



Arts & Culture Director

## Debbie Racca-Sittre

**D**ebbie Racca-Sittre was appointed Director of the Department of Arts & Culture in January 2017. She previously served as Interim Director of the department since April 2016.

As interim director, she oversaw the department's day-to-day operations, as well as the planning and execution of strategic initiatives related to arts and culture in San Antonio through the department's main divisions – San Antonio Film Commission, Arts Funding Leadership, Cultural Events and Exhibitions, and Public Art San Antonio. In this role, Ms. Racca-Sittre led the \$6 million City of San Antonio Art Funding Process in 2016, developed a strategic plan for the San Antonio Film Commission, and is currently leading a planning effort for the future of Centro de Artes and exploring the establishment of a music commission.

Ms. Racca-Sittre has 16 years of experience with the City of San Antonio. Prior to joining the Department of Arts & Culture, she served as assistant director for the City's Transportation & Capital Improvements Department (TCI). During her time at the City, she has managed more than 800 contracts and a \$1.7 billion capital budget. Ms. Racca-Sittre negotiated numerous high profile contracts including a design-build construction contract for the expansion of the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center valued at \$325 million. She also negotiated and managed contracts for the capital expansion of the Witte Museum, San Antonio Museum of Art and The DoSeum; the renovation of the Guadalupe Theater/Progreso building and Lerma's building.

She also led the City of San Antonio United Way Charitable Campaign for two consecutive years, raising more than \$1 million each year.

### Education

- Master of Arts, English Communication Arts, St. Mary's University
- Bachelor of Arts, English Communication Arts, St. Mary's University

### Professional Memberships and Community Involvement

- Texas Mezzanine Fund (Dallas, Texas) – Board Director (state-wide economic development organization)
- Startech Foundation – Executive Committee
- Free Trade Alliance – Executive Committee
- San Antonio Greater Chamber of Commerce – Economic Development Committee, Member
- University Park Revitalization Project – commercial revitalization
- El Consejo Real de Reyes Feos Anteriores – Associate Member

### Personal

Ms. Racca-Sittre, a native of the San Antonio area, is married and has three children.