

The Eudora Welty Foundation 2019 National Advisory Board

Mary Chapin Carpenter

Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter

Bradford Cobb

Partner, Direct Management Group, Inc.; originally from Tunica, MS, and a University of Mississippi graduate; manages careers of Katy Perry and Adam Lambert, among others

William Dunlap

Award-winning artist and visual arts commentator for WETA-TV's "Around Town" on PBS

Eric Etheridge

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*

W. Ralph Eubanks

Author of *The House at the End of the Road: The Story of Three Generations of an Interracial Family in the American South* and *Ever Is a Long Time: A Journey into Mississippi's Dark Past*; Visiting Professor of English and Southern Studies, University of Mississippi; former Eudora Welty Visiting Scholar in Southern Studies at Millsaps College; former director of publishing for The Library of Congress

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

John Grisham

Best-selling novelist whose works have been translated into 40 languages with nine novels that have been turned into films.

Dan Jordan

Historian and author; retired director of Monticello; former vice-chair of the National Trust for Historic Preservation; former chair of the Advisory Board of the National Park Service; founding partner, Bryan & Jordan Consulting, LLC

Mary Lynn Kotz

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

Jim Lehrer

Author and journalist with a long and distinguished career in public television including anchor of "The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour," "The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer," and "The PBS NewsHour"

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, Massie & McQuilkin Literary Agents, New York, New York

Roger Mudd

Retired host of "The History Channel" and for many years a national television anchor and correspondent

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

Charles Overby

Former Chairman, CEO, and president/ Freedom Forum and Diversity Institute and CEO/Newseum

Randall Pinkston

Adjunct Professor of Journalism, University of Mississippi Meek School of Journalism—Winter Session; Semi-retired; correspondent, Al Jazeera America; long-time news correspondent with CBS; recipient of three national Emmy awards

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 *Condé Nast Traveler* as well as websites; frequent guest on MSNBC and CNN

Clyda Rent

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

Susan Shreve

Novelist, essayist; Professor of English at George Mason University; former president of the PEN/Faulkner Foundation

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

Elizabeth Spencer

Award-winning author of novels and short stories; charter member of Fellowship of Southern Writers; member of American Academy of Arts and Letters; PEN/Malamud Award for Short Fiction

Kathryn Stockett

Author of best-seller *The Help*, her first novel; native of Jackson, Mississippi; graduate of the University of Alabama; lived and worked in New York for 20 years; now residing with her daughter in 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*

Tate Taylor

Actor, director, screenwriter, and producer; director of “The Girl on the Train”; 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

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

Gayle L. Wicker

Mississippi Director, Visions to Learn; literacy advocate; served as the co-chair and chair of the Reading Is Fundamental Gift of Reading Gala; former Coordinator of Student Services at the University of Mississippi in Tupelo; community volunteer