

Jovan D. Bethel

Fort Washington, Maryland

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Arts administrator, independent curator, and policy professional with more than a decade of experience spanning public sector policy analysis, nonprofit governance, and arts leadership. Demonstrated ability to build partnerships between artists, arts organizations, and funding institutions to advance creative programming and support artist sustainability. Experienced in grant development, exhibition curation, community engagement, and nonprofit governance. Adept at strategic planning, program coordination, and representing arts initiatives within diverse communities.

Independent Curator & Arts Program Organizer

Maryland Region

October 2023 – Present

- Curate and organize 15+ visual art exhibitions, managing the full lifecycle of exhibition development including concept creation, artist recruitment, installation planning, marketing, and public engagement.
 - Partner with the Maryland State Arts Council to connect artists with grant opportunities and financial assistance programs supporting artistic development.
 - Build partnerships with galleries, arts venues, and non-profit organizations to expand exhibition opportunities for regional artists.
 - Coordinate exhibition openings, artist talks, and community events that foster engagement between artists and audiences.
 - Manage exhibition logistics including scheduling, installation coordination, artist communications, and promotional outreach.
 - Promote exhibitions through social media and community partnerships to increase attendance and public awareness.
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Policy Analyst

Metropolitan Police Department

February 2013 – April 2023

- Conducted policy research and analysis supporting departmental initiatives, operational reforms, and strategic planning.
 - Prepared policy briefs, analytical reports, and recommendations used by leadership to guide organizational decision-making.
 - Evaluated policies and procedures to ensure compliance with regulatory standards and best practices.
 - Collaborated with internal departments and external stakeholders to assess program effectiveness and recommend improvements.
 - Managed reporting and documentation processes related to policy implementation and operational reviews.
 - Developed advanced analytical, organizational, and communication skills applicable to nonprofit leadership and administration.
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NONPROFIT GOVERNANCE & BOARD LEADERSHIP

Board Member

Maryland State Arts Council

2023 – Present

- Serve on the governing board supporting statewide arts funding initiatives and arts policy development.
 - Participate in funding discussions and review arts grant proposals supporting artists and arts organizations across Maryland.
 - Contribute to strategic discussions addressing arts access, cultural equity, and sustainable funding initiatives.
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Board Member

Baltimore Arts Realty Corporation (*Baltimore Arts Coalition*)

- Support initiatives aimed at strengthening Baltimore's creative economy and expanding opportunities for artists.
 - Participate in governance discussions regarding arts programming and community cultural initiatives.
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Board Member

Chesapeake Arts Center

- Contribute to governance discussions supporting arts education programming and community arts engagement initiatives.
 - Assist with strengthening partnerships between artists, educators, and community organizations.
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FUNDRAISING & ARTIST SUPPORT IMPACT

- Assisted artists in identifying and pursuing **grant funding opportunities** through the **Maryland State Arts Council** and other arts funding initiatives.
 - Supported grant proposal development for arts programming and exhibitions through partnerships with organizations such as the **Chesapeake Arts Center**.
 - Facilitated connections between artists and institutional funding resources to help artists secure financial assistance for creative projects.
 - Contributed to arts funding conversations through board service and collaboration with statewide arts leadership.
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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Sociology

Delaware State University

May 2012

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Board Member

Maryland State Arts Council

Board Member

Baltimore Arts Realty Corporation

Board Member

Chesapeake Arts Center

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated

Alpha Kappa Psi Business Fraternity, Incorporated

American Heart Association