

# Schweitzer to head panel tasked for cultural funding

Published: July 5, 2012, 8:41 AM

Buffalo News

Catherine Schweitzer will head a new Erie County Arts and Cultural Advisory Board that will help administer a new process for distributing county funds to arts and cultural organizations.

County Executive Mark C. Poloncarz has named Schweitzer, who is executive director of the Baird Foundation, to serve as chairwoman of the new board. Ted Brinson, chairman of Elim Christian Fellowship Church, will serve as vice chairman of the county advisory board.

The board will review applications submitted by arts and cultural organizations this year and make recommendations to the county executive about how to distribute the funds.

Other members of the board include: Cindy Abbott-Letro, media consultant, Francis M. Letro Attorneys at Law; Erin Bahn, of Kavinoky Cook; Anthony Chase, assistant dean of Arts and humanities at Buffalo State College; Karla Gadley of First Niagara Bank; Thomas Hayes of M&T Bank; Tod Kniazuk, executive director of Arts Services Initiative of WNY; Jennifer Persico, of Mosey Persico; Lisa Ludwig, actress and owner of Free Fall Productions; Jonathan Rivera, of KeyBank; Sandy White, president, Mustard Seed Consulting Group; and Kevin Zanner, of Hurwitz & Fine.

A three-page application for 2013 county cultural funding is due to the Department of Environment and Planning by 5 p.m. Friday. It is available on the county's website at [www2.erie.gov](http://www2.erie.gov).

<http://www.buffalonews.com/city/communities/erie-county/article935400.ece>