

The OURHAUS Award



Melissa Neis

Vice President
Parr Insurance Brokerage

Collaboration is honored to award Melissa Neis with the 2019 OURHAUS Award for her philanthropic leadership and dedication to supporting Collaboration's mission to incite social change through theatre in Chicago.

Melissa Neis served on Collaboration's Board of Directors for five years and inspired, developed, and hosted Collaboration's spring Soiree fundraiser and donor cultivation event, nurturing it into an annual tradition and paving the way for the growth Collaboration is experiencing this season.

Melissa is Vice President of Parr Insurance Brokerage, where she has spent the past 12 years developing national programs in banking, homeowners, and collectibles insurance. She also serves as a professional liability consultant for Neis Insurance Agency.

She currently volunteers with Heartland Alliance's Women's Empowerment Program.

The Artist Award



Luis Crespo

Director of Youth Programming
Collaboration

Collaboration is proud to award Director of Youth Programming, teaching artist, and youth art activist Luis Crespo with the 2019 Artist Award in recognition of his invaluable artistic contributions to Collaboration.

Luis's vision and creative energy has influenced Collaboration's work greatly. His leadership has shaped Collaboration's youth program, using theater, creative writing and the arts to inspire and motivate hundreds of young men and women to find, amplify and share their voice.

Collaboration audiences will recognize Luis from his performances in the original Crime Scene, A Chicago Anthology and the full 125 performance Chicago tour of Crime Scene. Luis also performed in Connected, and in Peacebook as Sammy Rangel in Vueltas. Luis has been a Collaboration Company Member since 2013.