



NEWS RELEASE

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League of NH Craftsmen Announces Two New Board Members

CONCORD, NH –The League of NH Craftsmen is pleased to announce that Maria Del Rio and James Kennedy were recently voted into the League’s Board of Trustees. Maria will be treasurer of the Board for a two-year term, and Jim will serve a three-year term as a member at large.

A finance and accounting professional with more than 20 years of experience, Maria currently serves as a portfolio manager at the New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority. She owns Affinity Bookkeeping, LLC, in Concord, NH, which provides accounting support services and financial management advice to start-up and small businesses. During her career, she has been a loan fund manager, real estate consultant, and legal counselor. She graduated from Smith College, Northampton, MA with an A.B. and the Brooklyn Law School with her J.D. She is a graduate of Leadership Greater Concord and a member of the American Institute of Professional Bookkeepers, NH Bar Association and Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce. She is involved in the Concord community as a volunteer for the Capitol Center for the Arts, volunteer arbitrator for the Better Business Bureau, and a former Board member and past president of the Concord Cooperative Market.

Jim has worked at the League’s Annual Craftsmen’s Fair and is familiar with the League’s retail galleries and other activities because his wife Kristin Kennedy is a juried member of the League. Jim is the deputy city solicitor for the City of Concord, serving as a general legal counsel to the City Council and all city departments, boards, committees, and commissions. Prior to this, he was an assistant attorney general within the Civil Bureau of the New Hampshire Attorney General’s Office, specializing in general civil litigation in state and federal courts, New Hampshire’s Right-to-Know law and election law. Jim served as general counsel to New Hampshire’s Secretary of State and the Post-Secondary Education Commission. Jim has also held clerkships in both state and federal courts, the National Education Association and the New Hampshire Public Defender. In addition to his law degree, Jim holds BA in Political Science and a Masters Degree in Education. Prior to becoming a lawyer, Jim served as a director and teacher of an outward bound type school in Flagstaff, Arizona.

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“Maria and Jim both understand the importance of fine handcraft in our communities and our lives. The addition of their expertise, enthusiasm, and ideas on our Board will help the League fulfill its mission,” said League Executive Director Susie Lowe-Stockwell.

Continuing their service on the Board are: Beverly Wolf, president; Adele Sanborn, vice president; Cindy Suekawa, secretary; Polly Allen; Charles Bauer; Ingeborg Eddy; Pamela Tarbell; Trish Anderson Soule; Peter Van Winkle; Jeff Wheeler; Parker Potter; and Ron Tornow. “We also want to thank Nancy Wyatt and Edith Grodin, whose terms of service recently expired, for their hard work and support. Edith has had nearly 30 years of involvement with the League including having served two separate terms as President of the Board,” said Lowe-Stockwell.

The League of NH Craftsmen is a non-profit, craft education organization. Its mission is to encourage, nurture, and promote the creation, use, and preservation of fine contemporary and traditional craft through the inspiration and education of artists and the broader community. The League represents the *signature of excellence* in fine craft, through the work of its juried members, and its rigorous standards for self expression, vision, and quality craftsmanship. For more information about the League of NH Craftsmen, call 603-224-3375 or visit www.nhcrafts.org.



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