



Media Contact

Destiny Davison
Springboard for the Arts
651-789-2098
destiny@springboardforthearts.org

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Springboard for the Arts launches national initiative, Creative Change Coalition

The Creative Change Coalition is a national coalition of place-based community organizations that center people, creativity, and equity.

Saint Paul, MN – Launching in October 2023, the [Creative Change Coalition](#) will serve as a national hub for connection, collaboration, and resources for place-based, people-powered organizations across the United States.

On Thursday, November 16, 2023 (10-11:30AM PST / 12-1:30PM CST / 1-2:30PM EST (US & Canada) the Coalition will kick-off with a free, public virtual event, with special guests **Maria Rosario Jackson, PhD**, National Endowment for the Arts Chair, **Ben Stone**, National Endowment for the Arts Design & Creative Placemaking Director, and **Laura Zabel**, Springboard for the Arts' Executive Director.

Register at: <https://www.springboardforthearts.org/cc-events>

The Creative Change Coalition builds on Springboard's existing national resources, which include toolkits, convenings and trainings that help to support locally rooted ecosystems for artists, culture bearers and creative workers.

According to Springboard Executive Director, Laura Zabel, "Artists and culture bearers are vital contributors to community change through their ability to engage, imagine, connect, and make meaning. We know that the hubs and homes that support these artists and connect them to their communities are local. Our experience working with other organizations across the country on

locally-rooted emergency relief efforts during the pandemic showed us the need for a stronger network to connect these local efforts so that we can work together towards system change. We are thrilled to launch the Creative Change Coalition and so excited to support the work of these vital local resources.”

She continued, “our hope for the Creative Change Coalition is that it provides greater visibility for place-based, people-powered, and creativity-centered work and that it makes space to build solidarity towards shared research, advocacy and policy change.”

In launching the coalition, Springboard seeks to support and deepen a network of organizations whose work:

- Is rooted in a place
- Centers people
- Is focused on direct programming
- Embraces and pays artists, creative workers, and culture bearers as changemakers and leaders
- Builds power and agency of communities
- Is community-informed and equity-centered

Springboard encourages organizations that hold these values to join the Coalition, which features ongoing webinars, events, and opportunities for connection at <https://springboardforthearts.org/ccs-join-us/>

The Creative Change Coalition is stewarded by Springboard for the Arts with support from the [Mellon Foundation](#) and the [National Endowment for the Arts](#).

Learn more about the Creative Change Coalition:

<https://springboardforthearts.org/creative-change-coalition/>

For more information or press requests, contact Destiny Davison, Communications Director at destiny@springboardforthearts.org or 651-789-2098.

About Springboard for the Arts

Springboard for the Arts is an economic and community development organization for artists and by artists. From our offices in Fergus Falls and Saint Paul, MN, Springboard provides programs that help artists make a living and a life, and programs that help communities connect to the creative power of artists. Our work is about creating communities and artists that have a reciprocal relationship, where artists are key contributors to community issues and are visible and valued for the impact they create. We do this work by creating simple, practical solutions and systems to support artists. Springboard’s work has been featured in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Stanford Social Innovation Review and The Guardian and directly impacts over 25,000 artists each year in our home state of Minnesota. Through national tools and training Springboard’s programs have been replicated in over 100 communities across the U.S. and internationally. Learn more about our work at: www.springboardforthearts.org.

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