

# National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

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## State Arts Agency Arts Education Managers 2021 Professional Development Institute

September 27-28 & October 5-6, 2021  
Virtual Convening

### Agenda

For nearly 30 years, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) have supported the Professional Development Institute (PDI) for state arts agency arts education managers. The PDI provides meaningful leadership development and technical assistance for this diverse field. As a result, arts education managers are knowledgeable leaders in their field through a peer network that new and seasoned managers alike find invaluable.

The 2021 PDI takes place via online video conferences over a period of two weeks, from September 28 through October 6, 2021.

The purpose of this year's virtual PDI is to continue to explore issues related to diversity, equity, access and inclusion in arts education, specifically **what the evolution of K-12 arts education policies and practices looks like in statewide education systems in response to the COVID-19 pandemic**. PDI attendees will examine the job-specific leverage points available to them in their role as state arts agency arts education managers, and will learn and practice applying an asset based approach to specific planning and professional development goals unique to their agencies and states.

### Guiding Question & Outcomes

The 2021 PDI agenda responds to the following guiding question:

**How can state arts agency arts education managers increase and sustain equitable access to arts education for all students in their states?**

Building on learning outcomes from previous PDIs, such as effectively using data to define and decrease equity gaps in arts education policy and practice, and positioning state arts education leaders as drivers of change, 2021 PDI outcomes are:

- **Learning Outcome 1:** Participants will develop strategies to elevate and amplify the leadership of students and teaching artists in arts education.
- **Learning Outcome 2:** Participants will build on skills to catalyze and support social justice outcomes in arts education in their states.

- **Learning Outcome 3:** Participants will develop a framework to analyze and adjust state arts agency arts education grant-making practices to increase equity and access for constituents.

## Monday, September 27

*All times are Eastern Daylight Time.*

### **4:30 – 6:00 p.m.**                      **New Arts Education Manager Welcome Meeting** (by invitation)

With Nancy Daugherty, Arts Education Specialist, National Endowment for the Arts

## Tuesday, September 28

*All times are Eastern Daylight Time.*

### **3:00 – 3:45 p.m.**                      **Opening Plenary**

AEWG Facilitators: Anastasia Freyermuth, AEWG Chair, Arts Learning and Evaluation Coordinator, Arizona Commission for the Arts, and Anne Alston, AEWG Cochair, Arts Education Manager, Nebraska Arts Council

3:45 – 4:00 p.m.                      Break

### **4:00 – 4:45 p.m.**                      **Keynote Remarks and Audience Q&A**

Keynote Speaker: Eddie Torres, President & CEO, Grantmakers in the Arts

Eddie Torres shares perspectives on the principles and practices of equity-focused grant making, as president & CEO of Grantmakers in the Arts (GIA). Grantmakers in the Arts holds arts education as one of its core funding areas. GIA is committed to invigorating funding and support for arts education within federal policy and defending the right of every student to access the arts as part of a well-rounded education. Audience Q&A follows.

AEWG Moderator: Alicia Fuss, Director of Arts Education, Tennessee Arts Commission

4:45 – 5:00 p.m.                      Break

**5:00 – 5:50 p.m.**

**Braiding Together Our Differences and Strengths:  
Teaching Artist Leaders in Conversation**

Five teaching artists representing different disciplines and teaching styles come together to discuss their practices of collaborative leadership in diverse arts learning contexts and share recommendations for state arts agency arts education managers on how to address gaps in elevating and amplifying the voices of fellow teaching artists and students.

Presenters: Judy Dow (Winooksi Abenaki), Executive Director, Gedakina; Thameenah "Ty" Muhammad, Transforming Artistic Collaborator, Rising Youth Theatre; Carrie Nath, The Art of Imagination Program Managing Director, The Ollie Webb Center; Paula Yamilet Alvarado Ortega, Creative Youth Development National Youth Coordinator, Creative Youth Development National Partnership, National Guild for Community Arts Education; and Melissa Parke, Founder, Black Teaching Artist Lab

**5:50 – 6:00 p.m.**

**Closing Announcements**

AEWG Facilitators: Anastasia Freyermuth and Anne Alston

**Wednesday, September 29**

*All times are Eastern Daylight Time.*

**3:00 – 3:30 p.m.**

**Welcome, Introductions & Creative Warm-Up**

AEWG Facilitators: Anastasia Freyermuth and Anne Alston

Teaching Artist: Carrie Nath

**3:30 – 4:15 p.m.**

**"Moving Towards Collective, Creative Liberation":  
Strategies and Lessons Learned from the Arts Education  
Alliance of the Bay Area (AEABA)**

The Arts Education Alliance of the Bay Area (AEABA) connects and catalyzes arts education communities for a more just and creative San Francisco Bay Area. In this presentation and moderated audience Q&A session, PDI participants hear how AEABA is activating its vision of a San Francisco Bay Area that centers artists and cultural workers, holds up the leadership of young people and the wisdom of elders, and strives to be a place where all people have access to the means of cultural production within their schools and communities to collaboratively build a more vibrant, equitable and democratic society.

Presenters: Indi McCCasey, Executive Director, Arts Education Alliance of the Bay Area, and Nina Woodruff-Walker, Board Cochair, Arts Education Alliance of the Bay Area and Executive Director, Museum of Oakland Children's Art

AEWG Moderator: Anastasia Freyermuth

4:15 – 4:30 p.m.

Break

**4:30 – 5:00 p.m.**

**State Arts Agency Arts Education Managers' Flashes of Inspiration: Learning Outcome 2**

These brief presentations feature case studies of how fellow state arts agency arts education managers have catalyzed and supported social justice outcomes in arts education in their states.

Presenters: Drekkia Morning, Arts in Education Program Manager, Arkansas Arts Council, and Elisa García-Radcliffe, Arts Learning Manager, Arizona Commission on the Arts

AEWG Moderator: Stephanie Haines, Arts Education and Accessibility Program Manager, Indiana Arts Commission

5:00 – 5:10 p.m.

Break

**5:10 – 5:40 p.m.**

**Arts Education Manager Peer Group Breakout Discussions: Learning Outcome 2**

PDI attendees convene in small breakout groups to share ideas and strategies for applying lessons learned from the day's presentations in their own work at state arts agencies.

AEWG Facilitators: Anne Alston, Arts Education Manager, Nebraska Arts Council; Precious Blake, Associate Consultant, ArtsAspire Consulting; Nancy Daugherty, Arts Education Specialist, National Endowment for the Arts; Anastasia Freyermuth, Arts Learning and Evaluation Coordinator, Arizona Commission for the Arts; Alicia Fuss, Director of Arts Education, Tennessee Arts Commission; Monica Grable, Arts Education Director, Montana Arts Council; Stephanie Haines, Arts Education and Accessibility Program Manager, Indiana Arts Commission; Troy Hickman, Arts Education Programs Manager, Vermont Arts Council; Christine Leahy, Program Director, Arts Education, New York State Council on the Arts; and Elizabeth Shapiro, Director, Arts, Preservation and Museums, Connecticut Office of the Arts

**5:40 – 6:00 p.m.**

**Creative Reflection and Closing Announcements**

Teaching Artist: Paula Yamilet Alvarado Ortega

AEWG Facilitators: Anastasia Freyermuth and Anne Alston

## **Tuesday, October 5**

*All times are Eastern Daylight Time.*

**3:00 – 3:30 p.m.**

### **Welcome, Introductions & Creative Warm-Up**

AEWG Facilitators: Anastasia Freyermuth and Anne Alston

Teaching Artist: Judy Dow

**3:30 – 4:15 p.m.**

### **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access in the Arts Subcommittee Forum**

PDI attendees reflect on the origins and accomplishments of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access in the Arts Subcommittee of NASAA's Arts Education Peer Group and have an opportunity to discuss Arts Education Partnership's "Tactics for Addressing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Access in Arts and Education" document in small groups.

AEWG Facilitators: Anne Alston and Susan Oetgen, Arts Learning Projects Director, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

4:15 – 4:30 p.m.

Break

**4:30 – 5:00 p.m.**

### **State Arts Agency Arts Education Managers' Flashes of Inspiration: Learning Outcomes 2 and 3**

These brief presentations feature case studies of how fellow state arts agency arts education managers have catalyzed and supported social justice outcomes in arts education in their states and analyzed and adjusted state arts agency arts education grant-making practices to increase equity and access for constituents.

Presenters: Tamar Krames, Program Manager, Arts in Education, Washington State Arts Commission; Chad Swan-Badgero, Arts Education and Project Support Program Manager, Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs; and Jim Wolfe, Arts Education Coordinator, West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

AEWG Moderator: Stephanie Haines

5:00 – 5:10 p.m.

Break

**5:10 – 5:40 p.m.**

**Arts Education Manager Peer Group Breakout  
Discussions: Learning Outcome 3**

PDI attendees convene in small breakout groups to share ideas and strategies for applying lessons learned from the day's presentations in their own work at state arts agencies.

AEWG Facilitators: Anne Alston, Precious Blake, Nancy Daugherty, Anastasia Freyermuth, Alicia Fuss, Monica Grable, Stephanie Haines, Troy Hickman, Christine Leahy and Elizabeth Shapiro

**5:40 – 6:00 p.m.**

**Creative Reflection and Closing Announcements**

Teaching Artist: Ty Muhammad and Melissa Parke

AEWG Facilitators: Anastasia Freyermuth and Anne Alston

**Wednesday, October 6**

*All times are Eastern Daylight Time.*

**3:00 – 3:10 p.m.**

**Welcome & Introductions**

AEWG Facilitators: Anastasia Freyermuth and Anne Alston

**3:10 – 3:45 p.m.**

**Artist Performance and Audience Q&A**

Artist: Chontay Standing Rock (Chippewa Cree)

3:45 – 4:00 p.m.

Break

**4:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

**Teaching Artists Workshops (Breakouts)**

PDI attendees participate in hands-on arts engagement breakout workshops led by teaching artists from across the country.

Judy Dow: Enjoy one hour of relaxing basketry, and tell the untold story of the land you live on.

Carrie Nath: Through movement, gesture and text, participants will create a virtual montage utilizing the prompts "Equity is," "Access is," "Diversity is" and "Inclusion is," serving as a potential arts based advocacy tool for social justice.

Ty Muhammad: Join teaching artist and activist Thameenah Muhammad in a workshop focused on creating and holding space both online and in-person that centers the whole human in learning.

Paula Yamilet Alvarado Ortega: Join Paula Ortega on creating your own personal visual collage. As we continue to do the work we do, how do we make sure our work is intentional & true to our values?

Melissa Parke: Join Afro-conceptionalist artist Melissa Parke in a conversation/dialogue about Afrocentric social emotional learning and ways arts education can reach out Black learners!

Teaching Artists: Judy Dow (Winooksi Abenaki), Thameenah "Ty" Muhammad, Carrie Nath, Paula Yamilet Alvarado Ortega and Melissa Parke

5:00 – 5:15 p.m.

Break

**5:15 – 6:00 p.m.**

**Closing Plenary**

AEWG Facilitators: Anastasia Freyermuth and Anne Alston