

The Eudora Welty Foundation 2017 National Advisory Board

Mary Chapin Carpenter, Grammy Award-winning pop/folk/country singer and songwriter; Denver, Colorado

Bradford Cobb, Partner, Direct Management Group, Inc.; manages careers of Katy Perry, Adam Lambert, others; Los Angeles, California

Thad Cochran, United States Senator; Washington, D.C.

William Dunlap, Award-winning artist; visual arts commentator for WETA's "All Around Town" on PBS and recipient of an Emmy for his work; McLean, Virginia

Eric Etheridge, Photographer/author; Former editor for *Rolling Stone*, the *New York Observer*, and *Harper's*; website designer for the *New York Times* and Microsoft; photographer/author of *Breach of Peace: Portraits of the 1961 Freedom Riders*; New York, New York

Ruff Fant, Founder and Chairman of TowPath Partners; former adjunct professor, Georgetown University Law Center; Washington, D. C.

Morgan Freeman, One of the most highly regarded talents in the film industry, Academy Award winner, recipient of three Obie awards and a Golden Globe award; Charleston, Mississippi

John Grisham, Best-selling novelist whose works have been translated into 40 languages with nine novels that have been turned into films; Charlottesville, Virginia

Sam Haskell, President of Magnolia Hill Consultants; entertainment industry leader; former Worldwide Head of Television for The William Morris Agency, Inc.; Oxford, Mississippi

Dan Jordan, Historian; retired Director of Monticello; Vice-Chair of the National Trust for Historic Preservation; President Emeritus of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation; Charlottesville, Virginia

Mary Lynn Kotz, Journalist and author/biographer whose subjects have ranged from civil rights to women's rights to art, including *Upstairs at the White House* and *Rauschenberg: Art and Life*; Broad Run, Virginia

Jim Lehrer, Author and journalist with a long and distinguished career in public television including anchor of "The MacNeil/Lehrer News Hour," "The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer," and "The PBS News Hour"; Washington, D. C.

Margaret McMullan, Award-winning novelist and writer of short stories and essays; Melvin M. Peterson Endowed Chair in Literature, University of Evansville; Evansville, Indiana

Rob McQuilkin, Eudora Welty's literary agent, Lippincott Massie McQuilkin; New York, New York

Roger Mudd, Retired host of *The History Channel*, for many years a television anchor and correspondent; McLean, Virginia

Andrea Overby, Member, Board of Trust, Belmont University; Board Member, The Next Door, Inc.; Past Chair, Mississippi University for Women (MUW) Foundation; Past President, MUW Alumni Association; Franklin, Tennessee

Charles L. Overby, Former Chairman, CEO and president/ Freedom Forum and Diversity Institute and CEO/Newseum; Franklin, Tennessee

Randall Pinkston Correspondent, Al Jazeera America; long-time news correspondent with CBS; recipient of three national Emmy awards; Teaneck, New Jersey

Julia Reed, Author and contributing editor for *Elle Décor* and for *Garden and Gun*, where she writes a regular column; frequent contributor to *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *Conde Nast Traveler* as well as websites; frequent guest on MSNBC and CNN; New Orleans, Louisiana

Clyda Rent, Rent Consulting Group; former president of Mississippi University for Women (MUW), where she initiated the Welty Symposium; Charlotte, North Carolina

Susan Richards Shreve, Novelist, essayist; Professor of English at George Mason University; former president of the PEN/Faulkner Foundation; Washington, D.C.

Lee Smith Award-winning author of novels and short stories; charter member of Fellowship of Southern Writers; recipient of American Academy of Arts and Letters Award in Literature, Thomas Wolfe Award, the Robert Penn Warren Prize for Fiction, and two O.Henry Awards; Hillsborough, North Carolina

Elizabeth Spencer, Award-winning author of novels and short stories; charter member of Fellowship of Southern Writers; member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters; PEN/Malamud Award for Short Fiction; Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Kathryn Stockett, Author of *The Help*, her first novel, a *New York Times* Number 1 Best-Seller, and the subject of an Academy Award-winning movie; Atlanta, Georgia

Clifton Taulbert, Pulitzer Prize-nominated author; widely-known speaker and founder of The Building Community Institute; most recently the author of *The Invitation*; Tulsa, Oklahoma

Tate Taylor, Writer, director, and producer of "Get on Up" (The James Brown Story) and "The Help," which received four Academy Award nominations and Best Supporting Actress Award; currently writing a new interpretation of "IN the Heat of the Night" for MGM and Showtime, which he will direct and produce; Los Angeles, California

Alfred Uhry, Award-winning playwright; the recipient of both a Pulitzer Prize and an Academy Award for “Driving Miss Daisy” and Tony Awards for “The Last Night of Ballyhoo” and “Parade”; adapted Welty’s “The Robber Bridegroom” for Broadway; New York, New York

Gayle Wicker, Literacy advocate; served as the Co-Chair and Chair of the Reading Is Fundamental Gift of Reading Gala; Coordinator of Student Services at the University of Mississippi-Tupelo, community volunteer; Tupelo, Mississippi