

2026 Nominations

Trustees

Ken Drake (3 year term)

Ken is currently serving, having been elected to a one-year term in 2025.

Phoebe Vitharana (3 year term)

Phoebe Vitharana was a delegate for the first time last year, Canton 2025. Originally from Wisconsin, Phoebe obtained a MA in English/linguistics from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She then taught Spanish at UW-Parkside, where she was privileged to teach advanced Spanish and literacy for Latinos, as well as for the general student population. Shifting gears and following her former spouse to CNY/Syracuse, she obtained a second masters degree—Speech Language Pathology from Ithaca College. Traveling and academic year stays in both Mexico and France have enhanced her career path as much as her cultural outlook. Her passion for diverse cultures has recently inspired her to learn Folkdance. She feels that UU provides another immersive “cultural” experience and is honored to act as a NYSCU board member with her home church at FUUS of Syracuse.

Kimberley A. Bouchard

Kimberley was appointed by the Board to fill an unexpired term ending in 2028. Her biography is presented here for information only.

Kimberley Bouchard first learned about Unitarian Universalism in 1975 when she lived in the San Francisco Bay Area. At that time, as today, many progressive and social justice events happened at UU Churches. She became a member of the UU Church of the Palouse in Moscow, Idaho in 1991 and has been a member of the UU Church in Canton since 1995.

She served as Vice President of the UU Church of Canton Church Council from 2009-12, and was a member of the RE Committee for over 15 years and a Worship Associate on the Worship Committee for many years. She was elected by the congregation to serve on the Ministerial Search Committee for the current minister, the Rev. James Galasinski in 2015-16.

Most recently, she led the Bicentennial Committee from 2023-25, and was a member of the Planning Team for the NYSCU gathering at the UU Church of Canton in October, 2025. She also currently serves on the Building and Grounds Committee.

She was chosen to be the recipient of the Theo Dunn Award in 2025 for her service to the UU Canton Congregation.

Professionally, she is a retired Professor Emeritus in Theatre and Dance from SUNY Potsdam where she taught acting, directing, dramatic literature and Spoken Word for 25 years. She has directed over 70 productions in professional and educational theatre in the USA, Spain, England and Mexico.

She is the proud grandmother of the most wonderful grandson in the world, Cole Benson Wolckenhauer. She is also very grateful for her creative and caring daughter, Bida Clark Bouchard and son-in-law, Max Wolckenhauer.

She lives in Potsdam, New York with her beloved partner David Schanck.

Nominating Committee

Richard Reed (Richard is running for re-election to a two year term.)

Member of 1st Universalist Church in Rochester. Past Board member and Nominating committee chair. Currently serve on the Finance Committee and work on our yearly Stewardship campaign. I sing in the choir. Current member of NYSCU's Finance and Nominating Committees.

Miranda Hofelt (2 year term)

Miranda is currently serving, having been elected in 2025 to serve a one year term.