



Contact:
Mary Beth Navarro, 704-576-1858

THE CHARLOTTE MUSEUM OF HISTORY ADDS STAFF, ANNOUNCES NEW TRUSTEES

CHARLOTTE, N.C., Dec. 15, 2018 – The Charlotte Museum of History today announced the election of new members to its board of trustees, as well as the addition of two new staff members to the museum team.

“This is an exciting time for the museum. We are adding fresh leadership perspectives with the addition of five new trustees who hail from the worlds of publishing, business, community services and the arts. We’re also investing in the museum’s future by hiring a development director,” said Adria Focht, president and CEO of the museum. “We’re glad to have a new adult education specialist joining the museum team, too.”

Tom Eisman joins the museum as development director. Prior to coming to the museum, he was director of stewardship with Safe Alliance, a Charlotte nonprofit that provides programs and services to those impacted by domestic violence and sexual assault. Before moving to Charlotte, he was director of development and administration with the Arts Council of Fairfax County, Va., and institutional giving manager with multiple theatres in the Washington, D.C., area. Tom is a licensed Washington, D.C., tour guide.

Angel Johnston joins the museum as its adult education specialist. She was previously programs and operations manager for Iredell Museums in Statesville. Prior to that, she held positions at the Gaston County Museum, Alexandria Archaeology Museum in Virginia and George Washington’s Mount Vernon, where she interpreted the historic site’s archaeological work to thousands of visitors annually.

Erin Barbee, Dee Dixon, Dave Kylander, Steve Phifer and Bob Stickler joined the museum’s board of trustees this year.



Erin Barbee is director of Mission Advancement for the Aldersgate Retirement Community. She will serve as the museum's board liaison to Aldersgate, the museum's neighbor and a major partner in preserving the historic Hezekiah Alexander House. A native of Charlotte, Barbee has served as executive director of several senior living entities over the last 11 years, from free-standing memory care communities to independent living facilities. She serves on various boards and committees in Charlotte, including for the Leading on Opportunity Council, Charlotte LGBT Chamber of Commerce, Charlotte East, Simmons YMCA, Habitat for Humanity Neighborhood Revitalization, and the Charlotte Mecklenburg Aging Coalition.

Dee Dixon is CEO and publisher of Pride Communications, which publishes Pride Magazine. She is a co-founder of Pride Public Relations and the founder of the nonprofit Pride Entrepreneur Education Program. Dixon also is the visionary behind several well-known Charlotte events, including The Pride Sunset Jazz Series, Pride Awards Gala and the Charlotte Mecklenburg Health Symposium. She has previously served on the board of directors of the Mint Museums, the Charlotte Chamber and the Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority.

Dave Kylander is preconstruction executive at Messer Construction Co., where he has worked for more than 30 years. Prior to moving to Charlotte in 2017, he served in volunteer leadership roles for various nonprofits, including on the board of directors for the Great Rivers Girl Scouts, the Girl Scouts of Western Ohio, the Miami Valley March of Dimes and ISpace.

Steve Phifer is a native Charlottean and executive vice president at Rodgers Builders, where he has worked for 31 years. Steve also serves on the board of directors for the Harrisburg YMCA and has previously served on the boards of the Council for Children's Rights and the Cannon Memorial YMCA Corporate Board.

Bob Stickler is retired from the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, where he was president and CEO. After a career in journalism, Stickler transitioned to corporate communications



roles at Barnett Banks, NationsBank and later Bank of America, where he supported CEO Ken Lewis before retiring in 2012. He serves on the board of directors of the Charlotte Master Chorale and previously served on the boards for the Oratorio Singers and the Charlotte Symphony.

About The Charlotte Museum of History

The Charlotte Museum of History engages a broad audience in the history of the Charlotte region through the stories of its people, places and events to promote dialogue and historical perspective. The museum is the steward of the Hezekiah Alexander House (ca. 1774) and home site, a site listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the oldest home in Mecklenburg County. To learn more, visit charlottemuseum.org and follow the museum on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).