

Leading Through Tragedy: Guiding Arts Communities with Compassion and Resilience

Arts leaders on college and university campuses are uniquely positioned at the intersection of creativity and community. When tragedy strikes - whether through the sudden loss of a student or faculty member, acts of violence, or other crises - the emotional impact can be profound, and the leadership response must reflect organizational stability, sensitivity, and compassion. This round table invites arts leaders to share strategies for navigating these moments with empathy, clarity, and a creative lens to guide their communities.

Objectives:

- Explore effective communication and decision-making in the immediate aftermath of a tragedy.
- Discuss appropriate approaches to supporting mental health and well-being for students, faculty, and staff.
- Examine how artistic values and cultural identity inform leadership during times of crisis.

Presented by:

- Jim Godfrey
 - Associate Dean, School of the Arts at Utah Valley University.
- Sabrina Madison-Cannon
 - Phyllis and Andrew Berwick Dean, School of Music and Dance at the University of Oregon