

VMA BOARD MEMBERS



Mark Smith (Board Chair)

Senior Marketing Executive for the John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art, a pre-eminent center for the arts, history, performance, and learning that is dedicated to bringing the past and contemporary culture to life through extraordinary visitor experiences.



Gerald Bruce, the executive vice president for commercial operations at Virpax Pharmaceuticals. Bruce also serves as chair-elect for the Board of Trustees at Pennsylvania's Lincoln University, and as a member of the Board of Directors for A Different Path Inc. in Sarasota.



Melissa Davis Dunlap, is active as a board member of The Florida Center for Early Childhood and is a past board member of Saint Stephen's Episcopal School, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and American Cancer Society of Sarasota.



Marilyn Dwan Kline, is a retired educator who is currently an Educational Consultant with Elam Leadership Institute. Previously she was an Advocate Director with National Literacy Project.



Betsy N. Friedman, committed to the Manatee-Sarasota community, she is a volunteer with Sarasota Strong focusing on a healthier community and Impact 100 SRQ empowering women to collectively fund transformational grants to nonprofits in Sarasota & Manatee Counties as Nonprofit Director 2021, Director of Membership, 2020 and Founding Member 2019.



Naiema T. Frieson, the co-owner of Frieson Vaughan Ventures, a business development and consulting firm. She is a supporter of causes for children, women, education, art and economic mobility for underserved communities.



Ronald Johnson, the immediate past president of Clark Atlanta University in Georgia. Along with previously serving as chair of the Consumer Advisory Board for the U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, he also serves on a committee for Sarasota's Community Foundation.



Victor McTeer is a celebrated civil rights attorney. For more than 30 years, he has provided scholarships for college students from the Mississippi Delta based upon academic excellence or need. McTeer has received numerous national and local awards for his professional work and philanthropy. He has won awards and honors, including the Mississippi State Chapter of the NAACP Community Service Award in 1984. Although officially retired, he serves on the boards of several charitable and educational institutions.



George Quarterman, CLU, LUTCF, is President/Owner of G. Quarterman Insurance Agency Inc. (State Farm). He has 30 years with State Farm providing Risk Management Services. He is a graduate of Savannah State University with a BS, Business & Finance. He is a Board Member of New College of Florida, Big Brothers Big Sisters Sarasota Arts and a Supporter Donor of the National Bone Marrow Registry. He is member of the Latin Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Insurance and Advisors and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.



James B. Stewart, Ph.D., a professor emeritus at Pennsylvania State University, where he works in the departments of Labor Studies and Employment Relations, African and African American Studies, and Management and Organization. He is past President of the Manasota chapter of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH). He is also a board member for New College of Florida, the Sarasota African American Cultural Coalition, and the Suncoast Black Arts Collaborative.



Janet Taylor MD, MPH, psychiatrist, culture shift expert, national speaker on health & wellness. Dr. Taylor is a community psychiatrist with Centerstone. She is on the frontline battling the emotional and economic impact of mental illness.



Roberto R. Villanueva, a senior systems administrator for Great Bay Distributors, Inc. of St. Petersburg; he previously served as VMA's board chair.



David G. Wilkins, Sr., who worked at the Dow Chemical Company for 25 years. He retired as the associate general counsel and director of ethics and compliance. Wilkins and his wife, Lois Bright Wilkins, are also leaders with the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. He is President of Manasota ASALH, Inc.