WISCONSIN ARTS NEWS



Partnering with Artists and Organizations for Our Wisconsin Communities

October 27, 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

"You have to dream before your dreams can come true." – A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

"It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by the dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions and spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best, knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who, at worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly; so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory or defeat." – Theodore Roosevelt

"Books won't stay banned. They won't burn. Ideas won't go to jail. In the long run of history, the censor and the inquisitor have always lost. The only sure weapon against bad ideas is better ideas. The source of better ideas is wisdom. The surest path to wisdom is a liberal education." – Alfred Whitney Griswold

"The wisest mind has something yet to learn." – George Santayana

"I must take issue with the term 'a mere child', for it has been my invariable experience that the company of a mere child is infinitely preferable to that of a mere adult." – Fran Lebowitz

VIDEO OF THE DAY

Wisconsin Arts Celebration Project (WACP) 2026
Wisconsin DPI - Resources for the Field

Explore the 2026 Wisconsin Arts Celebration Project through this curated 11-video playlist from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Centering on this year's core theme of "Collaboration," the collection highlights a powerful cross-disciplinary centerpiece: "Third Mind," an original poem penned by Wisconsin Poet Laureate Brenda Cárdenas and set to a captivating musical score by composer Jocelyn Hagen.

Webinar | Being in Space in Good Faith: Crafting Community Agreements
Arts Midwest

Our House: The Wisconsin Capitol
PBS Wisconsin

Integrating the Arts with STEM – Erica Halverson
The Innovation Collaborative

CMAT: Tiny Desk Concert
NPR Music and CMAT

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 Wisconsin Arts Celebration Project (WACP) 2026
Wisconsin DPI - Resources for the Field

Explore the 2026 Wisconsin Arts Celebration Project through this curated 11-video playlist from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Centering on this year's core theme of "Collaboration," the collection highlights a powerful cross-disciplinary centerpiece: "Third Mind," an original poem penned by Wisconsin Poet Laureate Brenda Cárdenas and set to a captivating musical score by composer Jocelyn Hagen.

Also
NEW Wisconsin Arts Celebration Project 2026 Preview
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

NEW Arts in Action: Pat Barnett Interview
2026 Wisconsin Arts Celebration Project | Wisconsin DPI - Resources for the Field

NEW Arts in Action: Laura Meilke Interview
2026 Wisconsin Arts Celebration Project | Wisconsin DPI - Resources for the Field

NEW Arts in Action: Andrew Smits Interview
2026 Wisconsin Arts Celebration Project | Wisconsin DPI - Resources for the Field

NEW Arts in Action: Laura Diemer Interview
2026 Wisconsin Arts Celebration Project | Wisconsin DPI - Resources for the Field

NEW Arts in Action: Christian Bonner Interview
2026 Wisconsin Arts Celebration Project | Wisconsin DPI - Resources for the Field

NEW Mind the gap: 97% of arts insiders support federal arts funding. Among Americans surveyed, that figure is 42 points lower — just 55%.
Americans for the Arts, LinkedIn

NEW Neuroarts Global Summit 2026
International Arts + Mind Lab and Aspen Institute
December 2 – 3 | Washington DC and Virtual

NEW Creative Careers in Wisconsin | Creative Copy #39
Wisconsin Arts Board

NEW National Endowment for the Arts Releases New Report on How the Arts Can Help Address the Opioid Crisis
National Endowment for the Arts

NEW ArtsVote Open Call Winning Design by Roberto Muntoreanu
ArtsVote

Join the Co-op Program
Travel Wisconsin
Now Open

Introducing the Arts Funding Finder
Arts Midwest
Deadlines: Various

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

Join the Accessibility Committee
Wisconsin Arts Board

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

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 | October 23, 2026
National Creativity Network

Job Opportunities

Job Board
Create Wisconsin
Application Deadlines | Various

Care Navigator (Ongoing Opportunity)
Social Rx
Deadline: Ongoing

Chief Revenue Officer
Wisconsin Department of Tourism
Deadline: October 29

Education Director
Forte Theatre Company
Deadline: October 29

Aly's Arts in Health Job Board
Aly Maier & Arts in Health Inc.
Deadlines: Various

Academic Engagement Associate
Haggerty Museum of Art | Marquette University
Deadline: Until Filled

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

Facilities Coordinator
ArtStart Rhinelander
Deadline: Until Filled

Program & Administrative Assistant
ArtStart Rhinelander
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

Development Coordinator
Opera for the Young
Deadline: Until Filled

For more Job Opportunities, click HERE.

Deadlines | Resources | Events

World Premiere Wisconsin: A yearlong, statewide celebration of new plays and musicals returns in 2026!
World Premiere Wisconsin
Through December 31

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

NOAHCON
National Organization for Arts in Health
October 28 | Virtual Day

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

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

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

NEW Welcome Back with Our Next Capacity Building Webinar Series
Creative West
November 10, January 12, March 9, May 11, July 13, September 14

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

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

Creative Economy Pathways | 2026 Virtual Town Hall Series
Creating Abundance Collaborative
November 18 | Innovative Creative Economy Networks and Ecosystems

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

NEW Now Accepting Applications: 2027-28 National Endowment for the Arts Big Read
Arts Midwest
January 12 | Phase 1 Deadline
January 26 | Final Deadline

Also
NEW Five Tips for Linking Your Big Read Programming to Sports
Arts Midwest

NEW Now Accepting Applications: 2027-28 Shakespeare in American Communities
Arts Midwest and the National Endowment for the Arts
Phase 1 Deadline: January 26 (Eligibility Review)
Phase 2 Deadline: February 9 (Final Applications)

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

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

NEW Wisconsin Screenwriters' Symposium
UW-Madison Department of Communication Arts & International Screenwriters Association
April 9 – 11

Closing Session: The Future of Music and Independent Venues | Sociable City Summit
Responsible Hospitality Institute (RHI)
April 26 - 28 | Philadelphia

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

Milwaukee Art Museum Announces $10 Million Gift to Support the Quadracci Pavilion's Future
Urban Milwaukee

Also
Quadracci family, foundations provide $10 million to Milwaukee Art Museum to

preserve Calatrava-designed Quadracci Pavilion
BizTimes Milwaukee

A 'SUNNY' STORY: Help Keep This Upcycled Pup In Eau Claire
Volume One Magazine

WELCOME TO KUBB CITY: Local Artist & Kubb Community Bring New Mural to Life
Volume One Magazine

Who Gets Remembered? Artist Legacies and Our Collective Responsibility
CERF+ Blog

Arts and Creativity in Education

A Spotlight On Young Musicians & 'Cosmic Connections'
Volume One Magazine
Deadline: January 2

Best Communities for Music Education
NAMM Foundation
Deadline: January 5

Community Arts

Tractors Dance to Live Orchestra in This Collaborative Farm Ballet
Arts Midwest

Madison residents pick their favorite LakeWay art proposal. Here's what won
Wisconsin State Journal

Wisconsin: Ho-Chunk Nation opens $705 million casino in Beloit
Yogonet Gaming News

October 2026
Imagine MKE

A Roundtable Talk With The 2026 Betty Award Winners
Milwaukee Magazine

Literary Arts/Libraries

Tony Shalhoub's new memoir rooted in Wisconsin is literary comfort food
The Charlotte Observer, Green Bay Press-Gazette

Ernest Lawrence Thayer | Casey at the Bat
Poem-a-Day, Poets.org

Media Arts

Sarah Ashworth named PBS Wisconsin and Wisconsin Public Radio's first Executive General Manager
PBS Wisconsin

Local short film advances to final round of competition, competing for $100k grand prize at film festival
WEAU

Horror fans gather at the Rivoli Theater for "Shlocktoberfest"
WI Proud

Walter Koenig, Chekov From 'Star Trek,' Has Died
The New York Times

Eric Bauza, Modern Voice of 'Looney Tunes' Stars, Dies at 46
The New York Times

Actors on the Verge of Losing SAG-AFTRA Health Insurance Find Support via 'One Job Away' Instagram Campaign: 'The System Is Not Working'
Variety

Performing Arts

Presenting

Ashwabay Alliance announces leadership and programming changes
Business North

Theater/Opera

Now Accepting Applications: 2027-28 Shakespeare in American Communities
Arts Midwest and the National Endowment for the Arts
Phase 1 Deadline: January 26 (Eligibility Review)
Phase 2 Deadline: February 9 (Final Applications)

Other

Beware scope creep - As Halloween approaches, be wary of creeping, crawling, sprawling goals.
ArtsManaged Field Notes

How to Build a Trusting Board Chair-CEO Partnership
NonProfit Pro

Stop calling gifts 'transformational.' Say what they'll change.
The Chronicle of Philanthropy

Nonprofit Leaders: Showing Up in AI Search Results Is Manageable
Blue Avocado

Will AI Be a Force Multiplier for the Social Sector?
Stanford Social Innovation Review

Ford's 'absolutely seismic' reboot comes into focus
The Chronicle of Philanthropy

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

New exhibit to start at Racine Artists Gallery in November
Wisconsin State Journal
November 4 – 28 | Exhibit
November 6 | Artist Reception

BLOOM is November 6-8 at Museum of Wisconsin Art in West Bend, Wi
Washington County Insider
November 6 – 8

Arts and Creativity in Education

Lake Mills fall musical coming up
Leader Independent
November 6 – 8

Community Arts

Native Art Market 2026
Arts + Literature Lab
November 14

Literary Arts/Libraries

Madison Public Library Announces 2026 Naturalist-in-Residence; Programs Begin November 5
City of Madison
November 5 – December 21

Performing Arts

Music

Present Music Is 45 And Feisty As Ever
Urban Milwaukee
October 30

Presenting

Wisconsin Roots, Brazilian Music
WORT
November 1 (Whitewater), 2 (Madison), 3 (Stevens Point)

Alison Brown Quintet
Stoughton Opera House
November 13

Theater/Opera

Annie takes the stage at Capitol Theater
Wisconsin State Journal
Through November 1

OPPORTUNITIES

NEW A Spotlight On Young Musicians & 'Cosmic Connections'
Volume One Magazine
Deadline: January 2

NEW Best Communities for Music Education
NAMM Foundation
Deadline: January 5

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

Residency Opportunities | October + November
Artist Communities Alliance
Various | October + November

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

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

2027 ACC Fellowships and Grants
Asian Cultural Council
Applications Accepted: Through November 10

Fresh Water Press seeks stories of lakeshore life for new anthology
Manitowoc Herald Times Reporter
Submit Through December 15

Wisconsin Creates Statewide K-12 Art Competition
School Choice Wisconsin
Deadline: Art received from October 19 – 30

Craft at the Archives of American Art
Smithsonian's Archives of American Art
October 29

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

Small Works Open Call
Carnelian Art Gallery
Deadline: November 2026

NEW Help Choose Milwaukee County's Next Public Art Award Winner
Urban Milwaukee
Nominations Accepted November 1 – December 31

2027 Joy Grant
Joy Engine
Deadline: November 2

Now Accepting Applications for GIG Fund: Interstate Touring
Arts Midwest
Phase 1 Deadline | November 4
Phase 2 Deadline | November 17

A Regional Juried Call for Art: Here & Now
Bristol Art Museum, OnlineJuriedShows.com
Submission Deadline: November 8

Indigenous Wisconsin: Beyond Acknowledgement
Madison365
November 9 - December 11 | Exhibition

Enter Now: Wisconsin's Own Screenplay Competition
International Screenwriters Association
November 10 | Early Entry Deadline
December 23 | Normal Entry Deadline
January 20 | Late Entry Deadline

Submit an NEA Jazz Masters Fellowship Nomination
National Endowment for the Arts
Deadline: November 12

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

Racine Art Museum's "Accidentally Wes Anderson" exhibit asks visitors to find Wisconsin's cinematic beauty
Milwaukee Independent
Submission Deadline: November 15

Call for Applications: ACRE Summer Artist Residency Program
ACRE Projects
Deadline: November 16

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

Music Education Partnership Grants
Chorus America
Deadline: November 20

Levitt Family Foundation's 2027 Festival Grants
Levitt Family Foundation
Deadline: November 20

A National Juried Call for Collage Art: Torn Boundaries
Bristol Art Museum, OnlineJuriedShows.com
Submission Deadline: November 29

18th Annual International Drawing Discourse Exhibition
Creative West
Submission Deadline: November 29

Bristol Art Museum Announces National Call for Collage for Torn Boundaries
Bristol Art Museum
Deadline: November 29

Kenosha seeks nominations for lifetime achievement
Wisconsin State Journal, Kenosha News
Deadline: November 30 (For Kenosha County Residents)

Anthony Quinn Foundation Scholarship
Anthony Quinn Foundation
November 30 | Registration Deadline
January 5 | Application Deadline

Exhibiting Craft History through Archival Research
Smithsonian's Archives of American Art
December 2

Open call for your artists: Down the Lane Artist Residency, Melbourne, March 2027
Down the Lane Studios
Deadline: December 20

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

Now Accepting Applications: 2027-28 National Endowment for the Arts Big Read
Arts Midwest
January 12 | Phase 1 Deadline
January 26 | Final Deadline

NEW Now Accepting Applications: 2027-28 Shakespeare in American Communities
Arts Midwest and the National Endowment for the Arts
Phase 1 Deadline: January 26 (Eligibility Review)
Phase 2 Deadline: February 9 (Final Applications)

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

Gallery Q sets submission deadline for Culture & Agriculture exhibit
Stevens Point Journal
Deadline: January 31

Group Glass Show
Carnelian Art Gallery
Submission Deadline: March 1

2027 Pro Musica International Choral Festival
Albany Pro Musica
July 19 - 24 | Kingston, Ontario Canada

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

* * * *