



Celestina Billington

Arts Administrator & Visionary

Inspiring communities with innovative cultural programming and experiences

Contact

Phone

832-212-8625

Email

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Office Location:

New York

10009

Artistic Awards

2018 Our Town Grant

For role: Director and Producer

Award Institutions: The National Endowment of the Arts and Houston Arts Alliance

2021 City Artist Corps

For role: Director and Producer

Award Institutions: New York City Department of Cultural Affairs

Expertise

- Community Engagement
- Cultural Events
- DEI advocacy
- Communication
- Customer Service & Client Relations
- Grant Writing & Fundraising

Language

English (Fluent)

Spanish (Intermediate)

Experience I

2024-25

CAST North Fork

Arts Programs & Events Coordinator (end date: July 2025)

Lead community-centered arts programming at CAST, a hybrid cultural space and food justice hub serving Long Island's East End. Develop and produce events including public art installations, live performances, and mutual aid initiatives that center youth, families, and BIPOC communities. Build partnerships with local organizations, artists, libraries and schools to create accessible, intergenerational programs. Oversee program strategy, outreach, and storytelling efforts to amplify CAST's mission at the intersection of art, care, and collective action.

2020

Independent Contractor

Arts Consultant (current)

Currently serving as an artist panelist to a Regional Arts Organization, with a major project with the City of Sacramento Office of Arts & Culture closing September 2025. Former clients include California Arts Council, Houston Arts Alliance, WORTHLESSSTUDIOS, City Lyric Oper at HERE Art Center, Yoshiko Chuma at La Mama ETC, Leonardo Suarez Paz' Cuartetango, and Alice Gotsi — for advising on social justice art that was experimental or multidisciplinary in nature--and which were performance projects that required an interface with the public.

2016

AmeriCorps VISTA New Bedford, MA

Artist in Residence Manager & Curator

Served as an AmeriCorps Vista Steward at the National Park Service. Coordinated between five major partners including museums, non-profits, city government and the National Park Service. Hosted workshops for the public, with an emphasis on access for local youth and senior groups. Oversaw programming which included exhibitions and talkbacks. Tracked attendance rates. Supported travel and event logistics. Selected and hired participating artists and advised on post-residency career options.

Education

Columbia University, Teachers College

MA in Arts Administration

Thesis Topic: Arts Equity
& Covid-19 Cultural Policy

University of Houston

BA in English, Creative Writing

Minor in Women's Studies

Recognition: The Legacy Award,
for Student Leadership



Portfolio

Website

www.celestina.online

Archives

Portland State University's
Social Practice Archive

Published Articles In

The Independent and
FreePress Houston

Exhibitions

Museo de Arte Moderno

Performance Artist - La Pocha Nostra

CICA Museum

Featured social practice photo artist

Houston Art Car Museum

Featured social practice photo artist

Counter Current Festival

Performance Artist - Zoukak Theater

DiverseWorks

Performance Artist - Taisha Paggett

Alley Theater

Playwright

Software

- Microsoft Suite
- G Suite
- Hootsuite
- Facebook Analytics
- MailChimp
- Wix, Wordpress
- Resy, OpenTable
- Eventbrite, GiveButter
- Adobe PDF & Reader
- Square
- Salesforce
- ChatGPT
- Nord VPN
- iMovie
- Canva

Celestina Billington

(She/her)

Latiné arts administrator from H-town's 2nd ward

*Demonstrated sincere commitment
to equity, with results*

Client and Community Testimonials

Contact info of referrals provided pending interview invitation

Innu Maria Robinson, Black Female Artist in New York

Celestina recommended my work to The Lockerroom residency in New York. This led to my first group exhibition in Manhattan. Celestina is committed to supporting black artists, women of color, and other artists from marginalized groups. Celestina demonstrates a commitment to equity that is genuine, ongoing and which actually delivers real results.

Mitchell Crisp, Disabled Female Artist in Arkansas

Celestina wrote my application to the Catalyze grant in Little Rock, Arkansas. Her keen eye and attention to detail helped me stand out against the crowd of applicants, as I was ultimately awarded \$10,000 by the Mid America Arts Alliance. What wows me about Celestina is that she can put into words what many of us fellow artists cannot, and advocates for art in a professional, friendly manner.

Elisa Gonzalez, Latina Civic Leader in Houston, Texas

East Lawndale Civic Association was grateful to all who were a part of this successful endeavor (re: Celestina's 'Sacred Voice of the Bayou') and we hope to see more of these types of projects introduced in our community.

Audience metrics: 500 persons on day of unveiling.

Artist metrics: Solely local artists were hired for fabrication, performances, and sound. Artists were paid above area industry standard.

References

Anika Tené (she/her) is the Director of Grants, Awards and Programs at Creative West. She was my mentor in the National Leaders of Color Fellowship Program

Hugo Vaz is a graduate fellow at UNESCO. He was my supervisee at HERE Art Center for a production with City Lyric Opera, as well as my junior at Teacher's College, Columbia