

TODAY'S BUZZ:

The Center for Fiction: Traci Lester, who most recently served as executive director of the National Dance Institute, became the organization's new executive director earlier this month. The nonprofit also welcomed four new members to its board of directors: David Bruson, director of public affairs at Nickelodeon, ViacomCBS Kids & Family Entertainment; Chiwoniso Kaitano, executive director of Girl Be Heard; Susan Restler, strategy consultant and treasurer Brooklyn Heights Association; and writer Jacqueline Woodson.

Community Access held its second Changing Minds Young Filmmaker Festival virtually on Friday, featuring eight [films](#) created by teenagers and young adults focused on mental health. The nonprofit's event also featured a Q&A with the filmmakers moderated by Shadille Estepan from Lady Gaga's Born this Way Foundation.

The Children's Village sent condolences to the family of Earl Simmons, known as the rapper DMX, who died last week; and who had stayed in the nonprofit's residential facilities in the early 1980s. "He had the biggest heart, returning to (the Children's Village) to visit staff, celebrate birthdays and bring gifts for some of the kids," reads a statement from the organization. "He used his talent and larger-than-life personality to give back to the people and places that impacted him."

