STAFF BIOS

Administration and Operations

Todd Stein, Chief Executive Officer
todd@maaa.org, 816/800-0903

Todd Stein joined M-AAA as chief operating officer in January 2013 to ensure the day-to-day implementation of programmatic and administrative organizational goals. Todd’s career in the arts field has been diverse and substantial. He brings 20 years of experience in strategic planning, program development, finance, and relationship management to his position. Previously he served for eight years as deputy director and COO of the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art in Kansas City. Prior to his tenure at the Kemper Museum, Todd served as director of finance and administration for M-AAA from 1996–2004. He is a board member of the Crossroads Community Association, the Kansas City Arts Industry Sector Council, and the Advisory Council for the Economic Development Corporation of Kansas City.

Pam Bhangu, Executive and Development Assistant
pam@maaa.org, 816-800-0905

As the Executive and Development Assistant, Pam will be mentored by Linda Gramse in anticipation of Linda's retirement on December 31. She will also provide development support to Jennifer Roe, Director of Development. Pam most recently served as the Development and Operations Associate at The Rabbit Hole, a children’s literature start-up in Kansas City. Prior to moving to Kansas City Pam worked at a large law firm in Palo Alto, California as an administrative assistant. Her experience with event planning, donor relations, budgeting, and general office management make her a great fit for M-AAA.
Angelette Hart, Operations Manager
angelette@maaa.org, 816/800-0908

Angie is responsible for managing the program database, creating and tracking program budgets, providing project management, and technical assistance with the preparation of grant proposals and final reports at M-AAA. She also serves as the human resources liaison for M-AAA. She joined the staff in 2002, having received her B.A. in art history with an emphasis in classical archaeology in 1998 from the University of Missouri–Columbia and an M.A. in anthropology with an emphasis in museum studies from the University of Denver in 2000. While at the University of Denver, she interned at the Denver Art Museum in the registration department. She has previously worked at the University of Denver Museum of Anthropology, the Colorado Historical Society, and the Putnam Museum of History and Natural Science.

Nic Hathaway, Accountant
nic@maaa.org, 816-800-0910

Nic Hathaway joined Mid-America Arts Alliance as Accountant in Spring 2017. Previously, after earning an Associate of Accounting from Metropolitan Community College of Kansas City, he worked as Accounts Payable Specialist for Barkley Inc. His diverse work experience, ranging from stay at home dad to full time travel; from self-employment to regional manager, allows him to bring a unique perspective when meeting the needs of M-AAA. Nic lives in the historic Valentine neighborhood in midtown Kansas City with his wife Rachel and daughter Leona.

Ivan Lundberg, Director of Finance
ivan@maaa.org, 816/800-0909

Ivan joined M-AAA’s finance department in August 2008, after spending a year as an accountant with the Lied Center for Performing Arts in Lincoln, NE. He is a graduate of Truman State University in Kirksville, MO, where he received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in accounting. Ivan conducts the budgeting process, provides financial reporting, and oversees accounting.
Regina Schneider, Facilities and Office Manager
regina@maaa.org, 816/800-0901

Regina provides efficient coordination of M-AAA’s operations. She maintains accurate accounts payable and receivable functions, and oversees contractors and all vendors and management of office space. Regina joined the staff in 2002 as human resources and finance associate. In January 2013, she made the transition to office manager. Her prior work experience includes maintaining a landscaping business, serving as manager for a retail establishment, and working with a local dinner theatre.

ARTIST INC

Liza Cordes, Director of Artist INC
lisa@maaa.org, 816-800-0911

Over the past 30 years, Lisa has worked across disciplines as an artist, administrator, and educator to connect artists to audiences. Cordes has served in administrative leadership positions at M-AAA, the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey, and Heart of America Shakespeare Festival. As an educator, she has taught performance at the Kansas City Art Institute and served as Director of Artist INC at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Innovation Center. As an artist, her performance work is about the intersection of personal and civic identity and includes plays, solo performances, and large-scale community events. Cordes has served on panels for the National Endowment for the Arts, the Missouri Arts Council and the Charlotte Street Foundation, and has consulted and written for the President’s Committee on the Arts.

Sarah Hearn, Artist Inc. Program Manager
sarahh@maaa.org, 816-800-0911

Sarah is a visual artist, arts administrator, curator and educator who lives and works in Kansas City. For the last five years she has worked with Artist INC in several communities throughout mid-America, serving multiple roles including program manager, peer facilitator, and program liaison. As a professional artist, Hearn knows the program inside out and has experienced its ongoing impact. Her interdisciplinary artwork, rooted in drawing, photography, installation and participatory culture, explores the shifting boundaries of science and science fiction. She has exhibited in art galleries and public spaces across the US and has contributed to international collaborations in Brooklyn, Berlin, and Reading, UK. Hearn earned her BFA at the College of Santa Fe, and her MFA from Rochester Institute of Technology.
Christine Dotterweich Bial, Program Manager
christine@maaa.org, 816/800-0913

Christine Dotterweich Bial joined M-AAA in January 2011 as the curator of performing arts. She previously was the program manager of community and artist partnerships for the Kansas Arts Commission. Christine spent 10 years in nonprofit theatre management, working as a production manager and Actors’ Equity Association stage manager for several nonprofit theater companies, including Roundabout Theatre Company in New York, Southwest Repertory Theatre Company in Albuquerque, NM, and Kansas City Repertory Theatre Company. She earned her bachelor’s degree from Franklin College in Indiana with majors in psychology and theatre, and her master’s degree from Tisch School of the Arts at New York University in performance studies.
ARSTE AND HUMANITIES PROGRAMMING

Kathy Dowell, Director of Arts and Humanities Programming
kathy@maaa.org, 816/800-0915

Kathy has worked as an executive director, independent curator, public art consultant, and cultural/creative producer before joining M-AAA in May 2013 as director of arts and humanities programming. She has served as a peer reviewer for the GSA’s Art in Architecture program; was a founding member of ArtsAlive, an interdisciplinary cultural awareness initiative; as well as 360 Degrees, Kansas City’s first philanthropic giving circle. Kathy received her degree in American culture and communication with a visual arts concentration from Emerson College, Boston, in 1990. In 1999 she obtained a professional designation in arts administration at New York University.

Erinn Roos-Brown, Humanities Curator
erinn@maaa.org, 816/800-0916

Erinn Roos-Brown joined M-AAA in November of 2016 with over a dozen years of experience in cultural non-profit organizations. She has worked on historic neighborhood and African American heritage programs in Washington, DC, an online educational website for the New-York Historical Society and contemporary and public art exhibitions. As a cultural programmer she has worked on several major initiatives including the founding and curation of the annual Feet to the Fire: Riverfront Encounter festival, and Muslim Women’s Voices at Wesleyan University, a year-long initiative to expanded awareness, knowledge and understanding of Muslim cultures through the arts and humanities. Roos-Brown earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Kansas in Anthropology and History, in which she received departmental honors. She graduated from Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut with a master’s degree in American Studies with an emphasis in Museums and Community.

Kelly Clark, Curatorial Assistant
Kelly@maaa.org, 816/800-0902

In his role as Curatorial Assistant, Kelly will act as the initial point of contact for unsolicited proposals, assist the division director in researching and collection of information for potential projects, and maintain ExhibitsUSA digital assets and rights to reproduce files. Additionally, he will assist division staff in all phases of EUSA and CultureLab exhibition production.
Kelly has played an active role in the Kansas City area’s creative community, which has included a drawing and printmaking practice, co-direction of Wonder Fair Gallery (Lawrence, KS), and teaching at the Kansas City Art Institute.

**Jessica Heikes, Assistant to Registration and Preparation**  
jessica@maaa.org, 816/800-0937

Jessica has a varied background, including tractor mechanic, home remodeler, office assistant, art framer, and museum preparatory, to name a few. This diversity is also found in her artistic endeavors. After receiving her B.F.A. from Pittsburg State University in 2001, she later pursued post-baccalaureate studies in glass blowing and sculpture. She then applied and was accepted into the reputable Core Fellow Program at Penland School of Crafts in North Carolina, studying multiple mediums such as wood, iron, books, metals, textiles, and letterpress. Jessica went on to receive her M.F.A. from the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth in 2014. Her broad knowledge and experience make for a great fit in assisting both the registrar and the fabrication shop at M-AAA.

**Luther Kroman, Preparator**  
luther@maaa.org, 816/800-0921

Luther began as a Preparator for M-AAA in January of 2017. Before M-AAA, Luther worked as a furniture maker and designer, as well as an Art Handler in the Kansas City area. With a dual bachelor’s degree in Painting and Art History from The Kansas City Art Institute along with a Master’s in Painting from Virginia Commonwealth University, Luther continues to exhibit nationally and internationally.

**Mary La Roche, Exhibition Designer**  
mlaroche@maaa.org, 816/800-0919

Mary Cleary La Roche joined M-AAA in July 2014. She holds a B.A. in history (cum laude) from the University of North Dakota, and an M.A. in exhibit design from the Corcoran College of Art + Design. She most recently lived in Washington, DC, where she worked as a freelance exhibit and graphic designer for the Smithsonian, Library of Congress, United States Army, Georgetown University/MedStar Washington Hospital Center, and many more.
**Art McSweeney**, Fabrication and Preparation Manager  
art@maaa.org, 816/800-0920

Art began the serious study and practice of visual art during his sophomore year at Boston College. In beginning drawing and painting classes, he was introduced to the expressive possibilities of visual form. At the same time, he was enrolled in Art History Survey and saw the confluence of the social, cultural, and political currents he was studying in all his other courses. This made a profound impression on him. After receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1983, he went on for further study at the University of Kansas, earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1985. From the fall of 1988 through the spring of 1990, Art was a Graduate Teaching Fellow at the University of North Texas, where he taught beginning drawing and figure drawing, earning his Master of Fine Arts degree in 1990.

Since April of 1995—concurrent with his continuing studio practice—Art has worked for Mid-America Arts Alliance, managing the fabrication and preparation of hundreds of art and humanities exhibitions. In that capacity, he has helped numerous artists, curators, and collectors design solutions to better display and ship artwork and artifacts.

**Stephanie Seber**, Education and Evaluation Coordinator  
Stephanie@maaa.org, 816-800-0906

As Education and Evaluation Coordinator, Stephanie develops educational components, materials, and resources that enhance visitor engagement in ExhibitsUSA and NEH on the Road exhibitions. This includes exhibition interactives, programming and gallery guides, lesson plans, and education kits with hands-on activities and touchable objects. She is also responsible for developing ways to track and report visitor engagement, so that assessments of current projects can be used to help shape future ones. Recently relocated from Louisville, KY, Stephanie worked as the exhibition curator and educator for a state agency. In addition to developing arts, historical, and environmental science projects, she prepared curricula, trained educators, coordinated a youth music program, and frequently wrote and produced museum theatre productions. With a BA in art history and philosophy and an MA in art history from the University of Louisville, Stephanie previously was an education curator at the Speed Art Museum and freelanced for more than a dozen Kentucky nonprofits.
Michelle Wolfe, Registrar
michelle@maaa.org, 816/800-0918

As registrar, Michelle is responsible for all aspects involved in the safety and care of exhibition objects. This includes documentation, insurance, condition reporting, and shipping. She received her B.A. in anthropology and master’s in museum administration and historical administration from the University of Kansas. She has a background in archaeology, specializing in Southwestern archaeology. She has worked for Anasazi State Park Museum, Utah State Parks, Boulder, UT, as curator; Pastime Software, Exton, PA, as client services/museum specialist; and Bent’s Old Fort National Historical Site, La Junta, CO, as museum aide.

DEVELOPMENT

Jennifer Roe, Director of Development
jennifer@maaa.org, 816/800-0907

Jennifer joined M-AAA in February 2015 as grant writer, bringing 16 years of experience researching, writing, and managing grants at Van Go, Inc. in Lawrence. For nearly ten years, she worked as a consultant, helping Kansas City and regional non-profits develop grant and fundraising strategies. Prior to grant writing, Jennifer taught middle school for eight years in Seattle and in Kansas City’s Center School District. She is an active community volunteer, currently serving on the Board of The Rabbit Hole in Kansas City, MO. Jennifer has a B.A. in history and holds an M.A. in education, curriculum, and instruction from the University of Kansas.

ENGAGE

Erin Vermette, Program Manager, Engage Houston
erin@maaa.org
Erin Vermette is the program manager for ENGAGE Houston, M-AAA’s capacity building program. Erin provides extensive administrative services to the capacity building team and associates, supporting the planning and coordination of the program and its activities. Erin began her work with Mid-America Arts Alliance as an administrative assistant for the professional development team in 2015.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS
**Margaret Keough**, Director of Marketing and Communications
margaret@maaa.org, 816/800-0923

Margaret Keough joined M-AAA in March 2014 in the newly created position of director of marketing and communications. She has more than 24 years of museum experience at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art and the Kemper Museum, both in Kansas City, MO. She holds a B.A. in art history and a B.S. in advertising from the University of Kansas, and an M.B.A. from the Helzberg School of Management at Rockhurst University. She has presented on marketing related topics at the American Alliance of Museums, National Arts Marketing Project, and Association of Midwest Museums/Mountain Plains Museum conferences. She previously served as president of the Kansas City Attractions Association.

**Steve Crays**, Marketing and Constituent Services Coordinator
steve@maaa.org, 816/800-0926

Steve joined M-AAA in October 2014 as the marketing and constituent services coordinator. He has spent nearly 30 years in the nonprofit world. Working in a variety of administrative areas, Steve has contributed to the success of the Topeka Civic Theatre, Botanica, the Wichita Gardens, and most recently in the development and protection services departments at the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art.
Beth Maggard, Communications Manager
beth@maaa.org, 816/800-0924
Beth brings eight-plus years of nonprofit experience to her role as communications manager. Before returning to Kansas City to work in the arts community at Charlotte Street Foundation, Beth was at Chicago Public Media–WBEZ for over four years in both grants management and underwriting account support. She holds an M.A. in writing from DePaul University and a B.A. in English from Truman State University. She volunteers for Lead to Read and with No Kid Hungry's Kansas City chapter as a fundraising consultant.

Maggie Price, Graphic Design Coordinator
maggie@maaa.org, 816/800-0927
Maggie joined M-AAA in February 2015 to oversee M-AAA's visual brand elements, publications, various multimedia projects, and photography. She is a proud native of St. Louis but has been happily living in the Kansas City area since 2013. She is a graduate of the University of Central Missouri, where she studied graphic design."

Amanda Wiltse, Marketing and Constituent Services Manager
amanda@maaa.org, 816/800-0925
Amanda joined M-AAA in May 2014. She has more than 10 years of experience in creating and implementing successful marketing campaigns and strategies with the Kansas City Star, KansasCity.com, and the City of Independence, MO Tourism Department. She holds a B.A. in mass communications with an emphasis in public relations and a minor in Spanish from Kansas State University and the University of Malaga, Spain. She has served as a board member on the Greater Kansas City Attractions Association.