

As a local member of Milwaukee's artistic community, and a forty year veteran of Actors' Equity Association, I am eager to show my support for the efforts of MAM employees to unionize. I have found, in the course of my career, that too often artists and their support teams, who put a great deal of effort in contributing to the public profile of artistic institutions, earn the least amount of money and are provided with little or no ancillary benefits. We work in the arts because we are called to the vocation, but often we can't support ourselves and are forced by circumstance to pursue other callings.

The arts are a viable, sustainable industry, contributing real dollars to the financial health of the communities they serve. Employees of institutions like the Milwaukee Art Museum are entitled to the same kind of protection afforded to other union members. Art museums across the United States are realizing their responsibility to their workers, and I urge the Milwaukee Art Museum to do the same.

Jonathan Gillard Daly
Member, Actors' Equity Association
Resident Company Member, Milwaukee Repertory Theater (1998-2012)
Artistic Associate, Milwaukee Repertory Theater (2010-2019)