

# 2025 ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSIONERS

**PORTSMOUTH, NH** 

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OUR MISSION IS TO PRESERVE PORTSMOUTH'S CULTURAL IDENTITY AND CREATE A VIBRANT, INCLUSIVE, AND ACCESSIBLE ARTS COMMUNITY. WE'RE ACHIEVING THIS THROUGH THE PORTSMOUTH 2023 CULTURAL PLAN.



PHOTO BY KEN GOLDMAN



PORTSMOUTH ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION  
COMMUNICATIONS WORKGROUP

# GENEVIEVE AICHELE

**ARTIST** 

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GENEVIEVE AICHELE IS A PROFESSIONAL THEATRE ARTIST AND CONSULTANT, THE FOUNDER OF NEW HAMPSHIRE THEATRE PROJECT, AND A LONG-TIME RESIDENT OF PORTSMOUTH. SHE IS CURRENTLY THE 2024-26 ARTIST LAUREATE FOR THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.



2025 - 2026

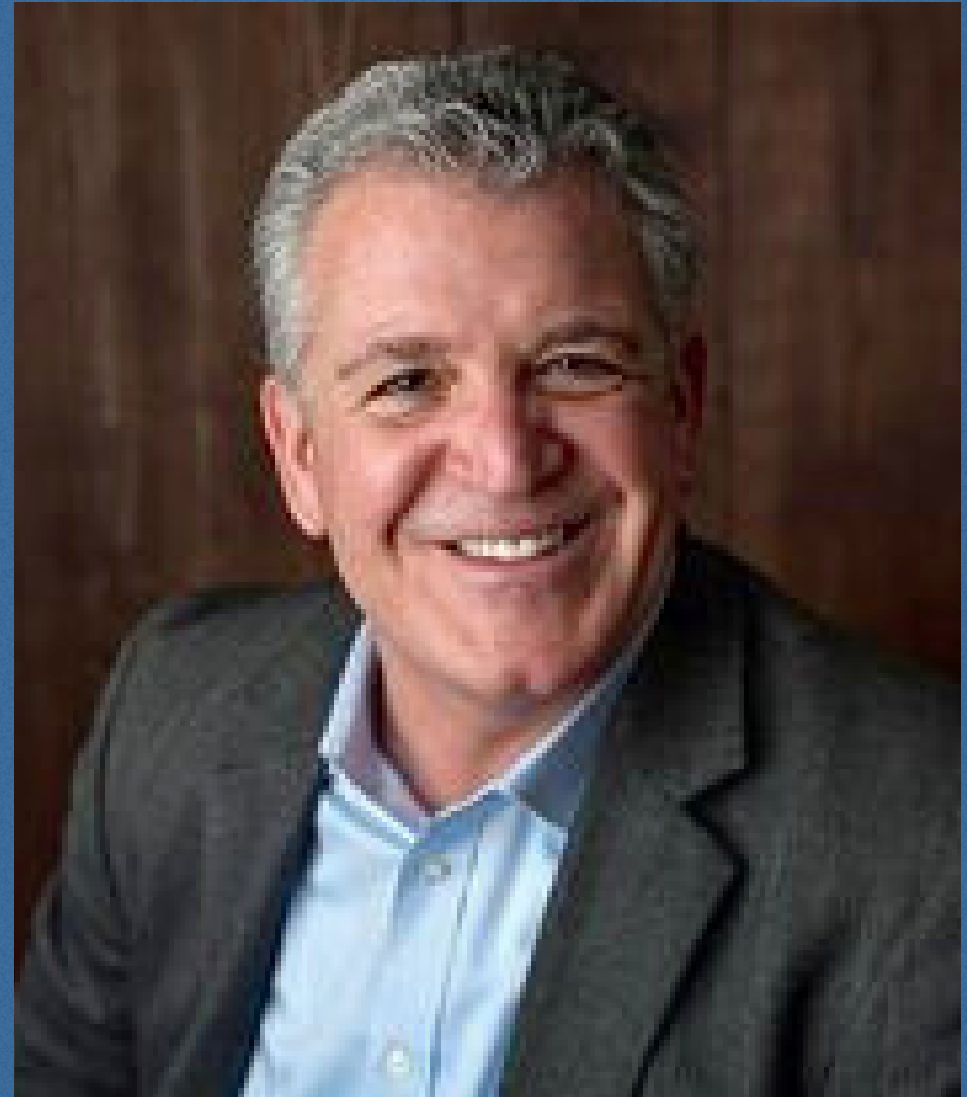


PORTSMOUTH ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION

STAFF LIASON

**SEAN  
CLANCY**

**ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER —————  
ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**



**2025 - 2026**



PORTSMOUTH ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION  
COMMUNICATIONS WORKGROUP

# KATE COOK

**CITY COUNCIL** \_\_\_\_\_

A PATRON OF THE ARTS, KATE COOK IS A TWO-TERM CITY COUNCILOR WHO SERVES AS THE CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE ON THE ARTS AND CULTURAL COMMISSION. SHE ALSO SERVES AS THE COUNCIL LIAISON TO THE PUBLIC ART REVIEW COMMITTEE, AS A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE AND ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AND AS CHAIR OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE.



**2025- 2026**



PORTSMOUTH ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION  
COLLABORATION/RESOURCES WORKGROUP

SECRETARY

**JEFFREY  
COOPER**

**ARTIST** 

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JEFFREY COOPER IS A FURNITURE MAKER AND WOOD SCULPTOR LIVING AND WORKING IN PORTSMOUTH FOR OVER 4 DECADES, A MEMBER OF THE GUILD OF NH WOODWORKERS AND THE NH FURNITURE MASTERS ASSOCIATION. PAST YEARS JEFFREY HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT AND STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER OF PORTSMOUTH LISTENS AND THE DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY MOVEMENT. HE IS NOW PUTTING THAT EFFORT INTO THE ART AND CULTURAL COMMISSION, WISHING TO HELP SUPPORT PORTSMOUTH'S VIBRANT CREATIVE COMMUNITY BE SUCCESSFUL AND ABLE TO LIVE AND WORK RIGHT HERE IN PORTSMOUTH AS HE HAS HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF DOING.



**2025 - 2026**



PORTSMOUTH ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION  
COMMUNICATIONS WORKGROUP

VICE CHAIR

**KEN  
GOLDMAN**

**ARTIST**

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KEN IS A RETIRED ENGINEER, PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTIST, WRITER, AND TRAVELER LIVING IN PORTSMOUTH, NH. EVEN THOUGH HE TYPICALLY PHOTOGRAPHS WHATEVER IS IN FRONT OF HIM, HIS CURRENT FOCUS IS STREET AND URBAN PHOTOGRAPHY. THEREFORE, RESIDENTS WILL FREQUENTLY SEE HIM MEANDERING AROUND PORTSMOUTH, CAMERA IN HAND, DOCUMENTING LIFE IN THE CITY.



2025 - 2026



PORTSMOUTH ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION  
COMMUNICATIONS WORKGROUP

# JASON GOODRICH

**CITIZEN** 

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JASON IS A SIXTH GENERATION PORTSMOUTH NATIVE AND LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL. HE HAS SERVED ON THE BOARD OF THE SEACOAST REPERTORY THEATER, THE ARTS AND NONPROFITS COMMITTEE, THE CULTURAL PLANNING COMMITTEE AND THE PMAC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.



2025 - 2026



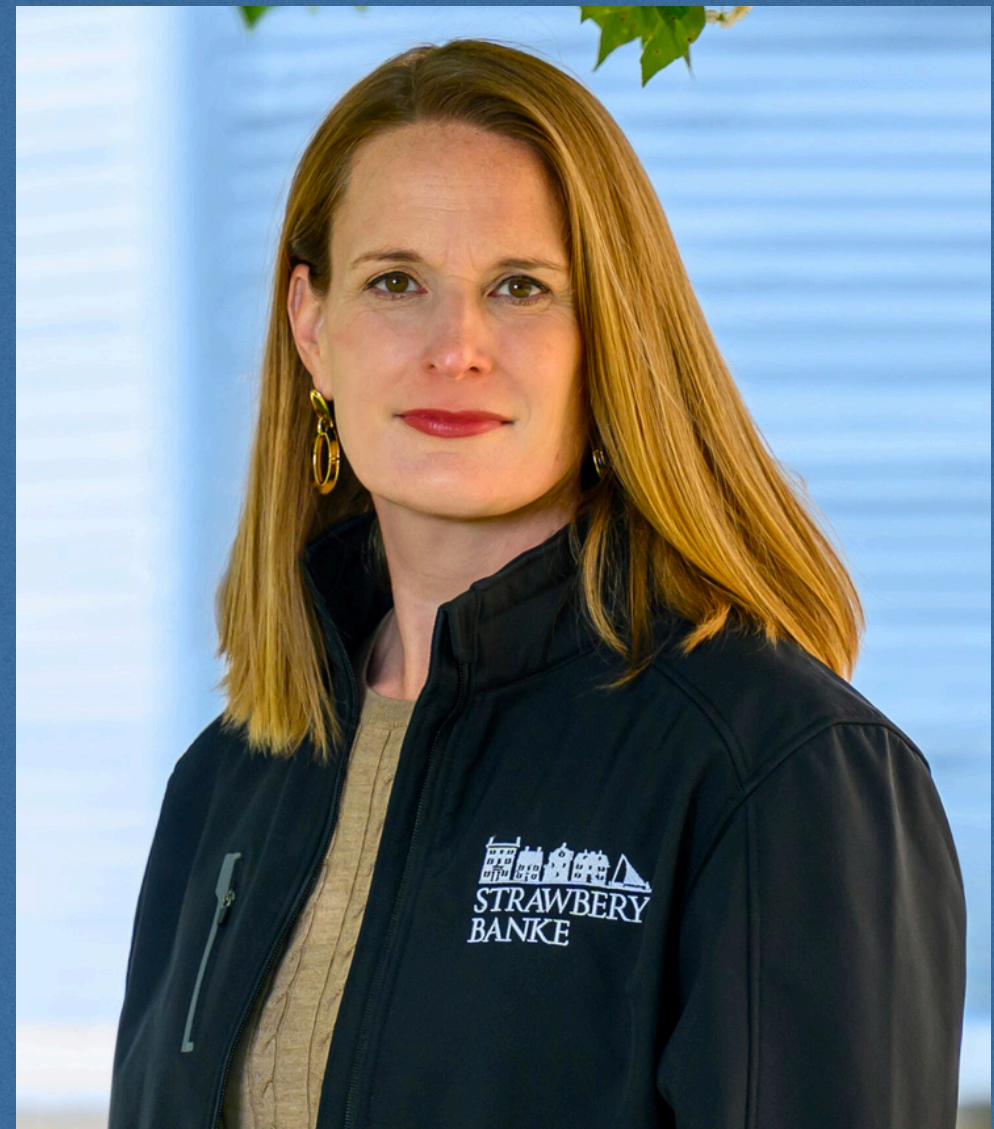
PORTSMOUTH ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION  
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, INCLUSION WORKGROUP

CO-CHAIR

**LINNEA  
GRIM**

**STRAWBERRY BANKE MUSEUM** —

LINNEA HAS 25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE WORKING IN LEADERSHIP POSITIONS AT NATIONALLY RELEVANT HISTORIC SITES AND HISTORY ORGANIZATIONS. SHE JOINED STRAWBERRY BANKE MUSEUM AS ITS PRESIDENT AND CEO IN MARCH 2023. PRIOR TO WORKING AT STRAWBERRY BANKE, SHE WORKED FOR 16 YEARS AT MONTICELLO, A UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE IN CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA.



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PORTSMOUTH ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION  
COLLABORATION/RESOURCES WORKGROUP

# ELI KAYNOR

## PORTSMOUTH MUSIC AND ARTS CENTER

CELLIST ELI KAYNOR IS AN ACTIVE TEACHING ARTIST AND PERFORMER, WHOSE PROFESSIONAL CAREER ENCOMPASSES THE FULL GAMUT OF MUSICAL GENRES, INCLUDING CHAMBER, ORCHESTRAL, SOLO, ETHNIC, FOLK, AND ROCK. ELI IS AN ACTIVE TEACHING ARTIST AT PORTSMOUTH MUSIC AND ARTS CENTER (PMAC), WHERE HE ALSO SERVES AS CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER. THROUGH HIS WORK, BOTH AT AND AWAY FROM THE INSTRUMENT, ELI SPENDS HIS TIME BUILDING AUDIENCES AND FOSTERING COMMUNITY.



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PORTSMOUTH ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION

# CASSANDRA LUND

**CITIZEN** 

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CASSANDRA DISCOVERED HER LOVE FOR PHOTOGRAPHY IN HER YOUTH, DRAWN TO THE MAGIC OF CAPTURING A MOMENT IN TIME—NEVER TO BE SEEN AGAIN IN QUITE THE SAME LIGHT OR FROM THE SAME ANGLE. WITH OVER FIFTEEN YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN HEALTHCARE, SHE HAS COME TO APPRECIATE MUSIC AS A POWERFUL WAY TO UNWIND AND MANAGE DAILY STRESS. NOW LIVING IN PORTSMOUTH, CASSANDRA IS EXCITED TO HELP OTHERS FIND JOY AND CREATIVE EXPRESSION THROUGH THE ARTS.



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PORTSMOUTH ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION  
COMMUNICATIONS WORKGROUP

# THERESA MACDOWELL

## CITIZEN

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THERESA MOVED TO PORTSMOUTH AFTER COMPLETING HER UNDERGRAD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE. A LIFELONG LOVER OF THE ARTS, THERESA HAS GAINED MOST OF HER EXPERIENCE IN HER PAST ROLES AT THE UNH MUSEUM OF ART AND FIREFLY POTTERY IN PORTSMOUTH. SHE IS CURRENTLY PURSUING A MASTER'S DEGREE IN SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT AT AN IVY LEAGUE UNIVERSITY, FURTHERING HER COMMITMENT TO CREATING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR ALL.



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PORTSMOUTH ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION  
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, INCLUSION WORKGROUP

# COURTNEY PERKINS

## PRESCOTT PARK ARTS FESTIVAL —

COURTNEY PERKINS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PRESCOTT PARK ARTS FESTIVAL, IS AN EXPERIENCED ARTS PROFESSIONAL WITH OVER TWENTY YEARS IN VARIOUS CREATIVE FIELDS, INCLUDING MUSIC AND VISUAL ARTS. SHE IS AN ACTIVE MENTOR AND IS PASSIONATE ABOUT CULTIVATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ARTISTS AND ARTS PROFESSIONALS, AS ADJUNCT FACULTY AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO. SHE IS DEDICATED TO PROMOTING DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND ACCESSIBILITY IN THE ARTS, ENSURING THE ARTS ARE AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE.



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PORTSMOUTH ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION  
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, INCLUSION WORKGROUP

# MANDELA PRUETT

## CITIZEN

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MANDELA IS AN ARTS ADMINISTRATOR AND PRACTICING ARTIST BASED IN PORTSMOUTH, NH. BORN IN FLORIDA AND RAISED IN GEORGIA, SHE RELOCATED TO THE SEACOAST IN 2021 AND QUICKLY BECAME AN ACTIVE CONTRIBUTOR TO THE LOCAL ARTS COMMUNITY. SHE CURRENTLY SERVES AS THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AT THE NEW HAMPSHIRE ART ASSOCIATION (NHAA), IS A BOARD MEMBER OF THE SEACOAST AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER (SAACC), AND IS PURSUING AN ARTS DEGREE AT GREAT BAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE WHILE DEVELOPING HER OWN STUDIO ART PRACTICE.



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PORTSMOUTH ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION  
COLLABORATION/RESOURCES WORKGROUP

# KAREN ROSANIA

## ARTIST

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KAREN IS DEDICATED TO THE ARTS AND THE PORTSMOUTH COMMUNITY. AFTER SPENDING OVER 30 YEARS IN HEALTHCARE, SHE IS NOW FULFILLING HER LIFELONG DREAM OF RUNNING HER OWN ART STUDIO. SHE PROVIDES INSTRUCTION IN VARIOUS ART MEDIUMS TO PARTICIPANTS RANGING FROM CHILDREN TO SENIORS. KAREN AND HER FAMILY RELOCATED TO PORTSMOUTH LARGELY DUE TO THE VIBRANT ARTS SCENE, AND SHE REMAINS STEADFASTLY COMMITTED TO ADVANCING THE CITY'S ARTS AND CULTURAL LANDSCAPE. IN 2023, SHE SERVED AS CO-CHAIR OF THE PORTSMOUTH CULTURAL PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE AND IS CURRENTLY COLLABORATING WITH DEDICATED MEMBERS OF THE ARTS AND CULTURAL COMMISSION TO IMPLEMENT THIS IMPORTANT INITIATIVE.



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PORTSMOUTH ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION  
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, INCLUSION WORKGROUP

# CATHERINE SAARELA

## CITIZEN

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CATHRINE IS A LIFE LONG SUPPORTER AND PARTICIPANT IN THE ARTS COMMUNITY. SHE HAS A HISTORY WORKING AND VOLUNTEERING IN NON-PROFIT CREATIVE ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE BETTER OF ALL AND TO MAKE THE WORLD NICER. SHE IS ALSO A ROWING COACH.



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PORTSMOUTH ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION  
COLLABORATION/RESOURCES WORKGROUP

CO-CHAIR

**EMMA  
STRATTON**

**PORTSMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

EMMA HAS SERVED AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PORTSMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY SINCE JUNE 2022. SHE HAS OVER 15 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE WORKING AT ART AND HISTORY MUSEUMS ACROSS NEW ENGLAND AND WASHINGTON, DC. SHE ALSO SERVES ON THE MAYOR'S BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE ON HISTORICAL ARCHIVES.



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