

Speakers & Performers



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SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

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★ *indicates TCA staff/board member*



Marissa Austin

New to Georgetown and Texas, Marissa Austin has recently accepted the position as the Georgetown Palace Theatre's first executive director. This position includes managing the Palace's vision and representing the Palace to the community. Marissa earned a Master of Arts Degree in Organizational Management and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Theatre Arts at Concordia University, St. Paul, MN.

Marissa has spent her career in non-profit fundraising and management, serving as director of external relations at the Rivers Institute at Hanover College, IN, director of alumni relations at the University of Dubuque, IA and administrative director at Concordia University, St. Paul. She also currently teaches college-level theatre and communication courses for Concordia University, St. Paul.



Amy Baskin

Amy Baskin has been the Executive Director of Young Audiences of Northeast Texas since September, 2009. Young Audiences presents over 300 curriculum based arts programs led by trained teaching artists to 33 different schools reaching over 40,000 students each year. From 1999 to 2006 Amy served as the Executive Director of the Greenville (Mississippi) Arts Council.



Christine Dotterweich Bial

Christine Dotterweich Bial is the Curator of Performing Arts for Mid-America Arts Alliance. Prior to joining the staff at M-AAA, she was the Program Manager of Community and Artist Partnerships for the Kansas Arts Commission. Christine spent ten years in nonprofit theatre management working as an AEA Stage Manager and Production Manager for Roundabout Theatre Company in New York City, Southwest Repertory Theatre Company in Albuquerque, NM, and Kansas City Repertory Theatre Company among others. She earned her undergraduate degree from Franklin College in Indiana and her graduate degree from Tisch School of the Arts at New York University.



Doug Borwick, Ph.D.

Doug Borwick is an ArtsJournal blogger (Engaging Matters) and author of the book *Building Communities, Not Audiences*. He is immediate past President of the Association of Arts Administration Educators, an international organization of higher education programs, and for three decades was Director of Salem College's Arts Management Program. Dr. Borwick's businesses—Outfitters4, Inc. and ArtsEngaged—provide management services for nonprofits and training/consultation services to artists/arts organizations seeking to more effectively engage with their communities.



Patricia "Patty" A. Bryant

★ Chair, Texas Commission on the Arts



Rebecca Campbell

Rebecca Campbell has served as Executive Director of the Austin Film Society since 1998. During her tenure, AFS has granted over \$1 million to emerging Texas filmmakers, founded Austin Studios—a 20-acre production facility—and expanded educational programs for youth and artists. She holds an MFA in Video and Film Production from UT Austin.



Brad Carlin

Brad is the Managing Director of the Fusebox Festival in Austin. He received a Masters Degree in Arts Management from Carnegie Mellon University and a B.A. in theatre from St. Edward's University. Brad has worked in management and fundraising for SITI Company, Salvage Vanguard Theatre, and the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center.



Ashley Cass

Ashley Cass is a 2010 Texas Social Media award winner. She has been mentioned in the New York Times for her use of Twitter and was listed as one of "Austin's Most Social Citizens," in the Austin American Statesman's Out & About 500. Cass works at Giant Noise and maintains a personal Klout Score of 70.



Patty Diou

Patti Diou has been the executive director of the Friends of the Levitt Pavilion since it opened in 2008. In four years, she has doubled the organization's annual attendance and annual budget. Patti earned her theater degree at the University of Texas at Arlington and served as Theatre Arlington's Executive Director for three years. She was the theater's marketing director for six years prior to taking the executive director's position. Patti serves on the Downtown Arlington Management Corporation Board, The University of Texas at Arlington National Alumni Board and is a member of the Rotary Club of Arlington. She is a graduate of Leadership Arlington and served on the board as the marketing director and on the adult training committee for three years. Prior to joining the Friends of the Levitt Pavilion Arlington, Patti was vice president of development for the YMCA of Arlington. She has been married to her husband Emile for 25 years and has two children, Kristen who is working on her masters in psychology at UNT and Alex a sophomore at TCU.



Gary Gibbs, Ph.D.

★ Executive Director, Texas Commission on the Arts



Cynthia Gray

★ Program Assistant, Texas Commission on the Arts



Caroline Hammond

Caroline Hammond is the Program Director at the Texas Cultural Trust. The Trust, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose mission is to promote and highlight the importance of the arts in educating our children and sustaining our vibrant Texas economy. Hammond, an Austin native, is a graduate of Pepperdine University.



Brent Hasty, Ph.D.

Dr. Brent Hasty is the Executive Director of MINDPOP, a solutions-based organization dedicated to expanding creative learning in Austin. MINDPOP provides students, teachers, school leaders, tools they need to teach using the arts, plan with schools and neighborhoods to assure access to the arts, coordinating with schools and arts organizations to align programs with the needs of schools and measure our success. Under his leadership, MINDPOP received the Kennedy Center's Any Given Child designation to support efforts by the city, the school district and the arts community to achieve these ambitious goals. Brent is also a Clinical Assistant Professor at The University of Texas at Austin in the College of Education, where he teaches Elementary Social Studies Methods in the teacher preparation program. His research agenda includes integrated instruction, community alignment and service learning. His research has been presented internationally and published peer-reviewed journals including Action in Teacher Education and Arts and Learning Research Journal.



Jon Hinojosa

For the past 18 years Jon has orchestrated the growth of SAY Sí and its multi-disciplinary programs, including leading a 3.2 million dollar fundraising effort to purchase and rehabilitate a 26,000 square foot warehouse into its permanent campus in San Antonio's Arts District. Jon is a producing and exhibiting visual artist and is active in local, regional and national arts education professional organizations.



Celia M. Hughes

Celia Hughes has over 30 years of experience working in the arts as teacher, producer, artist and administrator and has worked alongside people with disabilities for over 25 years. She has developed inclusive arts programs in public schools, community centers, cultural arts facilities, and disability service organizations across Texas. In 2011, Ms Hughes was honored with the Kick Ass Award for her advocacy work for people with disabilities. In 2012, she was awarded the Bert Kruger Smith Vision Award by AGE of Central Texas and the Martha Arbuckle Meritorious Service Award by the Austin Mayor's Committee on People with Disabilities.



Donna Ingham

Donna Ingham is a semi-retired English professor turned award-winning storyteller and author. To date, she has written six books about Texas and recorded four storytelling CDs. On the [Touring Artist Roster](#) for the Texas Commission on the Arts, she performs and leads workshops all over the state and beyond.



Katy Jennings

★ Finance Assistant, Texas Commission on the Arts



Michael Killoren

Michael Killoren serves as the Director for Local Arts Agencies and Challenge America Fast-Track at the National Endowment for the Arts. He is responsible for the grantmaking processes for Local Arts Agencies (LAA's), developing partnerships to advance the LAA field as a whole, and the Challenge America Fast-Track program. Most recently, Mr. Killoren served as director of Seattle's Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs, a cabinet-level position, from 2002 through 2010, where he led the city department's funding and public art programs, developed policy initiatives to increase public access to arts and culture, and established a groundbreaking partnership to restore arts education in Seattle Public Schools. Prior to July 2002, Mr. Killoren was Seattle's first director of cultural tourism for Seattle's Convention and Visitors Bureau, where he launched an initiative to promote the region's cultural assets. He also served as an arts program coordinator and later executive director of the King County Arts Commission, where he worked to increase access and participation in arts and culture, with a focus on rural and suburban communities. He also served as managing director of the Alice B. Theatre, all three organizations based in Seattle. For three and a half years prior to coming to Seattle in 1993, Mr. Killoren was part of the programming staff at the Sheldon Arts Foundation in St. Louis, Missouri. Mr. Killoren has served as president and vice-president of the U.S. Urban Arts Federation of Americans for the Arts, and as a member of the Downtown Seattle Association Marketing Committee, among other community service positions. He has a B.A. in Media Arts from Webster University in St. Louis and completed graduate studies in telecommunications at Indiana University, Bloomington.



Heather Kitchen

Heather Kitchen has 38 years professional experience in performing arts management, planning, financial analysis, education, board development, advocacy and union negotiations. She is currently managing director of Dallas Theater Center. Previously Ms. Kitchen was executive director of American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco and manager of The Citadel Theatre in Edmonton, Canada.



David Lake

David Lake is Program Officer at Houston Endowment in the area of Arts and Culture. Prior to taking that position in 2010, Lake was for nine years Foundation Relations Officer for the University of Houston, responsible for grants from private and corporate foundations for projects throughout the university. He previously worked as a development officer at the Houston Symphony and at DiverseWorks Artspace.



Doylene Land

Doylene Land, Deputy Director and Curator of Education at the Ellen Noël Art Museum in Odessa, Texas, earned her BFA in Art Education and MFA in Education with a Visual Impairment Teaching Certification

from Texas Tech University. Ms. Land taught art in schools in Texas and Mexico. She worked twenty three years for the State of Texas/Department of Blind Services as a Rehabilitation Teacher. At the Ellen Noël Art Museum, Ms. Land assisted in the planning and designing of The George and Milly Rhodus Sculpture and Sensory Garden.



Earl Lundquist

Husband, father, videographer, podcaster, writer, designer, lover of one word self-descriptions.



Freddy Martinez

★ Systems Administrator, Texas Commission on the Arts



Magdalena McCall

Magdalena McCall started her career at the UCLA Foundation in 1995; as presenter of monthly Principles Workshops at San Antonio Area Foundation her emphasis is the cultivation of best practices and principles at all levels. Avid in preservation of the arts and historic buildings, Magdalena is also a cyclist, having completed (8) 160-mile bike fundraisers for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Magdalena attended UCLA, and now lives in San Antonio with her 2 sons, Kierian Alexander (14) and Brandon Christopher (12), and their dog Babs.



Jim Bob McMillan

★ Deputy Director, Texas Commission on the Arts

Program Areas: Cultural Districts; Local Arts Agencies; Theater



Anina Moore

★ Program Administrator, Texas Commission on the Arts

Program Areas: Dance; Literature; Poetry Out Loud; Presenting; Touring Roster



David J. Neff

Simply put, David helps people and nonprofits for a living. As a digital marketer, content strategist, digital engagement pro and online campaigns expert David has been living in the digital and nonprofit world for over thirteen years. He currently works as a Senior Associate at PriceWaterhouseCoopers in Austin, TX where he works with Fortune 500 brands on the customer impact of digital strategy and digital engagement. He is also the author of the “The Future of Nonprofits : Thrive and Innovate in the Digital Age” (Wiley May of 2011) and author of 501derful.org one of the longest running and most popular blogs for nonprofit technology and media.



Cynthia B. Nunn

Cynthia Nunn is President of the Center for Nonprofit Management. Mrs. Nunn has lead several nonprofits in her career and, has served on numerous boards and advisory committees throughout North Texas. – United Way of Metropolitan Dallas, Junior League of Dallas, Leadership Dallas, OneStar Foundation, Texas Health Resources, North Texas Commission.



Allison Orr

From Venetian gondoliers to firefighters, maintenance men to sanitation workers, award-winning choreographer Allison Orr creates dances with all kinds of people. As Artistic Director of Forklift Danceworks, Allison has partnered with over 20 various communities, producing projects in intimate theaters to massive, outdoor stages for audiences of 20 to 2,000+.



B. Joseph Pine II

B. Joseph Pine II is an internationally acclaimed author, speaker, and management advisor to Fortune 500 companies and entrepreneurial start-ups alike. Mr. Pine co-founded Strategic Horizons LLP, a thinking studio dedicated to helping organizations conceive and design new ways of adding value to their offerings, and co-authored *The Experience Economy and Authenticity: What Consumers Really Want*.



Christopher Rankin

Christopher Rankin is a web designer, coder, and consultant from Austin. He currently works for Whole Foods Market Global Communications on the Experience Design team and is a partner in the full-service, boutique web studio Big Check Factory. He has over 15 years of public and nonprofit web site experience working for the University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture, the Texas Commission on the Arts, and the Austin Museum of Art (where he was responsible for creating the museum's first web site). A founding member of the Austin Museum of Digital Art, Rankin enjoys exploring the intersection of art and technology, researching animated GIFs, and tracking the spread of popular memes.



Jennifer Ransom Rice

Jennifer Ransom Rice serves as Director of Development for the Texas Cultural Trust. She previously spent 12 years with the state legislature. She is active in her community, as a volunteer and advisor for numerous organizations. She earned her bachelor's degree in mass communications from Midwestern State University, and her master's degree in journalism from The University of Texas.



Ann Rolling

Ann Rolling is co-founder and Executive Director of the EmilyAnn Theatre & Gardens. Previously, Ann managed Cameron Equestrian Center and Morton Printing. She holds a B.S. in Education from Texas Christian University and worked in education for many years. Her background in education and management has provided an excellent foundation for building the EmilyAnn.



Cookie Ruiz

Ms. Ruiz has more than 25 years experience in the areas of strategic planning, program development and non-profit fund-raising/management, which includes work with the United Way and the American Red Cross. In 2002 she was awarded the professional designation of Certified Fund Raising Executive (C.F.R.E.) by the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Her community honors include Austin Business Journal's "Profiles in Power" award, Austin Community Foundation's Beverly S. Sheffield Award/Excellence as Nonprofit Executive, The American Red Cross "Clara Barton Medal of Honor," Volunteer of the Year for the Austin Independent School District, the Lone Star Girl Scout Council "Women of Distinction" Award and is a former President of The Junior League of Austin. Ms. Ruiz is a member of the Mayor Lee Leffingwell's Citizen Cabinet and is a graduate of Austin's City Works Academy. Ms. Ruiz is the immediate past Chair of the national Board of Trustees of Dance/USA, the Chair of the "CreateAustin" city-wide cultural planning process, a member of the national Board of Directors of the Performing Arts Alliance (Washington DC), a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), the Board of Directors of Texans for the Arts, the Board of Directors of GENAustin, the Board of Directors of Con Mi Madre, the Community Advisory Board of KMFA, and a Community Advisor to the Young Women's Alliance (YWA). As a 1995 graduate of Leadership Austin, Ms. Ruiz co-founded the diversity/principle-based curriculum for the Teen Leadership Austin program and served as

a member of the Leadership Austin Board of Directors. Additionally, Ms. Ruiz provided the research and development for the nationally recognized Junior League of Austin Hispanic Mother/Daughter Program (Con Mi Madre), as well as three other nationally replicated social service programs. Ms. Ruiz has served as a speaker, facilitator and presenter for a variety of leadership conferences, including the National Conference on Community Leadership, the National Performing Arts Conference, The Governor's Women's Business Leadership Forum and the Texas Commission on the Arts. In 1996 Ms. Ruiz joined the staff of Ballet Austin as development director, became general manager in 1997 and executive director in 1999.



Cassandra Scholte

★ Program Administrator, Texas Commission on the Arts

Program Areas: Grant Contracts & Payments; Media Arts; Young Masters



Barry Silverberg

Barry Silverberg is CEO, Texas Association of Nonprofit Organizations (TANO); Founder and Director, Center for Community-Based & Nonprofit Organizations at Austin Community College; co-chair Texas Legislature’s Task Force on Improving Relations with Nonprofits; co-chair, National Council of Nonprofits’ Task Force on Government Contracting; and adjunct faculty at St. Edward’s University.



Dana Douglass Swann

★ Executive Assistant, Texas Commission on the Arts



Howard Taylor

Howard Taylor has 43 years experience in museum administration and has been with the San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts for 30 years as its first and only director. He has previously served as Chief of

Interpretation at the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society and prior to coming to Texas, was the Assistant Director of the Philadelphia Maritime Museum for 13 years. He is former President of the Museum Council of Philadelphia, Co-Chairman of the 1982 American Association of Museums (AAM) Annual Meeting, and has served as the President of the National Association of Museum Exhibition, the largest standing professional committee of the AAM. He has served three times as Chairman of the Texas Commission on the Arts Visual Arts Panel and has been a juror, consultant and featured speaker for more than one hundred museums and arts venues throughout the country. He is a past President of the Texas Association of Museums (TAM). He served as a member of the Board of Director's of the American Association of Museums and currently serves on the Board of the Texas Association of Museums. Howard Taylor received a BFA from the Columbus College of Art and Design (Ohio). He studied American Civilization and Historical Archeology at the University of Pennsylvania and is a graduate of a museum management program offered by the Museums Collaborative of New York and the Columbia University Business School. He completed a cultural arts management program at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. The San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts is the only museum to have received the American Institute of Architects National Service Award. The San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts received the Institute of Museum and Library Services National Museum Service Award in a ceremony at the White House in 2003. Howard received the Texas Association of Museum's President's Award in 2004 and the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year Award in 2005. On April 1, 2011 Howard accepted the John L. Nau III award for Excellence in Museums from the Texas Historical Commission.



Kay Thomas

Kay Thomas received an MFA in Ceramics from Arizona State University and a BFA degree in Ceramics from Texas A & M –Commerce, Texas. A veteran teaching artist with over 25 years experience in visual arts residencies, Thomas has worked with students and teachers grades Pre-K through 12 in multiple school districts. In addition to her residency activities, Thomas is the designer/presenter for a variety of art workshops and institutes throughout the US. These workshops emphasize the value of the artistic inquiry process in developing new classroom teaching strategies and higher order thinking skills.

Currently, Thomas is the Visual Artist/Consultant for Texarkana Regional Arts and Humanities Council's ArtsSmart Institute for Learning. Her work for ArtsSmart involves in-depth visual arts experiences for students in the classroom, professional development and classroom modeling for teachers in arts integration, and arts curriculum design for schools. Based on her workshops in arts integration, Thomas also teaches art courses for Texas A & M University pre-service classroom teachers.



Sherry Kafka Wagner

Sherry Kafka Wagner's work embraces many fields of the arts, including writing, media production, urban design and museum, aquarium, and parks development.. A major component of her work is involved with bringing new ideas and projects into functioning life. She has worked with cultural organizations throughout the nation and in other countries.



Grant Weaver

★ Director of Finance, Texas Commission on the Arts



Amber West

★ Program Assistant, Texas Commission on the Arts

Program Areas: Evaluators; Site Visits



Laura Wiegand

★ Director of Programs & Technology, Texas Commission on the Arts

Program Areas: Public Art; State Artists; Visual Arts & Museums



Karen Wiley

Karen Wiley, a native Texan, serves as Executive Director for LHUCA. Former professional accomplishments include: Executive Director of the City of Lubbock Fine Arts Center and the Western Heritage Museum (Hobbs, NM), Director of Finance/Administration & General Manager for The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza (Dallas, TX).



Chuck Winkler

★ Program Administrator, Texas Commission on the Arts

Program Areas: ADA/504 Coordinator; Arts Education; Multi-Discipline Arts; Music and Opera; Young Masters

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PERFORMERS

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Remember, these are just a few of the excellent artists available to come to your community through the TCA's [Texas Touring Program](#). Check out the [whole roster of artists](#).



Big Squeeze artist Ruben Moreno

Ruben Moreno is a Big Squeeze contest winner and available through Texas Folklife on the [TCA Texas Touring Roster](#).



Del Castillo

Del Castillo is available through the [TCA Texas Touring Roster](#).



E-Flat Porch Band

E-Flat Porch Band is available through the [TCA Texas Touring Roster](#).



Ruby Nelda Perez

Ruby Nelda Perez is available through the [TCA Texas Touring Roster](#).



Warren Hood and the Goods

Warren Hood and the Goods is available through the [TCA Texas Touring Roster](#).
