



VIRTUAL
MD
ARTS
 SUMMIT **JUNE 3+4**
2021 ART OF THE COMMUNITY



PRESENTED BY



TABLE OF CONTENTS

BOARD & STAFF.....	2
SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE.....	3
DETAILED SCHEDULE	
SUMMIT, DAY 1.....	4
SUMMIT, DAY 2.....	12
PRESENTERS.....	16
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	17

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SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

JUNE 3

SUMMIT, DAY 1

9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

OPEN AND WELCOME!

Welcome statements & performance by Louis Campbell.

9:40 - 10:40 a.m.

SESSION 1

Exploring the Contributions of Trauma-Informed Dance Therapy, Freedom of Assembly, and Association of Survivors of Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence

10:50 - 11:50 a.m.

SESSION 2

Racial Justice: Moving from Solidarity to Accountability

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

CREATIVE KEYNOTES

Carpe Diem Arts, Maryland State Arts Council, Dance Exchange, Single Carrot Theatre, and Wide Angle Youth Media

12:40 - 1:40 p.m.

SESSION 3

Elevating Community Exchange

1:50 - 2:50 p.m.

AFFINITY GROUPS

- o County Arts Agencies/Arts & Entertainment Districts
- o Public Art
- o Folk and Traditional Arts
- o Advocacy
- o Arts Organizations
- o Independent Artists
- o Arts Service Organizations
- o Arts in Education

JUNE 4

SUMMIT, DAY 2

9:35 - 10:25 a.m.

PERFORMANCE 2, LONG CONVERSATION

Mighty Mark performs, followed by a conversation led by Quanice Floyd.

10:35 - 11:35 a.m.

SESSION 5

Crafting Policy Recommendations for a More Creative and Equitable Community: Lessons from the Baltimore Arts & Culture Transition Committee

11:45 a.m. -

SESSION 6

Access as Intimacy and Love

12:55 - 1:15 p.m.

PERFORMANCES AND CLOSING

Performances by Sombarkin' and Barrier-Free, followed by closing remarks.

SUMMIT DAY 1

THURSDAY, JUNE 3RD

Open and Welcome! 9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

- Land Acknowledgement Statement
- Secretary of Commerce remarks
- Performance by Louis Campbell
- Maryland State Arts Council, Maryland Citizens for the Arts, Maryland State Dept. of Education and Arts Education in Maryland Schools introductions
- Welcome from First Lady Hogan

Session 1: 9:40 - 10:40 a.m.

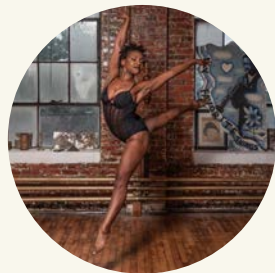
Exploring the Contributions of Trauma-Informed Dance Therapy, Freedom of Assembly, and Association of Survivors of Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence

Presented by Tyde-Courtney Edwards (Ballet After Dark)

Ballet After Dark uses ballet as a restorative tool to engage with vulnerable populations of youth and women (and those who identify as women) within the community. The program additionally exposes underserved communities to the classical discipline without a financial responsibility creating a more inclusive environment. This presentation will explore the contributions of the trauma-informed dance therapy curriculum with a screening of the virtual recital showcasing a few program participants and will follow with a discussion of our trauma-informed definition and highlights of the 9-month curriculum.

Participant goals of this Art OF The Community case study include:

- Understanding how the creation of trauma-informed art spaces allows for survivors to use their freedom of assembly and association, and
- Understanding of how scaling the Ballet After Dark dance therapy program will assist with shedding light on the lack of resources available to underserved communities of black and brown women (and those identifying as women) while simultaneously creating more resources survivors of sexual trauma may need.



Tyde-Courtney Edwards (Founding Director, Ballet After Dark)

Tyde-Courtney Edwards is the Founding Director of Ballet After Dark, a classically trained ballerina, art model and survivor of sexual assault. Born and raised in Baltimore City, she is a graduate of the Baltimore School for the Arts and has over 20 years of dance training and experience. Trained in various styles of dance including classical and contemporary ballet, pointe, modern, lyrical, jazz, tap and hip-hop, she conceptualized Ballet After Dark after struggling with recovery following her sexual assault. Tyde-Courtney has trained with Debbie Allen Dance Academy, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Peabody Conservatory, Joffrey Ballet, Alvin Ailey, and other institutions while receiving training from local dance pioneers such as Anton Wilson and Stephanie Powell. She currently resides in Baltimore City.

SUMMIT DAY 1

THURSDAY, JUNE 3RD

Session 2: 10:50 - 11:50 a.m.

Racial Justice: Moving from Solidarity to Accountability **Facilitation by Pam Breaux (National Assembly of State Arts Agencies)**

Our country continues to experience the devastating impacts of longstanding interpersonal, structural and systemic racism as we bear witness to anti-Asian hate crimes, the killing of unarmed Black people by police, and more. Individually, organizationally and collectively we stand in solidarity with the victims and decry racism. When does solidarity give way to action and accountability? This session will illuminate strategies you can use to move from standing in solidarity to racial justice action and accountability.



Pam Breaux **(President & CEO, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies)**

Pam joined the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) in 2015. As president and CEO, she works with the association's board of directors and staff to advance NASAA's policy and programmatic mission to strengthen America's state and jurisdictional arts agencies. A native of Lafayette, Louisiana, Pam has held leadership positions at the local, state and national levels. While in Louisiana state government, she was secretary of the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism (CRT), assistant secretary of CRT (overseeing its cultural development portfolio), and executive director of its state arts agency (the Louisiana Division of the Arts). Before working in state government, Pam was executive director of the Arts and Humanities Council of Southwest Louisiana and managed southwest Louisiana's Decentralized Arts Funding Program. She graduated from McNeese State University with a B.A. in English and earned an M.A. in English and folklore from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Creative Keynote: 12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Choose a 30-minute burst of inspiration while creating and reflecting on art in real time.

- **Busy Graham & Denise Jones, Carpe Diem Arts:** Multidisciplinary art, Music focus
- **Dana Parsons, Maryland State Arts Council:** Aesthetic Perspectives & Arts Administration/Programming
- **Silvia Roberts, Dance Exchange:** Dance
- **Emily Cory, Single Carrot Theatre:** Theatre Arts and Literary Arts
- **Destiny Brown, Wide Angle Youth Media:** Visual/Media Arts



Carpe Diem Arts

Carpe Diem Arts is dedicated to serving diverse audiences with quality arts experiences, representing a broad range of cultural traditions and artistic disciplines. Activities include after-school programs, summer arts and language immersion camps, community dances, concert series, monthly family sings, cultural enrichment programs and residencies in schools, ukulele classes, and performance opportunities for all ages -- in both the greater Washington DC area and Maryland's Eastern Shore. They partner with other area non-profits to expand their reach and deepen their impact, bringing the arts to life in ways that matter and make a difference in building stronger living-learning communities.

SUMMIT DAY 1

THURSDAY, JUNE 3RD

Creative Keynote: 12:00 - 12:30 p.m. (continued)



Amanda Newman (Dance Exchange)

Amanda Newman (she/her/hers) is a dancer, social worker, community organizer, and cross-field collaborator. As Communications Manager at Dance Exchange, she believes deeply in the power of stories, images, and collaboration to deepen our understanding of ourselves, our world, and all that we are co-creating in it. Originally from Utah, Amanda earned her BFA in Modern Dance at the University of Utah, but did her most important learning about dance and community while moving and making in museums, summer camps, living rooms, and parking lots. Amanda first came to Dance Exchange in the 2014-15 season as a resident artist, youth programs facilitator, and communications coordinator. In that season, she was project manager, key facilitator, and performer in *New Hampshire Avenue: This is a Place To...*



Emily Cory (Executive Director, Single Carrot Theatre)

Emily is thrilled to work with Single Carrot Theatre as their Executive Director! For the last five years, she has worked with the Maryland State Department of Education's Office of Fine Arts in the role of Project Manager. There she helped create and execute programs, professional development, resources, and events that furthered MSDE's and her own mission for elevated, equitable, and accessible arts education. While with MSDE, Emily has worked as a theatre teaching artist and theatre director for multiple Maryland schools and theatre companies, continuing to foster her passion for the theatre and its transformative powers. Prior to moving to Baltimore in 2015, Emily worked with Anne Arundel County Public School's PVA program as a project manager, teaching artist, and study abroad coordinator.



Destiny Brown (Wide Angle Youth Media)

Through media arts education, Wide Angle Youth Media cultivates and amplifies the voices of Baltimore youth to engage audiences across generational, cultural, and social divides. Our programs inspire creativity and instill confidence in young people, empowering them with skills to navigate school, career, and life. Since 2000, Wide Angle Youth Media has worked with over 6,180 youth from across Baltimore City who have produced hundreds of digital media projects about their lives and communities.



Dana Parsons (Grants & Professional Development Director, Maryland State Arts Council)

Dana is a highly experienced performer, director, and arts educator – and the current Director of Grants and Professional Development at the Maryland State Arts Council. Her career in the arts began as a member of the Resident Acting Company for Clear Space Theatre in 2004. For the past 13 years, she has taught and/or established performing arts classes and programs to students and adults of all ages and levels, specializing in honesty, connectivity, and excellence of craft. She has performed in and/or directed over 100 performance pieces (theatre, vocal, movement) on the east coast as well as abroad, including Puerto Rico, Italy, and England. Dana also teaches professional development as a Roster Teaching Artist for the Maryland State Department of Education's Fine Arts Office.

SUMMIT DAY 1

THURSDAY, JUNE 3RD

Session 3 (grab your lunch!): 12:40 - 1:40 p.m.

Elevating Community Exchange

Facilitation by Barb Seese (Dorchester Center for the Arts), Adrian Holmes (Alpha Genesis), and Michael Rosato (artist)

"Take My Hand", the internationally recognized Harriet Tubman mural in Cambridge, Maryland, serves as a premier example of the power of public art to transform communities. Equally important are the conversations, the dialogue, that inspired the design and yielded a collective voice. Join the team behind this iconic image as they discuss their process and insights from the first public forum to the final ribbon-cutting.

Learn the spectrum of community engagement and take away techniques for incorporating critical exchange into any project. How can the community be directly involved in decisions that impact them? What voices are needed to reflect the community fully and legitimately? Be inspired to elevate your projects to the next level – projects not just for the people, but of the people.



Michael Rosato (Artist)

Michael Rosato is an artist who specializes in designing and painting large-scale murals for public and private spaces. Museums, corporations and individuals have commissioned Mr. Rosato to create artworks for display in museum exhibits, corporate headquarters, retail spaces, restaurants, sports arenas, outdoor venues and private residences. His recent mural of abolitionist and conductor on the Underground Railroad, Harriet Tubman, has received international acclaim. Mr. Rosato describes his style as representational realism and he enjoys telling vivid and often emotional stories through his work. His murals can be seen in venues across the country, including the Oklahoma City National Memorial in Oklahoma City, OK, Texas Motor Speedway, in Fort Worth, TX, the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC, the Headquarters of Bacardi in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Globe Life Park, home to the Texas Rangers, in Arlington, TX, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Museum in Cape Charles, VA, the Chesapeake Country Mural Trail in Dorchester County, MD and the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, VA. Mr. Rosato's studio is located in Cambridge, Maryland.



Barb Seese (Dorchester Center for the Arts)

Barb Seese is the Executive Director of the Dorchester Center for the Arts (DCA) in Cambridge, MD, also the county arts council for Dorchester. She has an impassioned commitment to creative collaboration from the grassroots level up. Organizing benefit concerts for disaster relief, founding youth theatre programs, and providing support services to challenged populations are areas where she has mobilized resources both human and financial to meet immediate and emerging community needs. Ms. Seese has designed creative placemaking projects in partnership with civic, nonprofit, and for-profit groups to strengthen the Cambridge A & E District and promote the role of the arts in downtown development and tourism. Her core belief is that art is not an option, and that involvement in the arts is as necessary as air for living a whole, authentic, and vibrant life. She commissioned the Harriet Tubman mural by Michael Rosato in partnership with Alpha Genesis Community Development Corporation and the Harriet Tubman Museum in Cambridge, MD.



Adrian Holmes (Founder & Program Director, Alpha Genesis)

Adrian Holmes is the founder and program director of Alpha Genesis Community Development Corporation (AGCDC), a nonprofit organization in Cambridge, MD which strengthens and enriches neighborhoods by utilizing a community's unique history to inspire conversation, embrace and celebrate diversity; leading to sustainable economic development. AGCDC provides programs that help connect the community through the shared experiences of art and culture, working from within the community to build unity where there has been a long history of division. Ms. Holmes and her Alpha Genesis team facilitated the public art forum which inspired the concept and creation of the Harriet Tubman mural. The mural reflects the power of our collective voice, our unity and creativity which are essential to building a thriving community.

SUMMIT DAY 1

THURSDAY, JUNE 3RD

Session 4: 1:50 - 2:50 p.m.

Affinity Groups

Join state and community leaders to take a deep dive and connect the dots on how the Summit sessions align with your specific work within the sector. Options for affinity groups include:

- **County Arts Agencies/Arts & Entertainment Districts**

Facilitators: Jamie Heater (Executive Director, Salisbury Arts & Entertainment District), Suzan Jenkins (Executive Director, Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County), Steven Skerritt-Davis (Deputy Director, Maryland State Arts Council), Abdul Ali (Program Director, Maryland State Arts Council)



Jamie Heater (Executive Director, Salisbury Arts & Entertainment District)

Jamie Heater has been the Executive Director of Salisbury Arts & Entertainment District Inc since 2016. Originally from the Downtown Annapolis area, Ms. Heater moved to Salisbury in 2001 to attend college, receiving both her undergraduate and masters degrees from Salisbury University. Heater served as the Head Coordinator for Downtown Salisbury's 3rd Fridays and the New Year's Eve Ball Drop on a volunteer basis for many years, while working full-time as an advertising Account Executive at 47-ABC, a local ABC Television affiliate, before accepting a full-time position as Executive Director with Salisbury Arts & Entertainment District. Now working in full time capacity, Heater has helped Salisbury Arts & Entertainment District expand its calendar of events and the scope of its public art initiatives.



Suzan E. Jenkins (Executive Director, Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County)

Suzan E. Jenkins has been a visionary leader in the non-profit arts and culture sector for over twenty years, serving in executive positions at the Rhythm and Blues Foundation, the Smithsonian Institution and the Recording Industry Association of America. Jenkins is a strategic thinker and team builder who develops innovative projects that respond to and cultivate communities. It is in that light that Jenkins co-founded the Nonprofit Energy Alliance. Since its inception in May 2010, the Non-Profit Energy Alliance has collectively saved nonprofits over a half-million dollars compared to standard offer energy service, while supporting clean sources of energy that are essential to protecting our environment and building a new economy.

- **Public Art**

Facilitators: Liesel Fenner (Program Director - Public Art, Maryland State Arts Council), Tonya Jordan (Public Art Consultant and former Director of Public Art, DC.), Ryan Patterson (Public Art Program Manager, Maryland State Arts Council)



Tonya Jordan (Public Art Consultant & former Director of Public Art, D.C.)

Tonya is a Native Washingtonian with over 30 years of multi-disciplinary arts management experience. Her passion for the arts began in the theater as a stage actor and voiceover talent that segued into the visual arts as an administrator and curator. Her career includes work at the Rhythm and Blues Foundation, The Smithsonian Institution's America's Jazz Heritage program @SITES, The Prince George's County Gateway Arts District, The Prince George's County African American Museum and the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities as public art manager, where she led the groundbreaking 5x5 temporary public art program. She is a content and grants consultant for Red Clay Toes Film productions based in NY and DC and is currently a public art and 16 S. Summit gallery consultant for the City of Gaithersburg, Maryland.

SUMMIT DAY 1

THURSDAY, JUNE 3RD

Session 4: 1:50 - 2:50 p.m.

Affinity Groups (continued)

- **Folk and Traditional Arts**

Facilitators: Chad Buterbaugh (State Folklorist, Maryland State Arts Council), Ryan Koons (Folklife Specialist, Maryland State Arts Council), Rico Newman (Former Elected Speaker, Choptico Band of Indians; retired from Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian)



Rico Newman (Former Elected Speaker, Choptico Band of Indians; retired from Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian)

In 2003, Rico came out of retirement to work with Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian as Consultant, in 2004 hired as a Cultural Information Specialist until 2009 to again retire. As a Tribal Historian/Teacher, he has spent many years participating in Civic, University and Tribal forums, developing a history/academic curriculum for tutoring tribal youth and adults. Meeting and engaging with students on all levels is a passion he ardently pursues.

Currently, he serves on Prince George's County Minority Judicial Committee, Accokeek Foundation Board of Directors and Chairs Maryland Indian Tourism Association; nonprofit arm of the Choptico Band of Indians. Recently served six years on Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs Education, Archaeology, Environment and Repatriation Committees.

A traditional Beader and Finger Weaver, his work is displayed in Frisco Native Museum, N.C., National Museum of American Indians, D.C., and Baltimore American Indian Center. As spokesman for his tribe, aided in regaining Maryland Indian Status, January 9, 2012 via Executive Order under State Law.

- **Advocacy**

Facilitators: Nicholas Cohen (Executive Director, Maryland Citizens for the Arts), Quanice Floyd (Executive Director, Arts Education in Maryland Schools), Denise Saunders Thompson (President & CEO, The International Association of Blacks in Dance, Inc.)



**Denise Saunders Thompson
(President & CEO, The International Association of Blacks in Dance)**

Denise Saunders Thompson's nonprofit/for-profit management and philanthropic career spans over 25 years of senior executive and program director experience. She has advised organizations on administrative, programmatic and fundraising issues including strategic plans, policy and procedures, communications programs, budgeting and contracts. And she has pioneered top-ranked courses on the collegiate level (graduate and undergraduate) in artistic development, entrepreneurship, fundraising, grant writing, leadership, management, and production. Currently, Denise is the President/CEO of The International Association of Blacks in Dance, a non-profit dance service organization. Denise served as a Professorial Lecturer for the Graduate Arts Management Degree Program at American University. In 2015, she concluded 17 years of service at Howard University in the capacities of Professor and Theatre Manager/Producing Artistic Director. Denise currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Performing Arts Alliance, Friends of Theatre and Dance at Howard University and is a member of Actors Equity Association (AEA) and Women of Color in the Arts (WOCA).

SUMMIT DAY 1

THURSDAY, JUNE 3RD

Session 4: 1:50 - 2:50 p.m.

Affinity Groups (continued)

- **Arts Organizations**

Facilitators: Navasha Daya (Executive Director, Youth Resiliency Institute), Peter Dayton (Programs & Operations Manager, Arts Education in Maryland Schools), Brooke Kidd (Executive Director, Joe's Movement Emporium), Ken Skrzysz (Executive Director, Maryland State Arts Council), Emily Sollenberger (Program Director - Arts Services, Maryland State Arts Council)



Navasha Daya (Executive Director, Youth Resiliency Institute)

Navasha Daya performs, speaks, and consults nationally and internationally utilizing art and culture as a tool for violence prevention, conflict resolution, self-care and healing from trauma. Ms. Daya is knowledgeable and trained in a variety of spiritual paths and is a transformation agent who uses her spiritual and artistic training to assist in the daily re-birth process of those she serves. Dedicated to the healing of the community, Ms. Daya is also Co-Founder and Director of the Healing and Performing Arts of the Youth Resiliency Institute, providing an array of programming, trainings, and services to assist others in healing from trauma. She uses her art to serve families in public housing in Baltimore and in East Cleveland, OH. Ms. Daya is a board member of the Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance, a steering committee member of the Baltimore Arts Education Coalition, a member of the international working group Feminist Alliance for Rights, and a member of The Recording Academy.



Brooke Kidd (Executive Director, Joe's Movement Emporium)

Brooke Kidd is Executive Director and Co-founder of the nonprofit organization World Arts Focus that operates two multidisciplinary venues in Prince George's County: Joe's Movement Emporium in Mount Rainier and the new Creative Suitland Arts Center in Suitland. As a cultural leader, she was a member of the founding team for the Gateway Arts District, served on the Mount Rainier City Council, supported large-scale creative placemaking projects, and consulted with communities on building arts programs. Brooke has also choreographed, directed and performed with regional dance companies and specializes in site-specific public spectacles. Accomplishments include an M.A. in dance education from American University (1998), Maryland State Arts Advocate of the Year (2015), Prince George's County Chamber of Commerce Business Leader of the Year (2015), and other awards. Originally from rural America, she has explored dance as human history, finding that movement is one of the most transformative tools for education, personal development and social equity.

- **Independent Artists**

Facilitators: Kayla Morgan (Events and Communications Coordinator, Maryland State Department of Education), Candice Mowbray (Independent Artist & Classical guitarist), Laura Weiss (Program Director - Arts Services, Maryland State Arts Council)



Candice Mowbray (Independent Artist & Classical Guitarist)

Appearing as a soloist, chamber musician and guest lecturer, guitarist Candice Mowbray has been a featured artist for festivals and concert series in Philadelphia, Toronto, Washington DC, Baltimore and Los Angeles. She is a recipient of the Maryland State Art Council's 2020 Independent Artist Award and has performed with ensembles such as Washington National Opera at the Kennedy Center, Maryland Symphony Orchestra, Wolf Trap Opera, Satori and Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra of Greater Washington. Her CD, Reverie, has been featured on radio shows such as In Tune (BBC Radio 3) and G-Strings with Tom Cole (Washington DC), and Blair Jackson of Classical Guitar Magazine called the release "A revelation!" and one of the Top 10 CD picks of the year. She earned the Doctorate of Musical Arts in Classical Guitar Performance from Shenandoah Conservatory in Virginia and is active as a teacher, performer, interdisciplinary collaborator and music researcher, especially in the area of women in guitar history.

SUMMIT DAY 1

THURSDAY, JUNE 3RD

Session 4: 1:50 - 2:50 p.m.

Affinity Groups (continued)

- **Arts Service Organizations**

Facilitators: Lillian Jacobson (Maryland State Department of Education), Dana Parsons (Grants and Professional Development Director, Maryland State Arts Council), Maggie Villegas (Executive Director, Baltimore Creatives Acceleration Network)



Maggie Villegas (Executive Director, Baltimore Creatives Acceleration Network)

Maggie Villegas is a Baltimore-based creative producer and launched the Baltimore Creatives Acceleration Network in Fall of 2017. Prior to her role at BCAN, Maggie spearheaded community-driven arts initiatives throughout the City of Baltimore on behalf of the Baltimore Office of Promotion and The Arts, including the creation of signature programs such as the Art @ Work mural artist apprenticeship program in partnership with Jubilee Arts, the Neighborhood Lights public artist residency of Light City, and the Lots Alive vacant lot activation program developed in collaboration with the Office of Sustainability. She led the revival of the Baltimore Mural Program as well as the investment of over \$300,000 in public art projects. Her 2015 retrospective on the 40 year history of the Baltimore Mural Program, Beautiful Walls for Baltimore, was named 'Best History Lesson' by the Baltimore City Paper in 2016.

When she's not working toward the economic empowerment of Baltimore's creatives at BCAN, Maggie mentors emerging Latina entrepreneurs with Empowered Women International and serves as a trustee of the Baltimore chapter of the Awesome Foundation and Live Baltimore.

- **Arts in Education**

Facilitators: Precious Blake (Program Director - Arts in Education, Maryland State Arts Council), Catherine Frost (Arts in Education Management Associate, Maryland State Arts Council), Anita Lambert (Creative Arts Programs Office's Coordinating Supervisor, Prince George's County Public Schools), Alysia Lee (Coordinator of Fine Arts, Maryland State Department of Education)



Anita Lambert (Creative Arts Programs Office's Coordinating Supervisor, Prince George's County Public Schools)

Anita Lambert has been teaching and involved in music and education since her earliest memories. She began taking piano lessons at the age of four, and teaching students while playing for Vacation Bible School at age ten. An epiphany occurred when watching "The Sound of Music" when first released, declaring "I'm going to TEACH someone to sing like THAT!"

Her love for teaching everyone, regardless of other abilities, led her to major in Music Education and Music Therapy at East Carolina University. Her early career was spent in Fairfax County Public schools with Emotionally Disabled students. Her work created the first program of its kind where all students were mainstreamed in music classes. Currently Anita serves Prince George's County Public Schools as the Coordinating Supervisor for Creative Arts Programs. She is the supervisor for all of the fine and performing arts and collaborates to build arts education and arts integration programs. Anita is privileged to be a member of the Board for AEMS and with the outstanding arts organizations in Maryland.

SUMMIT DAY 2

FRIDAY, JUNE 4TH

Performance 2, Long Conversation: 9:30 - 10:25 a.m.

Start the morning with a performance by Mighty Mark, followed by an inspiring perspective on community exchange through the creative process as AEMS Executive Director, Quanice Floyd, jumpstarts a quick-moving conversation with an extraordinary guest lineup!



Carla Du Pree (Executive Director, CityLit Project)

Carla Du Pree is a fiction writer, literary consultant, state arts ambassador, and speaker, whose short stories and excerpts from her work-in-progress, *Where the Spirit Meets the Bone*, have appeared in *Callaloo*, *Potomac Review*, a Special Fiction and Poetry edition of *City Paper - Baltimore*, and anthologies *The Spirit of Pregnancy* and *Street Lights: Illuminating Tales of the Urban Black Experience*.

Ms. Du Pree is the Executive Director of CityLit Project, a small literary nonprofit that nurtures readers and writers throughout the region. She was appointed to the Maryland State Arts Council, served as the Vice Chair, and the Chair of the Diversity Outreach Committee, and completes a six-year stint as a counselor in 2017. She's currently on the One Maryland One Book Selection Committee (a second time), and has served as a county and state judge for the flourishing Poetry Out Loud, NEA's national poetry competition. She produced *Raising Our Voices: Womyn Out Loud*, a reading devoted to diverse voices. Ms. Du Pree's speaking engagements include tributes to Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison - all with the Furious Flower Poetry Center, The Baltimore Choral Arts Society, in a tribute to Lucille Clifton, and the Baltimore debut of *Listen to Your Mother* speaker series. Ms. Du Pree has spoken before the National Association of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) about the benefits and necessity of diversity and inclusivity, and worked as a parent liaison for the Howard County public middle schools. She was an adjunct professor and independent thesis advisor at The Johns Hopkins University part-time graduate writing seminars in Fiction.



Alanah Nichole Davis (Godmother, Baltimore)

Alanah Nichole Davis is a mother, essayist, cultural worker, social designer, and philanthropist from The Bronx, NY based in Baltimore, MD. Davis earned her Master of Arts in Social Design at Maryland Institute College of Art and is affectionately referred to as Baltimore's Godmother for her ability to foster, support, love, and build everything she touches. Her written witticisms surrounding love, race, womanhood, and being a human have gone viral online in perfect millennial fashion and are also in print to match her old soul.



Anne L'Ecuyer (Executive Director, Arts on the Block)

Anne L'Ecuyer is the Executive Director of Arts on the Block, a nonprofit public art studio in downtown Silver Spring. Anne is a strategist, facilitator and executive consultant who stays closely connected to an international network of city leaders, cultural professionals, and individual artists. She is an expert in the creative industries and cultural tourism in the United States, as well as the contributions of the arts toward educational, social, and environmental goals. Previously, she taught at American University in the Arts Management Program and served as Associate Vice President for Field Services at Americans for the Arts. Throughout her career, Anne has consulted with hundreds of arts leaders to provide strategy and support for their efforts.

SUMMIT DAY 2

FRIDAY, JUNE 4TH

Long Conversation: 9:30 - 10:25 a.m. (continued)



Brion Gill (Executive Director, Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts & Entertainment District)

Lady Brion is an international spoken word artist, poetry coach, activist, organizer, educator and the executive director of the Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District. She received her B.A. in Applied Communication from Howard University and her MFA in Creative Writing & Publishing Design from the University of Baltimore. During her slam career she has won the 2016 National Poetry Slam, the 2017/2019 Southern Fried Regional Slam, and the 2019 Rustbelt Regional Slam. She was most recently also ranked 3rd in the Women of the World Poetry Slam in March 2020. In 2018, she published a book and accompanying album called *With My Head Unbowed*. Lady Brion also serves on the board for DewMore Baltimore and as the Cultural Curator for a grassroots political think-tank called Leaders of a Beautiful Struggle in Baltimore.



Barbara Johnson (Founder and Executive Director, Art Works Now)

An artist and educator for over thirty years, Ms. Johnson founded Art Works Now with a vision of increasing accessibility to visual arts education across economic and ability spectrums. She is a passionate advocate for social justice who sees access to visual art education as an important civil rights issue facing Americans today. A working artist whose paintings have been exhibited internationally, Barbara has taught at colleges around the country, most notably The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, DePaul University, and The University of Texas. In addition to her work as an educator, Ms. Johnson brings several years experience in management, marketing, and merchandising in the art supply retail industry.

Ms. Johnson holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from The University of Wyoming and an undergraduate Art degree from The University of Maryland. She is a candidate for the Master's Art Education degree from Kutztown University of Pennsylvania. In 2013 Ms. Johnson received the Outstanding Scholar Award from Kutztown University of Pennsylvania for her work advancing art education nationally through her publication efforts and national speaking engagements.



Monique Walker (Executive Director, Charles County Arts Alliance)

Originally from Chester, Pennsylvania, Monique has traveled the world as a performer, educator, and choreographer. She specializes in neo-traditional and contemporary African dance; and has studied from many dance masters and institutions including Chuck Davis, Walter Nicks, Philadanco!, The School at Jacob's Pillow, and Dr. Kariamuwelsh. Based in southern-Maryland, Monique holds a Bachelor of Arts in Arts Administration, is the Administrative Director for the Charles County Arts Alliance, a 2018-2019 NextLOOK Residency Artist, and a certified Master Teacher of the Umfundalai contemporary African dance technique.

Her choreography has been presented at the North Carolina Dance Festival, Philadelphia Fringe Festival, Dance Place (DC), and the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center (MD). As a wife and mother of two, Monique continues her mission of using dance, music, and theater as a vehicle for the preservation, promotion, and innovation of African Diasporan dance through her work as the Executive Director for the National Association of American African Dance Teachers and a choreographer with her project-based performance company, MoDance Works.



Mary Callis (Executive Director, Garrett Lakes Arts Festival)

Mary Mateer Callis, Executive Director of Garrett Lakes Arts Festival and Performing Arts Center at Garrett College. Life long resident of Garrett County, Maryland and graduate of Garrett College, attended West Virginia University and University of Maryland with a concentration in Human Resource Management. Mary has a strong background in commercial insurance, banking, human resource recruiting and performing arts. Some of her passions include history, biking and hiking throughout Maryland, West Virginia and Virginia.

SUMMIT DAY 2

FRIDAY, JUNE 4TH

Session 5: 10:35 - 11:35 a.m.

Crafting Policy Recommendations for a More Creative and Equitable Community:

Lessons from the Baltimore Arts & Culture Transition Committee

Panel discussion led by members of the City of Baltimore's Arts and Culture Transition Committee: Jess Solomon (Art in Praxis), Adam Holofcener (Maryland Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts), Krista Green (The Peale Center for Baltimore History and Architecture), Maggie Villegas (Baltimore Creative Accelerator Network) and Dr. Joanne Martin (The Great Blacks in Wax Museum)

When Baltimore City Mayor Brandon Scott took office in late 2020, Arts & Culture was one of ten priorities during his transition. His administration formed the Baltimore Arts & Culture Transition Committee - a diverse group of 30 Cultural Leaders, Artists, and Arts-Advocates - tasked with developing actionable recommendations for the City's arts and culture sector that prioritized public safety, equity, building public trust, young people, responsible stewardship of City dollars, and the COVID-19 recovery.

Over four weeks, the Transition Committee used an asset-based approach to deliberate and decide on the most important issues facing the arts and culture sector in Baltimore. The arts and culture recommendations for the Mayor's first 100 days, year, and term were shaped by the broad and deep experience of the Committee, stakeholder interviews, digital surveys, and a city-wide text/voicemail campaign that was replicated by other transition committees.

The Arts & Culture Transition Committee has since completed their formal work, but the process set the foundation and trajectory for more connection, alignment, and city-wide impact across institutions. Members of the Arts & Culture Transition Committee and community stakeholders are now using the recommendations as a tool for advocacy, accountability, and collaboration.

Learn how Baltimore's Arts & Culture Transition Committee developed a series of actionable recommendations rooted in a collective vision where arts and culture are fully and responsibly embedded in public life. Learn strategies for co-developing and championing equitable cultural policies for your community.



Jess Solomon (Art in Praxis)

Jess Solomon is an organization development practitioner and cultural steward who has built a practice creating conditions for transformative impact in cultural, philanthropic and social justice spaces. Through her firm Art in Praxis, she specializes in embedding creativity and equity into the work of planned change. Art in Praxis' client roster includes national and place-based cultural institutions, social justice networks, and foundations. Previously, as Vice President of the Robert W. Deutsch Foundation, Jess sharpened the institution's place-based arts and culture grantmaking strategy, led organizational change initiatives, and deepened institutional knowledge to drive more equitable impact.

Most recently, Jess co-produced cultural policy recommendations for the City of Baltimore as Co-Chair of the Mayor's Arts and Culture Transition Committee. Jess is an emerging collector with a focus on Black contemporary art by women and gender-nonconforming artists. She hopes to learn how to play her harmonica soon.

SUMMIT DAY 2

FRIDAY, JUNE 4TH

Session 6: 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Access as Intimacy and Love

Facilitated by Robin Marquis & Denise Shanté Brown

Access Intimacy (a term originally coined by Mia Mingus) is the multitude of practices that create spaces, relationships, and communities where people's whole bodies and minds can show up and be nurtured just as they are. It is a practice of moving past approaching disability as something to accommodate with a list of rules and regulations and moving towards accessibility as a place where revolutionary dreaming and a genuine commitment to caring for all people and all bodies flourish. Join Denise Shanté Brown and Robin Marquis in an intimate conversation as they share what practicing access can look like for disabled people when approached with care, solidarity, and wonder. They will discuss their lived experiences as disabled creatives and the loving, intimate processes they use and seek out when thinking about how disabled people's needs can be asked and tended to for us all to truly experience an accessible future.



Robin Marquis

Robin Lynne Marquis (they/them) has over a decade of experience leading initiatives, programming, and community collaborations with cultural institutions of all sizes and people of all ages. As a disabled artist, Marquis is part of a national network of thought-leaders shaping the conversation about accessibility in the arts while contributing to local efforts that combine creativity, education, and activism to achieve social change. They currently serve as the Community Outreach Coordinator for Access Smithsonian, and as the Accessibility Manager for The Peale. As a Baltimore-based accessibility consultant, Robin provides education and support to arts and cultural organizations committed to making spaces accessible for and inclusive of people with disabilities. They hold an MFA in Community Arts from the Maryland Institute College of Art.



Denise Shanté Brown

Denise Shanté Brown is a sober queer disabled entrepreneur, holistic design strategist, writer and creative healer. Her life's work brings forth abundant possibilities for wellbeing through collaborative creativity and community-led practices. As the founder of Black Womxn Flourish and Liberatory Libations, she's dedicated to actualizing liberating and vibrant futures through design. Denise Shanté believes that creative, healing-centric experiences can shape possibilities and embolden communities to develop the tools and strategies we need for collective wellbeing. She holds a Masters in Social Design from MICA, embodied frameworks discovered during Feminist Business School, and recognition through leadership awards and fellowships celebrating her meaningful contributions toward health justice and liberatory praxis. Her practice is grounded in design justice and healing justice principles, emergent strategy, nature, the feminine economy and Black feminist theory.

Closing Celebration: 12:55 - 1:15 p.m.

- Performances by Sombarkin, and Barrier-Free, connecting this year's theme, Art OF the Community, to Maryland performing artists.
- Closing remarks and action forward

PERFORMERS



Louis Campbell

Louis Campbell was born in Baltimore, Maryland, but the majority of his family resides throughout North Carolina. He is currently living in Baltimore with his wife and two children. He is proud to be part of the Lumbee and Blackfoot tribes and is a Northern Traditional dancer. He has been dancing at Pow-Wows and shows for the past ten years, but has been following his culture since he was born. His goal is to spread as much truth and knowledge about Native American Culture as he can, and to keep his traditions alive through his children.



Marquis Gasque AKA Mighty Mark

Born and bred in Baltimore City, Cherry Hill-native Producer and DJ Marquis Gasque AKA Mighty Mark, is the new torchbearer of the urban dance music genre known as Baltimore Club Music. Successfully bridging the gap between the intensity of old school club music and the futuristic style of the new school, his crisp production serves you up unexpected but delicious combinations of urban vocals and chants, 80's synths, 90's drum samples and heavy booming 808s. These elements melt into thumping bass lines, making your pulse race and your body move. Each carefully crafted track is an individual work of art.

Mighty Mark's original releases and remixes receive frequent airplay via Rinse FM, BBC Radio and Radio One FM Stations and with each release his fanbase increases as people catch on to the wave. With recognition and features via respected publications such as Complex, Vice/Noisey and Earmilk, the future is looking bright as Mark continues to DJ in Baltimore's most popular venues, create club anthems and curates music on his label Hands Up! Records.



Barrier-Free

Barrier-Free is a non-profit, disability service organization that provides inclusive art, self-advocacy, and social programming to the community for neurodiverse adults who identify as having an intellectual or developmental disability or autism. Established in 2017, Barrier-Free serves actors/families from Carroll, Howard, Frederick, Baltimore, and Montgomery county via in-person and virtual programming.

Barrier-Free enrolls 60+ actors across two inclusive theater companies, numerous expressive arts classes, monthly social clubs, and at the newly established Life Skills & Social Studio. Barrier-Free's inclusive theater companies follow a multi-step approach that includes establishing group dynamics, improvisational acting, script creation, and bringing a show to life on stage! Actors, staff, and mentors with varying abilities rehearse for seven months to create original one-act musicals that culminate with a final full-production performance weekend at McDaniel College's Theater. At Barrier-Free, actors are encouraged to be their most unique selves and to create, express, and achieve together!



Sombarkin'

The A cappella sound of Sombarkin': Karen Somerville, Lester Barrett, Jr., and Jerome McKinney, a trio of vocalists whose sound is so well jelled it is amazing to discover just who is singing which part. The group uses the skill of vocal instrumentation and harmony to deliver an explosive performance of Negro spirituals, map (code) songs, folk, gospel, blues, and jazz. Their polyphonic technique is reminiscent of the ole time camp meetings, as well they deliver a contemporary soulful sound with surprising jazz licks and blues bends. Theirs is a transforming gospel crafted to impress the ear with the quality of an ensemble greater in number than the trio that stands before you.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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