

GOVERNOR

Scott Walker

Board Chairperson

Barbara Lawton
Algoma

Vice-Chairperson

Bruce Bernberg
Racine

Secretary

Paul Meinke
Green Bay

BOARD MEMBERS

Storm G. Elser
Chenequa

Susan Friebert
Milwaukee

James H. Hall
Milwaukee

Jerry Hembd
Superior

John Hendricks
Sparta

Deborah Janz
Spencer

Helen R. Klebesadel
Madison

Nick Meyer
Eau Claire

Barbara E. Munson
Mosinee

Glenda P. Noel-Ney
Madison

Sharon Stewart
Washburn

Robert A. Wagner
Milwaukee

Executive Director

George T. Tzougros

Phone (608) 266-0190

Fax (608) 267-0380

artsboard@artsboard.wisconsin.gov

www.artsboard.wisconsin.gov

CONTACT:

Anne Pryor
Folk and Traditional Arts Specialist
(608) 266-8106
anne.pryor@wisconsin.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Researchers Surveying Traditional Arts in Region

Madison, WI -- April 6, 2011-- Researchers for the Folk and Traditional Arts Program of the Wisconsin Arts Board are surveying the traditional arts in northeast Wisconsin through June 2011. The project is made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Folklorists Anne Fraioli and Mark Livengood are documenting traditional artists who represent their communities and who may benefit from Arts Board programs, including the Folk Arts Apprenticeship Program, Midwest Folklife Festival, and the Wisconsin Folks website, www.wisconsinfolks.org. The photos and interviews they generate through this research will become part of the permanent collect of the Arts Board.

Fraioli has documented regional music traditions in Wisconsin and teaches music in the Milwaukee Public School system. Livengood documented regional traditions in Leelanau County, Michigan, and works at the Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures at UW-Madison.

The Arts Board welcomes suggestions of cultural artists that Fraioli and Livengood could contact, or who would like more information on available programs for traditional, ethnic, regional and folk artists.

The Wisconsin Arts Board is the state agency which nurtures creativity, cultivates expression, promotes the arts, supports arts in education, stimulates community and economic development and serves as a resource for people of every culture and heritage.

GOVERNOR
James E. Doyle

Board Chairperson
Lt. Governor Barbara Lawton
Algoma

Vice-Chairperson
Bruce Bernberg
Racine

Secretary
Paul Meinke
Green Bay

BOARD MEMBERS

Storm G. Elser
Chenequa

Susan Friebert
Milwaukee

James H. Hall
Milwaukee

Jerry Hembd
Superior

John Hendricks
Sparta

Deborah Janz
Spencer

Helen R. Klebesadel
Madison

Nick Meyer
Eau Claire

Barbara E. Munson
Mosinee

Glenda P. Noel-Ney
Madison

Sharon Stewart
Washburn

Robert A. Wagner
Milwaukee

Executive Director
George T. Tzougros

Phone (608) 266-0190

Fax (608) 267-0380

artsboard@artsboard.wisconsin.gov

www.artsboard.wisconsin.gov

Dear Artist:

December 1, 2010

This is a letter of introduction to our agency, Wisconsin Arts Board, and our contract fieldworker, Anne Fraioli.

The Wisconsin Arts Board is the state agency which nurtures creativity, cultivates expression, promotes the arts, supports the arts in education, stimulates community and economic development and serves as a resource for people of every culture and heritage. WAB has a Folk and Traditional Arts Program designed to support artists like you.

Every so often, WAB's Folk and Traditional Arts Program hires fieldworkers to explore a part of the state to identify artists who might benefit from participation in and support from our program. That is what Anne is doing through her research in Northeastern Wisconsin this year. Anne is a folklorist who specializes in studying traditional arts, especially music. She is currently based in Milwaukee as a music teacher in the Milwaukee Public Schools, and working on a (PhD) degree at UW-Madison. She is working with us through June 2011.

By agreeing to be interviewed by Anne, we will have the information that we need to better support your efforts. Some of the WAB programs that might be of interest to you include:

- The Wisconsin Folks website. This is a juried roster of traditional, ethnic and folk artists. The main purpose of the website is to inform about Wisconsin's wonderful traditional artists. Some artists have been hired for school or library jobs through their listing; others without their own website use it for promotional purposes. See www.wisconsinfolks.org.
- The Folk Arts Apprenticeship Program. This is an award of \$3,000 that would support you taking on an apprentice so that you can pass on your knowledge and skills. The deadline to apply is March 20, 2011. See <http://artsboard.wisconsin.gov/subcategory.asp?linksubcatid=3330&linkcatid=3398&linkid=1653&locid=171> for details.
- The Midwest Folklife Festival. This annual festival rotates between partnering states to highlight artists and traditions through performance, display, demonstrations, workshops and narrative stages. The next one will be held in Dodgeville, WI on August 20-21, 2011.

- “Technical assistance” workshops. WAB regularly organizes and sponsors workshops on such topics as “The ABCs of Residencies: An Introductory Workshop for Teaching Artists” or “Artists Making a Living” or “How to Write a Grant.”
- Networking. WAB regularly works with regional artists and arts organizations to connect them into supportive, viable networks.

We appreciate the valuable work you’re doing in maintaining Wisconsin’s cultural heritage by continuing your art work and being an active part of your cultural community. We hope that WAB might be of service to you in your aesthetic endeavors.

Sincerely,

Anne Pryor
Folk and Traditional Arts Specialist