



NEWS RELEASE

Rosie's House CEO Becky Ballard completes National Arts Strategies Chief Executive Program: Community & Culture

Fellowship included executive education at Harvard School of Business and The University of Michigan Ross School of Business

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 15, 2018 – Phoenix, AZ – Becky Ballard, Chief Executive Officer at Rosie's House, A Music Academy for Children, has completed the National Arts Strategies' Chief Executive Program: Community and Culture. Ballard was the only Arizona representative for the fourth and final class which brought together an international cohort of 50 CEOs who work to lead change in their organizations, communities and in the cultural field.

Participants in The Chief Executive Program: Community and Culture were selected through a highly competitive recruitment process to identify 50 top cultural leaders from around the world whose organizations work closely with communities. The leaders chosen to participate in The Chief Executive Program: Community and Culture were selected from a wide range of cultural forms, locations, perspectives and experience levels. These executives were chosen from a pool of over 150 open applications from 34 states and 18 countries.

Over the past year, Ballard traveled to Harvard Business School and University of Michigan, Ross School of Business. The curriculum encompassed different approaches from outside the arts and culture sector; and a range of analytical frameworks. Upon completing the program, Ballard has joined an alumni network of nearly 200 international and cross-disciplinary allies and collaborators.

"Watching young leaders grow and stretch is one of the greatest joys of our work at National Arts Strategies, said Gail Crider, President & CEO. "Becky is a creative and thoughtful leader and she has been an integral part of deep conversations and learning with peers from around the country and around the world. It has been inspiring to see Becky take the business acumen and leadership tools from our program partners at Harvard Business School and University of Michigan Ross School of Business into her community-based work in Phoenix. Through her leadership, and the mission of Rosie's House, the Valley of the Sun is becoming a more equitable place for music education."

"The Chief Executive Program from National Arts Strategies has launched me confidently into my second decade of arts leadership. The program came at a pivotal point for me personally and for Rosie's House," said Becky Ballard, CEO. "I have new tools and ways of thinking about our work; and I am so honored to continue to build our mission and impact in Arizona."

The Chief Executive Program: Community & Culture Participants

Abdullah Alkafri, Ettijahat – Independent Culture (Beirut, Lebanon)
Phillip Bahar, Chicago Humanities Festival (Chicago, Illinois)
Neil Beddow, ACTA Community Theatre (Bristol, United Kingdom)
Becky Bell Ballard, Rosie's House: A Music Academy for Children (Phoenix, Arizona)
Jenny Bilfield, Washington Performing Arts (Washington, DC)
Priscilla Block, St. Louis ArtWorks (St. Louis, Missouri)
Lynn Clements, Virginia Aquarium (Virginia Beach, Virginia)
Julie Decker, Anchorage Museum (Anchorage, Alaska)
Laurie de Koch, Seattle JazzED (Seattle, Washington)
Ruth Dickey, Seattle Arts & Lectures (Seattle, Washington)
Erika Dilday, Maysles Documentary Center (New York, New York)
Zenetta Drew, Dallas Black Dance Theatre (Dallas, Texas)
Silvia Duarte, City of Asylum (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)
Neenah Ellis, WYSO Public Radio (Yellow Springs, Ohio)
Leanne Ferrer, Pacific Islanders in Communications (Honolulu, Hawai'i)
Matthew Fluharty, Art of the Rural (Winona, Minnesota)
Peggy Fogelman, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum (Boston, Massachusetts)
Alexander Gibson, Appalshop (Whitesburg, Kentucky)
Steven Raider-Ginsburg, Autorino Center for the Arts and Humanities (New Haven, Connecticut)
Mina Girgis, The Nile Project (San Francisco, California)
Esther Grisham Grimm, 3Arts (Chicago, Illinois)
Scott Harrison, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra (Los Angeles, California)
Lane Harwell, Dance/NYC (New York, New York)
Ro Nita Hawes-Saunders, Dayton Contemporary Dance Company (Dayton, Ohio)
Anjee Helstrup-Alvarez, Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana (San Jose, California)
Rachel Jacobson, Film Streams (Omaha, Nebraska)
Suzan Jenkins, Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County (Silver Spring, Maryland)
Shahina Johnson, Create Studios Digital Media (Swindon, United Kingdom)
Sally Kane, National Federation of Community Broadcasters (Hotchkiss, Colorado)
Lisa Lucas, National Book Foundation (New York, New York)
Julia Marciari-Alexander, Walters Art Museum (Baltimore, Maryland)
Jennifer McEwen, True Colors Theatre Company (Atlanta, Georgia)
Ayisha Morgan-Lee, Hill Dance Academy Theatre (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)
Adrienne Nakashima, South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation (Palos Verdes Peninsula, California)
Alissa Novoselick, Tamarack Foundation for the Arts (Charleston, West Virginia)
Drew Ogle, Rose Center Council for the Arts (Morristown, Tennessee)
Maria Claudia Parias, Fundación Nacional Batuta (Bogota, Colombia)
Vandana Ram, Bankstown Arts Centre (Sydney, Australia)
Tiffany Rea-Fisher, Elisa Monte Dance (New York, New York)
Lynn Scarff, Science Gallery Dublin (Dublin, Ireland)
J. Deacon Stone, Coalfield Development (Huntington, West Virginia)
Kelli Strickland, The Hypocrites (Chicago, Illinois)
Beth Takekawa, Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (Seattle, Washington)
Teal Thibaud, Glass House Collective (Chattanooga, Tennessee)
Britt Udesen, The Loft Literary Center (Minneapolis, Minnesota)
Jonna Ward, The Seattle Public Library Foundation (Seattle, Washington)
Matthew Wilson, MASSCreative (Boston, Massachusetts)
Sylvia Wolf, Henry Art Gallery (Seattle, Washington)
Jenni Wolfson, Chicken & Egg Pictures (Brooklyn, New York)
Angel Ysaguirre, Illinois Humanities (Chicago, Illinois)

This program is the result of the incredible support from The Kresge Foundation, The Educational Foundation of America and The Chief Executive Fellowship Fund Honoring Ken Fischer. The partnerships of Harvard Business School and the University of Michigan, Ross School of Business make this work possible. Additional information about The Chief Executive Program: Community & Culture is available at www.artstrategies.org.

About National Arts Strategies

National Arts Strategies (NAS) strengthens the arts and culture sector by creating meaningful and useful educational experiences for leaders at all levels of the ecosystem – from boards and CEOs to entrepreneurs and artists – giving them the tools, connections and support to transform their leadership, their organizations and their communities.

Over our 30-year history, we have worked with thousands of people to build management and leadership capacities. Our model is to build connections that have a high level of trust and that are both deep and broad: we work closely with individual communities and connect local leaders with a broad and diverse network of likely and unlikely allies from across the globe.

Our approach brings concepts and frameworks from outside the sector to bear on the seemingly intractable problems that arts leaders face every day. We partner with faculty from top-tier universities who excel in both researching and teaching to deliver programs such as the Chief Executive Program: Community and Culture, Creative Community Fellows, the Senior Management Institute and the Executive Program in Arts and Culture Strategy.

About Rosie's House: A Music Academy for Children

Rosie's House: A Music Academy for Children is committed to playing a pivotal role in a child's future and strengthening our community. At Rosie's House, a free music academy for children facing economic adversity in inner-city Phoenix, we bridge achievement in life through achievement in music. Overall, we serve 500 youth annually with our creative youth development programming.

Founded in 1996 by Rosie Schurz, a German immigrant, the afterschool program was established in a small home in an impoverished neighborhood. Rising above the poverty that plagued our Phoenix Oakland community, Rosie created a safe haven for youth to express their creativity and pursue their dreams. Rosie's House is a certified Institutional Member of the National Guild for Community Arts Education, a member of Local First Arizona, an institutional member of Arizona Citizens for the Arts, and a current finalist in the National Arts & Humanities Youth Program Award. For our unique community impact, Rosie's House received the 2014 Governor's Art Award in Arts Education.

Contacts:

Steve Carr, The Kur Carr Group, Inc., (602) 317-3040

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