

# Statement of Purpose



**artEquity** provides tools, resources, and programming at the intersection of art and activism. With over 15,000 participants and a growing alumni community, artEquity is building a broad base of individuals and organizations who are creating and sustaining a culture of equity, inclusion, and justice through arts and culture.

## Our Team

**Carmen Morgan**  
Founder and  
Executive Director

**Michael Robertson**  
Deputy Director

**Alexis Green**  
Director of Programs

**Ai Miyamoto Kelley**  
Director of Marketing  
+ Communications

**ala ochumare**  
Program Manager

**Patric Madden**  
Development +  
Special Projects  
Manager

**Kendra Ann Flournoy**  
Interim Operations  
Manager

**Kendra Hale**  
Administrative  
Coordinator

**zau chea**  
Communications  
Coordinator

**Savannah Ritz Villareal**  
Interim Administrative  
Coordinator

## Our Approach

artEquity's work is grounded in principles of community organizing, movement building, and popular education. We believe that having a shared analysis (by which we mean a way of understanding the power dynamics that affect our lives) is the gateway to collective action and impact. By building a base of individuals and organizations with a shared analysis, we aim to contribute effectively to **organizational** change, **arts sector** change, and **social** change.

## What We Do

artEquity offers programming that centers the global majority and the needs of Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) artists and art leaders, with a throughline of intentional support for Black artists and leaders. Our programs **focus on leadership development, community building and strategic support for artists and arts leaders of color, and resources for wellness**. We engage an ever-growing alumni network of artists and activists by providing support, mentorship, and timely response as needs arise. Additionally, we provide direct fiscal support to artists and activists in need through our Artist + Activist Community Fund.

## History + Impact

artEquity launched in 2015. Our thinking then was to build a base of arts practitioners who could also be activists. With a one-year grant of \$135,000 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and generous in-kind support from the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, artEquity launched its first National Facilitator Training. Since that initial approach, artEquity has worked closely with hundreds of organizations and thousands of individuals. As we approach our **10th anniversary in 2025**, artEquity's impact is felt throughout the field and has left a **meaningful and lasting imprint on the national arts and culture landscape**.

## Our Board

**Nijeul X**  
Chair

**Melissa Kievman**  
Secretary

**Ti Wilhelm**  
Treasurer

**Carmen Morgan**

**Chiedu Egbuniwe**

**Quita Sullivan**

## Programs

- **Alumni Gathering**
- **Artist + Activist Community Fund**
- **BIPOC Leadership Circle**
- **BIPOC Surviving Predominantly White Institutions**
- **Black Playwrights Gathering**
- **National Facilitator Training**
- **Talking Back Web Series**

## Financials

FY 2023-24 Operating Budget: **1.2M**  
FY 2024-25 Operating Budget: **1.6M**

