



Power of culture

Boston Landmarks Orchestra.

Photo credit: Michael Dwyer



Victoria Marsh

Mass Cultural Council Member

Executive Director World Channel Outreach Manager and the Senior Programming Coordinator for WGBH

Children enjoying the Discovery Treehouse at the Discovery Museums. Photo credit: Mitchell Green





Anita Walker

Mass Cultural Council Executive Director



Celebrating our Universal Participation Initiative's efforts to make the cultural treasures of our Commonwealth accessible to all.



Join the Celebration on Social Media

Follow and tag us on:

- Facebook @MassCultural
- Instagram @MassCultural
- Twitter @MassCultural

Use #PowerOfCulture #ThinkUP

Listen to our Podcast: CreativeMindsOutLoud.org



Panelists

Caitlin Parton
Staff Attorney, Disability Law Center

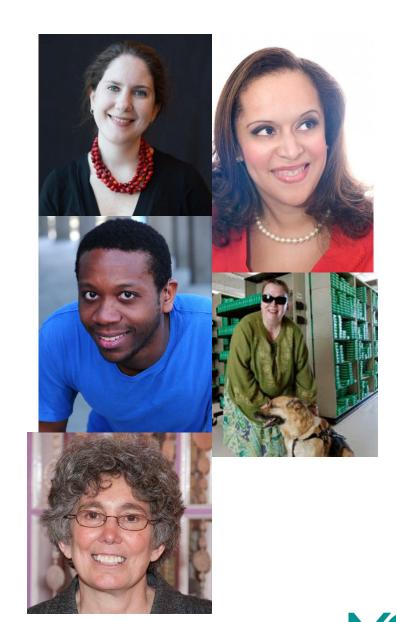
Heather WatkinsDisability Rights Activist, Blogger

Elbert JosephPerformer and Teaching Artist

Kim CharlsonPresident, American Council of the Blind

Dania Jekel

Executive Director of Asperger/Autism Network (AANE)



- American Repertory Theater, Cambridge
- ArtsEmerson, Boston
- Barrington Stage Company, Pittsfield
- Berklee Institute for Arts Education and Special Needs, Boston
- Boston by Foot, Boston
- Boston Children's Museum, Boston
- Boston Landmarks Orchestra, Boston



- Community Access to the Arts, Great Barrington
- deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, Lincoln
- The Discovery Museum, Acton
- Fitchburg Art Museum, Fitchburg
- Grub Street, Boston
- Huntington Theatre Company, Boston
- Liars & Believers, Cambridge
- Lyric StageCompany of Boston, Boston



- Massachusetts Audubon Society, Lincoln
- Mass MoCA, North Adams
- The Mount, Edith Wharton's Home, Lenox
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
- Museum of Science, Boston
- Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge
- Open Door Theater, Acton
- Partners for Youth with Disabilities, Boston



- Paul Revere Memorial Association, Boston
- ReelAbilities Film Festival, Newton
- Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston
- VSA Massachusetts, Boston
- Wheelock Family Theatre, Boston
- Zeiterion Performing Arts Center, New Bedford



Finalist - Museum of Fine Arts, Boston



Chihuly Element at Chihuly's talk with Perkins teens and others.

A legacy of dedication

- Understands 'access' means more than just architecture.
- Committed to providing tours in multiple languages including American Sign.
- Leader in working with patrons who are blind or low-vision.
- Recognizes fiscal barriers and offers a range of discounts and free programs.



Finalist - Museum of Science



Museum of Science educational program. Photo credit: Nicolaus Czarnecki

Commitment to accessible learning

- Globally recognized for developing multi-modal learning environments.
- Designated Employer of Choice.
- A pioneer in accessibility practices.
- Community leaders in authentic engagement.



Santon is an awardwinning musician, an alumnus of Berklee College of Music.



Santon Music.

Finalist - Wheelock Family Theatre



True values take center stage

- Recognizes a universal approach to inclusion.
- First adopters of tools to enhance audience engagement.
- Embraces our human diversity and celebrates it.









Power of culture

Finalist - Open Door Theater



Open Door Theater Peter Pan

A no-frills approach to inclusion

- A vision to be accessible on both sides of the curtain.
- Recognized for their distinctive approach to integrated community building.
- Continued development of audience services.
- All-Volunteer staff exemplifies the power of culture.

Alexander Abdulah. Alumnus of Berklee College of Music.



Santon Music.

Finalist - Boston Landmarks Orchestra



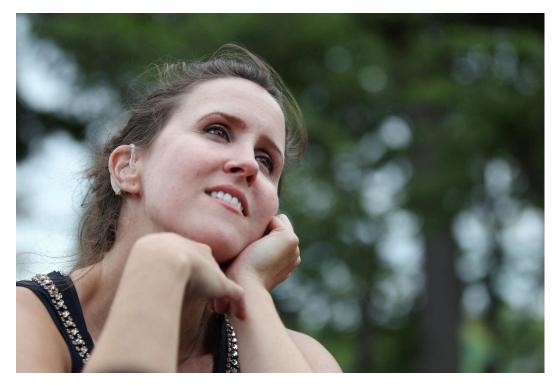
Boston Landmarks Orchestra with One City Choir and ASL interpreters. Photo credit: Michael Dwyer

Symphonic innovation

- Creative thinkers.
- Interprets music through ASL performers and dance.
- Offers programs in Braille, text, voice, and digital formats.
- Always free.



Keynote Speaker: Kerry Thompson



Kerry Thompson watches as Christopher Robinson interprets the feeling of the music using American Sign Language. Photo credit: Herald graphic

Kerry works for the Disability Rights
Fund and serves as the Vice Chair
for the Massachusetts Commission
for the Deaf and Hard of
Hearing Advisory Council. She
graduated with an MA from
Harvard University.





Congratulations to all 2018 UP Awards Finalists!



2018 UP Awards Winner:

Open Door Theater!



Open Door Theater Cinderella 2018.



2018 UP Awards Winner: Open Door Theater!



Open Door Theater Seussical Dress Rehearsal





Congratulations to all 2018 UP Awards Finalists!



