

## TASHA W. HUNTER, MFA

### Associate Consultant



Tasha W. Hunter is the Executive Director of the Uptown Business Improvement District and founder of Wiggins Hunter Consulting Group, specializing in public speaking, community engagement, creative business development, and cultural planning. She has worked with communities at home and abroad, colleges and universities, city and elected officials to create events and experiences for the community, focused on arts, culture, empowerment, education and civic engagement. Prior to this work, Tasha was an Outreach Specialist at both the Liberal Arts and Pacific Coast Campus at Long Beach City College.

Tasha has helped launch many successful programs and events in the Greater Los Angeles area. She serves as the project manager for the monthly Leimert Park Artwalk and the annual LA Commons “Day of the Ancestor Mask Festival, and Procession,” bringing together communities from all parts of the globe. Tasha has been influential in Long Beach’s creative community through event planning, as co-creator the monthly Community Conversations with the Arts Council, and conducting outreach bringing diverse communities to the table to discuss a range of topics. Tasha’s public speaking has taken her to Cuba, Africa, and Brazil to engage in topics including Black Culture, the arts, cross-cultural exchanges; and locally talks on diversity, equity and inclusion, and other subjects.

As lead community engagement consultant for the African American Cultural Center of Long Beach visioning process, Tasha and her team sought input from a wide range of community members on their expectations for this future cultural center. In this process, she also helped develop a cultural asset inventory.

Tasha served as Board President for the Arts Council for Long Beach from 20016-2019, and a Cultural Heritage Commissioner, and was chair of Long Beach Opera’s community advisory council for their 2019 season entitled “Justice.”

In 2018 as the UPLAN Committee chair, local residents created new visions, economic strategies, active transportation improvements, cultural planning and zoning to guide future development and consolidate past planning efforts for Uptown (North) Long Beach.

Tasha recently received the Innovation Award from Senator Ricardo Lara, the Award of Magnificence from the City Council, and a Certificate of Excellence from Congressman Alan Lowenthal for her work with the 2019 Young Women’s Empowerment Conference. Tasha earned her Masters of Fine Arts in Film and Television Producing from Chapman University’s Conservatory of Film and Television, her Bachelors of Arts from the University of California, Los Angeles, in Documentary Film Production, and Associates of Arts Degree in Journalism from Long Beach City College in California.