WISCONSIN ARTS NEWS

Partnering with Artists and Organizations for Our Wisconsin Communities

September 11, 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!

September 11 | National Day of Service and Remembrance

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"If we learn nothing else from this tragedy, we learn that life is short and there is no time for hate." – Sandy Dahl, wife of Flight 93 pilot Jason Dahl

"Today, our nation saw evil—the very worst of human nature—and we responded with the best of America. With the daring of our rescue workers, with the caring for strangers and neighbors who came to give blood and help in any way they could." – George W. Bush

"Only tragedy allows the release of love and grief never normally seen." – Kate Bush

"Even the smallest act of service, the simplest act of kindness, is a way to honor those we lost, a way to reclaim that spirit of unity that followed 9/11." – Barack Obama

"The fundamentalist seeks to bring down a great deal more than buildings. Such people are against, to offer just a brief list, freedom of speech, a multi-party political system, universal adult suffrage, accountable government, Jews, homosexuals, women's rights, pluralism, secularism, short skirts, dancing, beardlessness, evolution theory, sex. These are tyrants, not Muslims. … The fundamentalist believes that we believe in nothing. In his worldview, he has his absolute certainties, while we are sunk in sybaritic indulgences. To prove him wrong, we must first know that he is wrong. We must agree on what matters: kissing in public places, bacon sandwiches, disagreement, cutting-edge fashion, literature, generosity, water, a more equitable distribution of the world's resources, movies, music, freedom of thought, beauty, love. These will be our weapons. Not by making war but by the unafraid way we choose to live shall we defeat them. How to defeat terrorism? Don't be terrorized. Don't let fear rule your life." – Salman Rushdie

“What separates us from the animals, what separates us from the chaos, is our ability to mourn people we’ve never met.” – David Levithan

“America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination and an unbeatable determination to do the job at hand.” – Harry S. Truman

VIDEO OF THE DAY

Alan Jackson - "Where Were You (When the World Stopped Turning)" | CMA Awards 2001
CMA and Alan Jackson

Spotlight Interview: Maybe We’ll Fly
What’s On Tap with Sandy Maxx | 620WTMJ
September 18 – October 11

STEADY SHE GOES Preshow Lecture
Forward Theater Company
Through September 27

Altoona businesses giving discounts for Altoona library card holders
WEAU

Black Diamonds Quilt Exhibit | The Great Wisconsin Quilt Show
PBS Wisconsin

Celebrate the 2026 National Heritage Fellows with Free Events in Washington, DC
National Endowment for the Arts
September 29, 30

Ron Carter reinventing Autumn Leaves!!
Emmet Cohen

> *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 The Institute of Museum and Library Services is Accepting Fiscal Year 2027 Grant Applications to Strengthen America’s Cultural Heritage
Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)
Deadline: November 13

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

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

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 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 11, 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

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

Meet the Muralist Behind a New Third Ward Art Installation
Milwaukee Magazine

Wisconsin 9/11 memorial remembers one of its own, looks to expand
Wisconsin State Journal

Can the 9/11 Museum Tell Its Story for Another 25 Years?
The New York Times

The American Alliance of Museums congratulates Lonnie G. Bunch III on an extraordinary career of leadership, scholarship, and service to the museum field
American Alliance of Museums

Arts and Creativity in Education

25 years later, Wisconsin schools teaching and observing 9/11
Wisconsin Public Radio

Serving the city through its Indigenous past, present and future
Arts & Sciences | Marquette Today

Community Arts

Dane County recognizes Hispanic Heritage Month
WKOW

State-Wide Proclamation Kicks Off Wisconsin's Agricultural Tourism Season
Morning Ag

Literary Arts/Libraries

The Wave Storyworks Establishes a Trusted Publishing Home for Authors Seeking Clarity and Control
Financial Content

Poetry Foundation honors Robert Pinsky with a $100,000 lifetime achievement prize
AP News

Billy Collins | The Names
All Poetry

Media Arts

Let’s redirect the conversation about how to save public media
Current

Performing Arts

Music

The Garage to reopen Oct. 15 after 'No Milwaukee Rap' backlash
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Other

How Nonprofits Can Post Less and Reach More on Social Media
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

Mulva Cultural Center’s new exhibit focuses on shipwrecks in Wisconsin
WBAY
Through November 4

In Ashland and nearby towns, history is written on the walls — about 33 murals’ worth
Wisconsin Public Radio
September 12

Make Art MKE returns to Mount Mary University this Sunday
Urban Milwaukee
September 13

Driftless Area Art Festival offers art, food and family fun
Wisconsin State Journal
September 19 – 20

Arts and Creativity in Education

UWSP to host Chicago based filmmaker and acting alum for film screening
UW-Stevens Point
September 23 – 24

Events
Peck School of the Arts | UWM
Various

Events Calendar | Arts
UW-Madison
Various

Our Hive: Arts, Culture and Community Events
UW-Superior
Various

Community Arts

What to do in Madison this weekend: Sept. 10-13, 2026
Isthmus
Through September 13

12 Things to Do in Milwaukee This Weekend: Sept. 10-13
Milwaukee Magazine
Through September 13

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

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

Artrageous Weekend | Your Wausome Weekend Guide
The Wausonian
Through September 15

Stoughton Community Calendar: Sept. 10-20
The Stoughton Courier-Hub
Through September 20

Western Wisconsin Weekend: Days' worth of art shows and buckin' broncos
Hudson Star-Observer
This Weekend

20 great ideas for your Madison-area weekend
Wisconsin State Journal
This Weekend

A Milwaukee Renaissance Fair
Weekend Preview | Urban Milwaukee
This Weekend

Arts
Madison Magazine
Various

Wausau Area Events
Wausau Pilot & Review
Various

Folk Arts/Folklife

Puerto Rican Festival of Wisconsin brings music, food and culture back to Milwaukee
620WTMJ
September 12

Greek Fest Plus
Isthmus
September 12

Literary Arts/Libraries

Indigenous Poetry Reading
Door County Pulse
September 22

Media Arts

Healing, community take center stage at Madison's Mental Health Warrior Film Festival
Wisconsin Today | Wisconsin Public Radio
September 12

New documentary features local activist Vaun Mayes
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
September 27

Performing Arts

Dance

Inside Wisconsin Dance in the 2026 Fall Arts Guide
Milwaukee Magazine
Various | Fall

Music

Rising star Hyun Jae Lim makes her MSO debut
Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra
September 18 – 19

Discover Milwaukee Music in the 2026 Fall Arts Guide
Milwaukee Magazine
Various | Fall

Presenting

Before Milwaukee show, Roger Daltrey talks about likely last US tour
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
September 15

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

NEW The Institute of Museum and Library Services is Accepting Fiscal Year 2027 Grant Applications to Strengthen America's Cultural Heritage
Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)
Deadline: November 13

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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archives its articles differently. We apologize for any inconvenience.

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