



Annual General Meeting
June 12, 2025 at 5:00 pm
County Arts Lab, Picton

2025 Election of Board of Directors

Chair

Julia Howell (elected in 2021; Chair in 2023)

Vice Chair & Secretary

Catelyn Thornton (elected as Secretary in 2021; Vice Chair in 2024)

Treasurer

Paul Nethercott (elected as Treasurer in 2024)

Directors at Large

Andrea Piller (elected in 2019)

Talitha Tolles (elected in 2024)

Erin Hewitson (elected in 2021, resigned as Treasurer in 2024)

Committees of the Board

Governance Committee - Julia Howell, Chair

Fund Development Committee - Erin Hewitson, Chair

Artist Advisory Committee - Talitha Tolles, Chair

Julia Howell

For more than twenty-five years Julia has helped define and advance dozens of cause-driven organizations. A generalist at heart she has held executive roles in communications, fundraising and administration within charitable organizations as well as working from the funder perspective designing and steering community investment strategy.

Her experience in the field spans issues and sectors, from immigration to music education, criminal justice to parks, guiding corporate, government and nonprofit organizations, including the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Scotiabank, D+H, Imagine Canada, Maytree, the Elizabeth Fry Society of Toronto and Arts Toronto. This eclectic mix has led to Julia's current role as Chief Program Officer at Toronto Foundation where she leads teams working across granting, research, communications, donor stewardship and new business development.

Catelyn Thornton

Catelyn earned her Bachelor of Education in Dance and Drama at Victoria State College in Melbourne. She then began her teaching career at an all-boys school where she was asked (by a very forward-thinking headmaster) to initiate a Dance & Drama programme from K-12. Opening the hearts and minds of her initially reluctant students was her greatest challenge and her greatest joy.

Upon returning to Canada, Catelyn received her Masters in Fine Arts-Theatre at York University and worked as a performing artist for a number of years. During this time, she served on the Board of Directors of The Theatre Centre in Toronto. She also did some Arts education consulting work for Nightwood Theatre and Tarragon Theatre as they developed their outreach programmes for students in Toronto and the GTA.

Finally returning to Arts education full-time, Catelyn taught with the Toronto District School Board for the next 25 years. As Head of the Arts department at R.H. King Academy, she introduced new arts courses in Dance, Musical Theatre, Theatre Production, Arts Management, and Native Studies-Gr.9 Art. She also pioneered with her colleagues a variety of programmes such as: Leadership Pathways-Arts; S.T.E.(A.)M.; and the Ministry of Education's Specialist High Skills Major programme in Art-Tech Production and Administration.

Paul Nethercott

Paul is the newest member of the County Arts Board. He recently moved from Toronto to Cherry Valley, bringing with him decades of experience as a Chartered Professional Accountant. He now operates as a sole proprietor based in Prince Edward County.

Andrea Piller

Andrea graduated from the Ontario College of Art where she studied drawing and ceramics. Her sculptural hand built works are ongoing investigations of natural form, aiming to synthesize the organic world and human experience. A move from Toronto to the Prince Edward countryside informs her studio practice. She is the recipient of numerous art awards and Ontario Arts

Council grants. A highly experienced mentor and arts educator she shares her enthusiasm and knowledge for visual arts and creative fluency to children, youth and adults.

Exhibitions include *Still Life-Landscape*, Burlington Art Gallery, *Life taking Shape*, Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, *Fire and Earth*, Itabashi Art Museum, Itabashi, Japan, *Nocturne* Craft Ontario, Toronto. Andrea's work is held in private, corporate and museum collections across Canada, including the Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, and Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada.

Erin Hewitson

Erin is a creative and experienced fundraiser who believes in the power of not-for-profits to connect, inspire and empower. Her passion for new experiences and growth have taken her to Australia, the UK and back home to Canada where she's developed deep skills in individual giving, foundations, government relations and events. Along the way, she's helped some amazing arts organizations achieve their missions.

She believes her superpowers include building strong, authentic relationships with supporters, using data and testing to continuously improve results, and always championing good storytelling. In her role as Director of Loyalty & Engagement, Erin oversaw the growth and engagement of Toronto International Film Festival's supporter base of members, and donors, where she was responsible for a \$4.2M target including forecasting (revenue generation), programme delivery, engagement experience design, and reporting. In July 2022, Erin took on the role of Major Gifts Officer at the Belleville General Hospital Foundation.

Talitha Tolles

A resilient Métis artist, Talitha draws inspiration from her Vasseur-Longlade ancestry of Drummond Island Voyageurs. Her art, deeply rooted in her Queer Métis identity, serves as a means to heal personal trauma and uplift her community. Talitha showcases traditional and contemporary jewelry designs, skillfully learned from her mother and other talented artists around Turtle Island.

Talitha also has an extensive background in program development, community mobilization and engagement, adult education, culture building, and creating optimal and accessible learning environments for growth. Talitha finds joy in bringing people together and supporting them in finding their passion and drive for justice. Her methods are experiential, community-based, and rooted in action. She currently works in the role of Senior Manager of Learning and Wellbeing at MakeWay, a national charity and public foundation providing innovative support for environmental and social change initiatives across the country.