**Arts Impact Presenters**

**Rachel Atkins** is a Seattle-based playwright and teaching artist. She is the scriptwriter for Living Voices/Theatreworks USA, the educational theatre company with whom she has twelve different multi-media shows in ongoing national touring repertory. Her plays have been seen locally with Book-It Repertory Theatre, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Seattle Children's Theatre, Seattle Public Theater, The Empty Space, Annex Theatre, Brownbox Theatre, Sound Theatre Company, Live Girls!, Infinity Box Theatre Project, Forward Flux Productions, Fantastic Z, Washington Hall, Bainbridge Performing Arts, and 14/48: The World's Quickest Theatre Festival; and regionally at Perseverance Theatre (AK), Harvard Radcliffe Summer Theater/American Repertory Theater (MA), One Theatre World/Cleveland PlayhouseSquare (OH), Independent Actors Theatre (MO), North Country Cultural Center for the Arts (NY), Explora Theater (NM), Moonlit Wings Productions, (VA), and Virginia Theatre (IL). A member of the ArtsWA Teaching Artist and Creative Advantage Arts Partner rosters, she works as a master teaching artist for Bringing Theatre into the Classroom, Book-It Repertory Theatre, Arts Impact, and A Contemporary Theatre’s Young Playwrights Program. Previously, she was the Scriptwriter/Dramaturg and Director of Education for Ardeo Theatre Project in France. She graduated from Dartmouth College and holds her Masters in Educational Theatre from New York University. A member of the Sandbox Artists Collective, Rachel was honored to be a 2010 Theatre Puget Sound Gregory Award nominee for Outstanding Playwright. Her play Black Like Us (Original Works Publishing) received the 2014 Gregory Award for Best New Play, two Seattle Times Footlight Awards, including Top World Premiere, and was a 2014 American Theatre Critics Association Steinberg New Play Award nominee.

**Grace A. Washington** has been a professional artist for 25 years. She began her professional career as an illustrator and computer graphic designer. She later returned full time to her first art love: oil painting and began working as a fine artist. In addition to pursuing her fine art professional goals, Grace has taught art to children and adults. She also worked as a reading tutor for at-risk elementary students. Grace is most proud of and humbled by the art classes she taught to at-risk youths and adults as well as families battling with cancer. She earned a degree in Child and Family Development from American Public University, a certificate in computer graphics from Platt College in San Diego and is also a graduate of the Washington State Teaching Artist Training Lab. Grace’s art has been exhibited in Washington, California, Oregon, and Pennsylvania. Two of Grace’s original paintings are in the permanent art collection of the City of Tacoma, and two of her paintings are featured on utility boxes in the City of Federal Way. Grace has also taught and exhibited a large collaborative artwork on diversity with 397 students at Northeast Tacoma Elementary. The collaborative artwork was on display with the Tacoma Art Museum from April through June 2017. The collaborative artwork is a permanent collection of Northeast Tacoma Elementary and is featured in the school’s library renamed after Grace’s son, Sgt. Michael T. Washington Library. Was a former student at Northeast Tacoma Elementary and was KIA in Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan, 2008.  Grace has been with Arts Impact since 2015.