

# **2019 Advisory Committee Members**

## **Freedom & Love: A Celebration of LGBTQ Artists in Cleveland**

## **Sin Fronteras/Beyond Borders: A Celebration of Latino Artists in Cleveland**

### **Focus on the Artists Program of the Tremont Arts & Cultural Festival**

**Adam Tully**, a Northeast Ohio native, lives in the Collinwood neighborhood of Cleveland with his husband, John Farina. An avid supporter of all things Arts & Culture, Adam can be found at art openings, burlesque shows, symphonies, and everything in between. When not supporting the Arts, he can be found supporting the next generation through his work at Cleveland Public Library where he is a Children's Librarian. Located on East 152nd street, the Collinwood Branch Library is home to Adam's artistic and community-oriented programs. Combining arts and crafts with STEM-centric learning has been a cornerstone of Adam's work. In the Fall of 2016, he and his branch manager created a 6-week program called the "Collinwood Community Youth Academy" which brought in children from around the community to engage with Councilpersons, Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, JobCorps, and many other community leaders; the intention being to better understand where they live and what they can do to help their community. Adam and his husband John, avid art collectors and patrons created the Maria Neil Art Project. They started the business in early 2012 as a way to bring art to nontraditional spaces and encourage collecting. With their move to the Collinwood neighborhood, they opted to launch a gallery space as a way to not only better promote the many unrepresented and underrepresented artists, but also be a part of enhancing the community they live in. Though they closed their gallery space in October of 2017, they have found a new vitality by 'popping up' around the city and elsewhere offering art in unique spaces. Operating as a 'gallery without walls' is proving a challenge, but also a lot of fun! Now Adam and John are curating other people's spaces - this includes private residences, corporate collections, and the like.

**Angelica Pozo**, a New York City native, born of Cuban and Puerto Rican parents, has lived in Cleveland since 1984. She moved here from Ann Arbor, Michigan, where she received her Masters of Fine Arts from the University of Michigan. Her Bachelor of Fine Arts is from SUNY College of Ceramics in Alfred, NY. A full time self-employed ceramic artist, Angelica divides her time between public art, tile and sculptural studio work, teaching workshops on tile making and architectural ceramics and often serves as an artist-in-residence on large tile/mosaic projects in school and community settings. 24 of these projects have been through the Ohio Arts Council, including the Tremont History Mural 54' retaining wall (2016) in Tremont's Lincoln Park and the Seating Bench & Flower Planter (2018) on Professor Avenue in the heart of Tremont's commercial district. Both Tremont projects involved coordinating hundreds of community residents in hand painting individual ceramic tile along with installation and community dedications. Angelica has also done numerous residencies with other organizations, nationally, as well as internationally. Recipient of an OAC Individual Artist Fellowship and an Arts Midwest/NEA Regional Individual Artist

Fellowship , she is in the permanent collection of Museum of Art & Design and private collection of Lebron James. She is the author of "Making & Installing Handmade Tile," which was published in the spring of 2005, by Lark Books, a division of Sterling Publishers. Her most recent book, "Ceramics for Beginners: Surfaces, Glazes and Firings," was published in August, 2010. Examples of her work, which has been exhibited widely can be seen on her website, [www.angelicapozo.com](http://www.angelicapozo.com).

**Antonio Rosario** is a recent graduate from Cleveland State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Film, TV, and Interactive Media. He has been working for the past three years for the Cleveland Film Society at the Cleveland International Film Festival as the Programming Assistant and Jury Coordinator. He was also recently involved for the inaugural year of the Borderlight International Theatre + Fringe Festival. In his downtime, Antonio also works on film and television productions around and throughout Cleveland. This is his first year working with the Tremont Arts and Cultural Festival.

**Chris McNulty** is a native of Cleveland and is the Community Engagement Coordinator at the LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland, overseeing the Center's volunteer program, community involvement initiatives, and Center events. Prior to working at The Center, Chris's passion for LGBTQ equity led him to serve on the board of GLSEN NEO promoting inclusivity in Northeast Ohio schools and to volunteer as a peer counselor on the GLBT National Hotline. Chris's academic interest in understanding our modern worldview led him to receive a Master's degree in Philosophy, Cosmology, and Consciousness from the California Institute of Integral Studies. His varied past lives include working as a Waldorf school administrator and first grade teacher, serving brews at Great Lakes Brewing Company, interning with the programs department of the Pachamama Alliance, and volunteering as a classroom assistant at Oakland International High School. In his spare time, Chris knits warm accessories, sings karaoke, dances his heart out, and reads the planets as an amateur astrologer.

**Dharma Valentin** is a Community and Equity Organizer with Tremont West Development Corporation. In this role, Dharma creates and leads equity and inclusion-based programming, as well as manages several community-based groups throughout the Tremont neighborhood. Prior to joining Tremont West, Dharma worked for 8 years for a diverse range of nonprofit organizations, including the Metro West Community Development Organization, Cornucopia Vocational Training Center, The Centers for Families and Children, and St. Clair Superior Development Organization. In these roles, she served as a Community Organizer, Employment Specialist, and Certified Community Psychiatric Support Specialist. Dharma specializes in asset-based community development, leadership identification, community outreach, strategy design, and cultural competency education and has served a range of clients and residents throughout Northeast Ohio. As a result, she was awarded with a Resolution of Appreciation for Outstanding Public Service in 2013 through Cleveland City Council. On a personal note, Dharma was born in Newark, New Jersey and raised in Cleveland's Tremont and Clark-Fulton neighborhoods and is a graduate of Lincoln-

West High School. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Work from Ohio University, and her Master of Science degree in Social Administration from Case Western Reserve University, Mandel School of Social Sciences.

**Jaime Declet** was born and raised in Caguas, Puerto Rico. Jaime moved to Ohio to finish a college degree at Ohio State University. He made a stop to visit relatives in Cleveland, and the rest, as they say, is history. Jaime is married to Jeannine, and they have two children, Andrew & Victoria. He started working in libraries as a volunteer in the sixth grade and continued through High School. Jaime worked for the Cleveland State University Fine Arts Library for six years, and has been working in public libraries for the past 19 years. Jaime started his public library career with the Lorain Public Library, and he currently works for the Cleveland Public Library managing the South and the Jefferson Branches. Jaime is a member of the Advisory Board of Virginia Hamilton Conference on Multicultural Children's Literature, and was elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the Tremont West Development Corporation. Jaime's job is to make sure that the community he serves knows that the Library is here to help. Therefore, he makes sure that the Library is front and center in all community events.

**Robert Bucklew** is a long-time Tremont resident and volunteer. For the last 11 years, he has volunteered with the Tremont Arts and Cultural Festival, serving on advisory boards, coordinating live music and dance performances and creating public art displays for the Festival. In addition to volunteering for the Festival, Robert is active with the Tremont Gardeners and with his church, Zion United Church of Christ of Tremont (an Open & Affirming Just Peace congregation). Robert currently works as the Outreach Coordinator for the Case Western Reserve University/University Hospitals AIDS Clinical Trials Unit, a position he has held for 17 years. In this capacity, Robert oversees extensive outreach into communities most impacted by HIV including the LGBT community. Prior to his position at Case Western Reserve University, Robert worked for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center of Greater Cleveland establishing and implementing health-related programs for the LGBT community. Robert is the recipient of several awards for his work including the AIDS Clinical Trials Group Donna Davis Award for exceptional support for the HIV-affected community, the CWRU School of Medicine Joan Harris Award for excellence in job performance, and in 2015 the LGBT Heritage Award for contributions to the Greater Cleveland LGBT Community's health.

**Selina Marie Pagán** is a young Latinx professional, born and raised in the city of Cleveland. Her parents migrated from Puerto Rico, moving from state to state until they settled down to start their own businesses on the near-west side of Cleveland in the early 90's. As a young adult, Selina would work at her father's jewelry store after school and on the weekends. She graduated from Saint Martin de Porres high school in 2014. Selina started her career at the Northeast Ohio Hispanic Center for Economic Development in 2014 while at the same time beginning her undergraduate studies at Cleveland State University. Selina has led grassroots efforts in the Latino community of Northeast Ohio. She has coordinated networking event for Latino entrepreneurs, convened local artists, and hosted a

number of community events that range from cultural festivals to community street clean-ups. She was elected as the President of the Young Latino Network in the fall of 2017. She continues to fight for young Latinx professionals day to day and continues to work collaboratively with the many Latinx social serving agencies throughout northeast Ohio.

Selina was selected by Crain's Cleveland Business Magazine as one of the 2017 Twenty in Their 20's. She joined the Newburgh Heights Community Improvement Corporation Board of Directors and the Alliance for the Great Lakes Young Professional Council in 2017. Selina received recognition as a Northeast Ohio Top 25 Under 35 Movers & Shakers in March 2018. She graduated from Cleveland State University with a double major in Urban Studies - Public Management and Economic Development in May 2018. In August of 2018, Selina was recognized as the Madrina ("Godmother") of the 2018 Puerto Rican Parade by the Hispanic Police Officers Association and the Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center. She was also nominated by the Hispanic Heritage Foundation and selected by the National Football League and Nationwide to be recognized and to receive a 2018 Hispanic Heritage Leadership Award on September 20th, 2018.

**Whitnye Long-Jones** is a community steward for net positive change with a genuine interest in youth development and social entrepreneurship. She engages in natural preservation, resource conservation, and community empowerment as a means to promoting social harmony. With extensive background experience and education in Fine Arts, Environmental Science, and Hospitality, Whitnye has developed numerous relationships with community stakeholders and designed dynamic youth programs. Her goal is to create a haven for youth and adults within a community and to absolutely realize how effective working together truly is. Everyone plays a role and everyone has a purpose. Let's build on the present to progress into the future. Whitnye currently works as the Community Engagement Organizer for Ohio City Incorporated and resides in Cleveland, Ohio with her husband and two children.