

Public Conversation on the Arts Panelists Biographies

Lisa Tuttle



Lisa Tuttle is an Artist and Public Art Administrator, Fulton County Arts and Culture. The Fulton County Public Art program has commissioned more than 54 artists to create original works of art for 35 county facilities in the last 18 years, and is currently commissioning artists for 14 new county buildings recently completed or under construction, including eight new libraries, two library expansions, two health centers, an aviation community cultural center, and a fire station.

Before Fulton County, she worked with the Arts Festival of Atlanta, which had a vigorous and adventurous site work program, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, and was the Gallery Director for the Atlanta College of Art and for Nexus Contemporary Art Center, now known as Atlanta Contemporary Art Center.

As an artist, she has completed several public art projects, including *Harriet Rising*, in collaboration with Alice Lovelace, commissioned by the City of Atlanta Office of Cultural Affairs Public Art Program and *Underground Atlanta*, which received an Americans for the Arts Public Art Network 2012 Year-in-Review award as one of the top 50 public art projects in the country. She has also completed works for the Dunbar Neighborhood Center, Art on the Beltline, and Art in Freedom Park. Her work is represented by Sandler Hudson Gallery in Atlanta, and she has a studio at The Arts Exchange.

Gregory Burbidge



Gregory Burbidge is a Senior Program Specialist at the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC). Burbidge is currently working to build a program around the ARC board's vision for a regional focus on arts and culture planning. He manages the Emerging Arts Leaders of Atlanta program and serves on the Americans for the Arts national Emerging Leaders Council.

Prior to joining ARC, Burbidge served as the Research & Operations Manager for MAACC, an organization dedicated to awareness and advocacy for arts and culture issues in metro Atlanta. Born in the wilds of northern Canada, Burbidge spent his early professional life as a gold miner before making his way to metro Atlanta. In his spare time, he enjoys running, playing

board games with his wife, Christina, and creating art with textiles -- a hobby that entwines his interests in mathematics, shepherding and wearable art.

Marianne Weinberg-Benson



Atlanta native Marianne Weinberg-Benson received her B.F.A. from the University of Florida, and her M.F.A from the University of Georgia. As a professional sculptor, she has earned national recognition, including the American Institute of Architecture Award and the Urban Design Award of Excellence in Public Art. Her work is on display in numerous museums, galleries and corporate collections worldwide. She has completed many public art projects in the Atlanta area such as the Medical Center MARTA Station, The Robert Fulton Library, The Ben Hill Recreation Center and the Southwest Art Center.

Her latest completed commission is for the newly opened Robert E. Fulton library in Alpharetta, Georgia. This two part work consist of two exterior fifteen foot tall figures emerging from the front façade of the building, and four interior Ceramic Cloisonné tiles about myths from diverse cultures brought into the twenty-first century. She will tell the story of the Robert E. Fulton library artwork, and how it moved from an idea to reality.

Dick Goodman



Dick Goodman is a marketing communications writer, former *AJC* columnist, award-winning columnist for *Miami Today*, public relations counselor and amateur photographer. He is currently in his second term on the Suwanee city council, his second year as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Gwinnett County Public Library and his seventh year as a member of Suwanee Public Art Commission.

Relocating to metro Atlanta in 2006, Goodman quickly got involved in the Suwanee community, participating in the city's comprehensive planning process, serving as a member of citizen panel to study the city's water system, and serving on Suwanee's 2008 Downtown Master Plan steering committee. When the city council expressed an interest in public art, Goodman volunteered to serve on a newly created public art committee tasked to research the economic development benefits of public art, determine the practicality of a public art program for the city, and recommend how or whether the city might proceed. Goodman wrote the final report that he presented to council. The recommendations contained in that report formed the basis for Suwanee's public art ordinance and the Public Arts Commission, which today manages what has evolved into one of Suwanee's premier programs.

Suwanee's public art initiatives have received several awards including: the 2012 Trendsetter Award from the Georgia Municipal Association and Georgia Trend Magazine, 2012 *ArtWorks! Gwinnett's* Community Impact—Community Arts Program Award, 2013 Atlanta Regional Commission Create Community Award, 2014, *ArtWorks! Gwinnett* Arts Leader.

Ayokunle Odeleye



Ayokunle Odeleye has been working as a professional sculptor and arts educator for the past forty years. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Art Education from Howard University in 1973 and a Master's Degree in sculpture in 1975. He has taught sculpture at Howard University, Duke Ellington School for the Arts, Spelman College and Kennesaw State University where he is currently the senior Professor of sculpture in the School of Art and Design. He has been teaching for the past twenty five years at KSU and in 2002 developed and began teaching a course on Public Art and professional practices for KSU art majors.

He is the owner and primary designer and fabricator of Odeleye Sculpture Studios in Stone Mountain Georgia. The studio specializes in the creation of large scale commissioned sculptures for public spaces. For the past thirty five years he has been designing and building large scale sculptures in a variety of media for government agencies and arts institutions across the breathe of the United States from Atlanta to Alaska. Currently he is creating a thirty foot tall stainless steel sculpture commissioned by the city of Norfolk Virginia for a historic Norfolk community.

In November of 2012 the Museum of Contemporary Art in Atlanta Georgia honored him with a Retrospective Exhibition of models, drawings, and photographs of his work highlighting thirty-two years of excellence in the field of Public Art. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the MidSouth Sculpture Alliance, the Co-Chair of the MidSouth Sculpture Alliance Sculpture Conference Planning committee, and serves as a Public Art consultant in various capacities for several Arts organizations in Atlanta and the metropolitan area.