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## ***SD ARTS COUNCIL DIRECTOR RETIRING***

PIERRE – Michael Pangburn has announced his retirement as executive director of the South Dakota Arts Council following 18 years in various staff positions with the agency. Pangburn’s last day with the agency will be Feb. 8.

Pangburn joined the staff in 1998 as arts education manager and assumed additional duties as assistant director in 1999. In that position he managed the Artists in Schools & Communities Program and other arts education activities, supervised the grant application review process, and took a leading role in the agency’s strategic planning efforts. He was appointed executive director in January 2009 by Gov. M. Michael Rounds.

Prior to joining the SDAC staff, Pangburn served as a governor’s appointee to the State Arts Council’s board of directors from 1984-1998, serving under both administrations of Gov. William J. Janklow, as well as the administrations of Gov. George S. Mickelson and Gov. Walter Dale Miller. He was Council chair from 1991-1993 and at various times during his tenure chaired the Council’s theater panel and arts education committee.

Before beginning his career in arts administration, Pangburn taught high school drama, speech, and English for 20 years. He has directed more than 60 school, college, and community theater productions, and has served on the boards of directors of numerous arts and civic organizations.

The mission of the Arts Council, an office of the South Dakota Department of Tourism, is to provide grants and services to artists, arts institutions, schools and other nonprofit organizations throughout the state with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and the State of South Dakota.

The South Dakota Department of Tourism is comprised of Tourism and the South Dakota Arts Council. The Department is led by Secretary James D. Hagen.