

**Subject:** ARNOVA June Newsletter: Conference Updates, GOV Dialogue & New Opportunities  
**Date:** Friday, October 9, 2026 at 2:54:11 PM Central Daylight Time  
**From:** ARNOVA  
**To:** Rebekah Harris

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ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH ON NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND VOLUNTARY ACTION

## Member Newsletter — June 2026

**Welcome to the June edition of the ARNOVA newsletter.** This month features an upcoming Governance Section dialogue on shared power and alternative governance models, updates from the Arts Common Interest Group, a new VOLUNTAS special issue call for abstracts, fellowship opportunities from the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy and new nonprofit workforce research from Indiana University.

### ARNOVA 2026 Conference Update - Conference Registration Opening Soon



Plans are coming together for the 55th Annual ARNOVA Conference, taking place November 19–21, 2026, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Thank you to everyone who submitted proposals for this year's conference theme, Igniting Civic

Activism: Grassroots and Voluntary Action and Democracy. The Program Committee is currently reviewing submissions, and notification decisions are expected around June 15.

Conference registration is also expected to open in the coming weeks. Watch your inbox and the ARNOVA website for registration announcements, hotel information, and additional conference updates.

We look forward to bringing together scholars, practitioners, students, and sector leaders for three days of research, discussion, networking, and learning.

### Key Dates

- Proposal notifications expected: Mid-June 2026
- Conference registration opening: Coming soon
- ARNOVA Annual Conference: November 19–21, 2026
- Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

[Conference Registration](#)

## ACTION REQUIRED: Log In to the New ARNOVA Membership Platform

Our updated Membership Management System is now live — and we need every member to log in and update their information.

### What you need to do:

- Log in to the new platform
- Reset your password if you have not already done so
- Review and update your profile information
- Renew your membership if it has recently expired

Questions? Contact [info@arnova.org](mailto:info@arnova.org)

[Login Here](#)

## Governance (GOV) Section: Innovation in Governance Dialogue

## Reimagining Nonprofit Governance: Alternative Models for Shared Power and Impact

Wednesday, June 10 | 12:00–1:30 PM EDT

Traditional board-centered governance models are increasingly being challenged by organizations seeking more democratic, participatory, and equity-centered approaches.



Join nonprofit scholars, practitioners, consultants, board members, and movement leaders from across the country for an engaging national dialogue exploring governance models that deepen community voice, redistribute power, and strengthen organizational impact.

The session will feature leading voices in the field followed by participant discussion and breakout conversations.

Featured speakers include:

- Cyndi Suarez
- Elissa Sloan Perry
- Elizabeth Seja Min
- Judy Freiwirth

This highly interactive event is free and open to all.

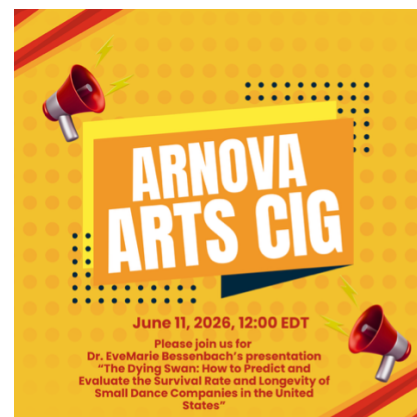
[Register Here](https://bit.ly/4eBDr4)

## Arts Common Interest Group (Arts CIG)

June Research Presentation

Thursday, June 11 | 11:00 AM CDT

The Arts CIG invites members and guests to join its June research presentation featuring:



Dr. EveMarie Bessenbach

## **The Dying Swan: How to Predict and Evaluate the Survival Rate and Longevity of Small Dance Companies in the United States**

Drawing on predictive modeling, survival analysis, and qualitative interviews, this study examines factors influencing the sustainability of small dance organizations and identifies practical strategies for strengthening long-term viability.

The presentation explores financial indicators, leadership structures, community partnerships, and broader cultural challenges facing the dance sector.

Interested in presenting at a future Arts CIG meeting? Contact Kathleen Gallagher at [b.kathleen.gallagher@ttu.edu](mailto:b.kathleen.gallagher@ttu.edu)

[Join Zoom](#)

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## **VOLUNTAS Special Issue Call for Abstracts**

### **Toward Comparative Research on Global Philanthropy**

VOLUNTAS: International Journal of Voluntary and Nonprofit Organizations invites abstracts for a forthcoming special issue focused on comparative research on global philanthropy.

The special issue seeks to:

- Expand comparative philanthropy research
- Strengthen theory development
- Improve the availability and use of comparative data
- Explore philanthropy's role amid declining development assistance and growing global instability

Guest Editors:

- Afshan Paarlberg
- Dana Doan
- Dipendra KC
- Inés Pousadela

**Abstract Deadline: September 30, 2026**

Questions and submissions may be sent to [azraza@iu.edu](mailto:azraza@iu.edu)

[View Guidelines](#)

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## Fellowship Opportunity

### Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy Community of Fellows Program

The Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy is accepting applications for its newly launched Community of Fellows Program.

The program supports innovative scholarship and practice in philanthropy through both resident and visiting fellow opportunities.

Areas of interest include:

- Philanthropic Advising
- Impact Investing
- Higher Education and Philanthropy
- Policy and Philanthropy
- Sports and Philanthropy

The school also welcomes proposals addressing other emerging topics relevant to philanthropy and the nonprofit sector.

[Learn More](#)

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## New Research Report

### Post-COVID Nonprofit Employment Recovery in Indianapolis Region

A newly released report examines how nonprofit employment in the Indianapolis Economic Growth Region was affected by COVID-19 and how organizations recovered through 2023, with preliminary findings from 2024.

Key findings include:

- Nonprofit employment declined 5% in 2020, marking the first decline since 1995
- Recovery varied significantly across nonprofit subsectors
- Arts and recreation organizations experienced the largest disruptions
- Nonprofits retained higher-skilled workers and increased average pay during the pandemic
- Recovery generally lagged behind comparable for-profit sectors

The report offers important insights into workforce resilience and long-term sector trends.

[Read Report](#)

## Find Your Community: Join an ARNOVA Section

ARNOVA Sections are where members go deeper — sharing research, hosting dialogues, and building working relationships around the topics they care about most. If a section featured in this newsletter caught your eye, you can add it to your membership in just a few clicks. Join as many as you like.

[Join a Section](#)



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