



**Curtis Goodwin, Garde Arts Center Director of Youth and Community Engagement**, was born and raised in New London, CT. With a passion for the arts and entrepreneurship, he founded and co-produced the New London Youth Talent Show in 2010. He has worked over the last decade as a national sales and advertising account executive focusing on Diversity & Inclusion initiatives.

As a former City Councilor for the City of New London, CT, he chaired the Committee for Economic Development and helped establish the New London Cultural District Commission, and the New London Black History Trail. Recently honored as one of CT's 100 Most Influential Black leaders, his community activism and leadership was featured in the 2021 documentary film "Those People". Goodwin is also a CT Entrepreneur of the Year award winner and a founding board member and chair of the OutCT youth program.