

Chairs & Council Members Peer Session

October 24, 2024
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

AGENDA

10:30 – 10:50 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions

Moderators: Shari Hofschire, Nebraska Arts Council, and Gene Meneray, Louisiana State Arts Council

10:50 – 11:20 a.m.

Federal Advocacy Update and Q&A

Moderator: Isaac Brown, NASAA Legislative Counsel

Join NASAA's lobbyist for an update and Q&A on the latest happenings in Congress as we head into the final weeks of the 2024 elections.

11:20 – 11:30 a.m.

Group Agreements and Setting the Stage

11:30 a.m. – 12:10 p.m. Small-Group Conversations

Break out into small groups for in-depth conversations. Participants choose from the following topics:

Working with Your Statewide Advocacy Group

This conversation explores how we can collaborate with our statewide advocacy group to increase the number of voices speaking effectively for the arts.

Being an Effective Champion for Your Agency

What's the best way to connect with your congressional delegation? With your mayor or city council? With local businesses? With people whose views are different from yours? This conversation explores effective approaches and messages for building relationships with various stakeholders. Bring your own examples and questions to this discussion about your unique role in building support and awareness for the arts and your agency.

Polarization: Surviving and Healing

Polarization impacts many aspects of our agencies' work and the work of the artists and arts organizations we support—everything from grant making to panel adjudication

to how exhibitions and performances are curated and marketed to art making itself. This conversation considers how polarization affects state arts agencies' work and strategies for managing it. We will also explore the role of arts and culture in bridging divides by helping people connect, understand and empathize with each other.

Leadership Transitions

Whether it's the routine transition of newly appointed council members or the departure of your agency's executive leadership, council members play an important role in guiding your agency through leadership changes. Join this table to explore strategies for stewarding your agency in times of transition.

When Disaster Strikes

Unexpected circumstances can cause devastating loss for communities and the organizations that serve them. These situations can range from severe weather to technology failure to violence. This conversation explores how state arts agencies can prepare for adversity and be ready to step into action.

Choose Your Own Topic

What else is top of mind? Participants can add another discussion topic if they wish.

12:10 – 12:30 p.m.

Debrief and Wrap-up

Coordinators

Contact the Chairs and Council Members Peer Session coordinators with questions, comments or feedback:

[Shari Hofschire](#), Chair, Nebraska Arts Council

[Gene Meneray](#), Chair, Louisiana State Arts Council

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