

# Board of Visitors

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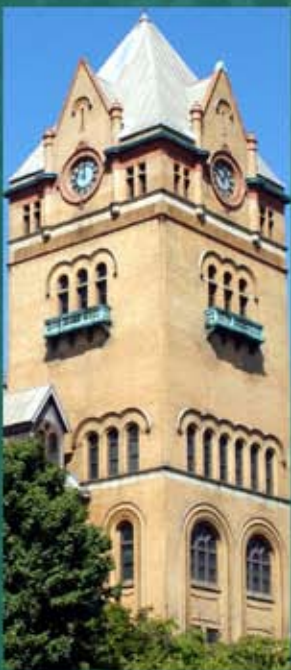
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## Marilyn L. Wheaton

Marilyn L. Wheaton is recognized nationally, regionally and locally as a leader in arts advocacy. She is a frequent public speaker and is well known for her volunteer work in the nonprofit community.

Wheaton's 34-year career has been almost exclusively in the arts and cultural arena. For eight years she served at the request of two mayors as the director of the City of Detroit's Cultural Affairs Department where she shaped policy and strategic planning to chart the course for the department.

Since leaving city government two years ago, Wheaton has been working as a consultant in strategic planning, communication strategies and organizational development. In 2007 Wheaton became director of the Marshall M. Frederick Museum at Saginaw Valley State University.

Her eleven-years as the director of Michigan's statewide arts advocacy organization took her to Lansing and Washington regularly to lobby on behalf of the National Endowment for the Arts and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs. She garnered numerous friends and gained respect and recognition nationally and regionally as a voice of reason for the arts in the U.S.

Wheaton has published articles on various arts related topics, and *The Detroit Artists Market, 1932-1982: A Partnership in Creativity*, a fifty-year history of Detroit's largest and oldest nonprofit art gallery. She was the subject of one of the Michigan Opera Theatre's *Oral Histories of Legendary Detroiters* in 2001.

Wheaton has served on the boards of dozens of national, state and local organizations. In 2001 she was asked by the Mayor of Detroit to serve as one of forty Detroit 300 commissioners to plan the city's tercentennial celebrations. She has received numerous awards for her work in the arts in Michigan and was named one of *Detroit's 100 Most Influential Women* by Crain's Detroit Business in 2002.

She has been a member of the Board of Visitors for the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts at Wayne State University since April 2005.

