Founded in 1870, the Wisconsin Academy applies the sciences, arts, and letters to bring context, civilized discussion, and meaningful action to the most important issues of today. We create spaces—public forums, art galleries, publications—where citizens join together to examine the challenges of our times, suggest solutions, and look at the world in new ways. We celebrate and preserve Wisconsin’s human, cultural, and natural resources. In this way the Wisconsin Academy connects people and ideas for a better Wisconsin—and we’ve been doing it for 140 years.

This year with our annual report, we’re sharing with our members more of how our organization operates. After all, it’s your Wisconsin Academy. And your support through membership and donations allows us to produce high-quality programs and share them with the public. Here are some program highlights from 2010:

The James Watrous Gallery
• received a second Partnership Grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board to share with the state the winners of the prestigious Wisconsin Arts Board Visual Arts Fellowship program
• was ranked fourth of 96 statewide applicants for NEA federal stimulus grant funds, resulting in a grant at the highest funding level available ($25,000) with approval from the state of Wisconsin
• received materials on loan from three major institutions: The Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution, the Milwaukee Art Museum, and the Milwaukee Public Museum
• increased visitors from 9,737 last year to 10,263 this fiscal year while reducing overall expenses

Wisconsin People & Ideas Magazine
• remains the number one reason people join the Wisconsin Academy. (Anyone can join, and the magazine is free to all members.)
• completed its 56th continuous year of publication. The quarterly magazine remains the only statewide print publication in the nation that regularly features poetry, short stories, and artwork in a variety of media, as well as articles that cover science, technology, and the environment
• was distributed to 70 bookstores, 80 libraries, and all state elected officials
• collaborated with Portal Wisconsin on the multimedia Voices of Rural Wisconsin project in an effort to capture authentic and authoritative voices discussing rural concerns in our state

Academy Evenings
• presented a series of eight highly acclaimed “Wisconsin 2050: Pioneering the Future” public conversations at the Overture Center in Madison and another six in venues across the state: Wausau, Ashland, Milwaukee, Sheboygan, Menasha, and Hudson. Each of these programs stimulated and entertained attendees, with presenters offering solutions and directions for moving our state and world forward.
• downloads of Academy Evenings programs on portalwisconsin.org exceeded 20,000, and annual visits to our website topped 230,000.
• for the first time, 130 individuals joined Academy Evening presentations from the comfort of their home computers as they happened.

We thank you as members and sponsors of the Wisconsin Academy for making our programs successful and for sharing them with others. Please join us in celebrating and valuing Wisconsin’s unique assets by recommending membership in the Wisconsin Academy to your friends, too. Invite them to our special community of the mind that helps make us all better citizens. Joining online is easy at wisconsinacademy.org.

—Margaret Lewis, executive director
Wisconsin Academy Council

The Council is the governing body of the Wisconsin Academy. Representing various regions of the state, the Council acts on behalf of Wisconsin Academy members. The Council sets policy and participates in strategic planning to implement the Wisconsin Academy mission of connecting people and ideas for a better Wisconsin. Council members also identify resources and community partners to help the Wisconsin Academy grow.

Wisconsin Academy Recognizes Extraordinary Service

The Wisconsin Academy is in debt to the outstanding service of over 16 years by two retiring Wisconsin Academy Foundation Board members: Dan Gelatt, President of NMT Corporation of La Crosse and Tom Boldt, CEO, Boldt Company of Appleton. Boldt also served for three years as President of the Wisconsin Academy Council from 2006–2008. Gelatt was the faithful Treasurer of the Wisconsin Academy Foundation Board for 12 years. We thank these servants of a better Wisconsin for their unflinching integrity, generous contributions of time and resources, and faithful stewardship of the gifts given to the Wisconsin Academy over several decades. These two remarkable Wisconsin business and philanthropic leaders are worthy of our deepest gratitude.

Wisconsin Academy members and staff are also most grateful for the service of other retiring staff and Council members, including Gail Kohl for her 17 years of service as development director; past Wisconsin Academy President (1999), Rolf Wegeneke; former state legislator Stan Gruszynski who co-chaired the Wisconsin Academy’s Wisconsin Idea project: The Future of Farming and Rural Life in Wisconsin; and Douglas Hastad, President of Carroll College, a generous host of the Council in Waukesha.

This year the Wisconsin Academy Council welcomes three new members: Patricia (Pat) Brady, Terry Brown, and Joseph (Joe) Heim. Patricia Brady retired in 2010 after a thirty-year career at the University of Wisconsin System, where she served as the UW System General Counsel since 2002. Before becoming general counsel, Brady served as deputy general counsel and senior system legal counsel for UW System. She is a regular speaker on legal issues in higher education, and has taught higher education law at UW-Madison.

Terry Brown is Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at UW–Parkside. As provost, Brown’s duties include supervision of curriculum, teaching, faculty appointments, academic resources, and support programs. In addition to overseeing the university’s thirty-three undergraduate major and three Masters program, he supervises the Center for Community Partnerships and the UW–Parkside Library, as well as Advising and Career Services, Campus Technology Services, and Student Support Services.

Joseph Heim is a former chair of the Department of Political Science/Public Administration at UW–LaCrosse and current Director of the Public Administration Program at the university. A political analyst for WKBT–TV (LaCrosse) and occasional guest analyst on WPR, Heim is a Governor’s Appointee to the Wisconsin Educational Approval Board (2003–present) as well as a member of the Wisconsin Judicial Campaign Integrity Committee (a State Bar committee) and a number of professional associations including the American Society of Public Administration and the Wisconsin Political Science Association.

Council Executive Committee

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Immediate-past President
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Millard Susman, Madison
Vice President of Arts
Linda Ware, Wausau
Vice President of Letters
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LaMoine MacLaughlin, Clayton
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John Mielke, Appleton
Thomas Pleger, Baraboo
Cal Potter, Sheboygan Falls
David J. Ward, Sturgeon Bay

Foundation Board

The Wisconsin Academy Foundation is incorporated as a charitable, tax-exempt foundation to oversee the professional management of the Wisconsin Academy endowment. Responsible primarily for investment oversight, the Foundation Board also assists the Wisconsin Academy in developing relationships that benefit its programs.

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Andrew Richards, Monona
David J. Ward, Sturgeon Bay

“Exhibiting at the James Watrous Gallery assists us “out-staters” in developing a more significant audience for our work and forging new connections to peers.”

—Carol Emmons, Visual Artist and Wisconsin Academy Member
Wisconsin Academy Fellows

Wisconsin Academy Fellows are elected for high levels of accomplishment in their fields as well as a lifelong commitment to intellectual discourse and public service. These distinguished individuals from a wide range of disciplines provide ideas and inspiration for our programs and projects. Fellows are limited to a hundred at any given time. Our current Fellows are listed below with the year of their induction in parentheses.

Shirley S. Abrahamson (1982)  
Chief Justice, Wisconsin Supreme Court

Julius Adler (1996)  
Professor of biochemistry and genetics, UW–Madison

George Archibald (1988)  
Co-founder and director, International Crane Foundation, Baraboo

Emily Auerbach (2006)  
Professor of English, UW–Madison

Alfred Bader (1986)  
Art collector and former chairman, Aldrich Chemical Company, Milwaukee

Arts executive and gallery owner, Racine

Nina Leopold Bradley (2001)  
Conservationist, Baraboo

Nancy Ekholm Burkert (1986)  
Literary illustrator

Molly Carnes (2006)  
Physician and professor of medicine, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Madison

Susan Carle (2005)  
Biomedical ethicist, UW Law School

Catherine B. Cleary (1982)*  
Former chairwoman, First Wisconsin Trust Company, Milwaukee

Warrington Colescott (1988)  
Artist and printmaker, professor of art, UW–Madison

William Cronon (2006)  
Professor of history, UW–Madison

James Crow (1984)  
Professor emeritus, Department of Genetics, UW–Madison

Neuroscientist and psychologist, UW–Madison, and director of the Center for Investigating Healthy Minds

Richard Davis (2004)  
Bass player and professor of music, UW–Madison

Hector DeLuca (2002)  
Professor and chair, Department of Biochemistry, UW–Madison

John DeMain (2006)  
Music director and conductor, Madison Symphony Orchestra

Michael Dombeck (2008)  
Global Environmental Management Pioneer Professor, UW–Stevens Point, and UW System Fellow

William Dove (2009)  
Professor of oncology and medical genetics, UW–Madison

Ian Duncan (2009)  
Professor of neurology, UW–Madison School of Veterinary Medicine

Michael Fiore (2004)  
Physician and smoking cessation researcher, UW–Madison

Janine Geske (2008)  
Marquette University Law School professor and former Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice, Milwaukee

Raymond Goeckerich (2002)  
Wood engraving artist and Art Department professor emeritus, UW–Madison

John Gourley (2009)  
Author, historian, and columnist for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Jo Handelsman (2009)  
Professor of bacteriology and co-director of the Women in Science and Engineering Leadership Institute at UW–Madison

John Harmon (2005)  
Composer, pianist, and educator, Winneconne

Paul G. Hayes (1986)  
Former Milwaukee Journal reporter, Cedarburg

Sister Esther Heffernan (2002)  
Professor emerita of social science, Edgewood College, Madison

Geneva Johnson (1994)  
President and chief executive officer, Family Service America Inc., Milwaukee

James R. Johnson (1985)  
Former Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing executive, River Falls

Roland Johnson (1986)  
Director emeritus, Madison Symphony Orchestra

Laura Kiessling (2008)  
Hilldale Professor of Chemistry and Laurens Anderson Professor of Biochemistry, UW–Madison

Anne Kingsbury (2008)  
Mixed media artist and manager, Woodland Pattern Book Center, Milwaukee

Joanne Klussendorf (2005)  
Director and curator, UW–Fox Valley

Ruth DeYoung Kohler (1989)  
Director, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan

Ellen Kort (2005)  
Poet and first Wisconsin Poet Laureate, Appleton

Former U.S. Secretary of Defense

Barbara Brown Lee (2008)  
Chief educator, Milwaukee Art Museum

David Lenz (2009)  
Painter and 2009 winner of the Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery Competition, Shorewood

Gerda Lerner (1994)  
Professor emerita of history, UW–Madison

Harvey Littleton (2001)  
Glass artist, Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Truman T. Lowe (2005)  
Artist, UW–Madison professor, curator of National Museum of the American Indian, Washington DC

Nancy O. Lurie (1986)  
Curator of anthropology, Milwaukee Public Museum

Former UW System President

Dennis G. Maki (2003)  
Professor UW–Medical School, Madison

Lorrie Moore (2009)  
Award-winning author and Delmore Schwartz Professor in the Humanities at UW–Madison

Karlos Moser (2009)  
University Opera conductor and Fox Valley Symphony founding conductor

Warren Nelson (2005)  
Founder and former producer and executive director of Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua

Sara O’Connor (1993)  
Former managing director, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre

Rev. Francis Paul Prucha (1986)  
Professor of history, Marquette University, Milwaukee

Sister Joel Reid (1985)  
Former President, Alverno College, Milwaukee

Don Reitz (1986)  
Former professor of art education, UW–Madison

Walter Sava (2006)  
Executive director emeritus, Latino Arts and United Community Center, Milwaukee

Irving Shain (1996)  
Chancellor Emeritus, UW–Madison

Bassam Z. Shabbashi (2005)  
Professor of chemistry, UW–Madison

Peter Sheehan (2006)  
Curator of geology, Milwaukee Public Museum

Ben Sidran (1996)  
Musician, composer, producer, Madison

Hans Sollinger (2006)  
Surgeon and professor of medicine, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

Kenneth Starr (1985)  
Director emeritus, Milwaukee Public Museum

Athan Theoharis (2003)  
Professor of history, Marquette University, Milwaukee

James A. Thomson (2002)  
Professor, UW–Madison Medical School, and scientific director, WCell Research Institute

Kerry Trask (2008)  
Professor of history, UW–Manitowoc

Tom Uttech (2004)  
Artist, Saukville

Ronald Wallace (1996)  
Author, poet, professor of English, UW–Madison

Lee Weiss (1985)  
Watercolor artist, Madison

Allen Young (2002)  
Vice President for Collections, Research, and Public Programs, Milwaukee Public Museum

Chairman, Zigman Joseph Skeen Inc., Milwaukee

*Ms. Cleary passed away in 2010

“Wisconsin People & Ideas is the best magazine distributed in Wisconsin. First class.”  
—Sandy Wilcox, President Emeritus, UW Foundation
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Give to the Wisconsin Academy

You’ve likely participated in our programs during the past year. You also understand how critical these programs are to making our state a better, more culturally and intellectually richer place to live. By supporting the Wisconsin Academy you can help spread these programs—and knowledge—across the state.

Make an investment in people and ideas that make a better Wisconsin with a donation to the Wisconsin Academy. Whether you give at $50 or $5,000, you have an opportunity to direct the course of our state.

Please send us a tax-deductible gift today in the enclosed envelope or visit wisconsinacademy.org and click the “Donate” button to contribute safely and securely online. Contact development director Alison Alter at aalter@wisconsinacademy.org or call 608-263-1692 to discuss ways in which you can support the Wisconsin Academy.

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Michael Lovell
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Madison Museum of Contemporary Art
Bill McKibben
Mea...
Why are you a member of the Wisconsin Academy?
My family has always placed a high value on education. Growing up in the college town of Appleton, I attended lectures and regularly heard famous and not so famous speakers at Lawrence University. Because the liberal arts were valued by my family, I chose the liberal arts for my own education. A liberal arts education was a way to continue to learn and explore, look at different ideas, get a bit uncomfortable, and be involved. The Wisconsin Academy embodies the liberal arts with its commitment to the sciences, arts and letters. I also like its lofty goals—to connect people and ideas for a better Wisconsin—and its sensitivity to respect and share the state’s intellectual resources, both public and private.

How has the Wisconsin Academy been meaningful to you?
It has been educational for me. The people I have met through the Academy have helped me grow. They share similar, broad interests and are involved in bettering their own communities.

Which aspects of the Academy matter most to you?
I support the communication of ideas. The magazine, lecture series, gallery for Wisconsin artists, and Wisconsin Idea public policy projects all do that. The Academy has originated meaningful conversations to the attention of a broad audience on many topics, helping us better understand the politics and culture of the Middle East, energy, early childhood brain development, even how to age better. Blogs, computer screens, and newspapers can’t take the place of face-to-face conversations between people and experts. These important dialogs add dimension to your set of beliefs.

Do these programs have an impact on your part of the state?
Let me tell you about a program that was part of a series of lectures in the Fox Valley called “Brain to Five,” of which the Wisconsin Academy was a catalyst. Dr. Richard Davidson [Wisconsin Academy Fellow, 2004] of UW–Madison’s Waisman Center spoke to K–12 teachers and more than five hundred people in our community about how happy people are compassionate people. This has inspired a project in our public schools where our ten thousand children will create their picture of compassion on a six-by-six inch square, and write a paragraph about how that picture represents their concept. Then each of these will be displayed in our Trout Museum of Art to share with all the children’s parents and the community at large. Imagine the lines of parents wanting to see their child’s square. Think about the impact of twenty to forty thousand people in our community talking about compassion.

What would you like to see the Wisconsin Academy do more of?
Adapt to the ways people are receiving information. Engage with other organizations. Help make more people aware of how important an addition Academy membership is to their intellectual life. For example, I don’t know anything about basket weaving, which was featured on the front of the fall 2010 magazine. But I can be sure it will make for interesting conversation, and I will learn something about a Wisconsin asset.

Why should others become a member or invest in the Wisconsin Academy?
The Academy is a way for people to help develop themselves. It is a vehicle for us to tackle important issues. It is for anyone who cares about Wisconsin and its intellectual and cultural assets. And it is about being an educated voter and citizen. Education is a great freedom that should be exploited. I like the way the Academy reaches out to all citizens of Wisconsin. To fulfill this mission requires resources to expand programs and visibility. I have invested a lot of time and effort in the cause of sharing knowledge for a better society, and want to see the Academy succeed and continue to expand so that others can benefit from these programs.

A Very Important Invitation
We invite you to become a member of the Wisconsin Academy. Membership is open to anyone interested in art, nature, and the life of the mind ... and willing to share this life with others. Our members come from all over Wisconsin, from all walks of life, and enjoy being a part of a 140-year tradition of civic engagement and civil discourse.

Becoming a member of the Wisconsin Academy is easy. Visit wisconsinacademy.org and click on the “Join” button or call 608-263-1692 to begin your membership today.

“By creating programs about—and providing awareness of—Wisconsin’s vibrant culture, the Wisconsin Academy does a lot for our state. I very much appreciate their work.”

—Wisconsin Academy Member Allyn Ziegenhagen, Pewaukee
Wisconsin Academy 2010 Year-End Financial Statement

Fiscal year 2010 Revenues (Fiscal year ending June 30, 2010)

- Donations: 38%
- Wisconsin Academy Foundation Distributions: 37%
- In-kind Services: 12%
- Grant Revenue: 7%
- Membership Dues: 3%
- Other: 3%

Fiscal year 2010 Expenses (Fiscal year ending June 30, 2010)

- James Watrous Gallery and other art programs: 25%
- Wisconsin People & Ideas magazine and electronic communications: 24%
- Membership & Development: 21%
- Wisconsin Academy Evenings: 11%
- Office, audit, interest & other admin. expenses: 15%
- Building, insurance, depreciation: 4%

Statement of Activity
Fiscal year ending June 30, 2010

Revenue
- Donations ...................................................... $ 273,084
- Wisconsin Academy Foundation Distributions ........ 263,072
- In-kind services ........................................... 86,211
- Grant revenue ................................................. 51,786
- Membership dues ........................................... 20,150
- Other Revenue ............................................... 19,015
Total Revenue .................................................. $ 713,318

Expenses
- Program-related expenses .................................. 424,064
- Membership and Development .......................... 148,000
- Office, audit, interest & other admin expenses ....... 102,145
- Building, insurance, depreciation ....................... 30,354
Total Expenses .................................................. $ 704,563

Change in net assets ........................................... $ 8,755

Net assets – Beginning of year ............................. $ 51,158
Net assets – End of year ...................................... $ 59,913

Statement of Financial Position
as of June 30, 2010

Assets
- Cash and other assets ....................................... $ 62,134
- Pledges receivable ........................................... 41,500
- Certificates of deposit – restricted ....................... 12,452
- Fixed assets, net ............................................. 60,780
- Other assets .................................................... 13,403
Total Assets ....................................................... $ 190,269

Liabilities
- Line of credit ................................................... $ 85,000
- Accounts Payable .............................................. 11,741
- Unearned revenue ............................................. 13,504
- Other liabilities ................................................. 20,111
Total Liabilities ................................................... $ 130,356
Total Net Assets ................................................... $ 59,913

Total Liabilities and Net Assets .............................. $ 190,269

This is a summarized financial presentation. Complete audited financial statements are available upon request.

Auditors: Wipfli