

REGISTRATION + LUNCH (THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 | 12-3 PM)

INTER:CONNECT Registration will be open and available. Stop by and check-in, grab your conference badge and materials, and meet up with colleagues and friends.

Buffet lunch and unstructured gathering will be available in the Hotel Ballroom. Join Keren Lowell in the Rampart Room to screen print your own INTER:CONNECT Tote for all your conference materials.

Lobby, Gold Ballroom + Rampart Room

KEYNOTE PLENARY SESSION (THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 | 3-4:30 PM)

Key Note Speaker: Ernestine Hayes

Join the Alaska State Council on the Arts, Fairbanks Arts Association, and special guests to open the 2018 Alaska Arts Convergence, INTER:CONNECT.

Hear from Alaska State Writer Laureate, Ernestine Hayes, who is the Key Note Speaker for INTER:CONNECT.

Gold Ballroom

NETWORKING BREAK (THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 | 4:30-5 PM)

BUS DEPARTS WESTMARK FOR SILVER GULCH BREWERY (THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 | 5 PM)

Gather at the front of the Westmark Hotel and Conference Center to catch the bus for Silver Gulch Brewery in Fox, to join in the INTER:CONNECT evening reception + gathering.

INTER:CONNECT RECEPTION + GATHERING (THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 | 5:30-7:30 PM)

Join the Alaska State Council on the Arts, Fairbanks Arts Association and guests at the Silver Gulch Brewery in Fox, Alaska for an opening reception and gathering. Dress warm. Complimentary heavy appetizers, cash bar.

BREAKFAST + MORNING GATHERING (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 8-9:30 AM)

Join with your colleagues and friends for breakfast in the Ballroom. Gather for morning remarks and conference updates, beginning at 9am.

Gold Ballroom

CONCURRENT SESSION 1 (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 9:30-11 AM)***Buzz Groups: Reaching New Audiences***

Presenter: Kelly Barsdate

Harness the brainpower of Alaska's arts network to help you broaden the reach of your work in the arts! How can you diversify your audience, engage new stakeholders or broaden community involvement in your work? Bring your most vexing questions – and most promising good ideas – to share in this session. We'll gather in small "buzz groups" and use a structured peer coaching format to explore current obstacles and opportunities you are facing. This fast-paced, highly interactive session is designed to connect you to colleagues, encourage candor and surface new insights - all while tapping into the collective brilliance of Alaska's arts community.

Gold Session Room

Creating and Nourishing Artists and Communities

Presenters: Nicole Stellan O'Donnell, Patrick Race, Maya Salganek, John Manthei, Mary Baarler Maisch, and Hannah Hill

Nicole Stellan-O'Donnell and panelists who are engaged in interesting, sustainable and important work will discuss imagining, organizing, and sustaining activities that nourish artists, audiences, and communities. Learn what is working well, challenges we face or continue to face, and bright spots for the near future.

Rampart Room

CONCURRENT SESSION 1 (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 9:30-11 AM)

How Are You Creative? a network for teaching and learning in and through arts and cultures in Alaska**Presenters: Helena Jacobs with the ASCA Arts Education Advisory Committee**

How Are You Creative? is a movement to align policy, weave networks, and increase involvement in Alaska's arts and cultures. We work collectively with Alaskans to advance arts and cultures leading to healthy, innovative, and resilient communities. In this session you will learn about how this movement came to be, meet the advisory committee, view an online demonstration, discuss collective efforts focused on teaching and learning in and through arts and cultures in Alaska, and hear how you can join the movement. How might this movement support your efforts? How are you creative?

Minto Room

Working Artist Roundtable**Presenters: Keren Lowell, Amber Webb, Sara Tabbert, Holly Mititquq Nordlum and Michael Conti**

In this roundtable session, a group of working artists will explore questions around creating and managing opportunities, generating income streams, creating interest in one's own work, setting goals and targets, working with partners, mentorship, pitfalls, and setting boundaries. The conversation is meant to identify ways in which artists can work towards a life that is fulfilling and sustainable.

Yukon Room

BREAK (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 11-11:15 AM)

CONCURRENT SESSION 2 (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 11:15 AM-12:15 PM)

Arts, Trauma and Resilience**Presenters: Danielle Vetro-Kalseth, Sarah Finnell and Jody Hassel**

Participation in creative arts therapy or in community arts programs can help reduce stress, decrease anxiety, and increase positive emotions. In military clinical and community settings, credentialed professionals, artists-in-residence, and other artists can help people improve emotional, psychological, and physical well-being. In this session hear how two programs are responding to the growing need in our state to address trauma through the healing power of the arts.

Minto Room

CONCURRENT SESSION 2 (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 11:15 AM-12:15 PM)

Racial Equity in the Arts and Current Conversation**Presenters: Cordelia Kellie, MK MacNaughton, Debra O’Gara and Cheryl Snyder**

Racial equity is an unfolding conversation in the arts, here in Alaska and across the nation. Board Trustees and community members from the Juneau Arts & Humanities Council’s Diversity and Inclusion Task Force will provide a snapshot of what they are learning, questions they are asking, and challenges they face looking ahead. Come listen, learn and share what your community is doing to advance racial equity.

Rampart Room

Toolkits for Artists**Presenters: Mareca Guthrie, Enzina Marrari and Keren Lowell**

This session is designed to review and introduce artists and arts administrators to the many rich resources and tools available (both online and in print form) to support you in your work, including:

- Platforms for calls and opportunities
- Funders, grants and revenue streams
- Data sets and tools showing the impact of the arts
- Professional development
- Insurance, legal assistance and finance
- Self-assessment and skills inventory

The session will include take-away materials, links and guides that participants can share with others in your community.

Yukon Room

Unpacking the Alaska State Arts Standards for All**Presenter: Annie Calkins**

In this session participants will learn about what the Standards are, how they were created and how they are being used in schools across the state. You’ll get ideas about how to focus on the Standards in your residencies with students and workshops with teachers; learn about statewide resources in implementing the standards in your work. Participants will be encouraged to see how the work of artists and arts organizations in communities connects with and supports the implementation of the Alaska State Arts Standards.

Gold Session Room

BREAK (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 12:15-12:30 PM)

LUNCH + PLENARY SESSION (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 12:30-2 PM)**Plenary Speakers: Susan Gillespie and Alivia Metts**

Explore the intersection between cultural and economic development trends with Susan Gillespie, a brand strategist at Western States Arts Federation and Alivia Metts, an economist with over fifteen years of experience helping communities thrive. Organizations and individuals will learn ways to evaluate cultural assets in the arts to leverage economic growth. *Arts and Culture, an Integral Element in Economic Development*

BREAK (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 2-2:15 PM)

WORKSHOPS/INTENSIVES/EXCURSION (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 2:15-4:30 PM)

University of Alaska Museum of the North Back of House Tour**Presenters: Mareca Guthrie and Angela Linn**

Join Mareca Guthrie, Curator of Fine Arts & Associate Professor of Art, and Angela Linn, Senior Collections Manager for the Ethnology and History Department, for an exclusive tour of the museum's labs, workspaces, and collection in storage. Participants will meet the managers and curators who take care of 1.75 million+ specimens and artifacts. Limited number of participants. No additional fee. Sign up is at the registration table on Thursday, September 6th.

UA Museum of the North; Sign up is at the registration table on Thursday, September 6th. Excursion is limited to 15 people--those who sign up should meet the shuttle at the front of the Westmark.

Advocacy for Arts Education: A place at the table**Presenter: Jeff Poulin**

Advocacy is an essential skill for all those who support arts education in communities and schools. As an integral part of your leadership in the field, learn the skills needed to advocate for the sustainable future of your program and arts education in your community and state. Join with Jeff M. Poulin of Americans for the Arts to learn about the arts education ecosystem, the intersection of the arts and other youth-focused arenas, and actionable strategies for advocacy to take back to your community. Every attendee will leave this session with new knowledge, next steps, and a new network of peer advocates!

Yukon Room

WORKSHOPS/INTENSIVES/EXCURSION (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 2:15-4:30 PM)

How to Build A Website: Starting from Scratch**Presenter: Keren Lowell**

If you don't yet have a website, and are a little intimidated about building one, you are invited to attend this session. In this workshop, participants are encouraged to bring 5-10 high-res images, one word doc (resume, artist statement, mission, organizational history, etc.) and one weblink (published review, event/calendar page, etc.), to the session. This is a hands-on, participatory workshop. The goal is to introduce session attendees to several template-based website platforms: Wordpress, SquareSpace, Other Peoples Pixels and Wix. We will discuss the pros and cons of each, then move into a hands-on practical segment, where attendees will be able to start building a live, 1-3 page website. Bring a laptop computer if you can.

Gold Ballroom

Raising our Voices, Telling our Stories**Presenter: Ernestine Hayes**

In this workshop, we explore personal and cultural histories, drawing on our own life experiences as inspiration. Through exercises and discussion, we discover the importance of our singular stories against the backdrop of our shared history and explore how communities are strengthened by individual voices.

Minto Room

Toward the Future of Alaska Music**Presenters: Yngvil Vatn Guttu and Michael Howard**

AKIMI, the Alaska Independent Musicians Initiative (founded in 2016) works to "develop, brand, and export" Alaskan music. (www.akimimusic.org) Everyone with a stake in Alaskan music is invited to join this AKIMI Workshop/Intensive for an in-depth discussion of the challenges and opportunities we face as we work to develop the Alaskan music industry and create new opportunities for Alaskan musicians. At this session, we will review existing AKIMI programs and strategies, identify potential new partnerships and music support mechanisms, and discuss new ideas and strategies to advance our vision to make Alaska "a place where music comes from."

About: AKIMI acts as a hub to connect musicians, communities, resources, and partners around the state. We are a program incubator, advocacy organization, and think tank working to develop the Alaskan music industry and help Alaskan musicians build professional careers. Learn more and connect with us: www.akimimusic.org

WORKSHOPS/INTENSIVES/EXCURSION (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 2:15-4:30 PM)

Teaching Artist Practice in the Classroom

Presenter: Jesse Hensel

In this session we will discuss how to run a successful residency and the business of being a teaching artist. Material presented will include: setting up a residency, lesson planning, classroom management, working with volunteers and staff, publicity, community events, self-reflection and reports. The content of the course will equip participants to work effectively in a variety of k-12 classrooms.

Gold Session Room

NETWORKING BREAK (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 4:30-5 PM)

BLOCK PARTY + ART WALK (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 5-9 PM)

The Downtown Association of Fairbanks' Third Thursday Block Party is being held on First Friday to partner with Fairbanks Arts Association and Alaska State Council on the Arts in September. Join us for live performances with Alaska Independent Musicians Initiative and others, vendor booths, and community fun! Pick up information about the arts in Fairbanks, Alaska, the Western Region, and the United States of America.

As part of INTER:CONNECT, the Block Party will include several interactive artist-led stations, located within the downtown corridor. Participants are invited to visit each station, make a work of art, and collect your experiences in a portfolio. Start at the Alaska State Council on the Arts table/booth to pick up your portfolio!

BREAKFAST + MORNING GATHERING (SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 | 8-9 AM)

Join with your colleagues and friends for breakfast in the Ballroom. Gather for morning remarks and conference updates, beginning at 8:45 am.

Gold Ballroom

CONCURRENT SESSION 3 (SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 | 9-10:30 AM)***Making Space. How Did We Get Here?***

Presenters: Benjamin Brown, Helen Renfrew, and Ryan Anderson

What does the journey look like when making space for creative activity? Hear stories behind complex, creative space projects and how Alaskans are navigating growth while deepening arts and culture in their communities.

Minto Room

ARTShops: Alaska Native Leaders' Indigenous Experiment with Radical Intent

Presenters: Saunders McNeill and Susan Anderson, with ARTShop Leaders

The Alaska Native Leaders **ARTShop** Program, since its 2016 inception, has selected a dozen Alaska Native creative leaders - consisting of four artists per cohort year - to design, organize and implement unique arts making programs within their home communities. At the behest of ASCA's Alaska Native Senior Advisory Committee, the Alaska State Council on the Arts, The CIRI Foundation and the Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation united to co-administer and underwrite an initially, year-long, experimental approach to support, promote and learn about Alaska Native creative leadership. Shaped initially as a means to directly invest in ASCA's Alaska Native Creative Leaders' professional development and amplify rural capacity building through locally lead community art-making, the program has evolved and matured into an indigenized leadership and community arts development testing model. Now in its third year, the program has celebrated an annual increase in direct funding, partner contributions, professional development resources and support services. At its core, Alaska Native creative leaders, arts organization and program administrators, and co-funders are working as equal peers to explore a "systems change" in how we successfully identify, clarify and accomplish our shared complex and long term creative goals. During this session, Alaska Native **ARTShop** Leaders will share the highlights and impact of their work already completed or currently underway across the state and alongside program peers, discuss the significance and potential of this ongoing work with session attendees.

Gold Ballroom

CONCURRENT SESSION 3 (SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 | 9-10:30 AM)

Getting Beyond Political Acrimony: Civil Dialogue About the Arts**Presenter: Kelly Barsdate**

Political polarization is on the rise. Diverging political views can spark friction within communities, and ideological silos are affecting our public discourse. Simultaneously, many of us are longing for a new civility as we attempt to bridge divides, debate issues and find solutions to shared problems. How can the arts field navigate this landscape of extremes? How can we foster civil dialogue and elevate the value of the arts to ALL people, in ALL places? Drawing on national polling data – as well as local Alaskan experiences - this session will explore ways to build common cause around public support for the arts.

*Gold Session Room****History and Hope: Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), Resilience, and Trauma-Informed Approaches”*****Presenter: Laura Norton-Cruz**

The “History & Hope” training introduces the audiences to the adverse childhood experiences study, and addresses the question “Why are adverse childhood experiences so adverse, and what can we do about it?” Bringing together Alaska Native ancestral knowledge of trauma and resilience; the sciences of neurobiology, physiology, and epigenetics; data on social and economic stressors affecting Alaskan families; simple brain-body healing exercises; and promising practices in education, healthcare, and other settings, this presentation provides an introduction to how trauma-informed, culturally responsive approaches can help shift our most pressing health and social problems.

*Yukon Room****The Art of the Word*****Presenter: Maria Shell**

This interactive lecture breaks down the steps artists and writers need to take to realize their artistic dreams. From systems, to writing, to networking, Maria breaks it down into doable, actionable, realizable goals.

Rampart Room

BREAK (SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 | 10:30-10:45 AM)

REFLECTION + GUIDED DISCUSSION (SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 | 10:45-11:00 AM)

During this 45 minutes, select from five different topic threads and join a reflective discussion about the conference learning, application in practice, hopes for the future of the arts and culture sector, and for the State of Alaska. These discussions will loop back to the guiding inquiry for the conference:

How do arts, culture and creativity activate networks and communities to move toward an innovative and inspired future for Alaska? What roles do each of our individual voices play in this challenge?

During the final Network and Follow-up Time from 1:00 to 2:00 pm, the notes/brainstorm from the Reflection and Guided Discussion breakouts will be available in the session rooms for a "gallery walk" of ideas.

Topics for Reflection and Guided Discussion are:

- **Arts + Inclusion** - Rampart Room
- **Arts + Networks** - Gold Session Room
- **Arts + Economy** - Minto Room
- **Arts + Resilience** - Yukon Room
- **Teaching Artist Practice** - Gold Ballroom

CLOSING PLENARY SESSION (SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 | 11:30-1:00 PM)

Plenary Speaker: Da-ka-xeen Mehner

Join the Alaska State Council on the Arts, Fairbanks Arts Association, and special guests to gather for our closing plenary session for the 2018 Alaska Arts Convergence, INTER:CONNECT.

Hear from Da-ka-xeen Mehner—Artist, Professor and Director of the UAF Native Arts Center—as the closing speaker for INTER:CONNECT.

Gold Ballroom

NETWORK + FOLLOW-UP (SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 | 1-2 PM)

Spend your last hour following up with colleagues and reviewing the reflection and guided discussion. During this hour, conference staff will project the notes from each of the Reflection and Guided Discussions that took place before lunch time. This is an opportunity to share your thoughts with colleagues and friends, and plan for the future of arts and culture in our state.

Session Rooms