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Arts Council Board of Directors elect new Chair and add 5 new Board Members.



Fairfax County, VA – Jo M. Hodgin is the new chair of the Board of Directors for the Arts Council of Fairfax County. Hodgin’s experience ranges from strategic planning; local, state, and federal government affairs; and community partnerships. Joining Hodgin to lead the board are officers Curtis Sano, Partner at Holland and Knight, LLP, to serve as Vice-Chair; Richard Goldberg, to serve as Secretary; and Andy Bursten, Director of Finance and Administration and CFO of the College of Visual and Performing Arts at George Mason University, to serve as Treasurer.

“We couldn’t be happier to have Jo Hodgin serve as our new Board Chair,” said Linda S. Sullivan, President & CEO of the Arts Council. **“With her demonstrated success in forging connections between businesses, government, and the arts, Hodgin is a great asset to our board, the organization, and the Fairfax arts community we serve.”**

After a successful career at Wolf Trap spanning 21 years, Hodgin recently retired in 2014 as the Director of Planning and Initiatives where she was responsible for *Face of America*, Wolf Trap’s celebration of National Parks, and *Go Green with Wolf Trap*, the organization’s environmental initiative. Prior to Wolf Trap, Hodgin served as Deputy Director of the Cultural Alliance of Greater Washington, now re-named as CultureCapital, and as Deputy Director for the Library Theater of Washington.

Hodgin has chaired the Livability/Walkability Subcommittee for the Tysons Land Use Task Force, as a grants panelist and lecturer for the American University, Association of Performing Arts Presenters, D.C. Commission for the Arts and Humanities, Montgomery County Arts Council, Virginia Commission for the Arts, and Washington Post Awards for Excellence in Nonprofit Management.

In addition to Hodgin’s civic engagement both locally and regionally, she remains active on the state level. In 2014, Hodgin was appointed commissioner to the Virginia Commission for the Arts by Governor Terry McAuliffe where she, together with fellow commissioner and Arts Council Board Member Jay H. Dick, is representing the arts community in Northern Virginia.

“As the new board chair, I look forward to putting my expertise in planning new initiatives and fostering partnerships to good use,” Hodgin said. **“With a newly approved strategic**

plan to implement, this is an exciting time for the Arts Council and the arts community we serve.”

In addition to a new chair, five new members have been elected to the Council’s Board of Directors, which is comprised of 26 members reflecting the diversity and strength of Fairfax County.

- **Suzanne Bissell, Principal, Bissell Philanthropy Services**
Bissell is a senior development and non-profit executive with experience in corporate, foundation and individual fundraising, management, public relations, and marketing within a diverse range of sectors. Her non-profit career began in 1998 as the Executive Director of the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce. As Director of Individual Giving at three distinguished organizations in the Washington area, the Potomac School, The National Building Museum, and The Phillips Collection, she built communities of annual supporters raising millions of dollars through membership, annual giving, major gifts and planned giving programs. In 2010, she founded Bissell Philanthropy Services which is based in the Washington, DC metro area with non-profit, charity, foundation and professional networks in New York and the United Kingdom.
- **Anthony Chang, Senior Director, Washington Real Estate Investment Trust**
Chang is a senior director with 15 years industry experience as an owner and advisor. He has devoted his career to creating value, repositioning office buildings in major markets through leasing, capital strategy, and operating excellence and has leased office space with a value in excess of \$250M and transacted over \$900M in dispositions. Chang previously served as a trustee of the Urban Land Institute, a trustee for the McLean Orchestra, and a University Council member of Cornell University.
- **Michele (Shelly) Hazel**
Hazel brings extensive non-profit leadership experience and a life-long commitment to the arts and education. She has served on several boards, including the Elon University Board of Trustees; Kennedy Center Circles Board; Outdoor Recreation Heritage Fund; Prince William Hospital Foundation; Washington Concert Opera; and Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts Foundation Board, where she was the Chairman of Education for the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts.
- **F. Russell Hines, President, Monument Realty**
Hines has extensive experience in architecture, real estate development, and investment. He has held leadership positions at Monument Realty, one of the region’s most active development companies, for the last 17 years and has played a critical role in a number of high-profile development projects, including Ballston Tower and Ballston Point, Half Street and Monument View. Hines is an active member of the real estate community, serving on the executive committee of the Real Estate Group and on the Board of Directors for the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce.
- **Charles Kapur, Vice President, EagleBank**
Kapur is a senior banking executive with high level experience in both commercial lending and deposit sales. He has served as a community banker in Northern Virginia since 2001 and was previously on the board of Accountants Society of Virginia. Kapur has volunteered for a number of local and national organizations including the Devotion to Children, Food and Friends, Habitat for Humanity, and Junior Achievement. Currently, he is a member of the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club of Ashburn.

The Arts Council would like to thank the following board members for their services to the community as they completed their term of service in 2015:

- **Hector Alcalde, CEO, Alcalde & Fay**
- **Gwendolyn H. Everett, Ph.D., Dean, School of Arts at Howard University**
- **Tanya M. Hudson, Division Head, Consumer Services at Washington Gas**
- **Suzanne Keating, Principal, Keating Coaching and Consulting**
- **Joseph L. Ritchey, former Chair, Principal, Prospective, Inc.**
- **Grace Han Wolf, Town of Herndon and Virginia Commission for the Arts**

To see a full list of Arts Council Board Members visit <http://artsfairfax.org/about/board-of-directors>.

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NOTE: High resolution photos are available upon request.

Image: Jo M. Hodgin at the Virginia General Assembly in Richmond, VA

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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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