



## **Terry Olson**

**Director**

**Orange County Arts & Cultural Affairs**

Terry Olson has been Orange County's Director of Arts & Cultural Affairs since the County took the proactive approach to investing in the arts by setting aside a portion of the Tourist Development Tax for investing in the arts in 2001. The Arts & Cultural Office was created then and now oversees the County's financial investment in the arts, the Arts Education Center and the Public Art Program. Mr. Olson also currently serves as the president of the state-wide Florida Association of Public Art Professionals.

Previously he was the Executive Director of the Arts & Cultural Alliance which now serves seven Central Florida counties. Terry has been involved professionally in the Arts since he completed an M.A. in Theatre from the University of Minnesota. He moved to Florida in 1982 with SAK Theatre, a company he co-founded and managed for 21 years. Since moving to Orlando he has helped start and run more than a dozen arts groups including the Orlando Theatre Project, the Orlando International Fringe Festival, the Arts & Cultural Alliance, the Downtown Arts District and the Orange County Arts & Cultural Affairs department. He attends as many as 40 arts events each month and speaks to groups such as the prestigious TED conference in Tampa. Occasionally he still performs and was seen in Mad Cow Theatre's production of "12 Angry Men" this past summer.