

SONDRA MYERS

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CURRICULUM VITAE

Senior Fellow for International, Civic and Cultural Projects, The University of Scranton, 2006—

- Plan, coordinate and conduct projects within the university, locally, nationally and internationally that focus on strengthening democracy and the culture of interdependence;
- Direct The Schemel Forum, the University's non-credit continuing education program for cultural enrichment and education in the community;
- Design and implement programs in collaboration with organizations and institutions that deal with economic, social and cultural issues in their local communities and globally;
- Write and speak on issues of civil society and cultural policy,
- Advise institutions and organizations on new directions, programs and projects.

Director: Seminars and Special Events for Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr., 2007—

Senior Associate: The Democracy Collaborative, University of Maryland, 2001 to 2005.

Research, writing and editing of Collaborative publications;
Coordinate International Roundtables;
Develop/coordinate Interdependence Day Activities.

Editor: *Democracy is a Discussion: Civic Engagement in Old and New Democracies*, published by Connecticut College, 1996

Democracy is a Discussion II: The Challenges & Promise of a New Democratic Era, published by Connecticut College, 1998

The Democracy Reader, published by IDEA (International Debate Education Association) in 2002

The Interdependence Handbook, (with co-editor Benjamin R. Barber) published by IDEA in 2004

The Pluralist Paradigm: Democracy and Religion in the 21st Century, (with co-editor Patrice Brodeur) published by University of Scranton Press, 2006

The New Rwanda: Prosperity and the Public Good, published by The University of Scranton, 2008

Advisor: **Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church Foundation**, 2000-2003
Advise on educational projects to promote interfaith understanding and social justice

Director: **The George Washington University *President's Millennium Seminars: The University for a New Democratic Era 1999-2001***, a millennium project consisting of ten one-day seminars, with published reports, on the role of the university in preparing students for citizenship in a new democratic era. The project culminated a public seminar and presentation of a boxed set of reports to President Stephen Trachtenberg.

Rapport Democracy Fellow, Walt Whitman Center for the Culture and Politics of Democracy at Rutgers University, 2000-2001

Senior Advisor to the President of Connecticut College, 1996-2000

Coordinate/conduct "Democracy is a Discussion" forums nationwide; direct marketing, evaluation and dissemination of handbooks. Form alliances with national and international civil society networks, e.g. USIA, CIVICUS, and CIVITAS. Advise on other college cultural, international and civic projects.

Special Assistant to the Chairman for Partnerships and Institutional Relations, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1993-1995

Initiated and maintained agency relations with cultural and educational institutions and organizations.

Initiated and coordinated collaborative projects with Federal agencies, national organizations and associations.

Planned and implemented special events and projects, e.g., Jefferson Lecture; Charles Frankel Prize; Arts and Humanities Month programs; 30th Anniversary Symposium.

Cultural Advisor to the Governor of Pennsylvania, 1987-1993

Initiated programs in the arts and humanities to promote awareness and advancement of culture in Pennsylvania, e.g. Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts, Humanities and Sciences; Governor's Seminars on Ideas and Issues; PA Yes, an annual concert featuring Pennsylvania artists.

Organized statewide and national forums on the integration of culture into public policy and practice.

Founded "The Cultural Forum of the States," a semi-annual gathering of state cultural offices.

Produced annual publications, e.g. "Counting on Culture," symposium and Seminar reports.

Conducted Pennsylvania cultural tours for cultural officers from foreign embassies.

Selected Consultations and Programs:

Radio Free Europe, Prague headquarters, worked on creating a democracy center at RFE headquarters, 1996-1997

Public Education Network, 1996-1997

University of Michigan, Jerome Weisner Symposium, 1997

Anderson Ranch Arts Center, organized and moderated symposia on the arts and public policy, 1997, 1998

Lehigh University, Zoellner Arts Center, designed and moderated opening symposium: "The Arts, the University and the Community," 1997

Municipality of Scottsdale, AZ, Residency on Democracy, 1998

U.S. International Broadcasting Bureau, consultation on new directions, 1998

Association of Texas Colleges and Universities, design/moderate "Democracy is a Discussion" forum, 1998

WVIA-TV (PBS affiliate in northeastern Pennsylvania), Executive Producer, "Democracy at the Millennial Moment," a one-hour live telecast, 1999

USIS, South Africa, Conducted forums on democracy, 1999

Georgia Humanities Council and Savannah-Chatham County School District, Conducted Democracy Forums, 2000.

Speaking tour sponsored by Conciencia, Argentina, 2003.

National Experience: Member, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, 1980-1985
Founding Chair, State Arts Advocacy League of America, 1982-1986
President, Federation of State Humanities Councils, 1985-1987
Co-Executive Producer: "The Courage to Care," a documentary film on rescuers of Jews during the Holocaust, nominated for an Academy Award in 1986
Co-Editor: *The Courage to Care*, New York University Press, 1985
American Bar Association, Public Education Committee, 1997-2001

State and Local Experience:

Founding President, Citizens for the Arts of Pennsylvania, 1980-1985
Chair, Pennsylvania Humanities Council, 1981-1984
Founding Chair, Lackawanna Regional Cultural Council, 1984-1987
Chair, City of Scranton Commission for Architecture and Urban Design, 1980-1984
President, Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic Orchestra Association, 1984-1987
Board and Executive Committee, Scranton Cultural Center, 1990-1996
Chair, ArtTable, Inc., Washington Chapter, 1997-1999

Awards:

Distinguished Pennsylvanian, 1980
Pennsylvania Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, 1980
Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania, 1983
Phi Beta Kappa, Alumna Membership, Connecticut College, 1985
Americanism Award, B'nai B'rith, 1987
Friend of the Arts; Pennsylvania Art Education Association, 1992
Friend of the Arts, National Art Education Association, 1993
Connecticut College Medal, 1994
United Nations Association Award, Scranton Chapter, 2004

Honorary Degrees: Doctor of Laws, College Misericordia, 1985
Doctor of Humane Letters, University of Scranton, 1987

Board Affiliations: American Council for the Arts, 1987-1995
ArtTable, Inc., 1994-1998
Centre for Creative Communities, (UK). 1992-present
Philadelphia Foundation for Architecture
Jewish Publication Society, 1987-1994
National Cultural Alliance, 1991-1994
National Foundation for Jewish Culture, 2004-2007
Northeastern Pennsylvanian Philharmonic Orchestra, Member, President, 1975-1987
Philadelphia Partnership for Education, Member, Vice Chair, 1987-1994
University of the Arts, Executive Committee, Board of Trustees, 1980-
University of Scranton, Member and Vice Chair, Board of Trustees, 1977-1983
Philagrafika, International Festival of the Contemporary Printed Image, 2004—

Education: B.A. Philosophy, Connecticut College for Women
Graduate studies in literature and philosophy: New York University, The New School for Social Research and Oxford University

Speeches and Articles:

Keynote speeches, commencement addresses and panel presentations on civil society and the integration of culture into public policy in local, national and international venues.
Numerous articles and op-ed pieces for newspapers, newsletters and reports.