



April 13, 2026

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Click <https://wab50.com> to learn more about the Arts Board’s 50th Anniversary!

[National Poetry Month 30th Anniversary](#) | Academy of American Poets

[Jazz Appreciation Month](#) | Smithsonian Museum of American History

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“So from that moment of extraordinary political constriction and fear, people took their energies into rebuilding humanity. And we’re in a moment like that. So, if you can’t deal with the politics and you still feel like you need to be engaged, pick up your flute, or start writing or pick up a pencil and start drawing and be engaged in creating communities that way as well.” – Heather Cox Richardson

Here is Heather Cox Richardson’s full “rabbit hole” from which today’s quote is extracted:

Somebody asked me what people did in the late 19th century as they were losing their democracy to the robber barons especially in the north and then to the white supremacists in the south. How did they cope with that? And the answer was art and music. You know, the music that brings people together and the art that changed so much of the way we think about American art.

Think about the explosion of jazz in the late 19th century, a truly American music, and ragtime that is a mixture of jazz and some of the other stuff that was happening in the West at that time. Two brand new kinds of music coming out of the American South. And of course, the movement of blues out of the late 19th century, into the early 20th century up the Mississippi River to Chicago, which is how Chicago becomes such a crucial blues city.

And not just that, in that period there is extraordinary art. The real heartbeat of American sculpture, but also of new kinds of paintings. We have really important art exhibits in the late 19th and early 20th centuries that change the entire landscape of the way American art works and we get new architecture. You know, Frank Lloyd Wright is actually operating as early as 1893. He makes the gates for the 1893 Columbian Exposition. He's a very, very young man at the time. But you had in the Colombian exhibition of Chicago of 1893, just all sorts of things that were not political themselves, although the thing was absolutely imbued with political meaning, but that it showed people creativity and art and new kinds of thoughts and new kinds of music and new kinds of ways of being.

And you will notice I didn't say literature there because one of the biggest changes in the United States in terms of art and understanding in that period is new literature. It's a new kind of literature because the Civil War means we're going to have to have new kinds of literature and it takes a while for people to get their feet under them. But with the publication of US Grant's memoirs, which is a really realistic version of what happened during the Civil War, you get the rise first of realism and naturalism in American literature, but sort of a really careful observation of humanity in that literature. And once you had started to observe Americans really closely through people like Theodore Dreiser, then you could start to examine the holes in that life and then begin to invert it. So by the time you get to somebody like Gertrude Stein in the 1920s, you get her playing with language and you get both the sort of beautiful writing of somebody like Willa Cather or later on Ernest Hemingway. At the same time, you get with the very stripped down writing, you get the much more fluid writing of somebody like Faulkner.

So from that moment of extraordinary political constriction and fear, people took their energies into rebuilding humanity. And we're in a moment like that. So, if you can't deal with the politics and you still feel like you need to be engaged, pick up your flute, or start writing or pick up a pencil and start drawing and be engaged in creating communities that way as well.

VIDEO OF THE DAY

[Interactive boat-shaped swing sculpture unveiled along Green Bay riverfront](#)
WeAreGreenBay.com

Also

[Interactive sculpture with swings unveiled along Fox River in Green Bay](#)
WBAY

[New artwork unveiled in Green Bay](#)
NBC 26

[Swing sculpture replaces old 9/11 memorial near Neville Public Museum](#)
Green Bay Press-Gazette

[Rhythm Café MKE | Stephen Hull - Session 1, VOL3 | Snake will be a Snake](#)
Milwaukee PBS

Also

[Rhythm Cafe MKE | Milwaukee PBS Digital | Stephen Hull - Meet the Artist](#)
Milwaukee PBS

[For Stacey Lee Webber, there is money in art](#)
CBS Sunday Morning

Wisconsin artists and arts organizations, do you have video that you'd like us to consider sharing as the Wisconsin Arts News Video of the Day? Send the link to [artsboard@wisconsin.gov!](mailto:artsboard@wisconsin.gov)

TOP WISCONSIN NEWS

FROM THE WISCONSIN ARTS BOARD

NEW [Creative Copy | Fantastic Film](#)
Wisconsin Arts Board

NEW [WI Arts & Creativity Newsletter: Vol 4, Issue 8 - April 2026](#)
WI Department of Public Instruction

NEW [ArtScan](#)
Arts Education Partnership

“A clearinghouse of the latest state policies supporting arts education from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity.”

[Americans for the Arts Announces New Board Leadership, Names Kristina Newman-Scott as Chair](#)
Americans for the Arts

[We Rebuilt Our Resources. Here's What's New.](#)
Arts Midwest

[Riley Saenim is Wisconsin's 2026 Poetry Out Loud Champion](#)
Wisconsin Arts Board

Also

[High School Students from Across Nation to Compete in Poetry Out Loud National Finals](#)

National Endowment for the Arts

April 28 – 29

[The Wisconsin Arts Board Congratulates Its America250 Grantees](#)
Wisconsin Arts Board

[The Wisconsin Arts Board Congratulates FY26 Woodland Indian Arts Program Grant Recipients](#)
Wisconsin Arts Board

[Spotlighting Wisconsin - ConneXion Performing Arts](#)
Wisconsin Arts Board

[Winter Work, Spring Fruit](#)
Creative Copy | Wisconsin Arts Board

[Help WisconsinEye Raise Operations Funds](#)
GoFundMe

[Public Funding for the Arts in the Midwest: 2026 by the Numbers](#)
Arts Midwest

[Free resources available to Wisconsin residents to host America@250 Community Conversations](#)
PBS Wisconsin

[Museum Registration for 2026 Blue Star Museums Program](#)
National Endowment for the Arts

[2025-2027 Wisconsin Poet Laureate Project](#)
Wisconsin Poet Laureate Commission

NEA + NEH + IMLS + NPR, PBS, CPB Updates may be found [HERE](#).

<u>Arts Board Panelist Open Call</u> <i>Wisconsin Arts Board</i>

[Opportunity Attraction Fund](#)
Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation | WEDC

[Arts & Culture Accessibility Self-Assessment](#)
Open Door Arts

[NEW NCN Articles of Interest | April 10, 2026](#)
National Creativity Network

Job Opportunities

[NEW Ticketing Services Specialist - The Young
Young Auditorium | UW-Whitewater](#)
Deadline: April 26

[Executive Assistant](#)
Arts Midwest
Deadline: May 31

[Part-Time Faculty](#)
Milwaukee Ballet
Deadline: May 31

[Arts Administrative Director](#)
Suzuki Strings of Madison
Deadline: Until Filled

[Director of Institutional Advancement](#)
Racine Art Museum
Deadline: Until Filled

[Patron Services Manager](#)
Next Act Theatre
Deadline: Until Filled

[Write On, Door County Searches for Next Executive Director](#)
Spano | Pratt Executive Search
Deadline: Until Filled

[Vice President, Marketing & Communications](#)
Marcus Performing Arts Center
Deadline: Until Filled

[Interior Architecture & Design Faculty \(Full-Time\)](#)
Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design
Deadline: Until Filled

[Current Opportunities](#)
First Stage
Deadline: Until Filled

[Summer Academy Lead Teaching Artist \(Playmakers, Grades 1-2\)](#)
[Summer Academy Lead Teaching Artist \(Voice & Speech, Grades 3-4\)](#)
[Summer Academy Lead Teaching Artist \(Scene Study, Grades 3-4\)](#)
[Summer Academy Lead Teaching Artist \(Design, Grades 5-12\)](#)
[Summer Academy Lead Teaching Artist \(Acting Theory, Grades 5-12\)](#)
[Summer Academy Lead Teaching Artist \(Musical Theater, Grades 5-12\)](#)
[Summer Academy Lead Teaching Artist \(Voice & Movement, Grades 5-12\)](#)

[Fundraising Director](#)
ARTS for ALL Wisconsin
Deadline: Until Filled

[General Manager](#)
Barrymore Theatre
Deadline: Until Filled

[Development Coordinator](#)
Opera for the Young
Deadline: Until Filled

[Communications and Operations Manager](#)
Strategic National Arts Alumni Project
Deadline: Until Filled

For more Job Opportunities, click [HERE](#).

2026 Congressional Art Competition Deadlines

[Office of Congressman Glenn Grothman](#)
6th Congressional District of Wisconsin
Deadline: April 14

Deadlines | Resources | Events

[World Premiere Wisconsin: A yearlong, statewide celebration of new plays and musicals returns in 2026!](#)

World Premiere Wisconsin
Through December 31

[America's Invitation | Share Your Story](#)

America 250
Deadline: Before July 4, 2026

[We're Back with Another Capacity Building Webinar Series](#)

Creative West
Through September 8, 2026

[Social Media Video Tactics for Arts Organizations](#)

Arts Midwest
April 15 | 3:00 p.m. Central Time

[Amplify & Ignite: A Symposium on Theatre For Social and Civic Engagement](#)

American Alliance for Theatre & Education
April 16 – 19 | New York City, NY

Succession Planning for Sustainability

Arts Midwest

April 22 | 3:00 p.m. Central Time

Business of Art Conference V

Dane Arts

April 23 – 24 | Madison

Midwest Museums Leadership Intensive

Association of Midwest Museums

April 28 – 30

Open invitation to policy brief launch: The role of the arts in addressing the health impacts of climate change

World Health Organization

April 29

2026 Annual Rural Summit

Wisconsin Rural Partners

April 29 – 30 | Prairie du Chien

2026 WVCA Conference

Wisconsin Volunteers Coordinators Association

May 6 - 8

Super Early Bird Registration is Now Open!

American Alliance of Museums

Through January 16 | Super Early Bird Registration

May 20 - 23 | Philadelphia

2026 AAEE Conference

Association of Arts Administration Educators

May 28 – 31 | 2026, Boston, MA

Shape the future. Organize for Impact

AFTACON 2026, Americans for the Arts

June 2 – 5 | Albuquerque, NM

2026 National PTA Convention

National PTA

June 18 – 21 | Pittsburgh, PA

International Thespian Festival

Educational Theatre Association

June 21 – 26 | Bloomington, IN

[Don't Miss the Pre-Conference at Play Make Learn 2026!](#)

Professional Learning and Community Education | School of Education | UW-Madison

July 8

[2026 Play Make Learn Conference](#)

Professional Learning and Community Education | School of Education | UW-Madison

July 9-10

[NEA FY 2027 Grants for Arts Projects Guidelines Now Available](#)

National Endowment for the Arts

Deadlines: July 9

[Theatre Education Conference](#)

Educational Theatre Association

July 22 – 24 | New York City, NY

[AATE 2026 National Conference](#)

American Alliance for Theatre & Education

July 29 – August 1 | Greenville, SC

[2026 LEAD Conference](#)

Leadership Exchange in Arts and Disability

August 11 – 14 | Philadelphia, PA

[2026 Annual Conference](#)

Chamber Music America

August 20 – 23

[Midwest Arts Expo](#)

Heartland Performing Arts

September 22 – 25

[2026 Biennial NAfME Music Research and Teacher Education Conference](#)

National Association for Music Education

September 30 – October 3 | Long Beach, CA

[2026 Wisconsin Science Festival](#)

Wisconsin Science Festival

October 15 – 25

[Capacity Building Webinar Series](#)

Creative West

Various

[Online Workshops and Conversations](#)

Creative Capital

Various

Webinars

Performing Arts Readiness

Various

Springboard for the Arts Calendar of Events

Springboard for the Arts

Various

Upcoming Events

Access/VSA International Network

Various

IN THE NEWS

Visual Arts/Museums

Neutral sells Bakers Place for \$37 million, pays mural artist

Isthmus

Artists showcase work at Festival of the Arts

WSAW

Bronzeville Collective MKE owners reflect on legacy after closing last month

Milwaukee Courier, Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service

Revamped Sendik's exhibit opens at children's museum

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

AAM's 2026-2031 Strategic Plan: A Defining Chapter As We Approach 125 Years

American Alliance of Museums

Arts and Creativity in Education

Madison music teacher Christian Bonner brings Wisconsin poetry to life at Kennedy

Elementary

Wisconsin State Journal

Nature is the classroom at this central Wisconsin elementary school

Wisconsin Today | Wisconsin Public Radio

Green Bay students embrace STEM education with LEGO creations

Positively Wisconsin | WeAreGreenBay.com

Most Wisconsin school referendums passed in April election, but support wanes

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Arts and Healthcare

[Check out my new post! A little something amazing about my recent trip to Italy](#)
Little Caregiver Repair Shop | Anne Basting

Community Arts

[Valley Arts Grants expand creative experiences across the St. Croix Valley](#)
Pierce County Journal

[Roberto Rivera helps others heal through the lens of hip-hop](#)
Isthmus

[ArtSeed Showcase leads to Arts Council award presentations](#)
Racine Journal Times

[E.C. County Offering Roughly \\$250K In Nonprofit Support Grants](#)
Volume One Magazine
Deadline: June 1

[Question of the Week: Where does 'up north' begin in Wisconsin?](#)
Up North News

[To truly experience Wisconsin, head to the supper club](#)
Travel | National Geographic

Literary Arts/Libraries

[How Little Golden Books changed childhood](#)
The Look Back | PBS Wisconsin

[New photobook showcases the 'hidden gem' of Milwaukee's live music scene](#)
Wisconsin Today | Wisconsin Public Radio

[Silent Book Clubs bring people together for reading and community](#)
Wisconsin Today | Wisconsin Public Radio

[Gary Young | \[Each morning before dawn,\]](#)
Poem-a-Day, Poets.org

Media Arts

[The Beyond & Black Kettle Tea Shoppe Call For Short Film Entries](#)
Volume One Magazine
Deadline: June 13

Performing Arts

Dance

Community Dance Newsletter
Madison Contemporary Dance

Music

The Midday: The Los Angeles Guitar Quartet
Midday Classics with Norman Gilliland | Wisconsin Public Radio

Presenting

Grand Theater to speed up construction timeline on \$17 million remodeling project
WAOW

Other

Why Nonprofit Boards Must Take the Lead on Cybersecurity Governance
NonProfit Pro

Engage Younger Donors Through Creative Peer-to-Peer Fundraising
NonProfit Pro

WHEN YOU GO

For more event listings, please go to the new Wisconsin Events page on TravelWisconsin.com: <https://www.travelwisconsin.com/events>.

Visual Arts/Museums

AMM 2026
Association of Midwest Museums
July 22 | Virtual Day
July 26 - 29 | In Person Conference

Arts and Creativity in Education

UWSP's Child Learning and Care Center Hosts Art Show for Week of the Young Child
The Pointer | UW-Stevens Point
April 13 – 17

2026 Antigo Regional WRAP-Teen Exhibition Opens at NTC-Antigo Campus
Antigo Visual Arts
April 13 – 23

2026 Mount Mary Fashion Show Will Celebrate Creativity and Vision
Urban Milwaukee
May 8

Community Arts

[What to do in Madison this week: April 13-16, 2026](#)

Isthmus

April 13 – 16

[Isthmus to celebrate 50 with Ben Sidran, New Breed Quintet, Mama Digdown's](#)

Isthmus

April 18

Literary Arts/Libraries

[This April, Celebrate 'Indie Bookstore Day' For A Full Week](#)

Volume One Magazine

April 17 – 25

Media Arts

['Winter Hymns' film showcases Wisconsin's veteran and novice acting talent](#)

Wisconsin Public Radio

April 14 | Wisconsin Film Festival; April 19 | Hudson and Menomonie; April 21 | Hayward, April 22 | Whitewater, April 24 | Manitowoc, and April 25 | Viroqua and Eau Claire.

Also

[Nathan Deming's Latest Film, 'Winter Hymns,' To Show In Eau Claire](#)

Volume One Magazine

April 24 – 26

[Two Film-Watching Wizards Share Their Game Plan for the Milwaukee Film Festival](#)

Milwaukee Magazine

April 16 – 30

Also

[5 movies we're excited about at the 2026 Milwaukee Film Festival](#)

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

April 16 – 30

Performing Arts

Music

[Philomusica Quartet Closes Season With British Connections Program](#)

Urban Milwaukee

April 13

ECCO Presents 'Magic Flutes' Season Finale For 2026
Volume One Magazine
April 26

Maestro Community Orchestra
Isthmus
May 16

Fine Arts Quartet Concert
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
May 17

Presenting

'Riverdance' returns to Wisconsin in celebration of its 30th year
Spectrum News 1
April 14 – 16 | Overture Center for the Arts
April 17 – 18 | Marcus Performing Arts Center

Isthmus to celebrate 50 with Ben Sidran, New Breed Quintet, Mama Digdown's
Isthmus
April 18

Theater/Opera

The Pete Schuster Memorial Broom Squad Seeks Helping Hands for our Spring Clean Day
Peninsula Players
May 9

OPPORTUNITIES

NEW Artist Opportunities – April 2026
Creative Capital for Artists
Various | April

CALLING ALL CREATIVES: Artist Market Of E.C. Opens 2026 Applications
Volume One Magazine
Now Open

The Mary L. Nohl Suitcase Export Fund Opens 2026 Winter Cycle
Lynden Sculpture Garden and the Greater Milwaukee Foundation
Deadline: Until the funds for the cycle are exhausted

Residency Opportunities
Artist Communities Alliance
Various

Nonprofit Capacity Building Grant

St. Croix Valley Foundation

Deadline: Rolling

Boost Your Art Career With SVA Continuing Education Courses, Workshops, and Residencies

Colossal

Various

The Creative Collab | Bronzeville Artist-In-Residency Mentor Program

Copywrite Magazine

Deadline: Rolling

Public Art Conservation Fund Application and Guidelines

City of Milwaukee Arts Board

Deadline: Rolling, as long as funds remain, in order they are received.

America's Invitation | Share Your Story

America 250

Deadline: Before July 4, 2026

Springboard for the Arts Calendar of Events

Springboard for the Arts

Various

Are you raising impact capital for the creative economy?

UpStart Co-Lab

Deadline: Open

RJE Sprout Fund Invites Proposals From Artists Working With Underserved Communities

PND by Candid

Deadline: Rolling

Call for Artwork

Northeast Wisconsin Technical College

Monthly Review

April 2026 Opportunities: Open Calls, Residencies, and Grants for Artists

Colossal

Various

2026 Young Artists and Authors Showcase

Sister Cities International

Deadline Extended: April 15

2026 Free-for-Wall: "Joy: A Community Art Exhibition"

ArtStart Rhinelander

Drop Off Deadline: April 15 - 17

2026 Travel Grant Application

The Rabkin Foundation

Deadline: April 16

Miller Art Opens Applications for its 2026 Residency Program, Celebrates Program's Continued Growth

Miller Art Museum

Deadline: April 17

2026 WDC Scholarship Student Application

Wisconsin Dance Council

Deadline: April 17

2026 Instrument Drive

Wisconsin Conservatory of Music

April 18

2026 Cycle of The Open Fund Artist Project Grant

The Open Fund

Deadline: April 30

Kenosha Sculpture Walk Seeks Artists and Sponsors for 2026–2028 Exhibit

The City of Kenosha

Deadline: April 30

Also

2026-2028 Sculpture Walk – HarborPark

Art Call

Deadline: April 30

Vilcek Foundation invites applications for grants to support nonprofits working with immigrants

Philanthropy News Digest

Deadline: April 30

IT'S TIME TO ROCK: Applications For Annual 'Rockonsin' Are Now Open!

Volume One Magazine

Deadline: April 30

Nominate a Colleague | AMM Awards

Association of Midwest Museums

Deadline: April 30

La Crosse County hosting art competition to celebrate La Crosse turning 175

WI Proud

Deadline: April 30

'Barstow & Grand' Welcomes Submissions For Issue 10

Volume One Magazine

Deadline: April 30

Request for Proposals | Community Art Wall

Nature & Culture Museum of Wisconsin

Deadline: May 1

Call For Artists In Sister Bay

Door County Pulse

Deadline: May 1

Applications For 2027 Residencies Now Open

Write On, Door County

Deadline: May 1

Information sessions will be held April 4.

Racine Arts Council Announces 2026 ArtSeed Grants Available

Racine Arts Council

Deadline: May 1

Manito Art League helps Northwoods artists further their education

WJFW

Deadline: May 1

The Andy Warhol Foundation Arts Writers Grant—Application Open

Creative Capital for Artists

Deadline: May 6

Green Lake Plein Air Festival

Town Square Community Center

May 14

Downtown Green Bay: We the People: A Community Quilt for 250 Years

WisBusiness

Drop-Off Due Date: May 15

2026 Stevens Point Sculpture Park Juried Call

Stevens Point Sculpture Park

Deadline: May 23

Arrivals and Departures - CALL FOR ARTISTS

Heyde Center for the Arts

Entry Deadline: May 31

NEW E.C. County Offering Roughly \$250K In Nonprofit Support Grants
Volume One Magazine
Deadline: June 1

Preparations Begin for Second Annual Sheboygan Film Festival
Seehafernews.com
June 12 | Regular Deadline
July 17 | Late Deadline

Volunteer at Artspire 2026
Pump House Regional Arts Center
June 12, 13

NEW The Beyond & Black Kettle Tea Shoppe Call For Short Film Entries
Volume One Magazine
Deadline: June 13

CALL FOR ARTISTS: The Community Mosaic Project
The Hardy Gallery
Deadline: June 21

NEA FY 2027 Grants for Arts Projects Guidelines Now Available
National Endowment for the Arts
Deadlines: July 9

DNR Now Accepting Artwork For The 2027 Turkey, Pheasant And Waterfowl Stamp Contests
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Deadline: August 1

Also
DNR accepting artwork for 2027 turkey, pheasant, waterfowl stamp contests
Wausau Pilot & Review
Submission Deadline: August 1

Stamp Artwork Can Still Be Submitted For DNR Waterfowl Design Contest
Seehafernews.com
Deadline: August 1

Nordic Folk Arts & Cultural Traditions in the Upper Midwest
American-Scandinavian Foundation
Deadline: September 15

Beyond Words: the Dollar General School Library Relief Fund
Awards & Grants | American Library Association
Deadline: None. Monthly Review

Open Grant Solicitations

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs | US Department of State

Various

The Wisconsin Arts News is a free service of the Wisconsin Arts Board, the state agency responsible for the support and development of the arts in Wisconsin, on the web at www.artsboard.wisconsin.gov. These articles are from a variety of sources and, therefore, do not necessarily reflect the views of the Arts Board.

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