**CANDIDATE FOR FEDERATION BOARD**

***Public Candidate Category***

**Name: Joan Abrams**

**Position: Nonprofit Projects Consultant**

**Education:** BA, Simmons College; MPA, Harvard University, John F Kennedy School of Government

Joan Abrams is the immediate past chair of the board for Rhode Island Council for the Humanities. She has chaired the Governance Committee, and now, in her sixth and final year on the board, is chairing the Development Committee as well as the ad hoc Communications Committee.

In addition to her work with RICH, Abrams is currently serving as special projects consultant to the Community College of RI and other not- for-profit organizations. She recently retired from Simmons College in Boston, MA, where she served as Professor of Practice and Director of the Masters in Communications Management. She is past president of the board of directors for Save the Bay, where she co-chaired their capital campaign, and she currently serves as a trustee and co-chair of the President’s Leadership Council. Abrams was also a board member and president of both Festival Ballet and Blithewold Mansions. Currently, she serves on the Dean’s Advisory Council of the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, where she earned her Master’s in Public Administration. She has also been named to the Board of Governors of Higher Education for the three Rhode Island state colleges and is a member of the Foundation Board of Women & Infants Hospital. Abrams was named Rhode Island’s Philanthropic Citizen of the Year in 2010 and was recently named to the board of directors of the Newport Art Museum.