

Julie Fry Biography

Julie Fry, President & CEO of Cal Humanities, served as a Program Officer for the Performing Arts Program at The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation in Menlo Park, California since 2007. In that role, she managed a grantee portfolio of more than 140 nonprofit arts organizations, and led the Foundation's efforts in making arts education accessible to the 6 million K-12 public school students in California through support for in-school program delivery, and policy and advocacy at the national, state and local levels.

From 2003 to 2007, Julie was Associate Vice President, Fund Services at The San Diego Foundation, and the first director of The San Diego Foundation's Arts & Culture Program, where she developed strategies to engage more donors and community members to support the arts in San Diego through research, community outreach events, and funding partnerships. With a Working Group of committed community leaders, Julie oversaw a planning process and outreach strategy to meet the most critical needs of San Diego's arts nonprofits and develop effective grantmaking priorities. This included major research into regional cultural participation as well as arts education provision in San Diego County's 42 school districts.

Before entering the philanthropy field, Julie was Director of Arts & Business Programs at the San Diego Performing Arts League. There she expanded its Business Volunteers for the Arts and Technology for the Arts programs and established the Lawyers for the Arts, National Arts Marketing Project and OnBoard: Arts Board Development programs. Prior to that, she worked for the Business Arts Council in San Francisco and Business in the Arts: North West in Liverpool England, building arts and business partnerships and providing management consulting services to arts and culture nonprofits. Her business experience in the US and UK prior to entering the nonprofit field was focused on the financial services and pensions industry.

She has recently served on the Advisory Committee of the Arts Education Partnership, the Steering Committee for the Alameda County Alliance for Arts Learning, the Arts for All Pooled Fund in Los Angeles, and was the founding Chair of the Grantmakers in the Arts' Arts Education Funder Coalition. In 2014, she received the inaugural Arts Education Hero award from the California State PTA and the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association, was named as one of the Top 50 Most Powerful and Influential Leaders in the Nonprofit Arts in America in *Barry's Blog*, and received Spirit of Philanthropy recognition from the Golden Gate Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals at their National Philanthropy Day event.

Julie has a BBA in Economics and French from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, an MBA in International Finance from the University of St. Thomas (Houston), and is pursuing a MA in Historic Preservation from Goucher College (Baltimore). She has served on a number of nonprofit boards in the US and the UK, and remains an active member of the grantmaking field across the country. She enjoys spending time with her two children in college at the Cal Polys, making music, reading, voraciously consuming movies and British dramas of all kinds, and volunteering at the Silicon Valley Humane Society,