



*Talbot County Arts Council*

**Biographical Roster of  
Board of Directors and Executive Director**

**Fiscal Year 2019**

# TALBOT COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

## Board of Directors for FY 2019

### **ROBERT J. FORLONEY, PRESIDENT**

**101 West Marengo Street, St. Michaels, MD 21663**

**Home/Cell 410-463-2293/ E-Mail robert.forloney@gmail.com**

Robert Forloney was raised in Rhode Island and moved to New York City, where he received a BFA from Parsons School of Design, Art Education K-12 certification from Bank Street College of Education, and later a masters in humanities and social thought from New York University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. He used his experience in installation art as the display manager for Urban Outfitters in Greenwich Village and then as the production coordinator at Barney's New York, developing and creating its world-famous window displays, before transferring his skills to the museum field. He has been an educator for more than 20 years, serving as a teacher for the New York City Museum School as well as an artist, educator, administrator and consultant at institutions such as the Brooklyn Museum of Art, the Museum of the City of New York, the Morgan Library, American Museum of Natural History, South Street Seaport Museum, and the Museum of Modern Art. He is actively engaged in the museum community to strengthen the field and promote institutional collaboration. Working with the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Museum of Modern Art, he created a group called the Museum Access Consortium who act as advocates for increased awareness of visitors' needs and seek to improve accessibility in terms of both the physical environment and programming. Robert also worked with the Center for Arts Education's peer advisory panels assessing proposals for the Parents As Arts Partners grant program and conducting art teacher workshops on visual literacy. In past years he has served on the Traditional and Folk Arts Review Panel for the Maryland State Arts Council, assessing grant proposals from statewide organizations. He has been on the board of the Arts Council since 2013 and became secretary in 2014, vice president in 2016, and president in 2017.

### **NANCY S. LARSON, VICE PRSIDENT**

**28613 Clubhouse Drive, Easton, MD 21601**

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Nancy Stoughton Larson was born in Evanston, Illinois, and raised in Milwaukee. The arts were always important in the Stoughton household--symphony, theater and museums. She studied both piano and clarinet during her school years and was also an apprentice for a professional summer stock theater company. She earned a degree in nursing from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and worked in that field for 20 years, ending as a director of nursing services. The one constant during that time was her love of music, and when her husband, Bruce, was transferred from the Northwest to the East Coast, she decided to make a career change. Nancy earned a BA in music history and literature and a MS in music education from Towson University, where she afterward taught for 12 years as an adjunct faculty member. One of her most popular teaching assignments was *Women in Western Music*, and she also taught the *History of Baltimore through the Arts* and an *Introduction to Music History*. The Larsons moved to Easton in 2013 and she has since been involved with Chesapeake Music, primarily as co-chair of the International Chamber Music Competition Committee. She is delighted with this involvement as it allows her to support marvelous, talented young musicians as they make their way in the very competitive field of classical music. She is well aware of this challenge as son Eric has traveled this road and is now a member of the Houston Symphony. Nancy and Bruce are exploring all the artistic riches this region has to offer. They have also discovered curling—the “hottest sport on ice”—belonging to the Chesapeake Curling Club. She joined the board in 2016 and became secretary in 2017 and vice president in 2018.

**PATRICK ROGAN, SECRETARY**

**410 August Street, Easton, Maryland 21601**

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Patrick Rogan was born in Florida and lived in Washington, D.C. for 17 years before moving to Easton in 2005. He has BA and MFA degrees in painting from The Catholic University of America and was trained as an exhibition designer at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History. He has taught painting and design at Catholic University, George Washington University, and Maryland Institute College of Art. In 1999, he co-founded Signal 66 Art Space in Washington, a public venue for music, theater, and visual art exhibitions. He later created Assemble, a 501c3 that helps institutions and communities tell their stories. Assemble's past work includes major exhibitions at Maryland Science Center, Longwood Gardens, and the National Building Museum. As a local volunteer with *Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area* (Eastern Shore Heritage, Inc.), he contributed design services to the Tunis Mills Community History Project (2006), Tilghman Island Watermen's Museum (2007), and the Easton Rail Station Interpretive Panel Project (2011). He continues to collaborate with Historic Easton, Inc. and the Frederick Douglass Honor Society to document African American history and culture in Talbot County. Patrick has also worked professionally with the Academy Art Museum for the exhibition, *Joint Heritage: Archeology at Wye House Plantation* and has collaborated with the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, Environmental Concern, and Horn Point Laboratory to create environmental education programs. Recently, he designed the new multimedia exhibition *Living on Land and Water* in the historic Mary Jenkins House for the Talbot Historical Society, and is an interpretative planner in Easton for *The Hill Community Project*. He joined the board in 2016 and became secretary in 2018.

**CAROL GORDEAN, TREASURER**

**7144 Solitude Road, St. Michaels, Maryland 21663**

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Carol Gordean is an artist, born and raised in Los Angeles. She received a BA from the University of Oregon and spent a year in Florence studying Italian at the Accademia d'Arte. She became a social worker for the Department of Public Social Services in Los Angeles and later worked with the Pacific Chapter of the United Nations Association in various capacities including program coordinator, and member of the board of directors. She also volunteered at the California Self-Help Center at UCLA and became a member of the prestigious Artist Co-Op 7. She and her husband Bill moved to the Eastern Shore in 1997, where she became one of the founders of the Talbot Cinema Society and still acts as its treasurer. Carol believes that one of the functions of art is to renew and reinvestigate our perception of the world. She was co-chair of ArtWorks for Freedom/Easton event using the arts to raise consciousness about the issue of human trafficking and modern day slavery. She is a board member of Artistic Insights Fund of the Mid Shore Community Foundation. She joined the Arts Council Board in 2013 and became treasurer in 2016.

**DIRCK K. BARTLETT, TALBOT COUNTY COUNCIL**

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Dirck Bartlett was born and raised in Baltimore, although his family has roots on the Eastern Shore dating back more than 300 years. He graduated from The Gilman School in Baltimore in 1982 and earned a BA from Denison University in 1986. That same year he helped start a family-owned business, Ilex Construction & Development, Inc., which builds and renovates architect-designed houses in Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, and West Virginia. In 1994, he also helped start a family-owned woodworking and cabinet company in Easton called Ilex Woodworking, Inc. In 1998 he and wife Christy and two children moved to Talbot County. He was elected to the County Council in 2006, 2010, and again in 2014, while still employed by Ilex Construction and Woodworking, Inc. His interests include his now-adult twins Peter and Katherine, outdoor and water sports, sailing, hunting, and not-very-successful fishing. He was

formerly president of the Talbot Preservation Alliance, Citizens for Sound Growth, and the Talbot County Historical Trust, as well as senior warden of Christ Church Episcopal in Easton and treasurer of the Academy Art Museum. He has also been as a member of the boards of directors of Historic Easton and the Talbot Historical Society. He became the County Council representative on the board of the Arts Council in December 2014.

### **SANDY BEMIS**

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Sandy Bemis was born in Minneapolis but raised in Southern California, where she graduated from St. Bernardine's High School, continued her education at the Los Angeles campus of Immaculate Heart College, and earned a degree in elementary education from San Diego State University. She taught in the San Diego school system until a daughter was born, followed by a son two years later. A job move took her and husband Dick to Ohio and a small farm where she began her career as a hobby farmer, crafter, sewer, quilter, and finally shop owner with two friends. They taught classes in all forms of quilting and fabric-related decorative pieces. During the time in Ohio she spent a number of years in the school system as a learning disability tutor. Their move to Easton in 1987 brought time to restore an old house in downtown Easton, and for Sandy to join with 15 women to form the organization called Bayside Quilters, which is now 195 members strong. She has served it in many capacities including two years as president as well as on the membership and hospitality committees. A small group called the Fiber Arts Bee has been a source of great artistic exploration through their creative and adventurous work with paint, fabric, and other fiber mediums. Sandy has taught quilting at Lilies of the Field, the Easton YMCA, and through Bayside Quilters. In 2013 she was chairman of A Quilted Garden, which showed the creative work of our local quilters during a three-day show at two locations in Oxford. For 10 years she has also worked at a studio called Fancywork Finishing, which designs and paints needlepoint canvasses commissioned by churches across the United States. She joined the board in 2013, became secretary in 2016, and was vice president during 2017-2018.

### **ANN E. DeMART**

**1205 Jefferson Avenue, St. Michaels, MD 21663**

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Ann DeMart is a freelance writer and marketing consultant for clients including the Arts Schools Network and other non-profits, as well as a variety of businesses. Ann was born and raised in the Buffalo, NY area, and earned a BA in art history from the State University of New York at Albany. She then moved to Washington, DC, did graduate studies in art history at The George Washington University and later worked at the National Gallery of Art, where she coordinated the metropolitan-area school tours. While attending GWU, she worked in the University's public relations department and medical center, and developed an interest in both healthcare and communications. After working at Georgetown University Medical Center, she began a long career in healthcare information technology, eventually serving as the marketing director for companies in Chicago and San Francisco. She returned to the East Coast in 2002 and began a new career as a writer and creative director for an advertising agency that had a large healthcare system client. Ann has lived in St. Michaels since 2009. She is a current board member, and former Marketing Chair, for the Academy for Lifelong Learning at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, and is a member of the St. Michaels Art League and Eastern Shore Writers Association. She is also a painter who regularly exhibits with Barbara Jablin's Chestnut Street Studio artists and the Art League. She joined the board in 2018.

**ANN H. FARLEY****410 Parsonage Lane, St. Michaels, MD 21663****Home/Cell 410-253-0967/ E-Mail [annhfarley@gmail.com](mailto:annhfarley@gmail.com)**

Ann Farley has a BS with honors in biology from Duke University and an MBA from Florida State University. She and husband Greg moved to the Eastern Shore in 2003, where daughter Lauren was born a year later. Previously she worked as a business consultant, educator, and environmental advocate. Ann facilitates arts programs in the local community, organizing cultural arts performers for schools and promoting events with Carpe Diem Arts. She is the executive director of the Tilghman Area Youth Association, a small non-profit bringing quality afterschool enrichment, meaningful school assemblies, healthy meals, and fun events to the Tilghman Island community. As an artist herself, Ann enjoys creating whimsical works inspired by her small town and her love for all things tropical. Her three-dimensional paper designs of bright colors and fun shapes are all individually cut by hand. Ann works in cut paper, collage, mixed media, and glass fusing. She has exhibited in numerous local and regional shows and her artistic banners have hung in downtown St. Michaels and Easton. Her work can be found at Candleberry Gallery in St. Michaels, The Green Phoenix and Le Hatchery in Easton, Dorchester Center for the Arts Gift Shop in Cambridge, and RiverArts Gift Shop in Chestertown. Ann's background is in science and business, but she's always been an artist at heart. She joined the board in 2016.

**WILLIAM P. PEAK, JR.****8945 High Banks Drive, Easton, MD 21601****Home/Cell 443-786-0391/ Work 410-822-1626/ E-Mail [mcpeak@tcfl.org](mailto:mcpeak@tcfl.org)&[williampeak19@gmail.com](mailto:williampeak19@gmail.com)**

Bill is the author of *The Oblate's Confession*, which has won a number of national awards and been named to *Kirkus Review's* Best Books of 2015 list. He works as the communications manager for the Talbot County Free Library. Bill's library column is published on the first Sunday of each month in *The Star Democrat*. His prose and poetry have been published in various literary reviews and he has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize in poetry. Bill grew up in Louisville. He received his bachelor's degree from Washington and Lee University and his master's from the creative writing program at Hollins University. Before moving to the Eastern Shore in 1994, he worked as a writer for the National Association of Broadcasters in Washington, D.C. Since 1989 he has done freelance work writing exhibit scripts for area museums. His work can be seen in The National Building Museum and the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, among others. Bill is a member of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church and a past member of the parish council. He is married to Melissa McLoud, Ph.D., who teaches in the graduate program at Goucher College and works as a guest curator in museums across the country. He and Melissa enjoy reading, birding, bicycling, kayaking, and each other. He served previously on the Arts Council from 2010-2106 and rejoined the board in 2017.

**CINDY REED****P. O. Box 535 (114 First Street), Oxford, MD 21654****Home 410-226-5795/ Cell 410-310-7442 / E-Mail [cindy@oxfordmd.com](mailto:cindy@oxfordmd.com)**

Cindy Reed is a Long Islander who received a BA in psychology from Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, and an MA in counseling from George Washington University. She taught special ed for a combined 30 years in Prince George's, Talbot, and Caroline Counties. Though she has a long family history in Talbot County, their love of sailing brought Cindy and husband Jim to Oxford. They dinghied ashore in 1982 and have been full-time residents ever since. She has been active with Tred Avon Players (onstage, backstage and 12 years on the Executive Board) and the Oxford Community Center (10 years on the board, eight years as Art Chair of the annual Fine Arts @ Oxford, and currently a willing volunteer). Cindy served for eight years on the board of the Mid-Shore Symphony Society, wears several hats for both Plein Air-Easton and Talbot Hospice, and is a sometime-oil painter and a fulltime cat-lover of Cody, Wyatt, and Benton. She joined the board in 2013.

**MARY ANN SCHINDLER**

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Mary Ann Schindler was raised in Louisville and graduated cum laude with a BA from Trinity College in Washington, D.C. She first pursued a career in commercial art, editing, and writing. She moved to Alexandria, Virginia, in the late 70's, where she added specialties in art direction and free-lance illustration and eventually went into business for herself serving both national and regional clients. She is married to Martin Hughes, one of the original tenants of the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Upon moving to the Eastern Shore in 1999 she retired from commercial work and now devotes herself to non-commercial art on a full time basis--pursuing painting, sculpture, mixed media, and installation. Her work has appeared in regional galleries and in the D.C. Metro area. A solo show, "Totems and Touchstones," was exhibited at the Academy Art Museum in 2014. Her work can be seen at Davis Art Center in Easton, Opal Gallery in Leonardtown, and Main Street Gallery in Cambridge. She has been involved in volunteer work for a number of local organizations, including Chesapeake Music, the Cinema Society, Academy Art Museum, Rehoboth Art League, Festival of Trees, and the Cambridge Main Street Arts District initiative. She is a member of the AAM Collectors' Society, a sponsor of the new AAM Artist-in-Residence program, co-chaired the ArtWorks for Freedom/Easton exhibit at the Waterfowl Building in 2017, and is a member of the board of the Artistic Insights Fund of the Mid-Shore Community Foundation. She joined the board in 2018.

**AMELIA BLADES STEWARD**

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Amy Steward was born in Easton and has a BA in English/Communications from Hood College in Frederick. In 1999, after returning from working on the western shore in historic preservation, she began work in health care marketing at MGW School of Nursing and eventually Shore Health System. She then founded Steward Writing & Communications, a boutique freelance writing firm in Easton, providing marketing, writing and editing services for non-profit and for-profit companies and local governments. Her non-fiction articles, covering the arts, the environment, tourism, health care, and social services, have appeared in national, regional, and local publications for over 30 years. She has helped numerous clients tell their stories of help, hope and compassion for those less fortunate across the region. She is a graduate of the Shore Leadership Program, Class of 2005, and received the Alfred Knight Award in 2001 for media placement and a 1996 Telly Award for a nursing school video. She is active in St. Mark's United Methodist Church, and has served on the boards of Character Counts Mid Shore, Maryland Life Magazine, Talbot Partnership, and Channel Marker. She is currently president of Talbot Community Connections, having served on the board since 2011, serves on the Marketing Committees of For All Seasons and for Talbot Hospice. She resides in Easton with her husband, Eric, and her two sons, who both benefited from Talbot Arts Council Summer Arts Scholarships to study what turned out to be their chosen professional fields. She joined the board in 2018.

**CARL M. TANKERSLEY**

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Carl Tankersley was born to an Air Force family in Greenville, South Carolina. Moving frequently in the years following World War II as air bases were closed, they eventually settled in Hampton, Virginia. The family also joined their father for overseas tours in Tokyo and Paris. Carl attended the last three years of high school in Northern Virginia and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1969. He received a master's degree in aeronautical engineering from the Naval Post-Graduate School in 1974. His 23-year Naval career included three operational tours flying the A-7E Corsair II from aircraft carriers and shore duty at the Naval Air Systems Command, the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, and the Office of

the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development, and Acquisition. As a consultant after the Navy, he provided engineering, analysis, and program management support to multiple military aircraft, weapons, and communications systems as a consultant. He and his wife Nancy owned the South Street Art Gallery from June 2004 to December 2016 and continue to run a school providing workshops by nationally-known painters for local and regional artists. He has been active in the Easton and Talbot County fine arts community for 16+ years, serving as a board member for the Avalon Foundation for six years (vice president the last year) and volunteering for the Plein Air Easton and Waterfowl Festivals. He joined the board in 2017.

**JOLYN THOMPSON**

**11430 Kyle Court, Cordova, MD 21625**

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Jolyn Thompson is a native of Buffalo, New York. Her fond memories of childhood include many evenings at Shea's Performing Arts Center attending live performances and tap dancing for 15 years at Western New York Academy of Dance. She attended high school at Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart and studied French language and culture at the State University of New York at Buffalo. After realizing her passion was for working with young children, she decided to make a career move and later earned her degree in early childhood education from Salisbury University. After moving to Easton she taught first grade at Chapel District Elementary School for five years until 2012, when she decided to take time off to focus on her family. In 2017, she became a preschool teacher at Christ Church Day School in Easton. She loves travel, the fine arts (particularly live plays and dance performances), libraries, cultural anthropology, cooking, multicultural literacy, children's literature and teaching young children. She resides in Cordova with Lamont, her husband of 8 years, and stays on her toes with their two young, inspiring, and spirited daughters Gabriella and Giuliana. She joined the board in 2017.

**SHEILA A. WAINWRIGHT**

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Sheila Wainwright was born and raised in Delaware where she graduated from Goldey Beacom School of Business. In her early 20's she moved to Talbot County and served as admin for several interesting, smart, and involved area businessmen. In 1986 she began a career with William David Hill which involved the construction of several commercial buildings, property managing commercial and residential properties, preparing financial information, and performing logistical duties for several companies. She was an organizer and director of Easton Bancorp and Easton Bank & Trust, a partner in real estate-related partnerships, and attended the Hilton Hotel General Manager training. She serves on the board of Talbot County Paramedic Foundation, which supports the local paramedics and EMTs through fund raising and political contacts. She is past board president of Evergreen Cove. She was memorial chairman of Talbot County Branch of American Heart Association for many years, on the board of the Maritime Festival, and volunteers for Chesapeake Film Festival, Festival of Trees, First Night Talbot, and the Waterfowl Festival. She was a part of the initial ensemble of ArtHouse Live, a local theatre troupe, and on the board of Community Alliance for Performing Arts (CAPA) in Easton. Since 1998 she has had the opportunity to perform on stage, produce, stage manage, and tech for various local performances, including three Talbot County Habitat for Humanity Follies, seven ArtHouse Live productions, various TAP and CAPA productions along with others including a Chesapeake College Christmas show and the Disability Collation. Sheila feels getting children involved in stage or other arts helps keep them from going astray. She is grateful for being introduced to theater. She joined the board in 2017.

## President Emeritus

### ANDREW H. ANDERSON

**29995 Bolingbroke Lane, Trappe, MD 21673**

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Andy Anderson was born and raised in New York City. He completed a military career covering four decades, from enlistment in the State Guard at age 15 during World War II, to commissioning as a National Guard officer in 1951 and beginning active duty during the Korean Conflict, to being severely wounded in action as an infantry battalion commander during the Vietnam War, to retiring as a major general in 1986. His final assignments were as Deputy Inspector General of the U.S. Army, Deputy Commanding General of VII Corps in Europe, and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command and Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. He earned a BA degree from Park University in Missouri, an MS degree from George Washington University, and is a graduate of the U.S. Army War College. He is listed in *Who's Who in America* and has been awarded the George Washington Honor Medal for individual achievement by the Freedom Foundation of Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. In 2002, the Secretary of the Army named him Honorary Colonel of the 5th Infantry Regiment, and in 2004 he was elected to a two-year term as President of the 25th Infantry Division Association. He was a member of the Talbot County Council from 1990 to 1998, ending this period as its vice president, during which time he was also on the board of the Talbot County Arts Council. He was again member of the board of the Arts Council from 2001 through 2007, culminating this service as president. His third period of service on the Arts Council was from 2008-2014, during which he was chairman of the Mini-Grant Committee and the Nominating and Bylaws Committee. His other civic activities include service as a director of the Talbot County Paramedic Foundation, member of the Maryland Veterans Home Commission, president emeritus of the Upper Eastern Shore Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America, photography chairman of the Waterfowl Festival, and election judge (Republican).

## Executive Director

### GERALD H. EARLY

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Gerry Early grew up in Montana, was drafted at age 19, and spent the next 35 years in the United States Army. A senior paratrooper and jumpmaster, he served with the 173d Airborne Brigade in Vietnam, the 82d Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C., the 3d Armored Division in Germany, and as commander, 8th Personnel Command in Korea while concurrently commander of Camp Coiner in Seoul. He was twice on the Army General Staff at the Pentagon. His final assignments before retiring as a colonel were as professor of management and later director of academic affairs for the National Defense University at Fort Lesley J. McNair in Washington, D.C. During this time he led a joint-service team of military educators to Africa to help establish what is now the Nigerian National Defence College. He has a BS from Arizona State University, master's degrees from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and is a graduate of the National War College. During 1993-98 he was executive director of the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University. CARA conducts surveys and other social science-based studies for clients such as the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Catholic Charities USA, dioceses and parishes nationwide, and religious institutes of monks and nuns. He founded and continues to write *The CARA Report*, an award-winning quarterly research newsletter. In 1998, he and his wife Michaela moved to the Eastern Shore and built a house on Glebe Creek near Easton, from where they moved to Cooke's Hope in late 2017. He enjoys biking, reading, crossword puzzles, and his loveable but incorrigible little dog Maya. He has been executive director of the Arts Council since January 1999.