

LEAH MARGARETA GAZZO REISMAN

(707) 738-3698 | leahmgreisman@gmail.com | leahreisman.com

EDUCATION

- 2020 *Ph.D.* | **Princeton University** Department of Sociology
Specialization in nonprofit organizations, philanthropy, and the arts
Dissertation: Strategizing for Social Good: How Consultants Shape the Nonprofit Sector
Committee: Paul DiMaggio, Viviana Zelizer, Janet Vertesi, Stanley Katz
- 2017 *M.A.* | **Princeton University** Department of Sociology
Exams: Sociology of Culture, Economic Sociology, Organizational Sociology
Relevant Coursework: Nonprofits, NGOs, & Philanthropy; Nonprofit Financial Management;
Complex Organization; Organizational Theory; Economic Sociology; Institutional Analysis;
Sociology of Culture; Technology Studies
- 2011 *B.A. with Honors* | **The University of Chicago** The College
Major: Anthropology, Minor: Art History, Phi Beta Kappa

SCHOLARLY ARTICLES & PUBLICATIONS

Published Scholarly Articles

- Reisman, Leah. 2022. "[Local Philanthropy and the Transformation of Culture in Oaxaca, Mexico.](#)" *The International Journal of Cultural Property* 29(1): 63-80.
- Katz, Stanley, and Leah Reisman. 2021. "[Impact of the 2020 Crises on the Arts and Culture in the United States.](#)" *The International Journal of Cultural Property*. 27(4), 449-465.
- Reisman, Leah. 2018. "[Managing Amidst Mosaic: Integrating Values and Rationalization in the Nonprofit Arts.](#)" *Nonprofit Management & Leadership* 28(4): 453-470.
- Van Saaze, Vivian, Wharton, Glenn, and Leah Reisman. 2018. "[Adaptive Institutional Change: Managing Digital Works at the Museum of Modern Art.](#)" *Museum & Society* 16(2): 220-239.
- Reisman, Leah. 2012. "[For Whom are we Building These Gems? Redefining Impact at the Museo Textil de Oaxaca.](#)" *Curator: The Museum Journal* 55(4): 401-407.

Other Work

- Reisman, Leah. *Forthcoming 2024. How Consultants Shape Nonprofits: Shared Values, Unintended Consequences.* SSIR Books Series. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.
- Reisman, Leah, DiNiscia, Michael, and Alberta Arthurs. 2022. "Annotated Bibliography: Are the Arts Essential?" Chapter in *Are the Arts Essential? Twenty-Five Answers.* New York University Press.
- Reisman, Leah. "[Re-Evaluating the Consultant's Role in Social Change.](#)" *The Center for Effective Philanthropy Blog.* June 30.

- Reisman, Leah. 2021. [“Nonprofits Need to Drop Conventional Ideas to Navigate a New World. Consultants Can Help.”](#) *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*, June 3.
- Reisman, Leah, and Maoz Brown. 2020. [“Learning as Compromise: A Hard Look at Evaluation in Today’s Nonprofit Sector.”](#) *PhilanTopic by Candid*. November 12.
- Reisman, Leah. 2020. [“What Role Should Consultants Play in the Nonprofit World?”](#) *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*. July 28.
- Reisman, Leah, Atencio, Atilio, Wolkoff, Alexandra, Domenick, Lilian, Warden, Clara, Stratton, Dacey, and Owen, D. Daphne. 2020. [“Understanding the Socioeconomic Impact of COVID-19: Preliminary Evidence from an Immigrant Latinx Population in Philadelphia.”](#) *Medium.com*
- Reisman, Leah. 2019. [“How Can We Heal Suffering Children at the Border? Art Can Help.”](#) *Medium.com*
- Reisman, Leah. 2017. [“Arts Funding Ecologies and Organizational Survival: The Case of Philadelphia.”](#) Working Paper, Princeton Center for the Study of Social Organization. (Also profiled in the [Stanford Social Innovation Review](#))
- Grogan, Katie, and Leah Reisman. 2011. “Encore, Encore! Increasing Demand for the Nonprofit Arts in a Changing World.” Hot Button Topics in Cultural Policy White Paper, The University of Chicago.

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2019	Dean’s Completion Fellowship, Princeton University
2018	Fellowship of Woodrow Wilson Scholars, Princeton University
2018	International Society for Third-Sector Research Ph.D. Seminar
2017	National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant
2017	Rockefeller Foundation Junior Scholars Forum
2017	Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action Doctoral Fellow
2016	Center for the Study of Social Organization Fellow, Princeton University
2016	Institute for International and Regional Studies Grant, Princeton University
2015	Social Impact Doctoral Fellow, University of Pennsylvania
2014-2019	University Fellowship, Department of Sociology, Princeton University
2013	Emerging Arts Professionals Fellow – San Francisco Bay Area
2013	American Alliance of Museums Fellow
2012	California Association of Museums Fellow
2011	Marshall Scholarship Finalist in the San Francisco Region

AWARDS & HONORS

2016	Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action Emerging Scholar Award
2013	Visitor Studies Association April Award (For emerging leader in visitor studies & evaluation)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 Reisman, Leah. "Consulting as Carework: Decision-Making and Legitimacy in Consulting to Nonprofits." Paper presented at the annual meeting for the American Sociological Association, New York City, NY, August 10-14.
- 2018 Reisman, Leah. "Building Cultural Value in Oaxaca, Mexico: Arts, Philanthropy, and Development." Paper presented at the annual meeting for the International Society for Third-Sector Research, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, July 8-10.
- 2017 Reisman, Leah. 2017. "Arts Funding Ecologies and Organizational Survival: The Case of Philadelphia." Paper presented at the annual meeting for the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action, Grand Rapids, MI, November 16-18.
- Reisman, Leah. "Arts Funding Ecologies and Organizational Survival: The Case of Philadelphia." Paper presented at the annual meeting for the Eastern Sociological Society, Philadelphia, PA, February 23-26.
- 2016 Reisman, Leah. "Managing Amidst Mosaic: Integrating Values and Professionalism in the Nonprofit Arts." Poster presented at the annual meeting for the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action, Washington, D.C., November 17-19.
- 2013 Hanko, Karlene, Reisman, Leah, Matcuk, Matthew, and Jane Schaefer. "Ethnography as R&D: How Ethnographic Research Methods Can Inform Innovation." Panel presentation at the annual meeting for the Visitor Studies Association, Milwaukee, WI, July 15-19.
- 2013 Reisman, Leah, Werner-Avidon, Maia, and Lindzy Bivings. "Measuring Environmental Conservation Behavior Change Outcomes of Informal Science Experiences." Roundtable presentation at the annual meeting for the Visitor Studies Association, Milwaukee, WI, July 15-19.
- 2012 Reisman, Leah. "Agency in the Art Museum: The Museo Textil de Oaxaca and the Shifting Focus of Museums." Paper presented at the annual meeting for the American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA, November 20-24.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant in Instruction, Department of Sociology, Princeton University

- 2016 *Technology & Society*, Prof. Janet Vertesi
The City & Social Change in the Americas, Prof. Patricia Fernandez-Kelly
- 2015 *Sociology of the Cubicle: Work, Technology, & Organizations*, Prof. Janet Vertesi

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Barra Foundation Philadelphia, PA | *Program Officer* | February 2023 – Present

- Source and steward arts and culture and education-related projects that embody a commitment to risk-taking, innovation, and novel approaches to community challenges.

Puentes de Salud Philadelphia, PA | *Health and Wellness Director* | 2018 - 2023 (Promoted 2020)

- Launched, managed, and grew new service areas and programs in food access and case management; led multi-year community-driven mental health and COVID-vaccine promotion initiatives
- Designed and executed projects focused on art, narrative, and healing, collaborating with a teaching artist
- Supervised 4 direct reports, approximately 25 contractors, and many volunteers and interns; managed department budget and administrative functions. Raised over \$1.8M in under 2 years

Metris Arts Consulting Easton, PA | *Affiliate* | March 2021 - Present

- Lead strategy, evaluation, and research projects focused on arts-based community development, creative placemaking, cultural policy, and other related topics

John Brademas Center of New York University New York, NY | *Research Fellow* | June 2020 - 2023

- Contributed as an honorary fellow to research projects focused on the arts and social change, including a book project about art's role in society, and a Mellon Foundation-funded study of the relationship between arts engagement and social wellbeing in California

Independent Consultant Philadelphia, PA | *Principal* | August 2019 – Winter 2023

- Led and contributed to research focused on arts philanthropy, social justice, and cultural nonprofits
- Recent projects include commissioned research for LISC and the Wallace Foundation

Fairmount Ventures Philadelphia, PA | *Affiliate (Part Time)* | 2019 - 2020

- Guided nonprofit organizations and public agencies to plan for and achieve transformative future visions, from major universities to grassroots organizations
- Facilitated client relationships and on-time deliverables by leading project management and data collection
- Collaboratively created solutions to complex organizational problems via hands-on working sessions with diverse stakeholders, consultants, and organizational leaders

The Lawrence Hall of Science at UC Berkeley Berkeley, CA | *Assistant Research Specialist* | 2012 - 2014

- Designed and executed evaluations for clients from museums to schools, including instrument development, data collection and analysis, translated results into recommendations and led presentations
- Led major program evaluation for museum client over two years, including research design, outreach, data collection and analysis for 10+ types of data, report-writing, and oral and written communications
- Managed 10-year strategic planning and visioning process to achieve major organizational revisioning and led coordination for Hall-wide initiatives, balanced overlapping timelines and competing objectives
- Oversaw the national Coalition for Science After School (CSAS) and successfully executed organizational closure, managed student employees and designed communications initiatives
- Executed CSAS executive summit. Helped secure \$150,000 in funding and served as lead project and budget manager, coordinated internal and external teams and led synthesis and report-writing

Greatschools.org San Francisco, CA | *Research Analyst* | 2011 - 2012

- Led ethnographic evaluation of college-readiness product including study design, execution, and reporting
- Created and implemented internal ethics policy via an inclusive inquiry and synthesis process
- Managed external research consultant, including RFP design, selection and monitoring

New Sector Alliance San Francisco, CA | *Resident in Social Enterprise* | 2011 - 2012

- Developed proficiency in nonprofit finance, marketing, management, strategy, and fundraising
- Placed at GreatSchools.org as research analyst

The Field Museum Chicago, IL | *Exhibitions Department Development Intern* | 2010 - 2011

- Designed, tested, and produced interactive displays, collaborating with scientists, designers, and educators
- Conducted formative and summative impact evaluations of internal and traveling exhibitions

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & VOLUNTEER WORK

University Service, Princeton University

Princeton Sociology Graduate Student Advisory Committee | Fifth-Year Representative | 2018 - 2019

Princeton University Priorities Committee | Graduate Student Representative | 2016 - 2017

Princeton University Interdisciplinary Ethnography Workshop | Organizer | 2015 - 2016

External Service

2019 Reisman, Leah and Liora Goldensher. “Experts of Subjective Thought: Producing Knowledge and Setting Standards.” Session organizer at the annual meeting for the Society for Social Studies of Science, New Orleans, LA, September 4-7.

2015 Awards Committee, Visitor Studies Association

Reviewer, *Nonprofit Management & Leadership*

Volunteer Work

Asociación de Empresarios Mexicanos en Philadelphia Philadelphia, PA | 2021 – Present

- Founding board member

Philadelphia’s Magic Gardens Philadelphia, PA | Board President | 2019 – Present; President beginning 2024

- Provide financial, strategic, and managerial oversight to organization

Philadelphia Futures Philadelphia, PA | Mentor | 2017 - Present

- Long-term mentor to a Mexican first-generation-to-college Philadelphia student

SKILLS

Languages: English (Native), Spanish (Fluent, Non-Native)

Computer: Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe Acrobat, R Statistics, NVivo, Zotero, Prezi