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IOWA PUBLIC RADIO ANNOUNCES FINALISTS FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION

September 20, 2013 (Des Moines, IA) — Three finalists for the Executive Director position for Iowa Public Radio have been announced by the search committee.

The finalists are:

- Debra J. Fraser, former Chief Operating Officer and Station Manager at Houston Public Media
- Myrna Johnson, Executive Director for the Boston Schoolyard Initiative in Boston, MA
- William R. Reed, former private sector media executive and Midwest based marketing consultant

The search committee began the nationwide selection process in April following Board development of a profile of desired competencies, training and experience which has guided the committee in its search. “We are pleased to be able to present three such highly qualified candidates with diverse experiential backgrounds each of whom has a keen interest in leading Iowa Public Radio as one of the first to implement a statewide consolidation of broadcast operations in its goal to serve all citizens of the state,” said Douglas West, Chair of the search committee. “We look forward to their upcoming visits to meet IPR staff and stakeholders. On behalf of the committee, I encourage participation in the public forums.”

Reed will visit October 22; Fraser October 23 and Johnson October 24. Each will meet with IPR staff on the 3rd Floor of the Communication Arts Center on the University of Northern Iowa campus in the morning with a public forum following at 10:30 a.m. The candidates will meet with IPR staff at IPR’s office in Des Moines at 2111 Grand Avenue in the afternoon followed by a public forum at 5:00 p.m. The public forums will consist of a brief presentation by the candidate and include the opportunity for participants to meet the candidate. The public forum schedule is as follows:

- Reed, October 22, UNI campus at 10:30 a.m., IPR office at 5:00 p.m.
- Fraser, October 23, UNI campus at 10:30 a.m., IPR office at 5:00 p.m.
- Johnson, October 24, UNI campus at 10:30 a.m., IPR office at 5:00 p.m.

About the Finalists

Debra J. Fraser, former Chief Operating Officer and Station Manager at Houston Public Media, has spent her 25-year career in public radio, including 11 years as news director with KUHF-FM prior to becoming station manager. Fraser earned a bachelor’s degree in communications for radio, television and film from the University of Texas, Austin.

Myrna Johnson, Executive Director for the Boston Schoolyard Initiative, has spent her 31-year career in non-profit management, including 8 years as a government relations associate for National Public Radio in Washington, DC and service on the board of directors of KUNC-FM in Greeley, CO. Johnson earned a bachelor's degree from Wartburg College in Waverly, IA and a master's in public administration from Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.

William R. Reed, former private sector media executive and Midwest based marketing consultant, has spent his 30+-year career in sales, marketing and new product development in the private sector including 18 years in various management roles with Meredith Corporation in Des Moines, IA and New York, NY. Reed earned a bachelor's degree in English and Business from DePaul University, Chicago, IL.

Those who wish to comment on the candidates will be able to submit an online evaluation at www.iowapublicradio.org. The comment period will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 22 and end at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 25.

Iowa Public Radio informs, enriches and engages Iowans through radio programming and other media. IPR enhances civic and cultural connections across the state, strengthening Iowa's communities and reflecting Iowa's sense of place. For more information about Iowa Public Radio, contact us at 515-725-1700 or visit iowapublicradio.org.

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