

For Immediate Release February 28, 2025 Contact: ACA Staff comms@artistcommunities.org

Artist Communities Alliance Welcomes Four Distinguished Board Members in 2025

[*Providence, RI*] Artist Communities Alliance (ACA) is delighted to announce the appointment of four esteemed cultural leaders to its board of directors: Kevin Bitterman, Executive Director at Thomas S. Kenan Institute for the Arts at the University of North Carolina; Holly Doll, Program Director at the Department of Public Transformation; Alana Hernandez, Senior Curator at ASU Art Museum; and M. Carmen Lane, Founder + Director at ATNSC: Center for Healing and Creative Leadership.

"We are thrilled to welcome these four esteemed leaders to ACA's board," said Lisa Funderburke, ACA President + CEO. "Board members hold a critical role in guiding the organization's strategic direction and affirming our commitment to artists and the people who power residencies. Their collective experiences as thought leaders will add invaluable contributions to ACA and strengthen our capacity to uplift the field."

Kevin Bitterman leads the Thomas S. Kenan Institute for the Arts at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and previously served in leadership roles at the Theatre Communications Group and the Bush Foundation's Artist Fellows program. He has participated in national relief and recovery efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic and Hurricane Helene, in addition to developing grantmaking, capacity-building initiatives, conveinings, and professional development programs for early- to mid-career artists and leaders with a range of national philanthropic partners. Most recently, Bitterman co-led a multi-sector partnership with arts, municipal, and public health leaders, securing Winston-Salem's selection as one of 18 communities in the national One Nation/One Project initiative, Arts For EveryBody, to highlight the role of the arts in fostering healthier communities. Alana Hernandez brings extensive experience running a residency embedded within a university and museum context as the Senior Curator at the ASU Art Museum. In her curatorial practice, Hernandez co-creates and develops relational projects and exhibitions that amplify intersectional and multifaceted interpretations of Latinx art. Hernandez was previously Executive Director & Curator at CALA Alliance and has held curatorial positions at the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Páramo, Guadalajara, Mexico; Hunter East Harlem, New York; the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Phoenix Art Museum; and BRIC Arts Media, Brooklyn.

Holly Doll/Anpao Win (First Light Woman) Program Manager with Arts Midwest and Program Director with the Department of Public Transformation, where she oversees Ignite Rural, an artist residency program designed to support emerging, rural BIPOC artists. She is an enrolled citizen of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, an artist, and administrator who specializes in Lakota cultural art. She brings over a decade of experience in the nonprofit sector, specializing in designing equity-based initiatives and collaborative projects.

M. Carmen Lane is a two-spirit contemporary artist, writer and facilitator based in Cleveland, Ohio whose work explores Black/Indigenous identities, two-spirit and non-binary masculinities, intergenerational grief and settler colonial behaviors within human systems. They are the founder and director of ATNSC: Center for Healing and Creative Leadership, an artist-led incubator and exhibition space for socially engaged Indigenous artists and artists of color.

"ACA's board has been composed of some of the most thoughtful and effectual leaders in our field," said Kibra A.Yohannes, ACA Board Co-Chair, expressing her enthusiasm for the new appointments. "Kevin Bitterman, Holly Doll, Alana Hernandez, and M. Carmen Lane each bring a shining dynamism to ACA and will further enhance ACA's role as a leader for artist communities."

Full bios of each new board member is available on ACA's website.

ABOUT ARTIST COMMUNITIES ALLIANCE: Artist Communities Alliance (ACA) is the international service organization for artist residency programs and artist-centered organizations. ACA's mission is to advocate for and support artist residency programs as a means of advancing the endeavors of all artists. Founded in 1991, ACA currently has more than 250 members in 50 U.S. states and 20 countries and works on behalf of 1,500 residency programs worldwide. Since 2004, ACA has provided more than \$4 million in direct grant funding to artists and artist residency centers.