



Patricia Snyder – East End Arts Council, Moderator

Patricia Snyder has led East End Arts in Riverhead as executive director since 2001 after five years as education director for the EEA School of the Arts, where she successfully expanded program offerings and student enrollment. Leading East End Arts, Snyder has led it to enhanced visibility and substantial growth: doubling the membership, growing a Leadership Circle and establishing a Volunteer Corps.

Believing in the power of community development through the arts, Snyder has expanded East End Arts' reach and services to the arts community by collaborating with numerous area organizations, both non-profit and for-profit. She has introduced innovative programming including Arts Mean Business, a forum to highlight the economic importance of the arts, the Winterfest Jazz on the Vine, an award winning six-week mid-winter cultural tourism initiative on the East End, the Annual Community Mosaic Street Painting Festival, and the Teeny Awards, a high school theatre recognition program à la Tony Awards, and expanded exhibition opportunities for area artists. She has also addressed the needs associated with organizational growth, expanding programming to Greenport at Brecknock Hall.

Snyder's awards include 2007 Woman of the Year by the East End Women's Network, the 2005 Culture Award from the Riverhead Chamber of Commerce; and the 1999 Educator of the Year by the Times Review Newspapers. Under her leadership, East End Arts has received the prestigious Bank of America's Neighborhood Builders Award. Snyder is a board member of the Riverhead Chamber of Commerce, and chair of the Suffolk County Arts Advisory Board. She is a member of Adelphi University's Non-Profit Leadership Advisory Board, the First Congressional Education advisory committee and Regional Economic Development Council workgroup. She is a member of the Riverhead Rotary and on the committee of Embracing Our Differences.

East End Arts (EEA), established in 1972, is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization committed to building and enriching its communities through the arts by way of education, support, advocacy, and inspiration. EEA serves the five East End towns of Long Island providing access to funding, professional development for artists of all disciplines, exhibition opportunities to artists, educational programs for all ages at the EEA School of the Arts, and community development through the Arts and Cultural Tourism partnerships. Programs are offered in Riverhead and other locations including Brecknock Hall in Greenport and the Rosalie Dimon Gallery at Jamesport Manor Inn.



Bruce Michael – The Space At Westbury

Bruce Michael is currently the executive director of The Space at Westbury, the former Westbury Movie Theater repurposed as a multi-functional Events and Arts Center. He is working closely with property owner and developer Cyrus Hakakian to achieve maximum use and profitability of The Space.

Prior to his work at The Space, Bruce Michael was the vice president/creative producer of the Radio City Rockettes. For 15 years, he was responsible for the artistic direction and creative development of the

Rockettes, producing many high profile events starring the world famous precision dance company. He conceived and co-created the first touring show for the Rockettes, “The Great Radio City Spectacular” which played in 70 locations throughout the United States and subsequently ran for five years at the Flamingo Hilton Hotel in Las Vegas. He also produced many Rockette appearances in special events, galas and television specials including the annual Macy’s Parade, Rockefeller Center Tree Lighting, the Today Show, as well as appearances on the Tony Awards, Daytime Emmy Awards, Night of 100 Stars and Comic Relief. Throughout his tenure at Radio City, Michael helped preserve the timeless traditions of the Rockettes while expanding the company’s repertoire to encompass new choreography that kept the troupe as fresh and exciting in the 21st Century as when they first appeared at Radio City in 1932.

Before joining Radio City Entertainment, he was the owner of Bruce Michael Associates. This company was known for producing and arranging national tours for an eclectic roster of attractions from “The National Dance Company of Senegal” and “Dancers and Musicians of Bali” to the first road tours of “Nonsense” and “The Chippendales.” With Joe Billone, he attained the rights to the film “Arthur” starring Dudley Moore, subsequently conceptualizing and co- producing “Arthur, The Musical.” Adapted for the stage by “Friends” creators, Marta Kauffman and David Crane with music by Michael Skloff, “Arthur, the Musical” premiered at the Goodspeed Opera House subsequently playing engagements throughout the United States as well as the Drama City in Osaka, Japan.

Michael is on the Nominations Committee of the Fred and Adele Astaire Awards, on the Leadership Committee of Career Transition for Dancers and is a member of the Long Island Visitors and Convention Bureau. He spends his free time promoting tourism on Long Island and specializing in bringing groups from all over the country to Long Island’s East End.



Michelle Isabelle-Stark – Office of Film & Culture Affairs

Michelle Isabelle-Stark, director of The Office of Film & Cultural Affairs for Suffolk County, has more than 20 years of experience in strategic planning, program management and product development for arts, visual media and technology organizations.

Isabelle-Stark is responsible for promoting and expanding the arts and visual media sectors of the Suffolk County economy. To that end, she administers a competitive grant program for nonprofit arts organizations and independent film production companies and works with communities in developing cultural facilities and tourism programs, such as Artspace Patchogue and Plaza Cinema & MAC.

As the official liaison to the film industry, she coordinates production resources and services available through the Long Island Convention and Visitor’s Bureau, County Departments of Parks, Police, and Public Works, and the 10 towns and 33 incorporated villages located within the county.

A recipient of numerous awards for her work in the arts and social media, Isabelle-Stark holds an M.B.A. from Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Tricia McDermott – Airmid Theatre Company

Tricia McDermott is the founder and producing artistic director of the Airmid Theatre Company. Created in 2000, Airmid is the only theatre in the world whose mission is to recover, collect, and produce classic works by female playwrights. Over the years, she's worked as executive director of the Shakespeare Globe Centre USA (founded by Sam Wanamaker to reconstruct Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London), and literary manager and educational outreach coordinator at the Off-Broadway theater company, Primary Stages.

McDermott works as a freelance director, dramaturg and arts consultant. Her directing experience has led her to work on both classic and contemporary plays including such works as the world premiere of a new musical adaptation of "The Emperor of the Moon" and "A Little Betrayal Among Friends," "The Tempest," "Bedroom Farce," "Translations," a postmodern retelling of "Alice in Wonderland," "Don Juan Comes Back to War" and others. During her career, she's also worked as a choreographer, actor, assistant director, publicity manager, stage manager, systems administrator, box office manager, and tour and booking manager. She is proud to direct for and provide dramaturgical services to Young Playwrights, founded by Stephen Sondheim to develop America's next generation of playwrights.

She founded Doormouse Productions in 1996, an Illinois theater company devoted to interactive outdoor theatre for young audiences. The company, in partnership with the local parks and recreation department, taught classes in acting and creative drama for children ages 5-12, and performed company-conceived and written plays in repertory throughout the summer months. The company has continued to fill a void in the community and has become an ongoing and successful part of the Parks Department's yearly programs.

McDermott is also a theater educator having taught classes in directing, acting, movement, script analysis, theatre history and creative drama at such universities as Illinois State University, Stony Brook University, Marymount Manhattan College and Dowling College. She has been artist-in-residence and guest director at Corning Community College in Corning.

McDermott is a member of the Stage Directors & Choreographers Society and the League of Professional Theatre Women. She was named to the Fortune 52 by the *Long Island Press* in 2011, was the 2009 Smithtown Woman of the Year in the Arts.

She earned a master's degree in directing from Illinois State University and a bachelor's in Theater from Florida State University.