Marc Bamuthi Joseph

Marc Bamuthi Joseph currently serves as the Vice President and Artistic Director of Social Impact at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. He is a 2017 TED Global Fellow, an inaugural recipient of the Guggenheim Social Practice initiative, and an honoree of the United States Artists Rockefeller Fellowship. He is also the winner of the 2011 Herb Alpert Award in Theatre, and an inaugural recipient of the Doris Duke Performing Artist Award. In pursuit of affirmations of black life in the public realm, he co-founded the Life is Living Festival for Youth Speaks and created the installation “Black Joy in the Hour of Chaos” for Creative Time. Joseph’s opera libretto, We Shall Not Be Moved, was named one of 2017’s “Best Classical Music Performances” by The New York Times. His latest evening length work, /peh-LO-tah/, was commissioned by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and was presented at BAM’s Harvey Theater as a part of the 2017 Next Wave Festival.
Maurine Knighton

Maurine Knighton is the program director for the arts at the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. In that capacity, she is responsible for developing and overseeing grant-making programs that support artists and organizations in the contemporary dance, theater, jazz and presenting fields.

Prior to DDCF, Knighton was the senior vice president for grantmaking at the Nathan Cummings Foundation. She also served as Senior Vice President for Program and Nonprofit Investment at the Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone. In the field of arts and culture, she was executive producer and president of 651 ARTS; program manager at the Nonprofit Finance Fund; and managing director of Penumbra Theatre Company. She is a former board member of the Association of Performing Arts Professionals and of Grantmakers in the Arts (GIA), where she chaired GIA’s Racial Equity Committee. Knighton has also served as panelist and advisor to the National Endowment for the Arts, New England Foundation for the Arts, Arts Presenters Ensemble Theater Program, South Carolina Arts Commission and others. She currently serves on the board of the Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone Development Corporation, chairing its Cultural Investment Fund Committee.

Linda Brumbach

Linda Brumbach founded Pomegranate Arts in 1998, a company dedicated to developing, producing and touring innovative contemporary performance arts projects through creative collaborations. Since its inception, Pomegranate Arts has produced the Olivier Award winning production of Einstein on the Beach (Robert Wilson, Philip Glass, Lucinda Childs), Shockheaded Peter (The Improbably Theater), Book of Longing (Leonard Cohen, Philip Glass), Dracula: The Music and Film (Kronos Quartet, Philip Glass and Universal Pictures), Charlie Victor Romeo (Collective: Unconscious Theater), Dan Zanes’ Holiday Show, Hal Willners’ Came So Far from Beauty (Leonard Cohen and guests), Healing the Divide: A Concert for Peace and Reconciliation (Dalai Lama, Tom Waits, Anoushka Shankar), Available Light (Lucinda Childs, John Adam, Frank Gehry), The Kennedy Center Award segment honoring Philip Glass and most recently Taylor Mac’s 24-Decade History of Popular Music. As a touring producer, Pomegranate Arts collaborates with Batsheva (Ohad Naharin), Goran Bregovic (The Wedding and Funeral Orchestra), Sankai Juku (Ushio Amagatu) and Laurie Anderson’s live performance works.

Prior to forming her own company, she was the producing director of International Production Associates (IPA) responsible for overseeing all touring productions of artists such as Philip Glass, Twyla Tharp, Spalding Gray, Diamanda Galas, Elizabeth Streb, Karen Finley, Meryl Tankard and the Serious Fun Festival at Lincoln Center. Linda served as a consultant for Creative Capitol, the National Dance Project for the New England Foundation for the Arts, advisory board of Celebrate Brooklyn, the board of directors of the International Society of Performing Arts (ISPA) and as board member of The Association of Performing Arts Presenters (APAP). She is a graduate of the Indiana School of Music and lives in Montclair NJ with her husband Marty and two children Jonah and Molly.
**Eddie Torres**

Edwin Torres joined Grantmakers in the Arts as president & CEO in October 2017. Torres served on the GIA board of directors from 2011 through 2016. He most recently served as deputy commissioner of cultural affairs for New York City, where he worked on elements of the city’s long-term sustainability plan, a study of and efforts to support the diversity of the city’s cultural organizations and the city’s first cultural plan. Prior to joining the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, he was a program officer with The Rockefeller Foundation, where he worked on the foundation’s support for arts and culture, jobs access, and resilience. He has also served in the dean’s office at Parsons the New School for Design, on the arts and culture team at The Ford Foundation as well as on the staff of the Bronx Council on the Arts. He holds a Master of Arts in Art History from Hunter College and a Master of Science in Management from The New School.

**Liz Lerman**

Liz Lerman is a choreographer, performer, writer, educator and speaker, and the recipient of numerous honors, including a 2002 MacArthur "Genius Grant," a 2011 United States Artists Ford Fellowship in Dance, and a Deutsch Fellowship. A key aspect of her artistry is opening her process to various publics from shipbuilders to physicists, construction workers to ballerinas, resulting in both research and outcomes that are participatory, relevant, urgent, and usable by others. She founded Liz Lerman Dance Exchange in 1976 and cultivated the company's unique multi-generational ensemble into a leading force in contemporary dance until 2011. She was an artist-in-residence and visiting lecturer at Harvard University in 2011, and her most recent work, Healing Wars, toured across the US in 2014-15. Liz conducts residencies on Critical Response Process, creative research, the intersection of art and science, and the building of narrative within dance performance at such institutions as Harvard University, Yale School of Drama, Wesleyan University, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, and the National Theatre Studio, among others. Her collection of essays, Hiking the Horizontal: Field Notes from a Choreographer, was published in 2011 by Wesleyan University Press and released in paperback in 2014. In 2016 Liz was named the first Institute Professor at the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts at Arizona State University, where she is building a new ensemble lab focused on creative research.