

Julie Burros
Principal Cultural Planner



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PROFILE

- Cultural Planner with over 20 years of experience in strategic planning processes, resulting in highly respected cultural plans for the City of Chicago and the City of Boston.
- Proven track record in providing strategic advice and technical assistance to many artists, non-profits and arts service organizations.
- Polished and confident public speaker and excellent representative to the press after much practice making presentations to Mayors, Cabinet members, public review board and commissions, and City Council, in addition to speaking at many public meetings and professional conferences.
- Demonstrated ability to work successfully with a wide variety of professionals such as lawyers, architects, building trades, engineers, planners, consultants, elected officials, grant makers, individual donors, boards of directors, analysts, coders, artists, designers, and the general public.
- Municipal government and inter-governmental project management for twenty years resulting in deep expertise on how things work, who does what, how to get things done, and what are the common barriers and obstacles for the arts within a government context.
- Deep understanding of the operations and challenges of the cultural community through service on boards and by providing strategic advice and technical assistance to many artists, non-profits and arts service organizations.

EDUCATION

Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, M.S. Urban Planning

City Colleges of Chicago, Harold Washington College, Inter-governmental Executive Development Program

Harvard University, Graduate School of Design, Career Discovery Program, Urban Planning

University of Chicago, the College, A.B. Sociology

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Metris Arts Consulting, Easton, PA (2018 – Present)

Principal Cultural Planner

- Lead development of cultural planning proposals and conceptualization of approach to planning processes
- Lead support staff in cultural planning methods, such as cultural asset mapping, survey design and analysis, analysis and synthesis of creative economy data, stakeholder interviews, focus groups, and community meetings
- Write cultural plans and supporting deliverables as lead author and in collaboration with other staff

- Develop new service offerings related to arts and cultural planning, such as public art master planning and consulting on the development of public art policies, municipal artist fellowship programs, and municipal arts and culture-related grants and programs
- Execute/support project management needs (managing timelines, budgets and coordination of staff, sub-contractor, and client contributions/relationships)
- Deliver presentations and write articles/blog posts for magazines, websites, and academic journals as opportunities arise

City of Boston, Boston, MA (December 2014 – June 2018)

Chief of Arts and Culture; Director, Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture— Oversaw the Arts and Culture Cabinet comprising the Boston Public Library and the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture. Direct management of the MOAC, including grant making via the Boston Cultural Council, commissioning and approving public art via the Boston Art Commission, the operation of the Strand Theater, and oversight of the Mayor's Mural Crew and the Poet Laureate Program. Major accomplishments: leadership of the *Boston Creates Cultural Plan* (2016) community process, plan publication and two years of initial implementation. Launch of new programs: Percent for Art for Boston capital projects, BostonAIR (Artists in Residence in Government) Opportunity Fund Grants, Artist Fellowship Grants, Emerging Artist Award, creation of Artist Resource Manager role. Growth in funds granted out by over 485%. Growth in municipal arts spending from \$1.5 million to over \$4 million from FY 2015 to FY 2018. Incorporation of BC goals in community plans, development projects and the Imagine Boston 2030 Comprehensive Plan and the inaugural Arts Innovation District in Uphams' Corner.

City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (2000 – 2014)

Director of Cultural Planning— Headed the creation of the *Chicago Cultural Plan* in 2012 as project manager and editor. Duties ranged from designing scope and goals to securing funding, managing grants and contracts, maintaining budgets, hiring consultants, and leading internal and external teams. Public engagement process inspired the creation of the first Arts Education Plan for the Chicago Public Schools. Leadership of plan implementation for two years resulting in 50% of plan initiatives being addressed. Implementation highlights: Creative Schools Fund seeded, Night Out In the Parks launched; Cultural Tourism Strategy created and pilots programs funded; Great Chicago Fire Festival planning; and the publication of an Arts and Culture Toolkit by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) creation and launch of new grant program for major cultural institutions: IncentOvate Culture.

Cultural facility development expertise resulted in dozens of realized projects. Role ranged from foundational research and analysis, securing municipal financial assistance from GO Bonds, TIF funds, and the granting of surplus public buildings, to a revamp of the zoning code for cultural uses, a new performing arts venue license, and to technical assistance to the arts community focused on strategic growth issues and overcoming regulatory hurdles in the development process. Cultural district development support beginning with the Downtown Theater District Study and Market Potential, the renovation and disposition of the Chicago Theater, creation of the Prairie Avenue interpretive streetscape, feasibility planning for a creative industries district, and support for the development of the Uptown Entertainment District. Project manager for *A Vision for State Street, Wabash Avenue and Michigan Avenue*. City of Chicago, January 2000. Project manager for *Near West Side Area Land Use Plan*. City of Chicago, July 2000. Project manager for *Vision for Greater State Street: Next Steps*. City of

Chicago, 1997. Publication coordinator for *Clarke House Chicago's Oldest House*. City of Chicago, 2011. Publication coordinator for *Stitched Together Early American Samplers*, Exhibition Catalogue. City of Chicago, 2007.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

University of International Business and Economics (UIBE), School of Public Administration, Beijing, China (2014 – 2015)

Adjunct Researcher– Taught Cultural Planning and Cultural Policy of Cities, Summer Session 2014 and 2015.

DePaul University, The Theater School (Spring Quarter 2013)

Adjunct Faculty

DePaul University, Public Services Graduate Program (Winter Quarter 2000)

Adjunct Lecturer

Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture Planning and Preservation (1990-1991)

Teaching Assistant– Urban Planning Workshop and Studio

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Flashmaps Chicago, Fourth Edition, editorial updater. Fodor's, 2009.

SCHOLARLY ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS

“Top Five Lessons for Better Government Artist Residencies.” With Karin Goodfellow. In *How to Do Creative Placemaking*. National Endowment for the Arts, November 2016.

“Facility Development Planning.” In *Square Feet Chicago*. Chicago Artists Resource, 2005.

“Cincinnati Metropolitan Area.” In *Urban Land Institute Market Profiles*. ULI 1992, 1993.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Safe, Legal and Licensed. With Ben Theim. League of Chicago Theaters, 2007.

Survey of Chicago's Cultural Landscape. With Alison Zehr. City of Chicago, 2002.

SELECTED RECENT TALKS, LECTURES

“Brick by Brick: The Arts as a Tool for City Building.” ABX panelist. November 9, 2017.

“WLI Presents: Creative Placemaking.” Panelist. Urban Land Institute Boston. October 11, 2017.

“Art & Activism: Civic Engagement Through Creative Expression.” Panelist. Edward M. Kennedy Institute. Boston: June 14, 2017.

“Together a City: Problem Solving with Art.” Panelist. Society of Arts and Crafts. Boston: May 11, 2017.

“Catalyzing Livable Communities with Cultural Planning.” Panelist: *American Planning Association National Convention*. New York: May 8, 2017

“Boston Creates: Cultural Planning, Artists, Boston AIR.” Keynote Address: *In the Game Conference*. Downtown Colorado Inc. May 4, 2017.

“Creating a Cultural Plan.” Keynote Address: *Dallas Arts Advocacy Day*. April 18, 2017.

“Cultural Planning: Supporting the Creative Ecosystem.” Speaker: *Master of Arts Management Speaker Series Lecture*. Carnegie Mellon University. Pittsburgh, PA: November 3, 2016.

“New York City’s Arts & Culture Plan.” Panelist: *APA-NYM 2016 Annual Conference*. October 21, 2016.

“A Conversation With Julie Burros.” Guest speaker: *Greater Louisville Arts Summit*. Muhammad Ali Center. Louisville, KY: September 26, 2016.

“Artists in/of the City.” Panelist. Queens Museum. September 25, 2016.

“Innovative Design Alternative Summit (IDeAS) Shaping a New Vision for Boston.” Panel moderator: *Creating Common Ground*. May 7, 2015.

“City Cultural Planning: Case Studies, Lessons Learned, and the Future of New York City Cultural Policy.” Panelist. Bric Arts. Brooklyn, NY: March 13, 2015.

“Creating and Implementing the Chicago Cultural Plan” (key note speaker) and “Publishing in International Academic Journals” (moderator). *2nd International Cultural Administration Conference*. University of International Business and Economics (UIBE). Beijing, China: July 11, 2014.

“The Role of Arts in Creating Vibrant Communities.” Panelist: *Theaster Gates’ Arts Incubator Vision*. University of Chicago Arts Incubator, for the Urban Land Institute Chicago. June 25, 2014.

“Chicago’s Cultural Plan – Purpose, Implementation, Lessons Learned.” *The Strategic Urban Governance Program of the Danish Architecture Center*. Chicago Architecture Foundation. May 26, 2014.

“Creating a New Public Art Plan: Chicago Cultural Advisory Council.” Chicago Cultural Center: June 3, 2014. Public town hall meetings: March 26 and April 30, 2014.

“The Art and Science of Urbanism.” Panelist. Grey Center Lab, University of Chicago. April 10, 2014

“Promoting Our Community.” *Chamber Leadership Academy Graduate Circle*. March 7, 2014.

“The Chicago Cultural Plan at Year One.” Cultural Policy Center at the University of Chicago, The Harris School. January 28, 2014. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6j_jOv0Dtn4.

“Chicago’s New Arts Education Plan: A Collective Impact Study.” Panelist: *Annual Conference of the National Guild for Community Arts Education*. November 1, 2013.

“Building Public Art and Public Spaces: The Chicago Picasso and Its Legacy.” Panelist. The Art Institute of Chicago. May 1, 2013.

“Arts and Culture in Metropolitan Chicago.” Panelist: *National Planning Conference of the American Planning Association*. April 14, 2013.

“Cultural Planning and Placemaking to Participatory Budgeting Citizen Working Groups” Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois Chicago. February 27, 2013.

“With Arts at the Heart: Promoting Artistic Vitality in St. Paul, MN, and Cuyahoga County, OH.” Moderator and panelist: *The University of Chicago Cultural Policy Center Winter Workshop Series: What Can You Do with an Interest in the Arts and Cultural Policy*. January 30, 2013.
<http://youtu.be/6oUztLC7yds>.

AWARDS

Americans for the Arts/US Conference of Mayors National Award for Local Arts Leadership (to Mayor Martin J. Walsh) 2017.

American Planning Association of Massachusetts, Planning Project Award, Arts and Planning Toolkit, MAPC and The City of Boston 2016.

Burnham Award for Excellence in Planning from the Metropolitan Planning Council for the Chicago Cultural Plan, November 1, 2013.

Member Appreciation Award, Women in Planning and Development, January 28, 2012.

Best Small Structural Project Award, the Structural Engineers Association of Illinois for the Burnham Pavilions (project manager), June 5, 2010.

Exterior Restoration, Clarke House Museum (project manager) Landmarks Illinois Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Landmarks Illinois Preservation Awards, 2005.

Landmark Award for Preservation Excellence to the Clarke House Museum (project manager) by the Commission on Chicago Landmarks, 2005.

Best Plan, Friends of Downtown Chicago to *A Vision for State Street, Wabash Avenue and Michigan Avenue* (project manager) April 12, 2000.

William Kinne Fellows traveling scholarship, Columbia University, GSAPP, 1990.

AFFILIATIONS

Member, Design Committee, Easton Main Street Initiative, 2019 – present.

Member, Advisory Board, Berklee Institute for Arts Education and Special Needs, 2018 – present.

Member, Americans for the Arts, 2014-present

Member, Grantmakers in the Arts, 2010-2014

Member, American Alliance of Museums, 2000-2014

Member, Chicago Architecture Foundation Docent, 1998-2014

Member, Women in Planning and Development Chicago, 1992-2014

Member, American Planning Association, 1990-2003, 2014, 2019

Member, American Association of Certified Planners, 1995-2003