

Cindy Ornstein
Director, Mesa Department of Arts and Culture
Executive Director, Mesa Arts Center

Cindy Ornstein joined the City of Mesa as Director of Arts and Culture and Executive Director of the Mesa Arts Center (MAC) in July, 2010. In addition to leading MAC, Arizona's largest arts center encompassing four theaters, 14 performing and visual arts studios and the five galleries of Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum, she oversees the i.d.e.a. Museum and the Arizona Museum of Natural History. In addition, Cindy is a faculty associate at ASU's Herberger Institute of Design and the Arts, teaching a master's level class, *Leadership in the Creative and Cultural Industries*.

Prior to coming to Mesa, Cindy was President & CEO of the Flint Cultural Center Corporation in Flint, Michigan, Associate Director of the Allentown Art Museum, Allentown, PA and Executive Director of Mayfair Festival of the Arts, Allentown, PA. Before entering arts administration, Cindy was the Director of Corporate Communications at Rodale Press, Inc., a leading book and magazine publisher, and worked in the public relations agency business in New York and Atlanta, including holding vice presidencies at the world's two largest public relations firms. She began her career as an advertising copywriter and a journalist, and also worked in theater as an actor and director in Chicago and New York.

Currently, Cindy serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the US Urban Arts Federation, on the Executive Committee of Southwest Maker Fest (of which she is a co-founder), and participates in the monthly AZ Cultural Leadership roundtable. She was appointed by Michigan's Governor to two terms on the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and served on the Executive Committee of the board of ArtServe Michigan (now Creative Many Michigan). Cindy earned a B.A. in English from Vassar College and an M.A. in Liberal Studies with a concentration in American Culture from the University of Michigan.