



Commission for Arts and Culture

STAFF REPORT

DATE ISSUED: January 10, 2024

ATTENTION: Policy & Funding Committee

SUBJECT: Slate of Commission Advisory Panelist Candidates to Evaluate Proposals Submitted in Response to the Fiscal Year 2025 Organizational Support Program (OSP) and Creative Communities San Diego (CCSD) Application, Part 2

REFERENCES: FY25 Slate of Commission Advisory Panelists Candidates
FY21-FY24 Approved Commission Advisory Panelist Candidate Pool

STAFF CONTACT: Kip Eischen, Senior Arts & Culture Funding Manager

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Advise the City of San Diego (City) Commission for Arts and Culture (Commission) to recommend the slate of Commission Advisory Panelist candidates to evaluate proposals submitted in response to the fiscal year 2025 OSP and CCSD Application, Part 2.

BACKGROUND

According to the Commission's *Rules and Regulations*, the Commission may establish advisory panels to augment the work of the committees, to support goals of the Commission, to provide opportunities for community members to participate in City processes, and to utilize the input and feedback of panelists in the funding processes. When a Commission Advisory Panel is to be established, the Commission will recommend members of advisory panels after reviewing a slate of candidates presented by staff.

Panelists from FY21-FY24 approved candidate pool may also be called upon to serve in FY25 panels. This report includes approved candidates who applied for the FY21 through FY24 candidate pool. Staff no longer anticipates retiring panelists from the approved pool after three years to ensure there is a diversity of candidates (e.g., council district areas, skill sets, areas of expertise) to draw from for particular panel assignment needs, which changes from year to year depending on the proposals submitted in response to OSP and CCSD Application, Part 2.

To prepare the slate of proposed Commission Advisory Panelist Candidates, staff drew from a pool of nominations obtained through an open call for self-nominations and third-party nominations, a review of individuals who have previously served on Commission committees or panels, and a review of individuals who have field expertise in non-profit management, artistic disciplines, philanthropy or community engagement.

The nominees have been pre-screened to prevent conflicts of interest.

NEXT STEPS

Following the Policy & Funding Committee's recommendation of the slate, the slate will then go to the Commission for recommendation. Staff will then coordinate panel assignments considering panelist availability, panel size, conflicts of interest, and a balanced representation of council district areas, skill sets, areas of expertise, prior history of serving as a panelist, etc. To this end, some recommended candidates may not be assigned to a panel, some panelists may be assigned the role of understudy to assist if other panelists drop out, and some will not serve on a panel this year but will remain in the approved pool for future consideration without the need to reapply. City staff may also assign individuals from the FY21-FY24 approved candidate pool to an FY25 panel.

FY25 Respondents

First Name	Last Name	Company/Organization Affiliation	Occupation/Professional Title	Brief Biography
Amy	Stirnkorb	Self-Employed @ Stirnkorb Design	Graphic Artist, Designer, Creative Director, Glass Fusing Artist	I am an award-winning graphic designer, creative director, editor, and book and magazine publisher with more than 30 years of experience. Most recently, I became a partner/owner of Clicbitz, a San Diego-based children's educational company that teaches college-credit approved technology and textile arts courses at City of San Diego Library branches and other locations around the county. With my Clicbitz partner, Tracey Herriot, we just founded a 501c3 non-profit called Educate to promote STEAM classes for underserved youth in our community. Also, in the last few years, I have taken up the art of glass fusing, which I absolutely love.
Bruce	Turk	Independant artist and professional member of Actors' Equity Association and Screen Actors' Guild	Actor, Director, Visual Artist	Bruce Turk is a professional actor, director, and visual artist. He has performed leading roles On and Off Broadway, internationally, and at major regional theatres across the country. San Diego audiences have seen him in fifteen productions of Shakespeare at the Old Globe Theatre (Craig Noel Award). Also Lincoln Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, ACT, Pasadena Playhouse, Seattle Repertory, McCarter Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse, Denver Center, Cincinnati Playhouse, Goodman Theatre, the Shakespeare Theaters in DC, New Jersey and Santa Cruz, and many more. He holds an MFA in Directing from Texas State University. Bruce studied drawing and painting at Northwestern University. His artwork has appeared in numerous literary journals and is held in collections in San Diego, San Francisco, and Seattle. His solo exhibition, "Archive," was held at Encinitas Civic Center last year. He has exhibited extensively at Arton30th, in San Diego, where he is a guest instructor and recently juried the mixed-media show, "All Mixed Up."
Carl	Schmitz	University of California, San Diego	Art historian	I owe my professional development to the arts. From being a frontline museum worker to supporting arts organizations in leadership and volunteer capacities, my professional life has been defined by a personal dedication to the arts. With a strong research skill base as an art historian, I am dedicated to service in the arts, the approachability of the arts, and the development of sustainability for arts workers. (Professional dossier: linkedin.com/in/carlschmitz/ Also: two of my favorite local museums are the Chicano Park Museum and Cultural Center and the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum!)
Carlos	Palacios	Independent curator	Curator	Carlos E. Palacios is an art critic and curator based in Mexico since 2010. He has a Master in Curatorial Studies, Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, New York. Between 2004 and 2009 he was curator of contemporary art at the Cisneros Foundation / Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection. He was chief curator at the Carrillo Gil Museum of Art in Mexico City. Since 2011, he has taught both undergraduate and master's degrees courses in the areas of history, theory, and curatorship at the Autonomous University of the State of Morelos, the Morelos Center for the Arts and in the University of the Californias International in Tijuana, Baja California. He currently lives in Ensenada, Baja California where he directs Lamoderna Ensenada, an alternative space dedicated to contemporary art.
Catherine	Greenberg	San Diego World Affairs Council	Vice President	Catherine Greenberg is a creative and experienced nonprofit executive with a demonstrated ability to bring diverse groups of people together to foster collaboration and promote cross-cultural collaboration. Catherine is the idea architect and founder of U.S. based, nonprofit global service learning and citizenship provider Bright Light Volunteers. She is an advocate for global education and believes that only through study, action, and building authentic relationships with our global brothers and sisters can we combat hate and cultivate peace and understanding in our interconnected world. In addition to her work for Bright Light Volunteers Catherine serves as the Vice President for the San Diego World Affairs Council where she oversees programming, membership, marketing, development and is actively engaged in building a thriving international program for their Global Young Professionals group.
Catherine	Goode	National Gallery of Art	Curatorial Assistant and Gallery Archivist	I am a museum professional and an artist. Most recently, I worked as a Curatorial Assistant and Gallery Archivist at the National Gallery of Art. Previously, I worked at the American Museum of Natural History and the New-York Historical Society. As an artist, I have exhibited my photography in New York City and Washington, D.C. The King Manor Museum in New York City, the Hill Center in Washington, D.C. and the Mr. & Mrs. Schlagle Library and Environmental Center in Kansas City, Kansas are just a few of the museums and galleries that have exhibited my photography.
Chen	Gao	Coker University	Assistant Professor of Art	Chen Gao is an interdisciplinary artist and designer based in Detroit, MI, and Hartsville, SC, USA. She received her MFA degree in 2D Design at Cranbrook Academy of Art, USA. Currently, Gao serves as the assistant professor of art at Coker University, SC, USA. She used to teach graphic design at the School of Art + Design at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA. Gao's work has been celebrated in exhibitions and projects nationally and internationally, including the Library Mural Project at Toledo Museum of Art Reference Library and An Inspired Age at Toledo Museum of Art. She was selected to exhibit work at the Van GOGH Art Gallery in Madrid, Spain, Holy Art Gallery in London, iidrr gallery in NYC, and Jackson Junge Gallery in Chicago. Gao had received the artist residency in ecoSuites, Greece.

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Chris	Kim	Occidental College	Choi Family Director of Instrumental Activities	<p>Chris came to Occidental from Cornell University, where he directed the Chamber Orchestra and the Symphony Orchestra. The League of American Orchestras/ASCAP has recognized his advocacy of contemporary music by awarding him the Adventurous Programming Award six times between 2008-14. The American Prize has also recognized his work in multiple categories. Chris has premiered over 250 new works for orchestra, and he has sought to program worthy, unknown repertoire with orchestras.</p> <p>In the 2016-17 season, all concerts by the Cornell Symphony Orchestra featured a work by a woman composer both present and past: Kristin Kuster, Gabriela Lena Frank, Jacqueline Keeyoung Kim, Tonia Ko, Joan Tower, and Lili Boulanger. During the 2017-18 season, jazz-influenced works permeated the repertoire of the Cornell Symphony Orchestra: Duke Ellington, Gunther Schuller, Charlie Parker, and Wynton Marsalis.</p> <p>Cornell Chamber Orchestras was a featured ensemble at the CODA National Conference in 2012. The Cornell Orchestras have formed multiple collaborative relationships with the Royal Academy of Music in Dublin, Ireland, Conservatorio de Puerto Rico in San Juan, PR, Sinfonía del Neuquén in Argentina and have taken multiple visits to these sister cities. In January 2019, Cornell Orchestras embarked on a tour to Taiwan to collaborate with the Taipei Symphony Orchestra as well as Engagement activities with five different student orchestras across the city of Taipei.</p> <p>Chris has appeared with orchestras in the United States and abroad, including ensembles such as the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, Delta Festival Ballet, Symphoria, Divertimento Ensemble of Milan, Italy. He has appeared in music festivals such as Kinhaven Music Center, Skaneateles Music Festival, and International Bartók Festival in Szombathely, Hungary among others. Each summer he is a part of the faculty at Cortona Sessions for New Music, where he teaches conducting and helps premiere new works by composers from around the world.</p>
Clara	Bird	PETA	Associate Philanthropic Specialist	<p>Clara is an enthusiastic advocate for the arts and an Associate Philanthropic Specialist with PETA, where she manages a caseload of 550 mid-level and major donors. Previously, she split her time as a Philanthropy Coordinator for La Jolla Playhouse, where she wrote grant applications and oversaw impact reports, and as a VAPA Visiting Teacher with the Arts Education Project at San Diego Unified School District. She is also the daughter of two artists. Her father is an Art Director, Painter, and retired Lecturer of Graphic Design at Michigan State University. Her mother is a retired theatre actress.</p> <p>Formerly, Clara was a K-12 teacher for six years, a ballerina with Southern California Ballet throughout her teens, an enthusiastic performer with San Diego Junior Theatre, and emphasized the Visual Arts at her high school. She holds a Master's in Education and B.A. in International Studies both from UC San Diego. She enjoys spending free time with friends and family, attending theatre performances, reading, hiking, taking dance classes, and cooking ridiculously delicious sustainable vegan meals.</p>
Craig	Hyman	Numinous Music & Productions	CEO/Founder - Artistic Director, Curator, Artist Manager, Consultant	<p>Craig S. Hyman is a music industry veteran with more than 30 years experience in the music and entertainment industries. Passionate about music, with a talent for identifying emerging artists around the world, he is CEO and Founder of Numinous Music Presents and Productions, a Los Angeles, California and New York City based entertainment arts consulting company specializing in presenting, programming and curating live music performances.</p> <p>Craig's most recent accomplishment is the creation of the 2023 Los Angeles Global Music Festival for which he was the Producer & Artistic Director. Craig has produced TV, film and events in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Miami, Austin, Nashville, Washington D.C., San Jose, Vancouver, Toronto, Hawaii, France, Poland, Iceland & More. Craig recently served for three years on the Board of Directors for the Center for World Music in San Diego, California, and held the position of Chairman of Programming for the organization. worked successfully as a freelance music journalist. A strong advocate for world and all music in a global community, Craig possesses that rare combination of artistic sensibility and business know-how.</p>
Daniela	(Radovic) Hess	www.DanielaRadovicHess.com	visual artist	<p>Daniela is an expressive figurative artist. After successful careers in design and engineering, she decided to focus entirely on her painting, and art teaching.</p>

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Danielle	Gorodenzik	Independent Curator, Founder of In Print Art Book Fair	Curator	Danielle Gorodenzik is an independent curator born and raised in Los Angeles. She is the co-founder and director of the annual In Print Art Book Fair, Jerusalem. Danielle has curated group and solo exhibitions focused on feminism, photography, and artist books. From 2018-2022, she served as the Director of Collections at the Africa First Collection by Serge Tiroche, where she spearheaded the Africa First Residency, curated exhibitions, and led acquisitions and sales. In 2020 she was selected as the Artis Video Archive Fellow at the Center for Contemporary Art Tel Aviv-Yafo. Between 2017-2019 she was the Juror and Curator for the Video Focus at the Fresh Paint Art Fair, Tel Aviv. From 2016-2018, she served as Program Coordinator at Artis. Danielle received her MA in Curatorial Studies from Bezalel Academy of Art and Design and holds a BFA in Communication Design from Parsons The New School of Design.
David Leopold	Gonzalez	LES FEMMES UNDERGROUND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL	Chief Contract and Grant Officer	David, the Chief Administrative Officer of Les Femmes Underground International Film Festival (Femtasia Fest) has presented his work at the California Sociological Association and has curated diverse art exhibitions across Southern California. Currently employed at the California Institute of Technology, David brings a wealth of experience and expertise to his role. He is currently working towards a Master of Science degree at Johns Hopkins University. His commitment to both the arts and academia reflects his dedication to a well-rounded and impactful career.
Dennis-Michael	Broussard	Silk Road Productions	Event Producer / Cultural Consultant	Dennis-Michael (DM) Broussard has been working in the San Diego nonprofit sector with organizations that involve the arts, culture, and music since 2007. He has produced numerous cultural events and has been involved with organizations that have received funding from the city. Dennis-Michael currently serves on many boards and committee - including the USS Midway Museum's Diversity and Inclusion Committee, the KPBS Producers Club, the National Association of Asian American Professionals, the San Diego International Sister Cities Association, and many others. He has created events such as the Filipino Sun Festival, the San Diego Ramen Festival, and others. He has knowledge of how boards operate and of board governance. He has been very involved in San Diego's Asian community and hopes to bring more perspective to diversity and inclusion.
Dino	Dinco	UC SAN DIEGO	LECTURER, DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL ARTS	DINO DINCO is a performance art curator and maker, film and theater director, arts educator and writer. His work has been exhibited in solo exhibitions in Paris, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, and in group shows in London, Paris, Los Angeles, Santiago de Compostela, Antwerp, São Paulo, Guadalajara, Mexicali, Hamburg, New York, and Chihuahua. Dinco's documentary film, Homeboy, explores the lives of gay Latino men who were gang members. His award-winning short film, El Abuelo, features San Antonio poet Joe Jiménez. Commissioned by the Fashion in Film Festival at Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, the film premiered at the Tate Modern and has screened internationally. His areas of research include experimentation with performance spectatorship and presentation through praxis, as well as the relationship between performance documentation and scholarship. Since 2017, Dinco has lived in Tijuana and has served as a lecturer in the Visual Arts Department of UC San Diego. www.dinodinco.com
Felicia	Morgenstern	The Poetic Passports Project	Writer/Artist/Founder	Felicia Morgenstern, award-winning writer, artist, performer & educator, hails from Washington, DC. Felicia was awarded Maryland State Arts Council's Individual Artist Award in Poetry, and she has performed in museums, schools & galleries from Baltimore to Buenos Aires. Felicia served as a MICA (Maryland Institute College of Art) Poet-in-Residence, and has been featured in Maryland Poetry Review recordings and videos. She enjoys performing with musicians such as flamenco and jazz guitarists, drummers & flutists. Felicia is the founder of The Poetic Passports Project, utilizing poetry and prose to promote self-reflection, self-expression, and community connection.
Ferchil	Ramos	Sound Future	CEO	Ferchil Ramos is a creative digital media strategist with a layered approach to combining art and activism that makes an impact on the city and the communities where he lives and serves. Born in the Philippines by the rice terraces and raised in the Bay Terraces neighborhood of southeastern San Diego, he continues to use his multicultural experience to find ways to navigate the ever-changing digital landscape with a unique lens and a sense of civic duty and culture. As a San Diego native, he has a complicated relationship with his beloved Padres.
Hiram	Cruz	Tinuiti	Creative Director	Hiram Cruz is a Mexican-American Creative Director and digital artist. He was born in the island of Coronado, CA and raised in San Ysidro and Chula Vista. Hiram graduated from The Art Institute of CA - San Diego, and is an active Creative Director where he leads the Growth Creative Department at his employer. Inspired by the principles design, culture, and the advancement of people of color, his goal is to motivate and inspire others through creative and good principles.

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Iren	Tete	San Diego State University	Assistant Professor - Ceramics	Originally from Sofia, Bulgaria, Iren is currently based in San Diego, CA where she is an Assistant Professor at San Diego State University. She holds an MFA from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Investigating poetic and theoretical systems of thought, seeing, and navigation, Irene's sculptures collapse language of the industrial-infrastructural and human-organic. She has participated in residencies at the Hambidge Center, the Archie Bray Foundation, Zentrum fur Keramik, and will be in residence at the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts in summer of 2024. Iren's solo exhibitions include those at the Sarasota Art Center, Galleri Urbane, Parallelogram Gallery, and Gallery 371. Recent group exhibitions include biennials in Italy and Latvia and shows at Kouri + Corrao, the Dallas Art Fair, and Untitled Art, Miami Beach.
Jan	Phillips	Livingkindness Foundation	writer/musician/multi-media artist	Jan Phillips is a writer/photographer/activist. She is the author of 11 award-winning books and her work has appeared in the New York Times, Parade, Christian Science Monitor, People, Ms. Magazine. She is founder and Executive Director of the Livingkindness Foundation and co-founder of Syracuse Cultural Workers, publisher/distributor of artwork for social justice. Jan has a podcast, The Sound of Light, a youtube channel, and 3 CDs of original music. She teaches around the world connecting the dots between creativity, spiritual intelligence and social action. www.janphillips.com ; https://www.syracuseculturalworkers.com/ ; https://livingkindness.org/
Jessica	LaFave	San Diego State University Research Foundation	Development Specialist	For nearly 20 years, I have worked in a variety of non-profit organizations in San Diego County primarily focused on grant writing, development, and event coordination. I most recently worked at Living Coast Discovery Center directing their grant program and overseeing the application and stewardship of up to 40 proposals annually. The position also allowed me to develop my skills as the coordinator of our annual fundraising event and I participated in board meetings contributing to the minutes and compliance. I am a musician and president of the board of directors for Kearny Mesa Concert Band leading our efforts in creating a fundraising program and engaging with the board and our community. I currently work at San Diego State University Research Foundation working with faculty to develop the non-programmatic elements of their research proposals such as budgeting and compliance.
Jessica	Roberts	City Of Encinitas	Arts Supervisor	I have been a community musician in the UK, worked at non-profit arts center, tour managed international artists around the world, ran an events company, ran festivals, now I'm an arts supervisor for a city.
Jimmy	Galt	Galt Visual	Photographer	I hold a BFA from Cal Poly SLO and have been a professional photographer for over 10 years.
Jose	Trejo Maya	Independent Artist	Interpreter	He is a remnant of the Nahuatlacah oral tradition a tonalpouhque mexica, a commoner from the lowlands from a time and place that no longer exists. He was born in Celaya, Guanajuato, Mexico and has been published in various journals/sites in the UK, US, Spain, India, Australia, Argentina, Germany and Venezuela. Pushcart Prize nominee in 2015, New Rivers Press Many Voices Project Finalist 2018, 2020 Jack Straw Writers Fellow. Mozaik: Ecosystems X 2022 Future Art Awards Group Exhibition Special Mention. Exhibitions in US, Spain, Italy, South Africa, Australia, Korea, Portugal, Ukraine. Public art outdoor sculptures in WA and OR.
Kelly	Purvis	City of Coronado	Sr. Management Analyst - Arts and Culture	Kelly Purvis is an experienced arts administrator with a demonstrated history of working in both government and the private sector. She serves as the first Arts Administrator for Coronado since 2013 and supports the Cultural Arts Commission. She manages Coronado's extensive public art collection and collaborated on the launch of the free Coronado Public Art Walking Tour app highlighting the collection. Skilled in nonprofit organizations, development, community grants, event management, social media, volunteer engagement, public art administration, and team building " skills that contribute to the arts thriving in Coronado. In 2023 she received the Coronado Rotary's Bob Watson Service Above Self Award and was named a Coronado Historical Association Island Icon.
Kerry	Campbell	Kerry Gallery	Artist	Kerry is a visual artist who owns a gallery and studio in Solana Beach, CA. Kerry also leads and runs leadership development workshops for major corporations, including Google and others. She also runs workshops focused on creativity and DEI. She has worked for non-profit organizations, including the Gates Foundation and others. She supports charity art auctions through donating her artwork. She is an Artist Alliance member of the Oceanside Museum of Art. She frequently hosts art walks and art events at her studio space in the Cedros Design District in Solana Beach. She also has experience running large scale corporate events, including annual business conferences and training events. Kerry has an extensive exhibition history, including showing at the San Diego Art Show and LA Art Show, as well as solo exhibition at Southern California galleries. Her artworks adorn homes and business across the United States and Europe. Kerry is also a college level professor in the humanities, teaching writing and literature.
Kristine	Domingo	Sanford Autism Advocacy Group	Community Engagement Liaison	Kristine is a Fiber/Textile artist working under the name "Caridad, with love". Her work utilizes sustainable materials and items found in nature. She has a background in arts education, and enjoys working and teaching in various creative modalities. Her love of art combined with her passion for disability inclusion and neurodiversity, led her to become a volunteer studio assistant with Revision San Diego, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide inclusive access to art through projects and community-based engagement. Kristine also works as the Community Engagement Liaison for Sanford Autism Advocacy Group where she finds resources for Neurodivergent families, makes meaningful connections with community partners, speaks at various conferences, and helps empower parents in their own advocacy journey.

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Laura	Green	Laura Green Studio	Artist	Laura Green is a stay at home mother and an artist. Her focus is on painting fleeting moments of life in an impressionistic and colorful way. She completed a certificate in Art and The Creative Process at UCSD Extension in 2022, and a post-bacc in Studio Arts from UC Berkeley Extension in 2023. Green's wildlife paintings have been featured in the Tijuana River Estuary visitor center in Imperial Beach since March 2023. Her portraits of people and pets are held in a number of private collections. She has been featured in a variety of group shows, notably receiving second place in acrylics at the Del Mar Fair and Best of Show from the North Coastal Gallery.
Laura	Hoffman	Self Employed	Consultant	My professional background includes a 15+ year career in proposal development and grant award management, in the arts and the bio and health sciences. My experience includes serving as the Grants Officer for the Phoenix Art Museum. In this role, I collaborated with the curators and submitted numerous grants. I secured funding from the National Endowment of the Arts, and from other private and public funders to support exhibitions and community and festival programming. I was appointed by the mayor of the City of Tempe, Arizona as a Tempe Municipal Arts Commissioner and elected as an executive member for the grants programs.
Laura	Potter	Les Dances	Executive Director	Laura Potter has extensive experience as an arts administrator, performer and educator. She is currently the Executive Director of an early music ensemble and previously served as Development Director at CityMusic Cleveland Chamber Orchestra, and has held development and operations roles with the Indiana Music Education Association and the Youth Symphony of Kansas City. Additionally, she has served on the music faculties of Indiana State University and Dickinson State University. Laura is committed to making art music accessible and relatable through creative programming representing diverse voices, building community partnerships to connect with new audiences, and providing intergenerational programming that enhances lifelong involvement with the arts.
Leslie	Pierce	Artist Leslie Pierce/ And Something Different Studio Gallery	Professional Full Time Visual Artist	<p>Born in New York, Leslie spent part of her childhood behind the scenes at the Museum of Natural History where her father worked as a scientist. Mesmerized by the T-Rex skeleton, dinosaur exhibits, and life-sized dioramas, these early experiences influenced her adventurous spirit and formed her love for art and artifacts. Pierce relocated to Austin, Texas to attend The University of Texas at Austin. She holds two art degrees; a B.F. A. from U.T. Austin and an associate degree in Video Game Art from A.C.C.</p> <p>While living in Austin she organized, designed, and curated group art exhibits, taught Painting and Drawing for the Austin Museum of Art's Art School at Laguna Gloria, and founded and hosted a popular all-male model Life Drawing and Painting group for the Austin Visual Arts Association.</p> <p>Ms. Pierce relocated from Austin to San Diego, California, and opened a studio gallery in Arts District Liberty Station. She continues to work on the Code Defied series, adding new paintings, and adding multi-media components to the series including Video Art and 3D.</p> <p>Leslie Pierce is honored to have one of her pieces in the permanent collection of The Harry Ransom Center at The University of Texas at Austin and has been awarded multiple Special Projects grants in Austin and San Diego to expand her work.</p>
Lisa	Huppert	Studio L. Visual Communications	Creative Director/Design Educator	Lisa is an art director, creative entrepreneur, and educator. She currently practices design with a focus on print communications and branding for clients throughout Southern California. She has been partnering with companies for 20+ years to help them communicate through design in Industries such as life sciences, water conservation, higher education, and social outreach organizations. Lisa is also passionate about sharing her experiences with students, helping them identify and expand their potential as young designers. She has lectured at the University of San Diego and San Diego State University where she currently teaching beginning and advanced design courses. Lisa's professional design accomplishments include recognition in 2015 FOLIO, Eddie & Ozzie Awards, 2013 Marcom Awards, 2012 International Association of Business Communications, and 2008 San Diego Ad Club Creative Show. Her work has been featured in How Magazine and Powerful Page Design.
Louise	Potash	Art Works For Change	Arts and Activism Mentor	I am a retired educator and writer who loves the arts and cultural offerings in San Diego. Having worked for Arts for Learning (Miami), prior to moving to San Diego 6 years ago and serving on the Board of Directors for A4L/Miami, I then served as a board member for A4LSD upon moving to San Diego. I have worked with other nonprofits in the arts and beyond, including as a volunteer with San Diego 350. Currently, I am an Arts and Activism Mentor with Art Works for Change, guiding youth as creative environmental activists in our internship program. I focus on using the arts to catalyze actions to mitigate the climate crisis. I am deeply interested in how the arts connect ideas and people and provide inspiration to propel people to engage with ideas and with one another more deeply. My work as a teacher has always involved infusing the arts throughout curriculum, and I have managed to bring my experience as an educator to arts programming and outreach to nonprofit work. I continue to pursue elevating and maximizing ideas and communities through the arts.

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Lukas	Volk	San Diego Event Coalition / AspenOUT	Executive Administrator / Marketing Director	My education consists of a Bachelors Degree in Fine Arts with a concentration in Graphic Design. I spent time from 2007 until 2012 managing an entertainment company. After 6 years as Marketing and Events Director, I have ventured off into new territories of design, marketing, and advertising. My knowledge of social media marketing, photography, and my degree in Graphic Design have all shaped me into a well-rounded media guru.
Maral	Babai	San Diego County Democratic Party (since 2019)	Campaign Services Manager	<p>Maral is the Campaign Services Manager at the San Diego County Democratic Party (SDCDP), where she joined in 2019. She focuses on SDCDP's candidate development pipeline, which includes recruiting, training and guiding candidates for local, countywide and statewide races. She also administers membership of our governing body, the Central Committee, the chartering of our dozens of Democratic Clubs, and the Party's endorsement process for over 200 seats each cycle. She continues to build on her experiences in fundraising, communications, field, and management for Democratic state legislative and congressional candidates in New York, Connecticut, Indiana, and Virginia.</p> <p>She completed her Masters in Visual Arts Administration at NYU, with a concentration on nonprofit organizations, policy, and the intersection of arts and political and community organizing. She served as President of NYU Advocates for Cultural Engagement (ACE) from 2017-2018, and coalesced a delegation of students to attend Arts Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C., hosted by Americans for the Arts.</p> <p>During her time in New York, Maral worked on campus at NYU at the Department of Art and Art Professions as an Administrative Assistant and as a Curatorial Assistant, at nonprofit arts organizations, such as Art in General, and as a project coordinator and curatorial intern for the Percent for Art Program at the New York Department of Cultural Affairs.</p>
Marco	Couoh Amador	Promotora de las Bellas Artes	Coordinator of Development	As a Communications and PR Specialist, I have worked extensively in Mexico City, Tijuana, San Diego and Germany. I recently worked as Designer-in-residence at UCSD Design Lab developing a communications strategy for the upcoming Tijuana-San Diego World Design Capital 2024. I recently joined the nonprofit sector at my current job, Promotora de las Bellas Artes, a binational organization that works with and empowers children and youth through the arts in Tijuana.
Maria	Rodriguez	None	Visual artist	I grew up in Tijuana, Mexico. I relocated to San Diego in 2013. In 2018, I decided to go back to college to pursue my BFA in art. I participated in some art exhibitions through these years. Finally, I graduated from CSU San Marcos and I decided to be a full time artist based in San Diego.
Mark	Salinas	City of Berkeley, Civic Arts	Public Art Program Lead	For over 20 years Mark Salinas has served in public, private, and nonprofit sectors providing public art policy, curatorial content, and program management for organizations including the Municipality of Carson City, Pace Wildenstein, and Forecast Public Art. Mark is a practicing public artist and founder of 7Train Murals, a nonprofit mural organization established in New York City. As the new Public Art Program Lead for the City of Berkeley, California, Mark is responsible for the development and implementation of public art programming, policies and procedures. Mark is the past Chair of the City of Reno Arts & Culture Commission as well as board member of the Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts and the Nevada Arts Council. He is a former contributor to PBS Reno Art Views, initiating in-depth essays amplifying BIPOC artists within Nevada and Northern California and a 2022 Nevada Governor's Point of Light awardee.
Megan	Boisvert	CA State Parks and San Diego Emerging Museum Professionals	Small Business Specialist (DPR) /Events and Stewardship Committee (SDEMP)	<p>From organizing city-wide events with artists and communities to curating gallery exhibits, Megan Boisvert is a jack of all trades. Working in the visual arts industry for 10+ years, Megan has worked with arts organizations nationwide including Art Basel Miami, National Geographic, Director of art galleries, public art, and more. Passionate about the arts and bringing art to the people, providing accessibility and art experiences for all.</p> <p>Megan has her BA in Art & Art History from Florida International University, Miami, FL, and a dual MA in Art Business from Sotheby's Institute of Art, Los Angeles, and Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA. Megan is currently working for California State Parks overseeing small business operations within parks throughout Southern California. She also plays a role in the art scene in the San Diego area, leading the Emerging Museum Professionals group as a board member on the Events and Stewardship Committee.</p>

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Miki	Vale	SoulKiss Theater	Hip Hop Artist/ Playwright/ Founder and Artistic Director SoulKiss Theater	Mikiea Perkins, professionally known as Miki Vale, is an international Hip Hop performing artist and cultural ambassador, Teaching Artist, Old Globe-commissioned playwright and founder of SoulKiss Theater, an arts education organization for queer Black womxn. Her work serves to amplify community consciousness around relationships, wellness, and justice. Miki has performed and participated in panels at landmark venues and festivals in the US and internationally, from Hollywood and D.C. to Mumbai and Cairo. For her contributions to Hip Hop culture, Miki has earned a San Diego Hip Hop Honors Award, a Female Perspective Award, and the 2021 San Diego Music Award for Song of the Year for "Bad Wolves", a song condemning anti-Black racism. For her work within the LGBTQIA+ community, Miki was awarded the 2017 Bayard Rustin Civil Rights Honor.
Natalie	Gonzalez	Sparks Gallery	Outreach Coordinator	I am an arts advocate, cultural promoter, and exhibitions coordinator. Born in Los Angeles and raised mainly in Mexico, she earned her B. A. in Arts and Cultural Management from Universidad de Guadalajara in Mexico. I have been an active international art promoter for 15 years, organizing art exhibitions in Europe and Mexico. My passion in life is to make art more accessible to our society, help Southern Californians develop their creativity, and instill a sense of community surrounding these activities.
Patricia	Williams	PTWO- Push The Word Out	CEO/Founder	Dr. Patricia Williams is the CEO/Founder of PTWO- Push The Word Out Foundation. She has been working in San Diego communities for over 10 years as a liaison for non-profit community organizations. She is a volunteer for many community programs as well as a supporter of school reform programs. She has volunteered in the Arts communities to help continue arts, music, culture, dance, mime, and other creative art programs. She has her Doctorate Degree in Educational Leadership Development, Masters in Education, and Bachelor's in Business Administration & Technology. She is an author, publisher, educator(30yrs), and grant writer.
Peggy	Hinaekian	Artist and Gallery Owner	Artist/Manager	I am an internationally recognized artist. I have had a gallery for over 40 years in Switzerland. I live in La Jolla since 2003 and have my own studio. I have exhibited worldwide in more than 200 solo and group exhibitions and I have also been in the organizing body of art fairs in Europe. I teach abstract art and collage in my studio in La Jolla. My art is also in three museums. I have organized art shows for other artist and done the marketing and the PR. I have also done etchings and lithographs and provided illustrations for the cover of books.
Rebecca	Webb	Rebeccawebbstudio	Artist	Rebecca Webb (b. Radford, VA, 1967), received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from the School Museum of Fine Arts and Tufts University in 1990. Also an independent curator, Webb recently worked with Oceanside Museum of Art on a major hotel project in Oceanside, CA. In 2018, she produced an immersive "24 hour" installation Ama: Into the Deep for Wonderspaces at the Lafayette Hotel in San Diego, California, and curated the exhibition San Diego: The Architecture of Four Ecologies at the La Jolla Historical Society in La Jolla, California. In 2014, Webb launched and curated/produced the Filmatic Festival at UCSD to present immersive experiences at the intersection of science, cinema, and technology, which ran annually until 2016.
Rio	Villa	Out of the Boondocks	Arts Producer and Theatre Artist	I am a second-generation Filipina-American artist and arts producer from San Diego. I am the producer and co-host for the "Out of the Boondocks" docuseries that just aired/streamed its second season on KPBS/PBS. The series is an educational project that relies on non-profit funds, platforms, and mentorship from KPBS. Before that, I worked at The Old Globe Theatre as an Arts Engagement Project Coordinator for programs like Globe for All, a free theatre tour in non-theatrical spaces, and Reflecting Shakespeare, a theatre education program for incarcerated people. I hold a BA in Theatre (UCSD 2014), an MA in Arts and Cultural Management (UIC Barcelona 2018), and professional certifications in Trauma and Resilience (FSU online 2021) and, soon, Neurodiversity (FSU online 2024). My final group dissertation in grad school was the conceptualization and business plan for a non-profit contemporary cultural center in Barrio Logan.
Robert	Wagner	La Jolla Country Day School	Direction of Visual and Performing Arts	Robert started working at La Jolla Country Day School in 2012 and has taught Middle and Upper School dance and drama and choreographed and directed all of the theatrical productions. Robert received his Bachelor of Arts in theater and dance from Muhlenberg College. He founded a nonprofit high school performing arts program for inner-city youth in Allentown, Pa. and served as the manager of education and outreach for Muhlenberg College's Summer Music Theatre. Professionally, Mr. Wagner performed with the Enchantment Theatre Company's national tour of The Velveteen Rabbit, sang and danced his heart out in countless summer stock productions on the east coast, and choreographed and assistant-directed the La Jolla Playhouse W.O.W. Festival productions of Heaven on Earth and Under Construction. He has served on the board of the international nonprofit Pedagogy and Theatre of the Oppressed, Inc., and was the Director of Performing Arts at the Swain School for four years.
Ronald	Lauderbach	Point Loma Optimist Club	Poet, retired teacher	Retired high school English and journalism teacher. San Diego resident for 60 years. Fifty-one year member of Point Loma Optimist Club. Active in local poetry organizations. Published in journals and newspapers.
SabrinaGarcia	Garcia	S Garcia Creative & Educational Consulting	Arts Integration / Education Consultant Education Advocate	15 Years of service to many non-profit arts & cultural organizations whose missions are anchored in social justice, equity, cultural practice & tradition. Primary creative interest is arts integration and cultural programming.

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Sam	Lopez	Stay Strange	Curator	I have been curating experimental music and art shows in San Diego for close to 20 years. Our goal is to keep the music and art scene in San Diego as vibrant and interesting as other big cities by bringing in artists who push the boundaries of their art. Keeping our programs diverse and including the community is also a huge passion of ours.
Sandee	McGee	Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center	Assistant Manager of Community Services / Art Curator	Sandee McGee was Umpqua Valley Artists (UVA) Curator and Exhibitions Program Director and has been creating and directing transformative and engaging public arts and culture programs for 10+ years. Prior to her work at UVA, Sandee McGee was the Assistant Professor of Art at Umpqua Community College. She received her MFA from the University of Oregon in 2010. McGee currently serves as Curator and Assistant Manager of Community Services at the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center in California.
Shari	Roberts	justfauxyoupainting, llc	painter, art instructor	I began my career as a professional Contract Interior Designer and after 20 plus years began refinishing furniture. This led to painting furniture, which led to painting faux finishes on furniture and walls and objects. It then reignited my passion for fine art and I began painting on canvas, again. Throughout this period, I was teaching art to children after school as enrichment. I rented studio space for 9 years that was under the umbrella of a non profit theater. There were 16 visual artists in this space that was in the same building as the theater, so we were very linked.(The studios no longer exist.)
Sou	Fang	University of San Diego	Director, TRIO Upward Bound	I serve as Director of the University of San Diego TRIO Upward Bound under the Institute of College Initiative for low-income, first-generation, and underrepresented high school students in San Diego, CA. I served on the faculty at Syracuse University - School of Architecture teaching design and research studios on urban revitalization strategies in shrinking U.S. cities. YC). I completed my Master of Architecture at Syracuse University - School of Architecture, Design Discovery Certificate from Harvard University - Graduate School of Design, and B.A. in Architecture from the University of San Diego.
Stina	Peek	BlackFoodNerd	Foods Writer	I have worked as a wardrobe stylist on music videos and television. I have worked as a clothing designer and dressmaker. I have worked as a costume stitcher. I work as a textile artist, collaborating once a year for work to be shown in galleries in Los Angeles County. I graduated from California College of the Arts with a BA in Visual Studies, focusing on visual rhetoric, art theory, art history, and semiology. I currently work in computer sales and am completing coursework in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging, and Accessibility work in preparation for a graduate certificate.
Tara	Graviss White	Expressive Arts Institute	Expressive Arts Therapist	Experienced Expressive Arts Facilitator with a demonstrated history of working in arts, education and wellness. Skilled in Creative Problem Solving, Social Media, Public Speaking, Coaching, and Team Building. Strong human resources professional with a focus in Expressive Arts facilitation supporting trauma recovery.
Teresa	Diaz de Cossio	University of California San Diego	Graduate Student	Teresa is a flutist and an active member of a flexible chamber ensemble dedicated to creation, improvisation, experimentation, and collaboration. She has had the opportunity of performing with Los Tigres del Norte, and has been a fellow at The Banff Center, the Darmstadt Summer Institute, Curating Diversity (Sounds Now, Finland), and the Future of Music Faculty Fellowship (Cleveland Institute of Music, Sphinx Foundation). As a scholar, Teresa has presented her research at Unsung Stories: Women at Columbia's Computer Music Center. Currently, Teresa is a doctoral candidate at the University of California San Diego, where she is mentored by Wilfrido Terrazas and Amy Cimini. She is also a co-producer at Neofonia, Festival de Musica Nueva in Ensenada.
Thomas	Powers	Powershaus	Artist/Educator/MFA	I have worked in every facet of the Arts for 50 years. I have a HSD from North Carolina School of the Arts, a BFA from Maryland Institute College of Art, a MFA from Laguna College of Art and Design. I studied with Wayne Thiebaud at UCD, contributed to the "Original" VAPA Framework (SC), Co-founder of the Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center. Co-creator of "American Civics" with Shepard Fairey, First Education Director for the Southern California Indians. Art History professor at Palomar College. Worked with Howard Gardner to develop Arts PROPEL and finally co-creator of Online/Distance Learning. I can back-up all my claims.
Trinity	Hester	TrinityandBeyOnd - Visual/Performance Art	Fire Performer , VoiceOver Artist	I am a Visual Artist with experience in fire performance, dance, circus arts, burlesque, comedy improv, voice/character acting, singing and public speaking. Ten years of my early career were working behind-the-scenes as a hairstylist for fashion shows and magazine photo-shoots. I am so grateful to have worked with so many inspiring photographers, wardrobe stylists, models and makeup artists. I then ventured into Exotic Animal Care and the Non-profit realm where i worked as a public speaker, wildlife educator, in person/virtual tour guide and a zookeeper. During that time, I discovered fire dancing as a hobby and, after 8 years in a Zoological career, I have transitioned to full time performance artist. I am mainly a Fire Performance artist and I also teach skills to new fire performers. I have always been creative in many forms including painting, singing, dance and collaborative art. In order to dive further into my passions I am currently attending Arizona State University for a Bachelors in Interdisciplinary Art and Performance. As a result, I am educated in many different artistic disciplines.

FY21-FY24 Panelist Slate

First Name	Last Name	Company/Organization Affiliation	Occupation/Professional Title	Brief Biography
Wendy	Hovland	Wendy Hovland Voiceover/Actor	Artist/CEO	Wendy is a voiceover and on-camera actor, working in various genres including film, narration, commercials and immersive theatre. An award-winning communicator, Wendy's voice acting has been featured at HEAR Now: the Audio Fiction and Arts Festival. Wendy is also a Communications Strategist specializing in programs and projects that enhance our communities and protect our environment. Her work has won awards from the Association of Marketing & Communications Professionals as well as The Public Relations Society of America. She holds a degree in Journalism and Speech Communication from San Diego State University, and currently studies at Los Angeles Acting Studio SD, a Meisner-Hybrid acting program.
Whitney	Peskin	Whitney Shay	Performer/Songwriter/Recording Artist/Bandleader	In her hometown of San Diego Whitney Shay has been honored to win 5 San Diego Music Awards. Shay has toured extensively throughout Europe and South America, and was nominated for a national Blues Music Award in 2019. Shay has an extensive background in theatre; graduating with a B.A. from San Diego State University in Theatre-Performance in 2008. Shay is currently in her final year in the award winning program at San Diego City College finishing Associate Degrees in both Graphic Design and Interaction Design.
Yin	Yu	San Diego State University	Assistant Professor in Interior Architecture at the School of Art and Design	I am an artist, designer, engineer, and tenure track assistant professor at the San Diego State University School of Art and Design. My research investigates the potential of interactive multimedia environments and the intersection of architecture, human-health, and emerging technologies. My practice covers a broad spectrum, including product design, furniture design, architectural design, interactive design, wearable design, and art installation. I have a Bachelor of Science in Electronic Engineering, a Master of Science in Information Technology, a Master of Science in Interior Architecture, and a Doctorate in Media Arts and Technology.
Alan	Harrison	501 (C) (3) Guru	Owner	Alan Harrison is a writer, father, performer, nonprofit executive, artist, and soon, a published author (in no particular order). His book, "Scene Change: Why Nonprofit Arts Organizations Must Stop Producing Art and Start Producing Impact," will be published in 2023 by Changemakers Books. For the past 30 years, he has led, produced, directed, promoted, raised money for, starred and failed in over 300 theatrical productions on and Off-Broadway and at prestigious (and not so prestigious) nonprofit arts organizations across the country. He's also a two-time Jeopardy! champion so, you know, there's that. The arts invoke passion (mostly from artists), but nonprofit arts are only successful when they result in measurably positive change among those that need it most. When a nonprofit's donors are also its recipients, then its mission devolves into meaningless puffery, flapdoodle, and codswallop.
Alyssa	Junious	Continuum Arts & Pilates / Soultry Sisters / William Male Foundation	Pilates Practitioner, Choreographer, Dance & Theater Performing Artist, Teaching Artist	My name is Alyssa "Ajay" Junious, and I am a San Diego-based artist, educator, and creative entrepreneur. I have worked professionally as a performance artist for the past 10+ years. My local performance credits include La Jolla Playhouse, Cygnet Theater, San Diego Musical Theater, New Village Arts, Oceanside Theater Company, Teatro San Diego, San Diego Dance Theater, PGK Dance Project, and Continuum. As a community centered artist, I have collaborated and partnered with various arts organizations to facilitate arts engagement events and community workshops, and public performances. Credits include Oceanside Public Library, Mingei Museum, LUX Art Institute, New Village Arts, Hill Street Country Club, Mira Costa College, SDSU, SouthWestern College, Art Produce, Oceanside Museum of Art, and Disco Riot. I value connecting artists with resources and building collaborative social capital. I practice that value by serving on Rising Arts Leader's steering committee and William Male Foundation's grant selection committee. The common thread in all that I do is connecting people through community-based arts and wellness experiences.
Amy	Miller	California Academy of Sciences	Interim Dean of Education; Director of Public Programs and Academy Volunteers	Amy Miller has led public programs at the California Academy of Sciences for more than a decade. Previously she worked at the Smithsonian National Zoo in Washington, D.C. for approximately ten years. Amy currently oversees a team of 25 staff and 300 volunteer educators. This team is responsible for facilitated programming at the Academy as well as managing three special venues. In the dean role Amy supports the larger education division including teacher and student education and youth engagement programs.
Andrea	Mota	The Blue Azul Collection	Gallery Owner	I am the owner of The Blue Azul Collection art gallery and originally opened in La Jolla, moved to Mission Hills and settled in Little Italy. I have always worked well with people from all walks of life and one day I opened an art gallery because I like traveling and exploring all things creative. I often look for hidden gems in all the places I visit. I also work well collaboratively with artists and enjoy putting on art exhibits/installations and having conversations with the public, clients, artists and anyone who shows a genuine interest in art. I enjoy attending art exhibitions in both galleries, museums, local art events and others because I believe when supporting the arts is caring for the communities we live in. I am also an art patron, enjoy sharing my passion for the arts and supporting artists.

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Anne-Marie	McKaskle-Davis	City of Austin Cultural Arts Division	Cultural Funding Specialist Senior	Anne-Marie McKaskle-Davis is a Cultural Funding Specialist Senior with the City of Austin's Cultural Arts Division. She helps to manage over 400 cultural contracts annually. She provides in-depth grant writing training to new and current applicants and assists in the development, implementation, and management of 3 Cultural Arts Funding Programs. She has participated in Undoing Racism training, and Grantmakers in the Arts Equity workshops, and will complete the Cultural Equity Learning Community summer 2022 Cohort in December 2022. Anne-Marie served as a reader for the NEA's Challenge America Grant in summer 2022. Previously, she was the Membership Services Director at Austin Creative Alliance where she provided grant writing training, and arts non-profit consulting services for over 7 years. In 2012 she co-founded Austin Emerging Arts Leaders, an organization that provides professional development to Austin's early career Arts Administrators and artists. She served as the Board Chair from 2012 to 2016.
Belen	Islas	Belen Islas Studio	Visual Artist	I am a visual artist and designer with more than ten years of experience. My work ranges from large-scale murals to fine art. My artwork has been exhibited nationally and internationally. Recently, I created public works for the City of Los Angeles and Starbucks. Most of my work is community-oriented; for example, for an upcoming mural for a San Diego elementary I am working with the 4th and 5th-grade students. I am originally from Mexico. I live and work in San Diego with my husband and two young children.
Brigid	Parsons	Oceanside Arts Commission	Chair, Arts Commission	Brigid Parsons (she/her/hers, Oceanside) worked as a Civil Engineer and in IT before focusing on photography and arts administration starting in 2008. Since then, Brigid has had her photography appear in local shows including at the Oceanside Museum of Art (OMA) and supported a number of different projects in the Oceanside arts community including spearheading grassroots organizations such as Oceanside Art Walk, the North County Arts Network (NCAN) and the San Diego Countywide Arts & Culture Confab. She was the administrator for a James Irvine Foundation Exploring Engagement grant with OMA, a multi year program that involved place making art exhibitions and interactive experiences in non-art spaces which often involved historically underrepresented communities. She is currently the chair of the Arts Commission for the City of Oceanside, a founding board member and secretary (2015-2022) of NCAN and has certifications in Green Design (LEED AP) and Feng Shui as well as degrees in Digital Photography (AA, Mira Costa College), Civil Engineering (BS, Carnegie Mellon University) and Technology Management (MBA, University of Phoenix). Through the Arts Commission, she has championed the arts across the entire city, and works on efforts to promote diversity and inclusivity in all aspects of the Commission's work.
Brittany	Alston	Sunflower's Muse	Administrative/Case Management	I am a self-taught photographer/visual artist currently living in Charleston, SC. Whether it's photography, cinema, exploring museums or art galleries, watching documentaries, sitting in the audience of various shows such as theater, ballet, etc., I am intrigued!
Carissa	Gutierrez	Latino Center of Arts and Culture	Executive Director	Carissa is the Director of the Latino Center of Art and Culture in Sacramento, CA. She has a proven track record in creative community engagement, operations optimization and coalition building. She has worked in various spaces including mental health, violence prevention, local and federal government, hospitality, non-profit and academia. She is dedicated to her community and manages cultural projects to elevate the voices of those who are most often overlooked and disenfranchised- to make visible what is often made to feel invisible. Through her work she remains committed to social justice and equitable reform and approaches all opportunities with an intersectional lens. A proud Chicana, she graduated from the University of California at Berkeley, where she focused on globalization and development in Latin America and lives by the motto "think globally, act locally."
Chitra	Gopalakrishnan	San Diego State University	Lecturer Faculty	Chitra Gopalakrishnan is a graphic designer with a great affinity for new media and traditional art forms. She has an MFA in Graphic Design from the Cranbrook Academy of Art and the ESAG Penninghen, France. She is the co-founder of a 15 year-old handloom revival project called Kara Weaves in India which exists at the intersection of design, craft and ethical trade. She is currently a graphic design lecturer at the San Diego State University concurrently with an active studio and design practice.
Christine	West	DesignsW, LLC	Cultural Programs Manager	For over twenty years Christine West has produced creative cultural programs, most free and accessible to the public. An art administrator, curator, and community connector, she cultivates projects that facilitate opportunities for artists, many that they may not otherwise be able to consider. In her current post as a cultural programs consultant for Houston First Corporation, she not only manages over forty works of art in the City of Houston Civic Art Collection, but also curates rotating exhibitions and develops interactive public art activations throughout the Avenida (convention center) and Theater Districts in Houston, Texas. West previously served as Executive Director of Lawndale Art Center, where she began a long-standing artist residency and established a rotating mural program. Prior, she was the Executive Director of the Galveston Arts Center where she secured a National Treasures grant for the restoration of their historic building. West has served on several boards including the Houston Museum District Association, Houston Arts Foundation, Glasstire, Midtown Arts and Theater Center, and the Texas Association of Museums. A longtime advocate for local creatives, she has curated and juried numerous art exhibitions, and participated on grant review panels for local, state, and national granting organizations. Having recently moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico, West and her husband Ramon formed DesignsW, LLC., specializing in providing a variety of digital and creative services.

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DR. BRENDA	EDGERTON-WEBSTER	Penned Eloquence	Consultant - Executive Grant Writer/Strategic Planner	An executive administrator in higher education, with leadership experience in the effective management of programmatic/academic units and personnel, budget and equipment resources, and funding/development plans I bring executive-level expertise in areas of funding development and grant writing/management, student service and program instruction, personnel professional development, and accreditation compliance management. As a Certified Anti-bias Facilitator for the San Diego Anti-Defamation League (ADL-SD), I conduct a series of IDEA trainings for secondary and college-level leadership throughout the state of California and several other states across the country. Additionally, I perform duties as an Admissions Enrollment Advisor for National Education Partners (NEP)/National University and have conducted anti-bias training for teams within the School of Education as a pilot project for future administration upon completion of the pending merger between NEP/NCU and National University (NU) in late 2022. I also provide services to the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District (GCCCD) as a Media Communications Adjunct Professor; Data Literacy Coach for Research, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness (RPIE); Academic Senate Representative to the Student Success & Equity Committee and Chancellor's Task Force on IDEA efforts. Additionally, in each of these roles, I promote an inclusive culture and build trust with coworkers by sharing my expertise in IDEA instructional and student-success program delivery, professional development of administration/faculty/staff student-success data use, and effective online course (California Community College (CCC) Campus Emergency Response Training (CERT) and Distance Education (DE) certified) development. Most recently, I received an appointment to the Association of California Community Colleges Academic Senate Committee on IDEA Data & Research.
Erica	Mohan	Broward Cultural Division	Contract Grants Administrator	Erica Mohan is a visual artist whose work explores her understanding of martial arts principles and currently focuses on investing her cultural heritage and ancestry. Born in Toronto, Canada, she migrated to the United States with her family in 2000. Her work has been exhibited at the Hollywood Art & Culture Center in Hollywood, Florida. She was the first recipient of the Girls' Club fellowship in Fort Lauderdale. She worked as Shop Superintendent for Miami-based artist, Asif Farooq, building a life-sized Soviet jetfighter made entirely out of paper. Currently, Mohan works as Contract Grants Administrator for the Broward County Cultural Division where she creates and facilitates grant programs for individual artists of all disciplines. She is also a member of the National Grantmakers in the Arts, Support for Individual Artists Committee. Mohan obtained a Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting from Florida Atlantic University.
Jacqueline	Warfield	Artist	Artist & Activist	Jacqueline Soraya is an activist, Mother and visual artist based in Southern California, fluent in Spanish & Farsi, she is an American Persian born in Oklahoma in 1978. Jacqueline received her B.A. Visual Arts in Studio, with honors, from UCSD in 2007 and is currently pursuing a Doctorate of a Chinese Traditional Medicine at Pacific College. Meditations of the Sea 2011 Jacqueline's first solo show in La Jolla Shores featured 20 color and black & white oil paintings. Her series of "Life as an artist in Mexico and Downtown San Diego artworks were represented in the show "10 skateboard decks" in 2017. Jacqueline's still life series inspired by Southern California culture through an artist's eyes and hand selected burger portraits painted large scale on panel. Her latest solo show In San Diego 2022 featured large portraits of spirit animals and Persian iconography.
JOEL	TROUT	iServe Leadership Group	CEO	I have extensive experience in the non-profit space as CEO of several non profit organizations locally. My artistic experience began as a musician, (trumpet, bass, and keys), then extended to choral director, composer, producer and promoter. I have produced or participated on 6 recording and had national distribution. I have enjoyed national radio airplay of my material. I held a radio program, "Bread for Living" on the Salem Network for 14 years.
Kara	Greenwell	Self-employed	Visual Artist	Kara Greenwell is a San Diego based visual artist who creates works of self-reflection and societal investigation. A former marketing executive with an MBA from Harvard Business School, Kara brings a unique combination of creative and analytical thinking to the arts. Her gestural, mixed media paintings juxtapose vivid personal narrative with provocative feminist themes. Ms. Greenwell's award-winning work has been exhibited at museums and galleries nationwide including, Oceanside Museum of Art (CA), Atlantic Gallery (NY), Tarleton State University (TX) and The San Diego Museum of Art (CA). In 2022, Kara attended ChaNorth Artist Residency in Hudson Valley, NY and was a featured panelist in "Family Matters: Art Conversations with Teresia Bush," educator and curator at Hirshhorn Museum, the Smithsonian Institution and Rutgers University.
Lola	Claire	n/a	Actor, writer, director	Lola Claire is an American/Canadian actor best known for the roles of Becca in The Power and Bex in A Playful Love. Based in Vancouver, Lola was born and raised in San Diego, California. Lola began acting while in high school where she was awarded the Cliff Robinson Acting Scholarship. Partaking in the Acting Conservatory at the world renowned La Jolla Playhouse, Lola was one of two young actors chosen to workshop an international film. Lola's training was furthered with participation in the Musical Theatre Intensive at the Arts Club Theatre Company.

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Peggy	Ellithorpe	City of Austin Cultural Arts Division	Cultural Funding Specialist	Peggy has more than 20 years of experience in film, music and digital content festivals, most notably: South by Southwest Conferences and Festivals (SXSW), American Film Institute Los Angeles Film Festival (AFI FEST), and North by Northwest Music Festival (NXNW). She has worked in a variety of roles including operations, logistics, communications, and artist management for companies including Austin City Limits Music Festival (ACL Fest), Portland Waterfront Blues Festival, WESTDOC Conference, and Downtown Film Festival of Los Angeles (DFFLA.) She's also served on staff managing fiscally sponsored projects, as well as volunteer and intern programs. She has been a key logistics and staffing strategist, running large-scale events, conferences, and award shows for several arts nonprofits such as the International Documentary Association, Austin Music Foundation, The Film Collaborative, Austin Creative Alliance, and Texas Accountants and Lawyers for the Arts. Peggy joined the City of Austin's Cultural Arts Division in June 2017 as a Cultural Funding Specialist.
Ramon	Montano Marquez	Tepwe Human Rights & Restorative Justice Consultants	Consultant	Ramon Montaño Marquez (Kickapoo, Kumiai/Paipai Tribal Nation's/Mexican/Xicano) is a San Diego based Community Advocate from the beautiful and thriving neighborhood of City Heights, growing up in City Heights has deepened his connection to his communities and pushed him to be the advocate he is today. He has been a strong advocate for the implementation of Restorative Justice and Restorative Practices in both the Educational and Juvenile Justice System, and also has a strong background in government accountability specifically around police practices and community oversight. https://www.linkedin.com/in/ramon-monta%C3%B1o-marquez/
Sarah	Tanguy	Independent	Curator & Arts Writer	Sarah Tanguy is an independent curator and arts writer based in Washington, DC. The daughter of a US diplomat, she holds a BA in Fine Arts from Georgetown University, and a MA in Art History from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. After interning at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Tanguy worked at the National Gallery, the International Exhibitions Foundation, The Tremaine Collection, the International Sculpture Center, the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, The Hechinger Collection, and the Office of Art in Embassies, U.S. Department of State, where she curated temporary exhibitions and permanent collections for US diplomatic facilities overseas. A strong believer in hands-on collaboration and in the power of art to connect with our lived experience, she enjoys exploring the intersection of art with such topics as food, tools, books, and science. Recent projects include SUSTAIN, a temporary, outdoor and community-rooted audio-visual installation between the residents of Washington, DC, and of Katakali, Bangladesh; Past & Present, a juried show of outdoor sculpture on this historic property of Oxon Hill Manor; Reveal: The Art of Reimagining Scientific Discovery and Twist-Layer-Pour, both at the American University Art Museum; and TRACES at The Kreeger Museum. In addition to exhibition-related essays, she contributes to Sculpture and Metalsmith, among other publications.
Scott	Burton	LA Review of Books	Literary Interview	Scott Burton grew up in San Diego, and studied political science in New York and London. He has worked for public policy, literary, and arts organizations in New York, London, San Diego, and Idaho. Scott is a regular contributor to the LA Review of Books.
Susan	Neil	Field Museum of Natural History	Exhibitions Planning Director	Susan Neil directs exhibitions planning for the Field Natural History Museum in Chicago. She programs its temporary exhibition galleries, works with exhibition leadership to plan permanent exhibition projects, develops collaborative projects with institutions, and supervises the museum's outbound travelling exhibition program. Susan holds an M.A in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Wisconsin Madison. Prior to joining the Field Museum in 2014 she was a museum curator. She has curated more than a dozen exhibitions featuring textiles, historic dress and ethnographic clothing, published related articles and made research presentations at national and international symposia including the Costume Colloquium in Florence, Italy.
Adam	Greene	Independent Artist	Composer/Scholar	Adam Greene (b. 1970) is a composer and writer whose creative work references interests in literature, linguistics, and cognitive science in music that explores multiplicity, fragility, and instability, often through intensive examination of instrumental practice. He has received grants and awards from The Fromm Music Foundation at Harvard, ASCAP, NACUSA, The Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI), The American Music Center, and The American Composers Forum. His music has been played by the San Diego Symphony, SONOR, NOISE Ensemble, the Formalist Quartet, Speculum Musicae, and Ensemble Resonanz, and counts his work with several soloists as particularly critical in developing his approach to instrumental writing. He has participated in several festivals and residency programs that have featured his works, such as UCROSS, ACO EarShot, the soundON Festival of Modern Music, the International Ferienkurse für Neue Musik (Darmstadt), the Composers Conference at Wellesley, the Summer Institute for Contemporary Piano Performance (at the New England Conservatory of Music), and the Long Beach Summer Arts program. His compositions appear on recordings from Aucourant Records and Chen Li Music. Originally trained in music as a guitarist, Greene pursued early studies in Anthropology and creative writing before committing himself to composition. He holds degrees in Music and Anthropology from Connecticut College, and earned a Master's in Composition at the New England Conservatory of Music. He then studied in Italy before moving to California, where, at UC San Diego, he received the Ph.D.

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Cat Chiu	Phillips	Artist	Artist/ Public School Teacher	Cat Chiu Phillips creates installation work in public spaces often using traditional handicraft methods. By using various found materials including plastic and electronic waste, discarded items became an interest because of their contextual value. Inevitably this has inspired her to create installation and public art projects using various recycled products. Her public art commissions include numerous national and international projects, including being part of the permanent collection for the city of San Diego and the City of Redmond, Washington. Phillips has received awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities and was recently awarded the California Arts Council's Established Artist Fellowship. She has been an educator in the public schools for over 20 years, a Filipino-Chinese American, public artist, mother, and wife of a USMC veteran.
Chloë	Flores	homeLA	Executive + Artistic Director	Chloë Flores is a Latinx Yaqui Native curator, writer, arts producer, and community organizer whose work centers on body-based and performative practices and the dynamic relationship of public/private space in the production of culture. She is the Executive and Artistic Director of homeLA, a LA-based nomadic dance-centered performance organization and a Co-Founder of the Los Angeles Dance Worker Coalition. In 2011, she founded and directed GuestHaus Residency (GHR), a housing residency that supports Los Angeles nonprofits and artist-run spaces through free housing for visiting artists, writers and curators. Currently on hiatus due to the pandemic, the GHR has partnered with 40 LA-based organizations and institutions to provide over 70 residencies as well as host fundraisers, art events, film screenings, performances, and networking social functions.
Christopher	Schram	Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra	Director of Development	Christopher Schram is the Director of Development for the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra in Kalamazoo, Michigan and has served as Executive Director/Artistic Director and/or Director of Advancement/Development at a number of institutions in Michigan, Illinois, and Florida including art museums, theaters, and multi-disciplinary organizations, such as the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts (Kalamazoo, MI), Victory Gardens Theater and Court Theater (both in Chicago, IL), and the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts/youngARTS (Miami, FL). He has served on grant review panels throughout the nation, including the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (five years), Florida Council on Arts and Culture (six years), Cuyahoga Arts and Culture (Cuyahoga County/Cleveland, Ohio area), the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, the City of Miami Beach Cultural Arts Council, and the Southern Arts Federation. He is also a producer, director, choreographer, actor, dancer, singer, classical pianist, and composer/lyricist. A cum laude graduate of Washington & Lee University, Mr. Schram holds a BS in business administration and a BA in French.
Denise	Rogers	San Diego Mesa College	Art History Professor	I am a San Diego native, mother of two and Professor of Art History at San Diego Mesa College. I earned a B.A. in Visual Arts/Criticism from U.C.S.D., an M.A. in Art History from SDSU and a Ph.D. in Visual Studies with an emphasis in Feminist Studies from U.C. Irvine. As a Professor at San Diego Mesa College I teach courses from the Pre-Historic to Contemporary period, and specialize in Modern Art and Contemporary art with emphasis in the art of Women, African Americans and the Diaspora. I served as Educational Advisor and Board member of the San Diego African American Museum of Fine Art, Coordinator for the Mesa College Constance C. Carroll Humanities Institute, and currently the Chair of the Mesa College Foundation World Cultures Arts Council. I curate the Mesa College World Cultures Art collection and curate yearly exhibitions in the Campus World Cultures Glass Gallery. I was awarded a Mellon/American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship grant to produce a textbook on African Art. I have curated and co-curated exhibitions at the San Diego Public Library, Mesa College Art Gallery, collaborative exhibitions for the SDMAAFA and SDMA. I also served on the Public Art Committee for the City of San Diego. I have presented on African American art and the Diaspora at the California Community College Association yearly conference, San Diego Museum of Art, Grossmont College, and local libraries.
Denise	Pate	City of Oakland, Cultural Affairs Division	Cultural Funding Coordinator	As the Cultural Funding Coordinator, Denise Pate manages the City of Oakland's competitive, cultural arts grants process awards over \$1 million dollars to Oakland individual artists and nonprofit organizations. She has spent over 25 years working in the non-profit management community as an executive director, program manager, board member, development professional, dancer, and choreographer. She has raised funds, managed programs, and provided technical assistance for over 20 non-profit organizations in San Francisco, Alameda, Solano, Marin and Sonoma counties. She is the former Associate Director of Operations for California College of the Arts' Center for Art and Public Life (2005-2007). Her past affiliations include Young Audiences of the Bay Area, Wolfrap Institute for Early Learning through the Arts, Youth in Arts, Community Action Marin, and World Arts West. She is the former Executive Director of CitiCentre Dance Theatre, a multi-cultural arts center that was once anchored Oakland's Malonga Casquelourd Center for the Arts. She received her B.A. in Movement Education, and has an M.B.A.
Diana Y.	Chou	University of San Diego (January 2021)	Consulting Curator/Dr.	I have both M.A. and Ph.D. in art history (both Western and East Asian Art), and have established myself as a scholar and museum professional in the fields by my publications, exhibitions, and years of university teaching and curatorial records as a museum curator. Although I am formally trained in the arts of pre-20th century, I have rigorously learned and keen to contemporary trends, especially Global art field, through prestigious awards, including from the National Endowment for Humanities, National Museum of Korea, and Qatar Foundation. In addition, I have collaborated with several local institutions such as San Diego Opera and San Diego Symphony during my museum career. My dedication and passion for fine arts qualify me for a life-time advocate for arts and culture, and perhaps will expand SD's art and cultural scenes.
Doris	Bittar	Public Address, FIG, East County Magazine Board, Union-Tribune Community Advisory Board, American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee San Diego, Racial Justice Coalition San Diego	Artist, Writer, Curator, Community Organizer	Doris Bittar is an artist, writer, curator and community figure. Bittar curated about 8 exhibits in San Diego County from 2012-2016. Her writing covers a wide array of art, art and politics, Arabic calligraphy, and community concerns. Bittar's family immigrated to New York from Lebanon when she was a child. Her migration to the US is mirrored and strengthened by her understanding of the interconnectedness of culture, history, art making and community building.

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Elizabeth	Miller	UC San Diego	Lecturer, Muir College Writing Program	I have a Ph.D. in Art History, Theory, and Criticism from UC San Diego, where I currently work as a lecturer and teach a wide range of museum studies and art history topics. I have professional experience in various museum and arts non-profit settings, including at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, the Museo Reina Sofia, the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, and Creative Time, a public arts nonprofit in New York City. I've also produced and co-produced a number of arts programs and exhibitions at UCSD between 2011 and 2014.
Eun	Park	Southwestern College	Faculty	Eun Jung Park is a professor of art history at Southwestern College, where she serves on several committees including the Academic Senate and Honors Committee in addition to teaching art history survey courses in Asian Art as well as Modern and Contemporary art.
Glenn	Ayars	City of Dallas, Office of Arts and Culture	Cultural Programs Manager	Glenn Ayars is the Cultural Programs Manger for the City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture. Overseeing the Cultural Programs Division, Glenn manages various project- and operational-based funding programs for the department allocating \$6 million a year to Dallas-based artists, artist collectives, arts and culture organizations, and other non-profit organizations. Glenn's tenure in public service in the field of arts grantmaking adds to his other experience working with non-profit arts organizations, higher education, and arts instruction.
Inas	Al-soqi	Coalition on Homelessness SF and ArtSpan SF	Artist	I am a collage artist and curator based in San Francisco and New York City. Over the past fifteen years, I assisted with numerous VIP programming, coordination, and sponsorship initiatives at art fairs around New York. The seasonal art fairs consisted of The Armory Show, The Fine Art Print Fair, The Outsider Art Fair, The Other Art Fair in Brooklyn, and Frieze New York. Additionally, I have extensive experience working at art galleries in Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Lower East Side, Boston, and Martha's Vineyard as well as holding diverse positions in Venice (working at the Biennial), Amsterdam and Romania. These roles had allowed me to be creative but also equipped me with the knowledge required to conduct logistical tasks, proper archival procedures, and strategies for sales and curatorial processes.
Jasmine	Regala	City of Los Angeles, Dept. of Cultural Affairs	Arts Manager	Jasmine Regala is a Los Angeles-based arts management professional and currently serves as the Art Manager in the Public Art Division for the City of Los Angeles' Department of Cultural Affairs. Jasmine works with all 15 LA Council Districts to create public art in local communities and oversees private developer public art projects within the Arts Development Fee program, liaising between commissioned artists, Council Offices, and other City agencies. Prior to working in the government's Public Art Division, Jasmine established her career in the non-profit performing arts sector working at the historic Pantages Theatre, Center Theatre Group, LA Conservancy, and the LA Children's Chorus (LACC). Jasmine received her B.A. at the University of California, Riverside, in Art History and Communications. She is an Arts for LA Cultural Policy Fellow (2016), National Endowment for the Arts Panelist (2020), a CORO Southern California Lead LA alumnus (2020-2021), and a California for the Arts Panelist (2021).
Joël	Pointon	Consultant - Electric Vehicle Infrastructure	Principal of Sole Proprietorship Consulting Business	Master of Science in Public Health and have worked in the Environmental, Health and Safety Field my entire professional career. Originally from the East Coast, I have been a resident of San Diego for twenty-two years. I have been involved in many community organizations (Clairemont Town Council, etc.) and also volunteer actively for Senior Health Care.
Julia	Franklin	Bravo Greater Des Moines	Community Investment Specialist	Julia Franklin, a 2018 Iowa Artist Fellow, is a creator, connector, and collaborator who uses found objects to tell the stories about what we leave behind. She designs interactive art installations and community engagement projects to spark curiosity, start conversations, and bring people together. Franklin resides in West Des Moines, Iowa, and works as a Community Investment Specialist for Bravo Greater Des Moines, a regional arts and culture funder. She recently served as the Anderson Gallery Exhibitions and Community Engagement Manager at Drake University, assisted arts nonprofits with grant writing, and facilitated professional development sessions for emerging artists. Franklin also served as Professor of Art at Graceland University for 18 years, where she received awards in both Excellence in Teaching and Scholarship and founded Art Academy, a summer art camp for children in rural Iowa. Julia maintains a studio at Mainframe Studios where she works on new projects and commissions. Franklin has exhibited artworks in over 85 shows across the nation and created 8 site-specific installations in Iowa and Vermont.
Julia	Murphy	Cuyahoga Arts & Culture	Grant Programs Manager	Julia Murphy is a grant program manger at Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, the local public funder for arts and culture located in Cleveland, Ohio. In her current role she works to build relationship and provide technical assistance, guidance, and support to grant recipients and applicants. She oversees portfolio of grantee organizations and coordinates the General Operating Support program. Julia is a Cleveland native and a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the College of Wooster. Before joining CAC she worked at the Cleveland Institute of Art as Assistant Director of Continuing Education + Community Outreach, developing courses and programming for adults, young artists, and art teachers, and chairing the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Her previous experiences with community relations and public programming include working with a variety of public institutions and nonprofits including Heights Libraries and North Union Farmers Market, and internships with the Cleveland Museum of Art and Ingenuity Cleveland. In her free time Julia is an avid reader, rock climber, and vegetable gardener, and is involved with her family's organic farm in Chautauqua County, New York.

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June	Kim	The Juilliard School	Grants Manager	June Kim (she/her) works as Grants Manager at The Juilliard School. Previously, she was Development Manager at the Santa Fe Opera, where she also worked as Executive Office Assistant. Her educational background in flute performance consists of bachelor's and master's degrees at St. Olaf College and Indiana University – Bloomington, where she also earned a master's degree in arts administration. In her work and throughout her career, June strives to make the arts accessible, inclusive, and welcoming to all.
Kate	Kammeyer	Consultant	General Manager and Artistic Administrator	<p>Kate started her career working for major summer music festivals including Interlochen, National Repertory Orchestra, and the Aspen Music Festival, followed by the position of Orchestra Personnel Coordinator at the Manhattan School of Music. During Kate's ten years with The Philadelphia Orchestra, she planned and executed over thirteen tours, oversaw six recordings, and helped to lead global initiatives including the Orchestra's residencies in China and two televised concerts with Pope Francis and the World Meeting of Families. In 2016, Kate became General Manager and Artistic Administrator at the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra overseeing operations, artistic planning, personnel and LACO's education and community activities. During her time in Los Angeles, she helped create and manage several programs including The L.A. Orchestra Fellowship, the Lift Every Voice Festival, and SESSION, a collection of composer-curated evenings in unexpected locations</p> <p>Most recently, after serving as Assistant Dean of Artistic Planning at the Longy School of Music in the 2019/2020 school year, Kate was named Senior Vice President and General Manager of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. There she led artistic programming and operations during the pandemic and created a new streamed series, "Truth is of No Color", focused on historically marginalized voices in composition, and in partnership with arts and social justice organizations.</p> <p>Kate holds an A.D. from SUNY Purchase, a M.M. from the Hartt School, and a B.M. from the University of Iowa all in Oboe Performance. Kate was a member of the 2017 cohort of the Emerging Leaders Program of the League of American Orchestras and in September 2020, she completed a certificate in Change Management from Cornell University.</p>
Katlyn	Heusner	UC San Diego - Rady School of Management	Managing Director of Development	Kate is head of development for UC San Diego's Rady School of Management, a top-ranked business school in Southern California focused on innovation and impact. Previously, Kate held leadership positions at Lux Art Institute in Encinitas overseeing philanthropy and earned revenue strategies, and with Galerie Mor Charpentier in Paris, France launching the gallery's international sales portfolio in the UK and NALA markets. She has designed partnership strategies and curatorial projects stewarding grants for numerous art organizations including the City of Paris Office of Cultural Affairs, University of Oregon, MFA, Boston, MASS MoCA, Oregon Bach Festival, Coos Art Museum, the Oregon Center for Contemporary Art (formerly Disjecta), Canson Paper, and FIDM.
Laura	Aguiar Machado	City of Las Vegas, Office of Cultural Affairs	Visual Arts Specialist II	Laura Aguiar Machado is an experienced project manager and proud member of the Office of Cultural Affairs team with the City of Las Vegas, pairing her passion for arts administration with her love of Public Art. Machado's role in managing the city's Public Art Program includes overseeing and administering the Las Vegas Arts Commission, the Percent for Arts Fund, project management of both temporary and permanent works, and the maintenance and conservation of their permanent collections. Laura Aguiar Machado has been working within arts administration for over twenty years and with the City of Las Vegas since 2012. She received her bachelor's degree from Gonzaga University with a major in Fine Arts.
Ligeia	Gorre	City of LA, Department of Cultural Affairs, Public Art Division	Arts Manager II	<p>Ligeia Gorre is an Arts Manager with the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA), Public Art Division. Ligeia manages a multi-tiered arts program for DCA in partnership with Los Angeles World Airports featuring temporary exhibitions, performance, special initiatives, and new commissioned public art and conservation projects. She created the art program for the new Midfield Satellite Concourse scheduled to open early 2022 at LAX. The inaugural exhibition presented by a local curator from The Underground Museum will feature artists working in video, sound, and new media.</p> <p>Ligeia has maintained an ongoing, volunteer-based relationship with The Morningstar Foundation, a local non-profit with the mission to preserve and protect sacred Indigenous knowledge and sacred sites. Her passion for art, culture, and indigenous plant medicine teachings has led her to pursue research in sustainable systems, civic policy and social practice.</p> <p>Ligeia received a Master of Public Art Studies degree at University of Southern California, a Bachelor's degree in Psychology at University of California, Davis and is a Certified Permaculture Designer Trainee from the Permaculture Institute USA and the Permaculture Academy of Los Angeles.</p>

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MaeLin	Levine	VISUAL ASYLUM / Urban Discovery Schools	Designer / Board President	<p>MaeLin's work has been nationally recognized and was awarded the prestigious AIGA Fellow Award in 2008. Originally from Leadville, Colorado, Levine holds a BFA in Graphic Communications Design from the University of Denver and participated in the AIGA professional program at Harvard Business School.</p> <p>MaeLin most recently lead and designed the SD/TJ World Design Capital 2024 bid efforts for Design Forward Alliance.</p> <p>MaeLin served on the board of the San Diego Chapter of AIGA – the professional association of design – for sixteen years and was president for four years. In that role she was part of the team that envisioned and launched the Y Conference, now in it's 25th year, and developed the first ever international chapter of the organization.</p> <p>MaeLin is the Founder and President of the Board of Trustees of the Urban Discovery Schools (TK-12) – a highly successful K-12 charter school. This unique learning environment integrates the creative DNA of Visual Asylum into its curriculum and character development programs. Levine is also a design instructor at UCSD Extension, where she developed the new certificate program in Communications Design.</p> <p>Levine's hallmark style incorporates bold use of color and whimsical touches, and she is inspired by Alexander Girard, Charles & Ray Eames, Edith Head, folk art, toys, dolls, fabric and paper. Collaborative by nature, MaeLin appreciates working with clients who challenge the status quo and value the big picture.</p>
Marilyn	Lindberg	CEO Creative Targets, Inc. Rockers2read, SDYS, Keeshan	CEO of Creative Targets, a strategic marketing company	<p>Educational Marketer for Fortune 500 companies: Apple, IBM, Microsoft, GM, American Express, Assoc. of Publishers, Time, Inc. McGraw Hill, etc. Reading, Special Ed teacher and founder of rockers2read. Lecturer at UCSD and Queens College. Producer of the SD STOP THE SPREAD campaign. Advisor to young start up CEOs. Philanthropic entrepreneur. Worked at OSU library. Great supporter of Libraries.</p>
Martha	Gonzalez	Self Employed	Engineering Consultant	<p>After having worked as a Structural Engineer for more than 20 years, Martha is currently working on a Metalsmith diploma focusing on jewelry making. Trained as an Architect Engineer, her passion for the marriage between beauty and stability nurtured Martha's love for architecture, the arts and structural design. This cross disciplinary background is what inspired her to pursue jewelry making as a complement to the structural engineering profession. Martha's experience in the arts includes artistic director for an art and photography collaboration, the Port of San Diego Public Arts Committee (1998), Schindler House volunteer (Mak Center for art and architecture), among other arts organization participation. Martha was born and raised in Tijuana and moved to the US in 1990 to pursue a degree in Architectural Engineering at the California Polytechnic State University, SLO. Since then, she has worked in several high profile engineering firms designing institutional buildings as well as theaters and museums.</p>
Meher	McArthur	JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles	Art & Cultural Director	<p>I am trained as an Asian art curator, author and educator, specializing in Japanese art. I worked for 8 years as Curator of East Asian Art at Pacific Asia Museum in Pasadena, CA, where I curated about 20 exhibitions of Asian art. I then worked independently teaching, curating exhibitions and publishing books and articles primarily on Asian art and culture. In the past 5 years, I worked as Creative Director for the Storrier Stearns Japanese Garden in Pasadena and as Academic Curator at Scripps College. I joined JHLA as Art & Cultural Director overseeing exhibitions and cultural programming in September 2020.</p>
Michelle	Deziel Hernandez	Independent	Independent Art Consultant, Curator and Arts Advocate	<p>Michelle Deziel-Hernandez is an Independent Art Consultant and Fine Art Curator with over 25 years of professional experience working with artists, art museums, galleries and non-profit organizations in Southern California. Deziel-Hernandez previously served as curator of 20th century art at the Norton Simon Museum of Art in Pasadena, CA for more than a decade, where she curated numerous exhibitions, co-organized three city-wide art festival, co-founded Art Night Pasadena, sat on Pasadena City College's Public Art Board and served on Pasadena's Cultural Nexus Plan Board. In 2012, she curated a major retrospective of noted Los Angeles artist Ynez Johnston at the Mingei Museum, San Diego in conjunction with the Getty Museum's initiative Pacific Standard Time. Deziel-Hernandez is currently collaborating with the Los Angeles-based artist collective California Locos on a publication chronicling the history of art in L.A., managing the archives of artist Ynez Johnston, overseeing a district-wide K-12 student art program for the Orange Unified School District, works as an Orange County Arts Now Leader for Create California, and holds numerous art and culture-related volunteer positions in her community.</p>
Natasha	Ridley	Monarch Retirement Group & Artists Building Community	Registered Sales Assistant, Contemporary Dancer	<p>Natasha Ridley is a native of San Diego and attended the San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts. She is a registered assistant with Commonwealth Financial Network® and has worked in the financial services industry for 14 years servicing a client base with roughly \$250 million in assets under management. She currently holds her FINRA Series 7 and 63 securities registrations. In addition to working in the financial service industry, Natasha is also a professional Contemporary Ballet Dancer and Choreographer with 20 years of experience, and a co-founder of the Artists Building Community Project which produces an annual visual and performing arts community engagement event entitled MOSAICS. The event draws roughly 100 attendees yearly for the last 4 years. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from San Diego State University and a Master's degree in Leadership Studies from the University of San Diego. Natasha is passionate about providing access to the arts in underrepresented communities and representing women of color in dance.</p>
Oscar	Romo	Alter Terra	Executive Director	<p>In my professional career as an Architect, Researcher, College Professor and Artist I consider myself a practitioner of Natural Systems Design, my work has taken me around the world consolidating partnerships and implementing projects to preserve our global and regional natural resources</p>
Prince	Graham	Buy black san diego	Director	<p>I have been involved in the arts community in San Diego for 20 years teaching dance at ever major studio as well as sdsu and ucsc. I have been a member of sag and sdpal as well as other professional arts org. I have run programs within the sd school district as well as my own summer arts program</p>

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Rebecca	Kinslow	Self-employed	Arts & Culture Consultatn	Rebecca Kinslow has over 20 years of experience as an arts leader, specializing in event-planning, marketing, community development, grantmaking, program management and organizational development in the non-profit, higher education and government sectors. Rebecca has led the development and oversight of programs, partnerships, financial investments and cultural and racial equity strategies designed to support stronger arts & cultural organizations. She holds an Executive Certificate in Arts & Cultural Strategy and a Master of Science in Nonprofit Leadership from University of Pennsylvania. She has served on Americans for the Arts' County Arts Network and Equitable Investments Advisory Committee, the Create Justice Network Peer Learning Action Group, the Program Advisory Committee for the Arts & Business Council of Greater Nashville and the Government Alliance for Racial Equity Arts Workgroup.
Rick	Dahlseid	PBO Advisory Group	Consulting CFO	<p>As a consulting CFO at PBO Advisory Group, Rick Dahlseid is not only an asset to the firm and the clients he serves, but also to the nonprofit community. With over 20 years of experience, his personal mission is to leverage his talents and expertise to serve nonprofit organizations that help people flourish.</p> <p>A CPA with a master's in taxation, Rick is a financial expert by trade. His professional background includes serving in financial leadership roles at national companies in a variety of industries including agriculture, manufacturing, healthcare, philanthropy and the nonprofit sector. This diverse background allows him to apply solutions from a wide pool of experiences to solve many of the unique challenges nonprofits can encounter.</p> <p>Rick's passion lies in advising leadership teams and boards of directors for high-functioning nonprofits on how to achieve greater sustainability and impact. His servant leadership perspective and warm personality give him an advantage in perfecting corporate vision and ensuring organizational efficiencies.</p> <p>In his unique role at PBO Advisory, Rick is currently serving many nonprofit organizations in San Diego including: La Jolla Music Society, Regional Task Force on the Homeless, Nature and Culture International, Solutions For Change, Bayview Church, The Maritime Museum, San Diego Oasis, University of St. Katherine, and Community Resource Center.</p>
robin	brailsford	Brailsford Public ART	artist	My work, The Grand Canyons of La Jolla is up for the Grand Orchid this year, and at one point (still?) I had/ve more public artworks in SD than any other artist. I am a founding member of Public Address and my work and philosophy can be found at www.robinbrailsford.com .
Steven	Pollack	SoftMirage Art Advisors	Director, Digital Curation	Steven Pollack has 20+ years in art acquisition, gallery technology and digital solutions for worldwide clients. I have worked with corporate clients for public art placement and curatorial projects. Providing day-to-day marketing services to artist and galleries using web based technologies.
Susan	Roll	Upper Peninsula Arts & Culture Alliance	Grantwriter, Volunteer, Semi-retired person!	<p>Susan Roll graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Engineering. She worked in the electronics industry for over 20 years, primarily with Intel Corporation. Over time her career transitioned from engineering to program management to Human Resources. She has lived and worked in Ireland, China and Malaysia. She has over 20 years of management and training experience.</p> <p>Sue moved back to the Midwest in 2000 to raise her children among family. In 2003 she founded Coaching for Results and offered coach services to business teams and owners in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. In 2015 she returned to full time work - first as a business manager and then as Executive Director of the William Bonifas Arts Center Center (bonifasarts.org) in Escanaba. Sue stepped down from her E.D. position in late 2020. She supports the new Bonifas E.D. with history and advice (when asked) as well as grant research and writing. Sue began writing grants in 2013 and became a grant panelist for Michigan's Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs in 2017 and Cuyahoga Arts & Culture in 2021.</p> <p>Sue is President of the Upper Peninsula Arts and Culture Alliance after participating in its formation for the last 4 years. The Alliance is dedicated to creating an environment where arts and culture can thrive in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Her focus work in 2022 will be on an Economic Impact Study and the creation of an artists directory for the rural Upper Peninsula.</p>
Tomoko	Kuta	San Diego Botanic Garden	Senior Director, Education & Visitor Services	Tomoko Kuta has been working in San Diego's non-profit arts and culture sector since the late 1990s. During this time, she has developed expertise in arts programming, education, exhibitions, commissioning contemporary artists and most of all, turning these opportunities into highly engaging and memorable experiences for diverse audiences. In April 2021 she joined San Diego Botanic Garden (SDBG) in the newly created role of Senior Director of Education and Visitor Services. At SDBG, she oversees public and student programming, visitor engagement, and revenue growth through admissions, the membership program, and fundraising via grants, individual donors, and sponsorships. Previously with The New Children's Museum from 2011 to 2021, she contributed to that organization's tremendous growth eventually leading the museum to earn the prestigious national medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services for community impact. Tomoko has a B.S. from Cornell University and an M.A. from the University of Chicago where she studied the visual arts through the lens of society's broader culture and history. Tomoko is currently a Vice President with the California Association of Museums and has recently contributed a chapter to the soon-to-be released American Alliance for Museums book, "Museum Education for Today's Audiences." At the Garden, Tomoko infuses the arts into her work as she leads talented teams dedicated to sharing plant wisdom and healthy stewardship of our planet.

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wayne	holtan	domusstudio architecture	architect	Wayne has over 30 years experience in the planning, design and construction of complex public and private projects. With broad ranging architectural experience, he has specialized expertise in education classroom buildings, public libraries and fire stations, and multi-purpose performance spaces . His management skills lends itself to multi-discipline project teams. Wayne's success has been based on user and project team integration during the full design/construction process. He has extensive experience in facilitating the design process, technical knowledge for the document generation, problem solving during the construction phase administration, and communication skills for client interaction at all phases. Wayne volunteers his time to serve as Master Commissioner/Subject Matter Expert for the California Architects Board - Supplemental Exam Development. He also participates on the Tierrasanta Community Council, Local Planning Committee, as chair of the Community Development Committee. He has also volunteered as adhoc jurors at the New School of Architecture for student presentations and events.
Ashley	Shabankareh	Artist Corps New Orleans/Upbeat Academy Foundation/New Orleans Jazz Museum	Collaborative Action Strategist/Director of Learning & Development/Education Specialist	Ashley Shabankareh (she/her) is a musician, music educator, arts administrator, and music education and creative economy advocate. She received her M.M. and B.M.E. from Loyola University, New Orleans. Ashley is a certified K-12 music educator and spent her early years in New Orleans teaching PK4-8th grade students. She transitioned from full-time music instruction to assist in the creation of the curriculum and program guidelines for the Tulane University Music Rising Program. In addition, Ashley previously served as the Director of Programs for Preservation Hall Foundation, working with culture bearers and serving over 35,000 per year in programming in schools, detention centers, and community centers. In 2016, she was named a Top Female Achiever by New Orleans Magazine, a New Orleans Hero by the Times-Picayune, and a Woman of the Year by New Orleans City Business. In 2017, she was named a Top Millennial in Music by the Spears Group and I Heart Media. Ashley currently serves as the Collaborative Action Strategist for Artist Corps New Orleans, Education Specialist for the New Orleans Jazz Museum, and Director of Learning and Development for Upbeat Academy. She serves as the Vice President for the Jazz Education Network, Board Chair for the Music and Culture Coalition of New Orleans (MaCCNO), and Board Member for Elan Academy. Ashley performs as both a trombonist and vocalist, and has played alongside Aretha Franklin, Allen Toussaint, Jimmy Buffett, Big Sam's Funky Nation, the Preservation Hall Jazz Band, and in her own projects, Marina Orchestra and the Asylum Chorus.
Audrey	Gamez	C4 Atlanta	Education Director	Audrey Gámez brings 13 years of education experience to her role as Education Director for C4 Atlanta. She is a sought after speaker for local panels and events. Audrey has also presented nationally at the Association of Performing Arts Service Organization Conference and the Artists Thrive Conference on advocacy and professional development for artists. Audrey was a member of the 2018 Points of Light American Express Leadership Academy. At C4 Atlanta, prior to her role as Education Director, she was previously a facilitator for the Ignite class. Before coming to C4, Audrey served as Education Coordinator for MASS Collective. Audrey began working in arts administration as an intern with WonderRoot in 2014. An active volunteer, Audrey has worked with several community and arts organizations around Atlanta. In addition to her responsibilities with C4 Atlanta, Audrey continues to work as a professional singer and music educator, maintaining a private voice studio. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of North Texas and Master of Music degree from Louisiana State University.
Deonté	Griffin-Quick	New Jersey Theatre Alliance	Manager of Programs and Services	Deonté Griffin-Quick is an emerging, visionary arts leader with extensive experience in state-wide program management, non-profit theatre administration, digital communications, and theatre producing. He is committed to the advancement of professional American theatre while advocating for diversity and equity in the arts. Currently, Deonté serves as the Manager of Programs and Services at New Jersey Theatre Alliance. In an effort to connect, empower, and cultivate other arts and cultural leaders of color, in 2019 Deonté developed and spearheaded the New Jersey Arts and Culture Administrators of Color Network. He was recently honored by the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies with the Inaugural Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Individual Award. He has served as a grant panelist for Alternate ROOTS, the Mississippi Center for Cultural Production, and county arts agencies.
Eddie	Matthews	Point Loma Nazarene University	Instructional Designer and Adjunct Professor	My name is Eddie Matthews, I moved to San Diego in 2011 for college and fell in love with the city. During my undergraduate degree at Point Loma Nazarene University, I interned at the San Diego Union Tribune and learned about the artistic communities that comprised San Diego's identity, eventually writing a Sunday Arts profile of the jazz program at Francis Parker School. In 2016, while pursuing an M.A. in Education, I researched the learning barriers facing high schoolers in City Heights and outlined solutions in my thesis. To better understand the artistic process, I enrolled in a Ph.D. in Creative Writing program at Swansea University, in Wales, and wrote my dissertation novel about the economic disparities between Tijuana and San Diego. I worked as an editor and marketing officer at the Welsh independent publisher, Parthian Books, where I edited Ironopolis, a novel that was nominated for the Orwell Prize for Political Fiction. While in Swansea, I also worked for the Cultural Institute, a branch of the university devoted to enriching Welsh culture and amplifying Welsh voices both internally and abroad. I would like to do the same for San Diego. I believe that we can build a stronger artistic community by discovering new voices and commissioning projects that strengthen collaborations between San Diego and Tijuana, working to unify the artistic centers of these two cities into one San Diego-Tijuana community. This would be my priority if I were chosen as a panelist.
Eileen	Truong	Hyde Park Art Center	Director of Finance & Operations	Raised in San Diego, Eileen recently moved back from Chicago to be closer to family. She is currently the Director of Finance & Operations at Hyde Park Art Center, which works to stimulate and sustain the visual arts in Chicago through education, exhibition and residency programs. Her work includes leading and supporting a variety of areas, including finance, human resources, administration, IT and DEIA. Eileen has served as a Steering Committee member of the Emerging Leaders Network with the National Guild for Community Arts Education, and associate board member for Links Hall. She earned a MA in Humanities with a focus on Art History & Cultural Policy from the University of Chicago and a BA in Art History with a minor in Accounting from UCLA.

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Jake	Sinatra	Cuyahoga Arts & Culture	manager - special projects & communications	<p>Jake Sinatra is an arts administrator, creative, and marketing professional based in Cleveland, Ohio.</p> <p>He is the manager of special projects & communications at Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC). Serving Cleveland and Cuyahoga County, Ohio, CAC is one of the largest local public funders of arts and culture in the nation, investing more than \$207 million in more than 436 organizations since 2007. Jake joined CAC in 2012 and since 2015 has managed the public funder's communications, public relations and marketing efforts. Jake works across disciplines to lead projects in grantmaking and organization-wide.</p> <p>Jake has served since 2016 as the appointed alumni advisor of the Kappa-Phi Chapter of the Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity in Berea, Ohio. He is a founding member of the Alliance for the Great Lakes Young Professional Council Cleveland, a member of the 2016 class of Downtown Cleveland Alliance City Advocates, and has served as a board member of Young Nonprofit Professionals Network Cleveland.</p> <p>Jake graduated magna cum laude from Baldwin Wallace University's arts management degree program with a Bachelor's in management and marketing, and a minor in music. His personal creative pursuits include piano, songwriting, poetry, and mixed media art and design.</p>
Melissa	Cirone	Sacramento Office of Arts & Culture	Program Manager, Education & Community Programs	<p>As Program Manager for the Office of Arts & Culture in Sacramento, Melissa leads the City's arts education and community arts projects and initiatives. She developed the City's first Creativity Summit for high school students, as part of a nationwide youth creativity and workforce development initiative, and also runs the City's Any Given Child program, supporting equity and access to arts education for underserved youth in Sacramento County. Currently, she is piloting a citywide program, Sacramento Healthy Hearts & Minds, which pairs artists, mentors, and mental health professionals with students in 26 schools, who are struggling with Covid-19 related trauma. She also manages a citywide artist-in-residence program placing artists in community spaces. Melissa has also served as Executive Director for both literary arts and arts service organizations in the Bay Area and has extensive experience in development and communications for dance, theater, and community-based cultural organizations and individual artists.</p>
Neha	Patel	Naad Studios	Founder and Artistic Director, Naad Studios	<p>With more than 35 years of experience in performing & teaching, Neha Patel is a skilled Bharatanatyam and Kathak virtuoso who has carved a niche for herself in San Diego and abroad. She is most notably known for her stylized and fluid grace, thoughtful and sensitive rhythmic sense, expression, and complex choreographies. Neha graduated from the world-renowned Darpana Academy of Performing Arts in Ahmedabad, founded by the legendary Mrinalini Sarabhai, and has earned the title "Natya Bhushan." She is also trained in rare folk-art forms of India & theater. Neha has been able to positively impact the community of San Diego and the lives of her students through a teaching philosophy that nurtures students while also upholding high standards of dedication and learning. She excels in breaking down the intricate nuances of the art form in ways that children can understand and providing the guidance necessary to help students of all levels meet the physical and mental challenges of Indian dance. Under her guidance, children have developed the skills necessary to earn diplomas in Indian dance styles. She is the founder of "Antarnaad" in 1996 in Chicago, IL which later spurred the creation of "Naad Studios" in San Diego and Temecula. Neha and her students regularly perform in major cultural events in southern California and abroad. Neha's extensive training in the theater is apparent through her involvement with award-winning stage dramas and educational documentaries that helped educate rural tribes in Gujarat. Many of Neha's performances as both an actress and a dancer were broadcast on local & national television in India. Neha conducts lecture-demonstration & teaches at for-profit and nonprofit organizations, schools, universities, international museums, religious conferences, and various dance festivals in the USA, India & worldwide. Also, she has served as a judge in many dance competitions in the USA and abroad. Neha is currently a board member of the management committee of IFAASD (Indian Fine Arts Academy, San Diego) and served as cultural chair of FIA (Federation of India Association, San Diego) & House of India, Balboa Park. She has been an integral part of organizing cultural concerts and fundraising events for the San Diego community. She was just featured in the online magazine SD voyager - shout-out series. Neha's passion for these sacred art forms and her relentless efforts to teach has earned her profound respect in Southern California and is a valued role model in the eyes of her students globally.</p> <p>Website: www.thenaadstudios.com Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/NaadStudiossd/ Yelp : https://www.yelp.com/biz/naad-studios-san-diego</p>
Richard	Stein	Arts Orange County	President & CEO	<p>Rick has served for over 12 years as President & CEO of Arts Orange County, the countywide nonprofit arts agency which provides programs (Día del Niño, VOICES: Veterans Storytelling Project, Imagination Celebration Festival) and services for artists, arts organizations, arts education and municipalities, and also serves as a grantmaker in the arts. Most recently, his advocacy efforts resulted in the granting of more than \$2.7 million in COVID-19 relief funds for artists, arts organizations and arts-related businesses in Orange County. A member of the Board of California Arts Advocates & Californians for the Arts since 2009, he served as their President for three terms. He has been a grants reviewer/panelist for National Endowment for the Arts, Western States Arts Federation, New England Foundation for the Arts, California Arts Council, Los Angeles County Arts Commission, City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Pasadena, Riverside Arts Council, Louisville, KY Fund for the Arts, and Connecticut Commission on the Arts. His long career as a theatre producer and director includes more than 17 years as Executive Director of Laguna Playhouse in Laguna Beach, and as a founder of a theatre company in Syracuse, New York, now in its 43rd year of operation. He holds degrees in English from Columbia and Syracuse Universities, returned to Columbia on a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship, and was sent for a cultural exchange to South Korea by the International Theatre Institute-US. He is a resident of San Juan Capistrano.</p>

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Sadie	Weinberg	LITVAKdance	Artistic Director	Sadie Weinberg is the founder and Artistic Director of LITVAKdance, a non-profit dance company currently based in Encinitas, CA. In its short tenure, LITVAKdance has commissioned over 13 diverse guest artists to create dance on a small group of dancers that mirror the changing demographic of our region. Weinberg has also hosted an array of master classes through the company, both live and virtual from teaching artists across the country. Along with presenting the work of other artists, Weinberg has also created work for the company to much acclaim. LITVAKdance/Weinberg has received grants on the state and local level including the California Arts Council, California Humanities and the Cities of Encinitas and Carlsbad. Through the company, Weinberg has collaborated with the La Jolla Historical Society, LUX Art Institute, the Oceanside Museum of Art, Women's Museum of California and the Lawrence Family JCC to name a few. Prior to starting LITVAKdance, Weinberg presented her work as an independent artist and performed with the companies of John Malashock, Jean Isaacs, Nancy McCaleb and others. Weinberg has been teaching in higher education in San Diego for more than 15 years continues to hold teaching positions at UC San Diego in the Department of Theater and Dance, MiraCosta College and Canyon Crest Academy.
Dan	Faltz	Academy Museum of Motion Pictures / West Hollywood Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission	Specialist, Foundation and Government Relations / Arts and Cultural Affairs Commissioner	My passion is connecting people to art and encouraging expression. At the Academy, I've coordinated weekly screenings series, educational tours, public programs, an internship program, an international conference, and assisted with exhibitions. As an arts commissioner, I have collaborated on West Hollywood's cultural equity statement, strategic arts plan, and arts programs. I have served on the Leadership Council and Programming Committee for Emerging Arts Leaders / LA and the ACTIVATE Steering Committee for Arts for LA. I developed and proposed inclusion and outreach initiatives as part of Arts for LA's ACTIVATE leadership program, and prototyped arts initiatives as part of LA County Arts Ed Collective's Art of Leadership program. I have participated as a mentor for Spark LA, as well as a peer grant review panelist for Weho Arts and the LA County Dept of Arts and Culture. I find art inspiring, impactful and transformational, and essential to the health and vibrancy of any community.
Gloria	Arjona	Arts Council for Long Beach	Spanish Lecturer/Singer	I hold a PhD in Spanish literature, and teach Spanish language and literature at Caltech. I am also a published author, and a singer. I founded a house concerts project known as "Casa Arjona", where we hosted renown Jazz figures, such as Abraham Laboriel, Justo Almarino, and Carlitos del Puerto to name only a few.
Jose Antonio	Aguirre	Mexican Cultural Institute of Los Angeles	Executive Director	Binational muralist and multidisciplinary Visual Artist. In 1982 he earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a Master of Fine Arts degree from California Institute of the Arts in 1990. Currently resides and works in Pasadena, California. Aguirre has mounted over 15 solo exhibitions of painting, drawing in mixed media and prints in the United States and Mexico. Throughout his art career, Aguirre has also been an installation artist, a cultural journalist for Spanish publications in Los Angeles, Austin and Chicago. For over 30 years he has established a strong reputation as a cultural worker and a visual arts educator. Jose Antonio Aguirre has received national and international awards, including the Fulbright-Garcia Robles award. In 2013, Mr. Aguirre was appointed Executive Director of the Mexican Cultural Institute of Los Angeles, in 2020 he joined William James Association as board member. Aguirre continues to work actively as an artist, lecturer and educator.
Tariana	Navas-Nieves	Denver Arts & Venues (City & County of Denver)	Director, Cultural Affairs	Tariana Navas-Nieves, Director of Cultural Affairs for Denver Arts & Venues, City and County of Denver, has 30 years of experience in management, equity and race and social justice work; museum and curatorial practice; grantmaking; translation and interpretation; television, and communications. With a curatorial expertise in Latin American art, she also served as Curator of Hispanic and Native American Art at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, Curatorial Consultant for the Denver Art Museum, Curator for the Museo de las Americas, and curator for private collections. Navas-Nieves' experience spans into television, having worked for Telemundo as an arts reporter; translation and interpretation working for the Federal Court of Immigration, Children's Hospital, and others. She was born and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico.