



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF STATE ARTS AGENCIES
2013 LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
OCTOBER 16-18, 2013 JACKSON, WYOMING

Chair and Council Member Peer Session

Thursday, October 17, 1:15 – 4:45 p.m.

AGENDA

As appointed leaders in our states, we are champions for the arts and ambassadors for our agencies. We also oversee a significant citizen investment in culture. NASAA peer sessions are a time where we gather to learn from each other about how to make the most of our time as council members and how to navigate the challenges that face state arts agencies today.

In this year's session, we talk candidly with former state legislators and mayors who can lend insight into effective advocacy and leveraging support for the arts at both the state and local levels. Each panelist is a current or former state arts agency council member, which provides extra understanding and perspective on the connections between arts support and public service. We will break out into in small groups for roundtable discussions on issues most important to us as councils.

This peer group session is interactive and participatory. We draw on our own experiences to strengthen our ability—and help our peers back home—to become even more effective advocates and leaders.

I. Agenda Review and Participant Introductions

Moderator: Ben Brown, Chair, Alaska State Council on the Arts

II. An Insider's Guide to Advocacy That Works: Talking with Elected Officials

Moderator: Isaac Brown, NASAA Legislative Counsel

Speakers: **Mike Charron, Chair, Minnesota State Arts Board**

Former Representative, District 56A, Minnesota House of Representatives
Former City Council Member, Woodbury, Minnesota
Board Member, NASAA

Duane Evenson, Council Member, Wyoming Arts Council

Former Mayor, Gillette, Wyoming
Former City Council Member, Gillette, Wyoming

Lynn Kessler, Former Chair, Washington State Arts Commission

Former Representative, District 24, and House Majority Leader, Washington
State House of Representatives
Former Board Member, NASAA

John Rohman, Former Chair, Maine Arts Commission

Former Mayor, Bangor, Maine
Former City Council Member, Bangor, Maine
Former President, NASAA

Break

III. Topical Roundtable Discussions

Moderator: Garbo Hearne, Council Member and Former Chair, Arkansas Arts Council

Creative Economy Partnerships

As we're trying to develop partnerships to promote the creative economy, who understands it and who doesn't? What alliances are proving to be most productive, and where do we need to make more headway?

Is Your Advocacy Group Struggling?

What's the state arts agency role in incubating or jump-starting an advocacy group? What is the council's role in advocating if you don't have a state advocacy group? How have you dealt with advocacy groups that exist but are undercapitalized, disorganized or ineffective?

When a Major Organization Has Major Trouble

Most state arts agencies have had to contend with a collapse or a controversy of a leading arts organization that is also a grantee. What issues does this raise for you as a council? What kinds of conversations, decisions or challenges has this precipitated for you?

How to Plan a Successful Arts Advocacy Day

Most states convene arts advocacy days to rally the ranks of arts advocates and make support for the arts visible. What are your best tactics and bright ideas for making these events as effective as they can be?

Best Practices for Orienting New Council Members

How can we help new council members hit the ground running and make the most of their service? Share your ideas and experiences for effective council orientation and engagement, and for maintaining momentum when councils turn over.

IV. Report Outs: Highlights and Helpful Takeaways

Moderator: Bill Mandicott, Council Member and Former Chair, Maryland State Council on the Arts

V. NASAA Resources, Wrap-up and Adjourn

Moderator: Laura Smith, Chief Advancement Officer, NASAA

Please contact the Chair and Council Member Peer Group coordinators with questions or feedback:

[Ben Brown](#), Chair, Alaska State Council on the Arts

[Mike Charron](#), Chair, Minnesota State Arts Board

[Garbo Hearne](#), Council Member, Arkansas Arts Council

[Bill Mandicott](#), Council Member, Maryland State Arts Council

[Laura Smith](#), Chief Advancement Officer, NASAA