



American Swedish Institute Board Bios 2020

New Nominees

Five candidates, who have been nominated by the American Swedish Institute's Governance and Nominations Committee, are scheduled to be confirmed at the June 17, 2020, ASI Annual Meeting to begin three-year terms. They are as follows (*longer bios are provided below*):

- **Carline Bengtsson**, Lindström, MN; a former Medtronic executive and founder of the non-profit Dine4Dinners.
- **Brenda Butler**, Minneapolis; an art educator and program director at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design.
- **Marco Molinari**, Lake City, MN; a retired global business leader with HNI and Goodyear.
- **Andrea Oseland**, Minneapolis; jewelry designer and apparel and accessories buyer at Target
- **David Sorensen**, Circle Pines, MN; a retired General Mills executive.

Nominees for Second Terms

Two trustees who have completed their first three-year term of office will be nominated to serve a second three-year term:

- **Michael Bjornberg**
- **Linda Wallenberg**

Board Members Completing Six Years of Service

We're grateful to the three trustees who will be completing six years of service on our Board:

- **Dr. David Carlson**
- **Barbara Linell Glaser, Ed.D.**
- **Russ Michaletz**

New Nominees

Carline Bengtsson is retired from corporate life following careers within the insurance, military avionics and medical technology industries at Blue Cross & Blue Shield, Honeywell and most recently Medtronic, where she was a people/program manager. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Administration and Art from Concordia University, St. Paul, a Mini MBA from the University of St. Thomas and a Marketing Certificate from the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton Executive Education Program. Carline immigrated to

Minnesota from Jamaica as a child and grew up to marry a native Swede, which sealed her affinity for the culture, language, country and the American Swedish Institute community at large. In addition to all things Swedish, Carline is a published cookbook author and an engaged community leader serving on several boards; and was recently appointed to the President's Advisory Council at Concordia University St. Paul. She is described by her family and friends as a chef of enticing, inventive and delicious eats and recently formed the organization Dine4Dinners to further pursue her two passions of helping others and creating memorable meals. The Dine4Dinners mission is a shared vision with organizations that provide meals for those in need of daily nourishment through dependable, reliable and sustainable sources.

Brenda Butler is a passionate advocate for arts education. Brenda is a visual arts educator with teaching experience from pre-K to 12. Currently, she is the Program Director for the Pre-College Summer Session at Minneapolis College of Art and Design and Director at the Butler Family Community Foundation. Brenda holds degrees in Textile Design and Art History and a MEd in Art Education. She has recently completed a MPS degree in Arts and Cultural Leadership at the University of Minnesota, with a minor in Museum Studies. Her Capstone project is a case study of the community engagement programs at the American Swedish Institute.

Marco Molinari is passionate about growing and deepening the relationship between Minnesota, the U.S. and his home country of Sweden, where his parents still reside. Born and raised in Stockholm, Sweden, he completed his Bachelor's and MBA degrees in the U.S. before embarking on international careers with Goodyear and HNI Corporation in the U.S., Europe and Asia. As a corporate officer of these companies, he built businesses and developed deep relationships in many countries, among them Sweden. A member (*ledamot*) of *Sällskapet* in Stockholm, the club where King Carl XVI Gustaf is the Honorary First Member, his continuing strong connection to Sweden aligns well with American Swedish Institute's vision to maintain vibrant ties to Sweden in order to illuminate and inspire all of the ASI's endeavors. Experiences on corporate and university advisory boards taught him the importance of servant leadership, always putting customers, members, staff and communities at the very center of the experiences that ASI seeks to develop and successfully execute. Having recently relocated to Lake City with his wife Lisa, his consultancy firm Global Industrial Group works with senior leadership teams on new market entries, business assessments and optimization as well as enterprise transformations to help clients create leaner, more efficient businesses positioned to accelerate profitable growth.

Andrea Oseland is a Minnesota native of third generation Norwegian-American, first generation Nigerian-American and Fond Du Lac Ojibwe Heritage. Currently a women's apparel and accessories buyer for Target, Andrea has more than 20 years of experience in the retail and design industry. She has previously worked on community equity and diversity projects like the Google for Entrepreneurs Diverse Founders Residency and The Minnesota Food Charter. She has earned undergraduate degrees in Fine Jewelry Metalsmithing and Design and Marketing. Andrea and her partner Travis are homeowners in the Central neighborhood of Minneapolis, located less than one mile from ASI.

Dave Sorensen was born and raised in a small town in Northwestern Minnesota. Dave graduated from Bemidji State University where, in addition to educational pursuits, he grew through job related experiences and as a student leader during a time when the U.S. underwent historic social changes. Over a 37-year career at General Mills, Dave began as a commodity trader and proceeded to hold a variety of different positions of increasing responsibilities, domestically and internationally, with the last 12 years as vice president of worldwide sourcing. Dave has been active on several company and non-profit Boards, as well as engaged in significant, comprehensive fundraising campaigns. Through these experiences, Dave has created a belief that we can make substantial changes by working differently, valuing culture and leveraging diverse perspectives to collaboratively influence inevitable change. Dave and his wife Kathryn are life members of American Swedish Institute, honor their Swedish background through their travels to Scandinavia in pursuit of their heritage, and finally, are passionate about the role and mission of ASI. Dave brings broad-based experiences as well as effective, results-oriented and energizing skills to the Board.

Nominees for Second Terms

Michael Bjornberg is a Minnesota-based architect with more than 35 years of experience working with historic buildings. He was part of the team that designed and completed the American Swedish Institute's own Nelson Cultural Center campus expansion and has worked on key historic landmarks across the United States including University of Notre Dame's Main Administration Building, Football Stadium and South Dining Hall, University of Minnesota's Coffman Union, University of Minnesota Morris Campus, Historic Fort Snelling, Hamm's Brewery Complex, St. Paul Union Depot, and the restoration of the Minnesota State Capitol. Additionally, Michael has worked on college campuses across the U.S. doing strategic planning, design guideline development, facility assessments and new construction planning. He has also served as Board Chair of both the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota and the AIA National Historic Resources Committee, and as Professor in Practice at the University of Minnesota's School of Design teaching adaptive reuse of endangered historic sites.

Linda Wallenberg is a long-time American Swedish Institute member, educator and teacher of Swedish language and culture. From 1977 until 1993, Linda served as the dean of *Sjölunden* – Concordia Language Villages' Swedish language summer program – and again as a *Sjölunden* staff member from 2000 to present. For her contributions to Swedish language learning, Linda was awarded the Order of the Polar Star in 1988 by HM Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden. She is also a graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College with a long career as a high school English teacher and gymnastics coach within the Eden Prairie, MN school system. Linda brings with her a wealth of intercultural competence, Swedish language skills and robust networks within the Scandinavian region and the American-Scandinavian communities of the U.S.