



Michigan Arts and Culture Council is proud to offer

RISING LEADERS - A rigorous and highly interactive personal development initiative committed to the advancement of Michigan's arts leaders, a program designed and facilitated by MACC and Partners in Performance, the nation's preeminent designer and facilitator of leadership development initiatives for the arts and culture sector.

Program Description

Over a six-month period, fifteen participants take part in a series of three intensives focused on individual development and skills building, mutual influence, and gaining tools to help create organizations and communities where everyone can experience and express creativity in their daily lives.

In-Person Program Dates and Locations

- Intensive #1 October 15–17, 2026 (The Cadillac House, Lexington)
- Intensive #2 January 21–23, 2027 (The English Inn, Eaton Rapids)
- Intensive #3 April 15–17, 2027 (Hotel Perry, Petoskey)

Faculty



John McCann, President, Partners in Performance

John designs leadership learning communities and supports those leaders in building adaptive, resilient, human-centered organizations.



Janeen Bryant, Executive Director, Community Building Initiative

Janeen is widely known as a dialogue facilitator and trainer, she designs differentiated strategy and experiential capacity building activities to make social impact relevant and accessible to any organization.

Program Participants

- Rising Leaders is designed for individuals working in the arts **and** culture sector. In addition to the traditional arts disciplines, MACC uses a broad definition of arts and culture that includes libraries, science centers, zoos, history museums, etc.
- The program is best suited for those currently working in, or with experience in, an organization.
- Participants are selected through an application process with MACC.
- Selected participants commit to attending all three in-person Intensives.

Eligibility Criteria & Selection Process

Program participants from across the state of Michigan will gain tools and perspective needed to strengthen their leadership skills and develop relationships with an extraordinary cohort of peers dedicated to advancing the arts and culture field.

Sound like something you may be interested in? Ask yourself:

- Do I want to be (or am I already) involved with a Michigan organization within the field of arts and/or culture, or interested in creating an organization focused on arts and culture?
- Can I commit to participating in all three in-person sessions?
- Do I want to improve my leadership skills and increase my potential within my organization, community, government, and/or volunteer activities?
- Am I committed to the arts/culture field (e.g., education, work, or voluntarily) and/or want to make a deeper contribution in the future?
- Am I willing to work with, learn from, and share with a diverse cohort of my peers from across Michigan?

If you answered yes to the majority of these questions, then RISING LEADERS may be for you!

Costs

Program fees for 2026-2027 are \$1,750. Program fees cover:

- Admission to three in-person Intensive workshop weekends
- All resource materials
- Room and board for each 3-day/2-night Intensive during the program (12 days/9 nights total).

Two scholarship opportunities are available to applicants who may be unable to cover the cost individually or through their organization:

- ✓ \$150 scholarship is offered by Partners in Performance. A very limited number of scholarships are available for the 2026 -2027 cohort. If you'd like to be considered for this scholarship, please email program manager Chad Swan-Badgero at badgeroc@michigan.org.
- ✓ MACC offers a Professional Development Grant for arts leaders. Participants of the Rising Leaders program may eligible for this opportunity of up to \$1500 if they work for an arts and culture organization. Those interested in applying for this competitive grant can find the Professional Development grant guidelines by [clicking here](#).

How to Apply to the Rising Leaders Program

Gather the five items below:

1. Statement of interest in response to the following two prompts:
 - A. Why is participating in the Rising Leaders program important for you at this stage in your life and career?
 - B. How do you see the Rising Leaders program contributing to your longer-term goals in the arts and culture field?
2. One letter of support that substantiates this program being a good fit and a timely opportunity for the candidate. Letters of support can come from current employers, or individuals who can speak about the appropriateness of this program for the candidate.

3. Resume (3 pages max)
4. Professional bio (200 word max. Bio will be used in public advertising of the selected cohort).
5. Current high-resolution headshot (jpeg, 300dpi or greater)

CLICK HERE to complete your application. Applications can only be submitted with all five requested items. **Deadline to apply is Tuesday, June 30 2026.**

Questions?

Contact MACC Program Manager Chad Swan-Badgero at 517-881-9472 or BadgeroC@michigan.org. For those interested, you can [access a virtual informational webinar to learn more about the program by clicking here.](#) Testimonials from previous Rising Leaders [can be accessed here.](#)