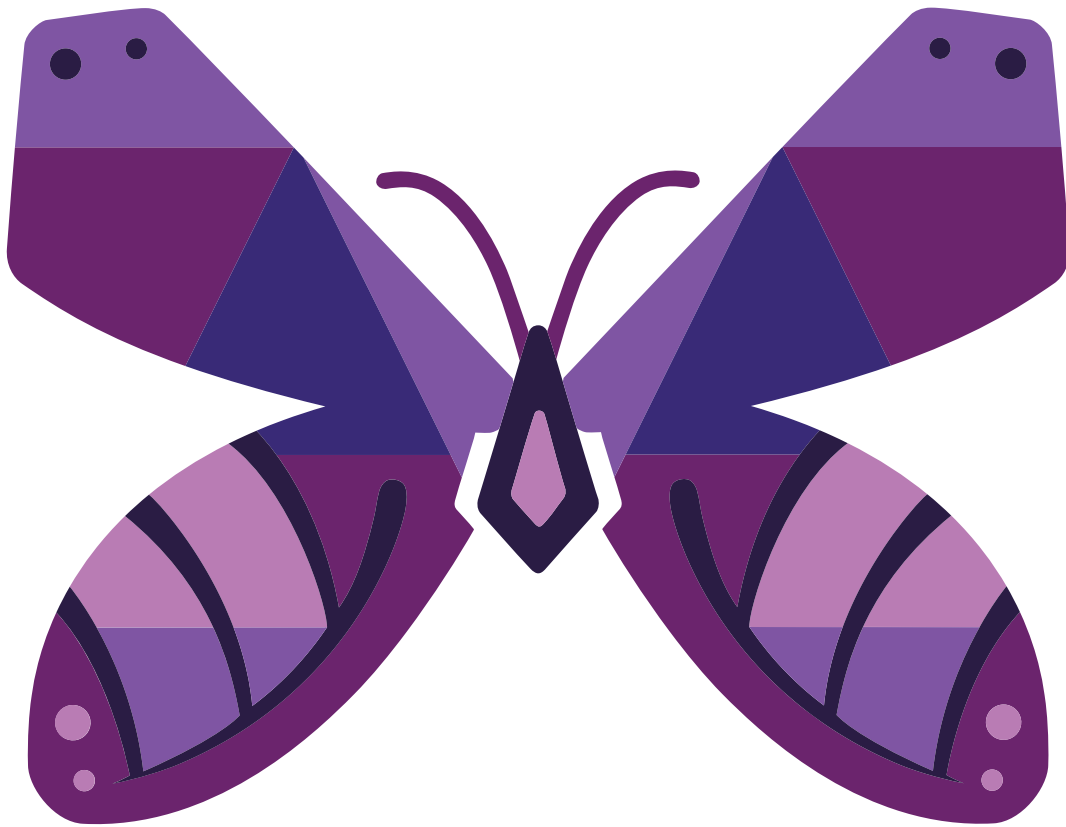


# 2021 AMERICAS CULTURAL SUMMIT

1-4 November 2021



Towards a sustainable,  
equitable, and inclusive future



# MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS (NEA)



The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is pleased to welcome you to the 2021 Americas Cultural Summit.

Today's challenging times call upon all of us to reimagine how arts policy and cultural diplomacy can create opportunities while addressing common threats to our global community. This year's theme, "Towards a more equitable, inclusive, and sustainable future," reflects this pivotal time and seeks to provide a roadmap for the future. Building on the success of previous summits hosted by Canada and Argentina, we look forward to strengthening our partnership with a robust exchange of ideas this year.

Under the leadership of President Biden and Vice President Harris, the NEA is proud to support a diverse range of programs to rebuild the economy, promote health and well-being, and advance racial equity. Established by United States Congress in 1965, the Arts Endowment is an independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the Arts Endowment supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote access to the arts in every community across America.

Part of the NEA's mission is to have an international exchange of ideas and conversations related to arts and culture policies and practices. This summit provides delegates the opportunity to hear from experts from all of the Americas and explore priorities for reinvigorating the cultural sector in our respective nations, hemispheres, and beyond. Now more than ever, fostering meaningful dialogue within the arts community is paramount. We are grateful for the steadfast partnership with the International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA) and express our gratitude to Executive Director Magdalena Moreno Mujica and Kate Nixon for their extraordinary collaboration.

While it is disappointing that we are unable to gather together in Washington, D.C., the beautiful capital of the United States, we look forward to a productive and illuminating dialogue focused on how culture and the arts can enhance our ability to increase equity, sustainability and inclusion.

Welcome to the 2021 Americas Cultural Summit!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ra Joy".

Ra Joy  
Chief of Staff



# MESSAGE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ARTS COUNCILS AND CULTURE AGENCIES (IFACCA)



As Executive Director of the International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA), it is a great pleasure to bring together representatives from government, public agencies and the cultural and creative sectors across the Americas region to engage on critical issues as we look to rebuilding towards a more equitable, sustainable and inclusive future. These issues are core to the Federation's work, and our Strategy that guides over the next five years.

Our Federation is the global network of arts councils, ministries of culture and government agencies that advance arts and culture with member institutions representing over 70 countries. Our shared vision is a world in which arts and culture thrive and are recognised by governments and peoples for their manifold contribution to society. Our purpose is to support and engage members; to forge platforms for collaboration and exchange; to be a trusted source of intelligence; and to lead global thought for arts and culture in public life. Collectively we are committed to international dialogue and exchange, undertaken in a spirit of solidarity, inclusion, reciprocity, and mutual learning.

One of the ways in which we do this is by working together to foster meaningful, effective and lasting international exchange in the field of arts and culture at both a regional and global level. In 2018, the inaugural Americas Cultural Summit was launched in Ottawa, Canada, co-hosted by the Canada Council for the Arts largely to promote greater collaboration among arts and culture public agencies and key leaders in the cultural ecology, and to build and strengthen dialogue and relationships across the vast and diverse Americas region.

International exchange is central to the Federation's purpose and while with the National Endowment for the Arts we hoped to connect in-person for the Americas Cultural Summit 2021 in Washington DC, like we did in Ottawa in 2018 and Buenos Aires in 2019, the impact of the current COVID-19 pandemic has driven us to explore new ways of connecting. We look forward to connecting and collaborating with you through digital formats and creating opportunities for meaningful peer exchange.

The theme of the Americas Cultural Summit 2021 Towards a sustainable, equitable and inclusive future is central to our realities as we assess today and move forward. While we are mindful that in many contexts inequities have been exacerbated by the pandemic, we also note that most of these fault lines existed well before the pandemic. There are particular threads that connects us in the Americas such as: the cultures, traditions, wisdom and systems of First Nations peoples; the various migrant flows of colonisation and slavery or more recent forms of relocation to find a better life; social and political movements and freedoms; cultural, religious and linguistic syncretism; and many more.

Our Federation represents plural voices and perspectives, unified in the belief that arts and culture are a public good – with the potential to further inclusive social transformation – to be shaped and accessed equitably by all peoples. I am pleased to welcome IFACCA Members, invited guests and delegates to the Americas Cultural Summit 2021. On behalf of the Federation, I also extend our deepest gratitude to Michael Orlove and Guiomar Ochoa at the National Endowment for the Arts for a wonderful collaboration, and a special thank you to all the participants with whom together we will have created this special platform and thought-provoking programme for a more equitable, sustainable, inclusive future.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Magdalena Moreno Mujica'.

Magdalena Moreno Mujica  
Executive Director



# OVERVIEW

## TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE, EQUITABLE AND INCLUSIVE FUTURE

In recent years across the Americas heightened awareness of systemic and global inequalities has catalyzed social movements; and the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed new and existing social and sectoral fault lines. In its January 2021 *Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government*, the Biden-Harris Administration stressed the need to address entrenched disparities in public policies. For the purposes of the Executive Order, it defines the term ‘equity’ as:

*the consistent and systematic fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals, including individuals who belong to underserved communities that have been denied such treatment, such as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.*

In alignment, the National Endowment for the Arts (USA) will develop a future strategy grounded in principles of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility.

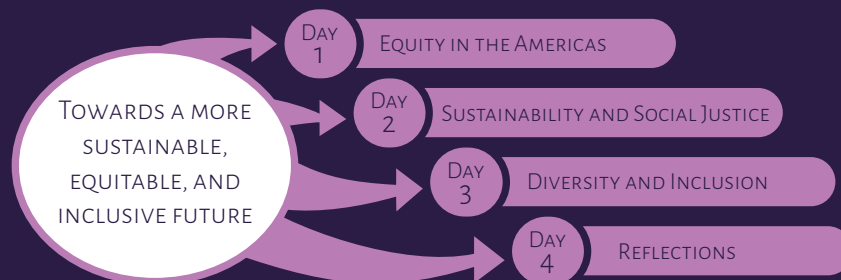
As co-hosts of the Americas Cultural Summit 2021 (ACS 2021) with the International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA), the National Endowment for the Arts invites delegates from across the region to join an online program to address how we can collectively lay foundations for a more sustainable, equitable and inclusive future for the Americas, and beyond.

The ACS 2021 will create space for delegates to address social and cultural fault lines that exacerbate inequities in the region; consider social and cultural equity as a shared responsibility; explore new and diverse practices for making more inclusive cultural policy; examine how we can strengthen and reinvigorate cultural access and participation across the full spectrum of society, as we rebuild our sectors in a post-COVID context; and demonstrate the potential for the arts and culture sector to provide leadership by example to other sectors.

During ACS 2021, a diverse range of participants will share their voices, experiences and ideas and invite each other to reimagine their roles in the cultural ecosystem and how their influence can help rebuild more vibrant, sustainable, open, and inclusive societies for our shared futures.

The programmed will include plenaries, response panel sessions, and moderated breakout sessions for group discussion. It will also include a series of creative interventions from artists and cultural practitioners; as well as opportunities to hear from national and international leaders on their vision for arts and culture in the Americas.

The structure that guides our discussions considers the following narrative:



# DAY ONE: EQUITY IN THE ARTS, EQUITY IN THE AMERICAS

MONDAY, 1 NOVEMBER, 18.00 - 20.15 ET / 22.00 - 00.15 UTC (SEE LOCAL TIMES)

Day One will open with a plenary on Equity in the Arts, which will offer perspectives from leaders across the region, who will consider issues of racial equity, privilege, self-determination, risk and catalysts for change. A response panel will follow, during which panelists will consider equity in the Americas; whether there have been significant shifts; and, if so, how these have been realized.

## WELCOME

### Land Acknowledgement

Official Welcome by co-hosts include:

- **Ra Joy**, Chief of Staff, National Endowment for the Arts, USA
- **Simon Brault O.C., O.Q.**, Chair of IFACCA, and Director and CEO of the Canada Council for the Arts, CANADA
- **Brian Nichols**, Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs, USA
- **Magdalena Moreno Mujica**, Executive Director, IFACCA
- **Michael Orlove**, Director of State, Regional & Local Partnerships, National Endowment for the Arts, USA

## OPENING ART BURST ONE: LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA AND JUAN DE MARCOS GONZÁLEZ

(18.00 ET / 22.00 UTC)

## PLENARY ONE: THE EQUITY AGENDA IN THE AMERICAS (18.35 ET / 22.35 UTC)

What social and cultural fault lines exacerbate inequities in the Americas? And who controls the dial?

Lead Chair: **Jesse Wentz**, Anishinaabe writer, Executive Director of the Indigenous Screen Office, and Chair of Canada Council for the Arts, CANADA

Panel members:

- **Esther Hernández Torres**, Director General of Cultural Engagement, Secretary of Culture, MEXICO
- **Hilary Brown**, Program Manager, Culture and Community Development, CARICOM Secretariat, GUYANA
- **Angelique Power**, President and CEO of The Skillman Foundation, USA

## GREETINGS FROM IFACCA COUNTRIES – ROLL CALL

## RESPONSE PANEL ONE: RESPONSE PANEL: EQUITY IN THE AMERICAS (19.15 ET / 23.15 UTC)

What inequity legacies and current challenges do we face? How can we address these disparities and effect systemic change?

Lead Chair: **Jesse Wentz**, CANADA

Respondents include:

- **Suecy Callejas Estrada**, Vice President, General Legislative Assembly, EL SALVADOR
- **Emil Kang**, Program Director for Arts and Cultural Heritage, Mellon Foundation, USA
- **Judith Morrison**, Senior Advisor, Gender and Diversity Unit, Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), USA

## CLOSING ART BURST ONE - **DANILO PÉREZ AND KURT ELLING** (20.10 ET / 00.10 UTC)

THANK YOU - CLOSE FOR THE DAY

## DAY TWO: SUSTAINABILITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

TUESDAY, 2 NOVEMBER, 09.00 - 12.20 ET / 13.00 - 16.20 UTC (SEE LOCAL TIMES)

With *Equity* as its underpinning theme, Day Two will begin with a plenary on *Sustainability and Social Justice*, followed by a response panel, during which leaders from the region will consider sustainability – including from ancestral, sectoral, financial, developmental, and environmental angles – and its interrelation with social justice. These sessions will be followed by facilitated breakout sessions.

### OPENING ART BURST TWO: **RHIANNON GIDDENS** (09.00 ET / 13.00 UTC)

#### WELCOME

Welcome by Secretary of the Interior **Deb Haaland** USA

Co-hosts Day One report and set scene for Day Two

### PLENARY TWO: SUSTAINABILITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (09.15 ET / 13.15 UTC)

As nations develop sustainability agendas to meet targets towards a more sustainable future, what does this mean for diverse communities, the environment, and our cultural and creative sectors? Are social justice and equity key principles that guide sustainability discussions?

Lead Chair: **Andrea S. King**, Director, Culture and Arts, Love and Living (CALL), BARBADOS

Panel members:

- **Michèle Taïna Audette**, Senator, CANADA
- **Emellie O'Brien**, Founder and CEO Earth Angels, USA
- **Ernesto Ottone Ramírez**, Assistant Director-General for Culture, UNESCO, CHILE

### GREETINGS FROM IFACCA COUNTRIES – ROLL CALL

### RESPONSE PANEL TWO: FROM DIALOGUE TO ACTION (10.00 ET / 14.00 UTC)

How do we achieve action-oriented results? How do we support and strengthen sustainable communities and sectors?

Lead Chair: **Andrea S. King**, BARBADOS

Respondents:

- **Hilary Brown**, Program Manager, Culture and Community Development, CARICOM Secretariat, GUYANA
- **Tihui Campos**, Director of Food Culture, Secretary of Culture, MEXICO
- **Aaluk Edwardson**, Founder and Director of Creative Decolonization, USA
- **Ana Carla Fonseca**, Consultant and Lecturer in creative economy and cities, BRAZIL

### INTRODUCTION TO THE BREAKOUT SESSIONS

## DAY TWO: BREAKOUT SESSION ON SUSTAINABILITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (11.00 ET / 15.00 UTC)

Integral to the Americas Cultural Summit are collaborative spaces designed to encourage the active participation of all delegates. This series of themed breakout sessions will provide more intimate opportunities to share, explore, debate, and perhaps even co-design practical approaches towards achieving more sustainable, equitable, and inclusive futures in the Americas and beyond.

Each breakout session will have a Lead Facilitator who will guide the discussions over one hour. Delegates will be required to pre-register for the session they wish to attend and indicate if they are able to participate in a bilingual (English and Spanish) breakout session or monolingual session (English only or Spanish only).

The breakout room themes—and possible questions or paths which may be explored—include:

1. **FIRST NATIONS / INDIGENOUS SELF-DETERMINATION:** The Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 13 September 2007, is one of the most comprehensive statements on the rights of Indigenous peoples developed, with prominence given to collective rights in international human rights law. Article 2 of the Declaration states that:

Indigenous peoples and individuals are free and equal to all other peoples and individuals and have the right to be free from any kind of discrimination, in the exercise of their rights, in particular that based on their indigenous origin or identity.

And Article 3 states that ‘Indigenous peoples have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development (p.4).<sup>1</sup>

This breakout session will be facilitated and guided by colleagues from Indigenous communities, and we will learn more about what Indigenous self-determination means; and reflect on ways to inform and guide our collective work on the equity agenda in the diverse cultural communities of the Americas.

2. **RACIAL EQUITY:** As described in the *Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government of the United States*, racial equity is a central concern not only for the Government, but also for its people. While the focus of equity agendas may differ from country to country in the Americas, the inequitable experiences of Indigenous peoples, colonization and mestizaje (diverse ethnicity) are shared. This breakout session will focus on racially led discrimination issues that need to be addressed if we are to achieve a more equitable, just and safe future for people, regardless of race.
3. **GENDER EQUITY AND EQUALITY:** Challenges of gender equity and equality – which considers women’s rights as well as the rights of LGBTQI+ communities – persist across society and have been destructive for many, including across the creative and cultural sectors. This breakout session will offer an opportunity to share model programmes and practices that have started to dismantle such historic barriers. We anticipate that participants may also identify examples of unequal or discriminatory practices related to compensation and hiring for leadership positions, which can be easily tracked; as well as less obvious, but no less destructive, examples of gender imbalances in program content, and access to funding and investment.

---

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS\\_en.pdf](https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf)



4. **POWER, PRIVILEGE AND INFLUENCE:** Each participant may, to a varying degree, wield a certain amount of power, privilege, and influence by virtue of the professional positions that they hold. While these assets may have allowed us to develop in our working lives, they may also have affected how we relate to others outside our power structures. In this breakout session, participants will be invited to consider their own power, privilege, and influence, and discuss with others when to wield and when to truly share – or relinquish – power, to step back, listen and hear the voices of others.
  
5. **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE JUSTICE:** Across the Americas (and across the globe), the climate crisis and its multiple drivers are having a profound impact on cultural communities. This includes the increasing frequency and intensity of tropical storms for Caribbean, Central, and North American populations; rising sea levels which force relocation and destroy communities and cultures along our vast coastlines; and worsening weather patterns that expand droughts, fires, and floods. We are living in a world where we each must confront and take constructive action to address climate change. We must also recognise and understand that too often those most at risk are those with the least resources and power. This breakout session offers an opportunity for participants to consider organisational policies or programmes that may inadvertently contribute to environmental injustice; and to share beneficial responses either underway or in development. It will also consider the role the cultural and creative sectors can play to inspire positive change and climate justice.
  
6. **EQUITABLE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS FOR THE CREATIVE AND CULTURAL SECTORS:** Unfortunately, within the cultural and creative sector, fairness and equity in compensation practices, working conditions, and access to health care; freedom and protection from harassment and assault; and systemic support for professional growth and evolution are not guaranteed, and are often woefully lacking. In this breakout session, participants may share successful policy and/or programme models that could reset this pattern for current and future generations of creative workers. It will consider the impact of COVID-19 on existing fault lines that put at risk dignity of work and the wellbeing of cultural and creative workers.
  
7. **THE ROLE OF ARTS AND CULTURE IN OUR WELLBEING:** Research has shown that the cultural and creative sectors contribute significantly to community wellbeing and health. Arts education supports emotional and intellectual development of children; and participation in creative activities reduces isolation and loneliness among all people, with particularly profound benefits for the elderly and those living with emotional challenges. In this breakout session, participants will be invited to share examples of such impactful work; consider ways to expand and amplify the sector's impact; and ensure that the cultural workers who provide this benefit are not left out of the wellbeing equation.

**CLOSING CULINARY CULTURAL BURST TWO – JOSÉ ANDRÉS (12.00 ET / 16.00 UTC)**

**CLOSE FOR THE DAY (12.15 ET / 16.15 UTC)**

## DAY THREE: DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

WEDNESDAY, 3 NOVEMBER, 09.00 - 12.15 ET / 13.00 - 16.15 UTC (SEE LOCAL TIMES)

With *Equity* the continued underpinning theme, Day Three will begin with a plenary on *Diversity and Inclusion*, followed by a response panel, during which leaders from throughout the region will share their experiences of inclusive practices; and consider issues of cultural rights and responsibilities, agency and voice, participatory governance of culture and diversity of cultural expressions. These sessions will also be followed by facilitated breakout sessions.

### OPENING ART BURST THREE: **CARY MORIN & AMERICAN PATCHWORK QUARTET** (09.00 ET / 13.00 UTC)

#### WELCOME

- Welcome by **BAMUTHI (Marc Bamuthi Joseph)**, Arts Activist, Spoken Word Artist and Speaker, USA
- **Kevin Gover**, Under Secretary for Museums and Culture at the Smithsonian, USA
- Co-hosts Day Two report and set scene for Day Three

### PLENARY THREE: DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (09.15 ET / 13.15 UTC)

What is at stake? Can COVID be a circuit breaker to address the legacies of inequality head-on? How do we recover and rebuild better, more inclusively and fairly? And what is the role of arts and culture in this equity debate and broader agenda?

Lead Chair: **Martin Inthamoussú**, President and CEO, SODRE, URUGUAY

Panel members:

- **Sylvie Durán Salvatierra**, Minister of Culture and Youth, COSTA RICA
- **Mohammed Hashim**, Executive Director of the Canadian Race Relations Foundation, CANADA
- **Alice Sheppard**, Artist, Creative Capital grantee and Bessie Award winner, USA

### GREETINGS FROM IFACCA COUNTRIES – ROLL CALL

### RESPONSE PANEL THREE: LEVELLING THE PLAYING FIELD (10.00 ET / 14.00 UTC)

Who needs to be part of this conversation?

Lead Chair: **Martin Inthamoussú**, URUGUAY

Respondents:

- **Enrique Avogadro**, Minister of Culture of Buenos Aires, ARGENTINA
- **Irma Pineda**, Poet and Vice-President of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, MEXICO
- **F. Javier Torres-Campos**, Director of Thriving Cultures, Surdna Foundation, USA

### INTRODUCTION TO THE BREAKOUT SESSIONS

## DAY THREE: BREAKOUT SESSION ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (11.00 ET / 15.00 UTC)

Integral to the Americas Cultural Summit are collaborative spaces designed to encourage active participation of all delegates. This series of themed breakout sessions will provide more intimate opportunities to share, explore, debate, and perhaps even co-design practical approaches towards achieving more sustainable, equitable, and inclusive futures in the Americas and beyond.

Each breakout session will have a Lead Facilitator who will guide the discussions over one hour. Delegates will be required to pre-register for the session they wish to attend and identify if they are able to participate in a bilingual (English and Spanish) breakout session or monolingual session (English only or Spanish only).

The breakout room themes – and possible questions or paths which may be explored – include:

- 1. AGENCY AND VOICE:** As we culminate discussions on equitable approaches, ways to shift that dial and the importance of self-determination, we will ask how we can ensure that our diversity policies and practices include active and diverse voices, and do not speak on their behalf. In this breakout session we will reflect on whether our current policies and practices inhibit or foster inclusion, equity and agency for collaborating partners, grant recipients and communities. We will also consider what it may look like to achieve this in different contexts, for different cultural groups, communities and countries?
- 2. INCLUSIVE CULTURAL GOVERNANCE:** As set out in UNESCO's [Monitoring Framework](#) (2018), Goal 1 of its *2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of Diversity of Cultural Expressions* is to support sustainable systems of governance for culture; and in its most recent *Global Report* (2018): [Reshaping cultural policies](#), it states that national policies and measures should contribute to informed, transparent and participatory systems of governance of culture. The report also indicates that the goal can only be achieved if civil society can play a strong role, because it offers a key vehicle for people's participation and can be pivotal to accountability and transparency, which together make it more likely that cultural policies and measures reflect and serve the needs of citizens (Firmin, *Global Report 2018*, p.87). In this breakout session, we will reflect on how we can – and do – re-shape our governing structures for culture, including policies, procedures, practices, and behaviours, to achieve inclusive governance models. How do we work with different tiers of government, non-cultural sectors and partners to achieve better informed, transparent, participatory systems that reflect the needs and aspirations of diverse communities? And how do we shift the focus from access to participation, towards full participation in cultural life?
- 3. INNOVATION AND DIVERSITY:** There is much discussion on the benefits of diversity and innovative practices. In general terms, the more diverse the group, the broader the scope to address a specific problem and/or find innovative solutions. At the same time, there seems to be resistance to opening the doors to different approaches and thoughts to achieve such innovation. How do we create opportunities for innovation informed by a diversity and inclusion agenda? This breakout session will focus on both the barriers to achieving diversity in innovation, as well as what can be – and has been – achieved once that dial is shifted.
- 4. STRUCTURAL REFORM – POLICY AND SECTOR:** After hearing from speakers sharing insights into broad topics of diversity, inclusion, and levelling the playing field, in this breakout session we invite participants (from across the cultural ecology) to reflect on policies and practices in arts and culture – including within their own

organisations – that inhibit the achievement of more inclusive and healthy cultural communities. How can we surface detrimental approaches, and what steps might we each take in our own contexts to dismantle them? What barriers might we encounter as we seek to achieve this change?

5. **WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT APPROACHES TO INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY:** Many governments around the world have highlighted equity, diversity and inclusion as key drivers in their administration, including in the USA as indicated above with the Executive Order. Moreover, a sustainable and equitable future for the cultural and creative sectors will rely on leadership at the highest level; agility, flexibility, resilience and adaptability; sound understanding of the cultural and creative ecology and its operating environments; diverse public investments and actions, including sector-specific measures; dialogue with stakeholders across the cultural value chain; and valuing the rights and roles associated with protecting and promoting the diversity of artistic, cultural and creative expressions. In this breakout session we will explore how best to navigate this environment, considering how we (from our various vantage points) can encourage and/or lead in a whole of government and societal responses to equity; and how we might move our goals for diversity and inclusion forward in a government setting where such goals may be seen as a low priority.
6. **SHARING POWER:** The International Federation of Arts Council and Culture Agencies (IFACCA) is a global network of arts councils, ministries of culture and government agencies that advance arts and culture. As leaders of public agencies, National Member executive leaders have an important responsibility and authority over a public resource. While acknowledging that with this comes great accountability and transparency, the COVID-19 pandemic has shown the critical dialogue required with all stakeholders to manage major crises, such as those experienced in the last 18 months. The opportunity before us all is to shift the paradigm of our work and to become more diverse, inclusive, and equitable in serving our constituencies. This breakout session will focus on bringing more voices and perspectives to our planning, priority setting, and decision-making processes. How do we support and enable the sharing of power and responsibility? Who might be our partners in achieving this shift?
7. **ENGAGING WITH OTHER SECTORS:** The movement to achieve justice, diversity, inclusivity, and equity is not limited to the arts, cultural, and creative communities. Rather, it is society-wide. This breakout session will explore other sectors – both within and beyond government – that are engaged in this effort, from and with which we might partner and learn. Are there multi-sector collaborative platforms in place to support such partnerships?
8. **WHAT'S THE STORY? NARRATIVES INFORMED BY EVIDENCE AND EXPERIENCE?** An equitable society relies on the ability of its people to see themselves reflected in their environment, arts and culture; and articulating people's stories and experiences – both positive and negative – is central to understanding where action is required. Information is at the heart of any narrative and the ability to capture, monitor and evaluate information is imperative for researchers and policy makers who want to understand the needs of the people they serve, as well as actors throughout the cultural ecosystem. In this session we will explore different approaches to gathering evidence and insight into experiences; as well as the opportunities and challenges these approaches entail.

**CLOSE OF DAY – Ra Joy, CHIEF OF STAFF, NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS, USA (12.00 ET / 16.00 UTC)**

**CLOSING ART BURST THREE – MICHELA MARINO LERMAN AND AXIS DANCE COMPANY (12.05 ET / 16.05 UTC)**

## DAY FOUR: REFLECTIONS

THURSDAY, 4 NOVEMBER, 09.00 - 10.45 ET / 13.00 - 14.45 UTC (SEE LOCAL TIMES)

The ACS 2021 will close with a plenary session featuring delegate rapporteurs, invited guests and IFACCA Members who will reflect on discussions held throughout the program; and offer their vision for building more sustainable, equitable and inclusive futures. The program will close with a finale performance.

### OPENING ART BURST FOUR – **STEP AFRIKA!** (09.00 ET / 13.00 UTC)

### CLOSING PLENARY

The Americas Cultural Summit rapporteurs have been tasked to participate, listen and reflect on the journey over the four days of the program. In this session we invite them share reflections from their distinct perspectives. Delegates will be invited to contribute to this discussion.

Moderator: **Marco Werman**, Host of *The World*, USA

Rapporteurs:

- **Cristóbal Bianchi**, Assistant Professor, Universidad de Chile and Lecturer, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, CHILE
- **Odile Joannette**, Director, Creating, Knowing, Sharing: The Arts and Cultures of First Nations, Inuit and Métis, Canada Council for the Arts, CANADA
- **Georgiana Pickett**, Trustee, Merce Cunningham Trust, USA
- **Pablo Raphael de la Madrid**, Director General, Cultural Promotion and Festivals, Secretary of Culture, MEXICO

### CONCLUSIONS, TAKE AWAYS AND THANK YOUS (10.25 ET / 14.25 UTC)

Co-hosts to conclude Americas Cultural Summit and announce roadmap for 2022

### CLOSING ART BURST FOUR – **CHICAGO CHILDREN'S CHOIR** (10.40 ET / 14.40 UTC)

## ABOUT THE AMERICAS CULTURAL SUMMIT

The Americas Cultural Summit (ACS) is an ongoing initiative of the [International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies \(IFACCA\)](#), which the IFACCA Secretariat delivers in partnership with a National Member of the Federation from the Americas. The [inaugural Americas Cultural Summit](#) was hosted by the Canada Council for the Arts in Ottawa in 2018, with a program that explored the theme of Cultural Citizenship. The [Americas Cultural Summit 2019](#) was hosted by Secretary of Culture of the Nation, Argentina in Buenos Aires in 2019 under the theme Cultural Change in a Diverse Territory.

## ABOUT THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS



Established by Congress in 1965, the [National Endowment for the Arts](#) is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the Arts Endowment supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America.

## ABOUT IFACCA



The [International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies \(IFACCA\)](#) is the global network of arts councils, ministries of culture and government agencies that advance arts and culture, with member institutions representing over 70 countries. Our members operate in developed and developing countries across Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and the Pacific.

The IFACCA Secretariat oversees the Federation: it supports, connects and responds to the needs of members; creates opportunities for collaboration and exchange; and provides trusted leadership and intelligence on arts and culture in public life, for members as well as the wider international community.

Collectively we are committed to international dialogue and exchange, undertaken in a spirit of solidarity, inclusion, reciprocity, and mutual learning. The Federation represents plural voices and perspectives, unified in the belief that arts and culture are a public good – with the potential to further inclusive social transformation – to be shaped and accessed equitably by all peoples. As an international Federation, we respect national governance and commit to the promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions.

