



NEWS AND INFORMATION

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Newly Elected Council Members to Chart Course for Emerging Arts Leaders

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Americans for the Arts announced today the election of five new members to its Emerging Leader Council, a group that assists with developing programs and resources to promote the growth, development, and sustenance of emerging arts professionals nationwide.

“Americans for the Arts adamantly supports and promotes the development of new arts leadership,” said Robert L. Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts. “The future of the arts depends on embracing and cultivating these individuals. We are very pleased to welcome the new members to the Emerging Leader Council.”

The Emerging Leader program at Americans for the Arts works to identify and cultivate the next generation of arts leaders in America. Through special meetings and networking opportunities taking place across the country, the program encourages new arts leaders to participate fully in the field. Emerging arts leaders bring fresh perspectives, new ideas, and vibrant energy to careers that build their foundation on creativity, and council members are committed to enhancing that leadership capacity. New professionals are valuable to the arts community, and the members of the Emerging Leader Council are dedicated to seeing that the support for the arts continues for generations to come.

Following is a list of the newly elected Emerging Leader Council members:

John Arroyo is the organizational development coordinator for the Los Angeles County Arts Commission. He coordinates technical assistance and professional development opportunities, including the county’s undergraduate Arts Internship Program, Arts Leadership Initiative, Executive Coaching Initiative, municipality programs, and grantee scholarship programs and workshops.

Teniqua Broughton is cultural participation manager at Arizona State University (ASU) Gammage in Tempe, AZ. She manages the performances for students series, offers vocational workshops for high schools, creates artists' residencies, and programs the professional development workshop series based on The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Partners in Education model.

Katie Guernsey is currently a M.A. in arts management candidate at Carnegie Mellon University and was a principal coordinator of the Technology in the Arts Conference, organized by the Center for Arts Management and Technology (CAMT). Drawn to the arts and engineering, Guernsey found a compromise at the College of Creative Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where she earned her B.S. in creative studies, with an emphasis in computer science.

Lex Leifheit is assistant director of the Green Street Arts Center, a project of Wesleyan University founded in partnership with the City of Middletown, CT, and the North End Action Team to help revitalize Middletown's poorest neighborhoods. She served as interim assistant director at Green Street from November 2005 through February 2006, during which time Green Street saw a 60 percent enrollment increase in its adult and home-school classes.

Adam J. Natale is the director of member services for Fractured Atlas in New York City. Since joining the staff, he has spearheaded a pilot program, known as the DC Area Artists Health Insurance Awareness Campaign, which seeks to improve low-cost healthcare for artists from that region. He recently created a revolutionary audience development initiative and established an ongoing relationship with New York University to offer workshops for students and alumni.

Americans for the Arts is the leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education in America. With offices in Washington, D.C. and New York City, it has a record of more than 50 years of service. Americans for the Arts is dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating opportunities for every American to participate in and appreciate all forms of the arts. Additional information is available at www.AmericansForTheArts.org.

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