

ARTS & CULTURE | COMMUNITY | PHILANTHROPY

Movers & Makers

February 2023

Cincinnati

A portrait of an older man and woman. The man, on the left, has grey hair and is wearing a dark blue zip-up sweater. The woman, on the right, has short white hair and is wearing a black ruffled top. They are both looking towards the camera against a dark background.

The Playhouse
that **Jack & Moe** built

NAMES IN THE NEWS



Donel Autin



Nia Baucke



Jordan Huizenga



Melissa McCarey



Mike Fox



Kim Spreder



Mark Grauwelman



Kourtney Terry



Dr. Christopher Rickels



Ashley Feist



Jennifer Alvis



Nick Vogel



Katherine Siegwarth



Kimberly Best

Donel Autin joined **Easterseals Redwood** as chief financial officer. He worked 16 years at International Paper, where he led the spinoff of Xpedx. He served as CFO of North American Properties, and most recently the Model Group. He has been president of the Loveland City School District Planning Commission and vice president of Nutrition, Education, Safety, Transformation (NEST) Community Learning Center, which was started in 2016 to address academic and non-academic barriers that perpetuate the cycle of generational poverty in suburban communities.

Local community engagement and strategy company **Cohear** named **Nia Baucke**, formerly chief strategy officer, as chief executive officer. Baucke has been with Cohear since 2019, and before that had experience working with the Hamilton County Clerk of Courts, KnowledgeWorks Foundation and StrivePartnership. Baucke succeeds Dani Isaacsohn, Cohear's founder, who began his first term as a state representative in January and will stay on with Cohear as a senior adviser.

Beech Acres Parenting Center named **Jordan Huizenga** vice president of development. Huizenga brings 14 years of experience in nonprofit fundraising and development.

The Dragonfly Foundation named **Melissa McCarey** and **Mike Fox** to its board. McCarey is vice president for global human resources at Meridian Bioscience. Fox is a partner at Deloitte. Appointed in 2018, McCarey is responsible for all human resources across Meridian's international sites. She lives in the Cincinnati neighborhood of Columbia Tusculum. Fox has been with Deloitte for 27 years, having been named a partner in 2007. Mike and his family reside in West Chester.

The Northern Kentucky Tri-County Economic Development Corporation will round out its team at 14 members with two employee additions, both in newly created positions. **Kim Spreder** started in the role of workforce development manager, and **Mark Grauwelman** joined as real estate and project manager. Spreder is responsible for leading the workforce initiative by determining the root causes of Northern Kentucky's workforce challenges. Spreder previously worked for Brighton Center Inc. Grauwelman will assist in Tri-ED's initiative to activate the Northern Kentucky Port Authority. He most recently worked for the U.S. Air Force's Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer program as an operations analyst, administering phase II research and development contracts.

Aviatrix Accelerators, a nonprofit accelerator focused on empowering women entrepreneurs, has hired **Kourtney Terry**, owner of Taste T Love Baby Food and graduate of Aviatrix's launch accelerator, as its program manager in Dayton. Terry launched her organic baby food company in 2019. With a background in healthcare, Terry most recently held positions in buying and operations with Premier Health Partners. In 2020, Aviatrix Dayton received a contribution from Robin Gentry McGee, founder of Functional Formularies and an Aviatrix graduate, that allowed the organization to launch in the Dayton market.

Dr. Chris Rickels has been named **Gateway Community & Technical College's** dean of business, IT and professional studies. Rickels is Thomas More College graduate and has a master's from the University of Toledo and a doctorate from the University of Louisville. Rickels was the associate dean of arts and sciences and an assistant professor in philosophy at Gateway.

Ashley Feist has joined **Action Tank** as its new Cincinnati Historic Preservation Action Plan coordinator. Feist has deep Action Tank roots: She is a graduate of the City Council Bootcamp program and previously worked for OTR A.D.O.P.T., where she was instrumental in getting the organization's headquarters, Volkshaus, off the ground.

Cincinnati Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired recently named **Jennifer Alvis** as vice president, business development, and **Nick Vogel** as vice president, industrial operations. Alvis brings many years of experience in nonprofit environments, including time with Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, National Industries for the Blind and most recently Camp Joy, where she served as the business operations director. Alvis and her family live in Wyoming. Vogel joined CABVI in 2019 as a product manager and was promoted to senior product manager and then director of planning and procurement. He previously worked as a program director for Carpe Diem Preparatory Academy. Vogel and his family live in Bellevue.

FotoFocus, the nonprofit dedicated to championing photography and lens-based art, announced that its founding Executive Director Mary Ellen Goeke retired at the end of 2022. FotoFocus Biennial Director **Katherine Ryckman Siegwarth** will succeed her and become the second top leader since the institution's founding in 2010.

The Carnegie's executive director since 2017 – **Kimberly Best** – has resigned in order to move into a community relations role with the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport.