



Our Mission

Minnesota Citizens for the Arts (MCA) is a diverse statewide grassroots arts advocacy organization that organizes the arts community to lobby Minnesota's State Legislature, Governor, Arts Board and Congressional delegation to ensure opportunity for all Minnesotans to have access to and involvement in the arts.

Who We Represent

MCA represents the arts community of Minnesota at the State Legislature and in Congress. Our members and member organizations make up a broad community that includes arts organizations, individual artists, presenting organizations, and organizations involved in arts education, as well as people passionate about arts advocacy from every corner of the state. In an effort to be more inclusive and wide-reaching, MCA also serves artists and makers of all kinds and from all communities who want to have a greater voice in arts advocacy and arts funding in Minnesota.

MCA's Board of Trustees

MCA is committed to maintaining a culture of diversity and equity in our arts advocacy. We seek to assemble a board that fully represents the various cultures, backgrounds and viewpoints held by Minnesotans. As a membership body, our strength is in our promise to be inclusive. Therefore, MCA embraces candidates from diverse populations and/or underrepresented groups to continue to achieve our mission.

In accordance with MCA's by-laws, the Board of Trustees is comprised of 36 people; one trustee from each of the eleven Regional Arts Council geographic areas; ten from organizations receiving grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the remainder from the population at large. Eighteen members must live in the seven-county metropolitan area and the rest must live in greater Minnesota.

The board contains representatives from every corner of the arts community from the largest organizations to the smallest from many different disciplines, and from individual artists to specialists in arts education. This means that when we are working together we bring a complete and diverse set of perspectives in addition to the resources that each sector can offer.

One of the reasons that MCA is so successful at the legislature is that our board comes from every corner of the state. This means that if we have an issue with a specific district, there is always someone on the board that we can call on who lives in or near that important area and can help us educate the legislator from that district about the importance of the arts.

What are the Board's Duties?

1. **Oversight:** The board of trustees meets to advise the staff and discuss policies, political strategy, planning and their own participation in grassroots advocacy as it pertains to the arts. The Board hires the Executive Director. The Executive Director is responsible for other hires and managing the organization to meet the Board's policy goals.
2. **Represent:** Each board member represents a sector of the Minnesota arts community or the greater community at large. Board members are expected to be in contact with their colleagues in the arts community.
3. **Participate:** Board members are expected to attend all MCA board and committee meetings, as well as events such as Advocacy Day.
4. **Participate some more:** Each board member must serve on at least one committee but may serve on more.
5. **Take Initiative:** Be an active volunteer for MCA.
6. **Communicate and Build Relationships:** Be an active advocate for the arts.

Want to apply online? Please fill out our application form here:

<https://forms.gle/X77jq88xA8mCFnsi7>

New Board Member Self-Nominations Form

Please return completed forms to MCA by **Friday, October 15.**

Call for Nominations!

Interested? Complete the form and send it to staff@artsmn.org or mail it by Friday October 15 to 661 LaSalle Street #220 St. Paul MN 55114.

MCA does not discriminate based upon race, religion, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, status as a protected veteran, status as an individual with a disability, or other applicable legally protected characteristics. This policy extends beyond the board to employees, members, and volunteers.

Full Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone (day time): _____

Work Address: _____

Work Phone (if different): _____

Name of Employer (if applicable): _____

Title (if applicable): _____

Legislative District (Based on home address. If unknown, MCA staff can assist you). _____

GETTING TO KNOW YOU AS A CANDIDATE:

Tell us about your experience with your local arts community.

Do you have political experiences –employment or advocacy (desired, but not necessary)?

- Yes
- No

Please explain:

Why are you interested in serving on the MCA Board of Trustees?



New Board Self-Nominations Form (Page 2)

Minnesota Citizens for the Arts (MCA) is soliciting nominations for its Board of Trustees. Members serve a two-year term that begins November 2021.

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Please check ALL that apply:

1) I would fit the following requirements in MCA's Bylaws:

- I serve a Regional Arts Council region (Region _____)
- I am from an organization receiving MSAB Operating Support.
- I reside in the seven-county metro area.
- I reside in greater Minnesota.

2) I would bring the following qualities to the MCA board:

- A willingness to work, to attend meetings, participate in Advocacy Day, and to be a vocal arts advocate.
- Existing political connections; am a political strategist and/or have an understanding of the political process (*Please clarify*): _____

- Influence within my organization and I am willing to communicate the messages and needs of MCA to my peers and gather feedback to share with MCA representatives.
- Balance in terms of representing the state or the arts community (*Please Clarify*): _____

3) Political Affiliation- DFL, GOP, Reform/Independent, Other: _____

4) Note additional information about you, that you feel we should know.
