

WISCONSIN ARTS NEWS



Partnering with Artists and Organizations for Our Wisconsin Communities

May 18, 2026

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Please “like” the Arts Board on [Facebook](#), and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“A poem cannot stop a bullet. A novel can’t defuse a bomb. But we are not helpless. We can sing the truth and name the liars.” – Salman Rushdie

“I want, of course, peace, grace, and beauty. How do you do that? You work for it.” – Studs Terkel

“Life beats down and crushes the soul and art reminds you that you have one.” – Stella Adler

“Great art is as irrational as great music. It is mad with its own loveliness.” – George Jean Nathan

“Every man would like to be God, if it were possible; some few find it difficult to admit the impossibility.” – Bertrand Russell

“I had a stick of Carefree gum, but it didn’t work. I felt pretty good while I was blowing that bubble, but as soon as the gum lost its flavor, I was back to pondering my mortality.” – Mitch Hedberg

VIDEO OF THE DAY

[The legacy of PBS Wisconsin Emeritus Director Jon Miskowski | Here & Now](#)
PBS Wisconsin

[2026 Creative Power Celebration](#)
Arts for All Wisconsin

[Wisconsin-made film "Winter Hymns" gets more showings on the silver screen](#)
WKOW

[Portraits From Rural Wisconsin](#)
PBS Wisconsin

[Alexis Rivera Luna gives us a tour of her studio | The Arts Page](#)
Milwaukee PBS

[Copacabana \(Barry Manilow Cover\) - Postmodern Jukebox feat. Tatum Langley](#)
PostmodernJukebox

[Don Was and the Pan-Detroit Ensemble: Tiny Desk Concert](#)
NPR Music

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!

TOP WISCONSIN NEWS

FROM THE WISCONSIN ARTS BOARD

NEW [Military Families Receive Free Admission This Summer at Participating Blue Star Museums 2026](#)
National Endowment for the Arts
Through September 7

NEW [Gov. Evers Announces State Building Commission Approves Approximately \\$248 Million for Local Infrastructure Improvement and Community Development Projects Across Wisconsin](#)
Officer of Governor Tony Evers

NEW [Guild Essentials Series.- The State of Teaching Artistry: Realities and Possibilities](#)
National Guild for Community Arts Education
May 26 | Virtual

NEW [Spotlighting Wisconsin | Oshkosh Chamber Singers](#)
Wisconsin Arts Board

NEW [Creative Copy | Art Fairs & Festivals](#)
Wisconsin Arts Board

[NEW Work, Sleep, Create, Repeat: The Midwest's Commitment to Creativity](#)
Arts Midwest

[NEW Wisconsin Humanities, Arts Board launch program to help folk artists share traditions statewide](#)
Racine County Eye

[Disaster Readiness & Recovery for Wisconsin's Arts Industry](#)
Wisconsin Arts Board

[Creative Copy | Poet Laureate Programs in Wisconsin](#)
Wisconsin Arts Board

[Wisconsin's Portrait of a Graduate](#)
WI Arts & Creativity Newsletter | WI Department of Public Instruction
Various | May

Also
[Portrait of a Graduate](#)
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
Various | May

“Members of DPI’s project team are hosting in-person listening sessions across Wisconsin in Spring 2026. These sessions will provide opportunities to share perspectives, ask questions, and help shape the statewide Portrait of a Graduate. Find more full listening session dates and more information in this flyer.”

https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/families-students/WI_Portrait_of_a_Graduate_Listening_Sessions.pdf

[Join the Wisconsin Social Rx Ecosystem](#)
Wisconsin Social Rx

Also
[Social Prescribing in Wisconsin- Shared screen with speaker view](#)
Wisconsin Social Rx + Social Rx, Zoom

[The Great Connector: How Arts Participation Renews Civic and Community Engagement](#)
National Endowment for the Arts

[Statement on Proposed Elimination of the NEA, April 2026](#)
National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

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

[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 | May 8, 2026](#)
National Creativity Network

Job Opportunities

[Controller](#)
Arts Midwest
Deadline: May 19

[Associate Technical Director](#)
Ashwaubenon Performing Arts Center
Deadline: May 26

[President & CEO](#)
Madison Community Foundation
Deadline: May 29

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

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

Executive Director

Springboard for the Arts | St. Paul, MN

Deadline: June 2

Part-Time Accompanist

Milwaukee Ballet

Deadline: June 30

Director of Donor Engagement and Development

Miller Art Museum

Deadline: Until Filled

Curatorial Internship

Miller Art Museum

Deadline: Until Filled

School Programs Coordinator

Milwaukee Ballet

Deadline: Until Filled

Deputy Director of Finance, Administration and Retail Enterprise

Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass

Deadline: Until Filled

Director of Development and Communications

Jewish Family Services, Inc.

Deadline: Until Filled

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](#).

Deadlines | Resources | Events

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

World Premiere Wisconsin: A yearlong, statewide celebration of new plays and musicals returns in 2026!

World Premiere Wisconsin

Through December 31

Super Early Bird Registration is Now Open!

American Alliance of Museums

May 20 - 23 | Philadelphia

2026 AAAE 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 National Forum on Education Policy

Education Commission of the States

July 8 – 10

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

Rooted in Community | 2026 Annual Conference
Wisconsin Library Association
October 20 - 23 | Middleton

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

Architect David Kahler has died. His work included Milwaukee Art Museum
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

[Antigo Visual Arts and Langlade County Humane Society Collaborate on Bottle Cap Art Project](#)

Antigo Visual Arts

[Wisconsin art museum names the state's first cartoonist laureate](#)

Wisconsin Today | Wisconsin Public Radio

[Milwaukee Public Museum hits 90% of fundraising goal--but construction costs rise](#)

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

[See Inside the New Nature & Culture Museum of Wisconsin](#)

Urban Milwaukee

[Eclectic Sol Studio Evolves, Tells Stories Of Place Through Customized Jewelry](#)

Volume One Magazine

[Support Museum Funding – Field Wide Sign On Letter](#)

American Alliance of Museums

Arts and Creativity in Education

[Tiffany Announces Winners of the 2026 Congressional Art Competition](#)

Congressman Tom Tiffany

[Fox Cities PAC Announces 2026 Center Stage Program Honorees](#)

BroadwayWorld.com

[Censor sound? Playing or hearing music about gays won't make you gay](#)

The Well-Tempered Ear

[Back to Basics... Again](#)

Bob Morrison

Also

[The Founding Claim: Music as Original Curriculum - Article 2 of The Founding Disciplines](#)

Bob Morrison

[Getting to work in service to an extraordinary university](#)

UW-Madison News

[New UW-Stevens Point library honors Plover couple for alumni support](#)

AOL.com, Stevens Point Journal

Arts and Healthcare

[State council says Wisconsin facing 'mental health crisis'](#)

The Capital Times

[Changes in mental health during participation in Art Pharmacy: a longitudinal study of a U.S. arts-based social prescribing program](#)

Frontiers in Public Health

Community Arts

[“Get Dirty, Eat Well, and Make Art”: 25 Years of Wormfarm Institute w/ Donna Neuwirth & Jay Salinas](#)

Art of the Rural

[Milwaukee Arts Board: Announces 2026 Artists of the Year, Friends of the Arts award honorees](#)

WisBusiness

[Rev. Alex Gee and the Center for Black Excellence and Culture: A Dream Fulfilled \(Part 2 of 2\)](#)

The Capital City Hues

Also

[Rev. Alex Gee and the Center for Black Excellence and Culture A Dream Fulfilled \(Part 1 of 2\)](#)

The Capital City Hues

[WCD committee recommends a committee and making convention hotel a long-term priority](#)

BizTimes Milwaukee

[We Brought Arts Data Into a City Council Meeting. The Conversation Changed Immediately.](#)

Return on Art | Angela Meleca

[A Categorization Conundrum in the American Exurbs](#)

The Daily Yonder

Literary Arts/Libraries

[America 250 | Laura Ingalls Wilder’s ‘Big Woods’ story lives on in Pepin, Wisconsin](#)

News8000.com

[A small-town Wisconsin supper club is the backdrop for Milwaukee author’s new novel](#)

Wisconsin Today | Wisconsin Public Radio

[Jayne Cortez | The Oppressionists](#)

Poem of the Day, Poetry Foundation

Media Arts

[Nathan Greno Talks ‘Swapped’ and Why Great Animation Doesn’t Need Dialogue](#)

Skwigly – Online Animation Magazine

Performing Arts

Music

[The Pinnacles Of Symphonic Music & 'Art In Time'](#)
Volume One Magazine

[Milwaukee artists among 2026 Wisconsin Area Music Industry Award winners](#)
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

[Mazomanie native Skylar Grey comes home to Wisconsin for music honor, new album](#)
Wisconsin State Journal, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

[Cold Wisconsin Nights](#)
Dork

Presenting

[The Estate Announces Closing](#)
Urban Milwaukee

[Summerfest 2026 loses another act after British rockers cancel tour](#)
Wausau Pilot & Review

Other

[Policy isn't paperwork | Governance documents are an operating system, not an archive](#)
ArtsManaged Field Notes

[The Question Every Long-Term Leader Eventually Faces](#)
Leading Creatively | Chad Bauman

[Donors Are Vetting You on LinkedIn. Here's How to Win Them Over.](#)
The Chronicle of Philanthropy

[Nonprofit Leaders Answer: What is a Contingency Plan Your Nonprofit Has for Unexpected Funding Cuts?](#)
Blue Avocado

[How Nonprofits Can Build Real-Time Financial Resilience in 2026](#)
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

[Military Families Receive Free Admission This Summer at Participating Blue Star Museums 2026](#)

National Endowment for the Arts
Through September 7

[Jewish Museum Milwaukee to Host Helen Bader Day: Belonging and Becoming May 20](#)

Urban Milwaukee
May 20

[Bronzeville Center for the Arts Announces Upcoming Year-Long Outdoor Sculpture Installation by Milwaukee Artist Ck Ledesma](#)

Urban Milwaukee
Opens June 11

Community Arts

[What to do in Madison this week: May 18-21, 2026](#)

Isthmus
May 18 – 21

[Brady Street Art Walk Returns May 31, Kicking Off “Splash of Pride” and Pride Month Celebrations](#)

Urban Milwaukee
May 31

Media Arts

[Drive-in theater in northeast Wisconsin sets dates for 2026 opening weekend](#)

WeAreGreenBay.com
May 22 – 23

Performing Arts

Dance

[NYC Dance Company Announces Intimate Barn Performance in Rural Wisconsin, Bridging Milwaukee and New York](#)

Peter Stathas Dance + Danceworks MKE
June 12

Music

[Milwaukee Musaik Performs With Acclaimed Opera Singer](#)

Urban Milwaukee
May 18

Fine Arts Quartet concert
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
July 10

PREVIEW: Outdoor Concerts In The Chippewa Valley
Volume One Magazine
Various | Summer

Presenting

GuitarTown festival in Waukesha honors Les Paul and music makers
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
June 13

Blue Ox Music Festival 2026 at The Pines Music Park, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, June 25-27, 2026
Americana Highways
June 25 – 27

The 2026 Chippewa Valley Music Festival Season Guide
Volume One Magazine
Season

Theater/Opera

Theatre Gigante presents: SAKESHVILI – THE PEOPLE’S DEMOCRATIC CIRCUS
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
June 5 – 13

OPPORTUNITIES

Residency Opportunities | May + June
Artist Communities Alliance
Various | May + June

May 2026 Opportunities: Open Calls, Residencies, and Grants for Artists
Colossal
Various

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

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

2026 Stevens Point Sculpture Park Juried Call

Stevens Point Sculpture Park

Deadline: May 23

RISCA Call for Artists: URI Ocean Robotics Laboratory

Rhode Island State Council on the Arts | Café

Deadline: May 26

Call for Instructors - Management Training Series for the Museum Learning Hub

Association of Midwest Museums

Deadline: May 29

Arrivals and Departures - CALL FOR ARTISTS

Heyde Center for the Arts

Entry Deadline: May 31

E.C. County Offering Roughly \$250K In Nonprofit Support Grants

Volume One Magazine

Deadline: June 1

Artists & artisans wanted for 9th annual Art & Chalk Fest at Museum of Wisconsin Art

Washington County Insider

Deadline: June 1

Call for performers: Make Music Madison opens registration for 14th annual event

NBC 15 | WMTV

Registration Deadline: June 1

NEH Partners with Freedom 250 to Sponsor a National Student Art Competition on American Heroes

National Endowment for the Humanities

Deadline: June 1

2027 Dane Arts Calendar & Poster Call for Art: The Treasures of Dane County

Dane Arts

Deadline: June 8

Museums and Medical Education: A Convening at the Intersection of Art and Care K

Art Bridges

Application Deadline : June 10

Partner Profile Deadline: June 22

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

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

City-Wide WE READ Youth Voices Writing Contest Returns May 1

City of Madison

Deadline: June 30

Great Wisconsin Quilt Show accepting entries

Price County Review

Deadline: June 30

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

Small Works Open Call

Carnelian Art Gallery

Deadline: November 2026

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.

Despite our best efforts, links may fail without warning since each news source posts and archives its articles differently. We apologize for any inconvenience.

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