



**MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR THE
2021 OSAE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MEET THE SLATE OF BOARD CANDIDATES

OSAE Association Executives Candidates

Kaitlin McNeish, MBA; Ohio Restaurant Association
Lance Woodworth; Destination Toledo CVB

KAITLIN MCNEISH, MBA



TITLE	Director of Operations & Human Resources
ORGANIZATION	The Ohio Restaurant Association
JOIN DATE	Jan. 1, 2018

BIOGRAPHY:

Kaitlin McNeish is a native of Newark, Ohio and graduate of Ohio Dominican University with a bachelor's degree in Accounting and an MBA in Organizational Development. She is currently the director of operations and human resources for the Ohio Restaurant Association. Her role encompasses several major areas she has developed, including internal processes, acting as liaison to the board of directors, implementing staff development and growth, and overseeing the organization's diversity and inclusion initiatives. Previously, she was a senior tax analyst with Deloitte and a senior accountant with Talisman Capital Partners. She looks forward to increasing her organizational development and leadership skills and continuing to mentor young women growing their professional careers. Since 2016, she has served in an advisory role for the Welcome Warehouse, a nonprofit serving families in need in the Dublin community. She currently resides in Powell with her beloved dogs, Stark and June.

WHY I WISH TO RUN FOR THE POSITION:

Aside from the valuable time, talent and treasure competencies for a director's role, I believe having a vast resource network along with a "can do" servant leader attitude is essential. In my role as an advisory board member with the Welcome Warehouse, I was able to share many organizational resources and templates to assist the executive committee with step-change strategic planning and solutions for successful fundraising campaigns. My background in public accounting and private equity along with my current association work has led to a diverse network in Ohio that has been helpful with organization initiatives such as our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion "DE&I" efforts and our industry executives chairman's council. I have also served every department at the ORA as a project manager. I was able to turn several of our industry events into profitable, additional sources of non-dues revenue and created our new business development role to add additional revenue streams. Most recently, I drove and managed a team to create a \$350K Employee Relief Fund for foodservice and hospitality workers in need of financial aid due to COVID-19. In addition to my work experience, I believe my professional and personal core values make me an excellent fit for the OSAE board. I feel passionate about sharing my experiences and resources that I've gained with the ORA to help our members begin to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and discover a new normal once it is in the rear view. It's more important than ever to remain relevant during these times to provide every relationship and resource available to aid our respective association industries. In addition to sharing, I'm equally as enthusiastic and eager about learning from others and being able to help problem solve or pull from my resource bank to help. I think I also provide a unique perspective as a strong, millennial association leader. I've helped the ORA with step-change techniques to become more consultation-minded while securing multiple sources of non-dues revenue to strengthen our organization.

LANCE WOODWORTH



TITLE	President & CEO
ORGANIZATION	Destination Toledo CVB
JOIN DATE	June 4, 2018

BIOGRAPHY:

Lance Woodworth currently serves as the president & CEO of Destination Toledo Convention and Visitor's Bureau. Destination Toledo is the destination marketing organization for Lucas County and the greater Toledo Region. He previously served 15 years as general manager of Put-in-Bay Boat Line Co. "Jet Express," chairman of the board for the Lake Erie Shores & Islands (LES&I), board member of the Erie County Visitors and Convention Bureau, chairman of the board for the Port Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce and represented northwest Ohio on the Ohio Travel Association (OTA) Board. Additionally, he is a licensed ferry boat captain and graduate of Bowling Green State University (BGSU). Serving Destination Toledo since 2018, he is a proud ambassador of Toledo and the region.

WHY I WISH TO RUN FOR THE POSITION:

There are many competencies essential to the role of director. In my opinion, the most important are being present, accessible, understanding, listening, communicating and offering problem-solving skills. Aligning the needs of the members with that of the organization are critical to success. In my past board roles, I have had near-perfect attendance at board meetings, brought member concerns to the table, worked to gain consensus and find resolutions, sought out new opportunities and developed ways of doing things to gain organizational efficiencies. If you're looking for someone to show up, roll up their sleeves and get the job done, then I should be elected to the board. My passion is with people: Making connections, collaborating, finding common ground and creating win-win opportunities for everyone. I am willing to advocate for and leverage my existing relationships (business, political and personal) when representing OSAE. I am also interested in increased opportunities to communicate and build relationships that strengthen this organization. I believe there are things we can learn from our current situation and carry forward post-COVID that will result in net positive changes.