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Community Development

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Office Of The Arts

# Arts & Culture Outlook 2020



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# Elizabeth Shapiro (Liz)

Director of Arts, Preservation & Museum \* Elizabeth.Shapiro@ct.gov

- 20 Years as Director of the Sharon Historical Society, Sharon, CT
- Peer Advisor for the Peer Advisor Program, Office of the Arts
  - Governance, strategic thinking
- 6 Years Director of the Connecticut League of History Organizations
- Started with the DECD under Kristina Newman-Scott as Director of Operations, SHPO and Museums, June, 2017
- Interim Director of Culture, August 2018-April 2019, permanent position May, 2019 – but change of title to “Director of Arts, Preservation & Museums”
  - SHPO (State Historic Preservation Office – 8 staff)
  - Office of the Arts (5 staff)
  - Four Museums (6 permanent staff, 7 seasonal)
    - Prudence Crandall Museum, Canterbury
    - Henry Whitfield Museum, Guilford
    - Eric Sloane Museum, Kent
    - Old New-Gate Prison & Copper Mine, East Granby





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## 2020+

### *Strategic Directions...*

- READI Relevance = Equity, Access, Diversity, Inclusion
- Social Justice and the Arts – currently developing partners with Re-entry services, DOC, Reentry Hall of Change, School to Prison pipeline (possible one day convening on this topic in fall/winter)
- Decentralization of \*some\* grants
- Increasing focus on the Creative Economy
- Cultural Districts
- AEP6 – Americans for the Arts economic impact study partner (gears up in 2021)
- Office of the Arts next Strategic Plan, beginning 2021



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## Staff

- Hiring to replace Adriane Jefferson – REGI, Poetry Out Loud, READI Talks/Music Conference, Arts Work Force
  - Expect posting in March
  - Position called “Program Associate 1”

**And  
speaking  
of AWI...**

Is now accepting Intent to Apply letters – through Friday, February 28, 2020

More information (including videos) at:

[https://portal.ct.gov/DECD/Content/Arts-Culture/Professional\\_Development/Arts-Workforce-Initiative/How-To-Apply](https://portal.ct.gov/DECD/Content/Arts-Culture/Professional_Development/Arts-Workforce-Initiative/How-To-Apply)

(Search “Connecticut Office of the Arts AWI”)



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## Changes to Grant Programs

- Sun setting the Project Grant (FY 2020, approx. \$271,000 allocated)
- Adding additional funding to Arts Education grant programs
- Addition of an Arts and Social Justice (permanent name TBD) grant line
  - Focused on projects that are collaborations between an arts organization, educational organization and/or community organization; designed to identify a social / community problem and use the arts to determine solutions to that problem
  - MORE ABOUT THIS TO COME



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## Arts Day @ the Capitol

- Arts Day @ the Capitol will be held on Wednesday, April 8, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- In partnership with Connecticut Arts Alliance <https://ctartsalliance.org/> and COA Designated Regional Service Organizations
- A day of exhibits by arts organizations & artists, meeting and talking with legislators, and networking
- 50 Exhibitor tables will be available
- More info about registration to come!



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## Your Questions?

Elizabeth (Liz) Shapiro

Director of Arts, Preservation and Museums

Department of Economic and Community Development

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