

**Georgia Council for the Arts
FY17 Grant Panel 1**

Colt Chambers (Rome) Colt serves as President of the International Music and Entertainment, a worldwide arts service organization. He is also an independent theatre producer and has produced productions throughout the Southeast and in New York City. In 2013, Colt was recognized by Broadway Global as "America's Youngest Theatre Producer" and received a Commendation from Governor Nathan Deal for his work in the arts communities across the state of Georgia.

Dr. Karen Clevenger (Carrollton) A native of Georgia, Dr. Clevenger has pursued a career in Health, Physical Education, and Dance at all levels of learning and performance. She has been fortunate to teach at six universities (creator/director of three dance companies), several middle schools, and has served as choreographer for numerous theatre and special events. Dr. Clevenger has returned to the University of West Georgia as an Instructor with the hope of forging an international partnership in the research field of choreographed movement and memorization skills of the aged.

Kelly McClellan (Darien) Kelly is the President of the McIntosh Art Association.

Ty Woods (Atlanta) Ty has been involved in youth development and arts education for over 15 years. She has worked for agencies such as: The Jenesse Center, Family Resource, Boys and Girls Club, City of Covina, and the Cobb County School District. Her experience has led her to receive recognition from local government officials and national agencies for her work in nonprofit leadership, nonprofit development and arts/music education advocacy. She holds an Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education, a Bachelors degree in Business Management from Life University where she graduated as Valedictorian, and an MBA from Coles College of Business. She also has over 20 years of performing arts experience performing in plays such as *Dream Girls*, *Kingdom Come*, and *Phantom of the Opera*. She currently serves as Executive Director at Artportunity Knocks.

Maria Zouves (Savannah) is the director of VOICExperience Foundation, a training program for artists, which she founded in 2001, and the Executive Director of the Savannah VOICE Festival, a producing company, which she also founded in 2013. A Greek-American, Zouves teaches, directs and produces programs all around the world, having worked with IVAL in Montreal and Puerto Rico and IIVA in Chiari, Italy. Zouves served as Vice President/ Associate General Director of Opera Tampa, producing opera for four seasons and founding the Apprentice Program in conjunction with her summer VOICExperience programs. Zouves' trademark program The Prelude Series® helps audiences around the country understand and connect to opera through the telling of famous opera anecdotes. As producer of all VOICExperience outreach programs, Zouves has helped numerous singers find their career paths. She also has advised innumerable young singers as a career liaison through her column, "A Conversation with..." which is featured in *Classical Singer* magazine. Zouves made her

Carnegie Hall debut in 1997, singing in concerts four consecutive seasons, including the *Rutter Requiem* under the baton of John Rutter. She completed her debut solo recording of Greek songs entitled *With Flowers Crowned* on the VAI AUDIO label. Her extensive concert work includes performances with the Stuttgart Philharmonic, Prague Philharmonic, Metropolitan Opera Guild Series, the Austrian Consulate, the Athenian Ball with Thannos Microutsikos (a gala telecast with the Bucharest Radio Orchestra), and in many concert halls throughout this country and abroad. Zouves was asked to sing in Athens in a command performance for the American and Greek ambassadors. While Zouves directs most of the concerts in the VOICE Programs and co-directed the new SVF opera commission, Ching's *Alice Ryley*, a Savannah ghost story, she most recently served as stage director for Mozart's *Don Giovanni* at the Estates Theatre in Prague, where the work first premiered. Her husband is Sherrill Milnes, the former Metropolitan Opera and internationally renowned baritone. The couple work together in the VOICE programs, where Milnes serves as Artistic Director. Together they have mentored thousands of singers in the sixteen years of training intensives and outreach programs, helping to launch their students into successful professional careers.

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Julie Baggenstoss (Atlanta) Julie Galle Baggenstoss is a flamenco dancer widely commissioned as a choreographer and lecturer. She currently tours her original shows “Ferdinand por farruca” and “That’s Apoyo” for schools. She has choreographed for Actor’s Alliance, Georgia State University, Gainesville State College, Brenau University, and Digital Ball, and lectured for audiences at the Rialto Center for the Performing Arts, Dance ATL, and the University of Georgia. Julie’s style is greatly influenced by her Seville teachers, including Angelita Vargas, Juan del Gastor, Manuela Reyes, Pilar Ortega, and Juan Paredes, and her work is guided by the far-reaching input of dancer/historian La Meira. Julie is the co-founder of jaleolé, a grass-roots marketing organization that has shaped Atlanta’s flamenco landscape for nearly ten years. Off stage, she produces flamenco events, such as theater productions and classes involving world-class Spanish flamenco artists.

William E. (ED) BIGGS (LaGrange) Ed Biggs retired from Milliken & Company in 2010 after more than 20 years as Director of International Sales for the Floor Covering Division. Since that time he has consulted on international distribution, served as interim manager of Highland Country Club in LaGrange and now is Managing Director and an Arbitrator with Arbitration Associates of Georgia.

A 1972 graduate of Wofford College (Spartanburg, S.C.), he has performed on stage in leading roles with The Spartanburg Little Theater; Converse College Opera Workshop; Wofford College, LaGrange College, LaGrange Lyric Theater and The Springer Opera House. He sings with Cantus Columbus, a Professional Vocal Ensemble. He has served on the Boards of The Choral Society of West Georgia, The Sons of LaFayette Male Choir, LaGrange Lyric Theater and Lafayette Society for Performing Arts and the vestry of St. Mark’s Episcopal Church.

Ed has performed as a soloist with the Spartanburg Symphony Orchestra, Trinity College, Paine College, the LaGrange Lyric Theater, the LaGrange Civic Chorale, The Sons of Lafayette Male Choir, Columbus (GA) Civic Chorale, Columbus State University Chorus and Symphony Orchestra and the LaGrange Symphony Orchestra.

Cindy Farley (Watkinsville) Cindy holds the position of Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation’s Executive Director with past involvement in the organization since 2007 as Assistant Director, a member of the Board of Directors, and with service on the OCAF Visual Arts Committee. Ms. Farley is a former business owner with a solid background that includes 25+ years of expertise in all facets of for-profit and non-profit business management. In her free time she focuses on creating sculptural pottery at her studio located near Athens, Georgia. Her community involvement includes serving on the City of Watkinsville Arts Advisory Council, a committee of eight individuals who organize calls and jury public art and its placement for the City, and on the board of the Watkinsville Trade and Tourism Association (WTTA), a group which represents Watkinsville’s downtown merchants, and on the Community Advisory Council for the University of North Georgia (UNG) Oconee Campus.

Tonia Marynell (Sandersville) Tonia is a freelance artist, illustrator and art teacher.

Nick Norwood (Columbus) Poet Nick Norwood is a professor of creative writing at Columbus State University. His poems have appeared in *The Paris Review*, *Southwest Review*, *Western Humanities Review*, *Southwestern American Literature*, *The Wallace Stevens Journal*, *Shenandoah*, *Southern Poetry Review*, *Pleiades*, *Ekphrasis*, *Poetry Daily*, *The New Ohio Review*, the PBS News Hour site *Art Beat*, on NPR's *Writer's Almanac with Garrison Keillor*, and in a number of other magazines and anthologies. He has been awarded an International Merit Award in Poetry from *Atlanta Review*, both a Tennessee Williams Scholarship and a Walter E. Dakin Fellowship from the Sewanee Writers' Conference, twice been a finalist for the Vassar Miller Prize, once each a semifinalist for the Verse Prize and the "Discovery"/*The Nation* Prize, and a finalist in the Morton Marr Poetry Contest. His first book, *The Soft Blare*, selected by Andrew Hudgins for the River City Publishing Poetry Series, was issued in 2003. His second book, *A Palace for the Heart*, a finalist for the Mellen Press Poetry Contest 2002, was published by that press in 2004. In 2007, he published a limited edition, fine press book, *Wrestle*, in collaboration with the artist and master printer Erika Adams. And in 2010, his third full volume of poems, *Gravel and Hawk*, won the Hollis Summers Prize in Poetry and was published by Ohio University Press in 2012. Nick Norwood has also published a number of essays and critical studies of poetry, and he has been the sole poet representing the United States at the Euroscience Open Forum's session "Science Meets Poetry" on three separate occasions—in Munich in 2006, Turin in 2010, and Copenhagen in 2014.

Mical Whitaker (Metter) In 2005, Mical Whitaker retired from Georgia Southern University where he taught and directed plays for 23 years following 2 decades in New York City's community, educational and professional theatre. He founded the East River Players (an East Harlem community theatre) in the 60s and with actress Geraldine Fitzgerald founded and coordinated the Community/Street Theatre Festival at Lincoln Center in the 70s. That festival has now morphed into the annual Lincoln Center's Out-of-Doors Festival. At GSU, he directed and/or acted in over 100 productions. In 2015, the university established the Mical Whitaker African-American Theatre Scholarship. Since his retirement, he maintains a full calendar of directing and acting assignments at the Averitt Center for the Arts in Statesboro where he directs the Statesboro Youth Theatre. An 80-seat black box theatre, an extension of the Averitt Center has been named in his honor. Mical earned a BFA degree in Professional Theatre from North Carolina A & T State University. Current projects include *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* (playing May 6, 7, 8 at Emma Kelly Theatre); *Driving Miss Daisy* (August 16, 17 in Waynesboro, GA); *Crumbs from the Table of Joy* (September 28 - Oct 5 at GSU's Black Box Theatre); and *Cat On a Hot Tin Roof* (February 2017 at Emma Kelly Theatre). He lives in his native town, beautiful Metter, with his son, Mical Anthony Whitaker.

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Stephanie Jones (Atlanta) Stephanie Jones is the finance director for U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson’s campaign committee, as well as president of Campaign Consulting Group, LLC. She began her work for Isakson in Washington as a member of his U.S. House staff in 1999. Previously, Jones worked for Jerry Pair and Associates as a sales representative. She is a member of the National Society of Colonial Dames and is a former member of the Junior League of Atlanta. In 2006, she was named as one of the “40 under 40” by Georgia Trend Magazine. Jones earned a bachelor’s degree from Auburn University. Stephanie is a member of the Georgia Council for the Arts.

Santanu Majumdar, (Statesboro) Santanu Majumdar is an Assistant Professor of Graphic Design in the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art, Georgia Southern University. He received his MFA at Louisiana State University. He was invited to teach a systems design module at the National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad, India, which is regarded as one of the best design institutions in the world. He has received several national and international awards as a designer, and has worked professionally for the City of Statesboro and Chamber of Commerce, United Nations, United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Help the Aged, UK, Design C, J. Walter Thompson (JWT), Tesco Super Markets, Londis Super Markets, Day Lewis Pharmacy, Munro Pharmacy, Government of Madhya Pradesh, India, and Government of India.

Abby McCuen (Savannah) Ms. McCuen received a BFA in Theater with a Dance Emphasis from Valdosta State University in 2007. She joined Savannah Ballet Theatre in 2009 after working for Paramount Pictures in Hollywood, California. While living in Los Angeles, she studied jazz, contemporary, and musical theatre dance at Millennium Dance Complex and the Edge Performing Arts Center. She has also studied at Steps and Broadway Dance Center in New York City and with Rosella Hightower in Cannes, France. Ms. McCuen teaches jazz at the Savannah Ballet School of Dance and choreographs local high school musicals for St. Vincent’s Academy and Savannah Christian Preparatory School. She is a member of Dance Masters of America and Alpha Psi Omega. Her choreography has won numerous awards at various competitions throughout the Southeast.

Rona Simmons (Cumming) Five years ago, Rona Simmons launched her second career drawing on the writing, analysis, and research skills acquired over the thirty-years she spent in corporate America. Since then, she has acted as ghostwriter for the biography of a prominent Atlanta businessman and wrote magazine articles, a collection of short stories, and two novels, both of which were published by Deeds Publishing of Athens, Georgia. Rona also “slow blogs” about women in the creative arts (Women@Word), her favorite writing tips at (Write, Write, Write), and her other passion--travel photography (Bristlefish).

As part of her commitment to give back to the community, Ms. Simmons speaks to local organizations and writers groups about writing, marketing, and editing. She hosts author events for non-profit organizations and monthly, the Virtual Village Book Festival in which she features local authors in an online Facebook event. On a pro bono basis, Ms. Simmons has lent her time and expertise to the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce's Arts and Business Council and most recently helped establish the first literary festival for the City of Milton.

Katherine A. Willis (Colquitt) Katherine Willis is originally from Birmingham, Alabama, where she graduated from Indian Spring School. She went on to earn her Bachelors of Fine Arts degree in Theater from Auburn University, and worked professionally at the Dogwood Dell Festival of the Arts in Richmond, Virginia and at Florida Studio Theater in Sarasota, Florida before settling in Colquitt. She joined the staff of the Colquitt Miller Arts Council in 2006 as Production Manager for Cotton Hall Productions. In this capacity, she worked closely with volunteers, visiting theater artists, and CMAC staff to fulfill technical and logistical requirements of *Swamp Gravy* and other productions. She directed *May-Haw* and all touring performances of *Swamp Gravy*. She also oversaw the creation of the CMAC Youth Theatre in 2007. In 2009, she took on additional administrative roles in the form of marketing and box office duties, as well as becoming an Assistant Director for *Swamp Gravy*. In 2013 she took over as Artistic Director for the Colquitt Miller Arts Council, which includes directing *Swamp Gravy* and *May-Haw Christmas*, supervising the Associate Director in direction of the Spring Musical and the CMAC Youth Theater, supervising staff in planning of performance-based special events, and managing the Box Office and all Marketing for Cotton Hall Productions.

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Foluke N. Beveridge (Atlanta) Foluke studied Communication Studies and Dance at Randolph College and then received a Master of Arts in Arts Administration at the Savannah College of Art and Design. She currently works as the Marketing and Communications Associate at Moving in the Spirit.

Andrea Bradford (Hartwell) Andrea Bradford is a native of Broken Arrow, OK and lives in Hart County, GA. She graduated from Vanderbilt University with a Bachelor's Degree in Musical Arts/Piano Performance. Andrea is a professional playwright, director, choreographer, performer, musician, and teaching artist specializing in arts integration in the school systems. She is the president of Savannah River Productions.

Chris Curry (Zebulon) Chris has been the Co-Director of SlowExposures Photography Festival for 14 years, Executive Director of the Zebulon Downtown Development Authority for 15 years, an independent bookstore and photography gallery owner in Zebulon, GA, a photography collector and arts supporter, and a grant writer for downtown development. She is also involved with sustainable agriculture initiatives. Chris is a member of the Pike County Tourism Council and is a Psychotherapist in private practice in Atlanta and Zebulon.

Stephanie Erdman (Columbus) Stephanie is the Executive Director of the Youth Orchestra of Greater Columbus. She previously worked with the Tallahassee Council on Culture and Arts and the Columbus Symphony Orchestra. She is a graduate of Columbus State University (BA in Music Performance and Business Management) where she was a member of the Wind Ensemble as well as the CSU Philharmonic. She received an MA in Arts Administration at Florida State University.

Chloe Hinton (Albany) A native of Albany, Georgia, Chloe Hinton attended the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina, where she studied Art History. After living in Charleston and Macon for the last 15 years, Chloe has returned home and is the Interim Director of Education and Program Planning at the Albany Museum of Art.

Catherine Pfitzer (Atlanta) While a student at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Catherine founded Birmingham's first comedy improv troupe in 1999, Torrential Downplay. This troupe, the first of its kind in the region, sparked an improv movement in Birmingham, with several spin-off troupes active as of April 2014.

In 2003, Catherine began working with the Sidewalk Film Festival in Birmingham, eventually serving as the organization's Executive Director. During her tenure, she founded many of the organization's prized programs including the popular Sidewalk Scramble weekend filmmaking contest (2004), and the Birmingham SHOUT LGBT+ Film Festival (co-founder, 2006). In 2007,

she was honored to present SHOUT's Beacon Award to Alan Cumming (*The Good Wife*), for his body of work increasing the visibility of LGBT individuals/issues in popular media. At Sidewalk, Catherine was responsible for quadrupling the number of grants awarded to the organization annually, and her strategic sponsorship efforts resulted in doubling sponsorship revenue and the festival's first (and only) title sponsor to date in its 16-year history. In 2009, Catherine moved to Atlanta to work with 7 Stages Theatre as its Director of Development, where she created and wrote the National Endowment for the Arts grant that resulted in the largest award in its category (musical theatre) in the state of Georgia. Catherine is the former executive director of Voices of Note.

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Vanessa Bamber (Atlanta) Bamber is the current Professor of Arts Administration at the Savannah College of Art and Design. She previously worked as managing director for Dad's Garage Theatre Company and Queens Theatre in the Park. Bamber earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida and a master's of business from Illinois State University. She serves on the board for Georgia Council for the Arts.

Rebecca Brantley (Athens) Rebecca divides her time between teaching, writing, and volunteering. Brantley teaches for Piedmont College and the University System of Georgia. Her research and teaching interests include contemporary art and design and art criticism. Her reviews of contemporary art have appeared in local and national periodicals, including Atlanta-based online publication BURNAWAY. Brantley serves as president of the board of directors and occasional curator for ATHICA: Athens Institute for Contemporary Art.

Dr. Elizabeth Delancy (Albany) Liz began studying ballet at five years of age, while living in Yokohama, Japan. When she returned to the States, she trained under Marius Zirra, Kathryn Irey (Pittsburg Ballet), Tanis Michaels (Fosse), Maxine Mahan (California Ballet), Wayne Davis (San Diego Ballet), and Wendy Ellen Cochran. As professional dancer, Liz worked with Zollar/Urban Bush Women (UBW) as a company dancer, and community workshop leader/dance instructor. During her tenure with UBW, she performed *Hands Singing Song*, the stellar work *Shelter* and *Soul Deep to the Bone*. Additionally, Liz was a rehearsal assistant for Zollar during two residencies with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre.

In addition to her responsibilities as the Program Coordinator of Dance at Darton College, Liz is an executive board member of World Ballet, Inc. She also is the rehearsal director and assistant to Henry Hernandez, artistic director of World Ballet. Further, she reprises her guest performance roles as Clara's mother and the Rat Queen in World Ballet's yearly production, *Nutcracker: A Diversity Celebration*.

Liz earned a BA in Mass Media Arts from Hampton University, and an MFA in Dance and a PhD in Humanities from Florida State University. She has been teaching a combination of dance and humanities in higher education for over 15 years, most significantly at Tallahassee Community College, Florida A&M University, and Florida State University. She is a published author, a former dance artist with both Dance Repertory Theatre and Women's Dance Project, and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Susan Moss (Atlanta) Susan is executive director of Women in Film and Television (WIFTA). She has nearly 20 years of experience in a wide variety of creative management roles, including marketing for NASCAR, film and video production, and legal experience with Kilpatrick

Townsend. An Atlanta native, Moss is also a member of the Georgia Production Partnership (GPP) Executive Board, and independent producer and a SAG/AFTRA actor.

Heather Stanley (Americus) Heather is the Managing Director of the Rylander Theatre in Americus. She is also the Chair of Georgia Presenters, a consortium of presenting organizations from across the state. Heather previously worked at Peach State Summer Theatre, and she also previously served on the board of the Georgia Arts Network. She graduated from Valdosta State University with a BFA in Theatre.

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Sheila Lynne Bolda (Savannah) Sheila Lynne Bolda is the Programming Director for the Savannah Film Festival and has been with the Trustees Theater staff and Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) since moving to Georgia from Michigan 13 years ago. With an extensive background in theater, she writes, directs and acts in local productions, most recently with the original sketch comedy show "Social LOLz" at the Muse Arts Warehouse. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Technical Theater from Western Michigan University, and a Master of Arts in Cinema Studies from the Savannah College of Art and Design.

Lisa Carter (Columbus) Lisa Carter received her BMus degree and Royal Academy of Dance teaching certificate from the University of Cape Town. She joined the university as a faculty member two years later. In 1998, Lisa departed South Africa to teach internationally and has taught, choreographed, and given master classes in China, South Africa, North America and Europe. In 2002 she joined the Royal Academy of Dance Board of Examiner's and traveled extensively examining students worldwide. She coordinated the Creighton University Dance program for eight years and in 2010, she received her master's degree from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. After further travels to New Zealand and South Africa, Lisa relocated to Columbus in 2014 to take up the position of Director of the CSU Dance Conservatory and Executive/Artistic Director of the Columbus Ballet.

Lee Foster (Atlanta) Lee is the Managing Director for The Theatrical Outfit. Previously, she was in California where she was the Executive Director of Hillbarn Theatre for over sixteen years. At Hillbarn, the sixth oldest continuously operating amateur theatre in the nation, she increased the budget from \$300,000 to \$1 million, paid off all debt, completed major capital projects including the roof and air conditioning and consistently filled seats. Lee has an MBA in Business from the University of San Francisco and an MFA in Performing Arts from Notre Dame de Namur University. She also graduated from the Arts Leadership of the Future program sponsored by the Packard Foundation. Among her honors, Foster received the BRAVO! Award, presented by California Congresswoman Jackie Speier in June 2008, and has received special recognitions and resolutions from city, county, state and national government sources.

David Morrow (Atlanta) Morrow is director of the Morehouse College Glee Club, conducts the Wendell Whalum Community Chorus, is artistic director and conductor of the Atlanta Singers, and co-directs the Morehouse-Spelman Chorus. He is outgoing president of the National Association of Negro Musicians and serves on the board of directors of the Intercollegiate Men's Choruses, Inc. He is a member of Metropolitan Atlanta Musicians Association, the American Choral Directors Association, Chorus America, the Georgia Music Educators Association, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. Morrow has led performances in such widely varying venues as Atlanta's Symphony Hall with Jessye Norman, the opening ceremonies of Super Bowl XXVIII with Natalie Cole and the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Atlantic Centennial

Olympic Games. He earned a bachelor's degree from Morehouse College, a master's degree in Music from the University of Michigan and a doctorate degree in Musical Arts from the University of Cincinnati, College Conservatory of Music. Morrow is a board member of Georgia Council for the Arts.

Nichole Potzauf (Blue Ridge) Nichole is the executive director of the Blue Ridge Mountain Arts Association and Art Center.

Sallie West (Augusta) is a native of Augusta, GA, and she currently serves as the Director of Outreach for the Greater Augusta Arts Council. As part of those duties, West manages the Fine Arts and Fine Crafts Market of the Arts in the Heart of Augusta Festival. West studied Art History and German at Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC, and in her "spare" time, she enjoys making art and playing the fiddle with friends.

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Amanda C.M. Brown (Dalton) Amanda C.M. Brown serves as the Executive Director of the Creative Arts Guild, Georgia's oldest, community, non-profit, multi-disciplinary arts organization, in Dalton, Georgia. She holds a Master of Arts in Arts Development and Program Management from the University of Denver as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts from Sewanee: The University of the South. Amanda has a wide range of experiences in the arts including serving as an arts educator in the areas of theatre, visual arts and dance and as a director and choreographer for a number of theatre companies and programs. Amanda also has a background in administration, visual design, marketing, communications, and program and curriculum planning and coordination.

Marleen De Bode Olivie (Columbus) De Bode Olivie is chairperson of the Columbus State University "Friends of Art." She serves on the board of the Columbus Museum, chairs the annual "Artbeat, Celebrating the Arts in Columbus" and the Cultural Arts and Design Taskforce of the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce. She recently worked as the director of education, marketing and development at the Royal Museum of Fine Arts in Antwerp, Belgium. De Bode Olivie earned a bachelor's and master's degree in Applied Economic Sciences from the University of Antwerp. She is a board member of Georgia Council for the Arts.

Marguerite Hannah (Atlanta) Marguerite Hannah is an actor and arts administrator. As an arts administrator, Marguerite has served as Horizon Theatre Company's Business Manager since 2006 and three years ago added director of Horizon Theatre's Apprentice Company to her list of duties. Prior to her tenure with Horizon, she worked several summers on the production team of the National Black Arts Festival starting with the very first in 1988 and was also a staff member for a time at Art Station in Stone Mountain. Marguerite is a member of Actors' Equity Association and has performed for theatre companies around the nation for almost 30 years. In 2010 and 2011, she was festival respondent and Irene Ryan Judge for the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Region IV. Marguerite is a member of the 2011 class of Arts Leaders of Metro Atlanta and just finished her first year as an adjudicator for The Shulers – Georgia High School Musical Theater Awards. Marguerite is a proud alumnus of Howard University, Washington DC.

Natalie King (Milledgeville) Natalie King was born in Pell City, Alabama and studied as a teenager at the Alabama School of Fine Arts under the direction of Madame Sonia Arova. While at ASFA, she performed corps de ballet roles in *Sleeping Beauty*, *The Nutcracker*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *La Bayadere*, and *Swan Lake*, as well as attended Joffrey Ballet and American Ballet Theatre Summer Intensives. Upon graduation, she attended Sweet Briar College where she earned a Bachelor of Art in Dance, Elementary Education Certification K-6 and Dance Education Certification K-12. Professors Mark and Ella Magruder afforded her opportunities to train with artists such as David Dorfman, Dan Froot, Meredith Monk, Lynn Neuman, Sarah Skaggs, Doug Varone, and Petrus Bosman. Mrs. King was then accepted into Arizona State University

Graduate Dance Program where she coordinated the university's community dance program, Moving Inventors, and was selected to teach major and non-major courses including, Dance for the Regular Education Classroom and Modern Dance Technique. In partnership with Arizona State University alumni Erica Neilson, she co-designed content for a web based E-book to enhance the scholarship of the online dance community and provide dance pedagogists with technology-based solutions for content delivery. She has presented her curricula for national organizations, including Congress on Research in Dance, Popular Culture Association and National Dance Education Organization. Previously, Mrs. King taught dance for seven years in an inner city high school located in Phoenix, Arizona. There she fulfilled many roles as the dance director, professional learning community facilitator, instructional leader for the performing arts department and summer arts program director. Most recently, she has come full circle back into collegiate academia as the newest dance instructor within Georgia College State University's Dance Minor Program where she teaches dance technique and theory courses.

Nicole Longevin-Burroughs (Atlanta) is a graduate of the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. She holds a Master of Arts in Arts Administration and Nonprofit Management, as well as a Bachelor of Music Education, with a cognate in flute performance. Nicole recently completed a second graduate degree in Grant Writing and Evaluative Measures from Concordia Lutheran University in Chicago. Additionally, she earned a certificate in grant writing from Kennesaw State University.

Nicole has been studying music since the age of five, beginning with piano. She began her flute studies at the age of eleven and has studied with masters including Emily Hoppe McKay, Kathryn Lukas, Thomas Robertello, as well as baroque flute with Barbara Kallaur. Mrs. Burroughs continues to perform regularly and has played with ensembles across the country, including the Pittsburgh Philharmonic, Johnstown Symphony, Edgewood Symphony, Undercroft Opera, and Tara Winds.

Nicole's experiences in arts administration, as well as music education are vast. Having served as both an orchestra director and band director in the Cobb County School District for six years, she has collaborated with the most sought-after educators in the country. She has served as a supply teacher, substitute teacher and marching band instructor at some of the finest public and private schools across the country and has been teaching music in various venues for 15 years. She regularly instructs summer music camps, sectionals and maintains a flute studio with students of all levels.

Prior to her teaching experience in Cobb County, Nicole served as Manager of Education and Community Engagement Programs with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. Her time with the PSO resulted in several new programs, including a partnership with Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC.

Nicole has completed multiple internships with organizations including the Bloomington Area Arts Council, the Bloomington Pops, the Jacobs School of Music, JSOM Friends of Music Society, and the Humane Association of Bloomington. She served on the board of directors for the Bloomington Pops and the August Wilson Center.

Nicole studied at the prestigious Lincoln Center Institute as well as the Arts Education Collaborative of Pittsburgh. She is a member of American String Teachers Association, National Association for Music Education, Georgia Music Educators Association, Foundation Center, American Grant Writer's Association, Young Nonprofit Professionals Network of Atlanta, and the Junior League of Cobb-Marietta. Nicole also works as a freelance consultant for various non-profit organizations and individuals in Georgia, Tennessee, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts.

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Norm Easterbrook (Columbus) joined RiverCenter in September 2015. Since 2004, Norm served as the Director of the Ford Center at the University of Mississippi. Norm has extensive experience in arts management and administration in both the public and private sectors having worked in the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs for several years and in the private sector with the Imperial Theatre in Augusta, Georgia and the Rylander Theatre in Americus, Georgia. Norm has been recognized for his contributions to the field by the Florida Professional Theatre Association, Florida Secretary of State, the Atlanta Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society, and the Georgia Theatre Conference. He has directed and performed professionally in numerous film, video and stage productions. He graduated from the Ithaca College School of Theatre and Florida State University where he studied acting and dramatic theory. He is delighted to join the Columbus community with his wife Margo.

Leah-Lane Lowe (Atlanta) Leah-Lane Lowe brings to the table a wealth of experience in major gift fundraising, program management, and in developing national and international public-private partnerships. As the first-ever Director of Grants at Public Broadcasting Atlanta (PBA), Leah-Lane is responsible for researching, securing and managing all aspects of grant revenue at PBA – an important revenue source that extends the work of 90.1 WABE radio station, PBS-TV channel 30, and AtlantaPlanIt.com. These grants allow PBA to be better positioned for the future: by improving facilities, technological and broadcast capabilities, broadening our educational programming and community outreach, and allowing us to think innovatively about how to integrate digital media with radio and television.

In her previous position at the National Foundation for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC Foundation), Leah-Lane worked across multiple disease centers at CDC and on programs all over the world. One highlight of her tenure at the CDC Foundation was building a national Viral Hepatitis Action Coalition (VHAC), engaging over 11 pharmaceutical companies in the coalition, and raising over \$16 million in grant pledges for the CDC's Division of Viral Hepatitis. Prior to the CDC Foundation, Leah-Lane managed upper level members at Fernbank Museum of Natural History, facilitated grand events like the Lost Oasis fundraiser and raised money for science education programming.

In the community, Leah-Lane has served as a grants panelist for the Fulton County Arts Council for the past 3 years, and was an Arts Leader of Metro Atlanta (ALMA) in 2015, as part of the Atlanta Regional Commission's 2015 class. Leah-Lane's educational background is as diverse as her career endeavors. She received an undergraduate degree in Studio Art, with a minor in Women's Studies, from the College of Charleston, and a Masters of Public Policy from the Andrew Yong School at Georgia State University.

Mollie Quinlan-Hayes (Atlanta) (formerly Mollie Lakin-Hayes) joined [South Arts](#) in early 2006. South Arts is one of the nation's six regional arts organizations, and is a partner of the National

Endowment for the Arts. As Deputy Director she works with all South Arts programs, the board, member state arts agencies and other partners to make a positive difference in the arts throughout the South. She oversees South Arts' portfolio of activities and helps to guide strategic planning and evaluation. She is director of South Arts' national initiative [ArtsReady](#), providing business continuity planning and emergency preparedness for arts organizations. She serves as co-chair of the Steering Committee of the National Coalition for Arts' Preparedness and Emergency Response. She has served as a speaker/panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts and numerous state arts councils. Mollie worked for the Arizona Commission on the Arts for 14 years, was a founding board member of Alliance for Audience/ShowUp.com, and of ARTability/Accessing Arizona's Arts. Mollie is a facilitator/consultant in strategic planning and participation-building, has been a professional audio describer, and is trained in Critical Response. In Atlanta she creates glass sculpture and jewelry as Southern Flameworks.

John B. White, Jr. (Decatur) White is senior consultant with the Coca-Cola Co., having retired from the company in 2000 after 34 years of service. At the time of his retirement he was assistant vice president of governmental relations, a position he had held since 1993. From 1981 to 1993 he served as executive assistant to the president of the company. He is a member of the board and executive committee of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, a member of the board of the Atlanta Education Television Collaborative, and the Board of Visitors of the Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University. He is a Council member of Georgia Council for the Arts.

Kate Whitman (Atlanta) is VP of Public Programs for the Atlanta History Center and Margaret Mitchell House and oversees all programming for both sites, including Meet the Past, a museum wide initiative to transform the visitor experience for all ages. She has a B.A. in art history with a Minor in museum studies from Florida State University. Her museum career began in 2001, when she was hired as the Curator of Education for the Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art. In early 2003, Whitman joined the staff at the Atlanta History Center as Manager of School Programs, and became head of the programs division in 2006. Her current duties include overseeing a program staff of 18 employees, strategic planning and grant writing for the programs division, contributing editor for Connect program guide, and developing courses, panel discussions, and over 60 author programs each year. She is currently the Georgia state representative for AAM's EDCOM affinity group.

**Georgia Council for the Arts
FY17 Arts Education Panel 1**

Kahlil Chism

Kahlil G. Chism received his BA in History and M.Ed. in Secondary Education and Social Studies, both from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville. He has taught American Studies, U. S. History, U. S. Government, English, and Writing, at both the secondary and post-secondary levels. Currently serving as an Education Specialist at the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library & Museum, Kahlil specializes in professional development training for social studies teachers, seminar facilitation, curriculum writing, document analysis, and historical writing and research. He has served as a judge for National History Day, Washington, DC, and NHD, GA, and at various times as both a grant-reader and programming planner for Teaching American History Grant collaboratives around the country. Kahlil has written articles and lesson plans for publications such as Social Education, Magazine of History, Cobblestone, The National History Day Curriculum Book, and The Mini-Page, as well as a documentary history of the Brown v. Board school desegregation case in The Unfinished Agenda of Brown v. Board of Education, a book published by Wiley & Sons, for Black Issues in Higher Education magazine.

Barbara O'Brien

Barbara O'Brien most recently served as the Director of Education for Arts for Learning. Her current position is Alliance Arts for Learning Institute Director. Barbara's professional focus on arts and education for all students has grown out of a teaching career in public and post-secondary education combined with her training and experience as dance educator and choreographer. In addition to teaching experiences in both public and private schools, Barbara has developed a professional emphasis on the arts, literacy, professional learning, program development, and strategic partnerships. Prior to joining Young Audiences in 2010, Barbara developed new program initiatives for Fulton County Arts Council, High Museum of Art, and Georgia Public Broadcasting. She was awarded an Emmy for her work on the State of the Arts production team and a Telly for her work on the Road Trip (stay-in-school themed video series). Barbara earned an M.Ed. from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro with an emphasis in Dance Education and was awarded a certificate from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill for participation in Managing the Arts. Dance training included Hartford Ballet Company, North Carolina School of the Arts, Duke University, American Dance Festival. Her leadership roles include President, North Carolina Association of Dance Educators; President, Georgia Dance Educators Association; President, Friends of Emory Dance; Fine Arts Advisory Group, Georgia Department of Education, Atlanta Regional Commission's Education Committee.

Lauren Phillips

Lauren Phillips has taught art at the elementary level in Gwinnett County (GA) for 16 years. She has a PhD from Georgia State University. Both her M.A.Ed. and B.S.Ed. in Art Education are from the University of Georgia. She currently is currently an art teacher at Nesbit Elementary. Lauren is the President of the Georgia Art Education Association. She has presented at state and national art education conferences, as well as published her work in art education journals and books. In 2011, she was named the National Art Education Association's Southeastern Elementary Art Educator of the Year. Believing that art can make a positive impact on the community, Lauren and her students have

participated in Empty Bowls fundraisers since 2004, raising money for local food banks by selling student-created clay bowls.

Barry Schrenk

Barry Schrenk serves as Chair of Georgia Council for the Arts. He is president and owner of Taggart's Driving School, which was founded in 1957. He serves on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Atlanta Opera and on the Board of Directors of the Atlanta Opera Guild. Schrenk is Chairman of the Education Committee. He is also the Southeast Regional Director of the Metropolitan Opera National Council for Membership and Finance and serves on the M.O.N.C. board of national advisers. Professionally, Schrenk has worked with members and various committees of the Georgia General Assembly for nearly 30 years regarding driver education, driver improvement, DUI and traffic safety issues. Schrenk graduated with a degree in commerce from Rider University, where he later received a Distinguished Alumni Award. He and his wife, Anita, have two daughters and three grandchildren. They live in Tucker.

Michelle Schulte

Michelle Schulte holds a Master of Arts degree in Museum Studies from Johns Hopkins University, a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Savannah College of Art and Design, and a Georgia art education teaching certification from Armstrong Atlantic State University. She was a classroom art teacher before entering the museum field in 1999 at the Telfair Museum of Art in Savannah, Georgia, where she served as Curator of Education. Schulte is currently the Curator of Education at the Morris Museum of Art in Augusta, Georgia, where she oversees the development and implementation of interpretive and guest services, and curates select exhibitions. Her duties include designing in-house and outreach programming for a wide range of audiences, producing curriculum and gallery content, building partnerships with other community organizations, and managing the operations of the education department and guest services. In addition to museum work, Schulte is an adjunct instructor at Augusta University, where she co-created a museum studies minor program. She currently serves on the Southeastern Museums Conference program committee and Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries board, co-chairs the Georgia Museum Educators, and is the Southeastern EdCom representative for the American Alliance of Museums.

Brandon Tucker

Brandon Tucker serves as Teacher Specialist for Performing Arts for the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System. In this role, he supervises all band, chorus, orchestra, piano, elementary music, theatre and dance programs in Chatham County. He conducts teacher observations, manages the district's performing arts budget, provides professional development for teachers, partners with arts advocacy groups, and supervises the overall development of the performing arts program. In addition to music degrees at the Bachelor's and Master's level, Mr. Tucker holds an Ed.S. in Educational Leadership from Valdosta State University, as well as level 6 Educational Leadership certification in Georgia.

Georgia Council for the Arts FY17 Arts Education Panel 2

Myrna Anderson-Fuller

Myrna Anderson-Fuller holds a B.A. Degree in Psychology, with a Minor in Fine Art, from Talladega College, graduate credits from New York Institute of Technology, and a Degree in Applied Arts from the Art Institute of Atlanta. Mrs. Anderson-Fuller was a founding board member of Hammonds House Museum and served in various capacities on the board during several appointment periods. She transitioned off of the Hammonds House Museum Board of Trustees in May 2004 to serve as the Executive Director, and she continues to serve in that role. Mrs. Fuller has a corporate managerial background coupled with non-profit management. During her tenure with Eastern Airlines, she managed a base of 2,000 flight attendants, was responsible for the 16 EAL Atlanta City Ticket Offices and conducted management training and development as part of a continually upwardly mobile career path. After Eastern Airlines closed, Mrs. Fuller redirected her career path towards the arts. She served as Interim Managing Director of the National Black Arts Festival until a permanent director was named. She joined the firm of BBC Productions (later Acuity, Inc.) as a graphic designer where she eventually assumed the role of Art Director. Mrs. Fuller left Acuity to serve as Chief of Staff for Commissioner Michael Hightower. When Mr. Hightower left office she formed her own graphic design company, iView Graphics. As a community leader, Ms. Fuller embraced the arts, serving on a variety of arts boards, including the original Arts Festival of Atlanta. She was Commissioner Hightower's Appointee to the Fulton County Arts Council (Fulton County Department of Arts and Culture) for six years, two of which she served as the Vice Chair. Ms. Fuller is a Leadership Atlanta graduate and currently serves on the boards of the Willie Watkins Foundation, the West End Merchants Coalition, and the board of Advisors for the Atlanta Printmakers Studio.

Kelly Cooper

Originally from Chicago, IL, Kelly Cooper studied dance under the leadership of Ric Rose at the University of Florida. After graduating with a BA in Advertising and a Business minor, she continued her dance education at the Dance Theater of Santa Fe at Santa Fe College in Gainesville, FL. She trained with Alora Haynes, Alberto Alonso, Mark Broomfield, Jill Sonke and Mohamed DaCosta. After relocating to South Florida, she continued to choreograph for a number of special events, including pageants, fashion shows and festivals, before starting her own ensemble dance group, On The Verge. She joined Atlanta Ballet in 2011 as an Education Associate and is currently the Centre Admissions Director for the Centre for Dance Education and faculty member. In her spare time, Kelly is a screenwriter with accolades from several international competitions and enjoys running, dancing and spending time with family.

Woody Leonard

Woody Leonard has been the Band Director at Cook County Middle School since 2008. During his extensive teaching career, Leonard has served as the Director of Bands at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (2007-2012), Director of Bands and Instrumental Music Coordinator at Tift County High School (1986-2005), Assistant Band Director at Lowndes High School (1976-1979, 1981-1986), Director of Bands at Dalton High School (1980-81), and Graduate assistant Band Director at Auburn University (1979-1980). He also served on the Georgia Governor's Arts Learning Task Force (2014-2015). He earned his B.S. and M. Ed. from Auburn University, and his Ed. S. (Music) from Troy State University. His wife, Pamela, is the administrative assistant for the president at ABAC. They have two children, Trey and Kristen.

Laura Lieberman

Now the President of the Georgia Alliance for Arts Education and a development consultant for cultural nonprofits, Laura C. Lieberman served as the Executive Director of the Cultural Arts Council from 2003 through 2013. Co-founder and former editor-in-chief of *Art Papers* magazine, she has been involved with cultural community development in Atlanta for more than 30 years. As Development Director of the American Museum of Papermaking, she organized *Speaking Volumes*, a selection of artists' books by southeastern educators. She also co-curated *Artists of Heath Gallery: 1965-1998*, the Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia's first exhibition. Lieberman worked with Young Audiences of Atlanta, as Development and then Managing Director. She served as Director of the Arts Clearinghouse for the City of Atlanta Bureau of Cultural Affairs for seven years. With a bachelor's degree from Swarthmore College, she attended the Harvard Business School's Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management program in 1999. Ms. Lieberman was a founding board member of the Metropolitan Public Arts Coalition. She was President of the Georgia Assembly of Community Arts Agencies Board of Directors from 2007 through 2009. She and her husband Bill Gignilliat, an arts advocate, now live in a home on a lake in Douglas County, Georgia.

Frank Pruet

Frank Pruet has 32 years in education, including eight years as an English instructor in the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System, and eight years as an English instructor in the Cobb County Schools System. He served for seven years as State Chapter Director of Georgia Thespians, the statewide theatre education organization and an affiliate of Educational Theatre Association (EdTA). His work as an educator has included coordinating school-wide writing across the curriculum, directing an honors writing program, collaborating to implement interdepartmental curriculum, serving as department chair, and serving as an advisor to the State Theatre Arts Performance Standards writing team. He currently serves as President Elect the Educational Theatre Association, a national nonprofit organization with 90,000 student and professional members, whose mission is to shape lives through theatre education.

Gladys Wyant

Gladys Wyant is serving in her 33rd year as Executive Director of The Arts Council, Inc., a 501(c)3 arts organization serving Northeast Georgia. She has completed numerous professional development workshops through Americans for the Arts, South Arts, Georgia Arts Network, the Governor's Tourism Conferences, North Georgia Travel Association, Georgia Main Street Programs and others. She was a founding member of Arts in Schools in Hall County, served on a number of local arts and state arts organization boards including Gainesville Children's Theatre, Lanier Orchestra League, Past President of GACAA, Georgia Arts Network, Treasurer of Main Street Gainesville, Georgia Citizens for the Arts, Arts Georgia, and Theatre Wings. She is a panelist and current board member of Georgia Council for the Arts, Lake Lanier Convention and Visitors Bureau, and also serves on a number of local committees including the Vision 2030 Public Art Program. She also served on the Georgia Governor's Arts Learning Task Force. Wyant studied at Kennesaw State University and Brenau University in Arts Management. She and her husband, Joseph, have two children and four grandchildren. They reside in Gainesville