



## Creative District Leadership Convening October 24, 2019

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### Conference Organizers

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**Organizers:** Colorado Creative Industries and CU Boulder Office for Outreach and Engagement

**Lisa Schwartz**

**Community Outreach Program Manager, [lisa.h.schwartz@colorado.edu](mailto:lisa.h.schwartz@colorado.edu)  
Office for Outreach and Engagement, CU Boulder**

Lisa Schwartz is an outreach professional, educator, social scientist and design-based researcher. Her current work focuses on Engaged Arts and Humanities and Community Development and Design initiatives, including a new program for engaged graduate student scholars in the arts and humanities, a collaborative effort with Boulder County Arts Alliance on an inclusiveness and equity series and collaboration with Colorado Creative Industries. In the past, as an educator and postdoctoral researcher, she worked for over two decades, primarily with marginalized communities in the US West and Southwest, on STEM/STEAM, new digital literacies and multiliteracies research in formal, informal outdoor and digital spaces. She takes a network and ecological approach to support the movement of expertise and interest across multiple contexts. A focus on equity and inclusion in collaboration, as a design principle and goal for shared outcomes, guides her work.

**Project work relevant to Colorado communities:** My work with the Creative District Leadership convening and other work with CCI. Statewide lecture and workshop support, support for expanding projects and making connections between the university and communities beyond the front range. Engaged Arts and Humanities Student Scholars program.

<https://www.colorado.edu/outreach/ooe/strategic-initiatives/engaged-arts-and-humanities-initiative>  
<https://www.bouldercountyarts.org/workshops/inclusivity-and-equity>

## Christy Costello

**Program Manager at Colorado Creative Industries (CCI)**

**CCI is the state arts agency located within the Office of Economic Development.**

[christine.costello@state.co.us](mailto:christine.costello@state.co.us)

Christy manages the Colorado Creative District program, annual Creative Industries Summit and serves as accessibility coordinator. Her background includes museum collections management, non-profit fundraising and event management. Costello teaches courses for the DU University College Arts Management graduate program. She is an alumna of the Colorado Creative Industries Change Leader program, Colorado Business Committee for the Arts (CBCA) Leadership Arts and serves on the CBCA Leadership Arts Alumni network committee.

**Project work relevant to Colorado communities:** All of Christy's work discussed above is relevant to Colorado communities. <https://coloradocreativeindustries.org>  
<https://coloradocreativeindustries.org/opportunities/creative-districts/>

## Agenda

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### **Oct 23 Engaging Climate Change Through the Arts**

**Wednesday, October 23 • 5:15pm - 7:00pm**

**Boulder Public Library • Canyon Theater**

A presentation of environmental photography by the [Arctic Arts](#) Project followed by conversation with panelists about the potential for the arts to shape beliefs and actions. Presented through the Boulder County Arts Alliance and Office for Outreach and Engagement Inclusiveness and Equity Series in collaboration with the City of Boulder Arts Commission.

### **Oct 24, 2019 Creative District Leadership Convening**

**8:30am - 5:30pm / Reception 5:30-7pm Aspen Rooms, University Memorial Center (UMC) University of Colorado Boulder, except where noted.**

#### **Schedule at a Glance**

8:30 AM Breakfast and updates

8:50 AM Creative Engagement with Playback Theatre "Performance" (Ondine Geary, Amanda Rose Villareal and more, CU Boulder Theatre and Dance) districts will partake and share experiences and updates

9:35 AM Celeste Moreno, [Laboratory of Play of Playful Computation](#) culturally responsive technology, art and co-design, an interactive activity

10:05AM Mara Mintzer and Cathy Hill, [Growing Up Boulder](#) interactive activity; co-design, child friendly map

10:35 AM Break (5 min)

10:40 AM [Patty Limerick, Director, Center for the American West](#) "the *real* West is the rural West"

- 11:20 AM Creative district evaluation with PhD candidate Jennifer Shelby, ENVD, ENVS
- 11:50 AM “Field trip” to the Los Seis de Boulder collaborative mosaic memorial. [Jasmine Baetz](#), Art, Ceramics CU Boulder, artist and project facilitator shares on the collaborative community engagement process, challenges and outcomes. (in front of Temporary Building 1)
- 12:30 PM Lunch at CU Natural History Museum (Henderson Building), Paleontology Hall
- 1:45 PM Make sure to head back over to the Aspen Rooms, UMC
- 2:00 PM Panel Conversation: Economic Development in Urban and Rural CO  
Moderator: Margaret Hunt CCI, Panelists: Brian Lewandowski, [Business Research Division](#), Wendell Pryor, Chaffee County Economic Development. Sam Schanfaber, Deming Entrepreneurship Center, [Demystifying Entrepreneurship Rural Colorado Workshops](#), [Nathan Schneider](#) CMCi
- 3:15 PM Break (10 min)
- 3:25 PM Lisa Schwartz, Office for Outreach and Engagement introduces lightning talks
- 3:30 PM Lightning talks and small group discussion featuring CU Boulder and Creative District partnerships and more. Featuring collaborations among CU Boulder [NEST](#) and Steamboat Springs, CU Boulder Dance and Paonia and more.  
**Round 1 Lightning Talks Partnerships and Possibilities**
- 3:30 - 3:36 *Ondine Geary, Theatre and Dance, Susie Lowe, Paonia Creative District, and Megan Moriarty, Museum of Boulder, Playback Theater and Creative Collaborations*
  - 3:36 - 3:42 *Emmanuelle Vital, Pure Inspirations (Steamboat) and Jorge Perez Gallego, NEST, Yampa River Project*
  - 3:42 - 3:48 *Marcel De Lange, Environmental Design and Mandy Vink, Boulder Office of Arts and Culture, The “Hill” Project*
  - 3:48 - 3:51 *Brian Muller, CEDaR and Jennifer Shelby CEDaR, Metro Lab and Community-based Planning Studios*
- 3:51 PM *Small group discussion from round 1 talks (presenters disperse to different tables) - key ideas on large post-its*
- 4:07 PM **Round 2 Lightning Talks Partnerships and Possibilities**
- 4:07 - 4:10 *Crystal Jacquez and Liz Black, Urban Arts District Alliance*
  - 4:10 - 4:13 *Eli Sacks, Program in Jewish Studies, Peak to Peak Lecture Series*
  - 4:13 - 4:16 *Sandra Firmin, CU Art Museum*
  - 4:16 - 4:19 *Abby Hickcox, Boulder Affordable Housing Research Initiative, BAHRI*
  - 4:19 - 4:23 *Deirdre Keating and CU Libraries - Podcast Possibilities*
- 4:25 PM *Small group discussion - key ideas on large post-its*
- 4:45 PM “Field trip” to CU Boulder Art Museum for viewing and conversation on [Gina Adams exhibit](#) *Its Honor Is Hereby Pledged: Gina Adams* addresses the complicated history and present-day relevance of treaties negotiated between the United States government and indigenous peoples.

5:30 PM Reception with Community Building Colorado Style Conference ENVD 134

**Friday, October 25** Community Building Colorado-Style Conference Squeezed Out: Challenges of Diversity and Affordability in Colorado **8AM - 4:30pm** Communities SEEC Building, 4001 Discovery Drive, Boulder, Colorado 80303 Sponsored by Downtown Colorado Inc. (DCI), Congress for New Urbanism (CNU), and CU Boulder Community Engagement Design and Research Center (CEDaR)

\* Separate registration was required for the Oct 25<sup>th</sup> Conference

## Office for Outreach and Engagement

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**Jenny Briggs, Community Outreach Program Manager, [jenny.briggs@colorado.edu](mailto:jenny.briggs@colorado.edu), Office for Outreach and Engagement**

Specialist in STEM outreach and engagement at the Office for Outreach & Engagement at CU Boulder, former research scientist with USGS in Denver

**Jeanne McDonald, Assistant Director, [jeanne.mcdonald@colorado.edu](mailto:jeanne.mcdonald@colorado.edu), Office for Outreach and Engagement**

Jeanne has been a CU Boulder employee for the past 25 years and has been a part of the Office for Outreach and Engagement since 2006. As assistant director, she coordinates the annual CU Boulder Outreach Awards, oversees the CU on the Weekend program, co-chairs the campus Outreach and Engagement Professionals Network, and serves as the co-chair for the Engagement Scholarship Consortium's Outreach and Engagement Practitioners Network.

**David Meens, Director, [david.meens@colorado.edu](mailto:david.meens@colorado.edu), Office for Outreach and Engagement**

Outreach and engagement professional, from Western CO, background in education research, philosophy and policy

**Emily Musumecchi, Outreach Communications Assistant, [emily.musumecchi@colorado.edu](mailto:emily.musumecchi@colorado.edu), Office for Outreach and Engagement**

Colorado native with a graphic design background working in higher ed at CU Boulder and Front Range Community College

**Sue Postema Scheeres, Assistant Director of Communications, [Susan.sheeres@colorado.edu](mailto:Susan.sheeres@colorado.edu), Office for Outreach and Engagement**

I develop communications strategies for CU Boulder outreach and engagement programs that connect to Colorado communities and beyond, and build collaborative communications networks on and off campus. I write outreach stories, direct the office's Facebook and Twitter engagement strategy, oversee scope and design of marketing materials, and provide communications support related to campus outreach. I work closely with departments across campus to amplify their engaged scholarship.

<https://www.colorado.edu/outreach/ooe/>

## Presenters: Morning Presentations

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**Jasmine Baetz, MFA student, [Jasmine.Baetz@Colorado.edu](mailto:Jasmine.Baetz@Colorado.edu), Ceramics, Art and Art History**

Jasmine Baetz is a Canadian-American artist, educator, and MFA student in the department of Art and Art History at CU Boulder. She has a BFA in 3D Fine Arts from Massachusetts College of Art and Design, and a BA in Religious Studies from the University of Toronto. Her studio practice involves an ongoing material and theoretical critique of "American ceramics." Baetz is interested in working with communities to interrogate their lived space, representative objects, and assumptions. She's also interested in considering

new frameworks, tools and materials (both physical and conceptual) with which communities can build and think in different ways.

**Ondine Geary, Production, Outreach & Engagement Liaison, [ondine.geary@colorado.edu](mailto:ondine.geary@colorado.edu), Theatre and Dance**

Ondine Geary is a dancer, art-maker and engagement practitioner interested in the relationship between art, equity and justice. Geary obtained her MFA in Dance from CU Boulder and now works in the Theatre & Dance Department as the Outreach & Engagement liaison.

**Patty Limerick, Faculty Director and Chair of the Board of the Center of the American West, [admin@centerwest.org](mailto:admin@centerwest.org), Center of the American West - University of Colorado Boulder**

Patty Limerick is the Faculty Director and Chair of the Board of the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado Boulder, where she is also a professor of environmental studies and history. In addition, Patty was named to serve as the Colorado State Historian from 2016 to 2018, and appointed to the National Endowment for the Humanities advisory board called The National Council on the Humanities. Patty was nominated by President Obama in Spring 2015 and was confirmed by the United States Senate in November of 2015. She is the author of *Desert Passages*, *The Legacy of Conquest*, *Something in the Soil*, and *A Ditch in Time*. A frequent public speaker and a columnist for *The Denver Post*, Limerick has dedicated her career to bridging the gap between academics and the general public, to demonstrating the benefits of applying historical perspective to contemporary dilemmas and conflicts, and to making the case for humor as an essential asset of the humanities. A recipient of the MacArthur Fellowship and the Hazel Barnes Prize (the University of Colorado's highest award for teaching and research), she has served as president of the American Studies Association, the Western History Association, the Society of American Historians, and the Organization of American Historians, as well as the vice president for teaching of the American Historical Association. She received her B.A. from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and her Ph.D. from Yale University.

<https://www.centerwest.org/>

**Mara Mintzer, Director of Growing Up Boulder, [mara.mintzer@colorado.edu](mailto:mara.mintzer@colorado.edu), CEDaR Center**

Mara Mintzer is a co-founder and the director of Growing Up Boulder (GUB), Boulder, Colorado, USA's child- and youth-friendly city initiative based out of the University of Colorado Boulder's Community Engagement Design and Research (CEDaR) Center. She presents and writes internationally on the topic of engaging young people in community planning. Her TEDx talk, "How Kids Can Help Design Cities," has received more than 2 million views, and she recently co-authored the book *Placemaking with Children and Youth: Participatory Practices for Planning Sustainable Communities* with lead authors Victoria Derr and Louise Chawla. Prior to GUB, Mara was director of a community school, where she oversaw child and family support services on a underresourced school campus. She has designed and implemented programs for underrepresented children, families and neighborhoods in New York and California. Mara received her B.A. in Psychology from Brown University and her M.A. in Organizational Psychology from Teachers College, Columbia University.

All of our work engages children and youth in planning their communities. [growingupboulder.org](http://growingupboulder.org)

**Celeste Moreno, Graduate Research Assistant, [cemo8785@colorado.edu](mailto:cemo8785@colorado.edu), ATLAS Institute**

Celeste Moreno is a designer of creative learning experiences and educational technologies. She has a background in scientific communication and visualization, informal education, and design. Celeste has worked as an educational content developer for a medical education software company, as an exhibits and education assistant for a science center, and has completed multiple artist residencies. Currently, Celeste is pursuing her M.S. in Creative Technologies and Design at the University of Colorado Boulder where she works as a graduate research assistant in the Laboratory for Playful Computation directed by Ben Shapiro and is a graduate resident in the ATLAS BTU Lab student hackerspace.

[playfulcomputation.group](http://playfulcomputation.group), [celestemoreno.design](http://celestemoreno.design), Twitter: @cemocreates

**Jennifer Shelby, PhD Candidate, Environmental Studies and Design, [jennifer.shelby@colorado.edu](mailto:jennifer.shelby@colorado.edu)**

Jennifer Shelby is passionate about creativity, small towns and the American West. She holds a bachelor's in Economics (BA), with a minor in visual art, and a master's degree in Community and Regional Planning (MCRP), both from Boise State University. Currently, she is a PhD candidate in Environmental Studies and Design at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Her master's research explored community planning and place identity in the rural areas of the American West, while working with small communities to build capacity and understand the unique attributes of each place.

**Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities**

Her current research focuses on community development and creative economies in small western towns, focusing on the impacts of the creative district program in Colorado.

## Presenters: Economic Development Panel

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**Margaret Hunt, Executive Director, [margaret.hunt@state.co.us](mailto:margaret.hunt@state.co.us), Colorado Creative Industries**

Governor's Office of Economic Development & International Trade

Margaret is the Executive Director of the Office of Creative Industries and Space to Create Colorado in the Governor's Office of Economic Development. Margaret is responsible for leading and advancing statewide support for cultural policy, creative sector employment, arts, and creative economy strategies and investment. The Office of Creative Industries leads the first state-driven initiative in the nation to provide permanently affordable space for creative sector workers in rural communities. This initiative includes collaboration among state agencies, private foundations, local government, non-profits and private investors. The Office also administers the Creative District Program, the Creative District Community Loan Fund, the Colorado Music Strategy, Career Advancement grants for artists and creative business owners, the Change Leader program and Arts in Society grants in partnership with several foundations. Margaret previously served in the administrations of Utah Governors Jon M. Huntsman and Gary R. Herbert, Republicans. In Colorado, she has served in the administration of two Democratic governors, John Hickenlooper and Jared Polis. Prior to entering public service, Utah Governor Michael Leavitt recognized her efforts with the Utah Small Cities Award for her community and economic development work in rural communities. [coloradocreativeindustries.org](http://coloradocreativeindustries.org)

**Brian Lewandowski, Associate Director, [brian.lewandowski@colorado.edu](mailto:brian.lewandowski@colorado.edu), Business Research**

**Division** Brian Lewandowski is Associate Director of the Business Research Division at the Leeds School of Business, University of Colorado Boulder.

**Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities** Brian provides regional business and economic information and education, including economic and revenue forecasts, policy studies, economic impact analyses, and data workshops. Brian has 13 years' experience conducting economic studies at CU Boulder. Prior to CU, he worked in both the private sector and government, and he is currently the president of the Denver Association of Business Economists.

<https://www.colorado.edu/business/business-research-division>

**Sam Schanfarber, Program Coordinator, [samuel.schanfarber@colorado.edu](mailto:samuel.schanfarber@colorado.edu),**

**Deming Center for Entrepreneurship**

**Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities** Sam has a background with local startups and is applying his time spent building programs for young companies towards the Deming Center's Rural Colorado Workshop series. His efforts focus on expansion of the program, including operations material and partnership building. In addition, he oversees several undergraduate-facing programs on campus, including workshops and a seed funding program.

**Nathan Schneider, Assistant Professor, [nathan.schneider@colorado.edu](mailto:nathan.schneider@colorado.edu), Media Studies**

Assistant Professor Nathan Schneider is a journalist who writes about religion, technology and democracy. His current project is an exploration of models for democratic ownership and governance for online platforms and protocols. He is founder of the Media Enterprise Design Lab.

**Nathan Schneider cont.**

**Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities** In November 2018 I organized a conference at CU Boulder called the Colorado Shared Ownership Summit. That was part of an ongoing effort to support the cooperative and employee owned business ecosystem across the state.  
<http://cmci.colorado.edu/medlab/>

**Wendell Pryor, Economic Development Director, [wendell@chaffeecountyedc.com](mailto:wendell@chaffeecountyedc.com)**

**Chaffee County Economic Development**

Currently, Economic Development Director for Chaffee County for the past 9 years. Recently appointed by Governor Polis to the State Economic Development Commission. Undergraduate degree from Western Colorado State University, MPA from CU Boulder, law degree from Denver University. Retired as State Civil Rights Director and several appointments as HR Director in California and Colorado.

**Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities**

Working on opportunity zone projects and helping launch the Central Mountain Colorado Small Business Development Center.

## Presenters: Afternoon Lightning Talks

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**Sandra Firmin, Director, [sandra.firmin@colorado.edu](mailto:sandra.firmin@colorado.edu) CU Art Museum**

Sandra Q. Firmin assumed the position of director of the CU Art Museum in April 2014. Prior to that, she spent over a decade as curator of the University at Buffalo Art Galleries, where she curated numerous critically acclaimed contemporary art exhibitions. She co-curated the traveling exhibition Kim Jones: A Retrospective (with Julie Joyce), accompanied by the catalogue “Mudman: The Odyssey of Kim Jones” (MIT Press, 2006). In 2010, Sandra organized Artpark: 1974–1984, an exhibition and publication (Princeton Architectural Press, 2010) chronicling the seminal years of an innovative residency program located in Lewiston, New York. Sandra holds a master’s degree from Bard College’s Center for Curatorial Studies (2002) and serves on the Award for Excellence committee for the Association of Art Museum Curators, where she previously served on the board of trustees.

The CU Art Museum Polly and Mark Addison Outreach Exhibition Program works with Colorado cultural institutions to travel art exhibitions curated from The Polly and Mark Addison Collection at the CU Art Museum.

**Ondine Geary, Production, Outreach & Engagement Liaison, [ondine.geary@colorado.edu](mailto:ondine.geary@colorado.edu), Theatre and Dance**

Ondine Geary is a dancer, art-maker and engagement practitioner interested in the relationship between art, equity and justice. Geary obtained her MFA in Dance from CU Boulder and now works in the Theatre & Dance Department as the Outreach & Engagement liaison.

**Abby Hickcox, Associate Director, [hickcox@colorado.edu](mailto:hickcox@colorado.edu), Arts & Sciences Honors Program**

Abby Hickcox is a co-PI for the Boulder Affordable Housing Research Initiative. She is also the Associate Director of the Arts & Sciences Honors Program at CU Boulder. She holds a PhD in Geography and researches the complicated overlap between environmentalism, progressive politics, and racism in Boulder, Colorado.

<https://www.colorado.edu/bahri/>

**Deirdre Keating, Communications Manager, [deirdre.keating@colorado.edu](mailto:deirdre.keating@colorado.edu), University Libraries at CU Boulder**

Deirdre O. Keating helps others tell their stories, as a writer, strategist, photographer, teacher and currently the communications manager for the CU Boulder Libraries. She has more than ten years experience in innovative and collaborative marketing and communications for higher education. Previously she owned her own photography business in Moab, Utah, taught high school in Ashland, Oregon, and served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Russia.

**Deirdre Keating cont. Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities**

"CU at the Libraries" is a podcast where information becomes knowledge. We share the ways the University Libraries empower inquiry, discovery and the dissemination of knowledge. In doing so, we've learned why podcasting is an ideal way to reach your audience, with benefits that can outlast the initial investment of time and resources.

<https://www.colorado.edu/libraries/podcasts>; @cublibraries

**Marcel de Lange, assistant clinical professor, [marcel.delange@colorado.edu](mailto:marcel.delange@colorado.edu), Program in Environmental Design, CU Boulder**

Marcel de Lange is an engineer, architect and educator. He graduated from the Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands with MSc. in Architectural Engineering. Marcel moved to the United States in 2000 and is currently teaching at the University of Colorado, Boulder. There he teaches classes around digital design and fabrication as well as community based design-build courses. In addition, Marcel owns and operates a design-build firm where he and his team have designed and/or build numerous, award winning projects & installations varying from single family residences and commercial buildings to community outreach & education projects.

**Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities**

Spring 2020, we will fabricate and install the Community Living Room in Beach Park on the University Hill in Boulder, CO

**Susie Lowe, President, [Susiekaldis@gmail.com](mailto:Susiekaldis@gmail.com), Paonia Creative District**

Board President & founding member of Paonia Creative District.

Creative Districts, Economic development, public art, nonprofit management

[www.northforkcreative.org](http://www.northforkcreative.org)

**Megan Moriarty, Director of Community Engagement, [megan@museumofboulder.org](mailto:megan@museumofboulder.org), Museum of Boulder**

Megan Moriarty is the Director of Community Engagement at the Museum of Boulder, building partnerships and creating programming that shed new light on the usual stories from Boulder's past and highlight the creative neighbors in our town today. A proud alum of CU Boulder and long-time community builder, she holds a Masters in Community Planning from the University of Maryland, has lived and worked in Latin America and Europe, and speaks Spanish. She enjoys: research libraries, baby pandas, pie, and making art.

**Brian Muller, [brian.h.muller@colorado.edu](mailto:brian.h.muller@colorado.edu), Associate Professor in the Program in Environmental Design, Director Community Engagement Design and Research Center**

Brian teaches environmental and community planning, planning history and spatial analysis at CU Boulder. His research focuses on dynamics of metropolitan growth and decline, and planning for hazards and climate change. Muller currently directs the Community Engagement Design and Research Center at CU-Boulder and previously was chair of the Planning and Design program at CU-Denver and Director of Planning Studies for the Environmental Design Program at CU-Boulder. Prior to academia, Muller had a 15-year career as a planner, policy analyst and manager in state and federal government.

**Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities**

Wide variety of community engagement projects

<https://www.colorado.edu/cedar/>

**Jorge Perez-Gallego, Scholar, [jorge.perezgallego@colorado.edu](mailto:jorge.perezgallego@colorado.edu), Astrophysical and Planetary Sciences, NEST**

Dr. Jorge Perez-Gallego is a multifaceted astronomer, designer, and educator with a Ph.D. in astronomy and an M.F.A. in design. I drink chocolate milk and ride my bike to places. My happy place is one in which my creative juices can flow toward celebrating wonder whether developing innovative informal science education opportunities or building meaningful bridges between science, art and technology. Currently, I am a scholar at CU Boulder where, among other things, co-direct NEST with Tara Knight and Erin Espelie and work toward making Fiske Planetarium a reference in informal science education and creative avenue.

**Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities**

Through NEST, we aim to facilitate and bring meaningful and relevant art and science intersections to Colorado communities through, for example, community grants, exhibitions, and workshops.

<https://jorgeperezgallego.com>, <http://nestcuboulder.org/>, @erajpg, @nestcuboulder

**Elias Sacks, Incoming Director, [elias.sacks@colorado.edu](mailto:elias.sacks@colorado.edu), Program in Jewish Studies**

Elias Sacks is Incoming Director of the Program in Jewish Studies and Associate Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Colorado Boulder. He works on the Jewish tradition, religious thought, Jewish-Christian relations, religion and ethics, and religion and politics. After receiving his A.B. from Harvard University and studying at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, he earned an M.A. in Religion from Columbia University and a Ph.D. in Religion from Princeton University.

<https://www.colorado.edu/jewishstudies/peak-peak>

**Jennifer Shelby, PhD Candidate, Environmental Studies and Design, [jennifer.shelby@colorado.edu](mailto:jennifer.shelby@colorado.edu)**

Jennifer Shelby is passionate about creativity, small towns and the American West. She holds a bachelor's in Economics (BA), with a minor in visual art, and a master's degree in Community and Regional Planning (MCRP), both from Boise State University. Currently, she is a PhD candidate in Environmental Studies and Design at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Her master's research explored community planning and place identity in the rural areas of the American West, while working with small communities to build capacity and understand the unique attributes of each place.

**Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities**

Her current research focuses on community development and creative economies in small western towns, focusing on the impacts of the creative district program in Colorado.

**Mandy Vink, Public Art Program, [vinkm@boulderlibrary.org](mailto:vinkm@boulderlibrary.org) City of Boulder Office of Arts and Culture**

Mandy Vink oversees the Public Art Program for the city of Boulder, Colorado and is working to support the Community Cultural Plan's charge to "reinvent Boulder's public art program" through the creation of new policy, processes, and expectations of public art project experiences. She currently holds an elected position on the Americans for the Arts (AFTA) Public Art Network Council, and regularly contributes to field discourse. She also serves as an ambassador for the Denver Art Museum Friends. Prior to her work in Boulder, Vink held public art positions at Denver International Airport, Denver Arts and Venues and was gallery manager at Walker Fine Art.

**Emmanuelle Vital, Sustainability Consultant, [Emmanuelle@pureinspirations.com](mailto:Emmanuelle@pureinspirations.com), Vital Resources**

Emmanuelle combines years of multi-disciplinary experience in the academic, government, non-profit and for-profit worlds to develop practical, comprehensive and innovative approaches to global ecological, economic and social challenges.

Her expertise includes sustainability leadership, watershed management, landscape restoration, land-use planning, and economic development based on sound science, beneficial practices and capacity building in the Rocky Mountain region and internationally.

Driven by curiosity and a deep appreciation for biological and cultural diversity, she thrives in creating interdisciplinary initiatives. She takes a system thinking approach to beneficial environmental management practices to engage a broader audience.

Currently, Emmanuelle is working to showcase environmental conservation and restoration approaches through various art forms and to connect communities with organizations, decision-makers, and stakeholders to collectively implement strategies and scale impact.

As she strives to better understand our world through the topics of science, art, and spirituality, she created a virtual platform ([pureinspirations.com](http://pureinspirations.com)) to connect us with each other and our natural world and inspire greater understanding, creativity, and support.

<http://pureinspirations.com/pure-stories/science/art-science-river-exhibition/>

## Attendees: Arts and Humanities Organizations

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### **Melissa Fathman, Executive Director, Dairy Arts Center, [melissa@thedairy.org](mailto:melissa@thedairy.org) Arts Management**

Melissa Fathman joined the Dairy Arts Center as Executive Director following over 20 years of nonprofit administrative and performing arts experience. Previously she was Director of Development & Community Partnerships with the Colorado Music Festival & Center for Musical Arts and before that, Assistant Director of Development with Emergency Family Assistance Association (EFAA).

Prior to her move from New York to Colorado, she spent 10 years with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center where she served as Education Director, overseeing a wide array of educational concerts and programs for school children, families, and adults, serving over 16,000 people. She created and launched a nationally recognized arts administration teen program, featured in both The New York Times and Wall Street Journal, and established and maintained collaborative relationships with arts organizations throughout the New York City greater metropolitan area, including the Lincoln Center Institute, the Americas Society, Harlem School of the Arts, and the Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning.

In addition to her administrative background, Fathman has enjoyed a vibrant and eclectic performance career performing in a variety of settings from Carnegie Hall, the Joyce Theater, Joe's Pub, the Aspen Music Festival, to commercial recordings for Nickelodeon and the celestial voices in New York's Hayden Planetarium space show *The Search for Life: Are We Alone?* narrated by Harrison Ford.

Student Producers project: The Dairy Student Producers program provides a year-long, no-cost student internship program for Boulder Valley School District high school students. Over the course of a year, students will be given the opportunity to produce their own live performance, exhibition and/or film festival with hands-on guidance from the Dairy's professional arts administration staff. Through this special program, the Dairy seeks to involve students from groups that are historically under-represented in visual and performing arts production in Boulder County, including Black or African-American, American Indian, Alaska Native, Hispanic or Latinx.

[www.thedairy.org](http://www.thedairy.org)

### **Josephine Jones, Director of Programs & Center for the Book, [jones@coloradohumanities.org](mailto:jones@coloradohumanities.org) Colorado Humanities**

Josephine Jones has won numerous awards for her poetry, including a fellowship from the Idaho Commission on the Arts. Her solo performance was recorded on a CD by Earthbeat Studios in Northern California. Her performances with visual artist Kathy Wren, guitarist Sam Merrick (of Leaving Trains fame) and other musicians, writers, poets, and dancers have been presented in California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Colorado. She is also an event and video producer, photographer, and trained visual artist with a deep appreciation for, and experience in, theater and the visual arts. She Directs Programs & Center for the Book for Colorado Humanities.

Jones directs living history festivals, Colorado Book Awards, Colorado Poet Laureate, film and online resource development, and other live humanities programs, including the touring Smithsonian Museum on Main Street exhibit "Change in Rural America" that will tour seven Colorado cities September 2020 - June 2021. [www.coloradohumanities.org](http://www.coloradohumanities.org), [@cohumanities](https://www.facebook.com/cohumanities/), <https://www.facebook.com/cohumanities/>

## Attendees: Colorado Creative Districts

Jennifer	Beccard	Downtown Fort Collins Creative District	Committee Member	jesbeccard@gmail.com
Liz	Black	40 West Arts District		liz@40westarts.org
Pam	Bricker	Greeley Creative District	Greeley Creative District Coordinator	greeleycreativedistrict@gmail.com
Ruth	Bruno	Colorado Creative Industries		ruth.bruno@state.co.us
DiAnn	Butler	Grand County	Economic Development	dbutler@mtnlodging.com
Beryl	Durazo	Firehouse Art Center & Downtown Longmont Creative District	Executive Director	info@firehouseart.org
Andrea	Edwards	Breckenridge Creative Arts	Programs Coordinator	drea@breckcreate.org
Brooke	Einbender	Telluride Arts District		brooke@telluridearts.org
Ken	Fucik	Grand Lake Creative District/Rock y Mountain Wooden Boat School	Director	kenfucik@comcast.net
Armida	Huerta	Mancos Creative District		chispaone@yahoo.com
Margaret	Hunt	Colorado Creative Industries	Director	margaret.hunt@state.co.us
Kate	Jones	Telluride Arts District	Executive Director	kate@telluridearts.org
Kim	Keith	Steamboat Creates	Executive Director	kim@steamboatcreates.org
Jo	Kelly	Downtown Grand Junction	Owner	fatcatpottery@live.com
Len	Kendall	Downtown Partnership of Colorado Springs	Director of Planning & Mobility	len@downtowncs.com
Amy	Kimberly	Carbondale Arts		amy@carbondalearts.com

Marilyn	Leuzler	Corazon de Trinidad Creative District		marilyn.leuszler@gmail.com
Caitlyn	Love	Downtown Grand Junction	Marketing + Communications	caitlyn@downtowngj.org
Susie	Lowe	Paonia Creative District	President	susiekaldis@gmail.com
Brooke	MacMillan	Crested Butte Center for the Arts	Director of Literary Arts Dept	brooke@crestedbuttearts.org
William	Marino	Creativity Lab of Colorado		wpm@creativitylabcolorado.org
Kimberlee	McKee	Longmont Downtown Development Authority	Executive Director	kimberlee.mckee@longmontcolorado.gov
Paul	Mills	Fort Collins Creative District		pmills@russellmillsstudios.com
W. Vito	Montone	Verve Integrative	Executive Producer	vito@wvitom.com
Grace	Noel	Denver's Art District on Santa Fe	Art District on Santa Fe Events Chair	grace@denversartdistrict.org
Molly	Perrault	Telluride Arts District		molly@telluridearts.org
Brandie	Peterson Brown	Pueblo Arts Alliance / Pueblo Creative Corridor	Program Coordinator	brandie@puebloarts.org
Sara	Rodriguez	Paonia Creative District		natural.stitchcraft@gmail.com
Alye	Sharp	RiNo Art District	Community Outreach Director	alye@rinoartdistrict.org
Diedra	Silbert	Town of Ridgway	Community Initiatives Facilitator	dsilbert@town.ridgway.co.us
Claire	Swinford	Downtown Partnership of Colorado Springs	Director of Urban Engagement	claire@downtowncs.com
Karenna	Versalovic	Denver's Art District on Santa Fe	Art District Coordinator	karenna@denversartdistrict.org
Tracy	Weil	RiNo Art District	President	tracy@rinoartdistrict.org
Kevin	Yoshida	Creativity Lab		k2y@creativitylabcolorado.org

## Attendees: CU Boulder Faculty, Staff and Students

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### **Kirk Ambrose, Founding Faculty Director/Professor, [kirk.ambrose@colorado.edu](mailto:kirk.ambrose@colorado.edu), Center for Teaching & Learning/Art & Art History**

Kirk Ambrose is professor of art history and founding director of the Center for Teaching and Learning at the University of Colorado, Boulder. In addition to dozens of scholarly articles, book chapters, and reviews, he has published three books on art history. He served a term as Editor-in-Chief of The Art Bulletin, the journal of record for art historians in the United States.

#### **Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities**

On Board of Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art/ History project on women artists

### **Sarah Ditton, [sarah.ditton@colorado.edu](mailto:sarah.ditton@colorado.edu) , MENV**

Sarah Ditton is driven by a need to see the world and the people upon it thrive. She is dedicated to working with and altering the current system of food excess and waste to create a healthier food economy, populace, and environment. Sarah has a BA in Microbiology from Cornell University and pivoted to food systems work after falling in love with her food recovery volunteer work. She is now a Masters of the Environment student studying sustainable food systems at CU Boulder. For her capstone project, she worked with the City of Boulder to plan and run the second annual Boulder Food Waste Awareness Week.

#### **Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities**

Work with City of Boulder Climate Initiatives Team on food waste, Food Waste Awareness Week

### **Sebastian Elverskog [seel2884@colorado.edu](mailto:seel2884@colorado.edu), ENVD Senior in Environmental Design with an emphasis in Architecture**

### **Jennifer Fluri, Associate Professor, [Jennifer.Fluri@Colorado.edu](mailto:Jennifer.Fluri@Colorado.edu) Geography**

Co-Director of the Boulder Affordable Housing Research Initiative (BAHRI), a community-based service-research project that provides information for individuals and organizations seeking, living in, or caring about affordable housing. **Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado**

**communities.** The Boulder Affordable Housing Research Initiative (BAHRI) is a CU-Boulder Outreach and Engagement funded project. Working with various stakeholders in Boulder County, BAHRI has conducted surveys, interviews and focus groups with individuals living in, seeking, or supporting affordable housing options in Boulder. The goal of the BAHRI research team is to conduct compelling and informative research on affordable housing needs, accessibility, and availability. [colorado.edu/Bahri](http://colorado.edu/Bahri), [jenfluri.com](http://jenfluri.com)

### **Stacey Forsyth Director [stacey.forsyth@colorado.edu](mailto:stacey.forsyth@colorado.edu) CU Science Discovery**

Stacey Forsyth directs CU Science Discovery, a STEM education outreach organization at the University of Colorado Boulder, where she oversees a variety of informal STEM education programs that integrate current CU Boulder research, including summer camps, after-school classes, teacher professional development workshops and community outreach events. She manages an NSF ITEST project that provides professional development and support for community Makerspaces and public libraries, and participates in several national informal STEM education networks, including SciGirls, Portal to the Public and the Teen Science Café Network.

#### **Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities**

Build a Better Book: Makerspace initiative taking place in school and library Makerspaces, in which youth design and fabricate inclusive books and games for children who are blind or visually impaired. Provides professional development to educators and librarians in Colorado and across the country.

Communities Code: CU Outreach grant-funded initiative to support the development of digital literacy and coding skills among underrepresented youth and their families.

[colorado.edu/sciencediscovery](http://colorado.edu/sciencediscovery); [buildabetterbook.org](http://buildabetterbook.org); @ScienceDisco; @buildbetterbook

**Karen Ganss, Pathway Programs Coordinator, [karen.ganss@colorado.edu](mailto:karen.ganss@colorado.edu), College of Engineering and Applied Science**

Karen's personal passion for rural Colorado stems from her upbringing in the San Luis Valley of Southern Colorado and has grown into a professional educational interest through her multiple positions in university settings. She holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Western Colorado University and a master's degree in college student services administration from Oregon State University (where she completed a graduate research thesis on the transition of students from rural Oregon into a large university). Within student affairs Karen has held positions in admissions, an honors college, first-year/transfer orientation, pre-health advising, and engineering.

**Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities**

In my current role as Pathway Programs Coordinator with the College of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Colorado Boulder, I support our partnership programs with Western Colorado University and Colorado Mesa University. Through these unique partnerships, students on the Western Slope are able to complete a CU Boulder engineering degree entirely while residing in Gunnison or Grand Junction. I look forward to learning more about projects happening across Colorado, and how we, as the University of Colorado can further our mission to serve the residents of this state!

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kast1/>

**Kate Goldfarb, Assistant Professor [kathryn.goldfarb@colorado.edu](mailto:kathryn.goldfarb@colorado.edu), Anthropology**

I am a cultural anthropologist studying the ways interpersonal relationships impact well-being.

**Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities**

I am developing an initiative called "Teaching Ethnography for Social Engagement," in which undergraduates will conduct research within local communities on three social problems characterized by partisan divides: climate change, gun use, and immigration.

**Sarah Meade, MA Student, [sarah.meade@colorado.edu](mailto:sarah.meade@colorado.edu) Masters of the Environment**

Sarah Meade is a candidate in the Masters of the Environment (MENV) graduate program at the University of Colorado, Boulder. She is originally from Santa Fe, New Mexico and holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies. She is pursuing a career path that combines meditation, facilitation, and collaborative decision making to effectively convene people and great ideas together and create beneficial impact that reverberates outwards. Her focus is on projects at the intersection of land restoration/conservation and enhancing local economic vitality, resulting in interconnected communities that are more resilient to the impacts of climate change.

**Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities**

Community food assessment of Delta County for our class client -- Engage Delta County --- an economic development initiative

**Jeanne Quinn, Professor and Chair, Department of Art and Art History, [Jeanne.quinn@colorado.edu](mailto:Jeanne.quinn@colorado.edu), AAH**

Jeanne Quinn is an artist who works with porcelain and temporary installations that attempt to remind us that everything is ephemeral.

I recently completed a public art project at Confluence Park in Denver.

[www.jeannequinnstudio.com](http://www.jeannequinnstudio.com)

**Cathy Regan, Education Coordinator, [cathy.regan@colorado.edu](mailto:cathy.regan@colorado.edu) Museum of Natural History**

I have a BA in Biology from Kenyon College and a PhD in Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology from CU, Boulder. A midlife career change to focus on informal science learning led me to the Museum and Field Studies MS program at the CU Museum of Natural History. For 17 years I have led an award-winning after-school science program for girls. Since 2008 I have developed museum programs for families, students, and community members in support of the CU Museum's mission to "foster an appreciation of the natural world and human cultures."

**Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities.** We bring dynamic family experiences to offsite outreach events so that children and their adults can explore the natural world together. Authentic museum objects are the starting point for intentionally curated hands-on science and

art activities to create tangible take-home memories. Example topics include Pollinators, Antarctica, Spirals in Nature, Nature's Engineers, Fantastic Fossils, Ancient Technologies. We can tailor topics, activities, and age-appropriateness to fit your needs.

<https://www.colorado.edu/cumuseum/> <https://www.facebook.com/cumnh/>

<https://www.instagram.com/cumuseum/>

**Jen Shannon, Curator and Assoc. Professor of Cultural Anthropology, [Jshannon@colorado.edu](mailto:Jshannon@colorado.edu), CU Natural History Museum / Anthropology**

Collaborative and public anthropologist who works with Native American communities.

**Current project work or interests that are relevant to Colorado communities**

Collaboration with Native American descendant communities affiliated with Mesa Verde National Park to redesign the Chaplin Mesa Archaeology Museum. (Other collaborations are with out of state communities)

<https://jenshannonanthro.weebly.com/>

**Manuela Sifuentes, Director of Community Partnerships, [manuela.sifuentes@colorado.edu](mailto:manuela.sifuentes@colorado.edu), CU Engage**

As Director of Community Partnerships, Manuela cultivates and sustains relationships between CU Engage and community organizations to carry out collaborative projects that advance the public good. Manuela's diverse work history on projects that serve immigrant, migrant, border and other marginalized communities has focused on issues of social justice and equity, be it language access, HIV prevention and care, or fair housing. Raised in both Guatemala and Boulder she is bilingual, bicultural and a certified interpreter and translator. Manuela received her B.A. in International Affairs from CU-Boulder and holds Master of Public Health and Master of Public Administration degrees from the University of Michigan.

Colectivo Cultura

<https://www.facebook.com/colectivocultura>

**Katie Skayhan, Community Engagement and Social Innovation Coordinator, [katie.skayhan@colorado.edu](mailto:katie.skayhan@colorado.edu), College of Music**

Skayhan brings experience in strategic planning, grants management, strategic communications, project management and fundraising to this new role at the College of Music. She has worked alongside public and private sector professionals as well as artists and creatives to develop innovative strategies that weave arts and culture into the fabric of community. Originally from Portland, Oregon, she is a graduate of Indiana University's School of Public and Environmental Affairs. She is also a proud alumna of Oberlin College-Conservatory and holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance.

Skayhan works with a range of partners throughout Colorado and nationwide to develop partnerships that advance the social impact of the College of Music. She supports initiatives within the Entrepreneurship Center for Music and stewards the College's commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion and access.

Programs of interest include developing music teaching artist residencies in the Roaring Fork Valley and beyond and building the "Colorado Lullaby Project: Nurturing Social Connection Through Song" in collaboration with the Renee Crown Wellness Institute.

<https://www.facebook.com/ec4musicboulder/>;

<https://www.facebook.com/CUBoulderDiverseMusiciansAlliance/>

**Helanius Wilkins, Asst Professor & Associate Chair of Dance, [helanius.wilkins@colorado.edu](mailto:helanius.wilkins@colorado.edu), Department of Theatre & Dance**

Helanius J. Wilkins, a native of Lafayette, Louisiana, is an award winning choreographer, performance artist, and scholar. He is based in Boulder, CO where he is an Assistant Professor and Associate Chair of Dance at CU Boulder in the Department of Theatre & Dance. He lived in Washington, D.C. for eighteen (18) years and founded EDGEWORKS Dance Theater, an all-male dance company of predominantly African-American men that existed for thirteen (13) years (2001 - 2013). His honors include the 2008 Pola Nirenska Award for Contemporary Achievement in Dance, and the 2002 and 2006 Kennedy Center Local Dance Commissioning Project Award. He was a three times finalist for the D.C. Mayor's Arts Awards and Bates

Dance Festival, a premiere dance festival in the U.S., named him their 2002 Emerging Choreographer. Foundations and organizations including New England Foundation for the Arts (National Dance Project), National Performance Network (NPN), D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities, and the National Endowment for the Arts have supported his work. In addition to performing, he enjoys creating, presenting, and receiving commissions for choreography throughout the U.S. and abroad. To date, he has choreographed and directed over 60 works, which includes two critically-acclaimed musical productions for Washington, DC's Studio Theater – “Passing Strange” (2010) and “POP!” (2011). He is a member of the National Board of Directors of the American College Dance Association for the Northwest region, and was most recently appointed by Governor Jared Polis to the Colorado Council on Creative Industries.

<https://www.helaniusj.com/>