Program

ARTS EQUITY SUMMIT
MARCH 22-24, 2019
Schedule Overview

Friday, March 22nd

Location: Hibernian Hall, Roxbury
6pm - 10pm

Focus: Community Celebration & Art
Join us for community, art, connection and co-creation.

We’ll kick things off with a huge community celebration featuring QTPOC+ and intergenerational artists at this performance venue, combined with interactive art making experiences, and vendor tables.

FRIDAY NIGHT PERFORMERS

Emcee: Amanda Shea
Stage Manager: Joy McDowell
Lab Charter Conservatory School, classical
Michael A. Rosegrant, poet
Adrienne Hawkins, Dance
Youth United Artists, multi-model
Danza Organica, dance performance
Quisol, #LatinXFuture
Dom Jones, contemporary

VISUAL ARTISTS

Artists from Z Gallery
Artists from Worth Rises
Deniz Khateri
Sarah Palmeri
Delgreta Brown
Makiko Suda

Saturday, March 23rd

Locations: District Hall & Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA), Seaport
9am - 7pm

Focus: Elevation & Opening

An incredible morning keynote is followed by an action packed day of break-out workshops, panel discussions and town-hall style meetings. The day is capped off by a closing keynote and community happy hour.

Schedule:

9am - 10:30am  Opening Keynote
Location: Institute of Contemporary Art
Featuring: Jason Lujan, Hyppolite Ntigurirwa, Kaisha Johnson, Quisol & Abilities Dance

10:30am - 11am  Coffee Break & Transition to District Hall

11am - 12:30pm  Break-out Session 1
Location: District Hall

12:30pm - 1:30pm  Lunch Break
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>1:30pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Break-out Session 2</td>
<td>District Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00pm - 3:45pm</td>
<td>Coffee &amp; Stretch Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:45pm - 5:15pm</td>
<td>Closing Keynote</td>
<td>District Hall</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Featuring: Antonio Cuyler, Aysha Upchurch, Chaédria LaBouvier, Pawlet Brooks, Ally Ang, Paine the Poet, Ny'lasia Brown &amp; Tamiko Beyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:15pm - 7:00pm</td>
<td>Community Happy Hour</td>
<td>District Hall</td>
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<td>Hosted by: Women of Color in the Arts (WOCA), the Network for Arts Administrators of Color (NAAC) at ArtsBoston, Arts Administrators of Color (AAC), UrbanLabs, and Arts Connect International (ACI).</td>
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**Sunday, March 24th**

**Locations:** Non-Profit Center, Downtown

10am - 2pm

**Focus:** **Action & Healing**

Sunday is focused on connectivity, healing and steps forward. A “Connection Brunch” provides a space for networking, lingering conversations, and continued progress.

**Schedule:**

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<tr>
<td>10:00am - 10:30am</td>
<td>Arrival &amp; Brunch</td>
<td>Non-Profit Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30am - 11:30am</td>
<td>Taiko Drumming Session</td>
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<td>11:30am - 11:45am</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<td>11:45am - 12:45pm</td>
<td>Concurrent Breakout Sessions</td>
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<td>12:45pm - 1:00pm</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<td>1:00pm - 2:00pm</td>
<td>Closing Community Circle</td>
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A Note From Arts Connect International

Dear Summit Community,

It is an incredible honor to welcome you to the Arts Equity Summit 2019. We are grateful to have been able to co-create this inaugural Summit at each level with the collaboration and vision of our community partners, sponsoring partners, presenters, artists and local community members.

Each organization and individual comes to this Summit as a change agent, bringing invaluable and unique perspective. We hold respect for each and every one of your positions and lived experiences. Through both listening to and witnessing others’ perspectives and truths, and through offering our own, we hold the power to collectively challenge oppressive norms within the arts and culture industry that have existed for far too long.

The lens through which we see the world is deeply informed by the multidimensional and intersectional identities we hold. As such, please join us as co-learners during the three days of the Summit in examining both our privileges and oppressions. It is essential to question our own positionalities regularly, and it is with this awareness that we hope to collectively move towards the dismantling of oppressive structures to envision a more equitable future.

In the same spirit, we are here to learn with each and every one of you. As such, we request your feedback both throughout the Summit and after, so that we can continue to do this work with as much integrity, heart, and skill as possible.

We thank you for joining us in elevating intersectional equity and justice in the arts, and for all that you bring to the Arts Equity Summit community.

In solidarity and respect,

The ACI Team

Marian Brown, Executive Director  |  Hanako Brais, Research & Programming Assistant  |  
Joy McDowell, Development Fellow  |  Allegra Fletcher, Programming Fellow  |  Joseph Quisol, Artist Fellow  |  Manny Martinez, Artist Outreach Intern  |  Stephen Hamilton, Youth United Artist Mentor  |  Jessica Fei, Research Consultant  |  Kimberly Curhan, Marketing & Design Consultant  |  Sumeya Aden, Youth United Artist  |  Dashawn Borden, Youth United Artist  |  Jedidia Santana, Youth United Artist  |  Alice Brito, Youth United Artist  |  Ny’lasia Brown, Youth United Artist  |  Jonathan Lopez, Youth United Artist  |  Dr. Jennifer Bailey, Board Member  |  Shreyas Navare, Board Member  |  Meena Malik, Board Member  |  David Brown, Board Member  |  

ACI’s Mission: ACI partners with emerging artist leaders of color, and arts influencers who hold institutional power in the contemporary art world, to collectively build equity, access, and inclusion through transformational leadership development.

Website: www.artsconnectinternational.org  
Social Media: @ArtsConnectInt
Community Agreement

By participating in the Arts Equity Summit, I acknowledge and embrace that I am likely to meet many people with multiple perspectives that may challenge my own beliefs. I commit to actively listening and engaging with the community of co-learners present, and I commit to remaining humble and receptive when challenged. Further, I will share from my own personal experience, and not on behalf of others.

Note: All Summit participants signed the community agreement prior to the start of the Summit.

Media Agreement

By attending the Summit I acknowledge that several events will be live streamed, and that photographs will be taken throughout. As a participant, I agree to this media engagement.

Note: All Summit participants signed the media agreement prior to the start of the Summit.

Land Acknowledgement

At Arts Connect International, we believe that one of the roles of the arts is to elevate and celebrate the voices of Indigenous artists. Therefore, as a committed ally and as artists, Arts Connect International wishes to acknowledge that the ground on which we are standing, Boston Massachusetts, is the traditional land of the several Native peoples including the Massachusett, Nipmuc and Wampanoag, and that through forced migration, relocation, and conflict, Boston Massachusetts is now home to many Native peoples. We honor their ancestors past, present, and future, recognize their continued survival and contributions to our society.
Saturday Morning Keynote

SATURDAY MORNING KEYNOTE PRESENTING ARTISTS

**Jason Lujan**: Jason Lujan is originally from Marfa, Texas and has lived in New York City since 2001. His current work creates layered connections using cultural, commercial, and political design, often utilizing visual signifiers rooted in Asia and North America. Previous exhibitions and performances include the Heard Museum, Phoenix, AZ; the National Museum of the American Indian, NY, NY; the Curitiba Biennial in Brazil; Continental de Artes Indígenas Contemporáneas at the Museo Nacional de Culturas Populares, Mexico City, and solo installation, Summer Burial, at the Museum of Contemporary Native Art in Santa Fe. Together with his wife Maria Huipfield he administers Native Art Department International, a collaborative arts project that has exhibited or appeared at Artists Space, the Kitchen, the Drawing Center, Stamps Gallery, and Galerie SE Konst in Sweden. Jason occasionally curates and co-organizes exhibitions in New York City; he is a board chair with the downtown arts non-profit ABC No Rio.

**Hyppolite Ntigurirwa**: Hyppolite Ntigurirwa identifies as an everyday-peace artist and his work focuses on using arts to prevent the intergenerational transmission of hate. He uses theatre as an advocacy, healing, educating and uniting tool for post-conflict generations and oppressed communities. While on residency with ACI in Boston, USA in 2016, Hyppolite explored theatre and artistic techniques that can act as resilience mechanisms to express the witnessing of horrific, oppressive and unjust experiences and systems. Hyppolite’s artistic interests and practices explore the individual & systemic roles in both oppressing and restoring humanity. For the last two years Hyppolite has been managing the British Council’s East Africa Arts programme in Rwanda where his focus has been on the intersection of art and disability.

**Kaisha Johnson**: Kaisha is the Co-Founder and Founding Director of Women of Color in the Arts (WOCA), a national service organization dedicated to creating racial and cultural equity in the performing arts field. As a staunch advocate for racial and cultural equity on and off the stage, Kaisha co-founded WOCA to help amplify the voices of arts administrators of color with the intent of cultivating a diverse and inclusive field, as varied in voice and perspective as the communities it serves. Most recent to her position at WOCA, Kaisha served for over a decade as a program director at the Center for Traditional Music and Dance, a non-profit dedicated to building cross-cultural awareness by nurturing and presenting the performing arts traditions of New York’s immigrant communities.

SATURDAY MORNING KEYNOTE PERFORMING ARTISTS

**Abilities Dance**: A Boston-based non-profit, Abilities Dance works to disrupt ableist beliefs and disseminate the value of inclusion through dance.

**Quisol**: Joseph Samuel Quisol, aka QUISOL, is an artist and cultural organizer based in Oakland by way of Charlotte, NC. He released a 3-song EP entitled ‘The World Keeps Turning’ in February 2018 as a meditation on the cycles of love, life, and social movements. This past summer Quisol and Luke Martinez released The Cards, a soulful reggaeton duet with accompanying music video projecting a liberated queer future and intimacy with the ancestors. QUISOL is set to release their debut album REVELATIONS at the Arts Equity Summit Kick-Off.
**SATURDAY MORNING WELCOME ADDRESSES**

**Tsugumi Maki:** Since January 2019 Tsugumi has been the COO of the Institute of Contemporary Art, where she works to strengthen the institutional infrastructure of the museum - the staff, facility, business development and data systems. Tsugumi comes to the ICA from the Davis Museum at Wellesley College, where she served as Associate Director of Operations and Collections Management since March 2015.

**Marian Taylor Brown:** Marian is the Founding Executive Director of Arts Connect International, a visual artist whose life work sits at the intersections of leadership development, public health, education and cultural equity, spanning local, national and international contexts. Prior to founding ACI Marian was a Global Health Corps Fellow working at the Art & Global Health Center Africa, in Zomba Malawi, and prior to that she was the Associate Director of ARTZ: Artist’s for Alzheimer’s in Boston.

**Shreyas Navare:** Shreyas, an ACI Board Member since 2016, is the Founder & Chief Creative Officer of Legende and Ladderworks, freelancing as Editorial Cartoonist for the Hindustan Times. He is a published author of two books titled The Politickle Pickle Vol. 1 and Vol. 2 with HarperCollins. On behalf of the Hindustan Times, Shreyas has traveled widely in India and the United States to cover elections through the eyes of a cartoonist, and his cartoons, which regularly comment on political, economic and social issues, have been exhibited at several prestigious venues in India, the United States and Thailand.

**SATURDAY BREAKOUT WORKSHOP SESSIONS & LEADERS**

1. **Artists Thrive Toolkit**

   **Leaders:**
   - Juwonni Cottle, Executive Director, Dunamis
   - Jim Grace, Executive Director, Arts & Business Council of Greater Boston

   Artists Thrive is a growing initiative offering activities, practices, language, visions and values of what it means to succeed and thrive as an artist – and what it means to have a thriving arts sector and, eventually, thriving communities. More specifically, it is a set of interconnected and holistic resources that can guide us in improving our performance and, ultimately, the conditions in which artists can thrive. The goal of Artists Thrive is to change the narrative in the field and raise the value of artists in every community.

2. **Arts Equity in Education: Fostering equitable access and cultural responsiveness**

   **Leaders:**
   - Tony Beatrice, Acting Executive Director for the Arts, Boston Public Schools
   - Irene Idicheria, Chief Program Officer, Boston Children’s Chorus
   - Ruth Mercado-Zizzo, BPS Arts Expansion Director, EdVestors
   - Evelyn Reyes, BPS Junior at the O’Bryant High School

   In this session, panelists will describe their experiences as a partner in Boston Public Schools Arts Expansion (BPS-AE), the collective multi-year effort to increase equitable access to quality arts education for all Boston Public Schools students. Panelists will also share their perspectives on the definition of arts equity and cultural responsiveness and how they incorporate this concept into their work, specifically using BPS-AE and a community-sourced music curriculum project as an example.
**BOCH’s Teen Leadership Council**

Leaders:
Jaronzie Harris, Resident Teaching Artist, The Boch Center
Javiera Lagunas-Alvarez, Associate Education Programs Manager, The Boch Center

We are the Boch Center Teen Leadership Council and our mission is to advocate for social change and justice through the arts. To do this, we use our own experiences and stories from our communities to create artistic pieces that raise awareness about the issues that impact us all. Our message this year is “Educate with Love, Don’t Retaliate with Hate” where we will present a teen-written original performance piece and workshop that examines what it means to advocate for positive justice by confronting hate with knowledge, truth and love. Participants will explore practical ways to stand up for what’s right in the everyday exchanges that shape our culture and conscious.

**Dismantling Biased Marketing Practices**

Leaders:
John Beck, Deputy Director, ArtsBoston

As many organizations attempt to be more inclusive in their programming and practices, marketing is often overlooked. ArtsBoston’s Audience Lab, funded by the Barr Foundation, spent 18 months working with 10 organizations to uncover biases in existing marketing practices and to help organizations intentionally develop tools to overcome that bias. Our roundtable will discuss ways to slow down and uncover blind spots in your organization – using our Audience Lab work in marketing as a case study – and explore ideas from the field for addressing those biases.

**Multilingual Anger**

Leaders:
The Scarlet Tongue Project: Samantha Bryan, Cassandre Charles, Makiko Suda, Katia Tirado & Creature Karin Webb

Whether a response to the rise in social media addiction, particularly for youth, or feelings of loneliness, silence, or isolation, there is an urgent need for in-person spaces where we can explore language skills for building supportive relationships with ourselves and others. In this workshop, utilizing artistic mediums of movement, visual art, voice, and acting/clowning exercises, we will break open oppressive ideas of generalized, “acceptable” expressions of anger, discuss where those come from, explore how anger looks and feels to each of us individually, and play with ways to communicate in our unique differences.
Building Equity from the Ground Up

Leaders:
Cross Cultural Collective: Daniel Callahan, Tiffany Cogell, L'Merchie Frazier, Ashleigh Gordon & Allentza Michel

Whether spearheading an existing organization or, like the Cross Cultural Collective, building one from the ground up, integrating community at all levels is important. Using the principles of ujima (collective work and responsibility), ujamaa (cooperative economics), nia (purpose) and umoja (unity), this interactive round table encourages participants to think deeply about community, space, and how one can foster a shared investment in the organization’s health and creative wealth.

Disability & Intersectional Justice

Leaders:
Nicole Agois, Managing Director, VSA Massachusetts
Charles Baldwin, Program Officer, Mass Cultural Council’s Universal Participation (UP) Initiative
Hannah Goodwin, Manager of Accessibility, Museum of Fine Arts Boston
Elbert Joseph, Actor & ASL Theater Interpreter
Ellice Patterson, Founder & Director of Abilities Dance Boston
Heather Watkins, Disability Advocate

The Disability & Intersectional Justice panel will explore disability and intersectional justice as centrally important to the larger social justice conversation. Led by arts administrators and artists working towards disability justice, we will share our perspectives and experiences, examine and name existing barriers to participation, highlight great work being done, and propose ways to collaborate and move forward as a sector.

Live with Art Accordingly Podcast!

Leaders:
Quanice Floyd, Founder & Director, Arts Administrators of Color Network
Joshua Jenkins, Director of Web and New Media Strategies, Americans for the Arts

Art Accordingly is a monthly podcast produced by the Arts Administrators of Color Network that finds Quanice and Joshua highlighting artists and arts leaders of color doing social justice work in the field and interrogating systemic and institutional issues of equity in the arts from a decolonizing framework. This session will be a live taping of an upcoming episode.

Loop-breaking: Creating a virtuous cycle of public art production

Leaders:
Darren Cole, Artist
Kate Gilbert, Executive Director, Now & There
Lina Maria Giraldo, Artist
Julia Ryan, Artist Resource Manager, Mayor’s Office of Arts & Culture
Victor Quinonez, International Street Artist

As public art has evolved from stand-alone, singular sculpture, artists and curators interested in public space have become more conscious of their role as not just creators, but also activists. Increasingly viewed as a tool for social justice, successful public art requires significant investment from artists, curators, and most crucially, audiences. But such investment also illuminates a critical problem: the gap between artists and the communities they’re working with. “Loop-breaking” explores possible bridges over this gap. The panel will consider the challenges of creating truly community-oriented artworks and discuss the need for accessible, practical support for artists working in the public realm.

Youth United Artists

Leaders:
Youth United Artists: Sumeya Aden, Alice Britto Acevedo, Dashawn Borden, Ny'lasia Brown, Jonathan Lopez & Jedidia Santana
Stephen Hamilton, Youth United Artists Mentor

ACI’s Youth United Artists are a team of Boston public school youths who are asking strategic and difficult transdisciplinary research questions about social justice in their home communities. As artivists (artistic advocates) YUA has been conducting a youth participatory action research (YPAR) process throughout the 2018 - 2019 school year. In this interactive panel YUA members will share their art, their research, and the questions they have surrounding community-contextualized change.
Aysha Upchurch: Aysha, the Dancing Diplomat, is a dancer, instructor, and education consultant committed to youth advocacy, social justice, and transformative education. Whether on stage or in the classroom, Hip Hop and movement are embedded in her approach as she creates, facilitates and designs experiences for necessary and liberatory conversations -- spoken or embodied. She is on faculty at the Harvard Graduate School of Education where she is teaching new courses on Hip Hop education and embodied learning, as well as launching HipHopEX - a collaborative lab for high school and graduate student to experience, explore, and experiment with Hip Hop arts in education.

Dr. Antonio Cuyler: Antonio is an Associate Professor of Arts Administration at Florida State University (FSU), in the Department of Art Education. His research on Arts Management internships and creative justice issues in the cultural sector appears in highly regarded academic journals, and he is a frequent presenter at major conferences nationally and internationally. As a member of the AAAE Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) taskforce, he helped to develop initiatives that aim to create a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive workforce in Arts Administration. Dr. Cuyler is also a member of the Brokering Intercultural Exchange Network which explores the role of cultural managers as intercultural brokers in the context of globalization.

Pawlet Brookes: Pawlet Brookes is the founder, CEO and artistic director of Serendipity, a diversely led arts based organization, coordinating Let’s Dance International Frontiers, an annual dance festival and Black History Month Leicester. Serendipity’s initiatives range from continued professional development opportunities, publications, producing diverse dance and theatre, supporting emerging artists and arts leaders, and heritage projects. Pawlet has over 25 years’ experience as a cultural leader, behind the development of Black arts centres in the UK, alongside national projects such as the Cultural Olympiad and as a consultant for the Common Cause project, led by the University of Bristol.

Chaédria LaBouvier: Chaédria LaBouvier is a writer, activist and Basquiat scholar. She is the curator of the upcoming exhibition Basquiat’s Defacement: The Untold Story opening at the Guggenheim June 21, 2019. Her work has been published in Dazed, Harper’s Bazaar, New York Magazine and Elle.com, where she was a contributing writer from 2014 - 2016. A co-founder of Mothers Against Police Brutality, Chaédria was the curator and co-organizer of the 2016 exhibition and programming at Williams College Museum of Art, “Defacement: Ambivalence, Identity and Black Lives Matter”.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON KEYNOTE PRESENTING ARTISTS & EDUCATORS
**SATURDAY AFTERNOON KEYNOTE PERFORMING ARTISTS**

**Paine the Poet:** Paine the Poet served eight years in the Virginia prison system. While incarcerated he used his poetic talents to impact prison programs and re-entry. Continuing this work after his release, Paine frequently conducts workshops at youth facilities and high schools and travels the country performing poetry in the name of justice.

**Ny’lasia Brown:** Ny’lasia is a Sophomore at Match High School and has been working with ACI as a Youth United Artist throughout the 18-19 school year. Ny’lasia, amongst her many talents, is an exceptionally gifted spoken word artist.

**Ally Ang:** Ally is a queer poet of color based in Boston. Ally’s work has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize and Bettering American Poetry, and has been published in Nepantla, The Shade Journal, Tinderbox Poetry Journal, and elsewhere. Find Ally at allysonang.com.

**Tamiko Beyer:** Tamiko writes to shape change: thought-provoking essays, poetry that pushes boundaries, and hard-hitting articles that challenge the status quo. Tamiko is the author of the award-winning poetry collection We Come Elemental (Alice James Books) and two chapbooks: bough breaks (Meritage Press), and Dovetail (Slapering Hol Press), with Kimiko Hahn. Publishing credits include the Georgia Review, the Kenyon Review, Indymedia, The Feminist Wire, and many more.

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON WELCOME ADDRESSES**

**Meena Malik:** Meena, an ACI Board Member since 2018, is the Program Manager of Theater at the New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA) and is a recognized vocalist. Meena organized and led “Beyond Orientalism: The Forum” in October 2017 and is one of the founders of Boston’s first API (Asian Pacific Islander) Arts Network. As an artist, Meena has performed with Opera Providence, MetroWest Opera, Boston Opera Collaborative, and New England Orchestra among others.

**Kara Elliot-Ortega:** Kara, The Chief of Arts & Culture for the City of Boston, is an urban planner in the arts focusing on the role of arts and creativity in the built environment and community development. Prior to becoming the Chief of Arts and Culture, she served as the Director of Policy and Planning, where she worked on implementing Boston Creates, Boston’s ten-year cultural plan. She also worked at the intersection of arts and planning around the City, including supporting cultural districts, creative placemaking, and the development of cultural spaces for artists.

**Dr. Jennifer Bailey:** Jennifer, an ACI Board Member since 2016, enjoys exploring the creative outcomes which occur through the fusion and synthesis of diverse cultures, mindsets and ideas. As a professor at Babson College, she teaches the Integrated Product Design course, which is a three college collaborative course co-taught by business/engineering/design faculty from Babson College, Olin College of Engineering and Massachusetts College of Art and Design.
**Sunday, March 24th**

**SUNDAY PRESENTERS & ARTISTS**

**Karen Young:** Karen, a current Artist-in-Residence with the City of Boston, is leading the Taiko Drumming Project with a community of elders known as the “Older and Bolder” crew. Karen and her crew will lead a session focused on exploring identity through Taiko drumming.

**Erwins Cazeau:** Erwins is a Boston-based Yogi and artist who is committed to making yoga accessible to all. Erwins will offer two 30 min gentle flow yoga sessions for all who are interested, with seated yoga options as well.

**Hillary Kaufman:** Hillary, a Sante Fe based visual artist and art therapist is committed to the exploration and pursuit of meaning making through and with the arts. Hillary will run a “book making” table where participants can come and create with her.

**Audrey Seraphin:** Audrey is an artist and arts administrator who works in the Boston community as an actor, director, stage manager, and community organizer. By day, she is the Membership & Capacity Building Manager at ArtsBoston, where she manages the Network of Arts Administrators of Color (NAAC) Boston. Audrey moonlights as the Community Engagement Director at The Front Porch Arts Collective, the newest (and only) local black-led theatre company dedicated to eradicating racial injustice in Boston. She will lead a session on Self-Care and Sustainability: A World Café Discussion.

**Anju Madhok:** With sweeping melodies and lush vocal layers, Anju’s music conjures spirits of imaginary lovers, scents of citrus, and visions of hairy brown skin under the sun. Drawing on their experiences as a gender/queer South Asian navigating the world, Anju transforms complex emotionality into lyrically rich, warmly enveloping soundscapes. Anju’s work has been featured in KajalMag and Bandcamp Daily, and they were highlighted by NPR’s All Songs Considered as a 2018 outstanding Tiny Desk Contest entrant. They will lead off the closing circle with their melodies.

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**Tactile Art Spaces**

Throughout the three days, Blick will host a tactile art space at **Hibernian Hall** (Friday 3/22), **District Hall** (Saturday 3/23), and the **Nonprofit Center** (Sunday 3/24). Each day the activities will vary slightly, and we highly encourage all Summit participants to create as they feel moved to do so!

Many thanks to the Blick team for supporting this co-creative and exploratory space throughout.
The “Cultural Equity Gap Study” is a multi-year, multi-phase and multi-method study run by Arts Connect International, set to examine what cultural equity looks like and means to Boston’s arts and culture landscape. Phase I was started in the summer of 2017, and findings from Phase I were published in a Community Findings Report in January 2018. Phase II started in the summer of 2018, and findings from Phase II will become available in the summer of 2019. Phase III, encompassing the Arts Equity Summit, conducted in March 2019, will have findings available in the winter of 2019. ACI intends to produce a book focused on a systems analysis of the three phases, centering Boston as a case study to explore cultural equity in the arts.

The Massachusetts Artists Leaders Coalition (MALC) and Artmorpheus are proud to share to announce the release of the 2018 By Artists, For Artists report on Massachusetts artists of all disciplines, makers, and creative entrepreneurs. Artists and creatives play a vital role in the cultural life and creative economy of Massachusetts, and this report provides critical insights that will guide advocates and policy makers. The By Artists, For Artists report synthesizes and shares the data collected from the survey of the same name conducted in 2017. The project was a collaboration between Artmorpheus and MALC. The report is dedicated to the late Liora Beer, the founder of Artmorpheus who passed away on March 2, 2018. Liora was one of the key initiators of the By Artists, For Artists project, and Artmorpheus was the nonprofit umbrella for the project.
ACI would like to thank all of our sponsors and partners. Without you, this work simply would not exist. It took all of us coming together for this Summit to be what it is, and for that we deeply thank each and everyone of you.

Platinum Sponsors

Gold Sponsors

Silver Sponsors
We are extremely grateful for our volunteers who helped make the Arts Equity Summit run smoothly:

Kele Udozorh (volunteer Coordinator), Kathleen Bitetti, Kyle Browne, Bettina Burch, Danniela Cruz, Emma Flowers, Ena Fox, Samantha Rose Hale, Susan Janowsky, Veronica Ramirez Martell, Elena Martinez, Maya Menefee, Awanish Mishra, Seyun Om, Jamal Smith, Wanda Strukus, Jo Troll, Paloma Valenzuela, and Charles Washburn.