

Board Member Profile: Carol Cronheim

Carol Cronheim was first appointed to the Board of the New Jersey Cultural Trust in 2000, and she was named Board Chair in November 2024.

Tell us a bit about yourself!

I have lived in New Jersey all of my life, except for a short stint in Washington, DC at the National Endowment for the Arts in 1990-91. Hunterdon County is my official residence, but I also spend a lot of time at our house in Monmouth County.

I have an undergraduate degree from Princeton University in Classics, an M.A. in Politics from the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University, and a Ph.D. in Planning and Public Policy from Rutgers' Bloustein School. I've spent the majority of my career working for state government, mainly in the Governor's Office and at the Department of State.



Additionally, I have served on many boards. I currently chair the Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission, am on the ArtPrideNJ Executive Committee, the Eagleton Alumni Committee, the board of the Princeton Charter Club, and work for a non-profit board – the Graduate Interclub Council at Princeton. I also play the bass guitar and sing for fun in a casual band.

When and how did you come to serve on the Cultural Trust Board?

In July of 2000, I was on the list of the first appointees to the Cultural Trust. I oversaw the Trust when I went back into state government from 2012 to the end of 2015. Afterwards, I was reappointed to the Trust.

What excites or inspires you about the mission and work of the Cultural Trust Board?

The exciting thing about the Trust is that it fulfills a need not met by the other cultural agencies. Its mission is to support the health of arts, history, and humanities organizations, making them stronger and more resilient. Because of this mission, these organizations have been better able to weather the economic vicissitudes of the past nearly 25 years.