

BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH ART

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE INDY ART CENTER

Mary McConnell

Board of Directors, Vice Chair & Building Community through Art Campaign, Chair

Mary McConnell retired in 2019 as the long-time State Director of The Nature Conservancy in Indiana. During Mary's 25 years at the helm of The Nature Conservancy, working with conservation partners, government agencies and universities, she helped to protect 100,000 acres of natural land in the state permanently, pioneer freshwater conservation on the Wabash, White River and other high-quality waterways, and helped to enact legislation and secure appropriations that provided over \$100 million to conservation efforts in the state. In 2010, she spearheaded the construction of the organization's Indiana headquarters in downtown Indianapolis, the first LEED Platinum Certified building in the state. Mary was appointed to the Indiana Heritage Trust by Governor Frank O'Bannon. This governing body oversees the purchase of natural land from funds provided by the sale of Environmental License Plates. In 2013, she was appointed by Governor Daniel's to the Indiana Bicentennial Commission to oversee the year-long celebration of the state's 200th birthday in 2016. In that capacity, she created The Children of Indiana Nature Park, where any child in the state could claim a ceremonial deed for their unique spot in the park. She co-chaired the state-wide torch relay that allowed all 92 counties to nominate their local heroes to carry the torch. Mary was awarded Indiana's highest distinction, The Sagamore of the Wabash, in 2016 by Governor Mike Pence and a second Sagamore in 2019 by Governor Eric Holcomb. In her retirement, she enjoys reading extraordinary literature, hiking, and weaving - a skill she learned at the Indy Art Center.

Mark Williams

President + Executive Director

Mark Williams began his career in the film and advertising industries in New York City. In 1996 he created imagenation, a marketing and branding firm. In 2002 he created Granett Studios, a film, and multi-media production studio. He has written, produced and directed films and video projects ranging from music videos to national television broadcast and feature documentaries; developed and implemented highly successful and recognized marketing and advertising programs for Fortune 100 companies, start-ups and businesses and non-profits of all sizes in between; and has produced national award-winning experiential and exhibitory programming.

He has developed, advised, produced, and directed projects that integrate the moving and projected images with live performances in staged and theatrical environments and for location specific design and display. He has made numerous presentations about his work at industry workshops and conferences and his work has been the subject of several best-practices seminars and panel discussions, including the annual AAM (American Association of Museums) conference. He has directed the production of interactive games as well as overseen the launch of an online branded entertainment network. His library of films and programming has screened on Discover Networks, The Learning Channel, and PBS, among others, and in more than 70 countries.

Mark's commercial and broadcast film and video work has been recognized with numerous Addy's, Telly's and Emmy's. His work has also been recognized with the Award of Merit by the AASLH (American Association for State and Local History), honoring excellence in historical exhibitory programming.

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Mark has been the President + Executive Director of the Indy Art Center since 2020. Prior to leading the Art Center, he served as a board member since 2008, and chaired the board from 2013 to 2015. In addition to his work with the Art Center, Mark served on the Arts Council of Indianapolis task force that created the public art master plan for the city, helped to concept the organization's annual fundraiser and arts season kickoff Start with Art, and developed the Indy Arts Guide, among many other collaborative projects. Other involvement in the local arts community includes, most recently, serving on the boards of Young Actors Theatre and Art with a Heart.

Alli Badgero

Vice President of Development

Alli Badgero joined the team at the Indy Art Center in 2022 with more than a decade of experience in nonprofit management and fundraising. As Vice President of Development, Alli is responsible for securing philanthropic funding for the organization's annual strategic goals and leads the efforts for the Building Community Through Art Campaign, an \$8.8 million initiative – the largest in the organization's history. Alli holds a bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University and a master's from Ball State University.

Armando Garcia

Director of Operations

Armando Garcia serves as current Director of Operations at Indy Art Center, with over 15 years of experience guiding non-profit and private organizations in efficient operations, and facilities management. Armando's recent work included his role as Director of Operations at UMLAUF Sculpture Garden and Museum in Austin, Texas, where he oversaw several restoration projects of historic artist homes and studios while additionally managing day-to-day operations of the museum, events center, and sculpture garden. During his brief tenure with the Indy Art Center, Armando has overseen several capital improvement projects, including the selection, and retrofit of a \$64 thousand high-efficiency boiler system, saving the organization approximately \$8,000 in energy costs in the first year, as well as the successful deployment of \$75,000 upgraded Fire, Burglar, and CCTV monitoring system, ensuring improved safety across the campus.