

Dr. Patricia Stuhr

This week we are happy to name Dr. Patricia Stuhr as the 132nd inductee in Marshfield's 150: Heroes and Leaders, Past and Present register. Dr. Stuhr was nominated by her sister, Jane Wroblewski

Patricia Stuhr, a daughter of the late John and Margaret Bloczynski, is a Marshfield native. She attended St. John's and Sacred Heart Catholic Grade Schools and Columbus High School. After graduating from Columbus, she began her college education with one of the first classes at the "new" University of Wisconsin-Marshfield/Wood County Campus. Two years later she transferred to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in art education.



Patricia taught art for 14 years at the elementary, middle, and high school levels in Oakfield. Additionally, she developed and taught an art program for the Waupun and Fox Lake Correctional Institutions for 11 years. While teaching she went back to school and earned her Masters and Doctorate Degrees at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. During her studies, she taught courses at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her doctoral thesis was focused on contemporary Wisconsin Native American visual culture and artists, multicultural art education, and the arts in integrated curriculum.

After completing her doctorate, Dr. Stuhr moved to Ohio State University (OSU) to become a teaching professor and later served as chair of the department of art education. In 1999, she received a Fulbright Award to teach and research at the University of Art and Design in Helsinki, Finland and was appointed as an honorary guest professor at Shandong University of Art and Design, Jinan, China.

The National Art Education Association (NAEA) named Dr. Stuhr a NAEA Distinguished Fellow for her significant contributions to the field in multicultural/cross-cultural studies. In 1999, she received the National Edwin Ziegfeld Award from the United States Society for Education through the Arts for her significant work and contributions in the areas of multicultural and cross-cultural research in art education. In 2008 she received the NAEA Woman's Caucus June King McFee Award for her contributions to art education and issues of social diversity.

In 2011, Dr. Stuhr left OSU to serve as the Dean and CEO of University of Wisconsin-Marshfield/Wood campus. During her tenure she was well known and loved by faculty, students, and members of the Marshfield community. She attended almost all the University's extracurricular events that happened in town, from sports to theater. She often stopped to talk to the students and supported them in any way that she could. Because she was an active member of the Marshfield community, it wasn't uncommon for Patricia to be in the local stores and have one of the town residents call out, "Hey Dean!"

In her role as Dean and CEO, Dr. Stuhr built up the campus in both big and small ways. She secured funding needed to build student housing and a new STEM building. She helped to develop a four year degree program and partnered with the Ho-Chunk Nation to provide an Educators' Certification Program to train apprentices to teach the language to a variety of age groups. She worked with local artist, Clyde Wynia, and he created a sculpture of a Marauder, the school mascot for the campus. She had rails put in the aisles in the Helen Connor Laird Theater, making it easier for visitors to access the building. In 2014, Patricia helped plan yearlong events celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the campus. Dr. Stuhr retired from her position in June of 2015.

When asked about her time at the University, Dr. Stuhr shared that she feels that everyone should give back to their communities. Patricia lives that sentiment. She has volunteered for many community organizations since returning to Marshfield. She has been a member of the Medical College of Wisconsin Advisory Board for Central Wisconsin, Central Wisconsin Arts Network, Central Wisconsin Higher Education Consortium, New Visions Gallery Board of Directors, Marshfield Area Cultural Fair and the Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry Crystal Apple Selection Committee, and she continues to volunteer for the Marshfield Area Community Foundation, Rotary, and the Chestnut Center for the Arts.

Dr. Pat Stuhr has a distinguished record of achievements in the field of art education, an equally important record of improvements made at the local university campus and continues to contribute the city's well-being as a volunteer and advocate for the arts and education. As such, it seems only fitting that Dr. Patricia Stuhr be named to Marshfield's 150, Heroes and Leaders, Past and Present register.