



FLAME BULLETIN

Happy New Year! Welcome to the first edition of the FLAME Bulletin

flameili.wpengine.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Click each event to read more!

January 20th, 2021 - [Shaping a Shared Future](#)

February 17th, 2021 - [Creating a Mindset for Constructive Conversations](#)

March 17th, 2021 - [Recent Research on Art Museum Apps and The Use of Emerging Technologies and Digital Art with Dr. Liron Efrat](#)



KEEP AN EYE OUT SURVEY

Online FLAME Membership

We'll be sending out a survey to FLAME members to collect your thoughts on specific ideas for monthly discussion and biannual convenings, as well as committee suggestions.

Stay tuned for yet another opportunity to shape this community of practice so it meets your needs.

LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

As it stands at this moment



As most of you are aware, FLAME originated during conversations between a group of your peers, who originally took the idea to the Kress Foundation to investigate the need for a professional network to support the needs of art museum education leadership. Originally exploring traditional museum professional organizations (think AAMD, AAC, and etc.) the goal soon morphed into something a bit more dynamic, more participant-driven, and that emphasized collective learning, care, and leadership, which led to the current concept of a FLAME network. The network was established, and a series of 5 Convenings was held – and then COVID struck. Judy Koke (The Institute for Learning Innovation) and Kimberly Young (University of Mary Washington), who had been developing the Museum Enterprise Leadership program (MEL), a Professional Development

program to meet FLAME's needs, began to offer bi-monthly meetings online, in the effort to support each other and to make sense of how to lead in this tumultuous time.

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GRANTS

[Samuel H. Kress Foundation Grant](#)

In October 2020 Judy Koke and Kimberly Young (with the Leadership Council's endorsement) received a Kress Grant to support FLAME for 2 years which commits us to updating our website, developing a newsletter, support staff to facilitate convenings and meetings, and develop a sustainability plan for FLAME. We are extremely grateful to Kress for this funding, and their support of the urgent work FLAME believes it must accomplish in the next two years.

[FLAME IMLS Grant](#)

We are excited to announce that we submitted an IMLS grant this fall. The funding would support FLAME bootcamps and to build a leadership pipeline so that future museum education directors have access to these business and leadership skills earlier in their careers. We won't hear until next September – but hope to be funded for even more work in the future.

COMMITTEES

[Communications Committee](#)

The Leadership Council identified the need for a committee comprising 4-6 FLAME members to shape the website as well as the FLAME bulletin. These forms of communication are much needed to help build a library of resources as well as to build community and drive people back to the website. A Communications Committee would help to develop content – in multiple formats - which we imagined to be largely from boundary crossers (those close to, but not part of) our industry to promote business and leadership learning. If you would like to volunteer for this committee, please contact [Joanne Lefrak](#).

[Sustainable Futures Committee](#)

Another commitment to the Samuel H. Kress Foundation is to find a sustainable model for FLAME. Work completed during the previous Kress Grant identified that FLAME did not want to incorporate and become a 501(3)c, but what is the right model for this network? Working with ILLI helps as we have access to financial tracking, communications and website professionals. Being grant funded is not a long-term solution. As noted, much work was done on this in prior years and will provide a foundation for future development. Lynn Russell has offered to lead a membership committee to develop a plan. If you are interested in volunteering for this committee, please contact [Lynn Russell](#).

CONVENINGS AND MEETINGS

[2021 Convenings](#)

[Monthly FLAME Online Discussions](#)

FLAME has a history of hosting two physical convenings annually, at hosting museums, addressing significant topics for effective leadership. In 2020 the chaos of COVID eclipsed these convenings, [read more] but we would like to work to create two virtual annual convenings in 2021. As a reminder – convenings are hosted by a FLAME member (in better days this meant hosted at their museum – but it is also developing the content and the program) with the support of Judy Koke and Kimberly Young. We are hoping to identify two topics and individuals to work with on convenings for the upcoming year. If you have thoughts about a topic you feel we should address for longer than our 1-hour monthly meetings, we'd love to work with you. Please reach out to either Judy or Kimberly.

Our monthly Wednesday meetings continue, and we hope to get the schedule organized several months in advance to help you plan. We hope to continue the guest speaker/small group discussion model – but also include some group conversations about current trends, leadership strategies, etc. Again, if you have thoughts about discussion topics or speakers, please reach out to either Judy or Kimberly.



MEL BOOTCAMPS

As mentioned above, Judy Koke ([The Institute for Learning Innovation](#)) and Kimberly Young (University of Mary Washington), have been developing the Museum Enterprise Leadership program (MEL) a Professional Development program to meet FLAME member's needs. Originally planned as a year long program, COVID has caused us to reconsider and we are now offering a series of bootcamps based on the developed curriculum. Our next bootcamp is led by Nik Honeysett and focuses on building a strategic approach to digital content.

[READ MORE](#)

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

There are many ways you can get involved! Contact [Judy](#) or Kimberly if you have ideas for upcoming discussions or convenings.

As you can see it has been a busy fall – all to support a productive and engaging 2021.

*All the Best in 2021,
Judy and Kimberly*