



Chair & Council Member Peer Session
September 23, 2022

Draft Agenda

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

Moderators: LaVon Bracy Davis, Florida Division of Arts and Culture, and Abigail Gómez, Virginia Commission for the Arts

9:30 – 10:00 a.m. Federal Advocacy Update and Q&A

Join NASAA's lobbyist for an update on the latest happenings in Congress as we head into the 2022 midterm elections.

Moderator: Isaac Brown, NASAA Legislative Counsel

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. – 11:45 p.m. World Café: Questions and Conversations

In this structured conversational process, groups of people discuss a topic at several tables, periodically switching tables and getting introduced to the previous discussion by a scribe. This method is interactive, and is designed to layer and connect multiple ideas and perspectives. These topics will be discussed:

What's Next?

While cultural activities are resuming nationwide, the uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic still reverberates throughout the arts sector. Arts organizations and artists must continue to adapt their business practices, find ways to re-engage communities and remain flexible as new ways of being emerge. How is your agency helping your state's creative sector meet such challenges and navigate these transitions? What's working? What more needs to be done? What other big challenges do we see?

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

The public sector holds a special responsibility to ensure that the arts enable well-being and prosperity for all in the United States. Since their inception, state arts agencies have worked to democratize access to the arts. But there's more work to do before we achieve true funding equity for people and places with historically limited resources—especially people of color, rural communities, older adults, LGBTQA+ populations and individuals with disabilities. This conversation explores what state arts agencies are doing—and what barriers they face—as they advance diversity, equity and inclusion in their states.

Arts and Health

Many health issues affect American communities, including widespread mental health crises, burnout, substance abuse, gun violence, teen suicide, aging and care for our

veterans. What role can our agencies play in helping to address health and wellness concerns that affect our communities?

Advocacy

One of our most important roles as council members is educating elected officials—about the impact of the arts, and how the arts help improve other policy priorities, like education, health care and economic development. Beyond this kind of advocacy, what other ambassadorial roles do we play? What can we do to connect with other agencies, nonprofits and businesses in our communities to have more influence throughout the state? This conversation explores the many ways we can use our unique roles to increase the number of voices speaking for the arts and build support for our agencies' missions.

Council Appointments and Orientation

How do appointments to our councils really work? Can we influence those appointments to better align with the needs of our agencies and reflect the diversity of our states? How can appointees be most effectively oriented and engaged? This conversation explores what state arts agencies are doing—or need to do—to build excellent boards that are empowered to successfully serve the public through the arts.

Other Topics TBD

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Debrief and Wrap-up

Coordinators

Contact the Chair and Council Member Peer Session coordinators with questions, comments or feedback:

[LaVon Bracy Davis](#), Council Member and Former Chair, Florida Division of Arts and Culture

[Abigail Gómez](#), Former Chair, Virginia Commission for the Arts

[Laura Smith](#), NASAA Chief Advancement Officer / Staff liaison