



## Arizona Museum for Youth

*For Immediate Release*  
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# News Release



## New Year Brings Changes to Children's Museum Board

Mesa, AZ – January 12, 2011.

January marks founding board member Corrine Brooks' first time chairing a meeting with the Arizona Museum for Youth Friends [AMYF].

"AMY is a shining example of a partnership whose recipients are our children," remarks Brooks. "The museum is a place where they can come to explore their creativity."

Former Board Chair Deb Dahl agrees and reflects, "It's challenging but well worth the commitment to our children. Young Valley kids and their families rely on the hands-on, interactive art and educational support that the Arizona Museum for Youth has provided for over three decades to the community."

Dahl has served as board Chair for nearly five years. With Brooks taking on the role as Chair, Kimberly Grace becomes the new Secretary. Tony Cesarano of M & I Bank has also resigned after five years, serving the last two as Treasurer. Bart Beauchamp, owner and CPA of *Beauchamp & Coy, CPA's, PLLC*, is now the new Treasurer and will serve a three-year term.

Also new to the board is Jennifer Duff, owner of *Falcon Executive Suites*; Dominique Bowman, Project Manager for the *Genesys Group*; Karen S. Sherman, former educator in early childhood education; and Jennifer Bonnett, Executive Director for the *Arizona Public Health Association*.

"Vice Chair for Board Affairs, Carmen Guerrero, has worked diligently through her committee to increase the number, diversity and community representation on the Board," remarked Executive Director Sunnee O'Rork. "For anyone interested in becoming part of this dynamic group, there will be several seats available in July."

O'Rork offered that she can be contacted at 480-644-2850 during normal museum office hours.

In addition to Cesarano, Karen Bever has accepted a full-time teaching position and has also left the board. Bever served as the 2010 *Tune Into Art* Fundraiser Chair.

"We owe our gratitude to all of them for their passion, service and for making a difference in the lives of children through hands-on creativity and art," says Lindsay Hochhalter, Board Development Coordinator.

The Arizona Museum for Youth Friends is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the museum and has continued to rise valiantly to meet the financial challenges of raising hundreds of thousands of

dollars, to bring the budget to higher levels in order to increase content and program activities that directly impact AMY's audience.

"We're proud to be a financial partner with the City of Mesa and share in the success of the museum," touts Dahl. "When a donor gives to AMY Friends, 100% of the funds support programs."

Studies show that involvement in the arts helps children achieve more in school and in life. Unfortunately, the current economic recession has led many states and schools to severely reduce or completely cut funding for art programs from their budgets. Yet the museum continues to serve over 70,000 visitors, annually, and provide art education to countless children across the Valley and nation.

AMYF has already begun tackling the task of raising hundreds of thousand dollars more to sustain the museum's impact on children. If you are or your organization is interested in ways you can support the museum, please contact Lindsay Hochhalter at 480.644.5564 or visit us online at

<http://www.arizonamuseumforyouth.com/friends.aspx> .

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*The Arizona Museum for Youth (AMY) is a fine arts museum for children and families and serves as a terrific place to introduce life-changing art. The museum hosts several world-class exhibitions, annually, and features ArtVille, a special art township for kids 4 years of age and younger, as well as ArtZone for children ages 5 and older. A dynamic array of art classes, fun workshops, and family programs are also available to teach basic art principles and techniques. Located at 35 N. Robson in downtown Mesa, AMY is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am to 4 pm, and Sunday, 12 pm to 4 pm. AMY is closed most government holidays. Please visit us online at [ArizonaMuseumforYouth.com](http://ArizonaMuseumforYouth.com) or call 480.644.2467 for current information.*

*"Inspiring children of all ages to experience their world differently through art, creativity and imagination."*

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## AMY Friends Inc. - Board Member Biographies

Corrine Brooks- Owner, Pepper Travel and Arts Advocate. Long-time Mesa resident. Active in many Mesa community organizations and served on many Boards.

Bart Beauchamp - Consultant - Audit preparation services, tax services, QuickBooks Pro advisor and other accounting and consulting services to a wide range of clients in the not-for-profit sector. External Auditor – Began career as a Not-for-Profit Auditor at CBIZ/MHM in Phoenix, Arizona. Currently, performing audits with *Beauchamp & Coy, CPA's, PLLC*, specializing in the Not-for-Profit and small/mid-sized for-profit sectors. Controller – Foundation for Blind Children; Accounting and Finance – St Joseph's Hospital; Banker – Extensive banking and lending experience in both the for-profit and not-for-profit sectors. Professional Affiliations – Member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), Member of Arizona Society of CPA's (ASCPA), Member of the ASCPA Non-Profit Steering committee. Current volunteer work: Phoenix Youth at Risk – Mentor. Previous volunteer work: Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Phoenix, Junior Achievement, Hemophilia Association.

Jennifer Bonnett - Executive Director of *Arizona Public Health Association*. Serves on the boards of University of Arizona College of Public Health Community Advisory Board and Protecting Arizona's Family Coalition (PAFCO) Education Board. Volunteers for Madison Heights PTO, Squaw Peak Traditional Academy PTO and Madison Heights Site Based Management Team.

Dominique Bowman – Project Manager- *Genesys Group* (Scottsdale, Arizona/ Chicago, Illinois) providing contractual real estate brokerage, consulting, and project management services to the Walt Disney Company/Disney Vacation Development. Non- Profit Affiliations: Executive Director of the Green Lots Project- An Urban Community Garden Initiative, Corresponding Secretary-National Sales Network and Board Member- The Black Oaks Center for Sustainability. Graduate of Florida A & M University.

Deborah Dahl – Senior Director for *Clinical Innovation at Banner Health*, in the Care Management division. She holds a Bachelor's in Engineering and Master's in Business Administration from the Arizona State University. Banner Health is a regional healthcare provider with 23 hospitals in seven western states, with corporate headquarters in Phoenix, Arizona. Banner was recently recognized as one of the country's "Top 10 Health Systems" by Thomson Reuters. Deb has been employed by Banner in various roles, starting with an internship in Bioengineering. She's held positions including Clinical Engineer, VP Technology and Materials and Associate Administrator at Banner Desert Medical Center, a 600 bed facility in Mesa Az. In her current role, she leads teams that explore innovations in clinical technology and processes, finds funding sources, and drives implementation. Direct operations include Banner's iCare Unit and Simulation Centers. iCare is a 24/7 clinical unit providing Tele-services to Banner Acute care facilities including ICUs, Emergency Departments and Med/Surg. At 55,000 sq feet, Banner's Simulation Medical Center in the largest simulation center in the US. In addition to traditional Simulation skills, new Banner RNs spend 3 days in Simulation with 4 hour simulated patient scenarios practicing clinical skills, work prioritization, and patient experience skills.

Jennifer Duff – Owner, *Falcon Executive Suites* in Mesa. Successful former career in the fashion industry, followed by an equally successful career in the sport fishing industry. World-traveled and continues to travel extensively. Outdoor enthusiast and avid bass angler. Involved in many community organizations. Native of Mesa.

Alex Finter - Councilmember, *City of Mesa*. Business, Partner – *Worldwide Investments, LLC*. Currently serves as Vice President of Mesa Public Safety Foundation, Chair of Council Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Member of Council Intergovernmental Affairs Committee, Member of Council General & Economic Development Committee, Member Maricopa Associations of Governments – Regional Committee on Homelessness, and Member of Citizen Corps. Served as past Vice Chair of Planning and Zoning Board, and is past Member of Human Relations Advisory Board. Former Fire Captain for City of Mesa. Graduate of University of Phoenix.

Kimberly Grace – Community Activist. Former Cultural Arts Coordinator for *Town of Gilbert* in which she directed, developed and implemented Gilbert's first cultural arts and Public Art program and initiated a visual arts exhibit program LOBBY FOR ART, to select artists and install original artwork in public access areas such as the Southeast Regional Library, the Gilbert Municipal Court and the Community Services Department. Additionally she supervised Concerts in the Park, was staff liaison for the Arts Advisory Board, and secured sponsorships, donations and grants. She also managed Gilbert's first cultural event, Global Village Festival. Former Public Art Coordinator for City of Glendale. Served on Mesa Museum and Cultural Advisory Board 200-2006. Currently serves on Valley Metro Rail Arts Commission. BFA and MA in Fine Arts from Fontbonne University, St. Louis, MO. Served on Mesa Museum and Cultural Advisory Board 2000-2006. Currently serves on Valley Metro Rail Arts Commission and is a team member of Boxer Luv Rescue Organization.

Carmen Guerrero - *Musician, Artist, Teacher, Community Arts Advocate*. Has lived in Mesa for the past 30 years, originally from Brazil. Has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio. Performs regularly with the Guerrero Family Band offering cultural programs to schools, libraries, churches and communities. Carmen serves on the board of the Mesa Association for Hispanic Citizens and the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Alliance. Past member of the Mesa Arts Foundation Board and the Museum Advisory Board for the City of Mesa. Part of [www.PhoenixFridas.com](http://www.PhoenixFridas.com), a collective for female artists. With husband Zarco Guerrero, have founded two important cultural arts organizations in the Valley: Xicanindio, Inc. in Mesa and Cultural Coalition, Inc. in Phoenix. Has developed many Dia de Los Muertos festivals in Arizona and produced annual theatrical plays in the Phoenix area - such as La Pastorela - dedicated to issues of cultural literacy and social justice. Currently she is founding member of Latino Arts & Cultural Center in Phoenix.

Scott P. Jochim- Creative Director of *Digital Tech Frontier, LLC* and Chief Technology Officer of *Dreamality Solutions*. Former VP and Creative Director of Ferris Productions, Inc. (Virtra Systems). Professional activities include being a member of AD2 Phoenix and 2005 AZ's Finest Honoree, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

William M. Mallender- Mr. Mallender is currently Chairman of the Board of *IBP Aircraft LTD*, a multi-industry company. He is also co-owner and Vice Chairman of Long Beach, California based *Alpha Engineering Associates*. Among his outside Directorships, Mallender has, since 1987, been a member of the Board of Directors of MicroAge Inc., has also been involved in a number of community activities including the Board of Regents of Brophy College Preparatory School, Chairman of that Board since 1994, the Arizona Heart Institute Foundation and the Phoenix Economic Growth Corporation.

Barb Sacks Millman - Director of Communications and Marketing within *General Dynamics C4 Systems' National Systems Division*, serving the space, defense, homeland security and public safety markets. 25 years of experience in high technology communications, marketing, and design.

Chirag Shah- Previously with *International Business Machines (IBM)* as a Business Development and Client Manager, in Phoenix. Negotiated strategic alliances with software vendors, develops strategic and tactical business plans, manages sales engagements to closure, and develops/ maintains relationships with key C-level executives. Previously a Marketing Manager with VLSI Technology, Inc. in Tempe, Fender Corporation in Scottsdale as a Senior Product Engineer of Product Design and Marketing, and Rockford Corporation in Tempe as a Design Engineer and Project Lead. Served as Technical Advisor for Wasatch Venture Funds Phoenix, Chapter Coordinator for *Asha for Education* in Tempe and Advisory Board of Directors for ASU Museum, Tempe.

Karen S. Sherman – Prior career as *Educator in Early-Childhood Education*. More recently held positions at: Arizona Museum of Natural History; Adjunct Professor - Mesa State College; Director of Education - Rochester Museum and Science Center; Teacher/ Administrator - Rochester, New York; Adjunct Professor - Nazareth College. Received array of honors and awards: 1994 Educator of the Year - Rochester, New York; 1998-2000 President - New York Association for the Education of Young Children; 1999 Outstanding achievement for the Pre-Kindergarten program by the State of New York Governors office; 2000-2004 Board of Director for the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

John O. Whiteman- Retired Chairman and CEO of *Empire Southwest*. Currently, Chairman of the *Whiteman Foundation* a Philanthropic organization focused on health, education, and welfare for children. Community activities include, founding Board Member for the creation of The Arizona Museum for Youth, Arizona School Readiness Board Member, Mesa United Way's Ready to Learn Committee, Board Member of Morrison Institute, and serves as a Communities Consultant.