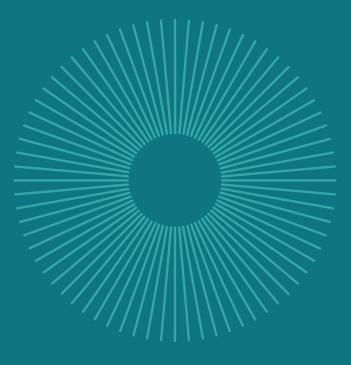


# **ANNUAL REPORT 2018**



Connecting Wisconsin people and ideas for a better world.

Cover image: Holly Cohn, here, 2017. Acrylic on constructed wood panel, 27.5 x 16.5 x 7 inches



# THE ACADEMY'S MISSION

To bring people together at the intersection of the sciences, arts, and letters to inspire discovery, illuminate creative work, and foster civil dialogue on important issues.



# Dreams, Knowledge, Access: The Academy in 2018

The American Dream is a concept that has shaped our hopes and aspirations for more than two centuries. For some, it speaks to the foundational concepts of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. For others, it means having a nuclear family, a house with a two-car garage, and a thirty-year mortgage.

Over the last year, the Academy has been exploring what the American Dream means for the people of Wisconsin. We found that many of our participating artists, farmers, researchers, and teachers, as well as the hundreds of event attendees and gallery visitors we talked to, said that that road to the American Dream is paved with knowledge and opportunity.

At the Academy, we understand the role that knowledge plays in building better lives—and we believe that knowledge is meant to be shared. Our programs and publications provide myriad learning opportunities for Wisconsinites of all walks of life. People turn to us to better understand the value and context of today's scientific research and to find insight and inspiration from Wisconsin's visual and literary arts. From our quarterly magazine, *Wisconsin People & Ideas*, to our Academy Talks, James Watrous Gallery, and Climate & Energy Initiative, we're sharing more essential knowledge, and providing more learning opportunities, to those striving to achieve their American Dream in Wisconsin.

E. Elder

Jane Elder Executive Director



### Academy Talks: The American Dream in Wisconsin

We began our exploration of the American Dream with historian and Wisconsin Academy Fellow John Gurda. His talk, *Neighbors and Strangers*, took us on a journey of Milwaukee's settlement by generations of immigrants and reminded participants how diversity, while sometimes difficult to attain, contributes to vibrant and healthy communities. *Cultivating the Dream* brought together sociologist Michael Bell and farmer/economist Sarah Lloyd for a lively discussion about agricultural policy and farm economics.

La Farge artist Terese Agnew's exhibition at the James Watrous Gallery, *Writing in Stone*, offered the opportunity to reflect on remarkable voices of progress and courage in Wisconsin's history, while also asking today's generation to consider its role in shaping a new dream for Wisconsin. An evening discussion panel during the exhibition featured Agnew, journalist Patty Loew, and labor organizer Jesus Salas, and explored the powers that support and restrict access to the dream.

We warmed up the start of our winter season with *Healthcare Access and Reform*, a talk led by UW–Madison health policy researcher Donna Friedsam and featuring Family Health Center of Marshfield director Greg Nycz and Lisa Peyton-Caire, founder of The Foundation for Black Women's Wellness. During his packed *The Pursuit of Happiness* conversation with Anne Strainchamps in Overture Center's Capitol Theater, neuroscientist Richard Davidson suggested that perhaps *contentment* is the key to happiness.

In spring we hosted *Science and the American Experiment*, a day-long conference exploring how research, policy, and communication shape our views of science during an era of shifting cultural views. We concluded our series with a talk about the *Dreams of the Next Generation* by Michael Johnson of the Boys & Girls Club of Dane County, who said that young people dream of access to education, freedom, and opportunity, as well as living a life of purpose and good will.

With leaders and thinkers like this, we can affirm that the American Dream has good stewards in Wisconsin who are opening doors that help us all to aspire and achieve our dreams.





## **Academy Talks and Events**

**Neighbors and Strangers with John Gurda** September 19, 2017 • Overture Center, Madison

What's Going On in Our Great Lakes? with J. Val Klump September 27, 2017 • Mead Public Library, Sheboygan

Cultivating the Dream with Michael Bell and Sarah Lloyd October 17, 2017 • Overture Center, Madison

Nelson Institute Jordahl Public Lands Lecture with Carolyn Finney October 19, 2017 • UW-Madion Union Theater

Wisconsin People & Ideas Contest Readings November 3, 2017 • Wisconsin Book Festival, Madison

Who's Dream Is It? Panel Discussion November 4, 2017 • Overture Center, Madison

WIPPS The Constitution, the Congress, and the Presidency November 13, 2017 • UW Ctr for Civic Engagement, Wausau

Healthcare Access and Reform Panel Discussion February 27, 2018 • Overture Center, Madison **Poetry and Pi(e) with Oscar Mireles & Angela Vasquez** March 14, 2018 • Academy Steenbock Offices, Madison

The Pursuit of Happiness with Richard Davidson March 20, 2018 • Overture Center, Madison

Science & the American Experiment Conference April 6, 2018 • UW-Madison Pyle Center

Fellows Award Ceremony April 6, 2018 • UW-Madison Pyle Center

**Dreams of the Next Generation with Michael Johnson** April 10, 2018 • Overture Center, Madison

**Understanding the Art of Vision with Shiela Reaves** April 19, 2018 • Mead Public Library, Sheboygan

**Celebrating the American Dream in Wisconsin** May 6, 2018 • American Family DreamBank, Madison



### James Watrous Gallery: Telling Stories, Supporting Artists

Located on the third floor of Overture Center for the Arts in Madison, the James Watrous Gallery continues to support Wisconsin artists and create exhibitions that tell important stories about our state and its culture.

Watrous Gallery exhibitions always have an extra dimension. During our 2018 season, one show served to explore the arc of where we have been as a progressive state and another where our imagination might take us in the future.

Terese Agnew's *Writing in Stone* exhibition was literally monumental. Agnew's massive, stonelike monuments fully inhabited the confines of the Watrous Gallery, offering visitors an intimate path through big ideas. The stones' engraved quotes memorialized poignant voices—of people both famous and little known—from Wisconsin's past that have shaped our cultural values today. Featuring quotes from Belle Case LaFollette and Lee Dreyfus to the first enslaved woman to arrive in Wisconsin on the Underground Railroad, each monument invited contemplation of foundational Wisconsin events and ideas. One visitor shared that he was moved to tears by the power of these ideas and the way they were presented; another remarked that she felt affirmed and not alone in her values.

A few months later we were looking ahead—75 years ahead to be exact—through our *Future Possible: Imagining Madison* exhibit, which was supported in part by a grant from the Madison Community Foundation. They invited us to develop an exhibition that imagined Madison far into the future, so we commissioned works from a group of artists, landscape designers, and architects that together offered glimpses into an imagined future. From water taxis and living architecture to an ecological renaissance for the Yahara Lakes, their visions of a future Madison converged for a captivating and popular exhibition.







# **James Watrous Gallery Exhibitions & Events**

Douglas Bosley & Scott Espeseth July 7–August 27, 2017 Opening reception and artist talks • July 14 Art@Noon • August 25

#### Terese Agnew: Writing in Stone

September 23-November 5, 2017 Opening reception with artist talks and living statue performances • September 23 History Sandwiched In @ Wisconsin Historical Museum • September 26 Gallery Night • October 6 Halloween Tour • October 31 Art@Noon • November 3

#### Holly Cohn & Letha Kelsey November 17, 2017–January 28, 2018 Opening reception and artist talks • December 1 Art@Noon talk with Holly Cohn • January 26

Future Possible: Imagining Madison February 16-April 15, 2018 Opening reception and artist panel • February 16 Gallery talk with Helen John • March 11 Art@Noon with Jeremy Wineberg & Anders Zanichowsky • April 13

#### Helen Lee & Anne Kingsbury

May 4-June 24, 2018 Gallery Night • May 4 Helen Lee glassblowing demonstration @ ArtLofts • May 9 Opening reception and artist talks • May 11 Bike the Art tour • May 19 Toddler Storytime with Madison Public Library • June 14 Art@Noon • June 22







### **Climate & Energy Initiative: Aspiring to Solutions**

In its sixth year, the Academy's Climate & Energy Initiative continued to focus on the role that Wisconsin local governments are playing as vanguards in clean energy innovation. Whether or not the words "climate change" are ever spoken among city or village leaders, rising energy costs, consumer demand for renewables, and the need for practical resiliency are driving local governments toward energy efficiency and conservation solutions and energy sources such as solar and wind power.

As a nonpartisan convener and a curator of leading ideas in the field, the Academy links a wide range of innovators and technical experts with on-the-ground decision-makers to support the exchange of ideas and meaningful action. We hear from Initiative participants that we are filling a unique and vital niche in Wisconsin, and adding value to the work of the many collegial organizations in our growing network. During our 2018 program year, we traveled across Wisconsin, hosting workshops in Eau Claire and Platteville, presenting our research in Door County and Stevens Point, and meeting with partners statewide.

In 2017 the Academy also launched a series of six environmental breakfasts under the theme "We'll Always Have Paris," exploring how cities, counties, faith communities, academic institutions, businesses, and individuals are taking action to aspire to the goals of the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement. These small, early morning gatherings at our Madison office have provided the opportunity for rich discussions among attendees, and serve as another way to connect leaders and cultivate knowledgeable citizens.

Our 2018 program year activity culminated in *Leading the Charge*, a two-day local government summit on April 23 and 24 at UW–Eau Claire. Summit attendees participated in workshops on measuring energy efficiency and clean energy workforce development and talked with presenters such as La Crosse Mayor Tim Kabat to learn how their communities can develop a resiliency plan and inculcate a culture of sustainability. Wisconsin Public Television recorded selected summit presentations, which are available online at **wisconsinacademy.org/locgovsum2018**.





### Wisconsin Academy Initiatives Workshops, Summits & Leadership Meetings

WOW Leadership Network Meeting September 11, 2017 • UW-Madison Union South

**Climate Forward: 2017 Update Teleseminar** September 25, 2017 • Wisconsin Green Muslims

**Environmental Breakfast: How Individuals Can Lead** September 28, 2017 • Wisconsin Academy Offices

**Clean Energy Mobilization Workshop** October 11, 2017 • Platteville Public Library

Environmental Breakfast: How Businesses Can Lead October 26, 2017 • Wisconsin Academy Offices

Climate Forward and Energy Policy Lecture November 7, 2017 • UW–Stevens Point

Climate & Energy Leadership Network Meeting November 21, 2017 • Wisconsin Academy Offices

Environmental Breakfast: How Counties Can Lead November 30, 2017 • Wisconsin Academy Offices Climate Forward: 2017 Update Presentation January 11, 2018 • Björklunden, Baileys Harbor

**Climate Forward: A Road Map for Wisconsin (class)** January 12, 2018 • The Clearing, Ellison Bay

Environmental Breakfast: How Faith Communities Can Lead January 25, 2018 • Wisconsin Academy Offices

**Environmental Breakfast: How Universities Can Lead** February 22, 2018 • Wisconsin Academy Offices

**Environmental Breakfast: How Cities Can Lead** March 22, 2018 • Wisconsin Academy Offices

Leading the Charge: Local Government Summit April 23–24, 2018 • UW-Eau Claire

Climate & Energy Leadership Network Meeting May 21, 2018 • Wisconsin Academy Offices



### A chronicle of Wisconsin thought & culture

Wisconsin People & Ideas magazine continues to cover the fascinating ideas that are shaping life in our state. From exploring scientific and technological advances across the state to sharing essays on contemporary Wisconsin culture to providing a venue for emerging fiction writers and poets, our magazine is a veritable guide to important Wisconsin ideas. Highlighted articles (locations covered in parenthesis) from magazines published during our 2018 season include:

- "The Nature of Art," a profile of bio-inspired artist Peter Krsko (Wonewoc), by Steven Potter
- "Mudstone" the winner of our 2018 fiction contest, by Bob Wake (Cambridge), and "The New American Nostalgia," the winner of our 2018 poetry contest, by Nicholas Gulig (Ft. Atkinson)
- "Dancing to Hot Glass," a profile of glass artists/educators Jeremy Popelka and Stephanie Trenchard (Sturgeon Bay), by Alyssa Skiba
- "Dining on the Rails," how one family revived the Wisconsin Great Northern Railroad (Trego), by Brenda K. Bredahl
- "Elegy for a Family Farm," reflections on life and loss by Richard Quinney (Elkhorn)
- "Seeing with the Brain," the research behind how the BrainPort V100 (Middleton), an electrotactile device, helps blind people to "see," by Steven Potter
- "Wisconsin's Hard Cider Renaissance" and "How to Raise a Pizza," two articles that explore statewide innovation in Wisconsin-based food production, by Candice Wagener
- "John Harmon: Symphony of Awareness," a profile of composer and Academy Fellow John Harmon (Winneconne), by Matt Ambrosio
- "Nuts for Hickory," a look at the growing shagbark hickory industry in Wisconsin (Princeton), by Max Witynski
- "Language as Order and Play," a dual profile of Watrous Gallery-exhibiting artists Helen Lee (Madison) and Anne Kingsbury (Milwaukee), by Dominique Haller

We look forward to our 65th continuous year of publishing the best quarterly magazine of contemporary Wisconsin thought and culture—*Wisconsin People & Ideas*.



I appreciate the contests that *Wisconsin People & Ideas* hold each year. They are a galvanizing force for Wisconsin poets and fiction writers, and I always look forward to reading the prizewinning poems and stories.

—Karen Loeb, Eau Claire

I felt lucky that a copy of the magazine found me, as I didn't know it even existed. That issue made me want more!

-Ricky Vander Velden, De Pere

Wisconsin People & Ideas is always a handsome piece, and an excellent presentation of the many interests the Wisconsin Academy speaks to. The cover photo of Richard Quinney (Winter 2018) is both beautiful and poignant. It matches the quality of the accompanying article.

—Sue Cleary-Koch, Saukville



The 2018 Academy Fellows (left to right, from top left): Kevin Shafer, Tom Boldt, Renee Boldt, John Lyons, Anthony Bukoski, Curt Meine, Dipesh Navsaria, Sarah Day, Max Garland, Gregg Mitman, Todd Berry, David Mickelson, missing are Katherine Cramer and John Valley.

### Wisconsin Academy Fellows: A New Class for 2018

Established by the Academy in 1982, the Wisconsin Academy Fellows Award recognizes educators, researchers, mentors, artists, and civic or business leaders from across Wisconsin who have made substantial contributions to the cultural life and welfare of our state and its people.

Award-winning nominees generally demonstrate careers marked by an unusually high order of discovery; invention; technological accomplishment; creative productivity in literature, poetry, or the fine or practical arts; historical analysis; legal or judicial interpretation; philosophical thinking; or public service.

Anyone can nominate a prospective Fellows Award winner for consideration. A Wisconsin Academy committee broadly representative of the sciences, arts, and letters reviews nominations and selects winners every other year.

Our 2018 Academy Fellows Award winners were recognized at an April 6, 2018, event in the Pyle Center on the University of Wisconsin–Madison campus.

#### See a complete list Academy Fellows at wisconsinacademy.org/fellows

All 2018 Fellows Award Ceremony photos by MNReynolds Photography















### **Academy Leadership**



We are fortunate to have talented and dedicated business and civic leaders working together to further our mission to inspire discovery, illuminate creative work, and foster civil dialogue on important issues.

### **Wisconsin Academy Board**

As of June 30, 2018

#### OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

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### **Wisconsin Academy Foundation**

As of June 30, 2018

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# Wisconsin Academy Staff (As of June 30, 2018; staff photos by Patrick Stutz Photography)



Jane Elder **Executive Director** 



Jody Clowes Director, James Watrous Gallery



**Bethany Jurewicz** Business & Event Manager



Jason A. Smith Associate Director and Editor, Wisconsin People & Ideas



Augusta Brulla Head Gallery Attendant, James Watrous Gallery



Kelly Hilyard Program Assistant, Environmental Initiatives



Matt Rezin Data & Office Systems Coordinator



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Angela Johnson Exhibitions Coordinator, James Watrous Gallery



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## In Appreciation of Our 2017-2018 Donors and Sponsors

The Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters is pleased to publicly acknowledge the community of donors who gave cash or in-kind contributions of \$100 or more between July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2018. These gifts supported our ongoing operations as well as our many quality programs and publications that explore, explain, and sustain Wisconsin thought and culture. Thank you to everyone who supported our work. Together we are connecting Wisconsin people and ideas for a better world.

### THE MINERVA SOCIETY:

# Our most generous donors who contribute annual gifts or grants of \$10,000+

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Did we miss your name? Please call us at 608-263-1692 with corrections or omissions.

### 2017-18 Community Partners, Volunteers, and Presenters

hank you to the multitude of individuals and organizations that support the Wisconsin Academy Your invaluable commitment of time, talent, and services make all the difference.

#### **James Watrous Gallery**

**Exhibiting Artists** Terese Agnew Douglas Bosley Holly Cohn Diane Dahl Rob Danielson Scott Espeseth Lou Host-Jablonski Helen John Letha Kelsey Anne Kingsbury Helen Lee Ed Linville John Miller Carol Richard Ashley Robertson Kate Stalker Jeremy Wineberg Anders Zanichkowsky

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Connor Nett

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# **The Full Circle Society**

Connecting your values to your legacy

The Full Circle Society recognizes and thanks those who have included the Wisconsin Academy in their estate plan. Their generosity provides the financial cornerstone for building a future of possibilities and furthering our promise to enrich the scientific and cultural fabric of our state.

Thank you to all our Full Circle Society members for leaving a legacy gift to ensure a rich and lively creative culture that enhances Wisconsin today, and tomorrow.

Ira Baldwin\* Ann Bardeen-Henschel\* Ron & Dorothy Daggett\* Mary and Jerry Foote Constance & Dudley Godfrey\* Terry Haller Gunnar & Lorraine Johansen Jack Kussmaul David Lundahl Elizabeth McCoy\* Nancy Rae Noeske\* Jim and Joy Perry Elizabeth Souter\* Harry Steenbock\* Linda L. Ware Patricia Weisberg\*

\*gift has been realized

Members and friends are encouraged to consider including the Wisconsin Academy and Wisconsin Academy Foundation in your estate plans. Every planned gift has the power to complete the circle that connects us to our past and our future.

If you are not listed in the Full Circle Society, but have made a commitment or would like more information about leaving your legacy to the Wisconsin Academy, please contact Amanda E. Shilling at 608-263-1692 x16. You can also contact her if you are interested in growing either of our newly named endowment funds.

### Named Endowment Funds

In 2017, Wisconsin Academy Foundation established two endowment funds: **Terry Haller Fund for the Arts** to celebrate the retirement of long-serving Board member Terry Haller and the **Thomas Pleger Memorial Fund** to celebrate the life of former Board member Tom Pleger (1969-2017).

# **Wisconsin Academy Foundation**

The Wisconsin Academy Foundation is a separate 501(c)3, established in 1992, is dedicated to the stewardship of the Academy's endowment as a way to provide the Academy with a steady source of income in perpetuity. Currently, this income represents approximately one-third of total annual funds needed for Academy programming and operations.

A special thank you to the many donors who contributed to the Great Performance Fund at the Madison Community Foundation, which is separate from the permanent endowment held by the Wisconsin Academy Foundation. The Great Performance Fund directly supports Academy Talks and James Watrous Gallery programming at Overture Center for the Arts.

#### Wisconsin Academy Talks & Special Events

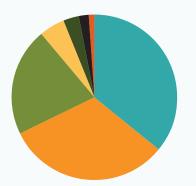
Speakers William Barker Michael M. Bell William J. Berry Mary W. Blanchard Robin Chapman **Richard Davidson** Sarah Day Donna Friedsam Max Garland John Gurda Dee Hall Jo Handelsman Greg Jeschke Michael Johnson Val Klump The Honorable Debra Kolste George Kraft Sarah Lloyd Patricia Loew Oscar Mireles Dipesh Navsaria Greg Nycz Abbas Ourmazd Logan Peterman Lisa Peyton-Caire Shiela Reaves Jesus Salas Arjun Sanga Dietram Scheufele Douglas Stafford Anne H. Strainchamps Angela Trudell Vasquez

#### Program Partners

American Dream Bank EVP Coffee Hubbard Avenue Diner Micca Hutchins Paul Jadin Bernie Markevitch Mead Public Library Monroe Street Framing MNReynolds Photography Lisa Nelson Fred Tyzka Wisconsin Public Television WisconsinEye Working Draft Beer WrenSong Creations

> Those who share their talents with multiple Academy programs are only listed once.

### **WISCONSIN ACADEMY 2018 Year-End Financial Statement**

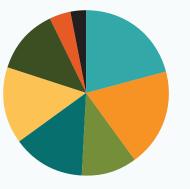


### **Fiscal Year 2018 Revenues**

Fiscal year ending June 30, 2018

Academy Foundation Distributions	36%
Contributions	32%
Grant Revenue	21%
Membership Dues	5%
Donated Services	3%
Conferences & Events	2%
Earned Income	1%

### Fiscal Year 2018 Expenses



Fiscal y	year ending June 30, 2018	
	Administration	21%
	Gallery & Arts Programs	19%
	Membership & Development	11%
	Academy Talks & Fellows	14%
	Magazine	15%
	Academy Initiatives	13%
	Communications	4%
	Program Development	3%

### **About this Report**

The Wisconsin Academy is an 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization (EIN 39-1054856) dedicated to connecting Wisconsin people and ideas for a better world. Our endowment is managed by the Wisconsin Academy Foundation, a separate 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization (EIN 39-1681809).

In an effort to provide transparency and context for our operations, the Wisconsin Academy publishes an annual report. For a digital version of our 2018 annual report visit wisconsinacademy. org/2018 report.

# **Statement of Activity**

Fiscal year ending June 30, 2018

#### Revenue

Academy Foundation Distributions\$ Contributions Grant Revenue Donated Services Membership Dues Earned Income Conferences & Events	272,692 247,361 162,633 24,344 34,595 7,523 12,905
Total Revenue\$	762,053
Program-related Expenses\$ Administration\$ Membership & Development Communications	483,222 155,406 84,761 <u>32,832</u>
Total Expenses	756,221
Change in net assets\$ Net assets – Beginning of year\$ Net assets – End of year\$	278,904

# Statement of Financial Position

as of June 30, 2018

#### Assets

Cash and cash equivalents\$ Other current assets Unconditional promises to give Fixed assets, net	228,152 11,654 4,000 77,641
Total Assets\$	321,447
Liabilities	
Line of credit\$	0
Accounts Payable	12,870
Unearned revenue	8,972
Other liabilities	14,869
Total Liabilities	36,711
Total Net Assets	284,736
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	321,447

This is a summarized financial presentation. Complete audited financial statements are available upon request. Auditors: Wegner CPAs, LLP



wisconsin academy of sciences arts & letters

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