

## **A. INDIVIDUAL SUBMITTING NOMINEE**

Beth Ann Pinkney

Saint Paul Festival and Heritage Foundation, Producer of the Saint Paul Winter Carnival and Cinco de Mayo – West Side – Saint Paul

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If your nominee is selected, will you be willing to help ensure that they attend the luncheon? Yes

If your nominee is selected, will you be willing to assist the IFEA and the inductee in gathering Materials to prepare their induction video? Yes

## **B. NOMINEE INFORMATION**

Kari Boe Schmitz

Vice Chair, Saint Paul Festival and Heritage Foundation

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Phone : (651) 223-7401

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Email: [Kari.Boe.Schmitz@co.hennepin.mn.us](mailto:Kari.Boe.Schmitz@co.hennepin.mn.us)

**Describe how your volunteer has provided significant enthusiasm, organizational assistance and specific expertise. (10 points)**

**Explain how your volunteer has shown initiative and leadership in his or her efforts. (20 points)**

**Describe your volunteer's positive attitude. (10 points)**

***Every non-profit looks to its volunteers to help maintain the organization.***

Kari Boe Schmitz has proven herself to be one those unusual volunteers willing to think creatively and work tirelessly to make the Saint Paul Festival and Heritage Foundation a better, stronger organization. As a member of the Protocol Committee, Kari helped implement a process for more effectively screening applications for Legend Character positions so that the organization could do its best to ensure that these applicants would best represent the organization in public. As Board Chair, Kari took this to a new level, formalizing the orientation and training of Legend Characters by

the organization, and establishing a process through which the Saint Paul Festival and Heritage Foundation communicates to volunteers the standards to which they will be held. This process has been important to public perception of the organization, and has been embraced by both volunteers and the Board of Directors. Kari also undertook to make significant revisions to the formal Protocol Manual, including implementing a Social Media policy that allows volunteers to use social media in ways that expand the reach of the organization, but also protects the organization from use of social media that does not best advance the mission. Kari's leadership, initiative, and hard work in these areas has made Saint Paul Festival and Heritage Foundation a stronger organization, has provided SPF with more internal integrity, and has increased the standing of the organization in the eyes of the public and sponsors.

Kari likes all those around her to do well and willingly gives of herself to help make this happen for you to achieve your goals. She is a great cheerleader. Kari is a motivator and can get people excited about being on a committee as she will make sure it is done correctly with no stone unturned. Kari has strong leadership abilities and has proven this over and over.

**Explain your volunteer's significant depth of involvement. (20 points)**

**Show specific examples of your volunteers roles and responsibilities. (10 points)**

**Tell how your volunteer has exemplified his or her dependability. (10 points)**

Kari grew up with parents who were active in the community as coaches, Girl Scout leaders, parent helper in the classroom and especially with the church - serving on several committees, projects and as teachers for us as we went through Sunday school and confirmation. Her parents were "involved" and it was the natural thing to do. Growing up she also volunteered through church and scouts and this carried through to my high school and college years where she began to take on leadership roles within her volunteer endeavors. She was introduced into the festival world when she informed parents that she was running for Miss Brooklyn Park - Tater Daze Queen that she had seen advertised in her local paper. During that year she learned of the hundreds of people who served their communities, large and small, through festivals and ambassadors. This is also the first time she recalls meeting the St Paul Winter Carnival Royal Family Ambassadors. In 1997 she was crowned Queen of the Snows and thus began her connection with the Saint Paul Festival and Heritage Foundation. Since then

she has done the following with the Foundation:

**Ambassadors** –

***Uniformed Group Council Representative*** – attend monthly meetings to share news within their uniformed group

***Vice President*** – monitor the Board of 35 members and fill in for the President when needed.

***President*** – Lead the Board of 35 and execute 12 major events.

***Chaired the wardrobe committee***

**Former Queens** –

***Queen mentor*** – Assist the current Queen on her year. Prepare and give her the right tools to be successful.

***Vice President*** – Assist the President when needed

***President*** – Lead the former Queen organization. Keep them involved and get them visible in the community.

**Saint Paul Festival and Heritage Foundation** –

***Queen of the Snows candidate committee and chair*** – Recruit Queen of the Snow candidates, prepare them for their candidacy, schedule and organize activities for a successful Queen of the Snows program.

***International Visiting Representative host*** – Organize and host 12 different city festivals that visit our Winter Festival.

***"Party at the Palace" committee*** – Ice Palace party. 2004 organized the winter party and stayed within budget to throw a successful party.

***Spirits of Carnival committee*** – Spring Fundraiser, silent, live auctions, restaurant and beverage selections, ticket sales

***Golf Tournament committee*** – recruit hole sponsors, golf foursomes, giveaway bags.

**Board of Directors** –

***Member*** – Attended monthly meetings

***Secretary*** – recorded monthly meetings and distributed to the Board Members.

***Vice Chair*** – Assisted the Chair

***Board Chair*** – Lead the Board of 25 members for two years. Oversaw our sub committees including our finance committee, Protocol and Exchange Committee, Marketing, Board Development, Membership.

***Current*** – past Chair

***Protocol and Exchange committee/chair*** – Lead our uniformed groups and managed our manual.

***Board Development Committee*** – had the vision to recruit the proper members.

***President/CEO search committee Chair*** – hired the new CEO/President

*Finance Committee* – Manages our current budget and investments.

Kari is dedicated to every committee she is on and has the talent of working with many different personalities and can make them all work together. She rarely misses a meeting and is always there early to offer her help to get ready and the last to leave to make sure we are all wrapped up.

She has the motto “Don’t take a year off.” She has continued to be involved in the Foundation for 16 years and continues to lead a Girl Scout troop and she volunteers her place of employment through work and done various "walks" or other one day events/fundraisers.

She currently holds a position as a Staffing Division Supervisor/Senior Human Resource Generalist for Hennepin County. She is married and they have one child.

**Describe how your volunteer has made a difference to the festival or event. What impact has your volunteer had on your festival/event? What void would there be without him or her as a volunteer? (20 points)**

Kari is a good listener, she listens to both sides of a story before she makes a judgment call and is careful that both sides understands why she choose the way she did. She is a hard working, easy to say yes to a job girl, because she likes things to be taken care of, and will gladly take it on to see that it is done, and always with her trademark smile.

She has so much expert advice to give to Queen Candidates over the years in the field of actually being a Queen and how to speak and the importance of how to present yourself and represent your city; and Kari does it with so much grace and natural ability.

The void without Kari’s 16 years of involvement would be less structure, not as strong visibility for the Foundation, we wouldn’t be financially sound without her protocols and leadership and we wouldn’t be a top Winter Festival in the country without her commitment and leadership.