



Press Release

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The Center for Cultural Innovation Announces Cate Fox as AmbitioUS Director

The Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) is excited to welcome Cate Fox as the new director of its AmbitioUS initiative, a national strategic investment program created to help increase economic self-determination opportunities for BIPOC cultural communities and its artists.

Fox brings extensive experience as a nonprofit leader and a deep knowledge of institutional grantmaking practices that empower artists and creatives as change agents, locally and beyond. Prior to joining CCI, Fox spent nine years at the John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation where her duties included leading and co-leading interdisciplinary initiatives aimed at supporting artists' desire for greater social impact and amplifying critical strategic efforts such as the Foundation's commitment to racial equity and racial justice.

She takes the helm at AmbitioUS during a moment of significant growth. In just three years, the initiative has distinguished itself in the field as a trailblazer for its unflinching commitment to investing in alternative economic paradigms and federated infrastructure by those most dispossessed—primarily African American and Native American communities nationwide.

“As the country suffers from the twin pandemics of COVID-19 and systemic racism, initiatives like AmbitioUS demonstrate that better, more just ways of living and working exist,” Fox says, describing what she calls an exciting opportunity to support individuals and organizations at the forefront of reimagining systems that result in thriving creative practices and communities. “I’m looking forward to learning from these changemakers and working closely with institutional and individual philanthropists to align funding practices to ensure that these efforts receive the support they need.”

In addition to her work at the MacArthur Foundation, Fox has more than a decade of experience as a sought after leader in nonprofit consulting, strategic planning, and fundraising. She has served as an advisory board member of the Center for Cultural Policy (University of Chicago), Arts for Illinois Relief Fund, and the Urban Manufacturing Alliance. Fox says her new role marks the perfect next step in her nonprofit leadership

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journey. "I have long admired the work of the Center for Cultural Innovation and its Ambitio*US* initiative. I am thrilled to join the team and build on the strong foundation already in place."

In her spare time, Fox is a creative writer, trained mediator, mother of three, and self-professed "nonprofit nerd."

Please help CCI welcome her aboard.

For more information about the Center for Cultural Innovation please go to CCI's website at www.cciarts.org.

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