

Anne L'Ecuyer
Executive Director
Arizona Commission on the Arts

- Three months on the job
- Phoenix native and Lumberjack
- 20-year arts career in Washington, DC
- Expert in cultural funding and creative industry business models
- Passionate about social impact finance and civic and corporate leadership



Alex Nelson
Deputy Director
Arizona Commission on the Arts

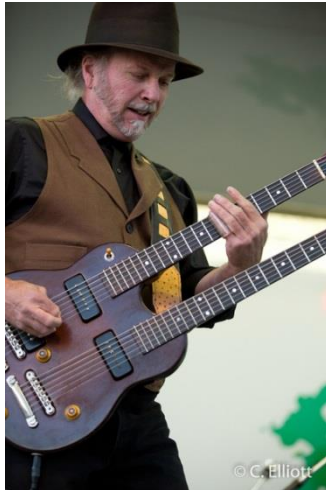
- Arts practitioner and arts administrator
- ASU alumni
- 13+ years with the Arts Commission
- Expert in public funding in the arts, community building, and equitable philanthropy
- Passionate about the vital contributions that arts and culture makes to cities, communities, and to civic life





Imagine

We imagine an Arizona where everyone can participate in and experience the arts.



AGENCY OVERVIEW

The Arts Commission is...

- One of 56 government state arts agencies in the United States.
- Funded by the State of Arizona and the National Endowment for the Arts.



AGENCY OVERVIEW

- The agency is governed by a 15-member Governor-appointed Commission.
- Our staff includes practicing artists, skilled administrators and education specialists who serve in local and national arts leadership roles.



AGENCY OVERVIEW

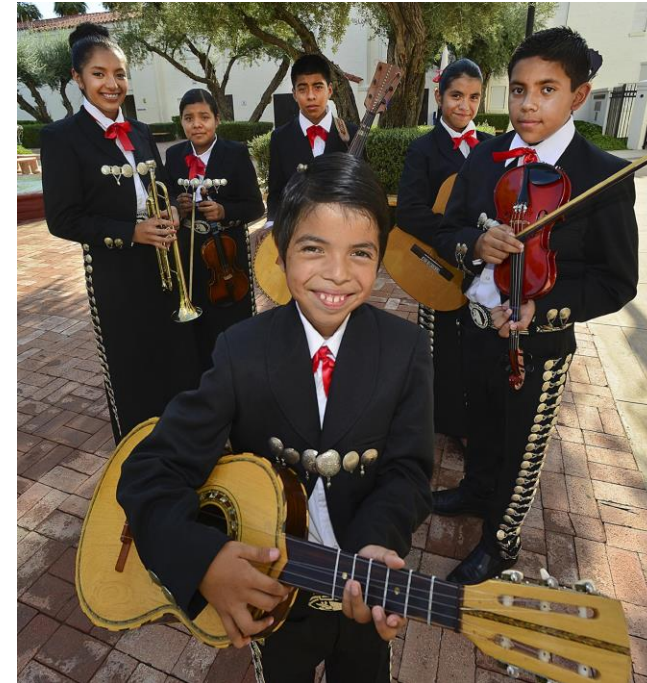
The Arts Commission is...

- A Grantmaker
- A Convener
- A Resource



ARTS+ Youth

- Arizona arts organizations host 6,600+ field trips and school engagements each year
- 10,000 Arizona high school students participate in Poetry Out Loud each year
- Youth Arts Council recognized as a national model for youth leadership
- Americorps and apprenticeships



Source: 2018 Arizona Youth Survey

ARTS+ Veterans

- Veterans are 9% of Arizona's population, compared to 7.3% nationally
- AZ Vets are better educated (30.7 have bachelors degrees, compare to 28.8 nationally)
- Arizona veterans had the second highest unemployment rate of all states
- More than half of AZ Vets are 65+
- 20+ Arizona museums participate in the national Blue Star Families program

Source: 2021 Economic Snapshot of Arizona Veterans



ARTS+ Seniors

- 65+ fastest growing demographic 2010 to 2020; up 34.2% nationally and 48.4% in Arizona
- Creative Aging - Express, Connect, & Engage
- Positive Impact on Health Outcomes
- Respite for Healthcare Workers
- Support for Family Caregivers
- Skilled Employment for Artists



Source: 2020 Arizona is Getting Older...



AZ CREATIVE AGING



The Creativity and Aging Study

Older individuals involved in the weekly participatory art programs, at the one and two year follow-up assessments, reported:

- fewer doctor visits and less medication usage;
- more positive responses on the mental health measures;
- more involvement in overall activities

**Sense of
Mastery &
Control**



**Social
Engagement**

AZ Creative Aging Initiative Core Values



Process-based approach
Person-centered engagement/care
Cultural Responsiveness

AZ Creative Aging Initiative Outcomes

- Strengthening skills and expertise within the arts sector in creative aging program development and partnership
- Increased implementation of robust creative aging programs by arts organizations
- Exploration of effective program/service models for aging and healthcare service providers in creative aging





Creative Aging 2.0

Strategic Visioning Process

Community Built Strategies

Strategy A	Build the capacity for the creative aging sector to deepen collaboration and relationships between artists and organizations.
Strategy B	Increase advocacy to policy makers and general public awareness of creative aging programming and the benefits it has among older adults and an entire community
Strategy C	Strengthen the creative aging community through: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Dedicated research and evaluation efforts by all2. Increased collaboration and connectivity3. Increased communication among peers
Strategy D	Ensure equity is prioritized throughout the creative aging sector.
Strategy E	Build a creative aging culture where the community is able to remain innovative, imaginative and nimble.

Discussion

- COVID-related learning
- Brief, strategic window to reframe and re-align around role and capacity
- Continued systemic approach - Revisit field scan and survey work
- Deeper relationships with healthcare partners to identify 'un-labeled' creative work and new service opportunities
- Strong emphasis on workforce development to help creative workers access professional opportunities in healthcare environments; and support resilience for all healthcare workers
- What else do we need to know? Who else should we meet?