

TENNESSEE CRAFT

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Tennessee Craft Announces New Governing Board Members

NASHVILLE, TN (February 24, 2021)— Tennessee Craft is pleased to announce eight new additions to the Governing Board for 2021 who will serve a two-year term. Governing Board President Linda M. Nutt says, "Tennessee Craft welcomes new members of the 2021 Governing Board who reflect a love of handmade craft and broad appreciation and knowledge of art." These new members come to their leadership from across the state and represent a wide range of backgrounds and professional experience. Executive Director Kim McCurdy Waag says, "Tennessee Craft staff and statewide chapter members are honored to have the opportunity to work under the volunteer leadership of our newest board members. They truly complement our stellar Governing Board, and we thank them for their commitment and sharing of their time and insights in advancing the arts."

The full list of Governing Board members and our Advisory Council can be found [on our website](#).

New Governing Board Members – 2021

JoEL Levy LoGiudice: VICE-PRESIDENT (Ashland City)



JoEL Levy LoGiudice has a long history with Tennessee Craft as a volunteer, juror, and supporter. Though she is a resident of Middle Tennessee, her relationship with the fine art and handmade craft community is broad within Tennessee and nationally. As a practicing weaver/designer/jewelry maker and bead maker, JoEL is a prolific artist. She is also an in-demand workshop leader at numerous craft schools nationally, sharing her technical and creative skills in various medium manipulation and in design. She is well known in the art/handmade craft community in Tennessee (and beyond) and is actively engaged with individuals and art-based organizations.

Though a practicing artist, JoEl is also a seasoned arts administrator who served as a Vanderbilt University art force for over 30 years. In this role, JoEl oversaw and developed programs that provided students, faculty, and the public with a multitude of creative art and craft workshops and exhibitions, as well as performing arts, musical, and cinematic experiences. Within this realm, JoEl is well known and respected amongst her higher education peers, artists, and members of the community within Tennessee and beyond.

Audry Deal-McEver: MEMBER-AT-LARGE (Nashville)



Audry Deal-McEver is a working artist who derives her support from her full-time studio practice. She is a Nashville, Tennessee, native who works primarily with clay. The majority of her income is earned from sales at high-end art and craft fairs; as a result, she has insight about the Tennessee Craft Fairs compared to other regional events and how sister organizations (nationally) of Tennessee Craft function. As a working artist, Audry has developed event planning and management experience and tends to financial management and marketing of her work as a self-employed person.

Audry has studied and refined her technical skills and creative inspiration via an earned degree in Ceramic Studio Arts from Ohio University and further intensive study and short-term residencies at prominent craft schools. Audry is in demand as an exhibitor of her works. She has had work in over 40 solo and group exhibits throughout the US in diverse venues.

A seasoned instructor, Audry has taught at Middle Tennessee State University and at local/regional community art programs, workshop centers, and Tennessee Craft member workshops. Audry has honed her skills as an instructor with 10+ years of experience as an arts educator in local community education programs in the Nashville area and at nearby regional workshop centers. Additionally, Audry has been continually engaged in community activities. She is active in the local art scene and was President of the Midstate Chapter of Tennessee Craft prior to joining the Tennessee Craft Board.

Cynthia Gadsden: MEMBER-AT-LARGE (Nashville)



Cynthia Gadsden is an Assistant Professor in the Art Department at Tennessee State University in Nashville, Tennessee, where she teaches courses in Art History, African American Art, and African American Film.

Cynthia completed her undergraduate work at Talladega College in Business Administration and Tennessee State University in Studio Art, with an emphasis in Printmaking. Along with an M.A. in Art History from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, she has an M.B.A. from Tennessee State University. She received her Ph.D. in Transformative Studies from the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco, California. Her research explores transformation and the lived experience using the lens of cultural and generational knowing.

Prior to a career in academia, Cynthia spent 10 years in the publishing industry, in the areas of product management, sales, and editorial. During her tenure with Abingdon Press, a well-respected, international press, she worked with numerous authors and edited more than 70 books.

Shaun Giles: MEMBER-AT-LARGE (Old Hickory)



As the Frist Art Museum's community engagement director, Shaun Giles manages community partnerships and supervises educational outreach programs. He develops resource materials, plans professional development for teachers, organizes community exhibitions, and oversees teen programs and college internships.

Giles holds a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction and has been with the Frist Art Museum since 2005. He was recognized by the Tennessee Art Education Association as the 2015 Museum Educator of the Year.

Shaun frequently implements accessible art programs for the general public, including the Frist Art Museum's program at the Tennessee Craft Fair Kids' Tents. He has also served as a grant review panelist for Metro Nashville Arts Commission, Tennessee Arts Commission, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Candace Gooch-Ward: MEMBER-AT-LARGE (Jackson)



Candace Gooch-Ward grew up on her family's fourth-generation farm in rural West Tennessee, bordering the woodlands of Natchez Trace State Park. She hails from a family steeped in the craft tradition, and from a very young age, Candace was taught to appreciate the beauty in craft and the joy in using the handmade.

Candace went on to receive her BFA in Ceramics from Union University in 2015, and she currently operates her own pottery studio out of her home in Jackson, Tennessee. In her studio, she works in small-batch production of her personal work, as well as to serve the Jackson community with commissions and custom orders.

Candace has also served as the Art Department Secretary at Union University since 2014. In this role she also works closely with the Art Gallery Director in coordinating and scheduling gallery exhibitions. Candace is active in her community art scene through the Union University Potters Guild, teaching community classes to learners of all ages, as well as week-long camps for school-age children during the summers. Additionally, Candace serves as both a teaching artist and a volunteer for the DAART program (Disability Arts Access in Rural Tennessee). DAART focuses on teaching adult participants with intellectual and developmental disabilities skills in self-advocacy, confidence, and self-expression through the arts. The program also works to train local Teaching Artists and arts professionals to work with individuals with disabilities, in order to ensure that those in the local community can create and support opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

Kelly Hider: MEMBER-AT-LARGE (Knoxville)



Kelly Hider is a regionally and nationally exhibiting studio artist living in Knoxville, Tennessee. She received her BFA from SUNY Brockport in 2007, and an MFA from the University of Tennessee in 2011. Her work is a response to the subjective nature of vernacular photography. By altering found photographs using photo-editing tools and surface manipulations, Kelly highlights both the presence and absence of subject, and an exposed vulnerability to the passage of time.

No stranger to solo exhibitions of her work or the recipient of awards, Kelly's work has been exhibited in multiple locations within Tennessee; she is also the recipient of numerous grants and an artist award as a Hambidge Fellow and residency at the Hambidge Center in 2019.

Her creative research and studio work demonstrates her commitment and connection to arts in Tennessee. Kelly is also a founding member and resident artist at the Vacuum Shop Studios. Professionally, Kelly is currently the Youth Education Programs Manager at

Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts. In this position, Kelly manages Arrowmont's local programming for kids and young adults, as well as oversees Arrowmont's new ArtReach on the Road program which brings craft education to regional Appalachian K-12 programs in Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, and North Carolina. Before becoming the Youth Education Programs Manager, Kelly also worked in the development department for the historic Tennessee Theater in Knoxville, as well as working as the Gallery Manager at Arrowmont.

Wansoo Kim: MEMBER-AT-LARGE (Clarksville)



Wansoo Kim is an artist, educator, and creative thinker. He was born and raised in South Korea where he received his BFA in Ceramics from Seoul National University of Science and Technology. He earned an MFA in Studio Art from University of Nebraska – Lincoln, and is currently an Assistant Professor of Ceramics at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee.

Before arriving in Tennessee, he participated in a year-long Artist-In-Residence program at Belger Crane Yard Studios in Kansas City. Since moving to the United States in 2013, he has shown his works regularly in national and international exhibitions including the NCECA(National Council on Education For The Ceramic Arts) Annual Exhibitions in both 2019 and 2020.

Vincent Lillegard: MEMBER-AT-LARGE (Nashville)



Vincent Lillegard is a Finance and Real Estate Associate Attorney with Bass, Berry & Sims PLC. His practice focuses on financing transactions, including credit facilities and high-yield debt offerings, and he is responsible for drafting and negotiating loan documents, reviewing company disclosures, and managing diligence teams.

Vincent received his JD from New York University School of Law, where he was Articles Editor for the Journal of Legislation and Public Policy. He previously studied anthropology at Middle Tennessee State University as a Tennessee Hope Scholar with General Assembly Merit Bonus.

Vincent has offered community legal clinics and has served with VISTA and Americorps. He currently resides in Nashville.

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About Tennessee Craft: Tennessee Craft, formerly The Tennessee Association of Craft Artists (TACA), works to continue and create Tennessee's fine craft tradition. With more than 500 members throughout the state, Tennessee Craft serves as the premier connecting point for local, independent makers and their audiences through craft fairs, exhibitions, professional development, networking, mentorship and other educational programs. Visit tennesseecraft.org to learn more.