

# STATE POLICY SYMPOSIUM

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2016  
WASHINGTON D.C.

## 2016 SYMPOSIUM SESSIONS

**1:30 pm & 2:40 pm**      **Concurrent Deep Dives on the Role and Contribution of the Arts in State Education Policy**

### **Deep Dive 2: The Arts Inside Models for Success**

We know a lot about what works in education about ways to engage students and boost achievement. But often times these success models are isolated to individual classrooms, schools, or particular movements, like charter schools. This deep dive will be a recurring session at future symposia, where we take a look at how the arts are a part of a formula for success in education and ways that those models can gain traction and spread. For 2016, we'll look at STEAM—the new STEAM language in the Every Student Succeeds Act, the congressional STEAM caucus, ways to connect the federal/state/local policy pipeline around STEAM, and examples of best practice.

### **SPEAKERS**

#### **Kate McClanahan**

Director of Federal Affairs  
Americans for the Arts



Kate McClanahan serves as Director of Federal Affairs. She aids in the development and promotion of Americans for the Arts' federal legislative agenda to Congress and the Administration, including organizing strategic events and mobilizing members and constituencies. She primarily is responsible for liaison work with the U.S. House of Representatives and policy development relating to appropriations, tax, and technology. Prior to joining Americans for the Arts in July 2013, Kate worked 8 years in the U.S. House of Representatives, including as Legislative Director to Rep. Steve LaTourette (OH-14) and as Legislative Director of the Northeast-Midwest Congressional Coalition. Kate grew up surrounded by the arts, taking ballet, clarinet lessons, pottery instruction, creative

writing classes, and roles in school plays. She received her B.A. summa cum laude in Political Science from Kenyon College and her M.A. in International Relations from Johns Hopkins University.



**Andrew Watson**

Fine Arts Instructional Specialist  
Alexandria City Public Schools



Andrew D. Watson, the recipient of the 2015 Art Education Technology Outstanding Teacher Award from the National Art Education Association, is a leading arts and STEAM educator. He supervises the Fine Arts programs in the Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) district in Virginia. Formerly, he taught Photography, Digital Arts & Design, Animation, and Game Design in the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) district in Virginia. As a member of the FCPS STEAM Project, Andrew developed curriculum and professional development for teachers in how to integrate science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics. Andrew is a member of the Congressional STEAM Caucus White Paper Writing Group. His peer reviewed articles on STEAM Education and Design Thinking

appear in the Art Education Journal, Journal for Quality and Participation, and in the American Society for Quality's 2015 Future Report. Andrew volunteers his time regionally as a member of the Board of Directors of the Northern Virginia Mini-Maker Faire and nationally as a Founding Member of the Board of Directors of the Innovation Collaborative. He also serves as an advisor to the National Art Honor Society National Council and the Smithsonian Institute's National Portrait Gallery.

**Nettrice Gaskins**

STEAM Lab Director  
Boston Arts Academy



Nettrice Gaskins majored in Visual Art at duPont Manual High School in Louisville, KY. She earned a BFA in Computer Graphics with Honors from Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York in 1992 and a MFA in Art and Technology from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois in 1994. She worked for several years in K-12 and post-secondary education, community media and technology before enrolling at Georgia Tech where she received a doctorate in Digital Media in 2014. She proposed a model for 'techno-vernacular creativity' as an area of practice that investigates the characteristics of this production and its application in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) learning. When she is not advancing interdisciplinary education, Ms. Gaskins blogs for Art21, the

producer of the Peabody award-winning PBS series, Art in the Twenty-First Century and publishes articles about Afrofuturism. Her essays are in Meet Me at the Fair: A World's Fair Reader published by ETC Press, Future Texts: Subversive Performance and Feminist Bodies published by Parlor Press and Afrofuturism 2.0: The Rise of Astro-Blackness. She is currently the director of the STEAM Lab at Boston Arts Academy.