2021 Diversity in Arts Leadership Program Mentors

D Marcus Gualberto serves as Deputy Director for BAAD! Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance whose mission is to create, produce, present, and support the development of cutting-edge and challenging works in contemporary dance and all creative disciplines that are empowering to women, Latinos and people of color, and the LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer) community. Marcus will be supervising Alexander Gomes this summer. He has worked in advertising and marketing for Theatre Communications Group, University of Southern California and Center Theatre Group. As a theatremaker, Marcus is a Co-Founder of Regeneration Theatre for which he directed productions of Michael Cristofer's Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning play The Shadow Box (The Gene Frankel Theatre), William M. Hoffman’s As Is (Workshop Theater) as well as co-directed Tennessee Williams’ Small Craft Warnings (13th Street Rep). For over 12 years, he worked with Actors Conservatory Ensemble/TreePeople as its seasonal Operations Assistant and Resident Stage Manager. For four consecutive summer seasons, Marcus directed The Alfred Hitchcock Radio Play Double Feature, featuring Hans Tester and Academy Award-nominee Robert Forster.

Laura Gravino serves as the Director of Education at Bloomingdale School of Music and will be co-supervising Brian Le this summer. Laura has spent more than ten years working in the New York City metropolitan area with the goals of providing music and arts education to students from all backgrounds, of all levels in a meaningful and exciting way. Currently working at Bloomingdale School of Music as Director of Education, Laura is tasked with building new and bolstering existing school partnerships, overseeing faculty and serving as part of the leadership team which sets the tone for the dynamic and historical Upper West Side school. Previously, as Programs Manager at Third Street Music School, Laura led and cultivated partner relationships with other arts organizations, community schools, independent teachers, and presenting venues; produced dozens of performances and worked with department chairs to strengthen the community both by instrument and age groups. Prior to that, she worked for three years at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute as the Elementary Programs Coordinator spending her time writing and editing curriculum, concert programs and leading professional development classes. She spent three and a half years teaching at Trinity Lutheran School on Long Island, serving as Director of Music and Instrumental Music Teacher, where she built the band program up from about thirty participants to over one hundred, created a jazz band track for students to take as an after school class and began a string program which had never existed prior. Laura has a BM from Five Towns College, concentration in Music Education, and a Masters in Music Education.
Dr. Mark Appling serves as the Education Manager at Bloomingdale School of Music and will be co-supervising Brian Le. Appling has inspired audiences in venues throughout the United States, performing extensively both as a solo guitarist and chamber musician. He has performed for many of the leading guitarists of our time, including Pepe and Angel Romero, Eduardo Fernandez, Alfonso Moreno, and Eliot Fisk, who praises Appling as a “gifted young guitarist whose great love for music is communicated through the warmth of his sound and the intensity of his feeling.” Recent appearances include performances for the Boston Classical Guitar Society, New Mexico Museum of Art, Syracuse University, and radio broadcasts for WCNY and WRIU. Mark earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in music from Texas Wesleyan University under Michael Dailey, a Master of Music degree from New England Conservatory in the studio of Eliot Fisk, and a doctorate in performance and literature at the Eastman School of Music, where he studied guitar with Nicholas Goluses and historical performance practice with Paul O’Dette. Currently based in New York City, Mark directs a classical guitar studio in Brooklyn in addition to his role as teaching artist at BSM.

Jack Radley is the Executive & Editorial Assistant at Creative Time, where he supports the Executive Director and Deputy Director. Jack will be co-supervising Aurimar Baez-Collazo this summer. He manages communications and schedules, conducts programming and production research, and liaises with the board and supporters. Originally from Boston, Radley holds a BFA in Studio Art and Art History from Washington University in St. Louis. He frequently contributes art criticism, reviews, interviews, and profiles to independent publications. Radley has curated projects at the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum and The Dark Room, in collaboration with For Freedoms.
E Natasha L. Logan is the Deputy Director at Creative Time and will be co-supervising Aurimar-Baez Collazo. Since joining the team in 2016, she has held numerous roles including Project Manager to Director of Programming. Since then, she has contributed to several recent large-scale exhibitions, including Duke Riley’s Fly by Night (2016), Pedro Reyes’ Doomocracy (2016), Sophie Calle’s Here Lie the Secrets... (2017), Pledges of Allegiance (2018), and Phil Collins’ Bring Down the Walls (2018). Before working at Creative Time, Natasha worked alongside respected artists across film, fine art, and interactive technology. She led Hank Willis Thomas’s studio and collaborative initiatives. She managed ongoing projects including Question Bridge and In Search of The Truth (The Truth Booth), as well as national commissions. Her film credits include co-executive producing An Oversimplification of Her Beauty by Terence Nance and transmedia producer for the documentary film American Promise, which earned a 2014 Doc Impact award. From 2007–2011, Natasha served as the Assistant Director of Career Development at NYU Tisch School of the Arts, where she met and advised hundreds of emerging artists between NYC and Los Angeles. Logan is the co-editor of Question Bridge: Black Males in America alongside Dr. Deborah Willis, which was published by Aperture Foundation in 2015. She graduated with a BA in English Literature and African American Studies from the University of Virginia.

Candace Thompson-Zachery is the Manager of Justice, Equity and Inclusion Initiatives at DanceNYC and will be co-supervising Sarah Cecilia Bukowski this summer. Born in Trinidad and Tobago, now local to Brooklyn, NY, operates between the spheres of dance, cultural production and fitness and wellness, with a focus on the Contemporary Caribbean. She has had an established career as a performer, choreographer, fitness professional, cultural producer, teaching artist, community facilitator and Caribbean dance specialist. In addition to her work in these areas, she leads ContempoCaribe, an ongoing choreography and performance project and is the founder of Dance Caribbean COLLECTIVE, an organizational platform for Caribbean dance in the diaspora that spearheads the New Traditions Festival in Brooklyn, NY. She graduated from Adelphi University’s BFA program for Dance, and has presented, performed and taught at major venues including: Queen’s Hall (T&T), John F. Kennedy Center, New York Live Arts, Brooklyn Museum, and The Ohio State University. She was an inaugural member of the Dancing While Black Fellowship Cohort 2015/2016, was an awardee of Adelphi University’s 2017 - 10 Under 10 program, and a Dixon Place Artist-in-Residence for fall 2017. As a cultural producer and strategist, Candace has worked with the Dance and Performance Institute of Trinidad and Tobago, WIADCA (NY), Sydnie L. Mosley Dances, Renegade Performance Group, and curator Claire Tancons, for the 2019 Sharjah Biennial. Ms. Thompson-Zachery holds an M.A. in
Performance Curation from the ICCP program at Wesleyan University and a certificate from the Executive Program in Arts & Culture Strategy at UPenn. with National Arts Strategies. Of tantamount importance to her is the vital role dance plays in our communities and she is eager to see dance artists of various styles, practices and traditions thrive in New York City.

Gregory Youdan, serves as the **Research & Advocacy Coordinator** at DanceNYC and will be co-supervising Sarah Cecilia Bukowski. Gregory Youdan Jr. works at the intersection of dance, science, health and advocacy for various communities in NYC. He identifies as a gay, latinx, non-disabled, cisgender Dominican American. As a dancer, he toured domestically and internationally with the NY Baroque Dance Company, Sokolow Theatre/Dance and Heidi Latsky dance, where he now serves as a board member. Other company credits have included David Parker and the Bang Group, HT Chen and Dancers, Catherine Gallant/DANCE, Gloria Mclean and Dancers among others. Greg lectures on dance science and at several universities, including Columbia University, NYU, University of Rochester. He has presented scientific research at various academic conferences, including the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine and the International Society for Posture and Gait Research as well as published in academic journals. Greg is a certified Pilates teacher, having trained under several second-generation teachers. He continues to teach workshops for Pilates teachers based in movement science. Greg is a graduate of the dance program at Hofstra University. He holds masters degrees in motor learning/motor control and applied statistics from Teachers College, Columbia University.

David Anderson has held organizational leadership and consulting positions in the public education, corporate, and higher education sectors for more than 25 years. He has served with the New York City Department of Education as Director of Competitive Grants Planning and Development, as Co-Director of the Brooklyn S.T.E.A.M. Center, and was the Department’s Senior Program Manager for the 21st Century Learning Centers Program (CCLC). A graduate of The City College of New York, David began his career in youth development and educational management as a paraprofessional and teacher with the New York City Department of Education. He has also been a senior leader at the Educational Alliance, Groundwork Inc., Jewish Community Council of Greater Coney Island, and Kingsborough Community College.
Tiffany has worked in arts education for over a decade, in both Virginia and New York City teaching visual arts and media arts. She spearheaded an arts education initiative into 20 schools and NYCHA community centers in Brooklyn for visual, digital, performing, culinary, and fashion arts, along with Arts Internships for high school students in partnership with Center for Arts Education and SYEP & Work, Learn, Grow. Tiffany holds her BFA in Drawing & Design from Old Dominion University, as well as a pre-K — 12 visual arts teaching license. She is an alumna of the National Art Education’s selective School for Art Leaders and in her spare time continues to illustrate, design, and mentor teaching artists and students. She also serves as a Commissioner for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for National Arts Education Association in the Supervision and Administration Division.

Juan J. Ramirez is the Human Resources and Administration Manager at MoMA PS1, one of the oldest and largest non-profit contemporary art institutions in the United States, and an affiliate museum of The Museum of Modern Art in New York. He will be co-supervising Austin Kim this summer. Previously, Juan served as the Manager of Human Resources and Operations at the New York Immigration Coalition, an organization advocating for the rights of all immigrants in New York State, and held positions of increased responsibility there during a 12-year tenure. For seven years he served as a mentor with iMentor, supporting high school students to achieve college readiness. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for Future Leaders in Action, a nonprofit focused on supporting young professionals in discovering the possibilities of a nonprofit career. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY.

José Ortiz is the Deputy Director of MoMAPS1, and is responsible for overseeing the Museum’s Finance, Visitor Engagement, Operations and Administrative departments. He will be co-supervising Austin Kim this summer. Prior to joining MoMAPS1, has served as the Deputy Director at The Bronx Museum of the Arts, and in 2010 was the Founding Director of Artisphere in Arlington, Virginia. Ortiz’s extensive background also includes serving as Deputy Director of the Harvard Art Museums, where he oversaw the daily operation of the university’s three art museums—the Arthur M. Sackler Museum, Busch-Reisinger Museum, and Fogg Museum, and held the position of Deputy Director/Chief of Finance and
Administration at the Smithsonian Institution’s Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden from 2005 to 2009. From 1996 to 2005, Ortiz was the Manager for Administration at The Cloisters in New York, the branch museum of the Metropolitan Museum of Art dedicated to the art and architecture of medieval Europe. Prior to that, he supported traveling exhibitions, programming, and marketing for the Smithsonian Institution’s Anacostia Museum and served as Assistant Director of Visitor Services for the Museum of Television and Radio in New York (now the Paley Center for Media). Ortiz is a graduate of Pace University and completed a graduate program with a Master of Arts degree in liberal studies and museum studies at New York University in 1994. He has served several terms as board member and two terms as treasurer of the American National Committee of the International Council of Museums (ICOM-US). Ortiz is a regular lecturer and panelist at national and international universities, museums, and conferences, particularly on the subjects of museum administration, leadership development, and management during times of change and transition.

Stephanie Pereira is a community engagement expert with over fifteen years of experience working at the intersection of arts and business. Before joining NEW INC in 2018, she was a senior leader at Kickstarter where she worked for over six years, first as the inaugural Director of Arts, and ultimately as Director of Creator Engagement where she oversaw strategic growth and management of a global community of over 100K people. Prior to working at Kickstarter, Stephanie was an Associate Director at Eyebeam Art + Technology Center. She has an MA in Arts Administration from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and a BFA in Visual Arts from Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University.
Chantal Feitosa is a Brazilian United Statesian, artist + educator from Queens, New York. She works between image-making, language, and pedagogy to explore themes of belonging, idealism, and care. The processes of collage and archiving are at the heart of her practice when developing digital media, semi-fictional narratives, or socially engaged work. Feitosa received her BFA in Film/Animation/Video from the Rhode Island School of Design with a concentration in Literary Arts & Studies. She has been an artist in residence at the Anderson Ranch Arts Center, Residency Unlimited, and Smack Mellon’s Artist Studio Program. Over the past five years, she has worked with education spaces within non-profit, corporate, and experimental sectors, and she is currently a Teaching Artist at the Queens Council on the Arts.

Kelly Olshan is an arts manager and visual artist passionate about providing fiscal and professional development resources for creative practitioners. She holds a BFA in Painting from UNC Asheville, where she became the first art major to graduate Valedictorian, and an MA in Arts Administration from Columbia University. As a Program Manager at Queens Council on the Arts (QCA), she oversees the organization's professional development programming, including the Artist Commissioning Program, an innovative initiative that democratizes the traditional art commissioning process, and High School to Art School, a free visual arts portfolio development program. Prior to joining QCA, she has held arts programming and publishing roles at arts institutions such as Americans for the Arts, Creative Capital, Art21, and ArtForum. Her research on professional development for artists has been published in the Journal of Arts Management, Law, and Society. In addition to her work as an arts administrator, Olshan maintains an active visual arts practice; her sculptural paintings invite the viewer to navigate imagined architectures towards an unattainable landscape, and have been exhibited nationally. She serves as a frequent panelist for the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs Percent for Art program, and serves on the Advisory Committee for the NYC Department of Transportation’s Public Art Program. In 2019, was named an Emerging Leader by New York Foundation for the Arts.

One of Lester’s favorite memories growing up is gathering around the living room piano and singing songs with friends and family. Little did he know, moments like that can happen in any place at any time, and Lester is thrilled to be bringing the joy of art and music to the community. With ten years of non-profit experience, Lester helps bring the Sing for Hope Pianos program to live both in NYC and across
the globe, creating pockets of living room singalongs throughout public spaces for everyone to be a part of. Check out more of Lester’s experience with the SFH Pianos in his TEDxBroadway talk here.

Aldi Kaza has spent more than a decade designing and producing event experiences that blend performance, community, and media. His previous work includes live concert production, event design for a start-up conference, and time spent in the film industry. He once auditioned for Blue Man Group, wishes he were penpals with Anne Lamott, and is an incognito Red Sox fan living in New York.

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