



## 2023 NASAA Executive Forum

### Agenda and Session Descriptions

*09/12/2023*

The NASAA 2023 Executive Forum agenda focuses on priority issues facing executive and deputy directors in their public-sector leadership roles. The program equips state arts agencies to succeed in navigating complex issues such as:

**Today's Policy Environment:** Identify emerging policy trends affecting state arts agencies as well as strategic partnerships that can strengthen our work.

**Serving All Constituents:** Exchange ideas for the design of responsive programs and ways of reducing barriers to support.

**Funding Practices:** Learn about grant-making innovations, panel adjudication practices, legislative earmarks and more.

**Management:** Find out how your colleagues in other states are coping with workforce shortages and staff burnout while building resilient staff teams.

**Emergent issues:** The agenda allows opportunities for discussion of topics that arise organically from the group and have timely relevance to participants.

## NASAA 2023 Executive Forum Agenda

as of 09/08/23

### Monday, December 4

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	<a href="#"><u>New Executive Directors Roundtable</u></a> This invitation-only session is tailored to the needs of recent appointees and interim executive directors. Sessions address transition dynamics and priority issues for new/interim leaders. Breakfast and lunch are included.
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	<b>Opening Reception</b>

### Tuesday, December 5

Morning	Breakfast on your own
9:00 – 11:00 a.m.	<b>Morning General Session</b> Welcome to NASAA's new executive leadership forum! After welcomes from NASAA's CEO, New Mexico Arts and the meeting facilitators, introductions and small-group conversations will connect us and help us understand the issues we face as a field.
11:00 – 11:15 a.m.	<b>Break</b>
11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	<b>Topical Sessions (Part I of III)</b>  <b>Cross-Sector Partnerships:</b> This session explores collaborations—within and outside of state government—as a strategic way to amplify our impact, respond to community needs and expand support for the arts.  <b>Changes in the Creative Sector:</b> While some parts of the arts ecosystem “returned to normal” following the COVID-19 pandemic, others are undergoing permanent shifts. What trends do you observe, and how should state arts agencies respond to these shifts?  <b>Access for All:</b> This session explores ways state arts agencies are ensuring that their programs and services facilitate access to

resources, respond to local conditions and comply with new state policies.

**Line Items:** Some arts organizations secure their own earmarked funding from state legislatures, outside of the state arts agency grant process. What are the implications of these line items?

**Create Your Own Breakout:** Do you have a timely issue not covered elsewhere on the agenda? Share your topic and invite colleagues to join you for a self-directed jam session.

12:15 – 1:30 p.m.

**Lunch**

Your forum registration includes a luncheon buffet. No program is planned, allowing you to meet informally with colleagues and stretch your legs before the afternoon sessions resume.

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

**Topical Sessions (Part II of III)**

**Rethinking Grant Making:** Many state arts agencies are evaluating legacy programs and making alterations to their grant portfolios. This session explores shifts to grants policies and practices as well as funding formulas.

**Working with Citizens Groups:** Citizens groups can have a large impact on cultural policy at the state level. Discuss the changing landscape of these groups and share strategies for establishing effective working relationships.

**Building Stronger Councils:** How can state arts agencies orient appointees, support their engagement, and help council members to understand that they are not a board of directors? Feel free to bring materials (such as orientation packets, policies, etc.) to share during this session.

**Staff Resilience and Cohesion:** The last few years have created staff management challenges unknown to previous generations of state leaders. How can we work with our teams to support each other in healthy and productive ways?

**Create Your Own Breakout:** Do you have a timely issue not covered elsewhere on the agenda? Share your topic and invite colleagues to join you for a self-directed jam session.

2:30 – 2:45 p.m.      **Break**

2:45 – 3:45 p.m.      **Topical Sessions (Part III of III)**

**Maximizing Capacity for Small Agencies:** Small state arts agencies face acute constraints in pursuing ideas with limited staffs and budgets. What are some ways that small states are coping with capacity limitations?

**Working with Authorizers:** This session, offered in response to requests from members, offers a supportive space in which to discuss challenges, vulnerabilities and strategies for success in working with governors and legislatures.

**Rethinking Grant Panels and Adjudication:** What changes are you making to grant panels or adjudication practices? When are panels important, and are there situations where panels can be abandoned altogether? Bring all your ideas for reinventing adjudication to this freewheeling panel session.

**New Frontiers:** This session is designed to showcase innovative approaches being led by state arts agencies around the country.

**Create Your Own Breakout:** Do you have a timely issue not covered elsewhere on the agenda? Share your topic and invite colleagues to join you for a self-directed jam session.

3:45 – 4:00 p.m.      **Break**

4:00 – 4:15 p.m.      **Day One Wrap-up**

Evening      Dinner and evening activities on your own

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## Wednesday, December 6

Morning      Breakfast on your own

9:00 – 9:15 a.m.      **Reconvene**

9:15 – 9:30 a.m.      **Break**

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	<b>Peer Groups</b> Executive directors and deputy/assistant directors gather in separate groups. Peer groups utilize Open Space Technology to flexibly determine discussion topics.
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b> Your forum registration includes a luncheon buffet. No program is planned, allowing you to meet informally with colleagues and stretch your legs before the afternoon sessions resume.
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	<b>Reimagining the Future of State Arts Agencies</b> All forum participants reconvene for an energizing session to imagine the future of state arts agencies together. This closing session also includes a wrap-up and reflections on key take-aways from the forum.
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	<a href="#"><u>Museum Tours</u></a>
	Dinner and evening activities on your own