

Margie Johnson Reese
CEO, Principal Consultant



Margie Reese brings exceptional skills and experience to community engagement and inclusiveness in cultural planning and implementation design. She has a strong understanding and knowledge of the intersections between cultural policy analysis and actionable implementation. Margie has served as the lead analyst and spokesperson for local and national government agencies helping identify the convergence and coherence between art and culture and community development.

A native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Margie has a 35-year portfolio as an arts management professional, leading a broad range of large-scale projects in West Africa, Los Angeles, and Dallas in addition to consulting with arts agencies on a broad range of arts management topics across the United States. Margie has contributed to public policy in areas of public participation and racial equity in the arts, arts education and cultural planning. She has worked with both City Manager and strong Mayor forms of government and understands the importance of non-profit arts systems in community development.

Margie's expertise as a grant maker was tapped by the Ford Foundation to advance cultural projects in West Africa. Based in Lagos, Nigeria and serving 14 West African countries, her work centered on cultural policy development and conservation of West Africa's tangible and intangible cultural heritage. She continues to contribute to the field of Arts Administration through her consulting group, MJR Partners, working with national, regional and local arts agencies, helping develop inclusive arts policies that respond to contemporary civic goals. She currently resides in Atlanta, Georgia.

Margie holds a BS in Theatre from Washington State University in Pullman, Washington and a M.F.A. from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas.