

## **Eileen Lappin Weiser Biographical Profile**

Eileen Weiser holds piano performance degrees from Michigan State University (B.M.1972) and the University of Michigan (M.M., 1975), and is an experienced solo, ensemble and accompanying musician on piano, organ and harpsichord.

From 1988-2001, Mrs. Weiser was the Executive Director of the McKinley Foundation, a non-profit catalyst for innovative community projects. She supervised the conversion of a century-old scrapyard into NEW Center Ann Arbor, a nonprofit office center for area human services and arts group. She coordinated other community projects including implementing a K-6 public school curriculum project and initiating a countywide family literacy effort.

In 1997, she was selected as one of "Detroit's Most Influential Women" by Crain's Detroit Business. She was co-winner of Artrain's annual statewide Arts Patron of the Year award, and of the Detroit Free Press's annual Earthchiever Award for the environmental cleanup at NEW Center. Among others, she has been a board member for the University Musical Society, Ars Musica, and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, the state's cultural grantmaker (1991-2002)

Mrs. Weiser served as an elected member of the State Board of Education from 1988-2006. She co-chaired its 2002 Task Force on Ensuring Excellent Educators, and participated in national study groups on electronic learning and teacher coordination/accountability. In 2007, she served on a statewide study group matching Michigan's teacher preparation with its new secondary academic standards, and has continued that work as both a member and chair (2008-10) of the State Board's Professional Standards Commission for Teachers.

From 2003-07, Mrs. Weiser served as the country's state board of education member on the National Assessment Governing Board; she is now serving a second term as a general public member. The Board is an independent, bipartisan group that sets policy for the National Assessment of Educational Progress, also known as NAEP or *The Nation's Report Card*. She is a member of the NAEP12<sup>th</sup> Grade Preparedness Commission, which communicates the importance of connecting K-12 education with student preparedness for entering the workforce, college or the military without academic remediation after high school graduation.

Mrs. Weiser has also served as a board member of The Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE), and was appointed by Michigan's Supreme Court to its Attorney Discipline Board. She served as board secretary for Your Child, a statewide coalition working to improve Michigan's commitment to K-16 education.

Mrs. Weiser lived with her family in the Slovak Republic from 2001-2004 while her husband, the Honorable Ronald Weiser, served there as U.S. Ambassador. They and their young son Daniel reside in Ann Arbor, Michigan with two married children and five grandchildren living nearby.