

Sheila Smith
Executive Director
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Sheila M. Smith has been Minnesota Citizens for the Art's Executive Director since 1996. She was a leader in the 2008 "Legacy" campaign, passing a Minnesota state constitutional amendment to create 25 years of dedicated funding for the arts and environment. Smith has been Chair of the State Arts Action League, part of Americans for the Arts, and was recipient of the 2009 Alene Valkanas State Arts Advocacy Award, which honors an individual who has dramatically affected the political landscape through arts advocacy efforts at the state level. An Adjunct Professor for the University of Minnesota in both Minneapolis and Duluth, she teaches and lectures nationally about the arts, grassroots advocacy, and other issues. For the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, she is part of the Public Policy Cabinet and a member of the Board. Smith has a Masters Degree in Arts Administration from St. Mary's University and a B.A. in Shakespeare from St. Olaf College. Before joining MCA she served as staff at the Minnesota State Senate.