

CHRIS MULÈ

• cultural strategist •

ABOUT ME

Experienced program director, folklife specialist, and community organizer advancing cultural equity through funding, capacity building, and networks. Skilled in grantmaking, artist workforce development, and heritage-based programming, with extensive experience supporting New York State nonprofits.

EDUCATION

Institute for Coaching Excellence (IFCE)
Life, Leadership & Executive Coach
Indiana University
MA, Folklore + Ethnomusicology
University at Albany
Bachelor of Arts

EXPERIENCE

2021 - present **Creatives Rebuild New York: Co-Director, Strategic Partnerships**

- Creatives Rebuild New York (CRNY) is a 3-year, \$125 million philanthropic investment in artists' livelihoods funded by Ford, Mellon, and Niarchos Foundations.
- Designed, implemented, and evaluated the CRNY Artist Employment Program, funding 300 artists and 100 community organizations throughout New York's 10 distinct regions.
- Co-managed a \$63m budget for the Artist Employment Program.
- Designed program criteria, managed application processes, and provided strategic support to grantees.
- Piloted portable benefits platform for 170 artists.
- Supported evaluation and research, policy and advocacy, storytelling and narrative change for Artist Employment Program.
- Developed professional development initiatives and network-weaving strategies to sustain artist-led community impact.
- Facilitated the development of the Artist and Cultural Bill of Rights, advocating for fair labor standards and equity for artists and cultural workers.

2014 - 2020 **Brooklyn Arts Council / City Lore: Folklife Specialist**

- Secured and managed federal, state, and city grants, supporting cultural preservation and community-based artists.
- Provided technical assistance (grant and funding support, coaching, project planning, promotion), to grassroots organizations, strengthening their ability to sustain traditional arts.
- Led digital preservation initiatives, including the NYSCA supported "New York Living Traditions" archive, ensuring ethical community stewardship of cultural heritage.
- Produced engagement programs for refugee, immigrant, and migrant communities, fostering cross-cultural collaboration.

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- 2009 - Staten Island Arts (formerly COAHSI): Deputy Director & Director of Folklife**
- 2014**
- Provided documentation, promotion, and programming for the expressive life of the Island's traditional artists.
 - Guided organizational budget and the organization's strategic plan, technical assistance managed staff, and communications plan.
- 2006 - Traditional Arts Indiana: Associate Director of Programs**
- 2009**
- Lead curator for traveling exhibits featuring traditional artists in rural and urban areas throughout Indiana.
 - Contributed extensive fieldwork about the Old Time music community.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- **International Coaching Federation (2025):** Pending certification, enhancing leadership development and coaching expertise for cultural and community-based organizations.
- **NetLab Fellow (2022-2024):** Engaged in a national learning community exploring network-based strategies for social change.
- **Archie Green Fellowship, Library of Congress (2015):** Recognized for collaboration with Domestic Workers United, documenting labor experiences of Caribbean, Latina, and African domestic workers in NYC.

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

- Ethnicity and Immigration: Discovering Staten Island: A 350th Anniversary Commemorative History By Lori Weintrob & Christopher Mulè The History Press, 2011. 66-75.
- Artist and Cultural Workers Bill of Rights. Creatives Rebuild New York, 2023. Lead Writer & Facilitator.

SKILLS

Programs & Grants

- Grant Writing and Management
- Program Development
- Cultural Policy
- Event Production
- ICF Certified Coaching

Engagement & Events:

- Network Weaving
- Public Speaking
- Community Engagement and Marketing
- Festival & Event Production

Digital & Media

- Digital Archive Management (Drupal, Mukurtu)
- Media Production (Adobe Creative Suite, Final Cut Pro)
- Project & Data Management (Salesforce, Airtable)

REFERENCES

Available Upon Request