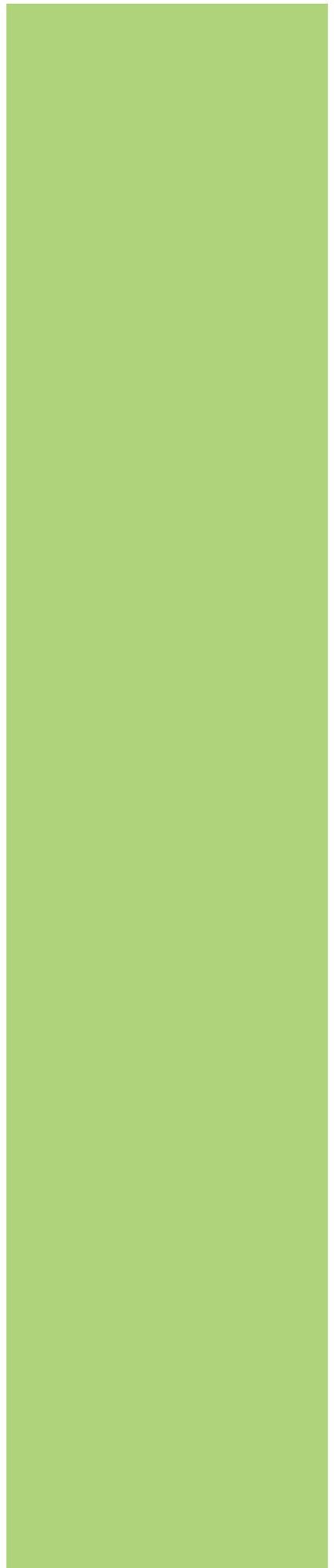


NAS

NATIONAL ARTS STRATEGIES
Executive Program in
Arts & Culture Strategy

Developed & presented in partnership with



Participant Bios



Stephanie Aboukasm

A Michigan-native, Stephanie received her Bachelor of Musical Arts in Voice Performance, Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies, and Minor in Performing Arts Management from the University of Michigan. She currently lives in Washington, D.C. and works for Classical Movements, a concert touring company, as their Marketing & Public Relations Manager. Stephanie moved to Washington, D.C. in August 2013 as part of the Michigan In Washington program, where she had the opportunity to spend her final semester completing an internship, conducting a major research project, and taking classes in political journalism at The Washington

Post. Upon graduating in December 2013, she worked for Washington Performing Arts as their Ticketing & Marketing Coordinator. She hopes to work in arts/ arts education advocacy later on in her career. In her spare time, she loves going to baseball games, cheering on her Michigan Wolverines in football and basketball, attending concerts of all genres, trying out new recipes, and spending time with friends and family.



Roberta Alves

Roberta is the Executive Director of Zeroii Arts and Science, her own Marketing and Publicity Company. Created in 2009 in Perth, by Roberta and Jose-Henrique Alves and with clients in the United States, Australia and Brazil, ZEROii Arts and Communication uses innovative tools to develop personalized Marketing and Communications services, giving Artists, Institutions, Companies and other Entities greater opportunities to expand the reach of their creative work. Alongside Zeroii Arts and Science, Roberta also works as Marketing and Communications Manager with Spooky Action Theater Company, a small theater company based in Washington DC. At Spooky Action Theater Company, she liaises with the media

and reaches out to local communities. Roberta worked for more than 15 years as Theater Editor for O Globo, one of Brazil's major newspapers and had the opportunity to interview internationally acclaimed artists like Peter Brook, Ariane Mnouchkine, Bob Wilson and Paul Auster. She holds an undergraduate degree in Communication and a Masters in Theater from the University of Rio de Janeiro. She's published two books about the history of Theater in Rio de Janeiro.

"With more than 15 years working with communication, marketing and publicity, my heart still races every time I open a newspaper and find an article with my client's name in it."



LaMar Bagley

Dr. LaMar Bagley, Ed.D. works in Washington, DC as an administrator, arts educator and producer at The SEED School of Washington, D.C.; and also serves as Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors and Education Committee Chair of African Continuum Theatre Company. Dr. Bagley has also worked in Philadelphia in the same work capacity and served as the Executive Director of the URBAN Entertainment Group, Producing Artistic Director of the URBAN Theatre Project and Artistic Associate of Freedom Repertory Theatre. Dr. Bagley is credited for being the Co-Founder/ Producing Artistic Director of LMS Productions, where the mission was to provide minority students at Temple University and the

Greater Philadelphia region with performance opportunities. Dr. Bagley has directed over fifty productions and has sent three productions to the Junior Theatre Festival in Atlanta. Dr. Bagley is a graduate of Temple University (BA '01 Theatre), and Argosy University (M.A.Ed. '08 Instructional Leadership; Ed.D. '13 Educational Leadership).



Lindsay Bosch

As Marketing & Development Manager, Lindsay currently leads the outreach efforts and media acquisition process for the Video Data Bank, the nation's largest distributor of experimental media art, where she previously served as Distribution Manager from 2008-2012. Lindsay has contributed to Chicago's media arts community for over a decade, including work with the Reeltime Film Forum, the Block Museum of Art, the Museum of Contemporary Art and the Art Institute. From 2012-2013 she worked as Program Officer for the American Library Association, consulting with libraries nationwide. Lindsay holds a BA in Film from Northwestern University and a MA in Art History from the

School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She has programed, presented and curated artists moving image for the College Art Association, the Citizen Jane Film Festival, the International Film Festival Rotterdam, and the A+D Gallery of Columbia College among many other platforms. Lindsay currently sits on the Educational Advisory Committee for the Chicago Film Festival, the Chicago Community Trust Young Leaders Fund and the Board of Directors of the National Alliance for Media Arts and Culture. She is a writer on arts & culture for Booklist Magazine and the co-author of the visual culture textbook *Icons of Beauty* (ABC-CLIO, 2010).



Tilla Buden

Tilla Buden is the Cultural Development Coordinator for Yarra Ranges Council. Yarra Ranges is located on the eastern fringe of Melbourne, Australia, taking in the Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges regions. Most recently Yarra Ranges Council was recognized by the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) as an international example of good cultural development practice for linking cultural values with democratic governance, citizen participation and sustainable development in the region through the development and implementation of the local Cultural Policy and Action Plan. Tilla has been working in cultural development in Melbourne for nearly fifteen years. Qualifications include a Masters in Arts & Entertainment Management (Deakin University), and undergraduate training in Visual Arts and Community Development.



Jonas Cartano

Based in New York City, Jonas Cartano has an extensive background in arts education designing and producing programs for students, teachers, and arts professionals. Currently an independent nonprofit coach, consultant, and manager, from 2011-13, he worked with EmcArts managing organizational innovation and adaptive leadership development programs for arts leaders across the country. He has also worked with Chorus America, Jazz at Lincoln Center, and The Metropolitan Opera and worked on projects for Project Zero (Harvard University), the New York Philharmonic, and OPERA America. Interested in supporting emerging arts organizations with an emphasis on social impact, he currently serves as a board member for Artfully

Unforgotten and is a founding board member for Broadway for All. He is also on the board of Carleton College's Alumni Annual Fund, which is widely recognized as a national model for alumni fundraising in the US. A lifelong choral singer, Jonas has performed with a wide range of nonprofit choruses in New York City, Boston, and Washington DC and served in board and administrative positions with The Dessoif Choirs, Thomas Circle Singers, and Young New Yorkers' Chorus.



Jennifer Dubin

My name is Jennifer Dubin and I am the Associate Director, Individual Giving & Patron Services at Opera Philadelphia. I’ve worked in opera for almost 7 years in artistic administration, company management, and development. I graduated from the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Music, concentration in voice, and a minor in business administration. I’m looking forward to advancing my knowledge and further developing my leadership skills as a participant in this program with the goal of becoming a leader in the Arts and Culture sector. I lived in Florida prior to moving to the North East, but I spent most of my childhood in

Costa Rica. I’m married to an opera singer, baritone Eric Dubin, and we sing in the Haddonfield United Methodist Chancel Choir together.



Katherine Heilman

Katherine Heilman is currently the Development Associate and Interim Marketing Officer at Taller Puertorriqueño, a small Latino arts and cultural organization in Philadelphia. She received her Bachelors of Fine Arts Three- Dimensional from the Moore College of Art and Design in 2012. Throughout her studies at Moore, she chose coursework that would prepare her for a career in the nonprofit arts field, taking courses with writing-heavy components and classes in graphic design, online portfolio presentation, audience engagement, and community arts. Katherine has been leading Taller Puertorriqueño’s efforts on social media with much success. During her tenure at Taller

Puertorriqueño, she has been successful in securing a number of large, highly-competitive grants, specifically a \$60,000 grant award from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation’s Knight Arts Challenge, a three-year \$400,000 grant from the William Penn Foundation, and a two-year \$80,000 grant from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.



Christine Kan

Having worked in the cultural and education sectors in Hong Kong for 15 years, Christine has gained extensive exposure in event organizing and arts education across tertiary institutions, government departments and non-profit arts organizations such as The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Hong Kong Arts Festival, Cultural Presentations Section of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department just to name a few. Being a devoted advocate of arts and culture, Christine actively engaged herself in numerous public workshops and seminars on arts education as well as cultural conferences such as Cultural Leadership Summit and Asian Cultural Co-operation

Forum. She particularly enjoys meeting various educational ends by introducing diversified arts and cultural activities or programs to high school and college students. Recently she completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Creative Industries Management (Arts and Culture) at the School of Professional and Continuing Education, The University of Hong Kong.



Kinsey Katchka

With experience as a scholar and museum curator, my engagement with cultural institutions is both theoretical and practical. I consider cultural institutions as the intersection of policy and creative practices, and bring a PhD in sociocultural anthropology and African studies to cross-disciplinary interests in the arts, international relations, cultural policy, and urban studies. My work with varied institutions, collections, artists, and communities, alongside field research, informs my curatorial projects and scholarship. I hold a conviction that arts and culture are under-utilized resources in cross-cultural diplomacy—not only international, but also among diverse

intra-national, regional, and local stakeholders. With this in mind, I strive to facilitate and participate in discourses that span cultures, regions, and disciplines. For myself, the creative process is restorative, providing balance that enhances innovative thinking and problem solving in professional life. Now working independently, I especially look forward to lively dialogue and developing relationships with new colleagues.



Jim Kirkhoff

Jim Kirkhoff received a degree in industrial engineering from Purdue University and worked in international sales/project management for 18 years. In 2009, Jim co-founded Water Street Studios; a 16,000 sq- ft visual art center in Batavia IL and served the organization as director of development and PR for over 5 years. Jim now works as director of development of Core Project (an interdisciplinary dance company in Chicago IL) and collaborates with a variety of artists/arts organizations across the Chicagoland area. Being both an engineer and artist, Jim has seen how both professions are deeply rooted in creativity and problem solving. Jim looks to this program to give him the tools to bridge this gap through building community through creative problem solving. Jim currently

lives in Chicago with his wife, Suzy, and two cats, Han and Chewie. Artistically, Jim is a photographer and you can see his work here: [http:// jimkirkhoff.carbonmade.com](http://jimkirkhoff.carbonmade.com)



Cyra Levenson

Cyra Levenson is Associate Curator of Education at the Yale Center for British Art. She has been working in the field of museum education for over 15 years. Prior to coming to Yale, Ms. Levenson held positions at the Seattle Art Museum and the Rubin Museum of Art focused on gallery interpretation. Research interests include museum-school partnerships, creativity and cognition, visual literacy and critical pedagogy. Publications include, “Seeing, Connecting, Writing: Developing Creativity and Narrative Writing in Children” in Handbook of Writing and “Re-presenting Slavery: Underserved Questions in Museum Collections” in Studies in Art Education. Ms. Levenson is also co-curator of the

exhibition, Figures of Empire: Slavery and Portraiture in Eighteenth Century Atlantic Britain. She holds a Master’s degree in Art Education from Teachers College, Columbia University.



Mary Madigan

Mary Madigan is a colleague of many of new music's creators, performers, and presenters. She's worked with the best at Boosey & Hawkes, Meet The Composer, Concert Artists Guild, and as general manager of the Vermont Mozart Festival. Mary has an international network, and her attendance of the performing arts has traversed genres and continents. Her knowledge, thoughtful approach, and deep commitment are the leading hallmarks of her service. Mary has served on discussion panels and grant review panels for the MATA Festival, Opera America, and The Aaron Copland Fund for Music. Madigan's background in music includes playing brass instruments, choral singing, some composition, and playing in

a Balinese gamelan. She has lived in New Jersey, Maine, Italy, Vermont, Manhattan, and now lives in historic Park Slope, Brooklyn. www.madigannewmusic.com



Julia Malecki

Julia Malecki is building a career in the arts and aims to develop a global perspective of the cultural industry. She is the Foundation Relations Manager for Arena Stage, a professional non-profit theater in Washington, DC, where she previously worked as publicist. Prior to joining Arena in 2010, Julia was the interim publications manager and marketing and communications intern at Shakespeare Theatre Company and graduated from the University of Maryland – College Park in 2009 with a BA in Communication, concentration in public relations, and a minor in English. She studied abroad in London, where she interned with the Tricycle Theatre, and was the keynote student speaker at her Communication

commencement. She is a founding board member and current secretary and marketing chair of TJ Arts, a grassroots community arts non-profit in her hometown. Julia recent joined the Baltimore Choral Arts Society as an alto and is a classically trained pianist.



Lindsay Martin

Lindsay is a cultural leader excelling at strategy, administration, and organizational development. She is adept at working with Board, staff, and stakeholders to identify shared goals and articulate the path toward achieving them. Lindsay brings extensive experience in leading cross-departmental teams to research, plan, and implement forward-thinking initiatives.

In February 2015, she became the Director, Administration for the Hammer Museum at UCLA, overseeing Human Resources, Technology, Security, Retail, governance, strategic and building planning, and other administrative functions.

Longwood Gardens, Eli and Edythe Broad Museum at Michigan State University, and Artpace, San Antonio were her clients in her prior position as Managing Director, US at Lord Cultural Resources.

Prior to Lord, she worked at a performing arts center, museum, art gallery, and retail management. She studied Art History and Political Science at UC Davis and Museum Studies at New York University. Lindsay is personally passionate about the natural world, animals, art, travel and food & drink.



Siddhartha Misra

Siddhartha Misra is an active choral and concert vocalist and arts administrator in the Philadelphia area. His performances have been praised for his “brilliant coming timing”, “honeyed sound”, and “layered performance”. Siddhartha frequently performs in the Philadelphia region with Opera Philadelphia and Vox Ama Deus and has appeared with the Philadelphia Singers, Choral Society of Philadelphia, and Mendelssohn Club of Philadelphia. In addition to his work as a performer, Siddhartha has recently branched out into arts administration to develop new ways to present opera with an emphasis on developing opportunities for emerging artists. As a director and producer for Poor Richard’s Opera in Philadelphia, his direction has been lauded for “remarkably fluid, realistic

action.” Siddhartha has previously worked as Artistic Administrator for the Janiec Opera Company, the opera training program for the Brevard Music Center. Siddhartha Misra is an active choral and concert vocalist and arts administrator in the Philadelphia area. His performances have been praised for his “brilliant coming timing”, “honeyed sound”, and “layered performance”. Siddhartha frequently performs in the Philadelphia region with Opera Philadelphia and Vox Ama Deus and has appeared with the Philadelphia Singers, Choral Society of Philadelphia, and Mendelssohn Club of Philadelphia.



Ali Oliver-Krueger

Ali Oliver-Krueger is the Executive and Artistic Director of InterAct Story Theatre Education Association, a touring theatre for young audiences and arts-in-education organization specializing in arts integration and arts for learning. Ali herself is a director, playwright/composer, performing artist and master teaching artist with a particular expertise in approaching arts integration through interdisciplinary art forms. Ali has worked with school systems and arts organizations throughout the country, including The Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning through the Arts, John F. Kennedy Center Education Department, and Young Audiences. She is a frequent presenter at conferences on arts education and arts

integration, and conducts professional development workshops and residencies on linking drama and music with content curricula. Additionally, Ali is increasingly active in Lean and Lean Startup communities, with a particular interest in the cross pollination of best practices across the for-profit/non-profit divide, applying Lean methodologies in the nonprofit arts sector, and using applied arts strategies to build collaborative corporate culture. Ali has written several plays and puppet operas for young audiences, and is currently at work on her first book. She is a board member of the American Alliance for Theatre and Education, and is a proud member of Maryland Music Educators Association and TYA-USA. Ali lives in Wheaton, Maryland with her husband Peter and two fiercely fluffy dogs who are legends in their own minds.



Heather Pace

Heather Pace is the Chief Revenue Officer for the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. Originally from Alabama, she graduated from the University of South Alabama with a master's of arts in corporate and public communications. In January 2010, she moved to Little Rock, Arkansas to join the ASO staff where she manages the marketing and development departments. She has worked in the orchestra world for ten years including at the Mobile Symphony as box office manager and later as marketing director. She has zero musical talent but is passionate about making sure classical music is accessible and available for all ages, backgrounds, and abilities.



Ariel Pechter

Ariel Pechter is currently the Creative Director at an e-Commerce website based in West Chester, PA. Her passions include the fine arts, reading, yoga, and traveling. When she's not at work or in the ballet studio you can probably find her watching DVR'd Jeopardy! or playing an intense and competitive game of Scrabble. As a relatively new resident of Philadelphia, She's acquainted herself with the city by attending local productions, dining at one of Philadelphia's many delicious restaurants, and seeing the sights.



Erika Pettersen

Erika is a Brooklyn-based non-profit professional, curator, and photographer. Her diverse experiences at organizations such as ARTs East New York, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Heart Gallery NYC, and Seedco have led her to a passion for community building via the arts. Currently, she serves as Development Director of Sans Limites Dance and works in additional development roles at Haiti Cultural Exchange and Brooklyn Queens Land Trust. Entrepreneurial and self-starting, she has developed a background in growing grassroots organizations at early and transitional stages. She is especially invested in supporting the realm of arts and culture, which she believes is unparalleled terrain for exploring long-term,

sustainable strategies that address contemporary society's most pressing issues. Erika holds a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy from Amherst College and has completed post-baccalaureate studies in both Art History and Studio Art at Brooklyn College.



Mollie Quinlan-Hayes

Mollie Quinlan-Hayes joined South Arts in early 2006. She works with the board, member state arts agencies and other partners to make a positive difference in the arts throughout the South. She oversees South Arts’ programs and helps to guide strategic planning and evaluation.

She is director of South Arts’ national initiative ArtsReady, and serves as co-chair of the Steering Committee of the National Coalition for Arts’ Preparedness and Emergency Response. She has been a speaker/panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts and numerous state arts councils.

Mollie worked for the Arizona Commission on the Arts for 14 years, was a founding board member of Alliance for Audience/ShowUp.com, and of ARTability/Accessing Arizona’s Arts. Mollie is a facilitator/consultant in strategic planning and participation-building, has been a professional audio describer, and is trained in Critical Response.



Garret Rodman

Born in Canada, Garrett Rodman, has over 9 years of experience as an Arts Manager. His main focus has been in Fundraising and Audience Development. He has held management titles at important Canadian arts organizations, like Toronto International Film Festival and Vancouver Opera. As of Feb/15 he is the new Development Officer, Individual & Alumni Giving at The Banff Centre in beautiful Banff, Canada.

Garrett is also an indie-theatre director and producer. He also currently sits on the Board of Directors for the London Fringe Festival and is a regular guest speaker in the Arts Management program at The University of Western Ontario. When not at the theatre he can be found at the dog park with his Victorian bulldog; Moneypenny.



Jennifer Russ

Jennifer Russ is a Maryland native who currently resides in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. She was responsible for leading the museum exhibition department for the government of Abu Dhabi in the lead-up to the upcoming Louvre Abu Dhabi, Guggenheim Abu Dhabi and Zayed National Museums. Trained as an attorney, she was also responsible for cultural policy creation for the emirate. Prior to her move abroad she worked in the exhibition department of the Field Museum and was the curator for a Fortune 100 company in the Chicago, Illinois, area. Her international background and focus on community collaboration has led to a number of volunteer opportunities. Jennifer received her Bachelor of Arts in

International Studies/ Art History and Juris Doctorate from Loyola University Chicago.



Márta Schmidt

I am a Hungarian born Finnish music producer and festival director.

My background is in classical music, but I have work also with rhythm music, since I am teaching young musicians at the Helsinki Pop & Jazz Conservatory and in the University of Helsinki. Beside music festivals are my passion. Working experience I have from six festivals and have the honor to start three of them. The Kuhmo Chamber Music was the one, which offered pleasant tasks, including producing their live recordings and working on a ten part TV series for the Finnish national broadcasting company YLE. Later I worked also on radio programs. Currently I am preparing a PhD dissertation

on festivals. My research question is how to combine artistic and community values, and how to make an early music festival rocking. I am interested in exploring, what the festival of the future would look and sound like.



Anne Shulock

I have worked for four years at San Francisco Art Institute, a wonderfully funky nonprofit institution that has been at the vanguard of contemporary art since 1871, and have the longest title on staff: Senior Assistant to the President for Strategic Planning and Communications. On nights and weekends, I am an Associate Editor for the online magazine Art Practical. I earned a degree in Media Studies from Pomona College in Claremont, California. My writing has appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle, The Millions, Salon, two defunct personal blogs, and Sactown, a city magazine in Sacramento, where I was a staff reporter. I have also been the editorial

assistant at the literary/art magazine Zoetrope: All-Story and an intern at a Hollywood production company, which quickly killed my desire to work in the film industry. My dream is to be a Broadway star, but I can't sing or dance or act.



Kira Simon-Kennedy

Kira Simon-Kennedy co-founded and manages China Residencies, a nonprofit directory of artist residencies fostering cultural exchange and providing opportunities for artists from all around the globe. Kira also works in film as a producer, focusing on international music projects, and as a French and Mandarin translator.



Jason Tseng

Jason Tseng has devoted his professional and personal life to empowering ordinary people to make extraordinary change. Splitting his time between serving the arts and queer communities of color, he has worked for organizations like Theatre Communications Group, Gay Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), and currently serves on the steering committee of GAPIMNY, one of the oldest queer Asian community organizations in the nation. Jason currently serves as the Community Engagement Specialist at Fractured Atlas, a nonprofit technology company that empowers artists to be better entrepreneurs. Before moving to New York, he grew up outside Washington, D.C. in Maryland and graduated from the University of Richmond studying Women, Gender,

& Sexuality Studies and Theatre. He now lives in Long Island City with his fiancé and their pet rabbit, Turnip Cake.



Lisa Wagner

When the Schuster Performing Arts Center was built in 2003, I began my journey with the Victoria Theater Association in the food and beverage division as the Director of Catering as we opened the facility and developed the hospitality division. In 2005, I was asked to lead the team of Ticket Center Stage, a central box office for all of the performing arts in Dayton. I now hold the position of Vice President of Ticketing and Hospitality, overseeing all of the food and beverage operations, outbound sales/group sales, box office operations, front of house services, and serve on the team that determines programming decisions. The Victoria Theater Association

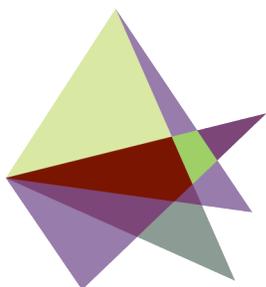
owns and operates 3 arts venues in Dayton, OH and presents touring Broadway, a family series, a variety series and other star attractions. I am blessed to have the support of my husband of 27 years and our two adult children.



Erica Zabusky

Erica Fox Zabusky is a versatile artist and administrator. As a singer/actress, professional credits include CATS (Hamburg), Salzburg Cathedral Choir, Pittsburgh Opera Chorus, as well as voiceover work and independent film. In the music industry, she has worked in both the US and Germany for Sony Classical, Teldec Classics International (PR, A&R), The Philadelphia Orchestra (Artistic Planning), and string orchestra Ensemble Resonanz (Executive Director). Producer credits include the European premiere of Closer Than Ever, The Philadelphia Orchestra's semi-staged A Little Night Music, live Orchestra telecasts, and the world premiere of

Fuel, composer Julia Wolfe's multi-media collaboration with filmmaker Bill Morrison (Executive Producer). Erica studied music at Harvard University and voice/opera at Salzburg's Mozarteum. A self-professed 'culture vulture,' she attends concerts, opera, theater, dance and film whenever possible. She loves jazz, fine food and wine, speaks fluent German, and is raising her daughter to be bilingual.



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