



ARTSFUND

ArtsFund CEO Jim Tune Announces Plans to Step Down Board Launches Search for Successor

ArtsFund CEO Jim Tune, today announced he will step down once a successor is found to lead the region's preeminent fundraising and advocacy group for the arts. Before Tune became ArtsFund CEO in 2005, beating out 118 candidates for the job, he had a long and successful legal career, including serving as managing partner for two distinguished Seattle law firms, as well as top leadership positions on prominent nonprofit boards.

"Jim took ArtsFund to an even higher level of excellence, expanding ArtsFund's national reputation as *the* model for rigorous, sophisticated grant-making and its local reputation as a trusted management advisor to arts groups," said ArtsFund Board Chair Jim Duncan, chairman and principal of Sparling, a specialized national consulting firm offering electrical engineering, technology, audiovisual, acoustics and lighting design.

Duncan said the board will immediately form a search committee to conduct a national search with the goal of finding a successor by December allowing time for a transition period with Tune. The search committee will include a broad array of long-time ArtsFund board members, arts and community leaders, including some who served on executive search committees for other nonprofit organizations.

"These are certainly challenging times for the arts – and at the same time, never have the arts been more in demand by audiences," Duncan said, pointing to ArtsFund's recent economic survey that found despite the recession, attendance remains steady. "We will be looking for a leader who not only has a passion for the arts, but also offers a vision for how to maintain the momentum that Jim has built to ensure that our local arts are better, more accessible and more vibrant."

Duncan praised Tune's many accomplishments, including:

- Led ArtsFund to its highest level of grants to arts groups in 2008 of \$2.9 million.

- Contained declines in the fund through the worst recession in decades and is pulling fundraising back up as recovery takes hold.
- Added \$3.5 million to the ArtsFund Endowment, which is now more than \$13 million.
- Instituted feedback meetings with every grant recipient, providing them with feedback about how they are doing and how they can improve.
- Oversaw expansion of the Associates Volunteer program to its largest membership ever.
- Enhanced the rigor and transparency of ArtsFund's grant-making process to make it, bar none, the best in the nation.
- Led the organization to play an even greater role as advocate and as convener of collaborative efforts on important cultural issues such as a) Prosperity Partnership's initiative to pursue legislation allowing creation of cultural funding districts and b) expansion of an online service allowing cultural groups to better understand and inform current and potential audience members
- Facilitated consolidation of certain arts groups and promoted collaboration of groups to more effectively use resources
- Rebuilt and enhanced ArtsFund's development technology to more effectively support fundraising efforts.

Tune joined ArtsFund from Stoel Rives LLP, where he was managing partner of the Seattle office. Prior to that, he was with Dorsey & Whitney for two years. He began his legal career in Seattle in 1974 when he joined the prominent Seattle law firm of Bogle & Gates, where he stayed for 25 years (and was managing partner from 1986 to 1993). He also served as board chair of the Seattle Repertory Theatre, the Seattle Repertory Theatre Foundation, United Way of King County, the Foundation for Group Health Cooperative and enterpriseSeattle.

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