



## NEWS AND INFORMATION

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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#### **Americans for the Arts Announces New USUAF Officers**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Americans for the Arts, the nation's leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts in America, announced today three newly elected members and the re-election of four members to executive committee for the United States Urban Arts Federation. New members include Bryan W. Knicely, President of the Greater Columbus Arts Council in Ohio; John D'Angelo, Arts and Cultural Services Director in Wichita, KS; and Vincent E. Kitch, Cultural Arts Program Manager for the City of Austin, TX.

"We congratulate the new officers of the United States Urban Arts Federation," said Robert L. Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts. "Their work and cultural leadership will help guide the USUAF in addressing social, educational, and economic development issues through the arts."

Following are brief bios of newly elected USUAF members:

#### **Bryan W. Knicely, Vice President**

Bryan W. Knicely is President of the Greater Columbus Arts Council in Ohio. The Council supports art and advances the culture of the Columbus region. The Council organizes the Columbus Arts Festival every June, and granted \$2.2 million in operating support grants and \$450,602 in project support grants to 88 organizations and projects last year.

#### **John D'Angelo, At-Large Member**

John D'Angelo has been the Arts and Cultural Services Director in Wichita, KS, for 30 years. He is responsible for the development and implementation of the Cultural Plan for Wichita and cultural tourism, which specifically markets to individuals interested in the city's cultural attractions and events. The Arts and Cultural Services Division is an active center for all the arts and cultural aspects of the City of Wichita.

### **Vincent E. Kitch, At-Large Member**

Vincent E. Kitch is the Cultural Arts Program Manager for the City of Austin, TX and is responsible for providing leadership and management for the City's cultural arts programs and for the development of arts and cultural industries as an economic development strategy of the city. Austin's Cultural Arts Division is responsible for funding programs, public art programs, community based arts development, and programs to assist the development of creative industries in Austin, as well as initiatives designed to support and encourage the community's unique cultural identity and vitality.

Re-elected USUAF members include **Michael Killoren** as President; **Mary Becht** as Treasurer, and **Victoria Hamilton** and **Norree Boyd** as At-Large Members. The United States Urban Arts Federation (USUAF) is an alliance of the directors of arts agencies in the nation's 50 largest cities. USUAF members meet twice a year in conjunction with Americans for the Arts events to discuss urban arts policy and funding. Officers were elected at a recent USUAF meeting in El Paso, TX.

***Americans for the Arts** is the leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education in America. With offices in Washington, D.C. and New York City, it has a record of more than 50 years of service. Americans for the Arts is dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating opportunities for every American to participate in and appreciate all forms of the arts. Additional information is available at [www.AmericansForTheArts.org](http://www.AmericansForTheArts.org).*

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