



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **3 Fairfax Commissioners Appointed to the Virginia Commission for the Arts**

The Arts Council of Fairfax County is pleased to congratulate three new appointees by Governor Terry McAuliffe to the Virginia Commission for the Arts: **Jay H. Dick**, **Jo Hodgkin**, and **The Honorable Grace Han Wolf**. These three individuals will serve five year terms and join other appointees on the 13 member commission.

*"We are pleased to have three outstanding arts advocates from our region recognized with appointments to the Virginia Commission for the Arts. Each of these individuals has contributed to the arts locally, including serving on the Board of Directors of the Arts Council of Fairfax County, and we are proud they will now be serving at the state level,"* said Linda Sullivan, President and CEO, Arts Council of Fairfax County.



**Jay H. Dick** is the Senior Director of State and Local Government Affairs at Americans for the Arts where he works to educate and inform elected officials about the value of the arts and culture. Having worked in the governmental affairs/advocacy arena for over 20 years, he is a nationally recognized expert and travels the country working with local and state arts leaders to establish strong and lasting arts advocacy programs. He has served on the Board of the Arts Council of Fairfax County since 2008 where he chairs their advocacy committee. Advocacy for the arts is his job, but also his passion. Jay lives with his husband Chuck in Fairfax. *"The arts and culture are central to a healthy and vibrant state and our future successes will be based on how creative and innovative we are as a society. I am proud to serve Virginia in advancing this concept of the creative economy and livable, vibrant communities throughout the Commonwealth,"* says Dick.



**Jo Hodgkin** is the outgoing Director of Planning and Initiatives at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts. Recently retired after 21 years of service, Jo oversaw strategic planning and was responsible for *Face of America*, Wolf Trap's celebration of National Parks, and *Go Green with Wolf Trap*, the organization's environmental initiative. Hodgkin, a board member of the Arts Council of Fairfax County since 2005, is Co-Chair and currently oversees the Grants Committee. *"I see first-hand the fantastic job that local arts organizations do to enrich the lives of our local community and am pleased to be working on their behalf,"* says Hodgkin.



**The Honorable Grace Han Wolf** is serving her third term on the Herndon Town Council. She is the first Korean woman elected to office in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Wolf has been involved in the arts for many years as an active Board member and former leader of the Council for the Arts of Herndon and as a member of the Herndon Festival Committee. Currently, she owns a small art business. She was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of the Arts Council of Fairfax County and will begin her term in July of 2014. *“As a former President of a local arts organization, I understand the critical need for state funding to assist organizations at all levels of providing our valued arts programming and I look forward to advocating and supporting our entire arts community across the Commonwealth,”* says Wolf.

The three new commissioners from northern Virginia will be working with Margaret Vanderhye, of McLean, who was appointed Executive Director of the Virginia Commission for the Arts in February of 2014. We would also like to thank and recognize the outgoing northern Virginia commissioners Marcia Neuhaus Speck from Alexandria and Ann Edwards Rust from Herndon.

The Virginia Commission for the Arts is the state agency that supports the arts through funding from the Virginia General Assembly and the [National Endowment for the Arts](#). Virginia Commission for the Arts celebrates and champions artistic excellence and encourages growth in artistic creativity, quality and innovation. The Commission invests in the arts in the Commonwealth by supporting and encouraging full participation in a creative culture that will benefit all Virginians.

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#### About the Arts Council of Fairfax County

Founded in 1964, the Arts Council of Fairfax County, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization designated as Fairfax County's local arts agency. It is the only umbrella organization serving and representing all forms of art in Fairfax County. The Arts Council of Fairfax County is the voice of the arts, dedicated to fostering dynamic and diverse local arts, ensuring that arts thrive by providing vision, leadership, capacity building services, advocacy, funding, education, and information.

The Arts Council is funded in part by Fairfax County, corporations, foundations, individuals, Virginia Commission for the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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