Meet the Coaches

Ayden Adler
Greencastle, Indiana

Jonas Cartano
New York, New York

Gail Crider
Alexandria, Virginia

Deryn Dudley
Alexandria, Virginia

Kate Griffin
Lancaster, New Hampshire

Esther Grisham Grimm
Chicago, Illinois

Suzan Jenkins
Silver Spring, Maryland

Charles Kennedye
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Christina Littlejohn
Little Rock, Arkansas

Marángeli Mejía Rabell
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Jaki Strickland
Green Bay, Wisconsin

Julie Potter
San Francisco, California

Steven Raider Ginsburg
New Haven, Connecticut

Judith Rose
Cold Spring, New York

Jesse Rosen
New York, New York

Kelli Strickland
Peoria, Arizona

Beth Takekawa
Seattle, Washington

Joan Vorderbruggen
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Sunny Widmann
Takoma Park, Maryland
Dr. Ayden Adler serves as Professor of Music, History, and Arts Management at DePauw University where she teaches courses in arts patronage, audience engagement, and nonprofit management. Her vision is to increase demand for the arts through robust inclusivity and diversity, artistry of the highest order, and innovative approaches to audience engagement and retention. As a consultant, Dr. Adler helps organizations in the nonprofit sector, predominantly in the arts and education, reach their mission objectives by providing interim executive level support and leadership coaching, as well as expertise in strategic planning and execution, resource acquisition, cutting-edge technologies, organizational audits, assessment, and accreditation. Dr. Adler calls upon her own creative arts background to inspire and support leaders envisioning meaningful organizational impact, building organizational capacity, serving as change agents, and cultivating diverse and inclusive cultures.

With degrees from Princeton University (A.B.), the Juilliard School (M.M.), and the Eastman School of Music (M.A., D.M.A., Ph.D.), highlights of her career include performing for ten years as a tenured member of the Rochester (NY) Philharmonic Orchestra while teaching at the Eastman School of Music, serving as Executive Director of the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra after working in senior management at the Atlanta and Philadelphia Orchestras, serving as Dean of the Conservatory at Michael Tilson Thomas’ New World Symphony, and, most recently, as Dean of the School of Music at the DePauw University. At DePauw, Dr. Adler led the renowned 21st-Century Musician Initiative (21CM), which reimagines approaches to 21st-century music education in order to graduate flexible, entrepreneurial professionals prepared to serve as globally aware artist-citizens.

Eastern Time Zone (UTC–05:00)

I am available to coach weekdays between 10am and 6pm by videoconference.

✔️ Leadership Coaching
✔️ Creative Placemaking
✔️ Coaching Virtually

Greencastle, Indiana
Jonas Cartano

In my coaching practice, I work with individuals to thoughtfully explore professional questions, areas of interest, and sticky issues and to create directional clarity and momentum for change. I am a person with an active mind and curious soul and, in my professional life, I’m an arts and nonprofit consultant, both independently and as co-founder of Third Eye Cultural Collaborative.

I love coaching because I love learning and co-creating with others. Through conversation and questioning, coaching provides an opportunity to reflect, learn, and make conscious decisions about what to do next. I struggle with the same challenges my clients face—I am very familiar with the pressure of the job, misalignment with co-workers, feelings of inadequacy, and lack of clarity around mission, purpose, or even just what the next step should be. By providing a supportive space to give voice to those feelings and explore different approaches, coaching can make us feel less lonely and give us more focus and self-confidence in our work and in ourselves.

I enjoy coaching with professionals of all experience levels, not just executives, and I coach individuals from many fields of work. I am, however, mindful about systemic economic injustice and know from experience that many promising leaders who work in the nonprofit sector often lack access to professional development like coaching. Because of this, I dedicate a good portion of my coaching practice to these individuals. I am nearing the completion of a yearlong coaching accreditation program with an emphasis on practical experience.

Prior to coaching and consulting, I spent almost 20 years in the arts and nonprofit sectors as a designer and manager of arts education, leadership development, nonprofit management, and innovation and change management programs. In my free time, I am an arts and culture addict, a volunteer for social impact organizations, an ultimate frisbee enthusiast, a choral singer, and an eager traveler. More info: JonasCartano.com

Eastern Time Zone (UTC−05:00)

Let’s work out a mutually suitable time.
Leaders are on different journeys. I work with them along those paths, as they discern patterns, explore and name what is happening in order to continue to grow and thrive. When coaching, I work to co-create space that we too often do not make for ourselves – reflective, challenging, and nurturing.

I have partnered with leaders who are tightening alignment between values and work, testing new ideas, building or changing organizational culture, and working through times of great ambiguity.

In my career, I have navigated change and challenge in many different circumstances. I’ve been an entrepreneur, worked for banks, my mother, nonprofits and public and private funders. So far, I’ve lived in eight states - both rural and urban areas and traveled to 14 countries. I hold to my values of curiosity, courage and persistence, fairness and justice.

Currently, I am President & CEO of NAS. Prior to NAS, I was a program officer for a private foundation where I worked on inner-city redevelopment and community building in Washington, D.C. In that role, I co-chaired the Community Development Support Collaborative. I hold a B.S. in theater from Lewis and Clark College and continue to learn formally and informally through my work at NAS, including continuing education at Stanford University, Harvard Business School, University of Michigan – Ross School of Business, RaceForward, and CommonSense Consulting@Work (intercultural agility training).

I am soon to be a graduate of the NAS Leadership Coaching Program, am a current member of the International Coach Federation (ICF) and anticipate my accreditation in the fall of 2020.
As leaders you carry a heavy load: ranging from managing team dynamics, unsustainable financials to building equitable and inclusive organizational cultures while maintaining your own health and well-being. As a coach, I facilitate growth, awareness, and confidence among emergent and experienced leaders managing personal, organizational, or systemic change. My clients have been able to:

- Strategically align their professional development activities with their organization’s mission and value
- Manage leadership and board transitions
- Manage diverse teams and difficult relationships
- Develop the courage to dismantle existing systems to create more equitable and inclusive structures
- Engage in effective career planning
- Overcome imposter syndrome to lead authentically and confidently

My approach as a coach is guided by my doctoral training as a social psychologist and my 15 years of experience as a program evaluator, educator, and nonprofit strategic consultant. During coaching sessions, I use powerful questioning to generate awareness of the assumptions underlying clients’ behaviors and beliefs. I encourage clients to think critically about their own behaviors and actions, to reflect on mistakes and to identify the mental roadblocks hindering them from moving forward.

Coaching sessions are safe spaces where leaders can navigate complex problems and work to find effective and sustainable solutions. I partner with clients to create a strategic action plan and I provide the support, accountability and guidance to help them make progress towards their goals.

I am a member of the International Coach Federation, with an anticipated accreditation date of December 2020; pursing my training through the NAS Leadership Coaching training program in partnership with the Goldvarg Consulting Group. If you would like to learn more about my professional experience please visit me on LinkedIn. If you are feeling stuck, need a thought partner, someone to support and guide you toward your success my coaching services may be the steppingstone to your goal. Please visit https://artstrategies.as.me/deryn to schedule a 30-minute “chemistry session” for more information on how coaching may be helpful for you.
I work with both established and emerging leaders in arts and culture, public humanities, community development, and social justice. I love coaching clients who are ready for change at both the personal and social levels.

Coaching provides a uniquely powerful learning space. It is built around co-creating, deep listening, asking questions, holding space for reflection, and identifying action steps. Your personal growth and your work to make a better world are interrelated – and coaching challenges you to go deeper. It draws out your inner wisdom and your core values to help you embody your own, authentic leadership.

As a coach, I draw on my background in facilitation, teaching, and other practices of listening and collaboration as well my experience as a white person working on issues of social justice, civic engagement, and equity.

Growing up in a low-income household in a rural community, living with a disability, and my background in higher education have led me to become a student of many different fields that shape my approach to coaching, including somatics and other healing modalities, humanities, social justice, and cultural strategy (using arts and culture for social change work). I am committed to equity and social justice, undoing white supremacy and the intersectional systems of oppression that bind us. Currently I split my time between rural New England and the San Francisco Bay Area.

You can learn more about my professional background on my LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/kategiffin12

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Eastern Time Zone (UTC−05:00)

I am generally available 9am-5pm EST during the week. I live in New Hampshire, but am in Berkeley, CA some of the time as well; when I am on the West Coast, I’m generally available 11:30am-7:30pm EST Monday-Friday. I have some flexibility, so ask if you only have other hours available!

✅ Leadership Coaching
✅ Creative Placemaking
✅ Coaching Virtually

Kate Griffin
Lancaster, New Hampshire

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You can learn more about my professional background on my LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/kategiffin12
I am a coach-in-training with the National Arts Strategies’ Leadership Coaching Training Program, on my way to becoming certified through the International Coach Federation. Coaching is a natural offshoot of my career in the arts, which spans museum education, arts education, social justice, advocacy, and philanthropy.

In addition to coaching, I am the Executive Director of 3Arts, a nonprofit grantmaking organization that supports women artists, artists of color, and d/Deaf and disabled artists working in the performing, teaching, and visual arts in the Chicago area. I know from my own experience that change doesn’t come easily and that the voyage can sometimes be stormy. Working with you to co-create a way through those storms—or even just a cloudy day—is my mission as a coach. I am driven by the conviction that arts leaders and artists have the ability to point humanity in the right direction, or, as Toni Cade Bambara put it, that “The role of the artist is to make the revolution irresistible.”

My belief that arts and culture are essential to the endurance and soul of our planet fuels my work as a coach with an emphasis on supporting established and emerging leaders and advocates who are propelling transformation(s) in themselves and in their organizations. The interrelated personal and professional growth and wellbeing of my clients are paramount.

If you think you would like to try coaching, please contact me at Esther@nowvoyager.life to set up a complimentary phone conversation and talk over your goals.
Suzan Jenkins

Suzan E. Jenkins is a leadership coach, CEO and strategic consultant with extensive experience leading teams and spearheading organizational and programmatic development in the national and international for-profit and non-profit arts and culture sector.

A New York native, Suzan has a deep understanding of critical and complex cultural norms, having grown up in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and San Juan, Puerto Rico. Suzan’s vast national and international professional experiences – in the performing and visual arts, retail, banking, the recording industry, the federal government and higher education – inform her keen interests at the intersection of business, innovation, equity and impact.

A critical voice in the movement towards operationalizing racial equity in the arts and culture sector throughout many facets of her career, Suzan’s advocacy work in the music industry towards royalty-reform, her work in the development and implementation of Racial Equity Principles at National Arts Strategies and her work as a member of the Remembrance and Reconciliation Commission in her community bolsters this commitment. Suzan is dedicated to anti-racist work that is both organizationally and individually bound.

As leaders, we are always searching for ways to strategically problem solve and forge new ground. If you are a race-conscious leader grappling with current issues in multinational, multicultural settings, let’s talk.

Contact me at osjexeccoach@gmail.com for a complimentary exploratory session.

“I have never had a professional coach before and the experience was life-changing. My coach was incisive and also challenged me in all the right ways. I came out of our sessions with tools that I will be able to use throughout my career and I can’t thank her or NAS enough for this experience.”

– Roberta Pereira, Client, Producing Director, The Playwrights Realm
My focus as a coach is on uplifting the individual. I provide a safe space in which we can co-create your place in the world, be it a career path or a new position, by using your vision. Together we will explore achievable steps towards your goal.

I love coaching clients who are open to new experiences of personal growth and professional advancement. My genuine style builds trust and keeps clients at ease. Listening is the most important part of coaching because we are not always truthful with ourselves. My observations will challenge you and encourage new modes of reflection and thoughtfulness.

As an award-winning documentary filmmaker, coaching is a natural extension of my work. My career in television has led me to the highest levels of PBS (Public Broadcasting System). I have found the competency and mental toughness it takes to work with a variety of institutions, personalities and economic models. I draw from this background in communications and as a coach I work with organizations and individuals looking to create meaningful change, develop potential and achieve success.
“People who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do.”
--Steve Jobs

Leaders in arts organizations want to change the world. We want to make it a brighter, more inspiring place for all of us to live, but even in the best of days, leaders and creators of arts organizations have challenging moments. I became a coach because I feel passionately that leaders need a safe space to think, brainstorm, and talk through a key idea so we can push through and move the organization or our personal lives closer to our vision. Sometimes, we need to reflect from a different perspective to get “unstuck,” so we can move forward and change the world faster.

Through coaching, I can hold that confidential space for leaders. By asking powerful questions that help you think through strategies and ideas, you discover your own path over, around or through what is blocking you. For example, in our work together, we can efficiently co-create paths for such topics as:

- Strategic Visioning for the organization and personal life and the steps to achieve
- How to navigate transitions like Board Chair, Artistic Director, staff, cities or direction
- Leadership challenges/opportunities
- Rediscovering joy

The experience I draw from when coaching includes 25 years of leading orchestras in different cities, a sense of humor, being a parent, running two marathons with the help of my friends, a background in journalism and cello performance, and an MBA and MA. Following is a testimonial about the coaching experience from a fellow arts leader: My NAS Coaching experience was top notch with just the right mix of meaningful discussion, informing, feedback, posing challenging questions for me to ponder, and creating manageable and appropriate action steps for implementation. This experience has helped me become a more effective and confident leader, which in turn has created a more effective and confident organization as we work together to meet - and exceed! - our strategic goals.

If you’re feeling a bit stuck, would like to work with a person whose only interest is to support your success, or would simply like to discover how coaching might help you be your best, please contact me at cllcello600@gmail.com to set up a complimentary phone conversation and talk over your goals. I am a member of the International Coach Federation and completing my studies through the National Arts Strategies’ Leadership Coaching Training Program in partnership with the Goldvarg Consulting Group. For more information on my professional experience, review Christina Littlejohn at LinkedIn.com.
Marángeli Mejía Rabell

I am originally from Puerto Rico and have lived in Philadelphia for the past 32 years working as a bilingual/bicultural connector, organizer, cultural producer and arts and nonprofit administrator whose work is centered on co-creation, capacity building, leadership development, cross-sector collaborations, honoring our roots and arts & culture as a tool for social change and community self actualization.

Currently, I am Coach in Training with the National Arts Strategies working towards my International Coaching Federation certification. Serving as part of this community of practice provides me with the opportunity to partner with others to navigate the complexities of our landscapes, develop strategies through self reflection and design actions to drive positive change.

As Co-Founder and Creative Partner of AfroTaino and Director of the Philadelphia Latino Film Festival I co-curate, design and execute arts & culture programming, collaborations and projects for multicultural audiences in public and private arenas. These experiences have supported me to expand my skills in developing and leading projects, campaigns and programs that combine business and community objectives and over three decades of experience establishing systems and metrics to measure collective impact.

“The honoring of those that are now spirit is essential as is honoring their work to assure that their work continues to be expanded upon generation after generation.” – Dr. Marta Moreno-Vega, Afro-Puerto Rican. Founder of the Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute.

For more information on my work, please visit

AFROTAINO
PHLAFF
Linkedin
Wendy C. Morris is an internationally recognized facilitator of leadership development who has worked at the intersection of arts, culture and community development for 20 years. While teaching at premier leadership centers in North America, Europe and Asia, she designed 500+ learning and engagement programs, and partnered with global networks for change including the Human Systems Dynamics Institute, Presencing Institute, and Art of Hosting network.

Based in Minnesota, two career highlights were stewarding the successful 3-year pilot of Creative CityMaking – an arts-based innovation initiative to advance racial equity in the City of Minneapolis; and the Creative Community Leadership Institute – a cross-sector leadership program that she co-founded and facilitated for 17 years (now a network of 240 changemakers forging arts-infused partnerships across the Upper Midwest region). She holds a Master’s Degree in Human Development, and is affiliated with two research and training centers at the University of Minnesota: the Center for Spirituality and Healing and Humphrey School of Public Affairs Center for Integrative Leadership.

Wendy’s life and work are informed by 19,000 hours of mindfulness training and somatic/embodiment practice. A Qualified Administrator of the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI), she has coached philanthropic leaders to advance intercultural organizational development for more equitable funding outcomes. Her work has been recognized by more than 25 awards in leadership, artmaking, and interdisciplinary practice including fellowships from the Bush Foundation, McKnight Foundation and National Endowment for the Arts.

Wendy’s coaching approach supports clients to operate with increased self-awareness and systemic-awareness. As a strategic thinking partner, she asks generative questions that enable clients to discover their own answers and find clarity that leads to wise action, even in situations they cannot predict or control. One of her core beliefs is that, for leaders to effectively navigate an increasingly complex and uncertain world, they need to become experts in facilitating their own ongoing learning and development. She views coaching as a vehicle for leaders to become more adaptive, strategic, and whole. A member of the International Coach Federation (ICF), Wendy is dedicated to setting conditions for an equitable, creative and thriving future by transforming mindsets, developing changemakers, and elevating organizations.
Julie Potter
San Francisco, California

As a coach, I partner with clients working across culture, social change and public life to facilitate generative inquiry, transformative processes and meaningful results. I bring a lens influenced by engagement with artist communities, cultural organizers and creative strategies to my approach, and draw upon my background in performance to facilitate a coaching experience which integrates client vision with one's emotional, somatic and relational intelligence.

By balancing supportive resourcing and challenging provocations, I hold space for clients to create outcomes consistent with true values and connection to what’s happening inside and environmentally. I am passionately curious and will meet you where you are with care and focus. As a member of the International Coach Federation (ICF), I am enthusiastic about cultivating learning environments, regenerative practices, creative development and meaningful change.

Based in San Francisco, I am a performance curator, public practice specialist and writer, currently serving as the Director of the ODC Theater. I earned my MA from Wesleyan University and my teaching includes Stanford University’s Arts In Context course. To learn more about my coaching practice and experience, visit juliecpotter.com.

Pacific Time Zone (UTC−08:00)

Available to schedule sessions on:
Mondays, 9am PST - 7pm PST
Wednesdays, 9am PST - 7pm PST
Fridays, 9am PST - 7pm PST
Saturdays, 9am PST - 1pm PST

✔ Leadership Coaching
✔ Creative Placemaking
✔ Coaching Virtually
Steven Raider Ginsburg is an executive leadership coach, artistic and executive director with extensive experience developing and delivering community engaged arts programs focused on change-making.

For over two decades Steve has provided executive leadership to non-profit arts, higher education, civic and philanthropic organizations. Today Steven leads the forward-thinking and globally curated Autorino Center for the Arts at the University of Saint Joseph, serving over 30,000 guests a year with acclaimed arts and humanities programs. From 2001-2015 as the co-founding Executive Artistic Director of HartBeat Ensemble (Hartford, CT) Steven created award-winning theater work which championed under-heard and under-seen narratives with a highly developed aesthetic. Steven’s experience has focused on developing diverse, equitable and sustainable structures of leadership embedded in staff, board, and community with a realistic eye towards funding. Always motivated to expand his skill set Steven attended advanced programs for arts leadership and curation at Harvard Business School, Ross School of Business and Wesleyan University.

If you are looking for a coach to help you strategize to reach your full potential, build a joyful practice with a justice oriented, anti-racist lens let’s connect. Email me at raidergcoaching@gmail.com for to schedule no-cost/co-commitment intro chat.

“Steve helped lift up themes out of all my ramblings—all the different projects I juggle in my work and life. I was able to re-find, name, and re-center the thing I love the most in my work—my design process— and start a plan to reorganize my days so I can amplify this core creative practice.” —Megan Bullock, Creative Director & Founder, Studio Mesh

“Working with Steve was incredibly valuable.” – Scott Burkholder, Burkholder Agency, Baltimore, MD

“Steve helped me concentrate on the smaller steps without losing sight of the larger whole.” – Sharon Fantl, Redfern Arts Center, Keene State College
Judith
Rose

Cold Spring,
New York

The clients who come to me have a hurdle or challenge before them. They want help figuring out what steps they need to take. They have a professional or personal goal to reach or are facing troubled times, sickness or loss. As a certified community coach and a member of the NAS coaching cadre, I join as a partner. Together we work to clear the way.

I hold to the fact that everyone is able to find their own path. My methodology is simple. I listen, listen some more, ask questions. I do not give opinions or suggestions. My role is to encourage reflection and thoughtfulness in the client. I strive to be humble in my work.

I have a background in non profit community development consulting, currently holding a full time position at NeighborWorks America as a relationship manager. In this position I have used a wide range of practices to address community and housing issues. Most importantly, I have learned that the client always has the answer they need within their own experience; my best role is as a coach helping them formulate their goal, identify what expanded capacity they need, and then develop a plan to meet the challenge. Many of my current clients are also in the not for profit sector, either as leaders, work teams or board members. They are passionate, committed and caring.

In the past I worked as an institutional chaplain so I draw on that experience by encouraging my clients to lean on their own beliefs and values in facing the challenges in front of them. When not coaching, I am a stone sculptor. As with my coaching, my goal is always to uncover what lies beneath.

If interested, you can see more details of my work experience on LinkedIn.
I’ve had the benefit of terrific coaches during my own development as an arts professional. A coaching relationship provides the undivided attention and skilled listening of someone focused entirely on helping you work through your challenges. We all have supportive professional relationships with colleagues, board members, staff and others that contribute to the richness of our professional lives. But there are limits to how much candor and learning is possible. As a client I have really valued my coaching relationships not only for the space free of entanglements, but especially for the professional skills that include empathy, active listening, growing awareness and co-creating actions that work.

I am stepping into coaching, as I am stepping down as President and CEO of the League of American Orchestras where I have worked for the past 22 years. I have also held executive positions at the New York Philharmonic, American Composers Orchestra, the Seattle Symphony, and I have served on a variety of nonprofit boards.

Now, I am ready for new and varied professional roles, including coaching clients to support their personal growth and ability to navigate their challenges. From my own career experience, I am familiar with many of the challenges faced by arts professionals including working with boards, managing staff, leading change, and career development among others. I have counseled people in all career stages, from pre-professional to senior executive leadership.

Eastern Time Zone (UTC−05:00)

Let’s work out a mutually suitable time.

✅ Leadership Coaching

✅ Coaching Virtually

Just about every aspect of organizational life has been exhaustively written about by academics and practitioners alike. I’ve enjoyed the opportunity to work with some of the best including Ron Heifetz and Jim Collins, and invested in my own professional development through the Leadership Coaching Program of National Arts Strategies and the International Coach Federation, and programs at Harvard and the Center for Creative Leadership. But of course, it’s not as simple as just doing what’s in the books. The leadership journey is neither two dimensional nor linear. Each of us brings our own unique gifts and histories that can be leveraged to work through the barriers that invariably arise as we work to become fully ourselves. Coaching is about that exploration and creating the pathways to change, and I am dedicated to working with others to find those pathways.
I am a member of the International Coach Federation with an anticipated accreditation date of Fall 2020, pursuing my training through the National Arts Strategies Leadership Coaching training program.

I approach coaching with the same values that I’ve depended on during my twenty-five year career in the arts and culture sector: respect, kindness, humor and honesty.

Chances are, if you have dedicated time and energy to working in the creative sector, you have no shortage of vision and excellent ideas. But we can all use the support and space to figure out how to execute those ideas, how to bring our best selves to the vision and to get clarity on what the moment is calling for now.

Our leadership styles and proficiencies change over time. Acquiring new knowledge, experience and perspective all result in an evolution of personal leadership that needs periodic examination. From emerging leaders and social entrepreneurs in the creative sector...to those in transition...to those who are just feeling overwhelmed, coaching can be a powerful tool to reflect, clarify, evaluate, build vision and strategy.

With my experience in small producing organizations, large presenting institutions, higher education and plenty of years spent in the hustle as a freelance artist, teaching artist and consultant, I have intimate knowledge of the unique challenges and rewards that we face in our field. Areas of exploration for you might be:

- Leading change
- Rediscovering Joy and Passion
- Transitions and Professional Growth
- Learning to Share Power
- Balance
- Stuck-ness
- Focusing an overwhelming number of ideas

For more information about my professional resume, please visit linkedin.com/in/kelli-strickland-she-her-hers-26a53651.
Alicia Sutton

I have discovered in life that there are ways of getting almost anywhere you want to go, if you really want to go.
– Langston Hughes

My career path has taken many twists and turns, but it has always led me to engage with passionate people making a difference and driving change. These engagements fostered my interest in coaching, and I am proud to be a member of the International Coach Federation (ICF) working towards my Associate Certified Coach (ACC) credential.

As I coach, I take a strengths-based approach to help people use their inherent skills and talents to drive the change they want in their lives, careers, or communities. I work with clients to identify clear objectives for their coaching work that will lead to actionable plans. These plans can help advance goals, remove barriers to progress, and experiment with new behaviors and approaches built on strengths. I am versed in the StrengthsFinder system developed by the Gallup organization and enjoy working with these types of assessments to help clients aim their strengths at their goals.

Through coaching, I have helped clients:
- Effectively communicate the value they bring
- Respond to challenges with plans built on core values
- Understand and embrace personal strengths
- Embrace leadership roles and use their unique position to inspire others

In addition to coaching, I currently serve as Executive Director of Free Arts for Abused Children of Arizona where I steward the organization’s major relationships with board members and donors. For many years, I led business development, fundraising, and relationship management efforts in the arts and culture sector and in global higher education. I am interested in public-private partnerships, using art as an agent of social change, and sustainability/capacity building in the social sector.

I have an MBA from Thunderbird School of Global Management and a Bachelor of Arts in fine arts from Arizona State University. I am a Fellow in the Chief Executive Program with National Arts Strategies and a participant in their inaugural Leadership Coaching Training Program in partnership with the Goldvarg Consulting Group.

Pacific Time Zone (UTC−08:00)

I am available to coach during normal business hours (9am - 4pm PST), Evenings and weekends.

Monday and Thursday evenings preferred.

Noon to 4:00pm on weekends preferred.

✔ Leadership Coaching
✔ Coaching Virtually
Beth Takekawa

Beth Takekawa is Executive Director of the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (The Wing), a community-based cultural anchor in Seattle’s Chinatown-International District, the nation’s only pan-Asian Pacific American museum, the first Smithsonian Institution affiliate in the Northwest, and an Affiliated Area of the National Park Service. The Wing is a national model for culture building communities, or creative placemaking.

Beth has served as Executive Director for twelve years, and has experience in community economic development, working in the private, nonprofit and public sectors. She worked in public housing development and owned and managed a general contracting and construction firm in New York City that experienced rapid growth.

Beth serves as board member for the International District Emergency Center, Downtown Seattle Association, and was appointed by President Obama to the National Museum and Library Services Board. She was a governor’s appointee to the Washington State Arts Commission, and is a 2011 Salzburg Global Seminars Fellow, one of 56 leaders worldwide discussing museums and libraries in the era of participatory culture. Beth was a National Planning Committee member for the Minidoka National Historic Site, established to remember the U.S. government’s World War II incarceration of Americans of Japanese ancestry. She is a fallen cellist, having completed her music degree at the University of Minnesota and Hunter College.

Beth is an alumna of the National Arts Strategies Chief Executive Program, and currently participating in NAS’ inaugural Leadership Coaching Training Program, with a desire to support and sustain leaders who are empowering communities and changing the arts.

Pacific Time Zone (UTC–08:00)

Let’s work out a mutually suitable time.

✔ Leadership Coaching

✔ Coaching Virtually
Joan Vorderbruggen
Minneapolis, Minnesota

I am a nationally recognized leader in the field of placemaking and a sought-after speaker and advisor with nearly a decade of experience working with diverse communities as an arts organizer and twice that providing direct patient care in various capacities as a professional nurse. As an immersed organizer working at the intersections of art, community and economic development, social justice, and human service I have tremendous passion for supporting emerging leaders working within social impact sectors to build the confidence, clarity, and strategy required to lead transformative change.

I am a warm and empathic coach who believes in the power of deep listening and inquiry to assist you to find your own answers as part of your unique path and lived experience.

As I have been learning the art and science of coaching this past year my clients represent leadership from healthcare, arts, governance, and human service sectors spanning across the globe from Hong Kong to Appalachia. This has provided me with a rich practice to journey with each of them to support their visions and dreams for their communities.

I would love the opportunity to work with you and unlock your greatest potential!

Central Time Zone (UTC−06:00)

With 2-3 weeks advance notice I can be fairly flexible M-F during the work day. Alternatively, I also have near-term availability on nights and weekends.

✔ Leadership Coaching
✔ Creative Placemaking
✔ Coaching Virtually
Sunny Widmann

Sunny Widmann: Director at NAS, certified coach, nationally recognized facilitator and leadership program designer.

As a coach, I am passionate about helping leaders live out their values at work, contributing to healthier workplace cultures, more powerful relationships and higher performing teams. I partner with clients – from entrepreneurs to executive leaders – to work through transitions and establish a clear vision for the future.

My love of coaching stems from my over ten years of experience as a nationally recognized facilitator and designer of learning experiences. In these capacities, I’ve seen firsthand how deep listening and thoughtful process can create “aha!” moments that transform lives.

This is the same approach I bring to my coaching. Through our work together, my clients have:

- Found the courage to advance racial equity in their organizations
- Addressed and managed imposter syndrome to lead with confidence
- Created a vision for a new career path – and taken action in that direction

I’ve had the honor of working with hundreds of leaders in the arts and culture sector over my time as Director at NAS. In this role, I’ve co-designed leadership programs with institutions such as Harvard Business School, University of Michigan – Ross School of Business, Stanford Graduate School of Business and University of Pennsylvania’s Center for Social Impact Strategy.

Given my vocation, it’s no surprise that learning and growth are two of my deepest held values. My degrees are from Butler University and American University, with additional training from the Interaction Institute for Social Change, Race Forward, Equity in the Center and the NAS partner institutions listed above. I integrate the many frameworks and tools I’ve learned on this journey into my coaching to offer more value to my clients.

I am a member of the International Coach Federation with an anticipated accreditation date of December 2020, pursuing my training through the NAS Leadership Coaching Training program and Goldvarg Consulting Group.

Eastern Time Zone (UTC−05:00)
Monday - Friday, 8am-4pm.

✔ Leadership Coaching
✔ Creative Placemaking
✔ Coaching Virtually