

FY24

New Board Member bios

Alana Aldort serves as Manager of Operations and Programming for the Raymond James Campus Recruiting Team, so you will find her traveling regularly from Chicago to St. Petersburg, Florida. After serving as Manager of the Spertus Museum Shop, she worked in college recruiting for a number of companies to ultimately land her current position.

Originally from Kuna, Idaho, Alana Aldort has lived in the Chicago/Evanston area just over 25 years. She moved to the Midwest to complete her master's degree in biblical studies at the University of Notre Dame and ended up staying as Chicago was the first big city she got to know and grew to love.

When she is not working, Alana loves to cook, read, spend time with family/friends, and take advantage of any and all cultural activity that Chicagoland has to offer, especially anything related to architecture and history. She has been married to Evanston native Harlan Aldort since 1997.

Kelly Bush recently returned to Evanston after spending seven years in New York City. Although she previously lived in Chicago, Kelly knew Evanston well from having studied at Northwestern University, interning at the Evanston History Center during graduate school, volunteering for several years at the EHC and from having previously been a member of the Evanston History Center's Board of Trustees from 2011 to 2013. She was also on the Advisory Council at the Frances Willard House Museum from 2011 to 2013.

When it was time to decide where to go upon leaving New York, Evanston's natural beauty and historic homes made it the only true contender. In 2022 she fulfilled a long-time dream of buying a historic house in Evanston and has been working to restore it. Kelly received graduate degrees from Northwestern University (Liberal Studies-History, 2011) and Christie's Education New York (Modern Art and Its Markets, 2015). While in New York, she worked at an art gallery, a private art collection, auction houses and a museum. She is now taking on projects and consulting in the arts, development and the cultural sector.

Jill Demma is a Holistic Health Specialist for HCSC. She has several years of experience working as an Occupational Health Nurse for several companies including United Airlines, Grainger, Fel-Pro and Northshore University Health System. Jill is a third generation Evanstonian who attended Evanston public schools and graduated from ETHS. Jill graduated from University of Illinois College of Nursing with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She served on several committees and as a board member for the Skokie School District 73.5 Foundation and the Niles North Athletic Booster Club. Jill and her husband Tony raised their 2 boys in Skokie for 24 years and have recently relocated to Jill's family home in Evanston, built by her Grandparents 1921. Jill has been a member of the Evanston History Center for several years and has enjoyed many of the Center's wonderful offerings.

Michael Girard is a licensed architect who has spent his career as a residential design/build architect and project manager. He holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago and has served two terms on Evanston's Preservation Commission. He currently works within Bulley & Andrew's Residential + Restoration Group as a Construction Manager and Advisor, a role that combines all of his previous experience, plus travel, in one job. Michael and his wife Evan are 26-year residents of Evanston, are proud parents of three, Jake, Ben, and Mary Kate.

Kim Hamilton is a teacher in Evanston/Skokie District 65. She has instructed students at Dawes Elementary for 15 years. She is a graduate of Loyola University Chicago, receiving her Bachelors of Business Administration and her Masters of Education. During her graduate studies, she was a

CHAPTER Scholar, focusing on teaming teachers with high-need schools. She has participated and led projects for the Dawes African American Achievement Committee, including a recent collaboration with the Haitian American Museum of Chicago. Prior to her work in education, Kim was a HRIS Analyst and Manager.

Originally from the South Side of Chicago, Kim now lives in Skokie. She loves animals and all things involved with history.

Gary Kaufman is the Chief Financial Officer of Wi-Tronix, which provides an immersive, real-time technology platform to the railway industry making train operations safer and more efficient. Gary has over 20 years of experience working with early and growth stage tech companies, ranging from pre-revenue to \$50 million. Most recently Gary was President of CFO SaaS, LLC which provided CFO advisory services to B2B tech companies. Prior to this Gary led the finance function for SpringCM before its acquisition by DocuSign for \$220 million. Gary began his career in public accounting at Arthur Andersen.

An Evanston resident since 2000, Gary's nonprofit board experience includes 10 years on the Corporate Champions Board of Children's Memorial Hospital (now Lurie Children's Hospital) and one year as a Board Member of GlobeMed (a university based global health leadership development organization, now disbanded).

Gary holds an Accounting degree from Northern Illinois University and a Masters in Management degree from Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University.

Leonard Koroski is an Architect and a Principal with Goettsch Partners. His work is focused on preservation and adaptive re-use with recent projects including Chicago Union Station, The Lion House at Lincoln Park Zoo, LondonHouse Chicago Hotel, and the Wrigley Building. He is currently working with not-for-profits at the Lyric Opera, the Auditorium Theatre, and the Fine Arts Building. He is a past President of AIA Illinois, formerly on the AIA National Board, was a Chicago Architecture Center and Glessner House Tour Guide, and on the Facilities Committee of the Edith Farnsworth House. He was named to the AIA College of Fellows in 2012.

As a 35+ year resident of Evanston, he appreciates the architecture and history of our town, and looks forward to the History Center's continued stewardship and sharing our history to the broader community.