

Lisa Mower Gandelot loves this community! Grosse Pointe is where she was raised, attended kindergarten through grade 12, came back to teach after earning a college degree from Michigan State University and raised her family with her husband, Jon.

Besides teaching elementary school and serving as a long-term substitute, Lisa worked as the director of development for the Children's Home of Detroit and the Michigan Women's Foundation (now Michigan Women Forward). She's also been an active supporter of the Grosse Pointe community. She served as president multiple years at the Grosse Pointe Historical Society, a member of the Grosse Pointe Farms Council, and member of the Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation, Grosse Pointe War Memorial Board and in leadership roles for Grosse Pointe Memorial Church. She currently volunteers with Grosse Pointe Rotary Club, Questers, Junior League of Detroit and Tau Beta.

Lisa and Jon are longtime supporters of The Helm, but after winning The Helm car raffle in 2019, Lisa became more actively involved. She joined the advisory board in 2019, served as cochair for the Acquisition committee for the 2020 Gala. This year, she and Jon are two of five Gala co-chairs.

"I am most impressed by the kindness extended to every person who walks through the front door at The Helm. It's so important that all people who are at different ages and stages in life are treated with great respect and care. You see a lot of smiling faces. It's so refreshing to me." Staying active is what keeps Lisa feeling younger than her actual years. She loves being around people, raising money for the community, entertaining friends and laughing as much as possible. Moreover, she gardens, antiques, and is a creative cook.

Lisa has seen many changes throughout her lifetime, but communication and social interaction have changed the most.

Her advice to future generations echoes this quote of Henry James: "Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind; and the third is to be kind."