

## **Nominee for Election to the Nominating Committee**

The Star Island Corporation members directly elect members to the Nominating Committee. The Board of Directors submits the slate for that committee to the Corporation members.

The Board of Directors, at its February 2024 meeting, received the recommendation of the Committee on Appointments proposing two Corporation members who will be serving a first term on the Nominating Committee, and one incumbent member to be re-appointed for a second term. The Board voted to accept this recommendation. The nominees are:

Joni Abbadessa for a first, three-year term  
Ali Walton for a first, three-year term  
Jane Clay for a second, three-year term

The Board of Directors, at its April 2024 meeting, received the recommendation of the Committee on Appointments proposing one Corporation member who will be serving a first term on the Nominating Committee. The Board voted to accept this recommendation. The nominee is:

John Hickey for a first, three-year term

Respectfully submitted,  
Star Island Board of Directors

### **Biographical Sketches of 2024 Nominees**

**Joni Abbadessa** has been attending Star, originally both All Star 1 and All Star 2, and currently All Star 2, since 1969. She served as a Pelican, as Chair of AS 2 in 2010, as President of the AS 2 Corporation for 8 years, as a member of the SIC Finance Committee, and as SIC Treasurer since May 2022. Over the years Joni has enjoyed volunteering extensively within the Star community: in her conference, as a Spring and Summer island volunteer, and as an End of Season Pel. She was involved in her conference Children's Program for many years, both as a teacher and as Children's Coordinator, and for the past few summers she has volunteered for three weeks of Open Up and two weeks as an End of Season Pel. Joni has experienced Star from the perspective of a conferee, a member of staff, a Pelican, an island volunteer, and as part of conference governance. Star has been an important part of her life since she was a child and first set foot on the island. In addition, her children were raised attending Star, and both served as Pelicans for multiple years and are members of SIC. Joni is a lifetime member of ISA(UU). She is a CPA, with a BS in Accounting. Her career included working in Public Accounting, Corporations, and Non-Profit Businesses.

**Jane Clay**- Within 4 years of discovering Unitarian Universalism and joining Starr King UU Fellowship, Plymouth, NH, Jane Clay became the part-time director of religious education, serving for 8 years, and then 2 years in a similar position for the Plymouth United Church of Christ. She was a dental hygienist for 31 years and worked in special education for 11 years. Jane began attending the Religious Education Conference (now Faith Development) in 2001. Within a few years she became a co-teacher in the young people's program and then served as registrar for 12 years. She has also volunteered in the Gift Shop and other areas as much as able. She is a choir member at Starr King Fellowship and served on the ministerial search committee and in a 2-year interim DRE position. She is now serving on the governing board as President. She also sings with the Pemigewasset Choral Society and serves the community of Plymouth as a Supervisor of the Checklist and as the school district treasurer/clerk.

**Rev. John E. Hickey** is a Star Island Corporation member and has served previously on the Star Island Corporation Board and as a Trustee of the Star Island Permanent Trust. He has been attending the religious education conference on Star since the late 1970's.

After a 30-year career as a corporate lawyer, John became a UU minister and served as the Senior Minister and Executive Director of the UU Urban Ministry in Roxbury (one of the oldest social service ministries in the country), and where he continues to serve on the Board and as Emeritus. John currently serves with several nonprofits doing humanitarian, micro-entrepreneurial and policy work connected to Cuba, where he had gone to high school. John and his wife Robin Tartaglia live in Cambridge, MA, are members of the Follen Church in Lexington, and spend much of their time with their nine grandchildren.

**Ali Walton** lives in Denver, CO with her husband, Phil Quatrochi, and two children, Cooper and Macy. Ali attended both All Star 1 and 2 as a child until becoming a Pelican in the late 80s. After working as a Pel for six summers, Ali returned to All Star 1 and has been in regular attendance since that time with her family. In total, Ali has attended Star for over 40 years. Ali was the All Star 1 Registrar and member of the Executive Committee from 2014-2016 and again in 2019 and Chair in 2025. Ali serves on the ISAUU Board of Directors (and is now President) as well as the Shops on Star Committee.

Ali holds a Doctorate from the University of Denver and worked at the University for over 15 years before starting her own business as a grant writer (<http://walongrantwriting.com>). Non-profit organizations hire Ali to research funding opportunities and write grant applications to reach their funding goals. Areas of expertise include assessment of organizational and program efficacy, research, and writing.