

## **The Eudora Welty Foundation 2020 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 Southern Studies, English, and Honors, Center for the Study of Southern Culture, University of Mississippi; former Eudora Welty Visiting Scholar in Southern Studies, Millsaps College; former director of publishing, The Library of Congress

### **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*

### **Ebony Lumumba**

Chairman, Department of English, Jackson State University; former Chairman, Department of English, Tougaloo College; 2013 Eudora Welty Foundation Graduate Research Fellow; 2014 Humanities Teacher of the Year for Tougaloo College; First Lady of Jackson, Mississippi

### **Margaret McMullan**

Award-winning novelist and writer of short stories and essays; former 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

**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

**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