



**KEYNOTE
SPEAKER
TOM BORRUP**



**2018 TAPA FALL CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 26-28
Meadowview Marriott—Kingsport, TN**

Tom's 25-year career in nonprofit arts and cultural management helped him appreciate the valuable role of artists in finding, forming, and leveraging meaning in the everyday and in the extraordinary. The last dozen years of near constant travel as a consultant, speaker, educator, and writer has brought Tom to cities and towns across the U.S. and to many parts of Europe, Asia, and Latin America – allowing him to witness the vast variety of ways people of different cultural, social, and economic backgrounds see and experience their communities and engage in cultural practices. Extensive case study research by Tom commissioned by the McKnight Foundation, Wilder Foundation, and a St. Paul/Travelers Company Leadership Initiatives in Neighborhood grant resulted in the publishing of *The Creative Community Builders Handbook* in 2006, which has been described as a seminal work in the field of Community Building and Creative Placemaking. A leader and innovator in community building for more than 30 years, Tom works with cities, foundations, nonprofits, and public agencies to tap the potential of their creative assets. Based in Minneapolis, he specializes in community planning and transformation, partnership building, and research. He pioneered cultural asset mapping and leveraging cultural resources for economic development and civic participation.