

24.6 Paper Presentation VIII “Community”

Leading Arts Education for People with Disabilities Through the Pandemic

By Rhoda Bernard

In 2018 the Berklee Institute for Arts Education and Special Needs began convening a Leadership Network to foster dialogue and advance the work of individuals leading arts

education for students with disabilities. Out of this work, a great understanding of the intersecting fields of arts and culture, education and youth development, and disability studies has emerged. In addition, the Leadership Network has produced key publications, including a research and policy agenda and a field guide. The COVID-19 pandemic has presented many unprecedented leadership challenges in arts education. In this session, attendees will learn about some of the ways that leaders in arts education have collaborated and supported each other to provide meaningful arts education for students with disabilities during the pandemic. These include ways to increase the accessibility and effectiveness of remote arts education experiences, and ways to address the social-emotional challenges that students, caregivers, families, and arts educators face.

Sustaining Social Wellness through Comic Performance

By Karin Myhre

Colloquial works composed through the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, and art song (sanqu) in particular, are well known for an expanded range of poetic authorship and literary topic. In part it was the circulation of languages and cultures in a multi-ethnic Yuan empire that made a place for new literary works to adopt more vernacular phrasings and a compass of subjects that would have been remarkable in another time. This shift toward candor and more forthright diction also led to new forms humor, with ridicule, self-mockery, and biting political satire all in evidence. Like the song suites that structured traditional drama, performance elements infused through some sanqu songs suggest these works were understood as scripts or imagined performance. Analyzing two pieces by the erudite Du Renjie (ca. 1201-1283), this project explores the intersection of staging and lyric in long-form song suites, demonstrating the ameliorative social effects of comic presentations.