



## Board of Directors

FY2024/25

### **Amy Matthews | President**

Amy has been a member of SCAA since 2018 and joined the pottery studio in 2020. Amy recently retired from a 30-year career in the reinsurance industry, structuring and placing reinsurance programs for major global insurance companies. She has served on the nonprofit board of directors for the League of Women Voters of the City of New York since 2017. Amy began her career as a consultant after graduating from Brown University with an A.B. in history and the University of Rochester Simon School with an M.B.A. in finance. Some of her favorite artists are Edward Hopper, Katsushika Hokusai, and her friend Kyle Staver.

### **Richard Levy | Vice President**

Dr. Levy joined the SCAA board in 2024, bringing over 40 years of experience in teaching, research, and creative work. He holds degrees in civil engineering from Tufts University, in addition to a Master of Architecture and Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. Before joining the University of Calgary, Dr. Levy taught at UCLA, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and Cornell University. His teaching focused on graduate and undergraduate courses in architectural and urban history, architectural design, project management, and real estate development and finance. At Calgary, he co-directed the Computational Media Design Program, an interdisciplinary initiative in Computer Science, Architecture, and Fine Arts to explore the intersection of computing and the arts. Dr. Levy has published extensively in archaeology, urban planning, games, and virtual reality. Since retiring, he continues to teach courses on real estate development and finance at the University of Rhode Island and architectural history for OLLI.

### **Linda Ann Riley, Ph.D. | Treasurer**

Dr. Linda Riley is currently the SCAA Treasurer and an active Pottery Studio member. She retired in 2015 from a career in academia and administration where she held positions including Associate Dean, Research Director, Engineering Program Coordinator, and Professor of Engineering. Dr. Riley has over thirty years of teaching and consulting experience in both engineering and business, and notable success in grant writing, research administration, board memberships, and as a national speaker on diversity challenges in STEM fields. Linda is the recipient of numerous awards in teaching and research and is the author/co-author of over 100 articles, technical reports, and book contributions. Her educational background includes a B.S., Boston University, M.B.A., Suffolk University, Post Graduate Fellowship, Brown University, and an M.S. in Engineering and Ph.D. in Business from New Mexico State University.

### **Mary Haney | Secretary**

Mary grew up in New Jersey and has lived in Rhode Island since 1985. She is an active member of the Pottery Studio. Mary has a B.F.A. in Art from URI. In the 1990's she was an associate member of Hera Gallery for a few years, working in soft sculpture. Mary worked for 39 in IT in the Banking Industry, including Risk and Information Security and retired from banking in late 2021. Previously, she served on the board of a local Unitarian Church as well as on the board of the New England Chapter of The Society of Glass Beadmakers. Since 2012, Mary has taught yoga in the YMCA system.

### **Maryann Stenson**

In college, Maryann discovered the world of threads and fibers and the world of two-dimensional pieces. While continuing her graduate studies in Chico, California, she was commissioned by interior designers for unique pieces and also by the Episcopal Church for a series of ceiling altar hangings. Today, she combines paint, threads, beads, paper, etc., on canvasses. She thoroughly enjoys the fun and challenge of mixing media and pushing her pieces' limits. Her canvases have been exhibited at galleries in Beverly Farms, MA, Mystic, CT, Savannah, GA, South County Art Association and the Rhode Island State House.

### **Carol Tobin**

Carol retired in 2018 after a 40-year career as an architectural designer. Her passion is thoughtful and inspired design. In 1983, with architect partner Robert Parnes, she founded Tobin Parnes Design (now TPD Architecture), an award-winning New York City architectural design firm. Her work and the firm's work included senior healthcare and housing, nationally-based retail, restaurants, cultural, hospitality, residential development, and historic restoration and renovation. The firm grew to 23 employees. She taught at Parsons School of Design for ten years during her active career. In addition, after retiring, she has been volunteer teaching a course entitled "Entrepreneurship as a State of Mind" to high school students at Cristo Rey High School in Harlem, as well as mentoring Cristo Rey graduates as they progress through their college years. Her educational background includes a BA from California State University/Los Angeles and a BFA from the NY School of Interior Design. Currently, she is passionately studying all aspects of watercolor painting!

### **Murray Norcross**

Dr. Murray Norcross, MD, MPH is a lifelong artist, photographer, and woodcarver. A native of the Berkshires in western Massachusetts, he attended Saint Anselm College in Manchester, NH followed with the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester on a United States Navy medical scholarship. He completed an Internship in Internal Medicine at Naval Hospital in San Diego, California and later a residency in Family Medicine at Naval Hospital Charleston, South Carolina. A veteran of three wars, The Cold War, The Persian Gulf War, and The Global War on Terror, he has been an eyewitness to history throughout his thirty-year navy career. Now retired from active medical practice, Dr. Norcross is a lecturer for Salve Regina University's Circle of Scholars program and serves as a Trustee for the Varnum Armory Museum in East Greenwich and as a Board Member for the Rhode Island Slave History Medallion program. He is an active painter, photographer, and wood carver who takes inspiration from nature and his many around-the-world travel experiences. Dr. Norcross holds additional Masters Degrees in Hospital Administration, International Relations and Public Health. He is a U.S. Naval War College Command and Staff College graduate. He is married to his wife, Ann Dallaire, of 40 years. They have two adult children, Monika and Nathaniel. Dr. Norcross and his wife reside on Aquidneck Island.

### **Leon Thiem**

Leon is an Associate Professor in Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Rhode Island. He has written numerous publications and researched environmental engineering and global issues. As the director of the Rhode Island Water Resources Center, which utilizes federal grants to fund Rhode Island, his specific research is in all clean water areas. He is also the President of the Kingston Water District which supplies clean water to all of Kingston and the surrounding areas. Photography (shooting and development) and videography are his hobbies. He has been a resident of Kingston for over 40 years.