

REPORT OF THE ENCORE LEARNING NOMINATING COMMITTEE CANDIDATES 2024-2025

The Nominating Committee has reviewed the qualifications, membership and willingness to serve of the following persons for positions as Officers or Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs of the Board of Directors and recommends their election by the general membership. A brief background description of each candidate is included. The Nominating Committee has received no other nominations from the general membership as provided for in Article 6 - B.2 (b) of Encore Learning's Bylaws.

President, Two Year Term Ending 2026 – Marilyn Marton (incumbent) Marilyn spent her professional career working with labor and employment issues in a number of federal agencies. After practicing law in Chicago for several years, she joined the U.S. Customs Service, just being unionized by a very litigious union -- hence her assignment to represent Customs management in employment matters. After the excitement of picketing at Chicago's O'Hare Airport and the Air Traffic Controllers Strike, she moved to a calmer clientele at the Smithsonian Institution, where she served as Human Resources Director. After leaving the federal service, Marilyn provided consulting services in Human Resource Management to federal and private concerns, and now volunteers with Arlington County's 55+ Program and Encore Learning. She has served as both Chair and Vice Chair of Arlington's Senior Adult Council and has been a Class Aide and chaired Encore Learning's Nominating Committee several times.

Vice President, Two Year Term Ending 2026 – Mildred Patterson (incumbent) A retired Foreign Service Officer, Mildred served in Denmark, Belgium and Turkey (twice). She has been a Managing Editor of the Encore Learning course catalog and served as co-chair of the Publications Committee from 2010 – 2014. In 2011 she was a member of the Ad Hoc Committee that proposed the name change from the former Arlington Learning in Retirement Institute to today's Encore Learning. Mildred has been a Vice President of Encore Learning since 2020 and chaired Encore Learning's 20th Anniversary Celebration Committee in 2022. Mildred has a B.A. in History from the University of Pennsylvania. She is currently a volunteer instructor in Arlington's Community Outreach Program, teaching citizenship classes to aspiring American citizens.

Academic Programs Committee Co-Chair – Jeanne LaBella (incumbent) Jeanne retired in 2014 as a senior vice president of the American Public Power Association, where she spent 36 years as a reporter, editor and manager of the organization's journalism and other publishing activities. She holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in journalism from Syracuse University and American University and as a journalist covered national energy policy. She has been a member of Encore Learning's Academic Programs Committee since 2017. She fills her happy retirement years with many interests, including theater, piano, travel, quilting, politics, yoga (and other workouts) and Encore Learning courses.

Academic Programs Committee Co-Chair – Deborah Spero (incumbent) Deborah retired in 2007 as the Deputy Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, having started as an intern two weeks after finishing her degree at the University of Maryland, and much to her surprise, staying for another 37 years in the agency! After retiring, Deb decided to skip the consulting phase of many retired Government employees, and spend her time helping others as a volunteer in our community. She particularly enjoys working with young children; she has served as a Court Appointed Special Advocate and also has volunteered in kindergarten classes in Arlington. Deb also loves traveling, taking lots of Encore Learning classes, and studying French in France and here at home. Deborah has been a member of the Academic Programs Committee for the past two years and has also served as a Class Aide.

Class Aides Committee Co-Chair – Carol Fuller (incumbent) Carol jokes that she is now in her third career, as a community activist and volunteer. With a PhD in French, she enjoyed a first career teaching French at the Catholic University of America, the University of Louisville, and at Westminster College in Pennsylvania. In her second career, she served 27 years as a career diplomat in the U.S. Foreign Service, with assignments from Kathmandu, Nepal, to Cameroon, Peru, Bolivia, and Austria. After her 2011 retirement, she helped found the Crystal City Civic Association in 2014 and served as its President from 2017 to 2021 -- with development and Amazon's HQ2 high on her agenda. She also helped found Livability22202, a coalition of the 3 civic associations in the 22202 zip code. Her many volunteer assignments have included ushering at local theaters, as a Docent at the Library of Congress, creation of the Highlands Urban Garden (HUG) in Virginia Highlands Park, and Class Aide for Encore Learning (a member for 10 years).

Class Aides Committee Co-Chair – John Metzler John is a native of Washington, D.C. After graduating from Gonzaga College High School, he attended the College of the Holy Cross, graduated with an A.B. Physics in 1969, and then went on to get a graduate degree at MIT in rocket science. After receiving his 1-Y, he decided to leave the academic world to join the CIA, where he had a lot of fun. Opportunity knocked, and he left for more energetic times at ERDA, which morphed into the Department of Energy. His career adventures included working on the international aspects of the Superconducting Super Collider, and then the Large Hadron

Collider. (That experience gave him enough chutzpah to give in 2018 a course at Encore Learning on the Large Hadron Collider.) John retired in 2008 from the Federal government with a Distinguished Career Service award. John enjoys -- in addition to his two grandchildren, Encore Learning classes, bridge, bicycling, lap swimming, and golf (sometimes) – nothing more than a really good conversation.

Community Advisory Council Chair – David Briggs (incumbent) After 41 years of practicing real estate law, David retired in 2017 and started participating in Encore Learning’s class offerings. David received his Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, undertook graduate work at the University of South Florida while serving in the United States Air Force, and received his Juris Doctor degree from the George Washington University Law School. He has been a resident of Arlington on and off since his law school days, and he calls the Residences at Lyon Hill Condominium his home. Over the years, David has been an active advocate for and supporter of the arts in Arlington County. He has served on the Boards of the Arlington Metropolitan Chorus (now the Arlington Chorale) and Signature Theatre. He was appointed to the first Arlington Commission for the Arts, then to the Virginia Commission for the Arts and now serves as a board member and secretary of Embracing Arlington Arts. His involvement in the Arlington community has not been limited to the arts. He is a 1999 graduate of Leadership Arlington and served on the board of and as general counsel to the Arlington Free Clinic. He was a trustee of the Arlington Community Foundation and facilitated the establishment of the Rosslyn Business Improvement District, the first BID in Arlington.

Information Technology Committee Co-Chair – Martin Suydam (incumbent) Marty has had several careers: military, government civilian, industry executive and as a college and university educator in subject areas of mathematics, computing science, information technology, and management. His first career was as an Army Corps of Engineer officer retiring as a Colonel. In 1983, he was selected as a member of the Senior Executive Service with positions in the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Navy. After his government career, he was a Vice President and Corporate Officer of the following corporations: General Dynamics, Alcoa, JJMA, BMY (now BAE Systems), Burke Industries, and FOCUS Consulting. He taught at Colorado School of Mines 1970-1974, Washington College 2000-2014, George Mason University 1995-2008, and Marymount University 2014-2017. He has taught the following courses (terms): “Writing a Memoir” (5), “Spring/Fall in Arlington Parks” (6), “Walks with Charley” (3), and “Walk Four Mile Run” (2). Marty has been a member of the Encore Learning Board since 2017.

Information Technology Committee Co-Chair Richard Rubin (incumbent) Richard worked for Washington law firms for 37 years, moving from paralegal to technology staff just as these firms realized they needed computers. He spent the last 30 years of his career as the I.T. Manager at six firms where his focus was on local user support and training. He would explain the tech to the lawyers while explaining the legal needs to the engineers, serving as translator and pin cushion for both sides. He has certifications in operating systems and software, along with project and human management. He has spoken at legal technology conferences and G.W.U., run an association for technology managers, and written articles on I.T. support. Besides his work with Encore Learning, he also volunteers with Red Cross Disaster Services Technology and the Museum of Science Fiction. He has been an Encore Learning Class Aide several times and is excited to help the membership with their technology needs and aspirations.

Membership Committee Chair – Jean Falvey (incumbent) Jean, a Northern Virginia native and Arlingtonian since 1988, is a nonprofit philanthropic consultant with past experience in development, including serving as executive director of the Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing. She enjoys volunteering with Project Knitwell, mentoring and tutoring youth residents of AHC communities, reading, writing, theater, travel, and Arlington’s many great places to walk and dine. She holds a Master of Urban Planning from the University of Virginia and a B.S. in Business Administration from VA Tech.

Publications Committee Co-Chair – Ann Kaupp (incumbent) Ann is retired from the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History where she headed the Anthropology Outreach Office. She served as managing editor of an international anthropology publication for educators that culminated in a co-edited publication. She produced a series of videos, organized workshops for teachers and professional meetings, and founded a department newsletter. She has served as both proofreader and editor for the Encore Learning course catalog and in 2020 became co-chair of the Publications Committee.

Publications Committee Co-Chair – Bill Reilly (incumbent) Bill has worked on numerous Encore Course Catalogs as part of the Publications team. As a copy editor, he aims to ensure the accuracy and readability of course descriptions and enjoys collaborating with other team members. These skills carry over from more than 30 years as a writer and editor for multiple publications covering the energy industry. Bill graduated from Fairfield University in Fairfield, Connecticut. After relocating to Washington, D.C., he studied muckraking while earning an MA in American History at the University of Maryland-College Park, and a concurrent MLS with a focus on electronic publishing. He retired in 2014. He believes in self-motivated life-long learning and sees volunteering as an opportunity to get involved in something larger than himself.

Special Events Committee Chair – Kris McLaughlin (incumbent) Kris McLaughlin volunteers for a variety of nonprofit organizations. She has served as Chair of Encore Learning’s Special Events Committee for over 10 years. She retired at age 56 after a fulfilling career in corporate strategic communications.

Volunteer Committee Chair – Jane Nagy (incumbent) Jane Nagy was privileged to serve as board chair at Texas Tech University to assist with reviving a dying OLLI group. From 47 members, it grew to 3 campuses with nearly 500 members, while providing exciting courses and events. Preceding this endeavor, while accompanying her husband to 8 postings in Africa, Jane chaired various American and International Spouses associations, as well as English speaking groups in French-speaking Africa, allowing opportunities for friendship building and community serving. Jane’s academic background includes a B.A. in American Studies from Georgetown University and a M.A. in Second Language Acquisition from Texas Tech University.

Respectfully submitted on April 4, 2024 by the Encore Learning Nominating Committee: Richard Juhnke, Chair, and Members Sandra Borden, Ellen Marcus, Ed Rader and Kathleen Sheehan.