

**Cindy Ornstein**

Director, Mesa Department of Arts and Culture

Executive Director, Mesa Arts Center

Cindy Ornstein joined the City of Mesa as Director of Arts and Culture and Executive Director of the Mesa Arts Center (MAC) in July, 2010. In addition to leading MAC, Arizona's largest arts center encompassing four theaters, 14 performing and visual arts studios and the five galleries of Mesa Contemporary Arts, she oversees the i.d.e.a. Museum and the Arizona Museum of Natural History. Prior to coming to Mesa, Cindy was President & CEO of the Flint Cultural Center Corporation in Flint, Michigan, Associate Director of the Allentown Art Museum, Allentown, PA and Executive Director of Mayfair Festival of the Arts, Allentown, PA. Before entering arts administration, Cindy was the Director of Corporate Communications at Rodale Press, Inc., a leading book and magazine publisher, and worked in the public relations agency business in New York and Atlanta, including holding vice presidencies at the world's two largest public relations firms. She began her career as an advertising copywriter and a journalist, and also worked in theater as an actor and director in Chicago and New York.

Currently, Cindy serves as a member of Arizona's Cultural Data Project Task Force and on the Non-Profit Vitality Council of the Mesa Chamber of Commerce. She was appointed by Michigan's Governor to two terms as a Council Member on the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and served on the Executive Committee of the board of ArtServe Michigan. Cindy earned a B.A. in English from Vassar College and an M.A. in Liberal Studies with a concentration in American Culture from the University of Michigan.