University of Southern California

Thornton School of Music

Master of Science in Arts Leadership

Program Learning Objectives

Arts Leadership (M.S.)

The Master of Science in Arts Leadership is a flexible, multi-disciplinary graduate program for artists, arts administrators and cultural entrepreneurs who want to expand their personal vision and develop the ability to create a life and a career in the nonprofit arts. The curriculum is appropriate for both early and mid-career individuals engaged in any or multiple arts disciplines, who recognize that the rapidly changing world of the 21st century requires an innovative approach to arts leadership. The program is highly individualized, allowing students to design the course of study that is most appropriate for them and their career aspirations. Upon completion students will:

a. have interrogated and (re)affirmed their personal commitment to a career in the arts
b. know and describe the external environmental changes occurring that are affecting the arts
c. understand the connections between art, artists, community and leadership
d. create a new, or advance an existing arts organization, its purpose, design and/or structure
e. know and demonstrate executive leadership capabilities for a non-profit arts organization