

NASAA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY of STATE ARTS AGENCIES

Knowledge ▲ Representation ▲ Community

NASAA 2023 Executive Forum

December 5 – 6, 2023

Drury Plaza Hotel, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Schedule at a Glance: Day 1

Time	Session	Location
<i>Breakfast on your own</i>		
9:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Morning General Session	O'Keefe Room
11:00 – 11:15 a.m.	<i>Break</i>	
11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Topical Sessions 1	
	Cross-Sector Partnerships	Lamy 21
	Doing Equity Work in Restrictive Environments	Meem 11
	Changes In the Creative Sector	Rivera B 222
	Line Items	Rivera A 138
	Create Your Own Breakout	O'Keefe Room
12:15 – 1:30 p.m.	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Palace A 220</i>
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.	Topical Sessions 2	
	Rethinking Grant Making	Lamy 21
	Nurturing Statewide Advocacy Organizations	Meem 11
	Building Stronger Councils	Rivera B 222
	Staff Resilience and Cohesion	Rivera A 138
	Create Your Own Breakout	O'Keefe Room
2:30 – 2:45 p.m.	<i>Break</i>	
2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Topical Sessions 3	
	Leading SAAs in "Red" States	Lamy 21
	New Frontiers in Equity Work	Meem 11
	Maximizing Capacity in Small Agencies	Rivera B 222
	Rethinking Grant Panels and Adjudication	Rivera A 138
	Create Your Own Breakout	O'Keefe Room
3:45 – 4:00 p.m.	<i>Break</i>	
4:00 – 4:15 p.m.	Day One Wrap-up	O'Keefe Room

Enjoy the Drury Plaza Hotel's Kickback Happy Hour each evening, 5:30–7:00 p.m., serving free hot food and cold beverages. Follow happy hour with dinner on your own in Santa Fe!

Schedule at a Glance: Day 2

Time	Session	Location
<i>Breakfast on your own</i>		
9:00 – 9:15 a.m.	Welcome and Intro to the Day	O'Keefe Room
9:15 – 9:30 a.m.	<i>Break</i>	
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Peer Sessions	
	Executive Directors	Rivera A/B
	Deputy Directors	Lamy 21
12:15 – 1:30 p.m.	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Palace A 220</i>
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Reimagining the Future of State Arts Agencies	O'Keefe Room
3:40 – 5:00 p.m.	Guided Museum Tours Requires advance registration	Meet in hotel lobby by 3:40 p.m.

Enjoy the Drury Plaza Hotel's Kickback Happy Hour each evening, 5:30–7:00 p.m., serving free hot food and cold beverages. Follow happy hour with dinner on your own in Santa Fe!

Session Descriptions: Day 1

Morning General Session

Location: O'Keefe Room

In order to foster new connections and a broad mix of viewpoints, participants have been assigned tables. You can find your table number on your badge. Please sit with your assigned group for at least this initial session.

Welcome to NASAA's new Executive Forum convening! After a welcome from NASAA Chair Donna Collins, NASAA President and CEO Pam Breaux, New Mexico Arts Executive Director Michelle Laflamme-Childs, and the meeting facilitators, we will begin the Executive Forum with small-group conversations to connect you with your colleagues so you can begin to understand each other and the issues you face.

Topical Sessions 1

All topical sessions are facilitated discussions with your peers. No formal presentations are planned. Due to the sensitive nature of some topics, NASAA will not be recording any sessions or publishing notes afterwards. "What happens at the Forum stays at the Forum!"

Cross-Sector Partnerships

Location: Lamy 21

Partnering with other state agencies (such as health and human services, economic development, etc.) as well as entities outside of state government (such as local governments and community development corporations) can be a strategic way to amplify the impact of the arts, respond to community needs, cultivate allies and increase resources. In this session, share examples of your agency's cross-sector work and learn from others about their partnerships.

Doing Equity Work in Restrictive Environments

Location: Meem 11

In some states, diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) have become highly polarized ideas. State arts agencies in these settings face constraints on both DEI activities and DEI language. In these cases, how are you maintaining your commitment to equitable access for all? How are you "Doing the work without using the words?" We'll compare notes and brainstorm creative approaches in this conversation.

Changes in the Creative Sector

Location: Rivera B 222

While some parts of the arts ecosystem "returned to normal" following the pandemic, others appear to be undergoing permanent shifts. What changes are you seeing in arts participation or arts management strategies? How do you think state arts agencies can prepare arts organizations for these shifts?

Line Items

Location: Rivera A 138

An increasing number of state arts agencies have seen arts organizations seeking their own earmarked funding from state legislatures, outside of the state arts agency grant process. What are the equity implications of such line-item appropriations? How might they affect state arts agencies? How are you trying to prevent—or to embrace—individual earmarks in your state?

Create Your Own Breakout

Location: O'Keefe Room

Do you have a timely issue that is not covered elsewhere on the agenda? Share your topic and invite colleagues to join you for a self-directed jam session. Our space can accommodate up to three impromptu discussions during this time slot.

Topical Sessions 2

Rethinking Grant Making

Location: Lamy 21

Many state arts agencies are evaluating legacy programs and making alterations to their grant portfolios. What shifts have you made to your grant-making practices, policies or funding formulas? What changes would you want to make, in an ideal world, and why? Anything goes in this session except for panel practices, which will be discussed in their own session later in the afternoon.

Nurturing Statewide Advocacy Organizations

Location: Meem 11

Statewide advocacy organizations can be helpful for state arts agencies. However, it is critical to establish productive working relationships between advocacy groups and state arts agencies. Furthermore, many shifts are underway among advocacy groups as they search for sources of revenue and relevance within the larger creative ecosystem. Share your challenges and successes with colleagues and explore ways to work in closer cooperation with your statewide advocacy groups.

Building Stronger Councils

Location: Rivera B 222

Some SAA leaders struggle with their appointed councils. What is the state arts agency role in shaping council appointees or activities? How can the energy of councils be productively channeled? How can you orient them, support their engagement—and get council members to understand they are not a board of directors? Share your challenges and strategies for success with your colleagues in this session, and feel free to bring materials to share (such as orientation packets, policies and other materials).

Staff Resilience and Cohesion

Location: Rivera A 138

The last few years have created staff management challenges unknown to previous generations of state arts agency leaders. From the toll of the COVID-19 pandemic, to the challenges of equity work, to virtual and hybrid office environments, how can we best work with our colleagues to support each other in healthy and productive ways?

Create Your Own Breakout

Location: O'Keefe Room

Do you have a timely issue that is not covered elsewhere on the agenda? Share your topic and invite colleagues to join you for a self-directed jam session. Our space can accommodate up to three impromptu discussions during this time slot.

Topical Sessions 3

Leading SAAs in "Red" States

Location: Lamy 21

Operating in highly politicized settings presents distinct challenges for state arts agency (SAA) leaders. This session, offered in response to requests from members, will offer a supportive space in which to discuss challenges, vulnerabilities and strategies for success for Executive and Deputy directors working in very conservative authorizing environments.

New Frontiers in Equity Work

Location: Meem 11

This session is designed to showcase and learn about innovative approaches to equity work being done at state arts agencies around the country. Be prepared to share both small and large examples with your colleagues, including lessons learned.

Maximizing Capacity in Small Agencies

Location: Rivera B 222

Small state arts agencies have an abundance of creative program, partnership and service ideas. But small state arts agencies face acute constraints in pursuing these opportunities with limited staffs and budgets. What are some ways that small states are coping with capacity limitations? Are there ways of contracting, collaborating or prioritizing that can be helpful?

Rethinking Grant Panels and Adjudication

Location: Rivera A 138

What changes are you making to grant panels or adjudication practices? When are panels important, and are there situations where panels can be abandoned altogether? Bring all your ideas for reinventing adjudication to this freewheeling panel "jam session."

Create Your Own Breakout

Location: O'Keefe Room

Do you have a timely issue that is not covered elsewhere on the agenda? Share your topic and invite colleagues to join you for a self-directed jam session. Our space can accommodate up to three impromptu discussions during this time slot.

Day One Wrap-up

Location: O'Keefe Room

Return to O'Keefe to hear announcements about dining options and tomorrow's agenda.

Session Descriptions: Day 2

Welcome and Intro to the Day

Location: O'Keefe Room

Welcome back and brief overview of today's agenda.

Executive Director Peer Session

Location: Rivera A/B

The Executive Director Peer Group will meet and determine topics to discuss for their peer session, using Open Space as a structuring principle. (Note: Structure for this session may change if, in real time, there is momentum for a different approach to the group conversation. This will be managed by the facilitator.)

Deputy Director Peer Session

Location: Lamy 21

The Deputy Director Peer Group will meet and determine topics to discuss for their peer session, using Open Space as a structuring principle. (Note: Structure for this session may change if, in real time, there is momentum for a different approach to the group conversation. This will be managed by the facilitator.)

Reimagining the Future of State Arts Agencies

Location: O'Keefe Room

In this final closing session, we gather for an energizing discussion with your state arts agency peers about the future of state arts agencies.

Guided Museum Tours

Those who have signed up for one of the three museum tours will gather in the hotel lobby to walk to their destinations.

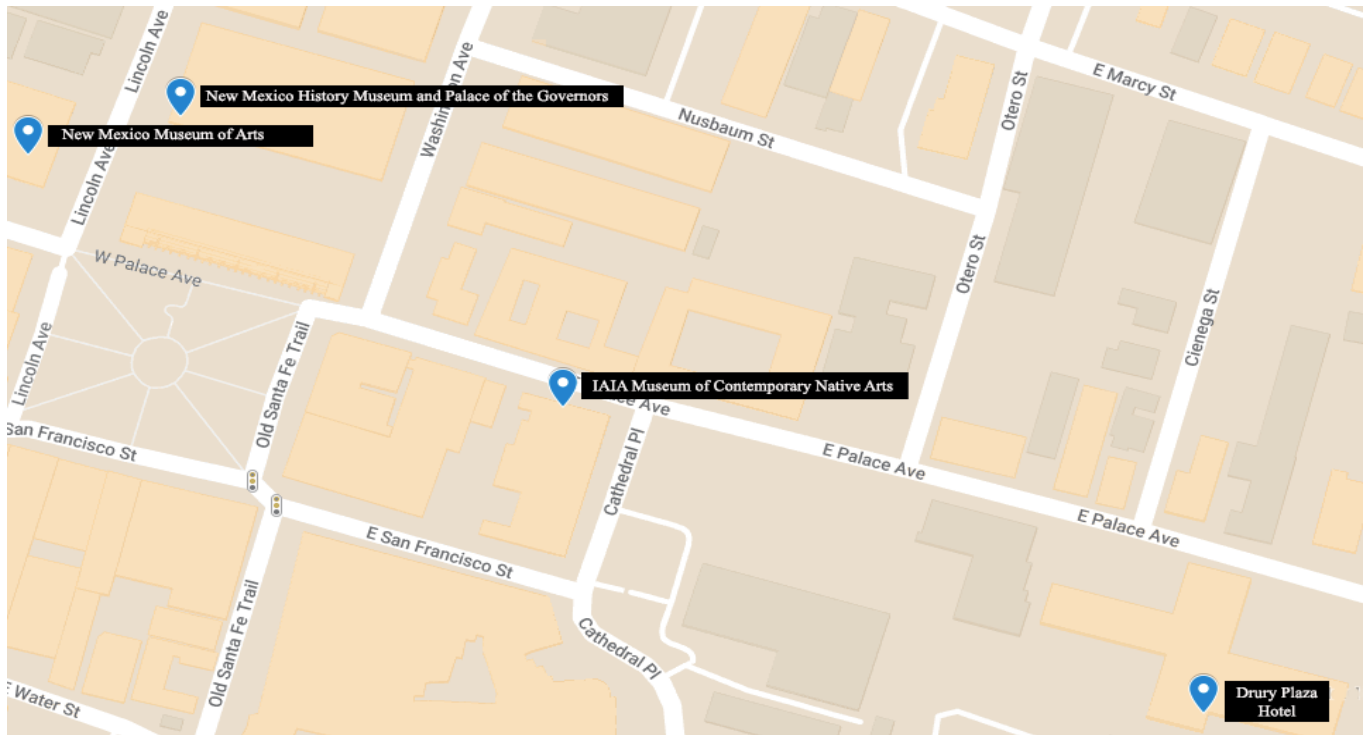
Tours have been set up to be a customized guided experience, so there are capacity limits. Those who have registered will find a ticket in their badge holder indicating the tour they have signed up for. To inquire about last-minute space availability or changing your tour, please speak with NASAA Learning Services Director Eric Giles.

Hotel Information

Drury Plaza Hotel in Santa Fe
828 Paseo de Peralta
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501



Museum Tour Locations



IAIA Museum of Contemporary Native Arts (MoCNA)

108 Cathedral Place, Santa Fe, NM 87501

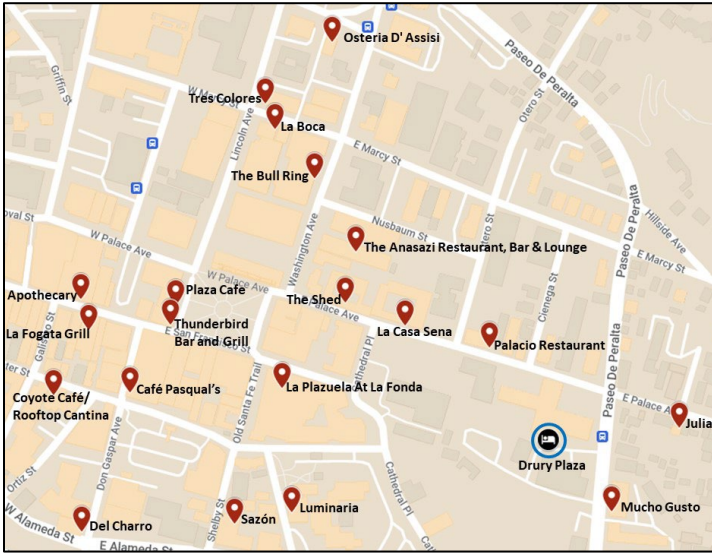
New Mexico Museum of Art – Plaza Building

107 West Palace Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87501

New Mexico History Museum and Palace of the Governors

113 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87501

Select Restaurants within Walking Distance



The Anasazi Restaurant, Bar and Lounge \$\$\$
Upscale Southwestern cuisine

Apothecary \$\$\$
Globally inspired, health-conscious dishes, with vegan/vegetarian options

La Boca \$\$\$
Spanish small plates paired with Mediterranean and South American wines

The Bull Ring \$\$\$
Comfortable, old-time steakhouse featuring chops and seafood

Café Pasqual's \$\$
Mexican fare from local and organic ingredients along with a community table in a historic adobe

La Casa Sena \$\$
Mediterranean fare

Coyote Café and Rooftop Cantina \$\$
Elegant eatery featuring local cuisine with Southwestern flair

Del Charro \$\$
Rustic, Western-themed watering hole serving Tex Mex grub, margaritas and cocktails

La Fogata Grill \$\$
Low-key outpost offering hearty Latin and new American cuisine and sides plus beer

Julia \$\$
Refined New Mexican fare in a historic hacienda

Luminaria \$\$
Inventive Southwestern fare

Mucho Gusto \$\$
Classic Mexican fare from taquitos to fajitas, in humble, homey digs

Osteria D'Assisi \$\$\$
Simple bistro with country décor serving a refined Italian menu

Palacio Restaurant \$\$
Family-owned nook with hot/cold sandwiches, soups and salads, organic coffee and espresso

Plaza Café \$\$
Retro spot for classic diner fare along with Southwestern comfort food

La Plazuela at La Fonda \$\$\$
Sophisticated New Mexican cooking

Sazón \$\$
Elevated Latin American cuisine and specialty cocktails

The Shed \$
Local go-to for classic Southwestern fare

Thunderbird Bar and Grill \$\$
Warm eatery for Mexican and American mains such as Frito pie and steak

Tres Colores \$\$
Mexican fare