

## AEP6 Equity Task Force

Americans for the Arts is committed to addressing equity and inclusion as a critical component of the Arts & Economic Prosperity 6 study by centering and representing organizations that primarily serve and support BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) and ALAANA (African, Latinx, Asian, Arab, Native American) communities—a segment of the nonprofit arts and culture sector that has been underrepresented in past studies. This will provide a fuller and more representative portrait of the arts industry in each of the 300+ participating communities. We know we have a lot of work to do and a lot of learning that needs to happen, and we need help if we are to be successful.

To ensure this process is inclusive and transparent, **an important step was the establishment of an AEP6 Equity Task Force**. The purpose of the Task Force is to provide advisory support and guidance through the members' insights and expertise, thereby helping to ensure the inclusion of BIPOC/ALAANA arts and culture organizations and communities in the study. The Task Force meets on a monthly basis (and provides written feedback) to guide the development and implementation of this work.

## Members

- [Melissa Cherry](#), Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer and Senior Vice President, Miles Partnership
- [Najauna White](#), Vice President, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Miles Partnership
- [Randy Cohen](#), Vice President of Research, Americans for the Arts
- [Ben Davidson](#), Senior Director of Research Services, Americans for the Arts
- [Genna Styles-Lyas](#), Director of AEP6 Community Engagement and Equity, Americans for the Arts
- [Suzan Jenkins](#), Chief Executive Officer, Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County
- [Sally Dix](#), Executive Director, Bravo Greater Des Moines
- [Jeremy Johnson](#), President and CEO, Assembly for the Arts
- [Elisheba Johnson](#), Curator, Wa Na Wari
- [Angie Durrell](#), Founder and Executive Director, INTEMPO
- [Monica Montgomery](#), Social Justice Curator, Museum Consultant, Community Engager
- [Mark Cardwell](#), Founder, Ohio Marketing Association
- [Sandra Aponte](#), Program Officer, MacArthur Foundation