Mid Atlantic Tours 2023-2024

Curatorial Advisement Panelists

Mid Atlantic Arts engaged four Curatorial Advisors for the 2023-2024 Roster Artist selection process. Curatorial Advisors reviewed submissions to the Interest Form and had the option to recommend additional artists. Final Roster Artist selection is conducted by Mid Atlantic Arts staff.

LYNN CREAMER

Lynn Creamer has worked in the nonprofit arts and culture industry since 1991. She served as artistic director for Carnegie Hall in Lewisburg, West Virginia from 2004 through 2019.

While at Carnegie Hall she served as president of the WV Arts Presenters Network, treasurer of the Lewisburg Literary Festival committee, chair of the Greenbrier Valley Cultural Roundtable, and as a member of the Mountain Music Train steering committee.

Lynn currently serves as a Peer Assistant Network advisor for the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History, treasurer for the Lewisburg Literary Festival committee, and is a member of the West Virginia Music Hall of Fame’s board of directors.

J.J. EL-FAR

Website

J.J. El-Far is a non-profit arts leader, creative producer, and cultural consultant working in Philadelphia and New York City. Her work brings diverse people together for artistic events that transform spaces and communities. She specializes in creative entrepreneurship at the intersection of arts, activism, and social justice. She serves as the Director of Advancement for Philadelphia Contemporary. She is a board member of the Parent Artist Advocacy League and The Parsnip Ship. Previously she held roles as the Director of Development and Communications for Pig Iron and Executive Producer of RADIOKISMET. JJ has held leadership positions within ArKtype, the Sundance Institute, Musical Theatre Factory, Theater Mitu, and the British Council USA. She was the Co-Founding Creative Director of the Harlem Arts Festival, and later Chair of the Board of Directors. She was part of the 2012 cohort of Theatre Communications Group’s Rising Leaders of Color. JJ holds an MA in Arts Administration and Cultural Policy from Goldsmiths, University of London and received a BA in Theater Arts and in International Global Studies from Brandeis University.
BARBARA HARRELL GRUBBS

Website

Barbara Harrell Grubbs is a former educator and teacher/mentor, retiring from Baltimore City Public Schools after 29 years of service. Her skills as administrator, grants writer, record producer and arts presenter have been invaluable to Contemporary Arts Inc.

Contemporary Arts Inc. was co-founded by Carl and Barbara Harrell Grubbs in 1997 and became incorporated in the state of Maryland in 2002. The mission of the organization has been and continues to be the preservation and advancement of the jazz art form through performance and education.

CLIFTON MATIAS (KICHWA / TAINO)

Website

For over 28 years, Clifton Matias (Kichwa and Taino), has served as an activist, cultural teacher, photojournalist, and performing artist for the Redhawk Native American Arts Council. Clifton has been serving on the frontlines and addressing many of the issues that Indigenous people face. He has organized major Indigenous milestone events from the 500 year anniversary of Columbus at the United Nations in 1992 to more recently the organizing the first Indigenous Peoples Day festival in NYC in 2018. He has also been an instrumental and powerful voice for such causes as the Standing Rock pipeline protest, Mauna Kea telescope, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women epidemic, and serves as an advocate for name changes of sports teams using Native Americans as mascots and other forms of cultural appropriation.