



2024 Virtual Creative Aging Institute
Monday – Wednesday, December 9 – 11, 2024

Agenda
(updated December 3, 2024)

NASAA's annual [Creative Aging Institute](#) provides online professional development focused on trends and topics in creative aging. The Creative Aging Institute equips attendees with the inspiration and information they need to be successful creative aging leaders and champions in communities across the country. All state and jurisdictional arts agency and regional arts organization staff and council members are invited to participate, as are state and national arts and culture organizations, and individual artists and practitioners with an interest in how lifelong learning in the arts can benefit older Americans. Attending this event is free, to make information on current trends and best practices in creative aging widely accessible to all.

When you [register for the Creative Aging Institute](#), you will receive a link to join all sessions via the e-mail address you provide on the registration form.

Monday, December 9

All times are Eastern Standard Time.

2:00 – 2:20 p.m.

Welcome Remarks

Emcee: Susan Oetgen, Arts Learning Projects Director,
NASAA

2:20 – 3:10 p.m.

**Interview with Teresa Bonner, Executive Director, E.A.
Michelson Philanthropy**

Teresa Bonner brings more than 30 years of professional experience in philanthropy, foundation and nonprofit leadership to her role as executive director for E.A. Michelson Philanthropy. Her visionary leadership has guided

the emergence of the "lifelong learning in the arts" model of creative aging in the national arts and culture sector over the past dozen years. Among other insights, this interview captures her take on the unique value state arts agencies add to the goal of serving older Americans through the arts, as well as what opportunities and challenges lie ahead as the practice of creative aging matures.

Moderator: Susan Oetgen

3:10 – 3:20 p.m.

Intermission (off-screen)

Creative Aging as a Cross-Sector Strategy for Aging Well

Government at all levels is demonstrating an understanding that aging is changing. More and more, aging is viewed as a cross-sector issue that demands cross-sector collaboration. In May 2024, the Federal Interagency Coordinating Committee on Healthy Aging and Age-Friendly Communities released a [Strategic Framework for a National Plan on Aging](#) that called out the arts and culture sector as a valuable partner in envisioning what it means to age well in this country. Meanwhile, in the last decade, a majority of state arts agencies have built a successful track record of creative aging programming that advances the ideals of healthy aging and age-friendly communities. The moment is ripe for state arts agencies to join cross-sector, statewide aging strategy discussions—the question is how.

3:20 – 4:35 p.m.

Panel & Audience Q&A: Part A – State Plans on Aging

Understanding your state plan on aging is the first step to finding a seat at the strategy table. In this session, leaders from the aging sector describe different types of state plans on aging (including multisector plans), share examples of how state plans on aging are developed, and map the relationship between state and federal level aging policy administrators. Come with questions about how your state arts agency can sync with other state entities and constituents in the development process of your state plan on aging.

Presenters: Torshira Moffett, MPH, Senior Program Officer,
Center for Health Care Strategies

Sara Morman, Elder Connections Division Chief, Ohio
Department of Aging
Holly Riley, Director of Aging Services, ADvancing States
Kiersten Ware, Deputy Commissioner, Division for Aging
Services, Virginia Department for Aging and
Rehabilitative Services

Moderator: Susan Oetgen

4:35 – 4:45 p.m.

Intermission (off-screen)

4:45 – 5:30 p.m.

Issue Briefing & Audience Q&A: Part B – National Plan on Aging

What are the broad goals of the federal government in the aging sector? And how do the arts and culture factor in to these goals? Hear a briefing about the Administration for Community Living's recent work to gather input from stakeholders to inform a [national plan on aging](#), in coordination with the Federal Interagency Coordinating Committee on Healthy Aging and Age-Friendly Communities, and learn about how, for decades, the National Endowment for the Arts has supported creative aging work in communities across the country.

Speakers: Kari Benson, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aging, Administration for Community Living
Beth Bienvenu, Accessibility Director, National Endowment for the Arts

Moderator: Susan Oetgen

5:30 – 5:35 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Emcee: Susan Oetgen

continued

Tuesday, December 10

All times are Eastern Standard Time.

3:00 – 3:05 p.m.

Welcome Remarks & Introductions

Emcee: Susan Oetgen, Arts Learning Projects Director, NASAA

3:05 – 4:05 p.m.

Artist Talk and Audience Q&A: Andria Lo & Valerie Luu on *Chinatown Pretty*

In their book [*Chinatown Pretty*](#), photographer Andria Lo and writer Valerie Luu celebrate the "fashion and wisdom" of older adults in six historic Chinatowns across North America. With support from community development organizations and other local culture connectors who spread the word about their project (and sometimes translated it), Lo and Luu interviewed and photographed hundreds of longtime residents of these vibrant, evolving neighborhoods over the course of six years. In their resulting collaboration, people and place are woven together with joy, sartorial inspiration and regional history in a wholehearted testament to aging in style.

Speakers: Andria Lo, Photographer, and Valerie Luu, Writer

Moderator: Susan Oetgen

4:05 – 4:15 p.m.

Intermission (off-screen)

4:15 – 5:30 p.m.

Panel and Audience Q&A: Artists and Culture Keepers at the Intersection of Creative Aging and Folk and Traditional Arts

In this panel, presenters from state arts agencies speak about how creative aging is an integral element of beloved folk and traditional arts programs in their states. In addition, artists working at the intersection of creative aging and folk and traditional arts share how they cocreate meaningful

intergenerational communities of belonging that reflect important cultural values, histories and legacies of creativity.

Presenters: Sheila Kay Adams, Artist
Pieper Bloomquist, Artist
Troyd Geist, Folklorist, North Dakota Council on the Arts
Jon Kay, Ph.D., Interim Executive Director for Arts and Humanities, Indiana University Bloomington, and Director, Traditional Arts Indiana
Zoe van Buren, Folklife Director, North Carolina Arts Council

Moderator: Susan Oetgen

5:30 – 5:35 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Emcee: Susan Oetgen

Wednesday, December 11

All times are Eastern Standard Time.

2:00 – 2:05 p.m.

Welcome Remarks

Emcee: Susan Oetgen, Arts Learning Projects Director, NASAA

2:05 – 3:30 p.m.

Panel and Audience Q&A: Vitality Arts – Promising Practices for Creative Aging in Museum Education

Museums play a cornerstone role in the arts and culture ecosystem, and museum education programs have long been heralded for the tremendous resources they offer to the arts education of America's K-12 students. In 2023, E.A. Michelson Philanthropy launched the [Vitality Arts Project for Art Museums](#) initiative to support the creation of new programs aimed at museum audiences who are 55 years of age and older. Working in a cohort model, participating museums have worked to strategically reframe their relationships with older adults—to understand them as essential, competent, creative and contributing participants in the life of the museum. Hear case studies in creative aging from two world-class American museums and learn what program evaluation data reveals about how this work is

raising awareness about ageism and providing renewed opportunities to bring meaningful arts experiences to older members of their communities.

continued

Presenters: Amy Berridge, Senior Manager of School Programs, The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
Alyssa Carr, Evaluator and Visitor Research Associate, The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
Jackie Niekamp, Manager of Community and Access Programs, The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
Jennie Palmer Smith, Manager of Gallery Teaching, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco

Moderator: Lindsay Lewis, Program Officer, E.A. Michelson Philanthropy

3:30 – 3:40 p.m.

Intermission (off-screen)

3:40 – 4:15 p.m.

Issue Briefing and Audience Q&A: Oklahoma Arts Council's Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust Discovery Grant for the Oklahoma Creative Aging Initiative

Oklahoma Arts Council (OAC) recently received funding from the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust's (TSET) competitive Discovery grant program to boost the Oklahoma Creative Aging Initiative. Hear how the OAC identified and secured this opportunity to leverage the arts to promote quality of life for older adults through community-based arts education programs, by aligning with TSET's mission to transform and improve health outcomes across the state.

Presenters: Erika Wilhite, Arts Learning in Communities Director and Accessibility Coordinator, Oklahoma Arts Council

Moderator: Susan Oetgen

4:15 – 4:45 p.m.

Video Watch Party and Closing Remarks

Carry your 2024 Creative Aging Institute learning forward by watching three brand-new videos that connect the dots between arts, social connection and aging well and identifying one "next step" you can take to advance creative aging in your community.

Emcee: Susan Oetgen