

CREATIVITY FOR PEACE  
**2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Sue Breslauer** (president) has spent her adult life working for and creating nonprofit organizations in St. Louis and in Santa Fe. She currently focuses her efforts on transitioning homeless families to permanency and sustainability. Sue also coordinates the Interfaith Leadership Alliance of Santa Fe.

**Alicia Smith** (vice president) spent her career at the intersection of public policy and politics, first representing the nation's governors through the National Governors' Association and then private clients through her consulting practice in Washington, D.C. Her focus was always on human services policy with emphasis on health care, education, workforce development and welfare programs. Now retired and living in Santa Fe, she works with OneNewMexico Foundation to research and develop issue briefs on topics critical to a healthy New Mexico.

**Rebekah Wright** (secretary) is committed to the causes of social justice, women's rights, and interfaith dialogue. She holds degrees from Baylor University and the University of Houston. A former Presidential Management Fellow, Rebekah works as an attorney in Albuquerque. She is mom to two children, Jakob and Miah Ruth.

**Sam M. Hocking** (treasurer) is the owner of a computer firm that outsources accounting services. He formerly worked for International Paper Company and IBM. He served for five years on the Dallas United Way budget committee and was treasurer of the Dallas Shakespeare Festival.

**Shaza Anderson** was born in Syria to a diplomatic family and has lived in nine countries. An avid supporter of peace making, social justice, and interfaith dialogue she has worked and volunteered with a variety of organizations. After earning a degree in English Literature, she studied journalism and parapsychology. She has two adult children and resides with her husband in Houston.

**Rudeina Baasiri** is an advisor in the intellectual property section of the law firm of Winston & Strawn. She earned a Ph.D. in molecular genetics from Texas A&M University. Rudeina grew up in Lebanon and currently resides in Houston, where she serves on the Boards of several nonprofits and is a member of the Houston Committee on Foreign Relations.

**Leslie Boni** is a University of New Mexico finance professor. She has a B.S. degree in chemical engineering from Northwestern University and a Ph.D. in Business (finance concentration) from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She has also worked at Chevron Corporation, at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, and at a start-up firm in Los Angeles.

**Beverley Byers-Pevitts**, President Emerita of Park University, retired as a higher education leader after 43 years in the academy. Her Ph.D. is from Southern Illinois University, with postdoctoral studies at Harvard. A playwright, writer and editor, she has lectured on issues from leadership and strategic planning to women in the arts and women's health.

**Kathie Cole** is a retired family therapist and the mother of four daughters and grandmother of nine. She has a long-held commitment to community service, including therapist training and support for adults, youth, and families in crisis.

**Rob Elliott** is a retired river outfitter and the former owner of Arizona Raft Adventures who guides four weeks a year on the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon. He has been a community activist much of his life and served on numerous environmentally oriented boards.

**Lamia Faruki** has a degree in management from Arizona State University, speaks French and Arabic, and serves on the Professional Standards Committee at the Greater Albuquerque Association of Realtors. She does public speaking in an effort to further interfaith understanding and reconciliation.

**Karl Ferguson** (treasurer) has worked with NGOs in Haiti, Honduras, East Africa, and the United States. The former executive director of Haiti's Lambi Fund and the Parkinson Association of the Rockies, he now serves as foundation coordinator for the St. Vincent Hospital Foundation in Santa Fe. Karl holds a masters degree in intercultural relations from Lesley College.

**Connie Kaiserman Robinson** is a founder of Twitten, a Santa Fe-based company collaborating with women's knitting cooperatives in Peru, and, with her husband Steve, the Bodhi Fund, which supports New Mexico families of children with cancer. In New York she produced seven feature films with Merchant Ivory Productions and Black Swan Productions.

**Merna Saliman**, Ed.D, whose career spanned 40 years as a community college educator in Colorado and Missouri, recently retired as President Emerita of Metropolitan Community College/Maple Woods in Kansas City. She has been actively committed to women's issues, civil rights, and issues of inclusion and diversity.

## EMERITUS BOARD

**Amyra Rasak** owns and operates Grayling Group LLC, a sales promotion and promotional products company. She has been involved in community service with a focus on women and their needs.

**Jane B. Yohalem** is an appellate attorney who has practiced labor, employment, and civil rights law in New Mexico. She is a graduate of Columbia University Georgetown University law schools.

**Libby Skamfer** is an artist and a retired entrepreneur and master goldsmith. Her many interests include architectural design, horsemanship, and cooking. She is a former chair of the Creativity for Peace board.

**Glenn Dickter** was a senior financial planner for Ameriprise Financial Services. He has been an active, long-term supporter and volunteer for the ManKind Project and for Kitchen Angels.

**Joyce Testa Salhoot** is a retired hospital administrator and social worker with a 45-year career in nonprofit healthcare and volunteerism. She is a former chair of the Creativity for Peace board.

**Nancy Dickenson** is a documentary and feature film producer and philanthropist with an interest in animal welfare, children, and the arts.

**John Connell** is a professional chef who, after many years in the restaurant industry, works for private clients.

**Leslie Nathanson Juris** runs a consulting business that advises companies on managing complex organizational change. She holds a Ph.D. from the Kellogg School at Northwestern University.

**Paul Kovnat**, a retired physician after a 50-year career, has a lifelong interest in social and political activism.

**Elizabeth A. Martin, JD**, is vice president of the Lewin Group and former CEO of OptumHealth New Mexico.

December 2016