

MEET THE MOMENT:
FOCUS On The Gap(s)!

GLR WEEK 2024 JULY 22-26

Virtual Gratitude Session: CGLR Salutes Children’s Museums

A GLR Learning Tuesdays Webinar

July 23, 2024 | 12:30 pm ET/9:30 am PT

Panelist Bios

MODERATOR



Arthur G. Affleck III, M.Ed., J.D.

Executive Director

Association of Children’s Museums



[@ACM_Worldwide](#)



[@Association of Children’s Museums](#)



[@Association of Children’s Museums](#)

Arthur G. Affleck, III, serves as Executive Director of the Association of Children’s Museums (ACM). In this role, he is the chief executive responsible for the strategy, development, and program execution for the organization.

Serving museum members in the United States and countries across the globe, the Association of Children’s Museums (ACM) is an international nonprofit professional service organization representing and advocating for the children’s museum field. As one of the fastest growing cultural industries in the world, children’s museums have expanded exponentially in the past two decades. Currently, ACM serves over 400 total museums, businesses, educational organizations, and individuals in 50 states and 19 countries. With training in law and education, over the years, Mr. Affleck has built a record of achievement in education administration, institutional advancement and nonprofit governance, all while centering diversity, equity, accessibility and inclusion. Prior to the ACM appointment, he served as VP for Development and then EVP at the American Alliance of Museums (AAM). In addition to working to advance DEAI in the museum field, building a culture of philanthropy, Mr. Affleck was engaged with efforts to expand museums’ growing role in the P-12 education ecosystem. He is also an author and serves on several nonprofit boards. He earned a bachelor’s degree in biology from Tuskegee University, a Master’s degree in administration & supervision of higher education from Auburn University, a Juris Doctor degree from the American University-Washington College of Law, and a certificate from the Institute for Educational Management at the Harvard University Graduate School of Education. A member of the Alfred Street Baptist church, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated, he is an avid reader, cyclist and golfer.

PRESENTERS

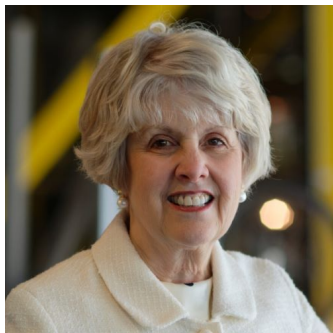


Denise Rosario Adusei, M.B.A.

**Executive Director
Bronx Children's Museum**

 [@BxChildMuseum](#)  [@Bronx Children's Museum](#)  [@Bronx Children's Museum](#)

Denise Rosario Adusei is the Executive Director of the Bronx Children's Museum and an experienced social entrepreneur, author and early childhood leader. Adusei is the founder of Peartree Preschool, an arts-focused educational program in Harlem. Over the past 12 years, she successfully launched the school, graduated 1,500 children into New York City elementary schools and helped families secure over \$8 million in tuition relief for private competitive programs. Adusei was responsible for implementing the school's distinctive educational mission that prioritized the creative and cognitive development of young children, from two to five years old. Having previously worked in nonprofit management consulting for Community Resource Exchange and the Commissioner's Office for the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Adusei brings with her extensive community partnerships, and organizational development and social-entrepreneurial experience. Adusei holds a Masters of Business Administration from Columbia Business School and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Brown University. She was born in Brazil and speaks Portuguese, Spanish and Cape Verdean Creole. She currently lives in Harlem with her Ghanaian husband, who grew up in the Bronx, and their children.



Carole Charnow

**President and Chief Executive Officer
Boston Children's Museum**

 [@BosChildMuseum](#)  [@Boston Children's Museum](#)  [@Boston Children's Museum](#)

For over 30 years, Carole Charnow has led cultural non-profits in the US and the UK, overseeing over 100 professional theatrical and opera productions, as well as community-based music and arts education programs and events.

Charnow was appointed the President and CEO of Boston Children's Museum in 2010 and has leveraged her relationships to transform the Museum's cultural and science programming. Recent Museum partnerships have included: the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Berklee School of Music, New England Conservatory, the Handel and Haydn Society, the Boston Children's Chorus, the Boston Ballet and the Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. Under Charnow's leadership the Museum won the 2013 IMLS National Medal, the nation's highest honor conferred on museums and libraries for extraordinary service to the community, presented by First Lady, Michelle Obama at the White House. The Museum has also recently secured funding from NASA and the federal government's Race to the Top program, and is the only children's museum in the country to be awarded these distinguished grants. Under her tenure the Museum has introduced New England's first groundbreaking access program for families

receiving benefits, which is now being replicated across the Commonwealth. For the Museum’s Centennial she commissioned a song for the 100th, I Am A River of Hope, by Jim Papoulis, which was performed by the 500 member Boston Children’s Chorus in October 2013.

As the founder and General Director of Opera Boston, Charnow produced 50 operas and musical theatre original productions at the Cutler Majestic Theatre, receiving the Boston Globe’s Best of Boston eight years, as well as superlative reviews in the Boston Globe, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal and the London Times. Her 2010 premiere of Madame White Snake, jointly produced with the Beijing Music Festival, was the first major opera commission by a Boston company in over forty years, and the first-ever opera collaboration between an American company and China. Madame White Snake toured to Beijing in the fall of 2010, and the opera won the Pulitzer Prize for Music in 2011.

Charnow was one of a select group chosen from arts leaders across the state to attend the Executive Education Program at Harvard’s Kennedy School for Government and is a participant in the prestigious Noyce Leadership Institute Fellowship program. She is a member of the Mayor’s Cultural Planning Steering Committee and was recently named a Barr Fellow in the class of 2015. She also received the Emerson College Distinguished Alumni Award in 2015. Charnow serves on the Boards of The Dimock Health Center and the Wheelock Family Theatre, and served on the Nominating Committee for the Accreditation Commission of the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) and on the 2013 National Program Committee for AAM. She was one of the early Moosewood Restaurant chefs in Ithaca, New York and contributed to the best-selling Moosewood Cookbook. She has a Bachelor’s Degree from Emerson College and a Masters of Arts from the University of London.



Tanya Durand

**Chief Executive Officer
Greentrike**



[@Greentrike_org](#)



[@Greentrike](#)



[@ChildrensMuseumofTacoma](#)

Tanya Durand has worked in the museum field since 1992 and has led the Children’s Museum of Tacoma since 1999 as its Executive Director. Greentrike, as it is now known, is a nonprofit organization modeling programming, convening community, and advocating for the rights of children to be educated and cared for using playful approaches and with adults who are deeply interested in those in their care. Greentrike operates the Children’s Museum of Tacoma, The Children’s Museum at Joint Base Lewis-McCord - the first and only Children’s Museum installation on a military base– Preschool Powered by Play on two campuses, and Play to Learn, Pierce County’s largest school readiness outreach program.



Laura Huerta Migus
Deputy Director for Museum Services
Institute of Museum and Library Services
 [@US_IMLS](#)  [@USIMLS](#)  [@US-IMLS](#)

Laura Huerta Migus was appointed Deputy Director of the Office of Museum Services in July 2021. She came to IMLS following her tenure as executive director of the Association of Children's Museums (ACM) in Arlington, Virginia, the world's largest professional society promoting and advocating on behalf of children's museums and children's museum professionals.

Throughout her career, Huerta Migus has been devoted to the growth and education of children, particularly those from underserved and under-resourced communities. Under her leadership, ACM pursued innovative and effective partnerships to leverage the power of children's museums worldwide.

In 2018, Huerta Migus was named as an Ascend Fellow of the Aspen Institute, and in 2016, she was recognized as a Champion of Change for Summer Opportunity by the White House. She is a noted speaker and author on topics of equity and audience-focused museum practice for institutions including the Board of Science Education of the National Academies of Sciences, the U.S. Play Coalition, and various university texts.

Previously, she served as the director of professional development and equity initiatives at the Association of Science-Technology Centers, Inc., has published articles in peer-reviewed texts, and served as principal investigator on numerous informal learning initiatives.

Since joining IMLS, Huerta Migus has helped the agency establish the American Latino Museum Internship and Fellowship Initiative (ALMIFI). This initiative is designed to strengthen the institutional capacity of American Latino museums, provide paid internship and fellowship opportunities for a diverse range of students, and build connections between colleges, universities, and museums.

She also worked closely with IMLS' Office of Research and Evaluation to successfully launch the first National Museum Survey (NMS), which will capture the scope and scale of museums' presence and reach within the U.S. over time. Once mature, the survey will collect foundational, high-level data directly from museums to inform policymakers, the museum field, and the public about the social, cultural, educational, and economic roles that the nation's diverse museums play in American society.

Huerta Migus holds a bachelor's degree in Spanish from Texas A&M University and a master's degree in organization development and leadership from Saint Joseph's University.



Patricia (Trish) D. Wellenbach

President and CEO
Please Touch Museum



[@PleaseTouch](#)



[@Please-Touch-Museum](#)



[@Please Touch](#)

[Museum](#)

Trish Wellenbach has over 25 years' executive experience in the C-Suite and Board Room successfully accelerating turnarounds to position organizations for sustained profitable growth, financial health and competitive strength. Since 2016, she has been the President & CEO of Please Touch Museum, one of the country's leading children's museums. Located in Philadelphia, the Museum welcomes over 500,000 visitors a year and facilitates early childhood learning and development through play through its exhibits, education and special programs. In 2021, she was appointed Board Chair of Thomas Jefferson University/Jefferson Health (TJU/JH). She is the first woman and nurse to serve as chair for the governing body. TJU/JH, a 200-year-old institution, is a \$10B+ operating company with 42K employees that includes 18 health care facilities, an undergraduate and graduate University and an insurance company, the Jefferson Health Plan. She is a past Director of a NYSE public company where she served on 5 special committees, and as a member of the Nom-Gov and Audit committees. In 2023, she was recognized by the National Association of Corporate Directors as a NACD Directorship 100 honoree. Trish is a sought-out thought leader who is also a 5X+ award recipient for visionary leadership and civic contributions.