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Abby Frohne, Director of Marketing
afrohne@cocastl.org, 314.561.4876

COCA APPOINTS FIVE NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND NAMES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Leaders Bring Expertise as COCA Expands Impact & Enters Next Chapter of Work

ST. LOUIS (September 20, 2022)—[COCA](https://www.cocastl.org), the fourth largest multidisciplinary community arts center in the U.S. and a leader in innovative arts education, appointed five new members to its Board of Directors and announced its Executive Committee for the 2022–2023 year.

The new members of the Board of Directors are:

- **Ann Beatty, Ph.D.**, Founder/CEO of Beatty Leadership. Dr. Beatty is a nationally recognized principal advisor and educator to senior executives who provides expertise in improving individual and organizational performance.
- **Christy Buchanan**, Director Strategic Growth, Anders CPAs + Advisors. Buchanan works with businesses across all industries to identify growth opportunities and aid in digital transformation using strategic financial analytics.
- **Sheila Burkett**, Founder and CEO, Spry Digital, LLC. Burkett leads a successful St. Louis digital creative and technology services company and is an advocate for women in technology.
- **Tyler Meyr**, Managing Director, Lamar Johnson Collaborative/Clayco. Meyr is an award-winning designer and a leading conceptual thinker with a strong national and international portfolio of projects.
- **Daffney Moore**, Chief of Staff/Director of Equity & Inclusion, St. Louis Economic Development Corporation. Moore is an active organizer through her civic commitments, leadership, and dedication to improving the quality of life for underserved communities throughout the St. Louis region.

“I’m thrilled to welcome these diverse, knowledgeable, and connected leaders to the COCA family and look forward to working with them during this exciting time of organizational transition. As the pandemic subsides, we will focus deeply on fully utilizing our beautifully expanded facility and securing the necessary resources to expand the reach and impact of COCA’s exemplary arts programs for future years,” said William Carson, President of COCA’s Board of Directors.

The 2022–2023 Executive Committee officers are:

- **William Carson**, President
- **Kristin Johnson**, President-Elect & Co-Chair Search Committee/Human Resources
- **Ray Kalinowski**, Treasurer, Chair of Finance Committee
- **Susan Werner**, Secretary
- **Hope Abramov**, Vice President, Co-Chair Human Resources
- **Rhonda Adams**, Vice President, Co-Chair Board Nominating
- **Bill Bradley**, Vice President, Marketing
- **Hunter Brown**, Vice President, Co-Chair Development
- **Suzanne Johnson**, Vice President, Co-Chair Development
- **Pauline Kim**, Vice President, Chair of DE&I Committee
- **Elizabeth Mannen Berges**, Vice President, Co-Chair Board Nominating

- **Ken Olliff**, Vice President, Community Outreach
- **Brian Thomas**, Vice President, Organizational Design & Strategy
- **Kent Turner**, Vice President, Building & Grounds Committee

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ABOUT COCA

COCA's mission is to *enrich lives and build community through the arts*. With a commitment to equity and access, COCA serves as a regional hub for learning in and through the arts for all ages and from all backgrounds. One of the most diverse cultural institutions in St. Louis, COCA serves more than 50,000 students, audience members, artists, and families from more than 200 zip codes across the St. Louis region every year. The fourth largest multi-disciplinary arts organization in the country, COCA is committed to supporting the vitality and creativity of more than 200 artists at the heart of their work in schools, community centers, local business, cultural organizations, and on-site at its campus in University City.