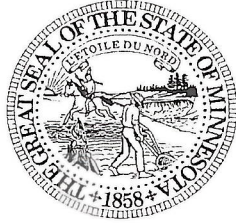


STATE OF MINNESOTA



RECEIVED

JAN 06 2017

MARK DAYTON  
GOVERNOR

President of the Senate

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

**Thomas Surprenant**

245 Summit Avenue  
Saint Paul, MN 55102  
County of Ramsey  
Congressional District 4

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment, and ability, I have appointed and commissioned you to have and to hold the office of:

**MEMBER**

**PERPICH CENTER FOR THE ARTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Effective: January 11, 2017

Term Expires: January 4, 2021

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the Capitol in the City of Saint Paul, January 6, 2017.



*Mark Dayton*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

*Steve Simon*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

Replacing: Susan Mau Larson

**Breems, Nancy (OSS)**

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**From:** Abel, Tom (OSS)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 2:54 PM  
**To:** Appointments, Open (OSS)  
**Subject:** A New Application has been submitted!

Nancy! We have received a new application for Commissions and Appointments.

**Agency Name::**  
Board Of The Perpich Center For Arts Education

**Position Sought::**  
Member

**First Name::**  
Thomas

**Last Name::**  
Surprenant

**Street Address::**  
245 Summit Ave

**City::**  
Saint Paul

**State::**  
MN

**Zip::**  
55102

**Have you ever been convicted of a felony::**  
No

**Phone::**  
6124908995

**Email::**  
tsurprenant@soundsofhope.org

**County::**  
Ramsey

**MN House of Representatives District::**  
65B

**US House of Representatives District::**  
4

**Did the Appointing Authority suggest that you submit an application?:**  
Yes

**Cover Letter or other information helpful to the appointing authority::**

To mention a salient point about my arts experiences: I enjoy organizational challenges. During the changes occurring at the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council due to the new arts and cultural fund monies, I was acting as chair of the board of the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council. During that time period, I had an effective working relationship with the executive director, staff, and other board members of MRAC. In fact, policy and programming changes were being handled smoothly enough at the time that the executive director proposed a change in the bylaws to allow me to serve as chair for an additional term and the board unanimously approved the change. My service to MRAC is one of the arts contributions that gives me a sense of accomplishment.

**Resume or other information helpful to the appointing authority::**

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Formal Education and Early Employment. In 1977, Thomas F. Surprenant received a B.A. from Dartmouth College, with a major in classical archaeology and a minor in education. During and after college, Mr. Surprenant traveled and studied extensively in countries throughout the Mediterranean while also working on the program staff of the Dartmouth Outward Bound Center, an experimental school that, among its other programs, tested new applications of the Outward Bound experiential education model with youth in the juvenile justice systems of Hartford, CT and Brooklyn, NY.

Following college, Mr. Surprenant obtained a law degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Exeter (England). For the next ten years (1981 to 1991), he worked as a commercial and international lawyer while also volunteering with the Sierra Club, Minnesota Legal Aid, United Arts, and several small arts organizations, and also serving on the board of directors of The Eclectic Company, Inc. At the same time, Mr. Surprenant was involved in several writing projects on a contract basis.

Sounds of Hope, Ltd. In 1990, the interests and experiences of Mr. Surprenant in experiential education, writing, and international travel melded with Jeanne Junge's interests and experiences in the arts, music, youth education, and internationalism. The two of them formed Sounds of Hope, Ltd. as a Minnesota nonprofit corporation and immediately developed the first Songs of Hope project, which took place in the summer of 1991.

Songs of Hope and Awards. Since 1991, Surprenant and Junge have worked together to develop twenty-two Songs of Hope projects, involving hundreds of young people from over thirty countries around the world, and hundreds more local youth from the Minneapolis-St. Paul area. Songs of Hope has been nationally recognized, with the first project receiving an Award of Recognition from Sister Cities International and Reader's Digest, Inc. In 1996, the Minnesota Lieutenant Governor recognized Mr. Surprenant's work with local young people with a Peacemaker Award. In 2003 and 2006, Songs of Hope received an Access to Artistic Excellence grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. In 2012, the project received an Arts Achievement Award from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council for important contributions to the local community.

Other Relevant Experience. Through Sounds of Hope, Ltd., Mr. Surprenant also worked with Jeanne Junge to launch an inner-city children's choir (the Children's Choir of Saint Paul) and to test an after-school application of the Songs of Hope materials at HOPE Academy, an elementary Hmong charter school in Saint Paul. From 1998 to 2001, Mr. Surprenant was an adjunct professor of education at the Hamline University School of Graduate Continuing Education, leading educators' multicultural workshops both in conjunction with Songs of Hope and separately, through funding provided by the State of Minnesota Arts eXperience (MAX) program. Mr. Surprenant has served on the boards of the Selby Area Community Development Corporation, the Saint Paul Riverfront Development Corporation, In the Basement Productions (a small theatre company), and The Cedar Social. He is past chair of the board of directors of the state-funded Metropolitan Regional Arts Council. Mr. Surprenant is also a writer seeking publication of two recently completed children's novels, marketed by William Reiss of John Hawkins & Associates Literary Agency, New York. He has also several credits for published non-fiction works for children. On a part-time basis since 1995, Mr. Surprenant also serves as general counsel for Stahl Construction Company, a commercial contractor and construction manager that builds many kinds of public and private projects, including schools and hotels.

**Gender::**

Male

**Age::**

61

**Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin?:**

No

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JAN 16 2017

President of the State

**Race::**

White or Caucasian

**If you answered Other Race, please specify.:**

**Disability::**

No

**Party::**

Democratic-Farmer-Labor

**If you answered "Other" for Political Party, please state name of Political Party or Political Affiliation::**

**Applicant Name:**

Thomas F Surprenant

**Date:**

11/29/2016 12:00:00 AM

**Enter 3 numbers followed by 3 letters:**

789xyz

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JAN 06 2017

President of the Senate