

20  
YEARS



MESA ARTS CENTER



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Oct. 7, 2024

Contact: Amanda Urrea  
O 480-644-6620 C 602-741-0219  
[amanda.urrea@mesaartscenter.com](mailto:amanda.urrea@mesaartscenter.com)

## **Mesa Names Mandy Tripoli Executive Director of Mesa Arts Center**



Image credit: Mandy Tripoli, photo by Slaven Gujic. High-res image [here](#).

Mesa, AZ – **Mesa Arts Center** is excited to announce that **Mandy Tripoli** has been appointed executive director of Mesa Arts Center. Tripoli has been with the city for 13 years in various positions within Mesa Arts Center, most recently as deputy director of visual arts, engagement and education, and served as interim executive director of Mesa Arts Center from July 2023 to February 2024. The executive director oversees the programming and operations of Mesa Arts Center, including Performing Live, Art Studios, Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum, festivals and engagement and education programming.

“As someone born in Mesa and deeply rooted in this community, it’s an honor to lead this dynamic organization,” said Mandy Tripoli. “As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of Mesa Arts Center, we are strategically envisioning its future. Together, we have the momentum to inspire and ignite the next 20 years through the arts — creating spaces for dialogue, inclusion and artistic innovation for all.”

Tripoli is a driven and innovative public administrator with over 20 years of experience shaping arts and culture initiatives that strengthen community connections. As a collaborative leader, she’s established new models of arts engagement, community partnerships and provided arts opportunities for diverse voices across all artistic genres. She has also served in a board and advisory capacity with national and state-based arts and service organizations, such as the National Assembly of State Art Agencies and Mesa Urban Garden. Tripoli has been an invited presenter and panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts, Americans for the Arts and the American Alliance of Museums Association, among others. Tripoli holds a degree in art history from Arizona State University.

The executive director position at Mesa Arts Center was previously combined with the role of Arts and Culture Department director, a dual responsibility held by former department leaders. Illya Riske will continue serving as acting Arts and Culture Department director. The department’s structure is realigned to support the newly distinct role of executive director at Mesa Arts Center.

### **About Mesa Arts Center**

Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries and 14 art studios. Guests, patrons and students come to Mesa Arts Center to enjoy the finest live entertainment and performances, world-class visual art exhibitions and outstanding arts education classes. Mesa Arts Center’s mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible and relevant. For more information, visit [mesaartscenter.com](https://www.mesaartscenter.com).

[END]