmer is an educator. Her varied career includes serving as Project Supervisor for Indian Education, Education Director for the Pokagon Pottawatomi Indians; secretary of Catching the Dream Scholarship Fund's Board of Directors; and teacher in Kalamazoo and Paw Paw schools. Although she has retired from WMU where she started as an assistant director in the Division of Multicultural Affairs and then served as the Director of Diversity Initiatives for the College of Education, Jodie is still very involved in the community. She served on the Bronson Park Issues Resolution Committee, and has recently been appointed to the Bronson Park 21st Century Campaign's Public Education Committee / Curriculum and Public Programming sub-committee. She is an elected member of the Tribal Council of the Match-e-be-nash-she-wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians of Michigan (Gun Lake Band).

Shawn Taylor

Shawn Taylor is currently an Information Technology specialist for the WMU School of Medicine. His interest in computer technologies began when Disney's Pixar released *Toy Story* in 1995. For many years, he was fascinated with how computers could create entire worlds from scratch. As his focus narrowed, he began teaching himself 3D art as a hobby. This led Shawn to KVCC where he worked toward a degree in Animation and Time Based Media. Shawn's favorite art disciplines are photography, videography, and 3D modeling.

Doreen Thomas

Doreen Thomas recently returned to Kalamazoo after living for 12 years in Connecticut, where she worked as a consultant with the Connecticut Department of Education, served on the boards of the Eastern Connecticut Community Foundation, Child and Family Agency of New London County, and Lymes Youth Service Bureau. She was also a docent at the Florence Griswold Museum (Home of American Impressionism) in Old Lyme, CT. Doreen previously lived in Kalamazoo for 24 years, during which time she served as Executive Director of the Kalamazoo Public Education Foundation, Curriculum and Instruction Consultant with K/RESA, and lastly, Coordinator of Professional Development for the Kalamazoo Public Schools. During her years in Kalamazoo, she also served on a number of local boards, including Junior League of Kalamazoo, YWCA, Habitat for Humanity and Junior Achievement, as well as on advisory committees, including several for the Michigan Department of Education, the WK Kellogg Foundation Education Committee, Kalamazoo County Education for the Arts, and the former Kalamazoo Interagency Coordinating Council.