

ARTS AND CULTURAL LEADER

A collaborative leader with the ability, creativity, and dedication needed to guide/formulate events, promotions, cultural proceedings, communications, and to lead/empower high-performing teams of creatives.

Ten years as the Executive Director of Alberta Media Arts Alliance Society (AMAAS), a provincial arts service organization focused on furthering media art practices with media art centres and media artists in Alberta.

Skilled in overseeing/managing administrative, operational, and financial affairs; partnering with Boards of Directors, other staff contractors and volunteers; in ensuring organizations run smoothly and efficiently; in adhering to regulations; and in meeting organizational goals and objectives. Adept at partnering with, mentoring, and supporting artist administrators.

CELEBRATIONIST, CURATOR, PRODUCER

2012- ongoing Equinox Vigil in Union Cemetery; Annually since September 2012 now staged online
Curate artists to collaborate and create an artist-led sanctuary around loss and mourning with visual art installations, shrines, tribute making, performance art, video art, poetry, live music, soundscape, history readings and processions

2012- Ongoing Digital Shrine, digital art installation
Part of Equinox Vigil since 2012, the public handwrite memorial tributes that are entered into a computer and digitally projected like credits to a movie.

March - September 2022
YEARN designed and built an art sculpture with Calgary artists, Doug Haslam and Eveline Kolijn to collect memorial tributes at various public art events to honour and remember those who died during first two years of COVID. Sculpture with over 200 handwritten tributes and names was burnt in a ceremony at sunset on Autumnal Equinox September 22, 2022.

September 2022
AFTERwords – a project creating a space to use cyanotype artmaking to design cards and write words of condolences in the Chapel of Calgary's Historic Union Cemetery

October - November 2015
Digital Shrine on Tour; Halifax Nocturne Art at Night October 17, 2015 & Tucson All Souls Procession Weekend Nov 7/8 2015 Part of Equinox Vigil since 2012, the public handwrite memorial tributes that are entered into a computer and digitally projected like credits to a movie.

October 2011 – September 2012
Council of Community Conveyors;
Community Collaborations, Performative Art and Exhibition with Eric Moscophedis & Mia Rushton
Magnetic North Theatre Festival, June 2012
Pith Gallery, Exhibit July/August 2012

June 2011
Finding the P Spot
Co-conspirator, performance and installation artist with Jane Grace
Performative art installation, Olympic Plaza & East Village Automated Toilets
Part of CAMPER, Truck Gallery of Contemporary Art

2009 - 2012 **OX: A Crash Course on Loving Calgary**
Creator, facilitator, media artist
A participatory, multi-media, web-based project engaging Calgarians of what they love about their City.
Exhibitions & Screenings:
EMMEDIA, February 13, 2010 Aural Love Fest, installation and screening
Truck Gallery April – May, 2010 part of trio of artists for exhibit – ArTours
Calgary 2012 Artist in Residence June – October 2012 International Avenue BRZ

2008 - 2011 **Identity Collective**
Art and Social Engagement with Colleen Huston and Jodie Stevens
Exhibitions: Id Collective Photo Booth at Public Events
Disability Action Hall, Sunnyside Street Mandala, Media Arts Happy Hour M:ST Performative Art, Yahk about Art
Old Y Centre, *Why Art*; Public art community engagement with on street, in situ, and maquette

Video Works

2009 **Planet Overture** (2 minute 30 seconds)
Writer, director, actor
The ragged and torn and beat up world was no longer viable, so I set fire to it. Just like that. Poof.
Screenings: GAMA, Gallery of Media Arts EPCOR Centre for the Performing Arts 2011
EMMEDIA Compression Camp, November 2009
Glenbow Museum – This is My City, January 2010

2007 **Altar(ed)** (3 minutes 55 seconds)
Co-writer, Director/Producer
A saucy short that offers a fresh perspective on the state of marriage.
Screenings: herland Feminist Film and Video Festival, May 2007, Calgary
Reel Femme Festival, May 2007, Edmonton

2005 **Deskblotter Daydream** (2 minutes 45 seconds)
Co-Producer
Music video shot on 16 mm film featuring music and artwork of Alberta artist Michael Betzler
Screenings: \$100 Film Festival, March 2005, aired BRAVO FACT!

2003 **Becoming** (3 minutes 27 seconds)
Concept/Director/Producer
An abstract exploration of the place of art and creation in a woman's life with Nancy Cullen & Anne Loree
Screenings: Calgary International Film Festival, October 2003
On tour with Prairie Tales, 2004, AlbertaScene, Ottawa, 2005

1996 **VIGIL** (4 minutes 10 seconds)
Writer/Director/Producer
Artists' journey through grief using the camera as viewer and protector.
Screenings: herland Feminist Film Festival, March 1997, Calgary
University of Lethbridge, April, 1998
Broadcast: WTN, 1999, 2000 Shameless Shorts

1995 **Doodlebugs: The Video** (26 minutes)
Writer/Director/Producer
A storytelling by doodlebuggers who worked throughout the prairies in the 50s & 60s.
Screenings: Glenbow Museum, Mavericks exhibition – screening and artist talk, May 2007
1998 Alberta Biennial of Contemporary Art, Glenbow Museum & Edmonton Art Gallery, 1998
Artist-in-residence EM/Media Showcase, Glenbow Museum, 1995 Calgary
Broadcast: WTN, Change of View, March 1997

1994 **The Anger Channel** (30 minutes)
Writer/Director/Co-Producer
Six women acknowledge and ritualize their anger.
Screenings: International Women's Day, Glenbow Museum, 1995, Calgary
Femspin, Alberta College of Art, 1995, Calgary

1991

Video Graffiti (25 minutes)

Writer/Director/Co-Producer

A converted newspaper box screened three short current issue videos

Screenings: Rethinking Media Art History & Practices, Glenbow Museum, 1996, Calgary

One World Film Festival, University of Calgary, 1992, Calgary

herland Feminist Film Festival, 1991, Calgary

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | Alberta Media Arts Alliance Society (AMAAS), Calgary (07/2014 – 04/2024)

Responsible for preparing operating and capital budgets; write and report on grants including AFA, CADA, and EAC; cultivate new grant prospects; innovating and implementing PR and promotional campaigns; and for advocating on behalf of the provincial media arts community to funders, government representatives and the community at large. Successfully negotiate contracts, insurance, and equipment purchases. Produce and curate a biennial conference and other special projects. Foster open channels of communication between the Board, membership, funders and policy makers. Manage all social media and promotions. Develop short/long-term objectives, daily/yearly tasks, and timelines and objectives. Supervise contract and future permanent employees.

Selected Achievements

- Successfully re-imagined the focus, updated organizational documents, streamlined operational processes, expanded networks
- Initiated an 18-month Succession Project to survey membership, build hiring standards and practices, hire new leadership (November 2023). Project includes archiving and digitizing 30+ year history of the organization.
- Produced and curated four media art conferences in various locations in Alberta that doubled in size and content.

ARTISTIC ADVISOR | International Avenue Public Art project, Calgary (11/2019 – 09/2020)

Worked with four emerging artists to provide advice and guidance throughout the International Avenue Public Art project. Acted as mentor/coach to support artists navigate through all stages of the process, including concept development and refinement, managing budgets, and the fabrication / installation process.

FACILITATOR | International Avenue Business Revitalization Zone Artist, Calgary (03/2012 – 10/2017)

Served as a collaborative and empowering conduit between businesses, residents, artists, social agencies, funders, and co-workers to animate and activate an empty warehouse called ArtBOX. Led new community events/projects and sustained the long-standing Greater Forest Lawn attractions. Initiated/managed events including presenter tours, community celebrations, to art show openings.

Directed a monthly food tour with 35 people; liaised with businesses; and led promotions, and administrative tasks. Accountable for managing administrative tasks, meetings, venue contracts, artist exhibition contracts, contacts management, and correspondence. Successfully undertook all social media messaging, events promoting, and data uploading including website updates. Began tenure after a year-long artist-in-residency at the BRZ through Calgary 2012 Cultural Capital.

Selected Achievements

Initiated/managed a collaborative community space called ArtBOX on 17E which furthered the careers of at least a dozen local artists and resulted in providing networks/contacts to The City of Calgary for urban planning and public art projects.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR | The Arusha Centre, Calgary (12/2002 – 12/2011)

Initiated, managed, and promoted programs relating to community development; coordinated events ranging from film and speaker's series to major public events; and directed fund development and fundraised for operating and programs. Recruited, hired and managed the paperwork for summer students, practicum students, and new staff positions. Directed publicity and marketing including online social media, media writing, and served as the media spokesperson.

Selected Achievements

- Brought several internationally acclaimed artists/authors/activists to Calgary for events, workshops, and presentations.
- Initiated the Arusha Action Film series which ran for five years and delivered documentary films to audiences through activating theatres, movie houses, and public streets
- curator Bow River Flow human powered transportation festival 2010 – 2012

COMMUNITY LIAISON COORDINATOR | for Alderman Joe Ceci, Calgary (05/2003 – 10/2010)

Responsible for maintaining all media contacts, writing monthly column in 13 newsletters, developing content, and managing website updates. Successfully initiated/executed community development projects that engaged the citizens of Ward 9 in a unique, inclusive, and productive manner, resulting in two annual events and several monthly events. Liaised on City Hall-related issues from constituents to the

Administration. Formulated, designed, and developed advocacy campaigns including constituents to funders, and Drop In Centre advocacy with CPS, Bylaw, and Planning.

Oversaw all forms of communications including speech writing, keynote speeches, presentations, press releases, website, and newsletter. Supported the Executive Assistant, managed timetabling, and handled a high volume of constituent calls. On an annual basis, reviewed resumes, conducted interviews, and hired summer students and practicum students. Oversaw the community development portfolio including social issues of prostitution, homelessness, and related issues; partnered with Administration, Calgary Police Service, social service agencies, and community associations to respond to issues and concerns in a comprehensive, inclusive, and respectful way.

Selected Achievements

- Started Joe's Clean Team, an initiative with the Drop In Centre clients and staff to pick up litter around the neighbourhood.
- Started the Forest Lawn Outdoor Pool (FLOP), a free event for area families with three orders of government representatives in attendance to allow access to politicians in an informal setting.
- Started the 22 Minute Make Over that used agit-prop, mascots, and rap songs for an Earth Day Cleanup that involved six City of Calgary Business Units, area schools, and community associations.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

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| 2016 | City of Calgary Lions Award for Community Vitality sponsored by the Calgary Heritage Authority |
| 2014 | MacLachlan Family Community Beacon Award at the Mayor's Lunch for Art |
| 2010 | William Irvine Award for Social Justice |
| 2011 | EAR Artist Relief Society Award |
| 1996 | Alberta Motion Picture Industry Award (AMPIA) for Doodlebugs: The Video |
| 1996 | Alberta Petroleum Historical Society Multi Media Award for Doodlebugs: The Video |

Collections

- Glenbow Museum and Archives
- Calgary Public Library
- Video Doodlebugs: The Video in over 75 private collections across Canada

Artist Talk and Presentations

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| 2012 – on | artist talks at ACAD, Public Art department, U of C, Artist run centres, MRU, festivals and arts shows |
| 2011 | Connective, Curated a program of feminist media artworks from the 1980s to 2011 |
| 2011 | Hillhurst Hotspots during the 1980s, 90s, Jane's Walk |
| 2010 | Pecha Kucha #6 WEST, public presentation, Olympic Plaza |

Community Service

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| 2005 – 2015 | Calgary Folk Music Society |
| 2009 – 2014 | Alberta Media Arts Alliance Society (AMAAS), Vice-Chair |
| 2006 – 2008 | Calgary Arts Development Authority, Steering Committee |
| 1999 – 2007 | In:Camera, herland's video/film workshop, Coordinator/ instructor |
| 1991 – 1992 | EMMedia Production, Board member |
| 1987 – 1990 | Syntax Arts Society, Board member |

Residencies

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| 2010 | Banff Centre Digital Media Self-Directed to work on the OX: A Crashcourse on Loving Calgary |
| 2015 - 2020 | Self-directed and financed trips to Mexico to witness Dia de los Muertos |
| 2019 | Mortem, a residency to support the conceptual development of contemporary art and to bridge gaps between scientists, artists and thinkers of all kinds on the subject of death, loss, and grief run by Ayatana in Gatineau, Quebec |
| 2021 | Museum of Loss and Renewal, Filignano Italy - TakingTime/ PrendendoTempo Residency Programme 2021 |
| 2020 – 2023 | Multiple residencies at the Coutts Centre for Western Canadian Heritage by Nanton, Alberta |
| 2010 – ongoing | Multiple trips to cemeteries around North America like Hollywood Forever, Green-wood Cemetery, Brooklyn, Oaxaca, Mexico City |