

**MARY L. ECKSTEIN**  
San Francisco, CA

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

**NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS**

***Consultant, Communications Department***

**Washington, D.C.**

*2002 – present*

- Conducted interviews for publication with each of the 76 National Heritage Fellows from 2002-2007

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

***Humanities Project Coordinator***

**Arlington, Va.**

*2005 – 2007*

- Managed the Arlington Public Schools artist-in-education program (placing performances, workshops, residencies, and teacher workshops in 33 schools)
- Developed and organized more than 200 special events annually, including student contests, field trips, teacher institutes and summer apprenticeship programs
- Co-founder of Document Arlington, a summer youth apprenticeship program in documentary filmmaking

**SMITHSONIAN CENTER FOR FOLKLIFE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE**

***Fieldwork Researcher/Consultant***

**Washington, D.C.**

*2006*

- Identified and documented (through photography, interviews and field notes) traditional performing artists in Fairfax County, Va., as part of the research team for the 2007 Smithsonian Folklife Festival program on Virginia

**ARLINGTON COUNTY CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

***Consultant***

**Arlington, Va.**

*2002 – 2006*

- Planned curriculum, established community contacts and led classes in community heritage and folklife for high school student documentarians
- Led students in the production of a 28-page publication of photos, fieldnotes, poems, collages, and prose drawn from student interviews and fieldwork in the Nauck community of Arlington
- Consulted on the creation of a neighborhood archive in historically African-American Highview Park
- Author of *Pass It On*, a community guide to creating oral history projects (2006)

**D.C. COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES**

***Folk & Traditional Arts Consultant***

**Washington, D.C.**

*2003 – 2005*

- Directed the first citywide Dance DC Festival (October 1-3, 2004); recruited dancers and venues; managed press and media relations, sponsorships, dancer contracts, and payment processing; curated festival events; and served as the on-the-record festival spokesman to *The Washington Post*, the Kojo Nnamdi Show, and other Washington media
- Maintained continuous outreach to diverse cultural communities in Washington, D.C. to ensure their inclusion
- Managed the Folk & Traditional Arts Mini-Grant Program by advising applicants and increasing participation

**CENTER FOR ARTS AND CULTURE**

***Project Consultant***

***Program Officer***

**Washington, D.C.**

*2004 – 2005*

*2002 – 2004*

- Project lead for dissemination of The Pew Charitable Trusts' "Policy Partners: Making the Case for State Investment in Culture," an action guide dedicated to state level increases in arts and culture funding
- Organized two statewide meetings in Kentucky and Pennsylvania for leaders in politics, the arts, humanities, folklore, and preservation to focus on collaborations and strategic partnerships
- Spearheaded the research, design and follow-up of policy forums in Nashville, New Orleans, Fairfax County (Va.) and Prince William County (Va.) as part of the local cultural policy project, an initiative to convene and coalesce arts and cultural leaders at the local level to enact desired policy goals
- Co-author of *Cultural Policy at the Grassroots* (July 2004)

**PIEDMONT ARTS ASSOCIATION**

***Workshop Instructor***

**Martinsville, Va.**

*2004*

- Led students and community members in oral history workshops in preparation for community research

**DUKE UNIVERSITY****Durham, N.C.****Consultant, Center for Documentary Studies**

2001

- Identified, interviewed and photographed crafts makers in Durham's Asian Indian community for the "Document Durham" project

**SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL****Washington, D.C.****Assistant to the Director and Evening Concert Coordinator**

1999 – 2000

- Coordinated free evening performances and concerts for 10-day festival
- Assisted festival director with management in all areas of festival production

**AMERICA'S MILLENNIUM ON THE MALL****Washington, D.C.****Program Assistant**

1999 – 2000

- Scheduled and managed daily book signings with authors and museum managers in three Smithsonian museums
- Drafted correspondence to participating dignitaries, speakers, and literary figures
- Wrote and edited materials for the Producer and Associate Producer

**EDUCATION****UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA****Chapel Hill, N.C.****Master of Arts, Curriculum in Folklore**

1998

- Thesis: *Global Bhangra, Local Bhangra: University Dance Teams in the United States*

**GOETHE-INSTITUT****Rothenburg ob der Tauber, Germany****Rotary International Cultural Ambassadorial Scholar**

1998

- International scholarship for postgraduate language/cultural immersion

**DAVIDSON COLLEGE****Davidson, N.C.****Bachelor of Arts, History, 3.7 GPA, Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa and Honors in History**

1998

- Davidson in India Program, Madras, and Davidson in Cambridge Program, University of Cambridge

**RECENT SUCCESSFUL GRANT APPLICATIONS**

- 2007: Virginia Commission for the Arts Project Grant (\$3,500 for the Document Arlington Project)
- 2006: Target Field Trip Grant (\$1,000 for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade field trips to the *Visual Griots of Mali* exhibit); National Endowment for the Arts (\$2,000 TAG grant for visits by consultants); Arlington Community Foundation (\$1,500 for Document Arlington Project); and the Virginia Commission for the Arts (\$1,300 for artists in the schools program)
- 2005: National Endowment for the Arts (\$30,000 for folk and traditional arts infrastructure); Arlington Community Foundation (\$8,000 for Document Arlington Project and Archive Mural); and the Virginia Commission on the Arts (\$1,800 for artists in the schools program)
- 2004: The Meyer Foundation (\$13,000 for cultural policy convenings); Arlington Community Foundation, Senior Citizens Initiative (\$2,500 for intergenerational oral history project); Arlington County Park & Recreation Commission (\$4,100 for outfitting a community archive room); and the National Endowment for the Arts (\$2,500 TAG grant for reverse consultancy)

**RECENT SERVICE TO FIELD**

- Arlington Youth Film Festival, Judge (2007)
- Arlington Cultural Affairs Division, Cultural Festivals Panelist (2004 – 2007)
- Rosebud Film Festival, Judge (2006)
- Dakshina/Daniel Phoenix Singh & Company, Dance Company Board Member (2005 – 2006)
- D.C. Commission on the Arts & Humanities, Small Projects and Folk Arts Grants Panelist (2005 – 2006)
- National Endowment for the Arts, Access to Artistic Excellence Grants Panelist (2004)
- Mid-Atlantic Folklife Association, Board Member (2004 – 2005)