

Women in the Arts April 14, 2020

FEATURED PANELISTS



BIZ YOUNG is an enthusiast above all else. As a production designer, filmmaker, and outdoor admirer, she continues the search for that elusive harmony between her love of the digital and natural worlds. Biz currently works full-time at Barefoot Proximity, runs a feminist film series bombASSbabe (*bombassbabe.com*) in her spare time, and hosts a variety of workshops for creative womxn, local filmmakers, and new rock climbers.



ERNAISJA CURRY is a Florida native who graduated from the New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts with a Certificate in Acting and received her BFA in Theatre from Adelphi University. Since completing the Bruce E. Coyle Acting Internship with the Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, she has performed on stages across Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky and signed with Heyman Talent Agency. When not on stage or screen, she is teaching, directing, and choreographing students. Her favorite recent credits include *Skeleton Crew* (Shanita), *Lawbreakers* (Kiara), *Neverwhere* (Door), *Dreamgirls* (Michelle Morris), *Susan Swayne and the*

Bewildered Bride (Isabelle), The Comedy of Errors (Luciana), and Othello (Bianca). #EquityStrong ernaisjacurry.com



Since 2009, **JULIE MONTGOMERY** has served as Executive Director of Linton Chamber Music (*lintonmusic.org*). Prior to joining Linton, she worked for the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra as Manager of Artistic Planning for 14 years. She is a graduate of the League of American Orchestra's Orchestra Management Fellowship Program and completed graduate studies in Arts Administration at Drexel University.



Since 1999, **LAURA ANN GENTRY'S** production company LAG Productions, LLC has produced and promoted jazz events inclusive of small club venues, performing art centers, festivals, and concert series in Greater Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky, and Southeast Indiana. As president of the nonprofit Jazz Alive, Inc. (*jazzalive.info*), Laura has coordinated educational outreach focused on preservation and advancement of jazz with non-profit arts organizations and educational institutions. Laura serves as Committee Chair for the Jazz Initiative for Cincinnati – Nancy France Sister City Association, creating a multi-year project for an international exchange. She's also a

council member for We Create Jazz, a women in jazz festival executed in April 2019 with the University of

Cincinnati-College Conservatory of Music, Jazz Studies Department. Laura has also worked with local, regional, and national jazz artists in project management inclusive of booking agent, tour management, CD releases and media campaigns, and biography composition.



BARBARA SFERRA became involved with CCAC in 2006 by writing grants as a community volunteer, and subsequently joined the Board of Directors in 2007, where she served as Treasurer from 2009 to 2017. Barbara has over 22 years experience in Human Resources Management, specializing in Employee Relations. She is also a budding fiber artist, specializing in art quilts, using hand-dyed fabrics in the majority of her work. She is a member of the Contemporary Quilt and Fibers Artists Guild (CQAFA), Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA), the Weavers Guild of Greater Cincinnati (WGGC), and the Bombshells of Cincinnati. Her work has appeared in shows at CCAC,

Kennedy Heights Arts Center, the Weavers Guild of Greater Cincinnati and the Quilt Study Center & Museum in Lincoln Nebraska. She also curated CCAC's "Fiber IS Art" exhibit in 2019, which featured artists from the WGGC and SAQA. Barbara is also passionate about fitness and is a Certified Pilates instructor teaching classes at CCAC, Anchor Wellness and Pendleton Pilates. She received her Master of Labor and Industrial Relations from Michigan State University, and her Bachelor of Business Administration from Kent State University.

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Drs. Patricia Klein and Reid Hartmann





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