The Center for Arts Leadership is a multi-faceted division whose mission is to educate the new generation of socially conscious artistic leadership, and to facilitate and support the development of the university's core dispositional concepts as they are manifested in the artist-citizen:

- Community/citizenship.
- Ethics/values.
- Cultural identity.
- Life-long learning and personal development.

The director of the Center for Arts Leadership supports and facilitates, in consultation with faculty, experiential learning opportunities that actively engage and empower students through coursework as well as student-designed projects that emerge directly from curricula. Through the Center, students can earn grants for professional development, receive funding for social justice start-up projects, perform community engagement initiatives, and connect with guest artists through workshops and special events.

The center manages the following areas and activities for students enrolled in the baccalaureate and graduate programs of the Chicago College of Performing Arts:

- Master of Arts in Performing Arts Administration.
- Community engagement performance opportunities.
- Career and professional development activities.
- Student-designed initiatives and productions.