

Friday, June 5, 2026

Brown County Executive Troy Streckenbach and Members of the Brown County Board of Supervisors:

We, the undersigned residents, business owners, artists, historians, nonprofit leaders, and community stakeholders, write in support of protecting the Neville Public Museum as a publicly owned, publicly funded, professionally directed, and creatively independent institution serving all residents of Brown County.

For almost a century, the Neville Public Museum has preserved and shared the stories of our region. It has provided affordable and accessible cultural opportunities, attracted visitors to our community, and contributed to the quality of life which has made Brown County a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

The Neville Public Museum belongs to the people of Brown County. Founded in Green Bay in 1927 and stewarded by Brown County since 1981, it has been built through generations of public investment, community support, and professional leadership.

Recent discussions regarding the museum's future have raised significant concerns among residents and stakeholders about governance, funding, staffing, space, partnerships, creative independence, and long-term direction.

We respectfully ask Brown County leadership to:

- Provide consistent, reliable annual public funding for the Neville in the amount of \$1.2 million or greater.
- Complete the hiring of an executive director with appropriate professional museum leadership qualifications and experience.
- Pause the work of the Museum Task Force and any decision-making regarding a public-private partnership between the Neville and The Children's Museum of Green Bay until meaningful public stakeholder input has occurred.
- Protect the Neville's mission, collections, exhibits, and creative independence to continue telling the stories of all people who call Brown County home.
- Preserve museum space for museum and gallery purposes and pause any actions which threaten the Neville's limited exhibition and collection space as well as its status as an accredited history museum.
- Create meaningful opportunities for public input through community listening sessions, stakeholder meetings, and other public processes prior to any decision-making regarding the museum's future.

Prior to any significant changes to the Neville Public Museum's governance, funding, mission, partnerships, or physical space, we urge Brown County to formalize a meaningful public process for residents, artists, historians, nonprofit leaders, cultural organizations, and community stakeholders to participate in the discussion.

At a time when public investment in arts, culture, and history have come under threat across Wisconsin and the nation, Brown County has an opportunity to reaffirm its commitment to preserving one of our community's greatest public assets.

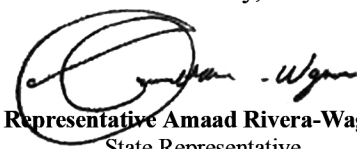
The Neville Public Museum belongs to the people it serves. We urge Brown County leadership to work collaboratively with our community to protect our community's public museum for future generations.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support of the Neville Public Museum.

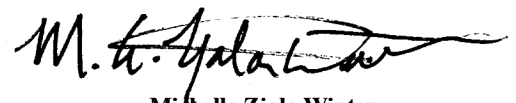
Sincerely,



Tarl Knight
Owner, The Tarlton Theatre



Representative Amaad Rivera-Wagner
State Representative



Michelle Zjala Winter
Member, Green Bay Public Arts Commission



Christine Dunbar
Executive Director, Brown County Historical Society



Karen Eckberg
Owner, Owl Arts



Steven Haas
Artist



Steven Stary
President, Brown County Historical Society



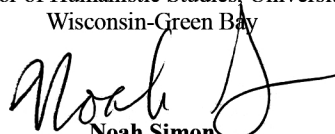
Professor David Coury
Director, Green Bay Film Society
Professor of Humanistic Studies, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay



Ally Maass
President, Fort Howard Neighborhood Association



Mark Mariucci
Owner, The Tarlton Theatre



Noah Simon
Artist



Lindsay Olson
Executive Director, The Art Garage