

Board of Visitors

Maggie Allesee

Jeanne Bieri

Arthur Bryant

Elizabeth DuMouchelle

Jane Fitzgibbon-Dermidoff

David Getto

Ron Harwood

Howard Hertz

Daniel Kanter

Emery King

Barbara Kratchman

Edward Lapham

Michael Layne

Alan Lichtenstein

Christina Lovio-George

Navia McCloud

Susan Nine

Richard Strowger

Lisa Vallee-Smith

Marilyn Wheaton

Barbara Whittaker



Margaret A. (Maggie) Allesee

Since moving to Michigan in 1969, Maggie Allesee's contributions as a volunteer, philanthropist, community and civic leader have been vast and varied. Through her work with numerous organizations she has touched the lives of countless Michiganders including those associated with the American Lung Association, American Red Cross, Girl Scouts of Metropolitan Detroit, Hospice of Michigan, Junior League of Birmingham, March of Dimes and the Women's Survival Center. An avid supporter of the arts, she has also served as a board member with cultural groups such as the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, Detroit Metropolitan Dance Project, Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall, Meadow Brook, Michigan Opera Theatre, Music Hall, Eisenhower Dance Ensemble, Cranbrook Academy of Art and Wayne State University.



Mrs. Allesee currently sits on the boards of several organizations including the Wayne State University Foundation Board, Cultural Council of Birmingham-Bloomfield, Detroit Historical Society, FanClub Foundation for the Arts, Oakland University Foundation and Oakland University School of Nursing. Maggie has also been a member of the Hilberry Understudies for a number of years and also helped launch a new volunteer group at Wayne State University the Choreographers. The Choreographers are the primary community support group for the Maggie Allesee Department of Dance.

Mrs. Allesee firmly believes in staying active and in giving back to the community. Not only does she donate her time, talents and knowledge, but she is also a generous financial contributor to many organizations, particularly in the arts and education. She has given individual gifts of \$1 million or more to Michigan Opera Theatre, Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall, The Parade Company, Cranbrook Academy of Art, Oakland University School of Nursing to establish a chair in Gerontology and Florida State University to establish the Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography (MANCC) as well as a \$2 million gift to establish the Maggie Allesee Department of Dance at Wayne State University and a \$1.5 million gift to establish the Bob Allesee (Allison) Endowed Chair in Media Studies. Mrs. Allesee was recognized for her \$3 million gift to Hospice of Michigan with the unveiling of the Maggie Allesee Center for Quality of Life. Maggie's latest project has been her support of the Women's Survival Center and their child-care center in Pontiac, Maggie's Rising Stars, a relationship which Maggie began as an intern fulfilling her degree requirements as a masters degree student at WSU in 1982.

For her service and contributions to the community, Mrs. Allesee has received many honors including the Michigan Humanitarian of the Year Award, the 2000 Arts Advocate honor at the WSU Arts Achievement Awards, Project Hope Lifetime Achievement Award, the United Way Heart of Gold Award, Champion of Hope Award from the National Kidney foundation, Northwood University Distinguished Women, and the Stanley Kresge Philanthropy award by the Detroit Rotary Club, just to name a few honors bestowed in recent years.

A former journalist and school teacher, Maggie graduated from Florida State University with a bachelor's degree in English and journalism. She received both a master's degree in education, guidance and counseling and a post master's degree in gerontology from Wayne State University. In 2002 she received an honorary doctorate from Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University, where she established the Department of Metals and Jewelry and from WSU at Fall Commencement, 2002.

Mrs. Allesee has been a member of the Board of Visitors for the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts at Wayne State University since 2001.