

STATE OF MINNESOTA
Executive Department



Governor Tim Walz

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Christina Woods
Congressional District 8

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment, and ability, I have appointed you to the office of:

Member
State Arts Board

Effective: May 4, 2022

Expires: January 5, 2026

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

Signed and sealed April 29, 2022.



Handwritten signature of Tim Walz in black ink.

Tim Walz
Governor

Handwritten signature of Steve Simon in black ink.

Steve Simon
Secretary of State

Replacing: Mary McReynolds-Pellinen

Filed on April 29, 2022
Office of the Minnesota
Secretary of State,
Steve Simon

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President of the Senate

Christina Woods

428 North 41st Avenue East • Duluth, MN 55804 • 218.464.7877 • Christina.woods1@gmail.com

Minnesota State Art Board
540 Fairview Ave N Suite 304
St Paul, MN 55104

March 24, 2022

Dear Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor, Flanigan:

It is with honor and respect that I submit my application for consideration to serve on the Minnesota State Arts Board to represent the arts of US house District 8 and MN House District 7A.

I am a Bois Forte Nation tribal member currently living in Duluth, MN with extensive experience in working with diverse groups within government, business, non-profits and education. I consider myself well connected to the rural Minnesota in addition to the urban area of Duluth.

I currently lead the Duluth Art Institute where I have honed my advocacy skills to an impressive level in supporting the arts.

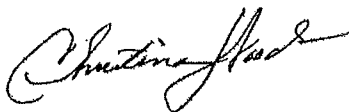
In February, I was appointed to serve on the U.S. Senate Curatorial Advisory Board. Ahead of that, I began serving Duluth as a commissioner for public arts. I was appointed in 2018 by Governor Walz to the State of Minnesota Capitol Arts Advisory Committee and served the CAAP Board under Lt. Governor Flannigan to facilitate point of view on Statues and Monuments on Capitol grounds. I also serve on the steering committee of the Minnesota Arts and Culture Coalition, you may or may not yet know about, which is the largest coalition of arts leaders in Minnesota. I bring a wide range of experience and connections to the all the art sectors in Minnesota.

I am visionary and passionate about the arts equity in funding and desire to inspires teamwork based on strengths. I am a leader who will look for novel solutions to complex problems and a caring professional who is able to have fearless conversations while breaching difficult topics with respect and inclusion. My strengths also include organizational management, networking, collaboration, and advancing mission.

My personal experience working with underrepresented communities along with all my talents already mentioned will bring a lot of value to the Minnesota State Arts Board.

I look forward my name and talents going forward in the process of becoming a member of the Minnesota State Arts Board.

Warmly,



Christina Woods
Executive Director of the Duluth Art Institute
Personal email and cell
Christina.woods1@gmail.com
218-464-7877

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Duluth, Minnesota • 218.464.7877
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Executive Director

Inclusive • Strategic • Innovative • Responsive

A Bois Forte Nation tribal member currently living in Duluth, MN with extensive experience working with diverse groups within government, business, non-profits, and education. Visionary and passionate professional who inspires teamwork and strives to build on strengths. Deeply skilled in the implementation and application of diversity, equity, and inclusion strategies. A leader who will look for solutions to complex problems. Caring professional who is able to have fearless conversations while breaching difficult topics with respect and inclusion. Especially skilled at strategic planning, organizational management, networking, collaboration, advancing mission, stewarding, fundraising and program development. Strong working knowledge of and personal experience with underrepresented cultural identities both individually and in communities. Utilizes the creative process through personal practice and experience. Excellent communication skills both written and oral. A professional who is gifted at diving into problems and turning them around into positive solutions.

Areas of Excellence

Motivational Leadership
Network Development
Professional Development/Talent Management
Strategic Planning and Strategic Problem-solving
Communication-Press Releases, Interviews
Educational Training/Writing/Programming
Historical and Intergenerational Trauma
American Indian Culture and Education

Mission Focus
Community Building and Connecting
Assessment/Evaluation
Fundraising/Donor Development
Grant Writing and Reporting
EDI/Anti-bias Training
Cultural Competency
Learning Styles

Professional Experience

Leadership - Demonstrated record of leadership, both programmatic and administrative, characterized by integrity and vision, supporting and driving the mission, spirit, and core values of the organization.

- Led and developed strategic plans to include community input, work plans and complete overview of the organization including factors that would negatively impact the organization.
- Led by example facilitating and harmoniously resolving needs of staff, members, artists, and board of directors.

- Recruited staff and board members who support the values and mission to achieve the highest standards of service.
- Served on non-profit, city, and state boards and commissions. Proven skill supporting the work of governing and working boards.
- Mission driven decision making including the integration of data and work plans.
- Taught Implicit Bias, Race Privilege, Historical Trauma, Group Development, and Communications workshops
 - St. Louis County Health and Human Services
 - College of St Scholastica, Talk Back on Native Nations
 - Implicit Bias Training, City of Duluth Police Department
 - Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless
 - Ecolibrium 3, Duluth, MN
 - ICOM
 - League of Women Voters
 - Duluth Art Institute
 - Cirrus
- Embedded in engendering trust, confidence, and engagement in program participants, trustees, staff, donors and other related constituencies.
- Provided support, leadership and mentoring to American Indian students in the Native Teacher program.
- Wrote social justice impacts statements, inclusion statements and created diversity models based on the individual culture of an organization.
- Cultivate effectiveness and advocate for the needs of the organization.
- Excellent knowledge of the contemporary arts and literary domains.

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Fundraising – Proven success as a strategic planner and fundraiser, including soliciting major donors, managing a multi-year campaign, and obtaining competitive grants. Embedded key partnerships and best practices in fundraising.

- Led development plan to increase individual donor solicitations, members, relationships and stewardship, while coordinating search for prospective major donors.
- Devoted significant time to meeting with stakeholders, donors, and funders.
- Demonstrated success with grant writing;
- Created a streamlined opportunity for past and potential investors to create specialized giving plans.
- Implemented planned giving programs.
- Proven experience with fundraising through sponsorships, events, membership, donor development, and grants.
- Developed innovative revenue streams to support general operations.

Communications

- Served as the community and public relations person, media trained.
- Knowledgeable of technology and utilizes its capabilities to advance programs and attract wider audiences.
- Extensive experience interviewing and being interviewed.
- Responsible for narration, camera interviews, curriculum writing, story leads, and hosting for a television program.
- Developed executive director copy types for nonprofits as the, including annual appeals, donor thank you, social media and email copy, ad tag lines and marketing rebranding.
- Produced yearly communications schedules, including topic, theme, and fundraising appeals.
- Created effective written communications reflecting organization's values, purpose, and practices.
- Developed curriculum guides for story clips for classroom use based on MN Academic Standards
- Trained in creating elevator and stump speeches

- Featured in several Duluth News Tribune articles, published articles in the Hillsider (February 2017; vol. 17, nr. 2), Woman Today Magazine (January 2017, vol 20, nr 6), The Duluthian (Nov/Dec 2016, volume 53 issue 6), MN Women Press (November 2019)

Operational Management

- Managed day to day operations in line with strategic goals and implemented decisions effectively while valuing the inclusion of stakeholders. Key responsibilities: program development, supervision of staff, facilitation of board of directors, staff development, fiscal management according to policy and law developing the annual building budgets, coordinated grant development and grant reporting.
- Developed strategic planning work plans in collaboration with community, artists, staff and board of directors.
- Oversaw all aspects of facilities including maintenance, updates, historic restoration, and ongoing development needs.
- Set priorities according to the strategic plan and board policies.
- Decolonized arts non-profit to promote inclusivity.

Program Management

- Supported staff in developing, implementing, and evaluating all aspects of the experience participants have in programs.
- Designed innovative arts programming for teens to include leadership training, exhibition preparedness and learning the creative process as a means to solve problems.
- Restructured non-profit programs to efficiently and effectually gather data without excessive participant surveys in order to improve participant experience.
- Developed and used logic models for program development, goal setting and rationale for programs.
- Began and grew American Indian, Woman Owned construction company focusing on American Indian participation, federal, state and tribal building contracts.
- Created curriculum to teach constructs of privilege, interpersonal skills and group dynamics. Students apply their personal life pedagogy to the course concepts. All courses focused on isms, intersectionality, stereotypes, biases, prejudice, power and privilege, while teaching about dignity, hospitality, stewardship, hospitality and diversity. Mentoring and college level academic advising.
- Developed instructional programming and innovative teaching approaches to integrate Anishinaabe culture and language during charter school development.
- Created frameworks to meet diverse learning modalities for professional trainings.

Personnel Management

- Exercised sensitivity in all personnel matters.
- Championed positive work environments that reflected diversity in employee background, problem solving, and inclusive practices. Fostered diverse, equitable, inclusive, accessible, and respectful workplace culture meeting diverse cultural, religious, and learning style needs.
- Develop customized training to meet the specific needs of companies and organizations to build upon the evolving role of diversity and inclusion.
- Facilitated development of human resource policies and personnel handbook and board of directors training with regularity and excellent communication to staff and board.
- Proven supervisory and team management skills, especially with diverse learners and diverse working styles.
- Supervised staff and subcontractors on multi-million dollar construction projects.

Risk Management

- Managed risk for personal business and non-profits, including branding and image.
- Manage contracts and risk with priceless art and artifacts.

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- Negotiated union contracts.
- Managed risk within human relations.
- Oversaw transition messaging for non-profits to protect their image for donors and mitigate the loss of individual donations.
- Researched and implemented insurance for non-profits and personal businesses, casualty, director and officer, workman's comp, health and medical, short and long term disability, auto, and property insurances.

Fiscal Management

- Followed all fund accounting principles and accurately informed the board and stakeholders of financial positions in a timely manner.
- Proven financial management, federal grant reporting, program oversight.
- Written grants to local foundations, state and federal grants for operating, program and succession needs.
- Began and grew American Indian, Woman Owned construction company focusing on American Indian participation, federal, state and tribal building contracts. Strengths include executing strategic planning, operation management, accounting and financial management, payroll, human resources, construction management, compiling accurate and complete bid proposal packages which included project costing and guaranteed pricing, fulfilling federal, state, tribal contracts, public relations. Negotiated with government agencies during final decision-making process. Met contract deadlines and milestone with excellent ratings. Recognized by Governors Tim Pawlenty and Mark Dayton for successful contract awards for years 2009-20012. Collaborated with businesses, subcontractors and government agencies. Development of apprenticeship and education program for Bois Forte Band members to learn construction trades on the job. Utilized federal and state procurement systems to locate RFP's. Projects included steel frame and wood frame structures, demolition, paving, roofing, and multi-unit housing construction-supportive housing projects. Clients included: Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Army Corps of Engineers, MN DNR, and US Forest Service.

Professional History

Executive Director, Duluth Art Institute, Duluth, MN	2017-present
Executive Director, Damiano of Duluth, Duluth, MN	2016-2017
Owner/ Consultant, Diversity Consulting, Duluth, MN	2105-present
Adjunct Professor, College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, MN	2012-2015
CTA 2240- Intercultural Communications (2012-2014)	
CTA 1101- Interpersonal Communications (2013-2014)	
DGN 1101- Dignitas (2012-2015)	
Interim Executive Director, YWCA Duluth, Duluth MN	2014
Coordinator-Native Teacher Program, College of St. Scholastica	2013 -2014
President, Owner, TAC Construction Solutions, Inc., Duluth MN	2008-2012
Field Producer, WDSE Native Report, Duluth, MN	2009-2017
Consultant, Pine Grove Leadership Academy Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe	2005-2007
Elementary Educator, Stillwater Public Schools, Stillwater, MN	1991-2005
Diversity Trainer, Stillwater Public Schools, Stillwater, MN	1991-2005

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Education and Professional Development

Degrees

Masters of Education, Teacher Leadership (M.Ed), University of Minnesota
Bachelor of Science, Elementary License 1-6 (B.S.ED), Concentration in Math and Science,
University of Minnesota

Other Courses and Awards

- Awardee AARP Minnesota 50 Over 50, 2019 Nonprofit Innovator
- Fundraising 101, University of Wisconsin Superior, Training to organize and run a capital campaign
- Vote, Run, Lead, Training in community organizing, campaign development, and public relations
- ROOTS, Training in Systems of Oppression, College of St Scholastica
- Literacy Collaborative, Training in comprehensive instructional framework that includes guided reading, Writing Workshop, and Language and Word Study
- BrainU, University of Minnesota, Neuroscience Teacher Institute Three Years neuroscience training relative to dimensions of learning
- Ongoing courses on leadership and management in non-profit environments.
International Panelist for International Community of Museums (ICOM) Panelist for Yale Alumni Association Session on the Construct of Race

Service on Boards of Directors

- *U.S. Senate Curatorial Advisory Board
- *City of Duluth Public Arts Commission – President
- *Minnesota State Capitol Arts Committee – Vice-Chair
- *Minnesota State CAAPB Monument and Statues Task Force
- League of Women Voters of Duluth, MN – President
- City of Duluth Human Rights Commissioner, Duluth, MN
- YWCA, Duluth, MN
- PAVSA, Duluth, MN
- Parents United, Minneapolis, MN
- MN Parent Teacher Association, St. Paul,
- Parent Teacher Association, Pequot Lakes, MN

*currently serving

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Application for the position Member (Cong Dist 8) Application Date: 3/24/2022 5:46:49 PM

Part I: Position Sought

Agency Name: Minnesota State Arts Board
Position: Member (Cong Dist 8)

Part II: Applicant Information

Name: Christina Woods
Phone: (218) 464-7877
Mailing Address: 428 N 41st Ave E Duluth 55804
Email: christina.woods1@gmail.com
County: St. Louis
Felony Conviction: No
Mn House District: 07A
US House District: 8
Recommended by the Appointing Authority: False

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Part III: Appending Documentation

Cover Letter and Resume

Type	File Type
Cover Letter	application/pdf
Resume	application/pdf

Additional Documents (.doc, .docx, .pdf, .txt)

Type	File Name
Cover Letter	Cover Letter MNSAB.pdf
Resume	WOODS Resume 3-2022.pdf

Part IV: Optional Statistical Information

Race and Natural Origin: American Indian or Alaska Native
Political Party: Democratic-Farmer-Labor
Age: 53
Gender: Female
Disability: No
Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin: No
Veteran: No Answer

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Part V: Signature

Signature: Christina Woods

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AGENCY DETAILS

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