



open dialogue 2010

PRESENTED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN CULTURES

BUILDING THE 21ST CENTURY

AUGUST 12-14, 2010 CHICAGO, IL

AGENDA FOR CULTURAL DEMOCRACY

Selected Speaker Biographies

JODY GOTTFRIED ARNHOLD / Board Chair, Ballet Hispanico

Maintaining Legacy While Moving Forward

Jody Gottfried Arnhold is a dance educator and advocate for the arts, with extensive experience in governance and program development for a wide range of dance and education institutions. Ms. Arnhold has been Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ballet Hispanico since 1996. During her tenure, the organization has doubled in size, commissioning 19 new works for the Company's diverse repertory; building a substantial scholarship program for the School of Dance; and formalizing its Education and Outreach division with an innovative array of dance education programming and activities.

SUSAN TAYLOR BATTEN / President & CEO, Association of Black Foundation Executives

Philanthropic Principles of Pluralism – Institutional Capacity and Undercapitalization

Susan Taylor Batten has more than twenty years of experience in directing, evaluating and advising both public and foundation-related efforts to improve outcomes for children, youth and families. Ms. Batten joined the Association of Black Foundation Executives (ABFE) as President and CEO in January 2009. ABFE's mission is to promote effective and responsive philanthropy in Black Communities and counts among its members some of the most influential staff, trustees and donors of grantmaking institutions in the U.S.

MICHELLE T. BOONE / Senior Program Officer of Culture, The Joyce Foundation

Equity & Access

Michelle T. Boone is the Culture Program Officer for the Joyce Foundation in Chicago, Illinois. In addition to her duties at the Joyce Foundation, Michelle is an adjunct professor at DePaul University, serves on the boards of numerous arts and cultural organizations, and has been a reviewer for the National Endowment for the Arts, the Illinois Arts Council, and the Cuyahoga Arts and Culture program (Ohio), among others.

AMINA DICKERSON / Retired senior executive of Kraft Foods; arts leader

Maintaining Legacy While Moving Forward

In her role as senior director of global community involvement for Kraft Foods, Amina J. Dickerson combined three decades of experience in cultural programming, arts management and community/youth services. After twelve years overseeing Kraft's worldwide philanthropic program strategies in health and wellness, hunger, the arts and employee engagement, she recently retired. She now utilizes this rich experience to serve as coach, strategist, facilitator and counselor to emerging leaders, the philanthropic community and non-profit organizations through her consulting practice, Dickerson Global Advisors. Dickerson is a frequent speaker on mentoring and succession, strategic partnerships and diversity in philanthropy, community arts, African American culture and women's development issues.

DAVID DOMBROSKY / Executive Director, Carnegie Mellon Art & Technology

Raising More Money To Support The Good Work That We Do

David Dombrosky is the Executive Director of the Center for Arts Management and Technology, an applied research center at Carnegie Mellon University investigating ways in which technology can improve and enhance the practice of arts management and, when appropriate, developing technology solutions that meet critical needs in the field. David writes for the Technology in the Arts blog and has presented technology workshops and panels for a number of arts convenings – most recently for the Chorus America, Opera America, College Art Association, Alabama Dance Festival, and Grantmakers in the Arts. Additionally, he teaches seminars a course on cultural policy and advocacy for Carnegie Mellon's Master of Arts Management program. Prior to joining the CAMT team, David spent eight years at the Southern Arts Federation, where he designed and managed both regional and national programs in the visual, performing, media and literary arts. David currently serves as the board president for the National Alliance for Media Arts and Culture.

MALIK GILLANI / Executive Director, Silk Road Theatre Project

Maintaining Legacy While Moving Forward

Malik Gillani is Founding Executive Director of Silk Road Theatre Project, a position to which he brings 18 years of experience in management, marketing, and business development. He conceived of and established SRTP's arts integrated education program, Myths to Drama, heralded as one of the finest elementary school arts education programs. Gillani earned a Bachelor's in Liberal Arts from St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland. He is the recipient of the IBM Business and Technology Leadership Award and was honored by Changing Worlds for Outstanding Contributions to the Arts. Recently, he received the Chicago Community Trust Fellowship Award.

BAU GRAVES / Executive Director, Old Town School of Folk Music

Collaboration To Engage Community Empowerment

Bau Graves is Executive Director of the Old Town School of Folk Music, in Chicago, Illinois. His work is focused on exploration of the personal, political, aesthetic and ethical issues embedded in the concept and practice of public culture. He is the past Director of the Jefferson Center Foundation, in Roanoke, Virginia, and co-founder of the Center for Cultural Exchange in Maine, where he facilitated the creation

of an extended series of programs, in close collaboration with community groups and artists, addressing grass roots cultural aspirations, questions of identity and social/financial power relations.

REGIN IGLORIA / Director of Artists-in-Residence, The Ragdale Foundation

Equity & Access

Regin Igloria maintains an interdisciplinary studio practice which revolves around teaching and serving as an arts administrator. He teaches studio courses at Marwen regularly and has taught for the children's program at Anderson Ranch Arts Center. Other teaching experiences include Rhode Island School of Design, Terra Museum of American Art, Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago, and various workshops throughout the Chicagoland area. Currently he serves as the Director of Artists-In-Residence at The Ragdale Foundation, an artist residency program for visual artists, writers and composers in Lake Forest, IL. He received his MFA in Painting from Rhode Island School of Design and his BFA from The School of the Arts Institute of Chicago and has exhibited his work internationally, most recently at the 2009 ANTI Festival in Kuopio, Finland. He is represented by Zg Gallery in Chicago, IL.

LESLIE ITO / Program Officer, California Community Foundation

Capacity Building: The 21st Century Cultural Organization

Leslie A. Ito, Program Officer for the Arts, oversees the California Community Foundation's arts portfolio. She brings more than 14 years of experience working in the arts to her grantmaking, nonprofit capacity building efforts and support for individual artists. Before joining the foundation in August 2008, she was director of grant programs at the Los Angeles County Arts Commission; executive director of Visual Communications, the nation's premier Asian American media arts organization where she founded a fellowship program for emerging filmmakers; and program associate in the Ford Foundation's media, arts and culture division. Ito currently serves on the board of directors for Telic Arts Exchange and The Association of American Cultures (TAAC) and Films By Youth Inside (FYI Films) and the advisory committee for the Watts House Project and the Emerging Arts Leaders/Los Angeles. Ito also served on the board of directors for Americans for the Arts for three years.

ROLAND KUSHNER / Asst. Professor of Business, Co-Author for National Arts Index, Muhlenberg College

Stand Up And Be Counted – Equity In Data Collection

Roland J. Kushner, Ph.D., is assistant professor of business at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA, where he teaches in Bethlehem, PA. He has conducted culture sector research projects for Americans for the Arts, Chorus America, Urban Institute, RAND, C. F. Martin & Company, and OPERA America, and provided management advisory services to many national and community organizations in the arts and other sectors. He wrote the instructor's manual to Arthur C. Brooks' "Social Entrepreneurship. A Modern Approach to Social Value Creation" (Pearson, 2009). Roland is also the co-author of the Americans for the Arts' National Arts Index: An Annual Measure of the Vitality of Arts and Culture in the United States.

MITCH MENCHACA / Director of Local Arts Advancement Services, Americans for the Arts

Stand Up And Be Counted – Equity In Data Collection

Mitch Menchaca is the director of local arts advancement services at Americans for the Arts, where he leads a team of professionals responsible for serving and advancing the nation's 5,000 local arts agencies the core membership and field service area of Americans for the Arts. Recently, he served as the senior director of programs at the Arizona Commission on the Arts and provided oversight for agency grantmaking, program development, and managed grants and services for festivals, tribal museums, art service organizations, and local arts agencies. Prior to working at the Arts Commission, Mitch served as the director of the Casa Grande Valley Historical Society, manager for Central Arizona College Public Events, and program associate for the Arizona Humanities Council. Mitch served on the boards of directors of the Museum Association of Arizona, the City of Casa Grande Arts and Humanities Commission, and as a past chair of the Americans for the Arts Emerging Leaders Council. Currently, he is on the board and co-chair for Open Dialogue 2010 for The Association of American Cultures (TAAC). Mitch studied theater at Central Arizona College, earned a B.L.S. with concentrations in arts, humanities, and public administration at Arizona State University, and he completed a festival and event management certificate at the University of Minnesota Tourism Center. He is a 2009 fellow and current faculty coach for the Center for Progressive Leadership, a national political training institute that develops diverse leaders who can effectively advance progressive political and policy change.

JOHN MCINERNEY / VP of Marketing & Communications, Greater Philadelphia for the Arts

Stand Up And Be Counted – Equity In Data Collection

John McInerney leads the Cultural Alliance's marketing and communications efforts and co-directs Engage 2020, a four-year, \$6 million civic engagement initiative focused on doubling cultural participation in Greater Philadelphia by 2020. At the Cultural Alliance he oversees several nationally recognized marketing projects including Funsavers, a ½ price ticketing program with over 84,000 subscribers and ticket sales in excess of \$3 million; and Phillyfunguide.com, a regional events calendar with 24 media, cultural, community, and tourism partners. McInerney has presented at numerous national and regional forums, including the Canadian Public Arts Funders conference, the National Arts Marketing Project Conference, and the American Association of Museums Conference. McInerney serves on Mayor Nutter's Philadelphia Executive Marketing Council and is Vice Chair of the board of Vox Populi, an alternative artist space based in Chinatown, Philadelphia; and serves on the advisory committee for the Arthur Ross Gallery at the University of Pennsylvania.

NICOLE ROBINSON / Director of Community Involvement, Kraft Food, Inc.

Maintaining Legacy While Moving Forward

Nicole R. Robinson leads philanthropic initiatives which provide cash contributions of \$18.3MM to fund hunger-relief, healthy lifestyles, humanitarian aid and employee involvement programs. The programs are global in scope, reaching parts of the US, Asia Pacific, Europe, Middle East, Africa and Latin America. Nicole's specific responsibilities include strategic planning, program development/management, research, and measurement and evaluation efforts across all programs. Nicole brings a unique mix of business acumen as well as non-profit sector accomplishments to philanthropy as an advocate for affordable housing, hunger, women's rights and other social justice issues.

REBECCA SANDERS / Executive Director, Chicago Cultural Alliance

Collaboration To Engage Community Empowerment

Rebecca Sanders currently serves as the Executive Director of the Chicago Cultural Alliance (Alliance), a consortium of 27 community-based ethnic museums, cultural centers, and historical societies partnered with many of Chicago's larger institutions. The only type of its organization in the United States, the Alliance works to promote social change and public understanding of cultural diversity through the first voice perspectives of Chicago's ethnic communities.

ELIZABETH SIMPSON / Performance Artist, The Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center

DIY – Cultural Arts In The 21st Century

elizaBeth Simpson has been doing performance art incorporating vocal composition, puppetry, fire spinning, street theater, and storytelling since 1994. She specializes in projects that engender collaboration with multiple participants, and especially with people who would not call themselves "Artists". Having had the opportunity to study Theater of the Oppressed on multiple occasions with Augusto Boal and Story Circles with John O'Neal (Free Southern Theater), elizaBeth uses these skills to teach creative anti-oppression workshops throughout the country in academic and community settings. She is also a co-organizer of the Berkeley/Urbana based Change of State Performance Project.

CAITLIN STROKOSCH / Executive Director, The Alliance of Artists Communities

Equity & Access

Caitlin has served the Alliance since 2002, first as event coordinator, and later in development, communications, and programming roles. She was appointed Executive Director in 2008. Prior to joining the Alliance, Caitlin managed several nonprofit professional music ensembles in Chicago, and she worked for a PR firm specializing in nonprofit arts organizations, including the National Youth Orchestra Festival and the Stradivarius Society. She has received training in nonprofit management from the Chicago Nonprofit Financial Center and as a selected participant in the Arts & Business Council's National Arts Marketing Project. Caitlin has been a guest speaker and lecturer at conferences and colleges around the country, including Columbia College Chicago, Roosevelt University, Brown University, Roger Williams University, and the Rhode Island School of Design on a range of topics – from grantwriting to contemporary music to intersections of art and architecture. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in music performance from Columbia College Chicago and a Master's in musicology from Roosevelt University, where her research focused on music as a tool for building communities of resistance and social dissent; and she was a PhD candidate in Ethnomusicology at Brown University.

EDUARDO VILARO / Artistic Director, Ballet Hispanico

Maintaining Legacy While Moving Forward

Eduardo Vilaro joined Ballet Hispanico as Artistic Director in August 2009, following a ten-year record of achievement as Founder and Artistic Director of Luna Negra Dance Theater in Chicago. Building on Tina Ramirez' founding vision for Ballet Hispanico, he brings with him a commitment to dance, to education, and to fostering a deeper understanding of the rich diversity within Latino cultures.

JERRY YOSHITOMI / Chief Knowledge Officer, MeaningMatters, LLC

Raising More Money To Support The Good Work That We Do

Jerry Yoshitomi is an independent cultural facilitator and Chief Knowledge Officer of MeaningMatters, LLC. MeaningMatters is engaged by foundations, public arts agencies, and arts organizations to research and provoke innovative new practices that have changed the landscape of arts practice in the United States, Canada, Australia,

and more recently New Zealand and the United Kingdom. Organizations and artists have successfully implemented methods from his writings and workshops to diversify attendance, deepen engagement and increase earned and contributed income.