WISCONSIN ARTS NEWS

Partnering with Artists and Organizations for Our Wisconsin Communities

September 9, 2026

In The News | When You Go | Opportunities | Subscribe/Unsubscribe

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

"Art is a human activity having for its purpose the transmission to others of the highest and best feelings to which men have risen." – Leo Tolstoy

"Where words fail, music speaks." – Hans Christian Andersen

"Think of change as a tree – it doesn't grow from the top down, so we shouldn't be waiting for somebody to tell us what to do. It grows from the bottom up, and we are the roots of change." – Gloria Steinem

"A dream is a creation of the intelligence, the creator being present but not knowing how it will end." – Cesare Pavese

"You shouldn't be a prisoner of your own ideas." – Sol LeWitt

"What's another word for Thesaurus?" – Steven Wright

VIDEO OF THE DAY

INTERVIEW: Yellowstone Art Trail happening September 11th and 12th
WEAU
September 11 – 12

Birds in Art exhibition opens Saturday at Woodson Art Museum
WSAW
September 12; Through January 3

The World of APT's The Two "Gentlemen" of Verona
American Player Theatre
Through October 3

Team One Mile brings music, cycling and a mission to Wisconsin communities
WeAreGreenBay.com
September 21 – 26

Wisconsin Book Festival Presents The 2026 Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing Fellows Reading
Wisconsin Book Festival

Virtual Town Hall: Creative Youth Development Building Backstage, Media, and Production Pathways
Creating Abundance Collaborative

"Bridge Over Troubled Water" — Like You've Never Heard It Before
MAS Vocal | TED

> *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 Reports of Wisconsin's Brain Drain Are Greatly Exaggerated∗ The State's Real Talent Problem Is Who Doesn't Come
Center for Research on the Wisconsin Economy (CROWE) | UW-Madison

NEW Why Kris Tjornehoj of St. Croix Sounds joined the Wisconsin Arts Board
Hudson-Star Observer

NEW As part of our Quarterly Board Meeting, we invite you to join us in Eau Claire on September 25th for two *Creative Community Conversation* sessions!
Wisconsin Arts Board

> We invite you to **drop in anytime** during either or both of the sessions listed below, to meet WAB staff, ask questions, learn about resources, and connect with other folks in Eau Claire's creative community.
>
> **Morning Creative Community Conversation**
> September 25th, 7:30- 9:30 am, **ECDC - Eau Claire Downtown Coffee** (205 S Barstow St, Eau Claire, WI 54701)

Afternoon Creative Community Conversation
September 25th, 4:30 - 6:00 pm, **2 Roots Art & Wine Gallery** (216 S Barstow St, Eau Claire, WI 54701)

Register for the Eau Claire Creative Community Conversations
Registration is encouraged, not required.

NEW Poetry Out Loud Recitation Competition Launches for 2026-2027 School Year
National Endowment for the Arts

NEW Travel Wisconsin's 2027 Co-op Program
Travel Wisconsin
September 10

NEW National Preparedness Month: 20 Years of Partnership and Preparedness
National Coalition for Arts Preparedness and Emergency Response (NCAPER)
September

NEW Creative Copy ##37 | National Arts in Education Week
Wisconsin Arts Board
September 13 – 19

NEW Wisconsin Originals: Meet the performers, painters and writers the nation claimed
Wisconsin State Journal

NEW Understanding Your Federal Award Requirements
Arts Midwest

Also
NEW How to Build Your Federal Award Budget
Arts Midwest

NEW Reporting on Your Federal Award
Arts Midwest

NEW Artists Make the Best Citizens. Don't Believe It? Check the Data.
Arts Midwest

Building Stronger Arts Organizations, Together: What We're Learning from Engage US
Mid-America Arts Alliance

Introducing the Arts Funding Finder
Arts Midwest
Deadlines: Various

Film Wisconsin Office Awarded $1 Million in Tax Credits to 6 Productions
Urban Milwaukee, Wisconsin Public Radio

Community Choirs | Creative Copy #36
Wisconsin Arts Board

Visit 3, Get a T!
Wisconsin Art Destinations
Through November 15

Join the Accessibility Committee
Wisconsin Arts Board

Generative AI in the Performing Arts Survey
Annie Dorsen and SMU DataArts
Through September

> Annie Dorsen is partnering with SMU DataArts to conduct a study of the material impacts of generative AI on artists working in theater, dance, and live music. The survey explores how AI is affecting artists' income, employment opportunities, creative processes, administrative work, and future planning. Findings will help inform policy, advocacy, funding, and support efforts across the field.
>
> This work is part of Artists Make Technology, a collaborative initiative anchored by Mozilla Foundation and the Doris Duke Foundation, in partnership with the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, with additional support from Ford Foundation.

Secretary Lonnie Bunch Says the Smithsonian Keeps 'The Nation's Memory' in an Exclusive Essay for America's 250th Birthday
Smithsonian Voices | Office of the Secretary of the Smithsonian

U.S. Conference of Mayors and National Endowment for the Arts to Showcase Freedom 250 City Art Posters
National Endowment for the Arts
Submit through November 6

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

Free resources available to Wisconsin residents to host America@250 Community Conversations
PBS Wisconsin

2025-2027 Wisconsin Poet Laureate Project
Wisconsin Poet Laureate Commission

NEA + NEH + IMLS + NPR, PBS, CPB Updates may be found HERE.

Arts Board Panelist Open Call
Wisconsin Arts Board

Arts & Culture Accessibility Self-Assessment
Open Door Arts

NEW NCN Articles of Interest | September 4, 2026
National Creativity Network

Job Opportunities

Job Board
Create Wisconsin
Application Deadlines | Various

Development & Major Gifts Director
Milwaukee Film
Deadline: September 18

NEW Executive Director
Art Works for Milwaukee, Inc. | LinkedIn
Deadline: September 21

Executive Director
Wisconsin Conservatory of Music
Deadline: September 30

Assistant Professor (Tenure Track) - The Art School (27-28)
DePaul University-The Art School
Deadline: October 1

Assistant House Manager
Skylight Music Theatre
Deadline: Until Filled

Studio Supervisor
Skylight Music Theatre
Deadline: Until Filled

Executive Director
Capitol Civic Centre
Deadline: Until Filled

Chief Philanthropy Officer
Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra
Deadline: Until Filled

Facilities Coordinator
ArtStart Rhinelander
Deadline: Until Filled

Program & Administrative Assistant
ArtStart Rhinelander
Deadline: Until Filled

Associate Director of Communications
Wisconsin Conservatory of Music
Deadline: Until Filled

Payroll and HR Generalist
Wisconsin Conservatory of Music
Deadline: Until Filled

Human Resources Manager
Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra
Deadline: Until Filled

Development & Special Events Manager
Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts
Deadline: Until Filled

Director of Performing Arts Center
Lincoln High School | Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools
Deadline: Until Filled

Technical Director of Performing Arts Center
Lincoln High School | Wisconsin Rapids
Deadline: Until Filled

Director of Donor Engagement and Development
Miller Art Museum
Deadline: Until Filled

Curatorial Internship
Miller Art Museum
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

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

General Manager
Barrymore Theatre
Deadline: Until Filled

Development Coordinator
Opera for the Young
Deadline: Until Filled

For more Job Opportunities, click HERE.

Deadlines | Resources | Events

We're Back with Another Capacity Building Webinar Series
Creative West
Through September 8

Creative Labor, Creative Conditions - A National Campaign to Shift the Valuation of the Arts
Doris Duke Foundation
Through September

Also
Creative Labor, Creative Conditions: Why Centering Artists as Thought Leaders and Changemakers Matters
Doris Duke Foundation

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

World Premiere Wisconsin
Through December 31

Emerging Program Institute (EPI)
Artist Communities Alliance
Registration is Open
October 22, 23, 29, 30 | EPI | Virtual

Safety is an Art Form with Artists at Risk Connection
CERF+
September 16 | Webinar

Webinar Series: Small Orgs, Big Ideas
Arts Midwest
September 16 | Beyond Programming: Building Community Through Indigenous Arts, Culture, and Relationships
September 23 | Love Is Power: Trusting Young People to Lead
September 30 | What Art School Doesn't Teach: The Missing Curriculum Every Artist Deserves
October 8 | Power Building, Inside and Out

Conference
Alliance for Wisconsin Theatre Education
September 18 | UW-Parkside

Mission Possible: Strengthening our role as agents of change through innovation and collaboration.
2026 Wisconsin Aging, Disability and Independent Living Network (ADILN) Conference
September 21 – 23 | Wisconsin Dells

Midwest Arts Expo
Heartland Performing Arts
September 22 – 25

Creative Economy Pathways | 2026 Virtual Town Hall Series
Creating Abundance Collaborative
September 23 | Creative and Durable Skill Development for the Future of Work
October 14 | Creative Youth Development Launching the Next Generation of Artists
November 18 | Innovative Creative Economy Networks and Ecosystems

AI's Impact on the Creative World
Wisconsin Broadcasters Association
September 29

Award-Winning Actress Phylicia Rashad to Headline the 36th Nancy Hanks Lecture
Americans for the Arts
September 30

NEW Wisconsin Economic Summit tackles workforce challenges, building bright futures
Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation
September 30 – October 1 | Eau Claire

Also
Wisconsin Economic Summit to highlight opportunities for shared economic growth and strategic investments for the future
Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation
September 30 – October 1

2026 Biennial NAfME Music Research and Teacher Education Conference
National Association for Music Education
September 30 – October 3 | Long Beach, CA

Annual State Conference
Wisconsin Dance Council
October 9 | Diamond Jubilee Dinner
October 10 | Professional Development Conference | MYArts

NOAHCON
National Organization for Arts in Health
October 11 - 13 | Rochester, NY
October 28 | Virtual Day

2026 Wisconsin Science Festival
Wisconsin Science Festival
October 15 – 25

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

Women Trailblazers Conference
UW-Stevens Point School of Business and Economics
October 28 | Stevens Point

2026 Wisconsin State Music Conference
Wisconsin Music Educators Association
October 28 – 31 | Monona Terrace Community & Convention Center

WAEA Fall Conference
Wisconsin Art Education Association
October 30 - 31 | Waunakee

Creative Communities, Collective Futures
2026 Chicago Regional | National Association of Latino Arts & Cultures
November 12 – 14 | Chicago, IL

Wisconsin Interscholastic Theatre Festival
Wisconsin Interscholastic Speech & Dramatic Arts Association
November 19 - 21 | UW-Parkside

NEW 2027 NAMM Show
National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM)
January 26 – 30 | Anaheim, CA

Wisconsin Governor's Conference on Tourism 2027
Travel Wisconsin
March 14 – 16, 2027 | Appleton

NEW Connected for Health: The Inaugural U.S. Social Prescribing Conference
Institute for Social Prescribing | University of Michigan + Social Prescribing USA
March 24 - 26 | Ann Arbor, MI

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

We are closed through September 10
Lynden Sculpture Garden

Suzanne Caporael | The Clock
Tandem Press

Secretary Lonnie G. Bunch III Announces Retirement as Head of the Smithsonian After 38 Years of Service to the Institution
Smithsonian Magazine

Also
Smithsonian chief to retire as Trump fights to reshape the institution
Y! Entertainment, The Washington Post

Lonnie G. Bunch III, Departing Smithsonian Secretary, Faced 'Mounting Pressure Campaign'
The New York Times

Smithsonian chief Lonnie G. Bunch III resigns
All Things Considered | NPR

The Smithsonian's leader is stepping down. Where does the Institution go from here?
Consider This | NPR

Arts and Creativity in Education

Judge Rules Against Milwaukee County Diversion of School Library Funds
Urban Milwaukee

Arts and Healthcare

National 988 Day: Music therapy helps community connect with mental health
WAOW

Mapping Arts in Health Education
Music & Health Institute | Berklee College of Music

Community Arts

Inside the 2026 Best Of Art and Culture Winners
Milwaukee Magazine

Why Eau Claire, Wisconsin, Is a Top Destination for Retirees Seeking Affordability and Culture
Investopedia

Reports of Wisconsin's Brain Drain Are Greatly Exaggerated∗ The State's Real Talent Problem Is Who Doesn't Come
Center for Research on the Wisconsin Economy (CROWE) | UW-Madison

When It Comes to Cities' Arts Recovery, Municipal Support Really Matters
New City

Folk Arts/Folklife

Wisconsin's wild rice harvest is expected to be up this year
Wisconsin Public Radio

Literary Arts/Libraries

Eugenio Montale | Noon
Poem-a-Day, Poets.org

Media Arts

Oshkosh high schoolers featured in new 9/11 documentary
WeAreGreenBay.com

Congress Begins Drafting 20% Federal Film Incentive With Trump's Blessing (EXCLUSIVE)
Variety

Performing Arts

Dance

Photo of the day: Aerial dance in the park
Wisconsin State Journal

Music

Large La Crosse venue offers intimate experience pairing live music and food
Wisconsin State Journal

Presenting

[PHOTOS] Rockin' By Candlelight At The Pablo Center
Volume One Magazine

Theater/Opera

Pink Umbrella's new home brings accessible theater to Mitchell Street
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Also
See inside Pink Umbrella's new theater on Historic Mitchell Street
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

The Stage Door Is Wide Open At Chippewa Valley's Newest Theatre Venue
Volume One Magazine

Milwaukee Rep Announces New Hospitality Partnership With 41Fork Hospitality
Urban Milwaukee

Other

When Cultural Institutions Stop Understanding the Public
Leading Creatively | Chad Bauman

Nonprofit Leaders Answer: How Do You Foster Collaboration Between Staff, Board, and Volunteers?
Blue Avocado

The Dao of Dolly - The way to a new entrepreneurial consciousness.
Theo Edmonds | Culture Futurist®

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

Mulva display explores Wisconsin's maritime past
NBC 26
Through November 4

'Art on the Mountain' sale highlights creative minds in the region
WLUC
September 11 – 12

Birds In Art 2026
Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum
September 12 – January 3

Arts and Creativity in Education

A tailgate with giant rabbits? Weidner has big fun with 'Intrude'
Green Bay Press-Gazette
September 10; through September 13

UW-River Falls hosting free Frances Cohler Coffee Concert Series
Pierce County Journal
September 11; series

Visual & Performing Arts
UW-La Crosse
Season

Community Arts

Artrageous Weekend | Your Wausome Weekend Guide
The Wausonian
September 9 – 15

3 weekend events you don't want to miss Sept. 10-13 in Stevens Point
Stevens Point Journal
September 10 – 13

3 weekend events you don't want to miss Sept. 10-13 in Wisconsin Rapids
Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune
September 10 – 13

From stand-up to side quests: Coulee Arts rebrands with massive new downtown space
WIZM
September 12 | Open House

Teejop Community Art Project Site Tour & Gathering
Isthmus
October 24

"The Cape Cod of the Midwest": This stunning Lake Michigan peninsula is hosting fall festivals, historic lighthouse tours, and scenic drive views
Secret Chicago
Various | Fall

7 fall festivals to check out in Wisconsin this year, from Door County to the Dells
Up North News
Various | Fall

Literary Arts/Libraries

What not to miss at the 25th annual Wisconsin Book Festival
The Capital Times
October 15 – 18

Media Arts

Cinema Paradiso
Pump House Film Society
September 20

Wisconsin film enthusiasts invited to judge the world's best short films at Oshkosh Library
Y! Entertainment, WeAreGreenBay.com
September 29, October 2, 3

Performing Arts

Music

Concert Remembers and Honors 9/11 Victims
Urban Milwaukee
September 11

Presenting

Green Bay Botanical Garden closes Music in Bloom series Sept. 11
WBAY
September 11

Night of bluegrass-infused folk scheduled at The Park Center
Sawyer County Record
September 11

Celebrating 20 years of Bluegrass with award-winning lineup
Barron News-Shield
September 11 – 13

Team One Mile brings music, cycling and a mission to Wisconsin communities
WeAreGreenBay.com
September 21 – 26

Summerfest in Milwaukee reveals Zac Brown Band as first 2027 headliner
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
June 25

Theater/Opera

'Trayf' at Next Act Theatre
The Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle
September 16 - 17 | Preview Performances
September 18 - October 4 | Performances

Wisconsin playwright Marie Kohler announces World Premiere of her play MAYBE WE'LL FLY at Milwaukee Chamber Theatre this September
Marie Kohler
September 18 – October 11

Classica Bella partners with Milwaukee's Florentine Opera for Verdi's La Traviata Italian Opera October 16th/18th, 2026
Issue Wire
October 16 – 18

OPPORTUNITIES

NEW Residency Opportunities | September + October
Artist Communities Alliance
Various | September + October

NEW September 2026 Opportunities: Open Calls, Residencies, and Grants for Artists
Colossal
Deadlines: Various

Introducing the Arts Funding Finder
Arts Midwest
Deadlines: Various

The Mary L. Nohl Suitcase Export Fund Opens 2026 Summer Cycle
Lynden Sculpture Garden
Deadline: Until funds for this cycle are expended

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

Nonprofit Capacity Building Grant
St. Croix Valley Foundation
Deadline: Rolling

NEW Open Call for Queer Artists
OutReach LGBTQ+ Community Center
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.

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 - 27 Emerging Artist Application
Wisconsin Dance Council
Deadline: September 15

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

Our 2026 grant portal is open
Kohler Foundation
Deadline: September 15

Racine Public Library seeks presenters for first Community Science Fair on Oct. 24
Racine County Eye
Deadline: September 15

Independence 250 Call for Creativity
ARTS for ALL Wisconsin
Deadline: September 17

2026/27 Madison Opera High School Apprentice Application
Madison Opera
Deadline: September 21

The Call for Proposals Is Now Open | 2027 AAM Annual Meeting & Museum Expo
American Alliance of Museums
Deadline: September 21

Creative Placemaking for Rural & Outdoor Recreation Communities: Building Places People Love Through Arts, Culture & the Outdoors
Harbinger Consultancy
September 24, October 1, 8 | Video Conference Sessions

In The Moment: An Exhibition by PhotoMidwest Members
Isthmus
Entry Deadline: September 25

UPAF Seeks Nominations for “60 for 60” Performing Arts Champions
Urban Milwaukee
Deadline: September 30

Making Waves Award
Boreal Waters Community Foundation
Deadline: September 30

Bridge Builder Award Nomination
Boreal Waters Community Foundation
Deadline: September 30

Mural Friendly Cities
National Mural Awards
Deadline: October 1

NEW Wildlife Art Gallery Submissions Open
Friends of the Mead/McMillan Wildlife Areas
Deadline: October 1

24th Cycle of Fellowship Program for Visual Artists Opens September 8
Urban Milwaukee
Deadline: October 8

Women Entrepreneurs Can Apply For Red Letter Grant Fall Cycle
Volume One Magazine
Deadline: October 12

Emerging Program Institute (EPI) 2026
Artist Communities Alliance
October 22 – 23; 29 – 30 | Virtual

Small Works Open Call
Carnelian Art Gallery
Deadline: November 2026

Access/VSA Emerging Young Artists Program
Access/VSA International Network
Deadline: November 19

Access/VSA International Young Musicians Program
Access/VSA International Network
Deadline: November 19

Access/VSA Playwright Discovery Program
Access/VSA International Network
Deadline: November 19

Wisconsin's Own
Wisconsin Film Festival
Deadline: December 31; An early-bird discount on entry fees for non-students is available for films submitted no later than December 1, 2026.

Wisconsin's Own Student
Wisconsin Film Festival
Deadline: December 31

Annual Call to Artists Now Open!
Pump House Regional Arts Center
Deadline: January 31 | 2027 - 2028 Gallery Exhibition Season
Deadline: January 31 | 2026 - 2027 Driftless Ceramics Biennial Group Exhibition
Deadline: January 31 | 2027 Artspire Fine Art Fair Vendor

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

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