

# 2015 arizona creative aging summit

arts across the aging spectrum

Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum @ Mesa Arts Center  
Friday, March 13, 2015 | 10:00am - 4:00pm



## agenda

**9:30am**

*Museum Lobby*

### **Check-in and Coffee Reception**

**10:00am**

*Lecture Hall*

### **Welcome**

Rob Schultz, Mesa Arts Center  
Alexandra Nelson, Arizona Commission on the Arts  
Ellen Solowey, Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust

### **Opening Keynote**

Susan Perlstein, National Center for Creative Aging

### **Connections & Reflections 1**

Facilitated by Elizabeth Johnson, Specialist in Socially Engaged Dance Practices

**11:15am**

### **Break**

**11:30am**

*Museum Courtyard*

### **The Power and Potential of Creative Aging**

Facilitated by Elizabeth Johnson, Specialist in Socially Engaged Dance Practices

This unique session will use a Four Corners Dialogue structure originated by Michael Rohd and Sojourn Theatre that enables participants to have meaningful conversations about big questions in an interactive game. The activity invites multiple perspectives about a topic and allows participants to choose when to speak, when to listen, and how to shake things up in a way that can reveal and illuminate a topic.

Participants will discover and examine the power and potential of Creative Aging, by exploring the questions:

- What draws an artist to this work and why do they stay in it?
- What draws an aging/healthcare service organization to seek the services of an artist and what do they offer?
- What kind of training do artists and aging/healthcare service providers need to do this work and what distinguishes it?
- How do artists and aging/healthcare service providers build relationships?

**12:15pm**

*Museum Courtyard*

### **Lunch**

**1:00pm**

*Lecture Hall*

### **An Assets Approach to Aging**

Presented by Amy St. Peter, Arizona Age-Friendly Network; Pit Lucking, Central Village; and Elizabeth Banta, Duet

This engaging panel discussion will introduce the existing support systems for older adults, illuminate how communities are expanding beyond the traditional approach to aging, and investigate the potential role of the arts in those efforts.

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**1:00pm**

*Lecture Hall*

### **Connections & Reflections 2**

Facilitated by Elizabeth Johnson, Specialist in Socially Engaged Dance Practices

**2:00pm**

### **Break**

**2:10pm**

### **Experiential Sessions**

These interactive, facilitated sessions will provide a hands-on approach to learning Creative Aging tools and techniques. These sessions will run concurrently; attendees will sign up for their session of choice on a first-come, first-serve basis.

*North Patio*

### **Movement Tools for Creative Aging**

In this session, choreographer and socially engaged dance artist **Elizabeth Johnson** introduces movement tools and structures that can be used in aging communities. Take the opportunity to move together, practice leadership and followership, and consider how and why adaptation is a skill and value in this work. This experiential session will include opportunities to generate movement, build community, and discuss how, when and why to use movement in your work along the aging spectrum.

*Museum Gallery*

### **Engaging Emotional Memory**

The Phoenix Art Museum's Arts Engagement Program (AEP) is an innovative model program that brings the benefits of the visual arts to adults with mild to moderate stage Alzheimer's disease, various forms of dementia, and their care partners. Join Associate Curator for Education, **Christian Adame**, and Museum Docent **Nancy Fitzpatrick** for an in-gallery session modeling AEP, which focuses on close observation and sharing personal experiences around original works of art.

*Museum Courtyard*

### **Revive, Inspire, Connect**

Visual artist, teacher and facilitator **Tessa Windt** will guide participants in creating and sharing ideas for engaging caregivers using visual arts in the community setting. Participants in this session will explore hands-on tools for caregivers to take home to expand their own creative engagement and to connect in turn, with their loved ones, family and extended community.

*Studio*

*(Participants in this session should meet in the Museum Lobby to go to the Studio location together.)*

### **What's Your Story**

Facilitated by **Miranda Giles**, this experiential session provides a unique opportunity to participate in a lifelong learning class in progress and discuss its impact directly with community members. Participants will transform memories into recorded history or legend and experience techniques for using their voices, bodies and technology to create documents to share with loved ones near and far.

**3:30pm**

*Lecture Hall*

### **Choosing How We Age/Connections & Reflections 3**

Facilitated by Elizabeth Johnson, Specialist in Socially Engaged Dance Practices

What do we want for ourselves and our families as we age, now and in the future? Wrap up the day with an action-based exploration of how we can each contribute to the Creative Aging movement in Arizona.