

Mary Ladish Selander

Mary Ladish Selander is President of Mary Ladish Selander, LLC, providing strategic fundraising counsel and philanthropic management services. In addition, Mary is currently serving as Senior Philanthropic Advisor for Lyric Opera of Chicago.

Previously Mary served as the Chief Development Officer for Lyric Opera of Chicago from 1999 to early 2018. She served as Director of the Annual Campaign from 1995 to 1999. Under Mary's leadership, the annual fundraising goal increased from \$11.5 million to \$31.4 million annually. She managed and implemented the Look to the Future Campaign in 2004, the \$35 million Campaign for Excellence in 2006, and the \$109 million Breaking New Ground Campaign from 2011 to 2017. Mary was the liaison to Lyric's prestigious Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Production Sponsorship Committee, and the Nominating and Governance Committee. She was a member of the Lyric Senior Management Team and served under three Lyric Opera general directors: the late Ardis Krainik, Bill Mason, and Anthony Freud. Mary continues to work with Lyric Opera as senior philanthropic advisor.

Prior to her tenure at Lyric Opera, Mary was director of marketing for the City of Milwaukee; marketing director for the Greater Milwaukee Committee; executive director of the Milwaukee Ballet; co-managing director of the Milwaukee/Pennsylvania Ballet; and assistant director of the Haggerty Museum of Art at Marquette University.

Mary served on the Board of Trustees of Marquette University from 2000 to 2012 and is currently Trustee Emeritus. Mary served as a trustee of the Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Milwaukee Forum, and the Milwaukee Public Library. She served as a director of the University Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Board of Visitors, Professional Dimensions, and UWM Foundation. Mary served as a member of the Wisconsin State Governor's Tourism Task Force and a member of the Mayor's Task Force on the Arts in Milwaukee. She is the recipient of the Citation of Merit from the Wisconsin State Senate, and was elected a permanent member of the Board of Directors of the Milwaukee Ballet *causa emeriti*.

Mary earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Wisconsin. She was an accomplished equestrian show-jumping champion for over 16 years. Mary is married to Larry Selander, an attorney with the law firm of Duane Morris, LLC.