OAAG Cultural Diversity and Leadership Project Mentorship Program

The Ontario Association of Art Galleries (OAAG) is pleased to announce a new mentorship program that seeks to work with culturally diverse arts professionals, including Aboriginal peoples and visible minorities, to accelerate their transition into director/CEO-level leadership positions in the Ontario public art gallery sector.

The mentorship program offers an opportunity for a mutually beneficial relationship between the mentor and mentoree in order to develop skills and exchange information. Mentorees will design their own mentoring relationships, which could consist of regular meetings and activities to focus on building skills and knowledge on cultural diversity and leadership in the public art gallery sector. The program can match up to six culturally diverse arts professionals with senior arts leaders in public art galleries across Ontario.

The mentorship program will benefit individuals, organizations and the public art gallery sector in Ontario, which may include improved:

- Ability to integrate culturally diverse values and principles in operations, planning, audience development, marketing, programming and decision-making processes in public art galleries
- Governance, leadership and change management skills, particularly related to culturally diverse engagement
- Methods, techniques and practices in managing a public art gallery, including partnership development, human resource management and financial administration
- Relations and communications with Board of Directors and/or city council
- Strategic planning, especially in the context of cultural pluralism/diversity
- Listening skills and ability to give feedback
- Self-reflection and other personal skills
- Network and contacts
- Other areas as identified by mentorees or mentors

OAAG support and training will help mentoring teams get the most of the experience, including:

- Opening and closing workshops that will bring all mentorees and mentors together for training, discussions, and networking
- Training materials
- Access to the OAAG Secretariat, an Executive Coaching/Human Resource Consultant and a Cultural Pluralism Consultant
- Significant networking opportunities

OAAG has identified significant gaps in cultural diversity at executive leadership levels in the Ontario public art gallery sector. DiverseCity Counts Report found significant diversity gaps at levels of executive leadership across many sectors in Ontario, including public art galleries. OAAG’s standing committee on membership and programs identified mentorship as a priority and desired professional development strategy, responding to leadership concerns raised by art gallery colleagues at both the provincial and federal levels.
Mentoring Relationship

Mentorees and mentors should expect to work collaboratively with each other to achieve objectives. They will both benefit from the mentoring relationship through mutual skill development and knowledge exchange.

Mentorees and mentors will review and define their objectives related to cultural diversity and leadership together. They will be expected to achieve their objectives during the mentorship relationship, while being mindful that objectives and work plans may change and evolve.

Timeline

**Extended deadline is August 15, 2014.**

**Opening workshop is mid-November 2014.**

All events will be pushed back one to two months depending on mentoree and mentor availability. Flexible and subject to change. We have rescheduled based on scheduling conflicts with potential applicants. In order to make the program a meaningful and effective experience, we have delayed the start date. **Inquire for further details.**

- **Deadline for Proposals**
  - Thursday, July 3, 2014, 5 p.m.
- **Matching Mentorees & Mentors**
  - August 2014
- **Opening Workshop for all mentorees & mentors (1.5 days)**
  - September 2014
- **Mentoring Relationship**
  - October 2014 – June 2015
- **Mentors and Mentorees Report**
  - July 2015
- **Closing Workshop for all mentorees & mentors (0.5 days)**
  - September 2015

Eligibility Criteria

Mentorees are eligible if they:

- Self-identify as culturally diverse, including Aboriginal peoples and visible minorities.
  - The term “Aboriginal” refers to the original people of North America and their descendants according to the Government of Ontario. This OAAG mentorship program is open to Status, Non-Status, Métis and Inuit people.
  - "Visible minority" is defined by Statistics Canada as "persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour."
- Seek to explore acceleration of cultural diversity in the public art gallery sector in Ontario
- Seek to explore their leadership abilities and gain the knowledge, skills and wisdom they need to potentially become future directors/CEOs in the public art gallery sector
- Have current or prior experience working in or with public art galleries
- Are currently residing in Ontario

Mentors are eligible if they are:

- Senior arts professionals currently working in or with public art galleries at the level of Director/CEO, or identified by a mentoree as a suitable choice for a mentor
- Seek to explore acceleration of cultural diversity in leadership roles the public art gallery sector in Ontario
- Currently residing in Ontario

Though all are welcome to apply, prospective mentors or mentorees currently working in or with OAAG member institutions may be given priority.
Payment

Mentorees and mentors will each receive a $1,000 stipend to recognize the value of their participation and their subsequent report. Reporting will consist of evaluating if mentoring teams achieved their objectives and goals through written reports, rating scales and/or checklists. Reporting requirements will be covered at the Opening Workshop.

Mentorees and mentors will be reimbursed eligible expenses associated with the Opening Workshop and Closing Workshop.

Each mentoring team will receive a budget of up to $1,000 for a special activity that helps the mentoring team realize their objectives related to cultural diversity and leadership (e.g. job shadowing, travel to an institution, etc.), and/or for special project that promotes cultural diversity and leadership within their community (e.g. event, etc.) OAAG encourages mentorees to create specific proposals that will serve their overall mentorship objectives. Eligible expenses include travel, accommodation and per diem for both the mentoree and mentor.

Application Process

Mentors and mentorees must meet eligibility criteria, and submit completed forms applications by email or mail.

Deadline: Thursday, July 3, 2014 at 5 p.m.
Email: hr@oaag.org
Mail: P.O. Box 283, Station B, Toronto, ON M5T 2W2.

All applicants will be reviewed by an assessment committee of professionals working in or with the Ontario public art gallery sector. The committee will include culturally diverse individuals. OAAG staff will contact successful applicants.

Mentorees may identify a mentor. If a mentoree does not identify a mentor, OAAG will match a mentoree with a mentor. OAAG will look for up to two mentors to match with successful mentoree applicants. If neither of the two matches are successful, OAAG will move on to the next mentoree candidate. OAAG will provide support throughout the program to ensure positive and meaningful mentorships.

Successful mentorees and mentors must sign a contract with OAAG that details payment agreements and evaluation/report requirements.
**OAAG Consultants**

**Charles Smith**  
OAAG Cultural Pluralism Consultant  
Project Lead, Cultural Pluralism in the Art Movement Ontario

Charles is currently Cultural Liaison at the Dean’s Office at the University of Toronto Scarborough, Project Lead for Cultural Pluralism in the Arts Movement Ontario and Artistic Director of the *wind in the leaves collective*, an interdisciplinary performance group combining his poetry with music, dance and visual arts which he founded in 2009.

His new book, *Pluralism in the Arts in Canada: A Change is Gonna Come*, was released in June 2012. This book contains essays and articles by: award-winning poet George Elliot Clarke, dancers and choreographers Charmaine Headley (Collective of Black Artists), Kevin A. Ormsby (Kashedance), Amanda Paixao (doctoral candidate in dance at York University and Natasha Bakht who also teaches human rights law at the University of Ottawa; theatre and movement artists Amanda Paixao and Shahin Sayadi. This book also features toolkits on community engaged arts prepared by the Neighbourhood Arts Network, the Independent Media Arts Alliance and National Indigenous Media Arts Coalition, and, the Cultural Pluralism in the Arts Movement Ontario.

Charles’ poetry has appeared in *Fiddlehead, Prairie Fire, Descant, Dandelion, Amethyst Review, By-Words, Canadian Forum, Quille and Quire, Fiery Spirits* (Harper Collins), *Poetry Toronto, Canadian Ethnic Studies, Acta Victoriana, Revival Journal (Ireland), Prairie Fire, Anti-Racism in Education: Missing in Action, the Great Black North* (edited by Valerie Mason John and Kevan Anthony Cameron, Frontenac House) and *Men In the Company of Women* (Lenore Publishing House, San Francisco) . He has edited three collections of poetry – Teeth of the Whirlwind (Black Perspectives), Bantu (Black Perspectives), and, Sad Dances in a Field of White (Is Five Press) that includes the works of Dionne Brand, Marlene Nourbese Phillips, Claire Harris, Cyril Dabydeen, Lillian Allen, George Elliot Clarke, Clifton Joseph. Charles was the founder of the Black Perspectives Cultural Program in Regent Park and recently received a grant from the Ontario Arts Council’s Writers Reserve Grants Program and the Toronto Arts Council Writers Grants Program. He is currently working on a collection of poetry entitled *travelogue of the bereaved*.

His first book, *Partial Lives*, appeared through Williams-Wallace Press and a chap book, *Fleurette Africaine (wind in the leaves collective)*, was released in February 2012. As well, *travelogue of the bereaved* has been accepted for publication by TSAR Publications and will appear in the spring 2014.

**Susan Cohen**  
OAAG Executive Coaching/Human Resource Consultant  
Program Director, Cultural Careers Council of Ontario

Susan Cohen combines direct experience as a freelance arts practitioner in music, theatre, dance and editorial journalism with work in senior administrative and policy positions in the cultural sector. As a specialist in public policy and program development she worked with the
Ontario Arts Council in progressively senior positions, including Director of Arts Programs. Her independent consulting practice has focused on community arts, festivals and training programs primarily for the cultural sector.

At WorkInCulture as Director of Programming she has managed the development of programs and curricula designed for in-career professionals including The Business of Art (an introduction to business planning), an online suite of HR tips, Templates and HR Tools for creatives, and foundational business e-learning courses all available on the WorkInCulture website. She has overseen or developed a wide range of in-person learning programs addressing business skills for the creative community throughout the province. At WorkInCulture she has also been responsible for research, including the seminal study commissioned from Ipsos-Reid *Enriching Our Work in Culture*, the first Ontario-based comprehensive study of business skill needs for the cultural sector.

**OAAG Secretariat**

**Veronica Quach**  
**Mentoring Program Liaison**  
**Assistant Director, Ontario Association of Art Galleries.**  
Veronica’s responsibilities at OAAG include the management of professional development programs, events, special projects, social media, communications, fundraising, and volunteer/intern staffing. Veronica also works for a market research company and is a teen DJ/youth counsellor on cruise ships. Previously, she apprenticed in communications roles in arts and non-profit sectors. Her formal training is in journalism and she has worked in print, radio, TV and web. Veronica graduated from Carleton University with a Bachelor of Journalism, a double major in English and a minor in French in 2010.

**Demetra Christakos**  
**Executive Director, Ontario Association of Art Galleries**  
Demetra has served as Executive Director of OAAG and producer of the OAAG Awards since September 2001. Prior, she was Exhibition Coordinator at the Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery in Toronto from 1996 to 2001. From 1982 to 1995, she worked at the Laurentian University Museum and Arts Centre in Sudbury, Ontario. She created and executive-produced the symposium and web project Curators in Context ([www.curatorsincontext.ca](http://www.curatorsincontext.ca)) in collaboration with Jewell Goodwyn, Artist-Run Centres and Collectives Ontario (ARCCO). In 2007, Christakos and Goodwyn also co-founded the PASO Coalition, an active coalition of 24 provincial arts service organizations across Ontario. Christakos serves as executive producer for the web portal Arts Institutions and the Feminist Dialectic ([www.feministdialectic.ca](http://www.feministdialectic.ca)). From 2005 to 2011, she served on the Board of Cultural Careers Council of Ontario (Vice-President). She is an Advisory Committee member for ArtsBuild Ontario, and participates in the Metcalf ASO Learning Network.
OAAG Diversity and Leadership Project

This mentorship program is part of the OAAG Cultural Diversity and Leadership Project, which provides diversity training to strengthen governance, leadership and change management. Other aspects of the project include workshops and a resource website, which are accessible to all galleries across the province.

Funders

The OAAG Diversity and Leadership Project has been funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) and the Toronto Arts Council (TAC).

More Information

Do not hesitate to contact OAAG with any questions related the project, mentorship program or application process.

Veronica Quach
Assistant Director
Ontario Association of Art Galleries
(416) 598-0714
communications@oaag.org
http://oaag.org
Ontario Association of Art Galleries

OAAG Cultural Diversity and Leadership Project
Mentorship Program: Mentoree Application (1 of 3)

Deadline for Mentoree Applications: Thursday, July 3, 2014 at 5 p.m. Send to hr@oaag.org.

Mentorees are eligible if they:

- Self-identify as culturally diverse, including Aboriginal peoples and visible minorities.
  - The term “Aboriginal” refers to the original people of North America and their descendants according to the Government of Ontario. This OAAG mentorship program is open to Status, Non-Status, Métis and Inuit people.
  - "Visible minority" is defined by Statistics Canada as "persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour."
- Seek to explore acceleration of cultural diversity in the public art gallery sector in Ontario
- Seek to explore their leadership abilities and gain the knowledge, skills and wisdom they need to potentially become future directors/CEOs in the public art gallery sector
- Have current or prior experience working in or with public art galleries
- Are currently residing in Ontario

Though all are welcome to apply, prospective mentors or mentorees currently working in or with OAAG member institutions may be given priority.

All applications are processed by OAAG and reviewed by an assessment committee. Your application does not guarantee a spot in the program.

Support Information:
In addition to the form and the written application (on the following pages), provide the following support documents:

- Resume of your professional activities
- Description of your organization/independent practice, including its mission, goals or objective, its history, size of the staff, key members of team, any major achievements or challenges (1 page max.)
- Support letter from your current organization, or previous employer/contractor if you are an independent professional or have foreign experience. Support letter should include reference to your interest in cultural diversity and leadership.
- Mentor contact information, only if you identify a specific mentor. Identified mentors must also complete a mentor application.
- A brief video of yourself uploaded to YouTube explaining who you are, your organization/independent practice and why you would benefit. Provide the URL in your application. Preferred length is one-minute with maximum length of 3 minutes. Detailed instructions can be found on a separate Video Instruction Sheet. If you do not have access to a video recording device, please inform OAAG prior to your application for an alternative. (Videos help inform the assessment committee’s decisions and allow you to have the opportunity to emphasize issues or make your application stand out. OAAG is requesting this component because this program is targeted at future directors/CEOs in the public art gallery sector. These positions require the ability to be in the public eye through events and through media – newspaper, TV, radio.) Initial this page: ______
OAAG Cultural Diversity and Leadership Project
Mentorship Program: Mentoree Application (2 of 3)

Informational Form

Mentoree Contact Information
☐ OAAG may contact me by email, phone or mail regarding this mentorship program. Check the box if you consent.
Name: ____________________________________________
Title: ____________________________________________
Email: ____________________________________________
Daytime Telephone or Cell Phone: _________________________
Street Number & Address: __________________________________
City: ___________________________ Postal Code: ____________

Mailing Address
☐ Same as above, or
Street Number & Address: __________________________________
City: ___________________________ Postal Code: ____________

Your Organizational Contact Information
Organizational Name: __________________________________
Street Address: _________________________________________
City: ___________________________ Postal Code: ____________
Website: ____________________________
Registered non-profit number: _____________________________
Year of incorporation: ____________________________

OAAG Membership Status
Check all that apply: ☐ OAAG Institutional Member (Art Gallery, Affiliate or Business)
☐ OAAG Colleague Member ☐ Non-OAAG Member

Financial Information
☐ If successful, I will provide my SIN to OAAG and I understand that OAAG will issue a T4A stipulating payment over two calendar years – one in February 2015 and one in February 2016. Mentorees will each receive a total of $1,000 stipend to recognize the value of their participation and their subsequent report. Check the box if you consent.

Initial this page: ______
OAAG Cultural Diversity and Leadership Project
Mentorship Program: Mentoree Application (3 of 3)

Written Application Section

The following written section must be three pages or less and on letter-sized 8.5”x11” paper.

Provide a description of your mentorship. Structure the description under the following headings, including how you see cultural diversity and leadership integral to each aspect.

*Optional:* You may choose to identify a mentor though optional. If you identify a mentor, please include an explanation of why you have chosen that mentor and how they are able to accommodate the mentorship within this written application. Successful mentorees who do not identify mentors will be matched by OAAG.

**Overview:** Give a synopsis of why you would like to be mentored and what the mentorship will consist of.

**Objectives:** Outline the objectives of your mentorship for you (the mentoree) and your organization/independent practice. Consider your skillsets, competencies and knowledge as well as your organization’s/independent practice’s structures and practices (e.g. staff resources, procedures, etc.)

**Process:** Describe the proposed schedule of meetings and/or activities between you (the mentoree) and your mentor during the nine months mentorship period between October 2013 and June 2015. Include information such as number of hours worked together, communication types (e.g. in-person, phone, email, etc.), dates, and your special activity and/or project proposal for up to $1,000. OAAG understands that mentorship relationships can be evolving and changing. Please build in flexibility into your process if applicable.

**Impact:** What is the anticipated impact of the mentorship on yourself (the mentoree), your organization, your mentor and your mentor’s organization.

I hereby certify the statements and information in these application forms and attachments are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I submit my application and attachments to OAAG and its assessment committee to be processed and reviewed.
OAAG Cultural Diversity and Leadership Project
Mentorship Program: Mentor Application (1 of 3)

Deadline for Mentor Applications: Thursday, July 3, 2014 at 5 p.m. Send to hr@oaag.org.

Mentors are eligible if they are:

- Senior arts professionals currently working in or with public art galleries at the level of Director/CEO, or identified by a mentoree as a suitable choice for a mentor
- Seek to explore acceleration of cultural diversity in leadership roles the public art gallery sector in Ontario
- Currently residing in Ontario

Though all are welcome to apply, prospective mentors or mentorees currently working in or with OAAG member institutions may be given priority.

All applications are processed by OAAG and reviewed by an assessment committee. Your application does not guarantee a spot in the program.

Support Information:
In addition to the form and the written application (on the following pages), please provide the following support documents:

- Resume of your professional activities
- Description of your organization, including its mission, goals or objective, its history, size of the staff, key members of team, any major achievements or challenges (1 page max.)
- Support letter from your organization

OAAG Resources
Not all mentors will be matched due to the needs of mentorees. However, OAAG would like to keep a database of all mentors who apply and put them on OAAG’s mentorship webpage. The database would a resource for future professionals for facilitated or non-facilitated mentorships. This would include selected mentors AND mentors who are not selected.

☐ I would like my name, title and organization name to be posted on OAAG’s mentorship webpage as a resource. Check the box if you consent.

Initial this page: _____
OAAG Cultural Diversity and Leadership Project
Mentorship Program: Mentor Application (2 of 3)

Informational Form

Mentor Contact Information
☐ OAAG may contact me by email, phone or mail regarding this mentorship program. Check the box if you consent.

Name: _____________________________________________________________
Title: ______________________________________________________________
Email: _____________________________________________________________
Daytime Telephone or Cell Phone: _________________________________
Street Number & Address: ____________________________________________
City: ___________________________ Postal Code: _________________________

Mailing Address
☐ Same as above, or
Street Number & Address: ____________________________________________
City: ___________________________ Postal Code: _________________________

Your Organizational Contact Information
Organizational Name: _______________________________________________
Street Address: ______________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ Postal Code: _________________________
Website: ________________________________
Registered non-profit number: ________________________________
Year of incorporation: _______________________________________________

OAAG Membership Status
Check all that apply:  ☐ OAAG Institutional Member (Art Gallery, Affiliate or Business)
☐ OAAG Colleague Member ☐ Non-OAAG Member

Financial Information
☐ If successful, I will provide my SIN to OAAG and I understand that OAAG will issue a T4A stipulating payment over two calendar years – one in February 2015 and one in February 2016. Mentors will each receive a total of $1,000 stipend to recognize the value of their participation and their subsequent report. Check the box if you consent.

Initial this page: _____
OAAG Cultural Diversity and Leadership Project
Mentorship Program: Mentor Application (3 of 3)

Written Application

The following written section must be two pages or less and on letter-sized 8.5”x11” paper.

Provide a description of your mentor abilities. Structure the description under the following headings, including how you see cultural diversity and leadership integral to each aspect.

Overview: Briefly describe why you would like to be a mentor.

Your Background: Describe experiences, knowledge, skills and/or practices that you believe could benefit mentorees.

Objectives: Outline the objectives of your mentorship for you (the mentor) and your organization. Consider what you and your organization can gain from being part of this program.

Your Commitment: Indicate how many hours you are able to work with a mentoree, other resources you can provide and your flexibility if applicable.

Impact: Describe the anticipated impact of the mentorship on you (the mentor) and your organization.

I hereby certify the statements and information in these application forms and attachments are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I submit my application and attachments to OAAG and its assessment committee to be processed and reviewed.

__________________________________________________________________________  ________________

Signature  Date

The OAAG Diversity and Leadership Project is funded in part by the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) and the Toronto Arts Council (TAC).
OAAG Cultural Diversity and Leadership Project
Mentorship Program: Video Instruction Sheet

Mentorees are required to provide a brief video of yourself uploaded to YouTube explaining:

• Who you are
• Your organization
• Why you would benefit from mentorship

Videos help inform the assessment committee’s decisions and allow you to have the opportunity to emphasize issues or make your application stand out. OAAG is requesting this component because this program is targeted at future directors/CEOs in the public art gallery sector. These positions require the ability to be in the public eye through events and through media – newspaper, TV, radio.

Provide the URL in your application. Preferred video length is one-minute (60 seconds) with maximum length of 3 minutes.

Tips On How To Create A Video

• You can record and edit a video directly on YouTube with a Google account!
• You may use another digital recording device – your smart phone, your digital camera, your computer or a video camera – and then upload it to YouTube.
• You don’t even need to edit the video. Just practice a couple times and get it down in one quite take!
• If you’d like to edit, you can edit directly on YouTube or in a free program that comes with your computer such as iMovie or Movie Maker.

YouTube Instructions for those with a YouTube or Google account:
1. Go to www.youtube.com
2. Click on the button marked “Sign In” on the top right corner.
3. Log in to YouTube.
   a. If you have a YouTube account, log in with your existing information.
   b. If you do not have a YouTube account but have a Google account, you can enter that account information in the login section.
4. Click on the button marked “Upload” on the top right corner.
5. In the upload screen, you may:
   a. Click ‘Select files to upload’ and search for the appropriate file on your computer, OR
   b. Record directly into YouTube with a computer with a camera and a built in microphone. You may also edit directly in YouTube. Buttons on right side.
6. You can change ‘Basic Info’ of your video. On the right side, you will see a field marked privacy settings. If you don’t want your video to be made public, you should select PRIVATE. If PRIVATE is selected, YouTube will generate a link to your video, and it will only be visible to those who you share the URL/link.
7. Watch the video to make sure that it is what you wish to submit.
8. Click Publish or Done to finish uploading. Don’t forget to provide the URL/link to us!
YouTube Instructions for NEW users

1. Go to www.youtube.com
2. Click the “Sign In” on the top right corner.
3. Click “Add Account” or “Sign in with a different account” to create a Google account.
4. Once you’ve completed registering, go back to YouTube. This should happen automatically. If it does not, go www.youtube.com and sign in.
5. Click on the button marked “Upload” on the top right corner.
6. In the upload screen, you may:
   a. Click ‘Select files to upload’ and search for the appropriate file on your computer, OR
   b. Record directly into YouTube with a computer with a camera and a built in microphone. You may also edit directly in YouTube. Buttons on right side.
   c. Note: It may it 5 to 20 minutes to upload videos. Please be patient.
7. You can change ‘Basic Info’ of your video. On the right side, you will see a field marked privacy settings. If you don’t want your video to be made public, you should select PRIVATE. If PRIVATE is selected, YouTube will generate a link to your video, and it will only be visible to those who you share the URL/link.
8. Watch the video to make sure that it is what you wish to submit.
9. Click Publish or Done to finish uploading. Don’t forget to provide the URL/link to us!

Some common formats that YouTube supports:

- WebM files - Vp8 video codec and Vorbis Audio codecs
- MPEG4, 3GPP and MOV files - Typically supporting h264, mpeg4 video codecs, and AAC audio codec
- .AVI - Many cameras output this format - typically the video codec is MJPEG and audio is PCM
- .MPEGPS - Typically supporting MPEG2 video codec and MP2 audio
- .WMV

Formats that YouTube does NOT support:

- Project files: No project files of any kind are acceptable. It is generally very easy to convert project files to a supported format.
- MSWMM and WLMP: You can easily convert these project files to .WMV.
- Audio files (MP3, WAV, etc.) and Image files (JPG, PNG, etc.): Convert these files to video slideshows.