



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Wilson Center hires two development professionals

**Brookfield, WI (April 28, 2010)** The Sharon Lynne Wilson Center recently added two new development professionals to its full time staff of 11. Gail Valenti fills the position of Individual Gifts Manager and Vicki Schroeder becomes Corporate and Foundations Manager. Ms. Valenti and Mrs. Schroeder replace outgoing Development Manager, Lisa Dietz, who is relocating to Pittsburgh this June.

Ms. Valenti's background in fundraising began in the social service sector for the Taskforce on Family Violence, The Mental Health Association, and United Cerebral Palsy of Southeastern Wisconsin where she held various positions including grant writer, special events director, and as a planned giving director. She studied voice, piano, and ballet at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music as a youth and adult, which led to an extensive tour throughout the United States and Europe as a performer with Doc Severinsen, voiceover work, and production in television and radio.

Mrs. Schroeder's background includes extensive experience as a business development professional with three Fortune 100 Companies: Hewlett Packard, Johnson Controls, Inc., and Manpower, Inc. She has been most effective in relationship building, matching the needs of the individual client with the resources of the organization. A Brookfield resident for the last 10 years, Schroeder has participated in non-profit volunteer work with the Women and Girls Fund of Waukesha County as well as the Wilson Center. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education and Speech Communication from Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan with undergraduate work at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Peck School of the Arts.

The Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts is a non-profit, multi-disciplinary cultural arts center that offers performances by regional and touring groups, arts education, and an art gallery with changing exhibits. The Center nurtures lifelong learning through innovative programs and classes for all interests, ages, and abilities in state-of-the-art studios and classrooms. Some of Southeast Wisconsin's

finest arts organizations offer professional instruction at the Wilson Center, including Danceworks, Inc., First Stage Theater Academy, and the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music. Wisconsin fine artists are showcased at the Hidden River Art Festival in September and in the Ploch Art Gallery with five exhibitions each year. **The Wilson Center for the Arts is just minutes west of Milwaukee, nestled in Brookfield's Mitchell Park south of 198<sup>th</sup> & Capitol Drive. For information about the Wilson Center call (262)781-9470.**

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