



Speaker & Presenter Biographies

**Jim Armstrong**

Jim Armstrong is founder and creative director of Good for Business, a communications firm driven by the belief that 'a business isn't a brand to be built, but a cause to be believed in™.' His work for clients is the subject of an upcoming book: *Beyond the Mission Statement: The Guide to Creating Effective, Cause-based Communications*. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa with an M.A. in poetry. He is married to Kathy, a fine artist; they have three children.

**James Clark**

Originally from Los Angeles, James Clark is a graduate of the University of Southern California, where he received a bachelor's degree in urban studies and economics. For three years, he worked for the Los Angeles City Council and the Mayor's Office for Economic Development. In 1984, Clark moved to New York City to attend graduate school at New York University. In addition to working in Mayor Koch's Office, he worked for the city's Department of Cultural Affairs. Eventually, Clark became the executive director of the Public Art Fund—a nonprofit arts group that commissioned artists to create temporary public art throughout the city. Clark graduated from NYU with a master's in public policy. Clark arrived in Lexington, KY, via Dayton, OH, where for four years he was the president and CEO of Culture Works, the area's united arts fund. He accepted the position of president and CEO of LexArts (formerly the Lexington Arts & Cultural Council) in October of 2002. In addition to leading LexArts, he is a visiting associate professor at Pratt Institute in New York City, a graduate program in arts and cultural management which he authored.

**Randy Cohen**

Randy Cohen is vice president of research and information at Americans for the Arts, where he has directed the research and arts policy information initiatives since 1991. He established the Institute for Community Development and the Arts, which researches and publishes how the arts address social, educational, and economic development issues; edited the award-winning *Monograph* series; and published numerous reports about local arts agencies, united arts funds, arts education, and public- and private-sector support for the arts. Cohen worked in partnership with the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities to produce *Coming Up Taller*, the White House report documenting 225 arts programs for at-risk youth, and worked with the U.S. Department of Justice to produce the *YouthARTS Project*, the first national study to statistically document the impact of arts programs on at-risk youth. Cohen is a spokesman for Americans for the Arts on arts research and policy issues. He has given speeches in 45 states and regularly appears in arts news stories in such vehicles as the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, the BBC, and on CNN. Prior to joining Americans for the Arts, Cohen worked as a policy and planning specialist for the National Endowment for the Arts; founded the San Diego Theatre for Young Audiences and served as its managing director; and worked in medical research for Stanford, Scripps Clinic, and NASA.

**Karen B. Davis**

Karen B. Davis is president and CEO of the Arts & Business Council of Greater Philadelphia. Davis joined the council during its first full year of operation in 1982, and was instrumental in the development of the Arts & Business Council concept during its early years. In 1987, Davis was appointed president and CEO. She is credited with development and implementation of 14 new council programs and services for arts and cultural organizations during her tenure, generating more than \$22 million in corporate resources for the arts. The council was honored with the first and only Governor's Award for Leadership to the Arts in 1998. Prior to joining the Arts & Business Council, Davis was the executive director of a Philadelphia dance company, awarded a fellowship position with the National Endowment for the Arts, and was the director of performing arts and special events for the New Orleans Department of Recreation. She began her career in the arts as a professional lighting designer for several theaters in Boston and New Orleans and for WQED Television in Pittsburgh. Davis recently served on the board of Citizens for the Arts in Pennsylvania (a statewide arts advocacy organization) as well as the national Arts & Business Council Inc. in New York City. In 2001, Davis was honored as one of the region's Women of Distinction by the *Philadelphia Business Journal*. In April 2006, Davis was awarded the Distinguished Service award from the Philadelphia Young Playwrights.

**Tim Decker**

Tim Decker has played an important role in children's entertainment over the past decade. With extensive experience in game animation, character design, and children's television, Decker has taken on the roles of animation director for Disney Interactive, lead animator for Knowledge Adventure, and layout artist/animator for the award-winning television series *The Simpsons*. He has also appeared on many episodes of the *Imagination Station* as a guest artist inspiring children in the art of animation and cartooning. Throughout his career, Decker has won numerous gaming awards from *PC Magazine*, *Communication Arts Magazine*, *Family Magazine*, the Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts. Decker has a bachelor's degree in character animation/film from California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) and

**Deborah Farris**

Deborah Farris came to Danceworks as executive director in 2002. Prior to that, she was North Carolina Botanical Garden's business director. She's performed throughout the U.S., served on theatre faculties at Tulane and UNC-Chapel Hill and is now a faculty member at University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee.

**Rob Goodman**

Rob Goodman is the managing director of First Stage Children's Theater in Milwaukee, WI.

**Christine Harris**

Christine Harris is president of the United Performing Arts Fund (UPAF), the nation's number one united arts fund in dollars raised for the performing arts. She was named to the position in December 2002 after having been the executive director of the Milwaukee Ballet, 1997–2002. Harris has been involved with arts management for 20 years, including as marketing and education director of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, where she founded the nationally recognized Arts in Community Education (ACE) program. In July 2005, she was one of three people from the state of Wisconsin to attend the Harvard Business School's weeklong seminar on Strategic Perspectives in Non Profit Management. Harris currently serves on the executive committees of the Cultural Alliance of Greater Milwaukee and the Visit Milwaukee board of directors. Harris's awards have included the *Milwaukee Business Journal's* Woman of Influence for community support in 2005; the U.S. Postal Service's Women Putting Their Stamp on Milwaukee (in Arts and Entertainment) in 2006; and the Sharon Lynn Wilson Center's 2006 EDDY Award for regional arts education collaboration.

**Jeff Hawthorne**

Jeff Hawthorne is the director of community affairs for the Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) of Portland, OR. Hawthorne's role is to increase arts funding throughout the Portland metropolitan area from local government agencies, private foundations, and Work for Art, RACC's workplace giving program. He was director of development for Portland Center Stage in the late 1990s.

**Anne Katz**

Anne Katz has served as executive director of Arts Wisconsin—the statewide community arts action, service, and development organization—since 1995. Under her leadership, Arts Wisconsin received the 2004 Governor's Award in Support of the Arts. She is a member of the Americans for the Arts State Arts Action Council.

**Alecia Townsend Kintner**

Alecia Townsend Kintner is deputy director of the Greater Hartford Arts Council (CT), a \$5 million cultural development agency. Prior to coming to Hartford in 1997, Townsend was director of planning and development for Dance Theater Workshop in New York.

**Margot H. Knight**

Margot H. Knight currently serves as president and CEO of United Arts of Central Florida, Inc. She was named one of the 100 most influential people in the *Orlando Business Journal*. Knight also serves on the Greater Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce. Knight served as president and CEO of the United Arts Council of Raleigh & Wake County, 1998–2001. She was executive director of the Idaho Commission on the Arts, 1990–1997. And from 1985 to 1990, she was assistant director of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies in Washington, DC. Following a very brief theatrical career, she was oral historian for the Whitman County (WA) Historical Society, director of the Oral History Office at Washington State University, regional coordinator of the Washington Women's Heritage Project, and interim director of the Washington Commission for the Humanities. Knight has served on the executive committees of the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce, United Arts Funds Council; Western States Arts Federation; National Assembly of State Arts Agencies; and the Idaho Rural Partnership, which she chaired in 1996. She earned her bachelor's degree in Russian studies and general social science from James Madison University.

**Gilbert R. Llanas**

Gil joined Northwestern Mutual in June 2003 as Manager of the Northwestern Mutual Foundation. On April 16, 2004, he was appointed to his current role as Director of Community Relations. In this position, Gil is responsible for administration of all corporate giving programs, including grants, sponsorships, matching gifts, employee giving programs, special events and company volunteer efforts. Prior to joining Northwestern Mutual, Llanas was the Community Affairs Manager at Miller Brewing Company. He has also held teaching positions at the School of Business, Milwaukee Area Technical College and at Gateway Technical College (Racine) in the Adult Education Program. He received his B.A. in Spanish, and a Master of Science, Administrative Leadership & Supervision from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. He also received a Certificate of Corporate Community Relations from the Center for Community Relations-Boston College.

**Mary McCullough-Hudson**

Mary McCullough-Hudson is president and CEO of the Cincinnati Fine Arts Fund, which conducts an annual united arts campaign (\$11.4 million in 2006), manages an endowment, and provides support services including planned giving, staff, and volunteer development programs. She currently serves on the board of directors of Americans for the Arts.

**Robin Mindt**

Robin Mindt is an account supervisor at Ellingsen Brady Advertising in Milwaukee, WI.

**Patrick Rath**

Patrick Rath is vice president of development for the United Performing Arts Fund (UPAF), a position that he has held since October 2004. In this role, Rath directs a staff of six development professionals and is responsible for overall UPAF campaign direction, donor cultivation and appreciation programs, restricted and planned gifts programs, and volunteer recruitment initiatives. Prior to joining UPAF, Rath was vice president of development for the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and held fundraising leadership positions with the Milwaukee Art Museum and Milwaukee Public Museum. He has served as a board member with the Association of Fundraising Professionals and Brookfield Congregational Church, and has counseled area nonprofit organizations on fundraising and management.

**Beth Richards**

Beth Richards first worked with United Arts Funds as an intern at Arts United, under the guidance of Robert Bush. In 1992, she explored the possibility of a UAF in Philadelphia and today serves as project manager of a new study undertaken by city leaders to explore this funding mechanism for the Philadelphia region.

**Timothy Shields**

Mr. Shields has been Managing Director of Milwaukee Repertory Theater since 1998, and active in the field since 1979. He serves as Vice-President of both the League of Resident Theatres and Theatre Communications Group, and is President of Theatre Wisconsin.

**Vanessa Y. White**

Vanessa Y. White serves as the director of community engagement and diversity for the Fine Arts Fund of Cincinnati. As part of a Diversity Task Force established in 2003, she is responsible for the inclusion and diversity initiatives of the Fine Arts Fund as well as the development of sustained partnerships with underrepresented and underserved constituencies. Over the past 10 years, White has successfully developed and managed strategic planning for several nonprofit organizations. The Fine Arts Fund strengthens the arts of greater Cincinnati through united arts fundraising, support services, and the responsible investment and allocation of resources.

**Edward J. Zore**

Edward J. Zore is president and CEO of Northwestern Mutual, the nation's largest direct provider of individual life insurance, with over \$930 billion of individual life insurance in force and assets of more than \$133 billion. Zore, a native Milwaukeean, joined the company in 1969. He became the sixteenth president in the history of Northwestern Mutual in 2000, and was named chief executive officer the following year.