



**Karen Kenton, Director  
Office of Federal/State Partnership**

Karen Kenton has served as a Senior Program Officer in the Division of Public Programs since 2011. She has managed the special initiatives *Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle* and the *History Film Forum* along with partnerships with National History Day and the Library of Congress Center for the Book. From 1996 to 2011, Kenton worked as a project executive at WETA, where she managed more than 25 national broadcast projects, including 15 co-productions with Ken Burns and Lynn Novick of Florentine Films, many of which were funded by NEH. She also served as executive producer on several NEH-funded films, including *War of 1812*, *Make No Little Plans: Daniel Burnham and the American City*, and *Through Deaf Eyes*. The latter film, a co-production with Florentine Films / Hott Productions and Gallaudet University, was awarded the 2007 Erik Barnouw Prize by the Organization of American Historians and the 2008 Alfred I. DuPont-Columbia University Award. Kenton teaches documentary film studies at Gallaudet University and holds a Master of Library Science from the University of Maryland.



**Deborah Watrous  
Massachusetts Director of Philanthropy, FoodCorps  
Former Executive Director, New Hampshire Humanities**

Deborah Watrous served as Executive Director of New Hampshire Humanities for 13 years after 11 years on the staff, first as Development Director and then Associate Director. During her tenure as Executive Director she led the council through a \$2.1M capital campaign and re-branding process while overseeing the significant expansion of its flagship speakers bureau, *Humanities to Go*, the re-introduction and expansion of its adult literacy program, and the creation of major special initiatives on religion and civic life, immigration policy, contemporary constitutional issues, and dialogues on war and homecoming for veterans. She served on the boards of the Federation of State Humanities Councils and Leadership NH. In 2017, after 24 years with New Hampshire Humanities, Debbie decided to take a leap professionally and personally. She moved to Boston and took a position as Massachusetts Director of Philanthropy at FoodCorps, a national nonprofit that connects children to healthy food in school.



**Bob Beatty, President  
The Lyndhurst Group**

A “history geek” since elementary school, Bob Beatty is President of the Lyndhurst Group, a history, museum, and nonprofit consulting firm providing community-focused engagement strategies for institutional planning, organizational assessments, and interpretive direction. From 2007-2017 Bob served the American Association for State & Local History, most recently as Chief of Engagement, but also Interim President & CEO and Chief Operating Officer, leading the association's entire national professional development program. From 1999-2007 he directed the Education Department at the Orange County (FL) Regional History Center. He graduated with a B.A. in Liberal Studies and an M.A. in History from the University of Central Florida. He holds a Ph.D. in Public History from Middle Tennessee State University, his dissertation topic is on the influence of Duane Allman and the Allman Brothers Band on American music. He has been an instructor of Museum Studies and American History at the graduate and undergraduate levels. Dr. Beatty is the recipient of the Southeastern Museum Conference's 2017 Outstanding Service to the Museum Profession Award and was the Florida Association of Museums' Outstanding New Professional in 2002. He is the author of *Florida's Highwaymen: Legendary Landscapes*, co-editor of *Zen and the Art of Local History*, and author of *An American Association for State and Local History Guide to Making Public History*, has published several articles, and is a regular presenter at professional conferences.