

# CONFLUENCE 2015

A Statewide Arts Convening  
April 15-16, 2015  
Sacramento

Presented by



**#CAstateofcreativity**

**#CALovestheArts**

## Wednesday, April 15

### *State Capitol Building & Grounds*

- 8:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.    **Registration Open** – North Side of the Capitol Building
- 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.    **Joint Committee on the Arts Hearing on the Creative Economy of California**  
State Capitol, Hearing Room 2040
- 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.    **Arts Day - Capitol Grounds** – North Side of the Capitol Building  
**Registration Open**
- Box Lunches ([Please purchase online in advance here](#))
  - Performance by Element Brass Band
  - Mexican Mojiganga street puppets courtesy of La Raza Galeria Posada
  - Awards Presentation to Legislative Arts Champions
  - Join Californians for the Arts Photo Op behind banner in front of Capitol
- 1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.    **Legislative Visits**
- 4:00-6:30 p.m.        **Registration Open** – Eureka Room, Capitol Rotunda Basement
- 4:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.    **Debriefing** – Eureka Room, Capitol Rotunda Basement
- 5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.    **Reception** – Eureka Room, Capitol Rotunda Basement  
Sponsored by **The Boeing Company**
- 6:30 p.m.              **Dinner On Your Own**

## Thursday, April 16

*Sheraton Grand Hotel*

### Day Two Sponsor: California Arts Council

8:00 a.m.–9:30 a.m. **Continental Breakfast** - Magnolia Ballroom Foyer

8:00 a.m.–4:15 p.m. **Registration Open** - Magnolia Ballroom Royer

8:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m. **California Arts Council State-Local Partner Meeting** – Bondi Room  
(Attendance required for representatives of State-Local Partner grantees.)

9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m. **General Session** - Magnolia Ballroom

#### **Welcome from the California Arts Council**

Donn Harris, Chair & Members of the Council  
and Craig Watson, Director

Introduced by: Richard Stein, Californians for the Arts

**A Conversation with Moy Eng**, Executive Director, Community Arts Stabilization Trust  
and Brad Erickson, Executive Director, Theatre Bay Area

10:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m. **Break**

10:45 a.m.–12:00 p.m. **Breakout Sessions (Select One):**

#### ***Presentation* - Building Public Will for Arts & Culture**

Are you concerned about the future of the arts and culture sector in our country? In collaboration with Arts Midwest and Metropolitan Group, the City of San Jose Office of Cultural Affairs is working on a long-term initiative to make arts and culture a more recognized, valued, and expected part of everyday life in Silicon Valley. As part of that effort, they participated in a national research and engagement project to understand public values, behaviors, and attitudes as they relate to arts and culture. They are now crafting a new strategy to build public will and advance our field. The findings from this research, as well as next steps for this critical initiative, are detailed in “Creating Connection”. Download the report at: <http://bit.ly/creatingconnection>

Kerry Adams Hapner, City of San Jose

Beth Strachan, The Metropolitan Group

David Fraher, Arts Midwest

Magnolia Ballroom

#### ***Panel* - A Good Vintage: Trends in Arts & Aging Programs**

Tim Carpenter, EngAGE, Burbank

Victor Nelson, Kenneth A. Picerne Foundation, San Juan Capistrano

Cara Goger, Mariposa County Arts Council

Moderator: Rachel Osajima, Alameda County Arts Commission

Beavis Room

#### ***Panel* - The Entrepreneurial Organization: Balancing Mission—and Budgets**

Melinda Booth, Wild & Scenic Film Festival

Michelle Williams, Arts Council of Santa Cruz

Richard Stein, Arts Orange County

Moderator: Victoria Hamilton, Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation, San Diego

Bondi Room

**Panel - Arts Education 2015: What You Need to Know About Common Core, LCFF & STEAM**

Joe Landon, California Alliance for Arts Education, Pasadena

Patricia A. Wayne, CREATE CA

Kim Richards, STE[+a]MConnect, San Diego

Moderator: Patrick Brien, Riverside Arts Council

Compagno Room

12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m. **Lunch On Your Own** – Join voluntary lunch groups formed around affinity topics!

1:30 p.m.–2:30 p.m. **General Session** – Magnolia Ballroom

**Keynote - OPENING THE DOORS - Diane Rodriguez**

Associate Artistic Director, Center Theatre Group, Los Angeles

President, Board of Directors, Theatre Communications Group

Member, National Council on the Arts (Appointed by President Barack Obama)

Introduced by: Tomas J. Benitez, Latino Arts Network

2:30 p.m.–3:45 p.m. **Breakout Sessions (Select One):**

**Panel - The Power of Art: Effective Intervention for At-Risk Youth**

Susan D. Anderson, Author of “The Power of Art” study, Richmond

Melanie Rios Glaser, The Wooden Floor, Santa Ana

Cristy Johnston Limón, Destiny Arts Center, Oakland

Moderator: Marie Acosta, La Plaza Galeria Posada, Sacramento

Beavis Room

**Panel - Back at Home: Arts & Veterans**

Elizabeth Washburn, Combat Arts, San Diego

Aaron Raheer, veteran and artist from Combat Arts

Julie Fry, Cal Humanities

Moderator: Julie Baker, Center for the Arts, Grass Valley

Bondi Room

**Panel - Innovation, Engagement, Sustainability:**

**Results from Philanthropic Initiatives**

John E. McGuirk, The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Menlo Park

Lisa Sasaki, Oakland Museum of California

Joel Slayton, ZeroOne, San Jose

Moderator: Sofia Klatzker, Arts for LA

Compagno Room

**Screening - “State of Creativity” – KCET Artbound Documentary**

Followed by Q&A with its Executive Producer Juan Devis, Los Angeles

An “Artbound” special episode on the Otis Report on the Creative Economy.

Using key data from the newest issue of the report, this documentary explores the vibrant network of creativity in Southern California, examining how creative businesses are investing in community building and driving economic activity.

Magnolia Ballroom

3:45 p.m.–4:15 p.m. **General Session Wrap-up** – Magnolia Ballroom

## BIOS OF SPEAKERS, PANELISTS, MODERATORS AND PERFORMERS

*\*-Board Member, Californians for the Arts*



**Marie Acosta\*** is the Artistic and Executive Director of Sacramento's Latino arts center, La Raza Galería Posada. A seasoned arts professional, Ms. Acosta was an actress with the San Francisco Mime Troupe, Special Assistant to the Director of the California Arts Council, the Executive Director of San Francisco's Mexican Museum, the Executive Director of the Latino Arts Network of California and served as the Director of Cultural Arts and Tourism for the City of Henderson, NV. She was named Woman of the Year by the CA State Assembly, received the Directors Award from the California Arts Council and is a recipient of a Gerbode Fellowship. Ms. Acosta is the curator of "El Pantéon de Sacramento/Día de los Muertos" an annual open-air installation of altares and ofrendas in Midtown, Sacramento. She is the co-author and co-director of "La Pastorela de Sacramento". Most recently she was a member of the acting ensemble for the staged reading of "FSM/Free Speech Movement" by Joan Holden performed at the 2013 San Francisco Playwrights Festival. Ms. Acosta is also the Vice-Chairperson of Californians for the Arts, a board member of the Latino Arts Network of California and the Consulting Director for La Pocha Nostra, a San Francisco based performing arts organization. She is the co-author of the 2013 study: "The City of Sacramento: A Case Study In Municipal Support of the Arts".



**Susan D. Anderson** is an independent curator, writer and historian in the Bay Area. She was a curator in UCLA Library Special Collections and at USC Libraries Special Collections. She is the author of *Nostalgia for a Trumpet: Poems of Memory and History*, published by Tia Chucha Press. Her poetry and short fiction have appeared in *The Antioch Review*, *ONTHEBUS*, *First Intensity*, *Xavier Review*, *The Massachusetts Review*, *Praxis: A Journal of Radical Perspectives on the Arts*, *5 A.M.*, *The Black Scholar*, *Fear of Others/La Peur De L'Autre*, *Art Against Racism/L'Art Contre Le Racisme*, an exhibition in Vancouver, BC. Currently, she is a Commissioner on the City of Richmond Arts and Culture Commission. Previously, she served as Commissioner on the City of Culver City Cultural Affairs Commission. She was appointed by Los Angeles Mayor James K. Hahn to the Mayor's Arts Council, and was principal author of its report, *The Arts and Culture: Priorities for the City of Los Angeles*. She was also author and principal investigator on *The Power of Art: Pathways to Healthy Youth Development*, commissioned by The California Endowment. Ms. Anderson served as Chair of the Board of Directors of The HeArt Project, now artworxla, a nonprofit arts organization providing arts instruction and presentation experience to teens in continuation high schools. She was President of the League of Allied Arts, a legacy African American women's club in Los Angeles, providing scholarships to students in the arts. Susan was principal and founder of CivicArts, which provided services to clients including: MOCA; the Virginia Waring International Piano Competition in Palm Desert; The Los Angeles Urban Dance Festival at the Hollywood Palladium, and; The Italian Cultural Institute in Westwood. She received her M.B.A. from the UCLA Anderson School, where she was the recipient of a Thrifty Corporation Award and President, Black Graduate Students in Management. She received her B.A. from Scripps College, Claremont, California, where in addition to humanities and political science, she studied international art history under artist and Professor Samella Lewis.



**Julie Baker\*** brings over 25 years of experience in arts marketing and management to her current position as Executive Director of The Center for the Arts in Grass Valley, CA. Earlier in her career she worked in New York City at several prominent art galleries and the international auction house Christie's before becoming the President of her family's art marketing agency. Clients of the agency included JVC Jazz Festival, Toyota Comedy Festival, Newport Folk Festival, Art Dealers Association of American, Guggenheim Museum and many more. After selling the business in 1998 and moving to Nevada City, she worked as an Executive Producer for Tristream, a web development firm. In 2001 she opened her own business Julie Baker Fine Art, located in Grass Valley and later Nevada City and New York City and for 2 years co-produced and founded an art fair in Miami. She joined the Center in June of 2009. She currently serves on the board of California Presenters, a statewide coalition committed to connecting, engaging and developing performing arts professionals from organizations of different sizes and structures; and advocating for important issues in the presenting field and was recently appointed to the board of Californians for The Arts and California Arts Advocates. She also serves on the Nevada County arts education task force and the tourism council.



**Tomas J. Benitez\***, Chairman of the Board of Latino Arts Network, has been an advocate of Chicano/Latino arts and culture for nearly 40 years, and has served as a consultant to the Smithsonian Institute, the President's Council for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the University of Notre Dame, USC, UCLA, the Mexican Fine Art Center Museum in Chicago, and the California Arts Council. He has lectured on Chicano art and culture in Berlin, Mexico City, London, Glasgow, and Pretoria, South Africa, as well as throughout the United States. He represented the Los Angeles cultural arts community in Israel through the Los Angeles/Tel Aviv Exchange Project of the Jewish Federation in 2003. He has worked with Plaza de la Raza, Bilingual Foundation for the Arts, Teatro de la Esperanza, Teatro Café (his own teatro company), and the late C. Bernard "Jack" Jackson at the Los Angeles Inner City Cultural Center, a pioneer multi-cultural arts performing center. Tomas is the former Executive Director of Self Help Graphics & Art in East Los Angeles, and remains a consultant for non-profit arts organizations in the greater Los Angeles area. He is a former Arts Commissioner for the County of Los Angeles (1st District, Supervisor Gloria Molina), and sits on a number of panels and advisory groups. He is a founding member of the board of directors for LAN (The Latino Arts Network), and is currently the Chairman of the Board. He is an earnest member of his other passion, The Baseball Reliquary, a hardy band of performing, visual and media artists who are "dedicated to the art and creativity of the 'great game' despite the professional sport." As a screenwriter, Tomas wrote his first produced film, SALSA, (Cannon 1986), and has since written for Fred Roos, Starz Encore Films, CBS Television, and other producers. He has been working with Nancy de los Santos for several years on "THE TEXAS BOYS", an epic story of the Mexican American civil rights movement, also being produced by Fred Roos. Tomas recently completed "The Gully" and "Eastside Stories", to be released as online books in Fall 2015. He is currently working on a novel based on the multi-cultural history of Boyle Heights, often called the "Ellis Island of the West." As a development and planning consultant Tomas has worked for a number of local arts organizations and institutions, including the following client list: Plaza de la Raza, Los Angeles, Avenue 50 Studio, Los Angeles, Galeria de la Raza, Sacramento, Chicano Research Center, UCLA, Los Angeles, Inter University Latino Research Center, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana, About Productions, Harlem Swings!, Harlem One Spot, Los Angeles, and the Gabrielino/Tongva Springs Foundation.



**Melinda Booth** With a passion for conservation and always wanting to do more, Melinda fell into fundraising as a means to an end and has since specialized in development for environmental nonprofits. Currently the Film Festival Director for South Yuba River Citizens League's Wild & Scenic Film Festival, Melinda has been organizing large events since 1999. After grad school and prior to joining the SYRCL team, Melinda worked for the California Wolf Center (Julian, CA) raising funds for wolf conservation, research and education; and for the Sequoia Park Zoo Foundation (Eureka, CA) furthering the education and conservation mission of a 21st Century zoo. While in Humboldt County, Melinda concurrently taught environmental grant writing at Humboldt State University.



**Patrick Brien\*** is the Executive Director for the Riverside Arts Council. As a state/local partner with the California Arts Council, RAC serves the County of Riverside with programs ranging from capacity building technical assistance workshops and consultations to art in public places. Their arts education programming includes both during and after school sessions at schools throughout Riverside County. With a background in professional theatre, Patrick sports a long list of international directing, acting and design credits spanning from Amsterdam to Hawaii. He has served as Executive/Artistic Director for theatre companies in Germany, California and Cheyenne, Wyoming (where in 1995 he was awarded the Wyoming Arts Council Fellowship for Outstanding Contribution to Art in the State). The American Association of Community Theatre presented him with the 1993 National Best Director Award. In 1991, he helped to open Robert Redford's children's theatre in Sundance, Utah. His current side effort, The Gestalt Theatre Project, is one of the resident companies at The Box, which is part of the Fox Entertainment Plaza in downtown Riverside. Recent productions have included Martin McDonagh's "The Pillowman" and the west coast premiere of "The Library." He also writes a weekly artist spotlight column for the Press Enterprise. Patrick is on the board of directors for the Californians for the Arts and California Arts Advocates.



**Tim Carpenter** founded EngAGE in 1999, serves as its Executive Director, and is the host/producer of the EXPERIENCE TALKS radio show. EngAGE is a nonprofit that changes aging and the way people think about aging by transforming senior apartment communities into vibrant centers of learning, wellness and creativity. EngAGE provides life-enhancing arts, wellness, lifelong learning, community building and intergenerational programs and events to thousands of seniors living in Southern California. Experience Talks is a radio magazine that shines a light on the value of experience in society, airing for 250,000 listeners on Saturdays at 8 a.m. Pacific on KPFK 90.7 FM in Los Angeles, 98.7 FM in Santa Barbara and streaming live worldwide on the web at [www.kpfk.org](http://www.kpfk.org). The show is syndicated by the Pacifica Network to up to 100 cities nationwide. Tim catalyzed the creation of the Burbank Senior Artists Colony, a first-of-its-kind senior apartment community with high-end arts amenities and programs. The NOHO Senior Arts Colony and the Long Beach Senior Arts Colony opened in 2012. Tim serves on the board of the National Center for Creative Aging. In 2008, Tim was elected an Ashoka Fellow for his work as a social entrepreneur, and in 2011 he received the James Irvine Foundation Leadership Award.



**Juan Devis** is a creative leader in public media. Devis is currently the Sr. Vice President of Content Development and Production for the largest independent television network in the United States, KCETLink. In this capacity, Devis has had to develop strategic partnerships with funders, organizations and independent production houses to ensure a new slate of content for two stations – KCET + LINK TV - securing funds and maintaining an editorial vision and cohesiveness for the company's new mission. Devis has also charted the stations' new Arts and Culture initiative and is the Executive Producer of the Emmy Winner Artbound consisting of a television series, an online networked cultural hub and the creation of programmatic partnerships with cultural institutions. In addition, Devis has developed and is the Executive Producer of a slate of new productions series that are either in development, production and pre-production. Some of these include, the Emmy nominated Live @ the Ford, Studio A, Border Blaster, Departures, City Walk, Studio A, Ocean Stories, Re-Plan it and others. For over a decade, Devis has worked with a number of non-profit organizations and media arts institutions in Los Angeles serving as producer, director, educator and board member. He is a founding member and is currently a board member of the LF Charter School for the Arts, an innovative arts-integrated charter public school serving the population of North East Los Angeles. Devis' film, television, and interactive work has been screened and exhibited across the world. In the press, Juan Devis was presented as a major "influencer" in Los Angeles by the LA Weekly news publication, and his transmedia series Departures was celebrated by the New York Times as a new twist on public media. Devis has won numerous awards, including: Emmy, Webby, LA Press Awards, National Arts Journalism awards, the Japan Prize, and others.



**Element Brass Band** When Sacramento trumpeter Ryan Robertson traveled to New Orleans, LA in 2010, he knew that he had found a new home and calling. Robertson immersed himself in New Orleans' rich culture and became fascinated with the local music, finding work playing in several local brass bands. When Robertson returned to his hometown of Sacramento, in 2011, he brought the music of New Orleans with him. He quickly rallied some of Sacramento's top aspiring musicians, and the Element Brass Band was born. Robertson could not get New Orleans out of his blood and soon returned to the Crescent City to further his musical career, passing the bandleader torch to saxophonist Byron Colborn. Second line music is most common in New Orleans, but with the efforts of groups like the Element Brass Band, second line is reaching appreciative audiences well beyond its traditional boundaries. Second line music is being played both nationally and internationally. Element Brass Band is the premier brass band in Sacramento, CA and one of the only truly authentic second line bands on the West Coast! Also known as E.B.B., the Element Brass Band has performed at many Festivals including the Sacramento Jazz Jubilee, the Davis Jazz Festival and the Loomis Eggplant Festival. E.B.B. has performed throughout the Sacramento area at such venues as JB's Lounge, The Shady Lady, The Press Club, Old Ironsides, and The Torch Club. Element Brass Band was awarded a 2015 "SAMMIE" (Sacramento Area Music Award) for Outstanding Jazz Ensemble.



**Moy Eng** brings over three decades of experience in the philanthropic sector as a grantmaker, consultant and senior manager in areas as diverse as arts, education, renewable energy, lesbian and gay rights, immigrant rights, and international human rights. Known for her visionary ability to identify and support progressive ideas, Moy has worked as a grantmaker in numerous foundations with assets ranging from \$100 million to \$7 billion. She directed the arts program at The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, investing in efforts that helped bring \$800 million in new public sector funding for arts education to California schools. Moy also commissioned landmark research on the dynamics of the U.S. cultural ecosystem and the state of arts education in California, and supported efforts to build more than 750,000 square feet in new, affordable performing arts space across the San Francisco Bay region. Moy began her career in New York City in fundraising, working with both the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and the Orchestra of St. Luke's, attracting leadership support from American luminaries such as Bill Cosby, the late Reginald Lewis, and Harry and Julie Belafonte. Fortunate to live a life surrounded by beauty, Moy currently serves on the board of the Stanford Jazz Workshop, is a singer and lyricist, and the mother of two singular young women.



**Brad Erickson\*** serves as executive director for Theatre Bay Area, one of the nation's largest regional performing arts service organizations, with more than 300 theatre and dance company members and nearly 2,200 individual members. For more than a decade, he has led the organization's efforts to support, promote and advocate for the region's vibrant theatre and dance community. Under Erickson's leadership, Theatre Bay Area has gained a national reputation for innovative programs and services for the field. Theatre Bay Area's nationwide study on the intrinsic impact of the theatre experience on the audience is a leading example. Erickson serves as treasurer of the California Arts Advocates and Californians for the Arts and as California State Captain for Americans for the Arts. Also a playwright, his plays have won several awards and have been produced in theatres from San Francisco to Indianapolis.



**David J. Fraher**, President & CEO, Arts Midwest, Minneapolis, Minnesota. For the past 38 years, David J. Fraher has directed his creative skill to building and leading arts organizations and programs throughout the United States. In 1983 he joined what was then the Affiliated State Arts Agencies of the Upper Midwest as its Executive Director, and subsequently led its merger with Great Lakes Arts Alliance, creating Arts Midwest in 1985. He has been chief executive of the organization since that time. Today, Arts Midwest works in close partnership with its member state arts agencies in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin; the National Endowment for the Arts; and a broad array of other public and private supporters. Its cultural programs—including performances by high-quality theater, dance, and music ensembles; arts educational activities; exhibitions; conferences; and research and leadership development initiatives—reach close to a million people each year, enhancing the quality of life in hundreds of cities, towns, and rural areas across the Midwest and the nation. In addition, Fraher has led Arts Midwest in aggressively building a diverse and successful portfolio of international partnerships and exchange programs which, over the past two decades, have brought performers, filmmakers, visual artists and exhibitions from more than thirty nations and cultures to audiences across the United States—with a special emphasis on reaching young people residing in more isolated or rural communities. In addition, Arts Midwest has also organized exchanges, training, and discovery residencies for American and international arts administrators, with a special emphasis on building deep ties within and throughout the People's Republic of China. Networks established through this investment have resulted in multiple tours throughout by U.S. performers and visual artists, as well as two major touring exhibitions which have introduced Chinese audiences to American traditional art forms and documentary photography. In addition to his work at Arts Midwest, David Fraher currently serves on the Board of the Alliance of Artists Communities. In 2007 he received the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies' Gary Young Award for contributions to public support for the arts, and in 2008 he received the NEA Chairman's Medal for distinguished service to that agency. In 2012, he was given the Sally Ordway Irvine Award for efforts promoting arts access, and was also selected as a Fellow to the Salzburg Global Seminar. In 2014, he became only the second American to be awarded the Cultural Exchange Contribution Award, by the People's Republic of China. David has a degree in creative writing from SUNY at Brockport, New York, and completed two years of graduate work in creative writing and American literature at Ohio University in Athens.



**Julie Fry** joined Cal Humanities as its President and CEO in February 2015. Prior to joining Cal Humanities, Julie served as a Program Officer for the Performing Arts Program at The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation in Menlo Park, California, managing a grantee portfolio of more than 140 nonprofit arts organizations and leading arts education policy efforts at the federal, state and local level with a cohort of grantees. Fry has extensive experience working and volunteering with arts-based organizations. Recently she has been on the Advisory Committee of the Arts Education Partnership, the Steering Committee for the Alameda County Alliance for Arts Learning, the Arts for All Pooled Fund in Los Angeles, and is the founding Chair of the Grantmakers in the Arts' Arts Education Funder Coalition. She earned her BBA in Economics and French from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, an MBA in International Finance from the University of St. Thomas (Houston), and is pursuing a MA in Historic Preservation from Goucher College (Baltimore).



**Melanie Ríos Glaser**, Choreographer, currently serves as the Artistic Director and Co-CEO of The Wooden Floor in Santa Ana. The Wooden Floor is a nonprofit organization that annually gives 375 underserved youth the tools to live fuller, healthier lives through a unique approach grounded in dance. Born and raised in Guatemala, she received her BFA from the Juilliard School, was named a Kennedy Center Fellow, and was a Fulbright Scholar in Paris. She has been involved with experimental dance, improvisation, and performance for twenty years, and her work has been widely presented internationally. She continues her teaching and artistic practice in Orange County and Guatemala. She enjoys curating and volunteering her expertise on issues related to nonprofit organizations.



**Cara Goger** joined the Mariposa County Arts Council in 2012 as the Executive Director. She has over ten years of experience working in the fields of Arts Education and Arts Administration. Prior to her work at the Arts Council, Cara was the Lifespan Learning Coordinator at the Museum of Photographic Arts in San Diego where she served as the primary artist-in-residence for the Museum's older adult programming and as the lead instructor and curriculum developer for the organization's School in the Park's 5th grade program. Additionally, she has worked with the Aja Project, a non profit arts-based organization providing photography-based educational programming to refugee and displaced youth in California. Cara earned a B.A. in Political Science/Foreign Policy from Sonoma State University and a M.A. in Political Science/International Relations from San Diego State University.

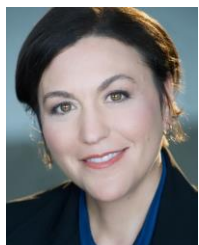


**Victoria L. Hamilton\*** is Arts and Community Development Manager for the Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation in San Diego. Founding Director of the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, Hamilton led this nationally recognized multi-million dollar local arts agency for 24 years. At the Commission, she achieved unanimous approval of a plan for 2% for public art in capital improvement and 1% in private development as well as for the Penny for the Arts Blueprint for increased arts funding. With over 30 years in the field of arts administration, she is recognized for her pioneering leadership and work on public policy, cultural tourism, grant making and diversity initiatives. Victoria has served as President of United States Urban Arts Federation and California Assembly of Local Arts Agencies; been a panel member for the National Endowment for the Arts and California Arts Council and on public policy committees at state and national levels. She currently serves as Secretary of Californians for the Arts board, on the steering committee of the San Diego Regional Arts and Culture Coalition and on the San Diego Foundation's Balboa Park Trust Fund committee. She has received numerous awards including the Ray Hanley Innovation Award given by the United States Urban Arts Federation for "outstanding individual contributions to arts and culture in American cities," and the Selena Roberts Ottum Award; given at the Americans for the Arts Annual Convention "for outstanding contributions in the local arts agency field."



**Kerry Adams Hapner\*** As the Director of Cultural Affairs for the City of San Jose, Kerry Adams Hapner leads the Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA) in the 10th largest US city. The mission of the OCA is to champion the arts and cultural vitality for San Jose's one million ethnically diverse residents and its visitors. Adams Hapner oversees a 10-member staff working in public art and creative placemaking, special events, cultural funding, cultural facilities, and artist workforce development. She has led the development of significant cultural policy and programs including: Cultural Connection: San Jose's Cultural Plan for 2011-2020; cultural development goals for Envision San Jose 2040, the

general plan update; the Cultural Funding Portfolio: Investments in Art, Creativity, and Culture, and the Creative Entrepreneur Project. In 2014, Kerry was named one of the most powerful and influential leaders in the nonprofit arts sector in the United States by Barry's Blog, published by the Western States Arts Federation. She regularly writes on and speaks at national conferences on a wide range of arts topics. In 2014, Kerry presented on San Jose's art and technology work at the National Arts Policy Roundtable in Sundance, UT, co-convoked by the Sundance Institute and Americans for the Arts. She serves as the Chair of the United States Urban Arts Federation, which comprises the local art agency executive directors of the 60 largest U.S. cities. She also serves as a member of ArtTable, and as a board member of Californians for the Arts and California Arts Advocates. Prior to joining the City of San Jose, Adams Hapner was cultural affairs manager for the City of Ventura, where she enjoyed working from 1999 to 2008.



**Sofia Klatzker\*** is the newly appointed Executive Director of Arts for LA. She comes to Arts for LA with over 15 years of experience at various levels in arts education, arts policy and grant making programs. Starting in 2003, she led several successful initiatives within the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, and oversaw the commission's organizational grant program, arts internship program, professional development opportunities for artists and arts administrators, the fostering of public and private partnerships and connecting local arts funders. Klatzker managed the commission's arts education initiative Arts for All, building advocacy networks and resources, conducting research and fostering new partnerships and collaborations to provide arts education for all public students in Los Angeles County. She currently serves on the board of Californians for the Arts, and served as vice chair of the Culver City Cultural Affairs Foundation Board. Sofia attended Oberlin's Conservatory with a focus on electronic music composition, founded an arts-focused media company in the 1990s and earned her master's degree in arts administration from Goucher College.



**Joe Landon** has been Executive Director of the California Alliance for Arts Education, and previously served as its policy director. The bulk of Landon's professional career was spent as a practicing artist, having been a Playwright in Residence at the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco, with his plays and musicals produced there, at the Manhattan Theater Club in New York, and the Z Space in San Francisco. He also spent 15 years writing for television in Los Angeles, with credits that include the movie "The Comeback Kid" and working for several years on the award winning series "The Paper Chase." His background also includes six years of classroom teaching experience, one as a preschool teacher, and five as a music and theater specialist at Marin Primary and Middle School. He lives in Davis with his wife Laura, and the comings and goings of three fully grown children.



**Cristy Johnston Limón** is currently the Executive Director of Destiny Arts Center a creative youth development nonprofit that blends arts education, movement and conflict resolution skills to transform young people's lives and communities struggling with violence. Since 2011, Cristy has doubled the organization's size, solidified its reputation as a dynamic, quality youth development organization, and raised Destiny's visibility and sustainability by purchasing, renovating and occupying Destiny's new community arts facility in North Oakland, serving as a catalyst for economic development, stimulating the local creative economy and providing greater access to the arts. Cristy has been recognized as an emerging leader, winning the Young Nonprofit Executive Director of the Year award in 2014, the 2014 Community Impact Award, and is 1 of 50 international arts leaders that are part of National Arts Strategies' Chief Executive Program: Community and Culture--designed to bring arts leaders together for collective learning and impact.



**Levi Lowe**, a sophomore at Sonora Union High School in Tuolumne County, took first place in the 2015 California state finals of Poetry Out Loud and will represent the Golden State in Washington, D.C. at the national finals next month. Levi recited A March in the Ranks Hard-Prest, and the Road Unknown by Walt Whitman, The Nail by C. K. Williams, and The Blues Don't Change by Al Young.



**John E. McGuirk** is the director of the Performing Arts Program at The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. With an annual grants budget of approximately \$18 million, Hewlett is the one of the largest foundation funders of the arts in the San Francisco Bay Area with more than 250 grant recipients. In addition, Mr. McGuirk serves as the Hewlett Foundation's liaison to the Community Leadership Project, a \$20 million initiative of the Packard, Irvine, and Hewlett foundations to reach low-income and minority-led nonprofit organizations in targeted regions of California. He currently serves on the national board of directors of two organizations, Grantmakers in the Arts and the Cultural Data Project, and participates in steering committees of the Northern California Grantmakers' Arts Loan Fund and the California Cultural Data Project. He is an Adjunct Professor at Claremont Graduate University in the masters of arts management program. Before joining the Hewlett Foundation, Mr. McGuirk previously worked as Arts Program Director of the James Irvine Foundation (2006-2009) and program officer for the Hewlett Foundation (2001-2006). Earlier in his career, Mr. McGuirk was manager of grants programs for Arts Council Silicon Valley. Before that, he worked for six years at the Community School of Music and Arts in Mountain View, California, and held positions at both the Pittsburgh Symphony and the Pittsburgh Opera. Mr. McGuirk is a graduate of Grove City College in Pennsylvania, and earned his master's degree in public management at Carnegie Mellon University, with a concentration in arts management.



**Victor Nelson**, MSW, MBA is the Executive Director of the Kenneth A. Picerne Foundation. The mission of the Foundation is to design, develop and sustain innovative programs that enhance healthy human development. He currently directs the Artist Outreach Project, a program established by the Foundation in 2007. The Artist Outreach Project creates opportunities for senior artists to share their passion and expertise with under-served groups who lack opportunities to enjoy the benefits of quality arts programs. Since its inception, Artist Outreach has provided support to 107 senior artists and served 14,000 people in Southern California. Before joining the Foundation in 2005, Victor spent 15 years managing and developing nonprofit human service organizations and providing direct clinical services as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker.



**Rachel Osajima\*** is the Executive Director of the Alameda County Arts Commission, a division of the County of Alameda. In this capacity she manages all program service activities including the grants for the arts, public art services, exhibitions in public spaces, and arts education and creativity community engagement services. Ms. Osajima has over twenty years of experience working in leadership positions for a wide range of S.F. Bay Area civic and community based arts organizations. Ms. Osajima is the former Director of Exhibitions for the Richmond Art Center in Richmond and former Curator and Interim Director of the Museum of Craft and Folk Art in San Francisco, and Corporate Arts Coordinator for the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art Artists Gallery. She is the founding chairperson of the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee. She is a board member of Californians for the Arts and California Arts Advocates and is a member of the Alliance for Arts Learning Leadership Steering Committee. She received dual Bachelors of Arts in art history and fine art from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and an M.F.A. from the California College of the Arts, Oakland.



**Aaron Rahe**, born November 10, 1979 in San Diego, California, joined the United States Marine Corps in 2005. He served 8 years active duty and was deployed twice to combat in Iraq. In the final three years of his military career, he was a combat instructor at the School of Infantry West, Camp Pendleton, California. In 2012, Aaron was introduced to Combat Arts San Diego while receiving treatment at OASIS, a Navy-sponsored inpatient program focused on combat-induced Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). In the art class at OASIS, Aaron realized the positive benefits of Art in conjunction with therapy for PTSD. Reflecting on his own recovery utilizing the Arts, Aaron appreciates the opportunity to pass on this knowledge to other returning combat veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan. Currently, he works as Combat Arts' Project Coordinator, facilitating art classes and leading mural projects.



**Kim Richards** is the founder and principal of KDR PR, a PR firm dedicated to helping education organizations discover and share their stories with the public in creative ways. She is also the co-founder of STEAMConnect, a grassroots organization started in 2012 that convenes and provides resources for the diverse and growing STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) community across the US. Prior to starting KDR PR in 2011, Kim managed corporate communications for life science companies for nearly eight years, so she brings her experience in science communications together with her passion for the arts and education. Kim currently sits on the board of the BIOCUM Institute, King-Chavez Neighborhood of Schools and the educational advisory board for The Artist Odyssey. She is also closely involved with several initiatives including the Boeing-funded Arts + STEM Collaborative and CREATE CA.



**Diane Rodriguez** is a multi-disciplinary theater artist. She is an Obie Award winning actor, anthologized writer, regional theater director, and Associate Artistic Director at the Center Theatre Group (CTG), Los Angeles, as well as Co-Curator with Mark Murphy and Mark Russell of the RADAR LA Festival. She began her career as a leading performer with the seminal ensemble El Teatro Campesino. In 2012 and 2013 her first full-length play, *Living Large in a Mini Kind of Way*, was produced in Chicago at Teatro Luna and 16th Street Theater, respectively. She is currently President of the Theatre Communications Board. In the scope of her career, Ms. Rodriguez has played a major role in advancing feminist presence in the arts and fostering the visibility of Latina/o theater on the American stage. Ms. Rodriguez is understood by those in the profession to be the most powerful Latina in the American Theater. In January of 2015, President Obama appointed Diane for the National Council on the Arts, a body that advises the agency policies and programs. As President of the Theatre Communications Group (TCG) Board, she plays a major leadership role within the American theater. TCG is the national organization for American theatre, whose membership includes 700 theaters and affiliate organizations and more than 12,000 individuals nationwide. TCG is also the nation's largest independent publisher of dramatic literature (with 10 Pulitzer Prize plays in their titles) and they publish the magazine *American Theatre* as well as *Artsearch*, viewed as essential sources for a career in the arts. Ms. Rodriguez is also Associate Artistic Director for Center Theatre Group, Los Angeles, whose stages include the Ahmanson Theatre, the Mark Taper Forum, and the Kirk Douglas Theater. In this position, and previously when she held the position of Associate Producer/Director of New Play Production, she has helped to increase the diversity of voices included on the season program and promoted the development of a new generation of playwrights. From 1995 – 2005, Ms. Rodriguez served as co-director with Luis Alfaro of the Latino Theater Initiative at the Mark Taper Forum. Chantal Rodriguez's recent monograph, *The Latino Theatre Initiative / Center Theatre Group Papers, 1980 – 2005* (UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center), is devoted to the work Ms. Rodriguez developed during this period and the profound influence of the LTI on shaping the landscape of theater in Los Angeles and nationwide. In 2013, Ms. Rodriguez joined 65 leaders in Latina/o theater to participate in the Latino Theater Commons, the first gathering of Latino theater artists since 1986. Ms. Rodriguez's creative work is included in the edited collection *Puro Teatro: A Latina Anthology* (University of Arizona Press, 2000). Her work has been the focus of discussion in three significant scholarly books: *El Teatro Campesino: Theater in the Chicano Movement* by Yolanda Broyles-Gonzalez (University of Texas Press, 1994); *Chicano Drama: Performance, Society and Myth* by Jorge Huerta (Cambridge University Press, 2000); and *Domestic Negotiations: Gender, Nation, and Self-Fashioning in US Mexicana and Chicana Literature and Art* by Marci McMahon (Rutgers University Press, 2013) with an entire chapter there devoted to Ms. Rodriguez's work, "Redirecting Chicana/Latina Representation: Diane Rodriguez's Performance and Staging of the Domestic."



**Lisa Sasaki** is the Director of the Audience & Civic Engagement Center at the Oakland Museum of California where she oversees marketing & communications, public programs, school & teacher programs, visitor services, and community engagement. Previously, she worked at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, as the Director of Program Development where she oversaw a major initiative looking at how a culturally specific, community-based museum could respond to changing American demographics. Sasaki also serves on the Western Museums Association's Board of Directors as the Vice President of Membership & Development.



**Joel Slayton** He took the helm of ZERO1 in June of 2008 after serving as a both a board member for the organization and chairperson of ISEA2006, which was held in conjunction with the inaugural 01SJ Biennial. An artist, writer and researcher, Joel is a full tenured professor at San Jose State University where he served as Director of the CADRE Laboratory for New Media from 1988 to 2008. Established in 1984 CADRE is one of the oldest and most prestigious centers in the United States dedicated to the development of experimental applications involving information technology and art. Joel has also served on the Board of Directors of Leonardo/ISAST (International Society for Art, Science and Technology) from 1999 to 2008, and was Editor and Chief of the Leonardo-MIT Press Book. Most recently, he served as a member of the National Advisory Committee for the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.



**Richard Stein\*** Rick was appointed Executive Director of Arts Orange County, the nonprofit countywide arts council and state-local partner serving the 3 million people of the County of Orange, in 2008. Previously, he transformed the Laguna Playhouse in Laguna Beach into a major resident professional theatre over the course of 17 years as its Executive Director, producing more than 100 plays, including two national touring productions, and directing many notable productions, including several premieres. He holds degrees from Columbia and Syracuse Universities and was sent on a cultural exchange to Korea by the International Theatre Institute. Rick has served on the executive committee of the League of Resident Theatres and is a contributing writer to AMERICAN THEATRE magazine.

He also served on the inaugural John Wayne Airport Arts Commission, which he later chaired. Currently, he is President of the Board of Directors of California Arts Advocates and Californians for the Arts, statewide organizations promoting the interests of the arts community. He has been a guest lecturer at University of California, Irvine and California State University, Fullerton, and was a commencement keynote speaker at the Laguna College of Art + Design. He has served as a panelist or site visitor for the National Endowment for the Arts, New England Foundation for the Arts, California Arts Council, Western States Arts Federation, City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, Riverside Arts Council, and the Connecticut Commission on the Arts.



**Beth Strachan**, Vice President, Metropolitan Group. Beth is a strategist and communicator focused on helping organizations tell their stories and scale their impact while building long-term relationships with their supporters. She offers more than 25 years of public and private sector experience that encompasses marketing communication, resource development and organizational planning for the arts, civic engagement, economic and social justice, and public and environmental health. Her work has helped support the election of pro-arts candidates at local, state, and national levels; fund efforts to build support for comprehensive immigration reform; enable the passage of several precedent-setting public health bills; and launch successful market-based campaigns to remove toxic chemicals from consumer products. Her skill in resource development strategy and communication campaigns, corporate sponsorship, strategic message framework development and direct response marketing has helped generate over \$60 million for progressive organizations and causes. Beth heads MG's California office in San Francisco. Her Metropolitan Group client roster has included Americans for the Arts Action Fund, Ford Foundation, Leichtag Foundation, Performing Arts Workshop, West Hollywood Library Fund, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and the White House Historical Association. Prior to joining MG, Beth served in a variety of leadership positions with some of the country's leading organizations working on civic engagement, civil rights, economic and social justice, and public and environmental health issues, including VolunteerMatch.org, Breast Cancer Fund, Earth Island Institute, and Working Assets (now Credo).



Visual artist, **Elizabeth Washburn**, has been working with service members transitioning out of the war zone for the past seven years. In 2010, she founded "Combat Arts San Diego" ([www.combatartssd.org](http://www.combatartssd.org)) where she provides free art classes, public art opportunities, museum tours, and art exhibitions for active-duty service members and veterans. Elizabeth uses her professional experience as an artist and art teacher to help service members and veterans to access the arts as a means of self-expression and healing. In addition to teaching art for over a decade, Elizabeth has a Master's Degree in Painting from the Laguna College of Art and Design and a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Art. She exhibits her work nationally in galleries and museums.



**Patricia A. Wayne** is the Program Director of CREATE CA, California's Statewide Arts Coalition. CREATE CA teams innovative thinkers from multiple sectors of California's creative economy, public and private, to rethink and create an educational environment for all California students that features arts education as a central part of the solution to the crisis in our schools. Pat also is the Southern California Coordinator for the California Alliance for Arts Education to build local alliances to support school districts as they implement their arts plans. Most recently, she served as Deputy Director of Arts Orange County, the county-wide arts council since 2005. Pat has a multiple subject teaching credential as well as a Master's degree in Performing Arts Administration. Pat has held the positions of Manager of Community Programs for the Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Deputy Director of the Columbus Arts Council (Ohio), Managing Director of MoMing Dance Center (Chicago) and Managing Director of Merrimack Regional Theatre (Boston).



**Michelle Williams** joined Arts Council Santa Cruz County as Executive Director in 2009. Michelle was raised in the arts and studied dance, cello, piano, bass and voice before focusing her talents on theater and writing. After earning a BFA in Musical Theater, she worked in theaters and recording studios across the U.S. as well as internationally. She has also worked as a writer, EMT, emergency services responder in disaster relief, and in wine education and hospitality. Michelle's passions for radical partnerships, workplace culture, and harnessing the power of the arts to ignite community change are what drive her work. She has served on numerous panels for the California Arts Council and National Endowment for the Arts and has presented across the country on topics such as arts funding, arts advocacy, program development, public art, and building partnerships. She serves on the board of the Santa Cruz Convention and Visitors Council, Tannery Arts Center, and the Advisory Board of the Santa Cruz Children's Museum of Discovery. When she's not advocating for the arts, you'll find Michelle dancing, wrestling, drawing, and playing with her two beautiful boys, two-year-old Alex and four-year-old Andrew.

---



A 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization founded in 2010 to increase public awareness of the importance of the arts, ensure that the arts are an ongoing part of the public dialogue and encourage people to care about the arts.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(As of March 19, 2015)

**Richard Stein, President**

Executive Director  
Arts Orange County  
**Santa Ana**

**Marie Acosta, Vice President**

Executive Director  
La Raza Galeria Posada  
**Sacramento**

**Brad Erickson, Treasurer**

Executive Director  
Theatre Bay Area  
**San Francisco**

**Victoria Hamilton, Secretary**

Arts & Community Development Manager  
Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation  
**San Diego**

**Julie Baker**

Executive Director  
Center for the Arts  
**Grass Valley**

**Tomas J. Benitez**

President  
Latino Arts Network of California  
**Los Angeles**

**Patrick Brien**

Executive Director  
**Riverside** Arts Council

**Deborah Cullinan**

Executive Director  
Yerba Buena Center for the Arts  
**San Francisco**

**John Gallogly**

Executive Director  
Theatre West  
**Los Angeles**

**Rhyena Halpern**

Assistant Director, Community Services Department  
Director, Arts & Sciences  
City of **Palo Alto**

**Kerry Adams Hapner**

Director of Cultural Affairs  
City of **San Jose**

**Angie Kim**

Interim President & CEO  
Center for Cultural Innovation  
**Los Angeles**

**Sofia Klatzker**

Executive Director  
Arts for LA  
**Los Angeles**

**Rachel Osajima**

Executive Director  
Alameda County Arts Commission  
**Oakland**

**Elizabeth Pearson**

President & CEO  
Pacific Chorale  
**Santa Ana**

**Dalouge Smith**

President & CEO  
**San Diego** Youth Symphony & Conservatory

**Jody Ulich**

Director  
City of **Sacramento** Convention & Cultural Services

---

Website: [CaliforniansfortheArts.org](http://CaliforniansfortheArts.org)

Facebook: [CaliforniansfortheArts](https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniansfortheArts)

Twitter: [@CAfortheArts](https://twitter.com/CAfortheArts)

Mailing Address:

c/o Theatre Bay Area  
1119 Market St., 2nd Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94103

***Californians for the Arts gratefully acknowledges the generous support of***

*Day Two Sponsor*



*Reception Sponsor*



*Swag Sponsors*



*Program Support*

