



ARIEL FRISTOE

**Founder and Artistic Director of
Out of Hand Theater**

Ariel Fristoe is the founder and Artistic Director of Out of Hand Theater, winner of The New York Times Best Theater of 2020 and the Governor's Award in the Arts and Humanities 2021. Out of Hand works at the intersection of art, social justice, and civic engagement. Ariel uses the tools of theater to support and enhance the work of community partners. She produces Equitable Dinners—conversations on racial equity featuring art, experts, and small-group conversations—and Shows in Homes addressing social justice issues. Through Creative Kids, she helps close the opportunity gap for low-income and minority students through free in-school and after school programs at high-poverty schools. Ariel is a member of Leadership Atlanta's class of 2022, a graduate of Regional Leadership Institute and Arts Leaders of Metro Atlanta, and a LINK Trip delegate. She is Synchronicity Theatre's Women in the Arts and Business 2020 Arts Honoree, and C4 named her one of Atlanta's Leading Ladies. Ariel won the Lewis Sudler Prize in the Arts and the Friends of Theater Emory Most Valuable Collaborator Award at Emory University. She won the Loidans Artist Encouragement Award in 2009, and the Mandela Washington Fellowship Reciprocal Exchange in 2018. Ariel serves on the Advancement Committee of Families First, and the Advisory Boards for the Atlanta Science Festival and Emory Center for Creativity and Arts. She is a foster parent, and she teaches arts administration and the concentration in arts management at Emory.