

BOOKMARKS BOARD OF DIRECTORS BIOS 2019-2020

Executive Board

Barbara C. Raffaldini, President graduated cum laude with a B.S. from the Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service. She received her J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center and has practiced commercial real estate law and corporate law since 1987. She has been a partner in the law firm of Pachter, Gregory & Raffaldini, PC since 1997, and is a member of the State Bars of Maryland, Washington, D.C., Illinois and North Carolina. She is also the general counsel and co-owner of Raffaldini Vineyards & Winery, LLC, established in 2001 by Raffaldini, her brother and his wife. She began volunteering at Bookmarks upon her arrival in Winston-Salem in 2014. In 2015 at her direction, Raffaldini Vineyards became a proud sponsor of The Piedmont Opera, and she now serves on its Board of Directors. She is also on the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Fine Wine Society, which funds a scholarship for local students attending N.C. colleges, who are pursuing careers in enology, viticulture, hospitality or agritourism. Recently, she has provided pro bono legal counsel to the Ujima Community Development Corporation and the Simon Green Atkins Community Development Corporation. She is involved in community activities that celebrate literature, literacy, music and family.

Tanya Zanish-Belcher, Vice President, is currently the Director of Special Collections & Archives, and University Archivist for Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem. She received her BA in History from Ohio Wesleyan University and a MA in Historical and Archival Administration from Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. She edited *Perspectives on Women's Archives* (with Anke Voss) for the Society of American Archivists, and is the author of "A Culture of Concealment': Revealing the Records of Human Reproduction," which appears in *Perspectives*. She has given numerous presentations to local and regional groups as well as professional organizations such as the Midwest Archives Conference (MAC) and the Society of American Archivists (SAA). She is a Past President of MAC and recently completed a term on the SAA Council. She was named an SAA Fellow in 2011, the highest accolade given by the Society.

Julie Groves, Secretary, is the Director of Risk Services at Wake Forest University, where she has worked for almost 20 years. She grew up in Winston-Salem, and is a proud, third-generation Demon Deacon graduate. She earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees in English from WFU. She is a Sustaining Member of the Junior League of Winston-Salem, and was a member of its Board of Directors the year Bookmarks held its first festival. She has volunteered with many local organizations, because she believes it's important and rewarding to give back to her hometown. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, playing golf (not very well), and music.

Rick Simpson, Treasurer, is a Client Advisor at Alex. Brown, where he focuses on providing consulting to retirement plan sponsors in the areas of administration, compliance, education and investment management – as well as private wealth management. Prior to joining Alex. Brown, Rick was Vice President and Regional Manager of Client Services for Merrill Lynch Retirement Group. In addition, he has previously worked with Aon Consulting (formerly Booke & Company) and Invesco Retirement Plan Services. Simpson is a graduate of Wofford College

with a BA in Economics. He has served on various committees at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Virginia Episcopal School and Summit School and has been a volunteer with local agencies such as: Habitat for Humanity, United Way of Forsyth County and Boy Scouts of America.

Members at Large

Regan K. Adamson, an Associate at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, specializes in investment management, business and finance, securities, and mergers and acquisitions. While attending law school, Adamson was a legal intern in the Virginia Office of the Attorney General where he worked with the Solicitor General on appellate work in federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court. Prior to law school, Adamson was a Business Intelligence Analyst at Nu Skin Enterprises in Provo, Utah. He received his bachelor's degree in political science with a minor in Japanese from Brigham Young University and graduated magna cum laude at Wake Forest University School of Law. He was also a member of the Order of the Coif at Wake and served on the Editorial Board of the *Wake Forest Law Review*.

Frank Brown is the Director of Diversity, Inclusion, and Outreach at Forsyth Country Day School. Originally from Atlanta, Frank earned his bachelor's degree in sociology and his master's degree in business administration from Wake Forest University. Prior to coming to FCDS, he worked at his alma mater as an assistant dean in undergraduate admissions and as assistant director for diversity and global initiatives at the WFU School of Business. In these roles, Brown helped to implement the business school's diversity agenda, executed targeted recruitment strategies, managed scholarship and certificate programs, and mentored graduate students. Additionally, he served as an administrator for Wake Forest's Honor & Ethics Council. Brown is also a certified instructor on global competency and intercultural effectiveness. He and his wife, Renae, have three daughters.

Susan Conger received a BA in Art History from Hollins College and was in the advertising agency business in both Atlanta and Winston-Salem prior to retiring to raise children. During that time, Conger served numerous organizations as a volunteer. She was President of The Junior League of Winston-Salem. (The first Bookmarks festival, which was started by the Junior League, occurred during her presidency.) She was a founding member of the Board of The Children's Museum of Winston-Salem, and has also chaired numerous committees and fundraising events for several organizations in the community. Conger is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Reynolda House Museum of American Art, and an incoming member of the Board of Visitors of University of North Carolina School of the Arts. She and her husband, Mark, have two children.

Andy Dreyfuss is a partner with Nova Triad Homes, a residential real estate developer and homebuilder. Prior to that, Andy was the Fund Executive for the Piedmont Angel Network (PAN) which invests in start-up companies across North Carolina. Andy has served as the Placement Director for the Babcock Graduate School of Management, and held finance and planning roles with Coca-Cola and Apple. Andy graduated from Santa Clara University with a B.S. in Economics and received a MBA degree from Wake Forest University. Community involvement includes: The Little Theatre, Leadership Winston-Salem, and the City of

Winston-Salem's Small Loan Program. Currently, he is serving on the DataMax Foundation Board. Andy is a 2011 Leadership Winston-Salem graduate.

Justin Gomez, Senior Marketing Manager for Corporate, Community and BestHealth, oversees Wake Forest Baptist Health's community sponsorships and sports marketing partnerships, as well as serves to engage the community through the BestHealth wellness brand of Wake Forest Baptist. A business professional who combines marketing experience for key local companies with non-profit business sector expertise, he held a series of leadership positions in marketing, community relations and event management during a career with organizations such as the *Winston-Salem Journal*, *Greensboro News & Record* and the Downtown Winston-Salem Partnership. Gomez earned a bachelor's degree of business administration in marketing from Appalachian State University. Gomez and his wife, Hollie, have two children, Samuel and Luke. Longtime residents of Winston-Salem, they both volunteer with their faith community at Reynolda Church. He also enjoys watching Appalachian State football, Wake Forest basketball and visiting many of his favorite downtown Winston-Salem restaurants.

Jennifer Grosswald grew up in Winston-Salem and after 12 years in Atlanta, relocated home in 2003. Her undergraduate degree is in advertising from the University of Georgia and she earned a Master's of Public Health from Emory University. Her previous career was in the healthcare industry — most notably corporate communications for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia and health care provider consulting for William M. Mercer. A lover of books, her priorities are ReadWS (Augustine tutor), Summit School, Temple Emanuel, Brenner Children's Hospital and Reynolds High School.

Debbie Dellinger Harllee, Founder, graduated from East Carolina University in Communications Art. She has been involved with Bookmarks since initial planning began in 2000, leading the planning and execution of five book festivals as Chair/Director and President. She has been an Independent Creative/Design Director since 1985, providing clients with concept, copywriting, and design for all communication needs from logos and identity standards to advertising, annual reports, project management and promotions. Harllee has served on local, regional and international boards of nonprofits and professional associations.

Jerri Irby is the Vice President of Human Resources at Wake Forest Baptist Health. Over the last 14 years, she has served in HR leadership roles at Carolinas HealthCare System (now Atrium Health), AIG, Wells Fargo and Bank of America. Prior to her career in HR, Jerri worked as a Consultant with both Mercer and Accenture, specializing in M&A and process improvement. She holds Bachelors in Mathematics from Spelman College, a Masters in Industrial Engineering from Georgia Tech and an MBA from Stanford University. Community involvement has included Board membership with the UNC School of the Arts, as well as Mint Museum of Art and the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture (both in Charlotte, NC).

Sarah McCoy is the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, and international bestselling author of *Marilla of Green Gables*; *The Mapmaker's Children*; *The Baker's Daughter*, a 2012 Goodreads Choice Award Best Historical Fiction nominee; *The Time It Snowed in Puerto Rico*; among others. Her

work has been featured in *Real Simple*, *The Millions*, *Your Health Monthly*, *Huffington Post* and other publications. She has taught English writing at Old Dominion University and at the University of Texas at El Paso. The daughter of an Army officer, her family was stationed in Germany during her childhood. She grew up in Virginia and attended Virginia Tech University for her undergraduate degree and Old Dominion University for her Master of Fine Arts degree. She now lives with her husband, an orthopedic sports surgeon, and their dog, Gilbert, in Winston-Salem.

Jackie Pierson retired as the Director of Library Media Services for the Winston-Salem/ Forsyth County public school system in early 2019. She earned her Master's Degree in Library and Information Services from SUNY Geneseo and her Media Supervisor's licensure from UNCG. She has worked in music, public, and elementary school libraries in New York State, South Carolina and North Carolina. She was awarded the Distinguished Service Award from the NC School Library Media Association and has served in various roles on the Executive Board of NCSLMA including Book Programs Coordinator. In her position with the school system, she administered a \$1.2 million federal Innovative Approaches to Literacy Grant, called Reading Railroad Express, which provides free books and professional development to school librarians in six WS/FCS schools. She lives with her husband, and dog, Jasmine, in Pfafftown and volunteers with her church delivering backpacks and distributing food at a food pantry, singing in the choir, and helps manage the church's preschool.

Paige Raper is Assistant Principal at Arts Based School. She grew up in New York before moving to North Carolina in 1998. She received a BA at Colgate University in upstate New York and her Master's degree at Salem College. Raper enjoys spending time outside of school with her husband and two boys. She loves knitting, quilting, reading and traveling.

Andrew Smith is an Audit Senior Manager at KPMG, LLP in Greensboro. He received a BS in Business Administration from East Carolina University and an MS in Accountancy from Wake Forest University. Mr. Smith is a licensed CPA in North Carolina and is a member of the NCACPA and AICPA. He has worked in public accounting for over seven years with a focus on financial statement audits of companies in various industries including technology and consumer markets.

Mike Stewart served in the United States Marine Corps for nine years holding Top Secret clearance and specializing in repair and maintenance of cryptographic equipment. He served in North Carolina, California, and Georgia in the United States, as well as in Japan and later in Saudi Arabia during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. After stints at USAirways and Long Communications Group, he resumed a career in federal service by joining the United States Postal Service, where he has worked as a city carrier for the 20 years. He has served for many years as a regular volunteer of Bookmarks on the planning and programming committees.

Ex-Officio Member

Ginger Hendricks was named the **Executive Director** of Bookmarks in 2010. Hendricks graduated with honors from Salem College, with a degree in communication and creative

writing, and holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in Writing from Vermont College. She served for four years as the Director of the Center for Women Writers and Coordinator of Cultural Events at Salem College, and from 2003 – 2005, as Assistant to the Dean of Cultural and Special Programs at Elon University. Her fiction and nonfiction have been published in local and national journals, and she was awarded the Young Alumna Award from Salem College in 2010. In 2015, she was recognized by the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce as a winner of the Winston Under 40 Leadership Award.

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