

5105 Dorian Avenue
Belle Isle, Florida 32812
February 6, 2026

To the Belle Isle City Council:

I just moved to Belle Isle in December, and the first thing I noticed about my new home was all the activities available to introduce residents to each other and celebrate the warmth of the community. I want to join the effort to make those living here feel like part of the neighborhood. Participating as an at-large member of the Special Events Committee is a way I can contribute.

My imagination has led me on a journey of professions, each building on the others. With my B.A. (Jacksonville University, FL) and M.A. (University of Illinois) in theatre and my J.D. (University of Texas at Austin) I have worked as a director of theatre, drama critic, college professor (Southwest Texas Junior College, Barry University, and the University of Miami), and attorney (Hunton & Williams in Richmond, Virginia, and Squire, Sanders & Dempsey in Miami). Currently, I'm a (retired) top ten *New York Times* and *USA TODAY* bestselling author of 62 novels and novellas with 15 million copies of my books in print. I want to put that imagination to work planning special events for Belle Isle.

As the single mother of two kids working full-time, and later writing multiple books each year, I haven't had much time to volunteer except as a mentor to other writers and as a speaker at regional and national writing conferences. But I have the energy--and time--now to give back and would welcome the opportunity to do so in Belle Isle.

Sincerely,



Joan Johnston