The New Jersey State Council on the Arts, in partnership with Forecast Public Art, is pleased to invite organizations, local and regional arts councils, arts and entertainment districts, arts administrators, and units of government in New Jersey to participate in 'Making It Public' - a free, 5-week virtual workshop series offered every Thursday in March 2023.

Administrators who are interested in strengthening local capacity to support, create, and promote public art are invited to our 90-minute workshop covering practical and tactical subject matter featuring local and national arts industry guest panelists.

March 2 (1-2:30pm ET) Welcome and Introduction

March 9 (1-2:30pm ET) Community Engagement
Rebecca Pauline Jampol, Co-Director of Project for Empty Space, NJ
Deirdre Darden, Public Arts Coordinator, Commission on the Arts and Humanities, DC

March 16 (1-2:30pm ET) RFQ/RFP
Christine Goodman, Director, Office of Cultural Affairs, City of Jersey City, NJ
Miranda Kyle, Arts and Culture Project Manager, Atlanta BeltLine, Inc., GA

March 23 (1-2:30pm ET) Artist Selection and Administration
Dan Swern, Co-Founder & Producing Director coLAB Arts, NJ
Valerie J.M. Peterman, Project Manager, Art in Public Places Program, ArtsWA

March 30 (1-2:30pm ET) Conclusion
Making it Public: Administrators
March 9 (1-2:30pm ET) Community Engagement

Rebecca Pauline Jampol is the Co-Director of Project for Empty Space, a public art curator, and designer based in Newark, NJ. Her interdisciplinary creative practice focuses on cultivating impactful social dialogue and change. Ms. Jampol has led an array of significant public art programs as an organizer/curator. Over the last decade, she has overseen large projects including Portals, Newark (2016), the longest mural on the east coast, approx. 1.34 miles Gates to Newark (2016), Four Corners Public Arts (2019 - 2022), Mayor Ras J. Baraka’s Community Ground Murals (2020), and more recently Audible’s Newark Artist Collaboration (2021+).

Deirdre Darden, independent curator born and raised on art in Washington DC. Since 2014 she has exhibited and collaborated with contemporary artists from DC, Baltimore, New York and beyond, touching themes of race, womanhood, and societal pressures. Shows include Black Lives / White Light (2015), Pressure Points (2016), and We Got Next: Young Contemporaries (2018). She consulted on the black art fair Art on the Vine (2017 - 2019), and curated for Eaton Workshop (2018-2020). During 2021 she joined Forecast Public Art to curate the 11th Street Bridge Park. In 2022 she joined the DC Commission on Arts and Humanities as a Public Art Coordinator.
Christine Goodman serves as Director of Cultural Affairs for the City of Jersey City, a Division of the Mayor’s Office. Through Cultural Affairs, Goodman oversees large-scale public events, New Jersey’s first Arts and Culture Trust Fund which granted $900,000 to local artists in 2022, Mayoral initiatives, public art, and special event permitting for over 300 cultural festivals, parades, and religious celebrations each year. Goodman works on major cultural projects such as the restoration of the Loews Jersey Theatre and the Centre Pompidou x Jersey City museum coming in 2025. Goodman founded Art House Productions in 2001, a performing and visual arts institution based in Jersey City that transitioned to new leadership in 2017 and remains active to this day. Ms. Goodman studied at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts, and is an honors graduate of New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts.

Miranda Kyle is the Arts and Culture Project Manager of the Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. Kyle was appointed to her position in 2017 and has since restructured its Public Art Program, managed an NEA Our Town grant to create and implement an Arts and Culture Strategic Implementation Plan, and oversaw the commissioning of hundreds of art activations along the Atlanta BeltLine corridor. In her role, she supports the department of Design and Construction to incorporate public art into park and trail design, engage developers to consider public art in their construction, and advise on secondary design elements like benches and future transit stops. Additionally, Kyle works on interdepartmental collaborations with Community Engagement and Planning by managing relationships with outside arts organizations and institutions.
Dan Swern is the Co-Founder and Producing Director for coLAB Arts in New Brunswick, NJ, engaging artists, social advocates, and communities to create transformative new work. For coLAB Arts, Swern commissions new work and artist residencies in theater, dance, and visual art, and public art projects from mural and sculptural installation to civically-engaged creative placemaking efforts with local government and advocacy organizations. Swern also teaches Creative Engagement for Rutgers University’s School for Communications and Information and is the creator, director, and designer of the Drama Desk-nominated off-Broadway production, Shake & Bake: Love’s Labour’s Lost.

Valerie J.M. Peterman manages public art projects for ArtsWA’s Art in Public Places program. She works with artists to bring new artworks to diverse communities across Washington state. Valerie joined ArtsWA in 2016. She previously served as the researcher and writer for My Public Art Portal, the online version of the State Art Collection. She then served as Curated Projects Coordinator for the Art in Public Places team. Before joining ArtsWA, she administered the publication of fine art editions at Gemini G.E.L. in Los Angeles. She holds a MA in Philosophy and the Arts from SUNY Stony Brook University and a BA in Philosophy from Colorado College.