

BRONZEVILLE CENTER FOR THE ARTS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR<https://bcamke.org/>**The Institution:**

The Bronzeville Center for the Arts (BCA) is a nonprofit organization rooted in the art, culture, and history of the African Diaspora. Located in the Bronzeville Cultural and Entertainment District, a historically African American neighborhood in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the BCA will present exhibitions, educational programs in the arts, and forums for intellectual and cultural exchange, as it connects intergenerational audiences and advances institutional equity.

Mission:

The Bronzeville Center for the Arts is a non-profit organization that is committed to exploring, preserving, and presenting African American and African Diaspora art and culture to enrich our community through creative practices that span advocacy, education, entrepreneurship, and exhibitions. The BCA is supportive, collaborative, and ideational in promoting the projects of artists and cultures of African descent, and is fully devoted to the freedom of expression and social justice.

The BCA is dedicated to investigating ways that the arts can foster and inspire personal expression, the exchange of ideas, and creative entrepreneurship through a wide range of programs: exhibitions, internships, lectures, symposia, workshops, and special events. As a center for artistic, cultural, and social interaction, the BCA empowers people of all ages to tell and create their own stories, engage different perspectives, and collaborate on innovative art projects. These exchanges educate our communities, support cultural and social networks, inspire professional opportunities, and stimulate personal fulfillment.

Using art to unify the community, empower youth,
foster entrepreneurship and celebrate the
history of Milwaukee's Bronzeville District
and artists of African descent worldwide.

In July 2020, a core group of stakeholders convened with the purpose of creating a dynamic new African American- and African Diaspora-focused arts institution in Milwaukee's Bronzeville Cultural and Entertainment District. The Bronzeville Center for the Arts was incorporated in November 2020 and the planning committee began work on a master plan with international consultant Lord Cultural Resources. This process included stakeholder and community workshops to help define the vision and mission of the BCA.

Today, the BCA rents office space in The Fortress, 1726 North 1st Street, and owns two key properties in the heart of the Bronzeville District. The first is located at 507 West North Avenue. Construction of this 3,500 sf building will start Fall 2022 and will become a public meeting space and exhibition gallery in Spring of 2023. The BCA also recently acquired a 3.4-acre property at 2312 North Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive to build an art center, plaza, and gardens.

The Role:

Location: Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Reports to: Bronzeville Center for the Arts Board of Directors

Key Responsibilities:

- Oversee the planning, development and construction of the Bronzeville Center for the Arts and, once the institution is in operation, implement and pursue its vision and mission.
- Oversee the management of the Center, directing staff regarding all day-to-day operations including exhibitions, programming and the safety and well-being of visitors, users, and staff.
- Advise the Board on strategy, operational and policy matters.
- Lead strategic planning.
- Contribute to ongoing fundraising efforts; ensure impactful evaluation of all short-term and long-term fundraising efforts with specific milestones necessary to ensure the financial health of the organization.
- Prepare and oversee capital and operating budgets, ensuring appropriate levels of financial control and compliance.
- Cultivate and develop relationships with regional Black arts, heritage and other organizations, private- and public-sector partners, educators and public agencies, as well as the local, regional and international media.
- Remain cognizant and up-to-date on local, community and national issues that may require adjustments to the strategic plan, in order to leverage opportunities and/or to solve challenges.
- Enhance BCA's reputation by being active and visible in the community and by working closely with other professional, civic, community based, and private organizations.
- Cultivate a positive organizational culture, committed to attracting and retaining a diverse employee base.

Skills & Experience:

- The ideal candidate will be a dynamic, innovative, and visionary individual with a passion for African American and African Diaspora art and artists. An existing interest in/knowledge of Black Milwaukee and Wisconsin art and artists would be an asset.
- This leader will have exceptional interpersonal skills and leadership experience gained by working in the museum, gallery, visitor experience or nonprofit field.
- They will be confident and capable as the public face of the Center. A proven record in fundraising success is preferred.
- Demonstrated achievement leading a team in transformative environments will be key, bringing experience in project management, program development and strategic partnerships. Additionally, they will have an ability to assess and implement the infrastructure and operational requirements necessary to support sustainable growth.
- Required qualifications include a degree in nonprofit management, arts administration, or museum management or 10+ years' experience in nonprofit leadership, visitor experience and/or audience development.

Personal Attributes:

- Passionate and committed to the Bronzeville Center for the Arts' mission and vision.
- A strategic and visionary leader who combines strong leadership, organizational management, and creative problem-solving skills with commercial instinct and resourcefulness.
- Exceptional relationship-building and interpersonal skills; actively seeks input from others, at all levels of the organization and community, creating an environment where ideas and information are easily exchanged, and voices are heard.
- Exceptional communicator and dynamic public speaker; ability to inspire and successfully carry out the role of being an ambassador and leading voice of BCA.
- Demonstrates the highest standards of ethics, integrity, respect and humility.

Salary range:

- Commensurate with experience.

**

To learn more about this opportunity, please contact:

Tory Clarke
Partner, Bridge Partners
tory.clarke@bridgepartnersllc.com

Ryan Whitacre
Partner, Bridge Partners
ryan.whitacre@bridgepartnersllc.com