

# National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

## KNOWLEDGE ★ REPRESENTATION ★ COMMUNITY

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### State Arts Agency Arts Education Managers 2019 Professional Development Institute

#### Speaker & Artist Bios



**Ayanna Hudson, Keynote Dialogue  
Director, Arts Education  
National Endowment for the Arts**

Ayanna N. Hudson is the director of Arts Education for the National Endowment for the Arts, where she presides over the grant portfolio devoted to arts education, works with national service organizations on policy initiatives, and serves as the spokesperson for arts education at the federal level. The NEA's arts education program provides direct learning grants for projects that provide pre-K through 12th-grade students with opportunities to gain knowledge and skills in the arts both in and outside the classroom; professional development grants for projects that deepen knowledge and strengthen practice of educators and civic leaders; and collective impact grants for projects that use a systematic approach to provide arts education to students throughout a community, school, school district, and state. Hudson was the director of arts education with the Los Angeles County Arts Commission for more than ten years. She developed and led the implementation of the Arts for All collaborative, ensuring equitable access to arts education for 1.6 million students in the county's 81 school districts, the largest educational system in the country. Arts for All was cited in 2008 by the RAND Corporation as among the top three collaborations nationwide in its study Revitalizing Arts Education through Community-wide Coordination. In 2011, Arts for All received the Arts Education Award from the national service organization Americans for the Arts. Prior to her work in Los Angeles, Hudson managed the School Arts Program at the Fulton County Department of Arts and Culture in Atlanta, Georgia. She has a BA in psychology from Spelman College and a specialized master's degree in education in risk and prevention from Harvard University.



**Ashley Brown  
Deputy Director and Arts Education Director  
South Carolina Arts Commission**

Ashley Brown is the Deputy Director and Arts Education Director at the South Carolina Arts Commission where she works to ensure all students in South Carolina have access to comprehensive arts education experiences. Before coming to the Arts Commission in January 2016, she served as the Education and Engagement Manager for Opening Nights Performing Arts at Florida State University. An accomplished teacher, she taught at Stone Academy of Communication Arts in Greenville, SC, and spent nearly a decade at Children's Theatre of Charlotte in Charlotte NC. She has worked throughout the Southeast with several companies, including Chickspeare Theatre Company, S.C. Children's Theatre, and Brevard Music Center. She received her BA in Theatre from Winthrop University and her MFA in Theatre Management from Florida State University.



**Heather Cahoon**  
**Poet and Assistant Professor of Native American Studies**  
**University of Montana**  
**Member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes**

Heather Cahoon, PhD, received her MFA in Poetry from the University of Montana where she was the Richard Hugo Scholar. She has been awarded a Merriam Frontier Prize, a Potlatch Fund Native Arts grant and a Montana Arts Council Artist Innovation Award. Her writing has appeared in Hanging Loose, Lit Hub, Yellow Medicine Review, basalt, American Indian Culture and Research Journal, Carve, and Cutthroat among others. Her first full-length collection of poems entitled *Horsefly Dress*, is forthcoming from the University of Arizona Press in fall of 2020. Heather is also a federal Indian policy scholar and Assistant Professor of Native American Studies at the University of Montana. She grew up on the Flathead Reservation in western Montana and is a member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.



**Corwin (Corky) Clairmont**  
**Artist and Member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes**

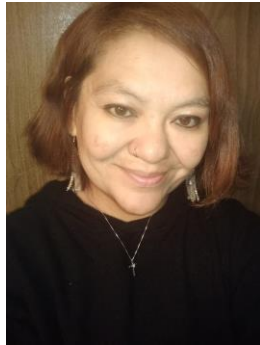
Corwin (Corky) Clairmont is a member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, college professor, administrator and professional artist. While living in Los Angeles, Corky pursued a contemporary exhibiting artist career as well as teaching and becoming department head of printmaking at the Otis/Parsons Art Institute located in Los Angeles, California. Upon his return in 1984 to Montana, Corky began administrative work at the newly credited Salish Kootenai College located in Pablo, Montana on the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Reservation, developing the SKC Fine Arts Department and art degree program. Through work as a printmaker, conceptual and installation artist, Corky's images frequently discuss and explore situations or issues that affect tribal people such as sovereignty, colonization, giving a cultural and historical perspective. Corky's artwork has been exhibited throughout the United States and in several Countries including China, Germany, Norway, New Zealand, France, and at the US Embassy located in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, Africa. Awards have included Ford Foundation and National Endowment for the Arts, the Eiteljorg Fellowship Award, and the 2008 Montana Governors Award for Visual Arts. He currently serves on the State Board of the Montana Arts Council.



**Cameron Decker**  
**Fine Arts Department Head**  
**Salish Kootenai College**  
**Member of the Navajo Nation**

Cameron Decker serves as the head of the Fine Arts Department at Salish Kootenai College in Pablo, Montana. He is a member of the Navajo Nation and is a Salish descendant. He received his undergraduate degree in Art History at the University of New Mexico. He recently finished his graduate degree at the University of Montana in Integrated Arts and Education. He teaches a variety of courses including drawing, ceramics, art history, and portfolio courses. After creating pottery on the wheel for a number of years, he gained interest in tile mosaics. For his graduate thesis, he completed a community made and funded ceramic tile mural for a local park. This has sparked interest in creating meaningful site-specific tile works made for, and by, the public.

These community inspired projects have influenced initiatives in his department's curriculum. The program will be focusing on perpetuation of Salish and Kootenai cultural arts as well as contemporary expressions.



**Jennifer Finley**  
**Poet and Member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes**

Jennifer Finley is a member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and is also Chippewa/Cree. She was born and raised on the Flathead Reservation and is the author of five books. In addition to being an award-winning poet and journalist, Jennifer is also a playwright. Jennifer has taught poetry to elementary students to adults and has worked as an English teacher. Jennifer is a trauma informed yoga teacher and teaches yoga classes throughout the reservation. She's currently working on a master's degree in social justice.



**Laura Forbes, Western Region Representative**  
**Arts Education Program Director**  
**Alaska State Council on the Arts**

Laura Forbes has been the Arts Education Program Director at the Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA) since fall of 2011. Laura's duties at ASCA include administering grants, the development of networks, facilitation of Alaska Poetry Out loud, supporting the field of presenting and touring performing arts and visual art exhibition, and technical services for artists, educators, arts organizations and all Alaska's citizens. Laura graduated from the University of Alaska, Anchorage with a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre. Since 1996, she has worked as a teaching artist, director, designer, and administrator in community arts practice, with a focus and special interest in Theatre for Young Audiences/Youth Theatre. In 2012, she earned an M.Ed. in Integrated Teaching through the Arts from Lesley University. Currently, Laura serves as an Advisory Board Member for the Alaska Arts Education Consortium and as Board Secretary for Arts Northwest.



**Anastasia Freyermuth**  
**Arts Education and Grants Coordinator**  
**Arizona Arts Commission**

Anastasia Freyermuth is Arts Learning and Evaluation Coordinator at the Arizona Commission on the Arts. At the Arizona Commission on the Arts, Ms. Freyermuth oversees the agency's small project Arts Learning grant programs, coordinates the Poetry Out Loud program for the state of Arizona and conducts agency wide evaluation work. Since last year's PDI, Ms. Freyermuth continues to deepen her understanding of how multiple forms of data tell important stories and the role these stories serve in both assessing and better realizing opportunities to engage with the arts for communities throughout the state of Arizona. This work is driven by Ms. Freyermuth's personal background of growing up in rural Arizona. This background instilled a passion for arts advocacy and community building for Ms. Freyermuth. Both these professional and personal background experiences have shown Ms. Freyermuth that meaningful arts engagement is integrally connected to equitable access to resources. Ms. Freyermuth has found that ensuring this access is dependent upon strong collaboration efforts and she is excited to continue working alongside her colleagues in the national field of arts education. The collective thinking generated in this cohort helps

Ms. Freyermuth better understand where and how the Arizona Commission on the Arts is best positioned to enact its mission of “imaging(ing) an Arizona where everyone can participate in and experience the arts.”



**Tatiana Gant**  
**Executive Director**  
**Montana Arts Council**

Tatiana Gant is the Executive Director of the Montana Arts Council, whose mission is to develop creative potential, advance education, spur economic vibrancy, and revitalize communities. She served as Executive Director of the Illinois Arts Council Agency, after directing their arts education investments. Early in her career, she worked as a teaching artist, founded a community clay studio, and supported the management of a not-for-profit multi-arts community-based organization. Tatiana holds visual arts degrees from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Adams State University.



**Elisa Lucía García-Radcliffe**  
**Arts Learning Manager**  
**Arizona Arts Commission**

Elisa Lucía García-Radcliffe is an arts administrator, educator and movement artist who lives in Phoenix, Arizona. Elisa has over twelve years of experience working as a dance educator in the Phoenix Union High School District. Through their involvement in public education, they've witnessed firsthand how important access to quality creative and cultural activities are for students. They have a strong belief that dance and art can and should be grounded in the community it serves. Elisa is currently the Arts Learning Manager at the Arizona Commission on the Arts, overseeing the Arts Commission's comprehensive slate of Arts Learning grantmaking, programs, partnerships, and strategic initiatives. Elisa serves as a board member for RE:FRAME Youth Arts Center, a place for and by young folx to artistically resist the decentering of their power, rights, and identities.



**Mike Halligan**  
**Executive Director**  
**Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation**

Mike Halligan was raised in Billings, Montana. Mr. Halligan is a Vietnam veteran who served in the Army from 1968-71, and later he attended the University of Montana in Missoula where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History and Political Science in 1975, a Master's Degree in Public Administration in 1977, and graduated from the University of Montana School of Law in 1984. Mr. Halligan served in the Montana State Senate for 22 years from 1980 to 2002 and served as the Chairman of several legislative committees. In the 1995 and 1997 legislative sessions, he served as the Minority Leader. After working as a deputy Missoula County Attorney from 1985 to 1990, Mr. Halligan operated a private family law practice from 1990 to 1999. He also served as the supervising attorney for the Montana Department of Justice, Child Protection Unit, from 1999 to 2002. He has been Director of Government and Corporate Relations for Washington Corporations and Executive Director of the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation since November of 2002.





**Karen Kaufmann**  
**Director, The Creative Pulse Graduate Program**  
**University of Montana**

Karen Kaufmann, Artistic Director and Founder of CoMotion Dance Project is a tenured professor of dance at The University of Montana (UM). She has worked in the field of dance education for over 40 years, as a teacher, choreographer, performer, speaker and author. Professor Kaufmann currently directs The Creative Pulse, summer graduate program for teachers in Arts Education. She authored *Inclusive Creative Movement and Dance*, a textbook for classroom teachers on teaching dance to classrooms with mixed abilities; and *Dance Integration: 36 Lesson Plans for Science and Mathematics*. She was honored with the National Dance Association's 2011 Artist/Scholar Award and invited to give the UM Provost's Distinguished Faculty Lecture. She served as an Honorary Research Associate at Massey University in Palmerston North, New Zealand and delivered the keynote address at the National Dance Association; Dance Pedagogy for the 21st Century Conference in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. (2006) and her address was published in *Focus on Dance Pedagogy: The Evolving Art of Teaching Excellence* (2010). Professor Kaufmann was awarded the 2009 Distinguished Faculty Award by the University of Montana's College of Visual and Performing Arts for her work spearheading dance in Montana schools, The Montana Individual Artist Award (2001) for her lifelong service in dance education, and The University of Montana Faculty Service Award (2005).



**Mike Jetty**  
**Indian Education Specialist**  
**Montana Office of Public Instruction**  
**Member of the Spirit Lake Dakota Nation**

Mike Jetty is an enrolled member of the Spirit Lake Dakota Nation and a Turtle Mountain Chippewa descendant. Mike is currently working at the Montana Office of Public Instruction as an Indian Education Specialist. He has been working with Indian Education issues for the past 28 years and has teaching experience at both the K-12 and University level. He has a B.S. in History Education, a Master's in School Administration and an Education Specialist Degree. In 2008, Mike was honored to be chosen as the Indian Educator of the Year by the Montana Indian Education Association. Since 2004 he has provided over 200 Indian Education workshops for over 4000 educators. In addition, he has made connections with Indian educators from across the U.S. and has been invited to give keynotes for several states including: CA, ID, MI, ND, NM, NV, OK, SD, and WY. Mike resides in Helena with his wife Laura and daughters Rosie and Sapphire.



**Susan Luinstra**  
**Teacher, retired**  
**Bynum School**

Rooted in the farm and ranch country along Montana's majestic Rocky Mountain Front, Susan Luinstra dedicated her teaching career to the children of a small, rural school, considered "frontier" by many, where the student numbers can be as few as five or as great as fifty, each year presenting new challenges and pushing one to grow as an educator. Mentored by Ira Perkins who established an outstanding arts program, Susan continued the Bynum School traditions of social dancing each morning and an hour of band. Every day began with

movement and music. As her interests expanded, so did the arts at Bynum School. West African drums and dance, violin/fiddle playing, modern and country dancing all became part of the students' repertoire as visiting artists left lasting impressions. Those arts expressions spread to the community, bringing new life to old past times. Now the whole county looks forward to the Barn Dance and Pie Social where folks from three to ninety-three "sashay down the line," with grins as wide as the prairie.



**Josy Miller**  
**Arts Program Specialist**  
**California Arts Council**

Josy Miller is the Arts Education Programs Specialist for the California Arts Council. At the CAC, Miller manages six grant programs including JUMP StArts, the agency's program that supports arts residencies for system-engaged youth. She also sits on the Arts Education Working Group for the National Association of State Arts Agencies. A theatre director and scholar, she received her Ph.D. in Performance Studies from the University of California, Davis. Miller is a recipient of the Center for Cultural Innovation's Emerging Arts Leader Award, the Mellon Foundation Teaching/Research Fellowship in Early Modern Studies and the University of California Institute for Research in the Arts's Major Grant Award (for her production of *The Dogs of War* at the 2014 Edinburgh Fringe Festival). Her article "Performing Collective Trauma: 9/11 and the Reconstruction of American Identity" appears in the collection *History, Memory, Performance*, published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2015. She is co-editor, with Peter Lichtenfels, of *Shakespeare and Realism: On the Politics of Style*, forthcoming from Fairleigh Dickinson University Press.



**Christy Mock-Stutz**  
**English Language Arts & Literacy Instructional Coordinator**  
**Montana Office of Public Instruction**

Christy Mock-Stutz is the English Language Arts and Literacy Instructional Coordinator at the Montana Office of Public Instruction. After earning her B.A. from Purdue University in photography and her M.A. in teaching from National-Louis University, she was a recipient of a Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher Award. Having worked as a teacher and literacy coordinator in Chicago Public Schools for over a decade, Christy worked tirelessly integrating the arts throughout her curriculum. Now, in her fourth year at the Office of Public Instruction, she is dedicated to building teacher leadership programs across Montana, including acting as program co-manager for the Montana Teacher Leader in the Arts Program.



**Jennifer Ogden**  
**K-12 Arts Specialist**  
**Victor Public School**  
**Montana Teacher Leader in the Arts**

Jennifer Ogden is an Artist and K-12 Art Specialist from the Bitterroot Valley in rural western Montana. She just started her 24<sup>th</sup> year at Victor Public School, and moonlights as a Teaching Artist for SPARK Arts Ignite Learning in Missoula County Public School, as well as the Missoula Art Museum. She promotes cross-pollination of school subjects and uses a creative arts integration approach, whenever and wherever possible. Jennifer was in the first cohort for

Montana Teacher Leaders in the Arts and appreciates the perennial opportunities to meet with and celebrate the hardworking educators who join the MTLA ranks.



**Amy Williams**  
**Special Services Teacher – Social, Emotional and Behavioral Needs, and Building Cochair – Montana Indian Education for All (IEFA) Committee, Polson Middle School**  
**Indian Education Coordinator, Polson School District**  
**Montana Teacher Leader in the Arts**

I have four children ranging from 24 to 10, and one granddaughter. I spent half my life in the Midwest, mostly in the Chippewa Valley or in the Cumberland area on the St. Croix Ojibwe Reservation. After graduating with a dual degree in Special Education and a minor in American Indian Studies, my children and I moved to Alaska's Kenai Peninsula, living and working there for about a decade before coming to the Flathead Reservation in Montana. We've been in Polson, MT for 7-years. My teaching experience over the past 24 years has been in rural areas, on or near reservation/corporation land, working with Tribal and non-Tribal students and families. During my career, and throughout my life, a vast focus has been on implementing, supporting or continuing Indian Education programs for students and communities, in all curricular areas, with a heavy emphasis on science, art, gardening/Food Sovereignty, environmental issues and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK). I was a Montana Teacher Leader in the Arts (MTLA) during the 2017-2018 school year and am currently a National EPA Region 8 PIAEE teacher.



**Chuck Winkler**  
**Program Administrator/Education**  
**Texas Commission on the Arts**

Chuck Winkler joined the Texas Commission on the Arts as a Program Administrator with expertise in arts education in September 2009. In his role at TCA, Chuck oversees and promotes grants for arts education. He assists with grant application questions and has spent a great deal of time in the field conducting site visits. Chuck oversees student art exhibits and assists with a variety of events including panel meetings and Commission meetings. Previously, Chuck worked with Houston Grand Opera as a chorus member (1989-2009), and as the director of Opera to Go! (2005-2009) Opera to Go! is the educational touring branch of Houston Grand Opera. In his spare time, he likes to garden, hike, and play with his puppy, Daisy.

## **2019 Arts Education Working Group**

**Josy Miller, Chair & Western Region Representative**  
**Arts Program Specialist**  
**California Arts Council**



**Julianne Gadoury, Cochair & New England Region Representative**  
**Arts in Education Coordinator**  
**New Hampshire State Council on the Arts**

Julianne Gadoury is an artist, designer of social change, and an endurance athlete. She enjoys forging opportunities for human creativity to thrive. Serving as the Arts Education Coordinator for the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, Julianne is a key partner in the collective impact organization, the NH Arts Learning Network and oversees grants for in and out of school learning. She has the pleasure of organizing professional development for educators and teaching artists, Youth Arts Month, and Poetry Out Loud. Julianne was the former Traditional Arts Coordinator building relationships with immigrant and refugee communities and helping to preserve and promote NH's cultural heritage. She has been an adjunct lecturer in art history, printmaking and drawing. Julianne earned her MBA, MFA in Printmaking, CAGS in Cultural Studies, and dual BA in Art History and in Studio Art. She actively explores our world through the arts, running, and hiking with her amazing friends, her partner, and two kids.



**Jennifer Allen-Barron, Mid-America Region Representative**  
**Arts Education Director**  
**Oklahoma Arts Council**

Jennifer Allen-Barron earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting and a Bachelor of Arts in French from the University of Oklahoma. Prior to joining the Oklahoma Arts Council, Allen-Barron served as Executive Director of the Paseo Arts Association and as Community Arts Program Director at the Arts Council of Oklahoma City. She is also a practicing visual artist, working primarily in acrylic paint. Allen-Barron works with arts education programs in public schools and arts learning programs across the state, as well as overseeing the Council's Teaching Artist Roster and the Oklahoma Arts and the Military Initiative.



**Ann Brown, Southern Region Representative**  
**Arts Education Director**  
**Tennessee Arts Commission**

Ann Brown, Director of Arts Education, joined the Tennessee Arts Commission in 2009. She manages seven arts education grant categories, the Arts360 arts integration program, a statewide arts education conference, Poetry Out Loud, TN Arts Education Data Project, and the Teaching Artist Roster. Before joining the Commission, Ann worked with the Whatcom Symphony Orchestra, Southern Illinois Symphony Orchestra, Willamette Valley Music Festival, Southern Illinois Music Festival, and university



arts programs in Oregon and Illinois. Before that, she served as a K-12 music educator. Her interests are in supporting state arts leaders to improve arts learning policy and practice and increasing opportunities for educators and students through professional development and grants. Ann holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Southern Illinois University and a Master's degree in Arts Administration with a certification in Nonprofit Management from the University of Oregon.



**Monica Grable, Professional Development Institute Host  
Arts Education Director  
Montana Arts Council**

Monica Grable currently serves as Arts Education Director for the Montana Arts Council, having joined the staff in February of 2017 following more than twenty-five years as an arts educator and performing arts presenter. Monica holds a BA degree in Art and a MA in Education and has held secondary level visual art teaching positions in Minnesota and Montana, taught college level Art Methods courses for elementary educators, and throughout her career has engaged arts learners of all ages in a variety of community settings. In addition to background as a visual artist, Monica has maintained a lifelong interest in performing arts, a passion that ultimately led to her former position as founding Executive Director of the Bitterroot Performing Arts Council, a community-based multidisciplinary arts presenting organization in Montana's Bitterroot Valley.



**Michael Faison, Executive Director Representative  
Executive Director  
Idaho Commission on the Arts**

Michael Faison is the executive director of the Idaho Commission on the Arts. Faison previously served as the director of the Arts in Education Division of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, the assistant director of the Oregon Arts Commission, and the executive director of the Center for Arts Management and Technology at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He served as an information technology consultant for Pittsburgh's Manchester Craftsmen's Guild and was a high school art teacher in the Austin Independent School District, Austin, Texas. Faison is a member of the boards of the Western States Arts Federation, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, Heinz College, Carnegie Mellon University Alumni Association, and his local Rotary club. He holds a bachelor's degree in fine arts from the University of Texas at Austin, a master's degree in arts management from Carnegie Mellon University, and multiple Texas teaching certifications.

**Anastasia Freyermuth, Western Region Representative  
Arts Education and Grants Coordinator  
Arizona Arts Commission**



**Stephanie Haines, Midwest Region Representative  
Arts Education and Accessibility Manager  
Indiana Arts Commission**

Stephanie Haines is the Arts Education & Accessibility Manager at the Indiana Arts Commission. Stephanie oversees the IAC's arts education program PACE (Partnering Arts, Communities, and Education) as well as Poetry Out Loud, Indiana State Poet Laureate program, and Regional Operating and Project grant program; she is also the agency's Accessibility Coordinator. Stephanie earned a Master of Arts in Arts Administration degree from Indiana University, and her Bachelor of Science degree in Visual Art Education from the University of Indianapolis. She has more than ten years of experience working with teaching artists and arts integration programming with specialties in professional development and artist lesson planning. Stephanie is a visual artist primarily in the mediums of painting and drawing.



**Casey Polczynski, Mid-Atlantic Region Representative  
Arts in Education Coordinator  
Virginia Commission for the Arts**

Casey Polczynski joined the Virginia Commission for the Arts as the Arts in Education Coordinator in July 2014 where she coordinates grant funding for educational projects and Poetry Out Loud for the Commonwealth. She earned her Doctorate in Education from Walden University in 2013. Her doctoral thesis examined the teacher efficacy and pupil control beliefs of elementary art educators across Virginia exploring the teaching context and its possible impact on efficacy beliefs. Casey has been a visual arts educator teaching preK-12 students both nationally and internationally for over 15 years. Before coming to the commission, she worked at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in various educational roles expanding her knowledge and skills in museum education and community outreach. She makes the time weekly to take voice lessons to learn Gregorian chant and occasionally can be found repairing religious statuary.



**Nancy Daugherty**  
**Arts Education Specialist**  
**National Endowment for the Arts**

Nancy Daugherty has been an Arts Education Specialist for the National Endowment for the Arts since June 2000. Through the agency's arts education program she has worked with applicants in all arts fields and disciplines, and is currently focused in the disciplines of dance, literature, theater and musical theater. She also advises the Arts Education Working Group, which designs professional development for state arts agency arts education managers, serves on the Advisory Committee of the Arts Education Partnership, and the intergovernmental team that manages the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award. From 2004 through 2007 she managed the agency's Summer Schools in the Arts program, a national initiative designed to assess student learning and offer potential models of rigorous, standards-based arts education. Prior to her federal service she was the Arts Education Coordinator for the WV Commission on the Arts where she also served as the Coordinator for the Governor's Task Force on Arts in Basic Education. For the Center for Economic Options she developed training and marketing opportunities for sector-specific micro enterprise networks, such as the Appalachian Flower Network. She has served as a facilitator, presenter, consultant, panelist, and conference planner for many state and national arts organizations. She is a graduate of West Virginia University with a degree in Sociology & Anthropology.



**Susan Oetgen**  
**Professional Development Institute Manager**  
**National Assembly of State Arts Agencies**

Susan Oetgen is the Professional Development Institute (PDI) Manager for the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies. In addition to managing the PDI, her consulting portfolio currently includes co-designing and managing NASAA's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Mentorship pilot program; and serving as Project Director for the Young Audiences National Residency Teaching Artist Credential project. Prior to joining the NASAA staff, Susan served as an arts manager, educator and facilitator with a variety of performing arts organizations, including The Field, Stamford Symphony Orchestra, American Composers Orchestra and Tribeca Performing Arts Center. She also has served as a teaching artist/coach with the Everyday Arts for Special Education (EASE) program, coaching New York City special education teachers and paraprofessionals on EASE's unique arts-integration curriculum for children with autism and emotional disturbance. Born and raised in the Washington, D.C., area, Susan holds a B.A. in theology from Georgetown University, an M.M. in classical vocal performance from the Catholic University of America, and a certificate in conflict analysis and resolution from George Mason University.