

Janet Beveridge Bean

My experience in the arts has been primarily through my career as a professional multi-instrumental international touring and recording musician and songwriter. I have released over 25 full length recorded formats through both major and independent labels over the last 30 years. Through my career as a musician I have had the honor to be involved with many diverse and challenging volunteer efforts. I have participated in countless fund raising activities both through the donation of musical revenue and hands on operations. Some of the organizations I have donated musical revenue are Illinois Coalition to End the Death Penalty, Partners in Health's efforts on the ground in Haiti after the hurricane, and Sweet Home New Orleans efforts to bring back the tradition bearers of New Orleans after Katrina. I have been an active member of the The United Nations Association – Greater Chicago Chapter for 8 years. I am currently serving my 4th year as board member and previously served as Vice President of Programming for a two year term. As VP of programming I worked along with my fellow members to successfully develop the first annual Global Wake up Film Festival. Held at Chicago's Columbia College, the fest brought over 50 diverse international filmmakers and their works highlighting the issues of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals. We are currently working on our next Global Wake Up fest to take place in October 2012. I have participated as a jurist in the aforementioned film fest and on the grant panel review board for the city of Chicago's CAPE grant program. I have been a guest panelist for the Chicago Humanities Festival, the South by South West Music Conference, the New Music Seminar and many others. My focus over the last 8 years has been my work for the not for profit NGO Friends of the Congo. I have been active in educating high school students through guest speaking events and have participated on the organizing committees for multiple conferences on the state of crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Janet has been a Miller community member since 2006 and was elected to the MBACD board in 2012.