

OVERVIEW

Charismatic executive, public servant, and thought leader with over 20 years of experience in leadership roles in community, non-profit, and public sectors.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Seasoned arts administrator who enjoys navigating complex organizations, institutional change, and team development
- Careful listener and innovative problem solver with a track record for tackling the hardest issues with successful outcomes
- Trusted advisor who is often called in to consult on the most complicated challenges when a hard-to-see or creative solution is needed
- Networked convener that is embedded in the Columbus community with comprehensive, connected, and cared-for relationships
- Market leader with expert knowledge of the needs that fuel the lives and livelihoods of entrepreneurs and artists across creative ecosystems
- Cultural innovator with over a decade of experience advancing the fields of public art, placemaking, placekeeping, and economic development
- Measured manager who is experienced at working in highly public environments and pressure-filled situations with diplomacy and aplomb
- EOS™ practitioner with a record of implementing the businesses operating system that helps leadership teams clarify their vision and gain traction

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

08/2013-Present President & CEO

Short North Alliance, Columbus, OH

Chief Executive Officer providing visionary leadership within a highly matrixed organizational environment that oversees an operating budget of \$4.5 million; directs a team of 12; cultivates a supportive working culture for direct reports and dozens of hired vendors; fosters continuous and layered collaborations among hundreds of groups spanning the strata of civic, political, social, media, and philanthropic interests; leads artistic, event, festival, public art, and creative placemaking program administration; oversees strategic marketing, communications, and media relations; directs fundraising and philanthropy; assures compliance with regulatory requirements; and manages board relations for the Short North Alliance, Short North Special Improvement District, 5th Avenue and Fourth Street Special Improvement District and Short North New Community Authority, community serving non-profits and public entities that support the success and livelihoods of over 850 predominantly small businesses who employ 11,000 workers and serve over 12 million annual visitors while caring for the needs of over 17,000 area residents in Columbus, OH.

Notable accomplishments during leadership tenure with the Short North Alliance:

- Secured over \$40 million in public infrastructure investments in the Short North Arts District, enhancing economic opportunities for small businesses
- Guided nearly \$1 billion in private development investment in the Short North Arts District, generating over \$3.8 billion in regional economic impact
- Earned the Short North Arts District numerous national accolades, including the American Planning Association's Great Places Award in 2019
- Reimagined, enhanced the profile of, and increased attendance for festivals and events such as HighBall Halloween, Gallery Hop, and Hops on High
- Initiated over 100 public art installations including the national award-winning project *The Journey*, featuring the city's tallest murals
- Twice renewed the city's oldest and created the city's newest special improvement districts, which are complex public financing mechanisms achieved through the volunteer support of private property owners filing petitions through a public process before Columbus City Council, yielding over \$15 million
- Initiated one of the largest new community authority programs in the State of Ohio to create a 1% surcharge on Short North purchases that is estimated to generate over \$2 million in its first year of operating in 2026 to support a cleaner, safer, more creative & vibrant Short North Arts District
- Redesigned the Short North Alliance's organizational chart, developed ten new positions, and grew the operating budget by more than 450% through growth in earned income, grants, individual giving, public support (city, county, state, federal), corporate sponsorship, and foundation gifts
- Championed innovative parking and mobility technology solutions, including the creation of Short North C-Pass in collaboration with the Central Ohio Transit Authority, that have not only created more parking and mobility options, but fostered equity and inclusion in workforce development
- Initiated and administered innovative small business support programs, including a loan and counseling program in partnership with Huntington Bank and the Ohio Small Business Development Center at Columbus State Community College and a million-dollar small business grant program
- Led the development and implementation of organizational plans and programs to enhance belonging, formed a council on inclusion, and implemented programming that has resulted in greater equity and modifications to over 50 organization policies, practices, strategies, and front-line worker trainings

08/2015-06/2022 Adjunct Faculty, Community Education

New Hampshire Institute of the Arts & New England College, Manchester, NH

Taught Destination Marketing & Development section of National Certificate in Creative Placemaking Program for continuing education professionals.

08/2015-05/2019 Adjunct Faculty, City & Regional Planning, Knowlton School of Architecture

The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Developed and taught Creative Place Marketing courses for undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education professionals.

09/2010-08/2013 Community Relations Coordinator, Healthy Places

Columbus Public Health – The City of Columbus, Columbus, OH

Managed national award-winning programs that engaged artists, community groups, and business partners in creative community planning, expanded Columbus Art Walks, a public art walking tour program, developed communications, served as a spokesperson, supported programming for Mayor Michael B. Coleman and Health Commissioner Dr. Teresa Long, engaged in local, state, and federal public policy advocacy, and secured local and federal grants.

01/2010-04/2010 Independent Contractor, Program Evaluation

Campus Partners for Community Urban Redevelopment, Columbus, OH

Led an evaluation of university Faculty/Staff Employee Homeownership Incentive Program and supported research process for University Square plans.

09/2008-08/2010 Strategic Planning Assistant

Wexner Center for the Arts – The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Supported then Director Sherri Geldin and Deputy Director Jack Jackson with research, strategic planning, collaborations, and national benchmarking.

08/2006-09/2008 Education Outreach & Development Coordinator

Wexner Center for the Arts – The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Coordinator of four program areas of a multidisciplinary arts center's education department; prospected funders and contributed to proposals to support education programs; and managed outreach, engagement, and marketing for education programs across university, community, and K-12 groups.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY (Continued)

09/2005-06/2006 Marketing Assistant Columbus Association for the Performing Arts, Columbus, OH & New Haven, CT
Supported collaboration between The Ohio State University Department of Theatre and the Columbus Association for the Performing Arts, assisted with marketing and development for local and national programs in five venues, and served as special assistant to President and CEO, the late Bill Connor.

07/2004-09/2004 Venue Manager Rocket Venues, Demarco Roxy Art House, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK
Responsible for managing and promoting a multidisciplinary arts venue during the internationally acclaimed Edinburgh Fringe Festival, the world's largest international festival for theatre, film, and media.

11/2002-09/2004 Education Staff Member & Spectrum Player Center of Science and Industry (COSI), Columbus, OH
Implemented educational programming for children and families using performance and dynamic exhibition experiences to foster appreciation of discovery.

EDUCATION

Master of City & Regional Planning The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
Diploma with Distinction in City & Regional Planning
Concentrations in Arts & Cultural Planning and Nonprofit Governance

Bachelor of Arts in Theatre, Capital Program in Marketing, Minor in Music The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
Magna Cum Laude with Honors in Arts and Sciences and Diploma with Distinction in Theatre
Concentration in Arts Administration & Production Management

TRAINING

Harvard Business School Executive Education Program Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
U.S. Competitiveness Project, Young American Leaders Program Graduate, 2019 Cohort Member
Invited to participate by the leadership of The Columbus Foundation and The Columbus Partnership

Leadership Columbus Class of 2015 Leadership Columbus, Columbus, OH
Graduate Certificate

Next Generation of Leaders Fellowship Program The Jefferson Center for the Arts/The Arts Initiative Ohio State, Columbus, OH
Arts & Cultural Sector Leadership Development Certificate

Chase Gen Y Project – Class 3 YWCA Columbus, Columbus, OH
Women's Leadership Development Certificate

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS, APPOINTMENTS + COMMUNITY SERVICE

04/2025-Present Garden Theatre Capital Campaign Feasibility Study Planning Committee Member Short North Stage, Columbus, OH
09/2018-05/2026 Friends of WOSU Public Media Board Member (Past-President) WOSU Public Media, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
03/2025-04/2025 Sustainability & Operating Support Grant Review Panelist The Ohio Arts Council, Columbus, OH
08/2018-10/2021 North YMCA Consulting Board Member YMCA of Central Ohio, Columbus, OH
11/2017-01/2018 National Our Town Grant Review Panelist National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, D.C.
01/2015-06/2017 Advisory Member, COTA GenNext Transportation Plan Central Ohio Transit Authority, Columbus, OH
01/2014-05/2023 Board Member The Short North Foundation, Columbus, OH
07/2011-08/2013 Member, Healthy Living & Prevention Work Group National Association of County & City Health Officials, Washington, D.C.
11/2010-07/2016 GenWex Advisory Board Member Wexner Center for the Arts – The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
09/2010-09/2013 Art For Life Planning Committee Member AIDS Resource Center of Ohio (now Equitas Health), Columbus, OH
09/2010-08/2013 Member, Bicycle Subcommittee City of Columbus Transportation and Pedestrian Commission, Columbus, OH
09/2003-06/2007 Chair, Publicity & Development Committees MadLab Theatre Company and Art Gallery, Columbus, OH

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

06/2025 2025 Central Ohio Business Ally of the Year Stonewall Columbus
05/2025 2025 Trailblazer of the Year – Small Business Experience Columbus
09/2024 2024 C-Suite Awards Honoree – Non-Profit Category Columbus Business First Newspaper
12/2019 CEO of the Year Finalist – Small Non-Profit Category Columbus CEO Magazine
10/2019 Community Arts Partnership Award – Emerging Arts Leader Honoree Greater Columbus Arts Council
05/2018 40 Under 40 Honoree – Class of 2018 Columbus Business First Newspaper
03/2018 EXPY Award for Enhanced Visitor Experience – 10th Anniversary of HighBall Halloween Experience Columbus
09/2016 Community Arts Partnership Award – Emerging Arts Leader Nominee Greater Columbus Arts Council
09/2013 Community Arts Partnership Award – Small Business Honoree Greater Columbus Arts Council
04/2013 One of 52 Young Professionals to Know in Columbus Honoree Columbus Young Professionals Club
03/2013 Spirit of Public Health Award Columbus Public Health
07/2012 National Model Practice Award Recipient – Columbus Art Walks National Association of County & City Health Officials
07/2011 Healthcare Hero Award – Community Engagement, Honorable Mention Columbus Business First Newspaper