

AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS TO PRESENT LEADERSHIP AWARD TO KRISTINA NEWMAN-SCOTT

Newman-Scott to Be Honored on June 16th at Americans for the Arts Convention
in Denver

(HARTFORD, CT) - The Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) announced today that Kristina Newman-Scott, Director of Culture and State Historic Preservation Officer for the State of Connecticut, has been awarded the 2018 Selina Roberts Ottum Award which recognizes the achievements of individuals and organizations committed to enriching their communities through the arts.

“Since joining DECD in 2015, Kristina has worked tirelessly as an advocate for arts, cultural assets and the broader community,” said DECD Commissioner Catherine Smith. “Under her leadership, the Office of the Arts has created a new five year strategic plan, piloted an artist workforce initiative that creates pathways for jobs in the cultural sector, and created the READI (relevance, equity, access, diversity, and inclusion) framework which guides all investments and programs in the arts space.”

“Knowing that there are so many highly qualified individuals among my peer group, I am truly grateful and humbled to have been selected for the Selina Roberts Ottum Award,” said Kristina Newman-Scott. “I feel so fortunate to be able to work in a community that brings joy to my life every day.”

“Our Leadership Award honorees have distinguished themselves as passionate advocates and leaders in innovation, education, management, and advocacy for the arts in communities across the country,” said Robert L. Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts. “These leaders are driven by a deep belief in the power of the arts to transform individual lives and communities, and their unwavering commitment to local, state, and national support for the arts is deserving of this recognition.”

Americans for the Arts’ Annual Convention brings together arts and community leaders to network and discuss strategies for building stronger towns, counties, and cities through the arts. What started as a small group of 45 people in 1955 has now grown to more than 1,100 each year, and continues to grow 10-15 percent annually. The awards will be presented at

Americans for the Arts' [Annual Convention](#) in Denver, Colorado, on Saturday, June 16, 2018, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

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