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THE BERGEN SALONS

**Public Money, Decision
Making and Power**

Directory



Deborah Cullinan – Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA)

YBCA's CEO, Deborah Cullinan is one of the nation's leading thinkers on the pivotal role artists and arts organizations can play in shaping our social and political landscape, and has spent years mobilizing communities through arts and culture. Deborah is committed to revolutionizing the role art centers play in public life and during her tenure at YBCA, she has launched several bold new programs, engagement strategies, and civic coalitions.

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Alex Sarian – President & CEO, Arts Commons

Alex Sarian became President & CEO of Arts Commons, the largest arts centre in Western Canada and the nation's third largest arts facility, in May of 2020 following seven years of executive leadership roles at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York City, where he led the organization's grant-making, global consulting, community engagement, education, and artistic programming for young audiences and families. In his current role, he oversees one of the largest performing arts complexes in North America, including its response to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as one of the largest capital campaigns for the arts in Canadian history.

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Dr Leila Jancovich – Associate Professor in Cultural Policy and Participation

For the last 10 years Leila's research has been examining power and decision making within cultural policy with a focus on the implications of participatory governance for the cultural sector. She is particularly interested in the relationship between theory, policy and practice, to which end she sits on several policy advisory boards. Leila is currently undertaking research to explore how the cultural sector can better recognise, acknowledge and learn from failure

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Charles Landry – Urban advisor and inventor of the creative city concept

How can the funding eco-system think, plan and act with imagination in order to maximize the potential and inventiveness of both cultural actors and funders. In fact, the funder might have been, in a former life, on the other side of the fence.

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Grace Bremner – Senior Programme Coordinator - Creative Civic Change

In her work across the Creative Civic Change (CCC) & Big Local Programmes, Grace explores how power, decision making and resources can be meaningfully shifted to communities. Grace runs Creative Civic Change (CCC), an experimental funding programme delivered by the Local Trust, that offers flexible, long-term funding to 15 communities across England. Residents are in the lead every step of the way, whatever the local priorities, the programme helps these communities use creative methods to achieve them.

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localtrust.org.uk/other-programmes/creative-civic-change/



Siri Gloppen – Professor of Political Science, University of Bergen, Director Centre on Law & Social Transformation

I teach, research and bring people together to discuss how people across the globe participate politically, and shape the societies they live in through many different strategies and in various arenas. This includes the use of art and legal mobilization and as political strategies, as well as citizen assemblies, hearings, participatory budgeting and community policing.

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Chrissie Tiller – Writer, thinker, practitioner

Chrissie Tiller is a writer, thinker, practitioner and educator, with an extensive history of working through collaborative and social art practice, particularly in trans-national and cross-cultural contexts including the EU and Nordic countries, Central and Eastern Europe, Palestine and Japan. She currently has a Fellowship at the Technological University, Dublin to undertake a PhD by prior publication and practice, focusing on class and gender in the arts and cultural sectors. Some of her more recent think pieces and provocations include Power Up for Creative People and Places, Sharing Power: from Participation to Collaboration for British Council and Care as a Radical Act for Heart of Glass.

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Susanne Ørbeck – Marketing Coordinator at Vestkanten shopping mall

My name is Susanne and I work with digital marketing and content creation at the shopping mall «Vestkanten». One of my favourite things about Vestkanten is that one of our main goals is to support the local community. I grew up fearing Loddefjord & Olsvik because of its bad reputation, but after moving here a few years ago I realised that the bad rumors were just that – rumors. Now I've come to love this place!

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Katrine Nødtvedt – Deputy Mayor for Culture, Diversity and Equality

Katrine Nødtvedt is responsible for the fields of culture, diversity and equality on behalf of the City of Bergen. She represents the Green Party, and as a local politician wants to support more local engagement, more local arts- and culture initiatives, and more inclusivity in the arts- and culture sector as a whole.

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Torgeir Uberg Nærland – Senior researcher, Norge

Torgeir is a social scientist whose main area of interest is media, culture and democracy. He is particularly interested in the intersections between the uses of culture, class and participation.

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Jenny Williams BEM – Director, Revoluton Arts CIC

Revoluton is a people-powered Creative People and Places project funded through Arts Council England. We are on a mission to bring world class creative activity right into the heart of Luton's communities. Luton's people are at the heart of what we do. Our programme is designed by, with and for Luton's diverse citizens. Our approach is in finding out what creativity means to the people who live there and collaborating with people to design creative events and projects that speak to their hearts. We uncover talent, collaborate with local creatives and develop 'Revolutionary' ideas employing a model of intentional distributed creative power sharing.

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Lisa Baxter FRSA – Founder: The Experience Business

Lisa is the Curator of the Bergen Salons and Programme Designer of Creative Loddefjord and Olsvik. Her 'mojo' revolves around shifting mindsets, reframing purpose and introducing human-centred practice for hyper-local public benefit. This has seen her working in some incredible places filled with amazing humans, from the Australian outback to the Langa Township (Cape Town), the Welsh valleys to inner city Liverpool ... and now Bergen.

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Synnøve Marie Vik – Special adviser, division for arts and cultural development, Bergen municipality

I have been working with policy development and funding for the professional arts field for the last five years, and have previously been working as a curator, critic and within academia.

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Benjamin Hogstad – Department manager Fyllingsdalen and Laksevåg culture unit

Fyllingsdalen and Laksevåg culture unit are managing a youth center and culture venue in Loddefjord. We are preparing the opening of a youth club in Olsvik, which will be open two days a week starting October. This summer will be the most comprehensive summer program with activities in Loddefjord and Olsvik.

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Harm-Christian Tolden – Director General of the Department of Culture, Diversity and Equality at the City of Bergen

Harm-Christian Tolden (53) currently holds the position as Director General of the Department of Culture, Diversity and Equality at the City of Bergen. He has his educational background from NHH Norwegian School of Economics with an emphasis on marketing, communication and organizational development. He has worked as an independent consultant and project manager and is a former partner of Unison, a culture and event production company. Tolden was also the first managing director of Audiences Norway. He is a proud father of a six year old daughter, married and loves to dance.

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Siri Breistein – Project leader, Audience development, Department of Culture, Diversity and Equality at the City of Bergen

Educational background from art, film and media studies from the University of Bergen and University of Copenhagen. Has worked for many years in Bergens as a cultural entrepreneur and art intermediary. As a project leader in the City of Bergen, she is working with methods in how to create a more diverse audience participation in the city of Bergen's cultural life, and how to address and engage new citizens in the cultural offerings.

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Vincent Mrimba – Culture Director Bergen Kommune

Vincent works in the culture agency and in charge of cultural activities for all age groups with main focus of children and youth. I cooperate with all voluntary organisation to achieve activities for all. My focus is also on marginal areas where the city's work is minimal. I am more focused on new ways of thinking and innovative ways of doing things.

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Lucy Harper – Designer, founder of Studio Lah

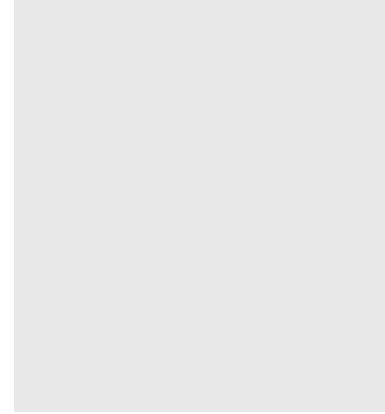
Lucy is a multidisciplinary designer based in London with industry experience working both in agencies and in-house across brand strategy, brand identity, environmental graphics, wayfinding signage, editorial design and social media content. She believes that cultivating creativity within the community is an extremely important part of how we innovate as a society moving forward. The connection between wellbeing, creativity and good business can no longer be overlooked, which is why she founded Studio Lah. She is a performer and writes as a hobby.

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Ingrid E. Handeland – Managing director at Norsk publikumsutvikling

Ingrid E. Handeland is the Director of Norsk publikumsutvikling (NPU) / Audiences Norway. Ingrid has over 25 years of experience from the field of arts, culture and audience research. She has worked as information manager, producer and adviser in various arts and cultural institutions. She was head of information and communication at The National Theatre of Oslo for 10 years. Today Ingrid works mainly with mapping and understanding audience behavior and best practice audience development among major arts and cultural institutions in Norway. Ingrid has a background in Music Science, Philosophy and History of Ideas as a graduate from the University of Oslo.



Dadirai Tsopo – Project Manager at Creative Civic Change, Birmingham