

NASAA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY of STATE ARTS AGENCIES

Knowledge ▲ Representation ▲ Community

2023 Virtual Creative Aging Institute

November 13 – 15, 2023

Agenda

NASAA's annual [Creative Aging Institute](#) provides online professional development focused on trends and topics in creative aging. The Creative Aging Institute equips attendees with the inspiration and information they need to be successful creative aging leaders and champions. All state, jurisdictional and regional arts agency staff and council members are invited to participate, as are local, state and national arts organizations, partners in the aging services sector, and artists with an interest in how lifelong learning in the arts can benefit older Americans. Registration for this event is free, to make information on current trends and best practices in creative aging widely accessible to all.

When you [register for the Creative Aging Institute](#), you will receive a link to join all sessions via the email address you provide on the registration form.

Monday, November 13

All times are Eastern Standard Time.

2:00 – 2:15 p.m.

Welcome Remarks

Pam Breaux, President and CEO, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA)

Teresa Bonner, Executive Director, E.A. Michelson Philanthropy

Emcee: Susan Oetgen, Arts Learning Projects Director, NASAA

2:15 – 3:30 p.m.

Panel and Audience Q&A: Creative Aging as an Antidote to Loneliness

Recent studies have shown that social isolation and loneliness are as bad for our health as smoking up to 15 cigarettes a day. Studies also show that, in the United States, some of the highest rates of social isolation are found among older adults. Could creative aging be a possible antidote to the pressing social ill of loneliness? This panel explores the policy, practice and research

ideas that position creative aging as a credible intervention to support older Americans' social and emotional well-being.

Presenters: Meredith Hanley, Director, Community Capacity Building, USAging
Sudha Shreeniwas, Ph.D., Professor of Human Development and Family Studies, University of North Carolina Greensboro
Jill Sonke, Ph.D., Director of Research Initiatives, Center for Arts in Medicine, University of Florida

Moderator: Sunil Iyengar, Research & Analysis Director, National Endowment for the Arts

3:30 – 3:45 p.m.

Intermission (offscreen)

3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

Artist Talk and Audience Q&A: Jess T. Dugan & Vanessa Fabbre on "To Survive on this Shore"

Older adults in the United States are especially at risk for loneliness and social isolation if they are also experiencing marginalization due to poverty, geography, language barriers, immigration status, race, gender and other social circumstances. This session explores the multidimensional experience of aging through a creative lens. "To Survive on this Shore" is a portraiture and interview project by photographer Jess T. Dugan and social worker Vanessa Fabbre that highlights the diverse lived experiences of transgender older adults. Hear how this richly detailed collaboration between an artist and a social scientist provides a qualitative frame that can deepen our understanding of some of the research findings explored in the previous session.

Speakers: Jess T. Dugan, Artist
Vanessa Fabbre, Associate Professor of Social Work, Brown School, Washington University

Moderator: Susan Oetgen

4:45 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Emcee: Susan Oetgen

4:45 – 5:00 p.m.

Optional Facilitated Creative Reflection: Social Connection

Ignite the power of your imagination in a brief creative writing activity designed to prompt new insights into the meaning and value of social connection in your own life.

Facilitator: Susan Oetgen

Tuesday, November 14

All times are Eastern Standard Time.

2:00 – 2:05 p.m.

Welcome Remarks & Introductions

Emcee: Susan Oetgen, Arts Learning Projects Director, NASAA

2:05 – 2:15 p.m.

Context Setting: Creative Aging and Intergenerational Arts Learning

Emcee: Susan Oetgen

2:15 – 2:30 p.m.

Video Introductions: Intergenerational Arts Learning Programs

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Panel and Audience Q&A: The How and Why of Intergenerational Arts Learning Programs

Designing high-quality arts learning programs that intentionally bring together older adults with younger generations builds on and extends best practices of creative aging. What are the practical considerations of designing intergenerational arts learning opportunities? How can arts providers and arts funders ensure that the unique needs of different participants are being met? What do successful intergenerational arts learning programs look like? This panel unpacks the design practicalities and ideals of this specialized focus of creative aging programming.

Presenters: Jennifer Kulik, Ph.D., Founder and CEO, SilverKite Community Arts, LLC

Elizabeth "Like" Lokon, Ph.D., Founder and Director, Opening Minds through Art (OMA), Scripps Gerontology Center

Alexander Santiago-Jirau, Director of Education and Community Engagement, New York Theatre Workshop

Moderator: Susan Oetgen

3:30 – 3:45 p.m.

Intermission (off-screen)

3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions: Topics in Intergenerational Arts Learning

Panelists from our previous session dive more deeply into panel topics in concurrent breakout room conversations.

Fostering Intergenerational Relationships in Community Spaces

Presenter: Jennifer Kulik

Community spaces (bus, airport, museum, library, park) are places where multiple generations mix, but rarely interact. How can we encourage authentic and safe arts based intergenerational interactions in community spaces? In this session, we'll explore examples, strategies, activities and intergenerational programming ideas for community spaces.

The Future of the Arts for and with People Living with Dementia

Presenters: Anne Basting, Founder, TimeSlips
Elizabeth "Like" Lokon

What important lessons have been learned over the past few decades in the field of intergenerational art making for and with people living with dementia? What does the future look like for this field and what will it take to get there? In this session, two leaders in the field share their experiences and invite participants to find their own contributions to help address challenges and keep this work going strong.

Minding the Gap: Using Theatre to Bridge Generational Divides

Presenter: Alexander Santiago-Jirau

Learn more about New York Theatre Workshop's Mind the Gap program, its structure and curriculum. Learn how facilitators can use theatre to help youth and older adults share their stories, listen deeply, broaden their perspectives, create art, and build empathy with someone from another generation in the process. Join us to experience some fun sample activities and explore Mind the Gap's intergenerational interview protocol.

4:45 – 4:55 p.m.

Plenary Share-Out

Moderator: Susan Oetgen

4:55 – 5:00 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Emcee: Susan Oetgen

Wednesday, November 15

All times are Eastern Standard Time.

2:00 – 2:05 p.m.

Welcome Remarks

Emcee: Susan Oetgen, Arts Learning Projects Director, NASAA

2:05 – 3:30 p.m.

Panel and Audience Q&A: Scaling Creative Aging through State Level Partnerships

State level, cross-sector partnerships are helping to leverage new funding and support to advance creative aging across the country and build an infrastructure for sustainability. As a result, more older adults are benefitting from programming that is responsive, builds artistic skills and social connection, and improves health. In this session, learn how a multisector approach is supporting state goals to engage older adults in rural and underserved communities in particular. Lifetime Arts's Advancing Creative Aging in the Western States Initiative is building the capacity of a cross-sector group of state agencies—including arts, veterans services, libraries, and health and human services—in Wyoming, Idaho, Utah, Montana and Nevada. The Initiative includes vision planning, support for partnership development and convening, and seed grants to catalyze programs and demonstrate impact in new host organizations. Gain insights from participating state arts agencies into how this initiative is expanding creative aging programming and strengthening a culture shift that places arts at the core of western states' older adult services.

Presenters: Josh Chrysler, Folklorist and Health & Wellness Specialist, Wyoming Arts Council

Monica Grable, Arts Education Director, Montana Arts Council

Tony Manfredi, Executive Director, Nevada Arts Council

Laura Roghaar, Arts Learning Services Director, Idaho Commission on the Arts

Moderator: Nathan Majoros, Director of Programs, Lifetime Arts

3:30 – 3:45 p.m.

Intermission (offscreen)

3:45 – 4:55 p.m.

Progressive Conversation and Audience Q&A: Designing for Equitable Access to Creative Aging at the State Level

As public funders of the arts, state arts agencies have long played a role in facilitating equitable access to the arts, especially for communities with sparse infrastructure or historically limited access to resources. Hear from five state arts agencies on their

approaches to designing and implementing creative aging programs that take into account older adults' multidimensional experiences of aging and solve for potential barriers to access in their unique state contexts.

Presenters: Anne Alston, Program Specialist, Nebraska Arts Council

Rebecca Cruse, Deputy Director, South Dakota Arts Council

Sheila Dean Ross, Program Officer, Arts Education and Accessibility, Delaware Division of the Arts

Stephanie Haines, Arts Education and Accessibility Program Manager, Indiana Arts Commission

Kim Johnson, Director of Arts Access, Tennessee Arts Commission

Christine Leahy, Program Director, Arts Education and Literature, New York State Council on the Arts

Moderator: Susan Oetgen

4:55 – 5:00 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Emcee: Susan Oetgen