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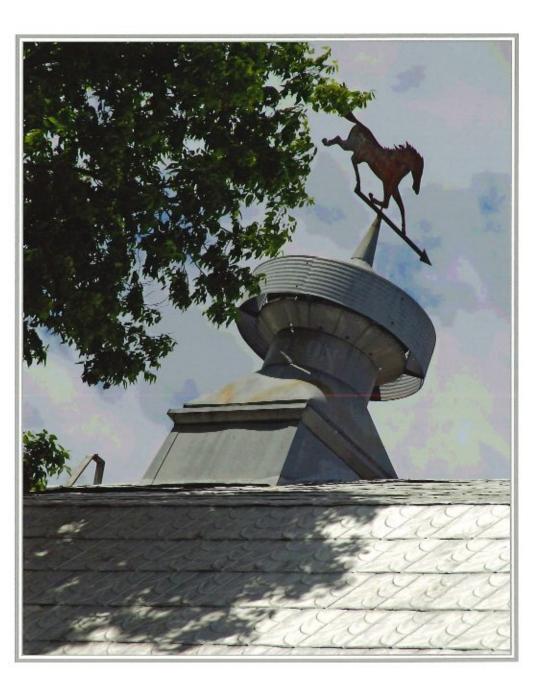
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# ANDERSON CENTER

2011 Annual Report





### Chairman's Letter

In September, I had the privilege of working with two Anderson Center artists-in-residence, Lynne McMahon and Sherod Santos. Hailing from Chicago, Illinois, these two playwrights were working on several short works for theatre.

Playwrights cannot work solely or in tandem in a room but must toil collaboratively with actors. Plays on the page are but shadows on the imagination's cave wall. To test the action of the drama or the comedy, playwrights must witness the actor engage the text.

Throughout the month, the Anderson Center provided a collaborative environment where the writers could think, discuss, draft and redraft dialogue; where a group of community volunteers (from the Soapbox Players) could provide actors and a director; and where a facility for a staged reading (Hobgoblin's Music Loft) was made available.

The writers' month-long residency at the Center started with drafts followed by actors gathering together to read the scripts out loud for the writers. This was followed by more rewrites and, finally, at the end of the month, it culminated in a staged reading for a small but engaged audience that included the playwrights.

In this helpful setting, Lynne and Sherod spent a highly productive and insightful month, a month that will have a meaningful impact on the future, the shape, and the content of five new plays. The Anderson Center has always been a place for community and artist collaboration.

The Center is now utilizing this best practice by reimagining and reengineering the historic 1915 barn and silo. Long a vacant presence as well as a reminder of its agrarian past, the Anderson Center barn and silo have stood as silent but significant features on a campus whose other facilities are used year-round to house and foster creative energies.

Within a year, these structures will be transformed into energetic gathering places where Anderson Center resident artists and members of the Red Wing community will engage works of art that will transform us, and this is certainly something to look forward to, not unlike the opening night of a new play.

Sean Dowse Chairman Board of Directors

Sean Down

thank you for providing such a great retreat for artists. I would like to further extend my thanks to the generous donors of the Center who have found it worthwhile to support the arts locally and globally. As I reflect on the honor of being provided for in this way, I understand the reality of this cultivation of artists and the arts does not exist in many societies and cultures. Such a fertile environment!

- Micah Bloom, painter

# Barn/Silo Contributors

The Anderson Center wishes to thank the following foundations, family funds, businesses, and individuals who have contributed generously to the restoration of the Center's historic barn and silo:

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## FY 2011

#### FY 2011

Program Services Expense

374,520 (81%)

Supporting Services Expense

87,114 (19%)

**Total Expenses** 

461,634

### **Board of Directors**

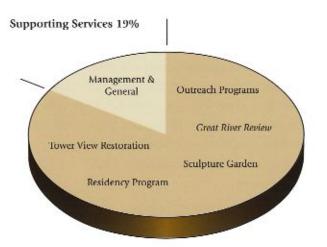
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#### COVER PHOTO

Tower View Weathervane Tom Virgin printmaker/book artist 2011 Resident



Program Services 81%

What a perfect mix of solitude and fellowship, to say nothing of the surroundings: the art, the house, the grounds, the river, the bikes! I will treasure my days and nights reading and writing in my blue room. I cannot tell you how grateful I am for this productive spirit.

- Edward McPherson, fiction writer



### Director's Letter

I am happy to report that this past year *The National Geographic Traveler* magazine again highlighted the Anderson Center, this time in its book, *Drives of a Lifetime*, a compilation of scenic trips to major artistic and cultural sites in the upper Mississippi River area. At the same time, the Center was named among the top fifty artist communities in the United States by nationally distributed *Poets & Writers Magazine*.

**Tower View:** The Barn Restoration Project, the final phase of the Center's twelve-year long restoration of the historic Tower View estate, was begun this past year, with an ambitious capital campaign initiated in May, 2010, and the actual restoration of the barn and silo getting underway in March, 2011. The entire project should take a year-and-a-half to complete.

**Residency Program:** Forty accomplished artists, writers, and scholars from thirteen states and nine foreign countries were selected from a pool of 220 applicants to participate in the Center's Residency Program, making this one of the most competitive years in the history of the program.

As in past years, resident-fellows presented an array of programs at various venues in the four-county area, speaking to approximately 2,300 people, from primary school children to senior citizens.

Outreach Program: This past year the Center was pleased to host another full season of events—readings, exhibitions, the annual children's book fair, and two large art celebrations—that showcased the work of approximately 210 artists, writers, and musicians, with more than 3,500 people from the five-state area in attendance.

The 2011 A. P. Anderson Award was presented to arts advocates Lawrence Redmond and Sheila Smith for their roles in passing the Minnesota Legacy Amendment Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, the largest such ballot initiative in American history and the first and only such amendment to a state constitution in the United States.

Financial: The Anderson Center gratefully acknowledges the following for providing funds for special projects: Alliance of Artists Communities/ Joyce Foundation to support Residency Program (\$1,000), General Mills Foundation to support Residency Program (\$2,000), Jerome Foundation to support emerging artists and writers (\$14,400), Jones Family Foundation to support Outreach and Residency Programs (\$7,500), McKnight Foundation to support general operations



2011 A.P. Anderson Award Recipients and Minnesota Arts Advocates, Lawrence Redmond and Sheila Smith



### Director's Letter continued

(\$20,000), Minnesota Legacy Amendment Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund to support general operations (\$18,396), Minnesota State Arts Board to support Outreach Program and general operations (\$12,872), National Endowment for the Arts/Artist Communities to support Residency Program (\$10,000), Red Wing Shoe Foundation to support Residency Program (\$2,000), Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council (\$1,350) to promote Outreach Program among Goodhue County Hispanic families, Target Foundation to support Outreach Program (\$2,000), and Xcel Energy Foundation to support Outreach Program (\$5,000).

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the staff, I wish to thank you for making this past year such a wonderful and gratifying one. Your generous support has sustained, nurtured, and helped make the Anderson Center an asset to the community of Red Wing as well as one of the finest residential arts facilities in the United States.

Robert Hedin Executive Director



Patchouli performed at the "Summer Celebration of the Arts" in July

The dream of my young adult novel, Sparrow Road, was born at the Anderson Center during my first residency – the early what-if seed – and was completed several years later during my second residency at the Center. The book is a celebration of the arts and the power of art-making in our lives. It is also my secret love song/thank you to the Anderson Center.

- Sheila O'Connor, fiction writer



## **Community Service Hosts**

The Anderson Center wishes to thank the following organizations, schools, and institutions for hosting programs for the public by Anderson Center Residents. The total number of people, from primary school children to senior citizens, who benefited this past year from resident presentations was approximately 2300. Hosts include:

A.A.U.W., Red Wing Chapter

ArtReach

Fairview Ebenezer

Fairview Health Services

Fairview Seminary Plaza

Goodhue County Adult Detention Center

Goodhue High School

Hispanic Outreach of Goodhue County

Hobgoblin Stoney End

Lake City High School

Minnesota Correctional Facility

Northfield High School

Pepin Art and Design Center

Red Wing Arts Association

Red Wing High School

St. Olaf College

Sheldon Theatre

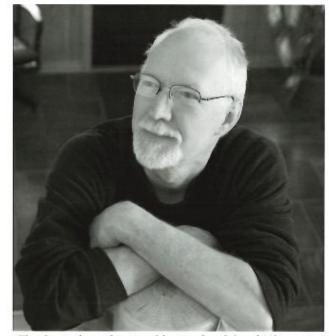
Sheldon Theatre Performing Arts School

Soapbox Players

Tower View Alternative High School

Women's Network of Red Wing

Zumbrota-Mazeppa High School



The Center hosted past resident and acclaimed Minnesota novelist Will Weaver for the national book launch of The Last Hunter

Thank you for granting me the opportunity to experience the magic of the Anderson Center. The Center's generosity and its interest in supporting a diverse range of artistic voices is rare.

- Diana Marie Delgado, poet

