

leeway foundation



GRANTS & AWARDS '09



leeward foundation



GRANTS & AWARDS '09

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.....	Introduction
2.....	Takes Your Breath Away
4.....	Our Work
6.....	History
2009 Art and Change Grant	
10.....	Recipients
72.....	Panelists
2009 Transformation Award	
76.....	Recipients
90.....	Panelists
92.....	Leeway Staff and Board
93.....	Community Partners
94.....	Previous Recipients



SO, HOW TO SUSTAIN deep, CREATIVE WORK FROM THE MARGINS? ADAPTATION AND EVOLUTION, PERHAPS

March 25, 2009, marked the occasion of what would have been the 70th birthday of writer, mother, cultural worker, organizer, mentor, beloved daughter, and friend Toni Cade Bambara (1939-1995), whose cultural practice and commitment to social change exemplified the kind of artist and practice Leeway exists to support.

For Toni, there was the potential for everything to be transformed. She was eternally curious, once telling me that she "suffered fools gladly" because as part of *our* community, they might have something important to say or to teach. She taught me about the nature of leadership and community in the way she lived, and like all truly great leaders, in the lineage she has left behind, each of us connected to the other through our love and respect for Toni — her humanity; her work as writer, cultural worker, and organizer; her love of (all) the people; and her joy in the effort. As poet, cultural worker, organizer, and educator Alice Lovelace said about her, "Thanks to her capacity to share of herself and her knowledge, she has many sprouts and branches. ... She taught us about the social responsibility of the artist."

It is my mother who gave me the capacity to believe anything is possible; it was Toni who helped me see how that might be true. How through art, culture, and community the world might be transformed. Her life was a stunning example of her belief that "a writer, like any other cultural worker, like any other member of the community, ought to try to put their skills in the service of the community."

Leeway Foundation awarded \$361,461 in grants and awards in 2009. This support went to 80 artists and cultural workers who are putting their skills in the service of communities all around the region. As in previous years, the breadth and depth of the work and the vision these practitioners manifest is inspiring to those involved — the Leeway staff, who generously support the artists at every stage of the process, and the panelists, who "bring it" every time, engaging in the process with equal amounts of care, curiosity, and rigor.

Although it's quite the challenge for me to find the words to describe how much of themselves each person puts into the grantmaking process at Leeway, former Transformation Award panelist Jenifer K. Wofford does it brilliantly in her essay on page 3, capturing the spirit of our intent with her keen eye and wry sense of humor.

My first reading left me humbled by her words, thinking: That's it! I love the idea that Leeway is part of some adaptive evolution of artistic and cultural practices and community, and I'm reminded that Jenifer's beautifully articulated experience of the process is only possible because of the vision, bravery, and generosity of Leeway's applicants, and their willingness to be vulnerable and share at such a deep level.

Many thanks to the board and staff of Leeway for the amount of time and energy they put into realizing our shared vision of the Foundation.

To our allies, colleagues, and partners, we appreciate your kinship and support. In particular, we would like to publicly acknowledge Claudine K. Brown, formerly of the Nathan Cummings Foundation, for her major contributions to the field of philanthropy, especially her key role in the development of a burgeoning cohort of art and social justice funders. We will miss your leadership, brilliance, imagination, and honesty. Thank you for everything and best wishes to you for great success in your new role at the Smithsonian.

And finally, I believe Toni's stories and legacy have a lot to teach about our need to adapt and evolve, about keeping pace and being relevant, and about staying connected to our communities — valuable lessons Leeway's applicants, grantees, and other community leaders teach me again and again. I like to think the possibilities of what we might build together would make Toni smile.

"We stand there with this big smile of respect between us. It's about as real a smile as girls can do for each other, considering we don't practice real smiling every day, you know, cause maybe we too busy being flowers or fairies or strawberries instead of something honest and worthy of respect ... you know ... like being people."

— Toni Cade Bambara, "Raymond's Run"



Denise M. Brown
Executive Director
Philadelphia, 2010

Photo by Joe Strasser

TAKES YOUR BREATH AWAY

When Leeway invited me to sit on a grant panel recently, I had a general idea of what to expect, but I was not prepared for the profundity of the experience. It humbled me to my core and put forth a number of inspiring models for how to embrace a better way of doing things (in the arts, in community, in organizations, as humans).

The conventions of jurying and granting committees usually look something like this: a dimly lit conference room. Stacks and stacks of application reading material. Brutally fast lightning rounds of work samples/slides, some extended fussing with the DVD player to get a funky disc to play. Impatience. Exhaustion. Coffee cups clutched and refilled. Bleary eyes. Squabbles over clashing pet agendas. At a certain point late in the game, a lack of patience or charity for work that requires both to appreciate. Everything runs overtime. While the decision-making process is actually quite fair, and the work is still interesting, the process can make it all a little uninspiring at times.

What Leeway Foundation does, and whom it awards its grants to, is nothing like this. Not in the slightest.

From the minute I started reading the Leeway binder full of artists' application materials, a paradigmatic shift began. This was much more than a grant. These were more than just artists. It was overwhelming, the level of commitment, fierceness, and compassion embedded in each applicant's words. Beyond the gift of sharing their craft, many people struggling to keep themselves afloat, or to recover from grim personal tragedies of their own — but there they were, asking for funds to help them continue dedicating themselves to others. Their personal narratives were part of the tales they told in their grant applications, but not in some solipsistic, narcissistic way — more in that "the personal is political" way. Their individual life experiences had given them the conviction to work deeply with others.

In talking about the jury process, I'm trying to get at this sense of what it is to bear witness to such incredibly intimate, deep work. It's about the extraordinary grantees and applicants who bring generosity, optimism, and vision to their creative practice.

It's almost certain that all of these grantees would be doing this work, regardless of the grant. Most of this work gets done without much expectation of public reward or recognition, so when it's acknowledged, it's utterly fantastic. There's a beautiful kind of reciprocity at work here: Respect and generosity beget more respect and generosity. Leeway helps creative, compassionate visionaries generate the most optimal conditions for work possible. What makes Leeway artists special has something to do with what the Leeway "market" rewards, honoring this work and encouraging its proliferation. It's paid forward, tenfold, by those who are then touched by what these artists share with the communities they work with.

Questions come up, about the impact of this work: What does it mean to be offered professional recognition and support for work that typically struggles to survive at the periphery? What happens when you are rewarded for using your creative gifts toward social change? How does this continue to manifest as you share this gift with your community?

For many artists, it's so easy to lose sight of one's own inherent self-worth or the reasons one started liking, making, and sharing one's art to begin with. And the feeling comes up, all too often: Why even bother, when everyone's fighting for the same scraps — some public exposure, maybe some critical validation, occasionally some actual money? Opportunities are paid for out of one's own pockets more often than not, and this is accepted as part of the deal until, often, one eventually burns out, packs it up, and moves on.

What keeps many artists going involves hanging on to those moments of actual joy and wonder: what it means to have a great creative breakthrough, or to hear someone say that they've been touched by a project or performance. Sometimes sheer obstinacy in the face of hostility, discrimination, or indifference can keep one going; to leave or quit is to be just one more trans/queer/woman/of color whose voice isn't getting heard. So, how to sustain deep, creative work from the margins? Adaptation and evolution, perhaps.

The people in this book are beautiful hybrid creatures, at once artists and activists, also mentors/teachers/guides/leaders. Their roles have moved them beyond their tamer traditional cultural habitats into richer, wilder, more diverse, community-oriented terrain. They are fierce, gifted, smart, and passionate. They gab and plot, imagine and unify. They demonstrate, daily, how to bring generosity, compassion, and imagination into a creative, social practice. They bring outrage, optimism, solidarity, and inclusiveness. They are determined to make their visions manifest.

It gives me this weird kind of hope that despite all of the challenges and disappointments and various and sundry culture wars, there are forces of good at work, and that we're all on track after all. We're adapting and evolving.

Back to that grant panel, however. Those of us on that panel were exhausted and emotional at the end of the process, but in the best, most humbling, exhilarating way. Leeway Foundation and its grantees are beautiful examples of the importance of generosity and not taking this work for granted. That it is actually honored. Between the incredible stories that applicants shared with us in their materials to the profoundly thoughtful, supportive way that the foundation nurtured the process, more than anything, it was clear ...



Photo by Sadi Brinsinger and Sandra House

There's so much love in this work it takes your breath away.

Jenifer K. Wofford, May 2010

Jenifer K. Wofford is a visual artist who makes multidisciplinary work that often addresses intercultural exchange and discourse. Jenifer is also an educator, curator, and founding member of Mail Order Brides/ M.O.B., a trio of Filipina-American artistic smart alecks. She served as a Transformation Award panelist in 2008. Evidence of her creative practice lives at www.wofflehouse.com.

OUR WORK

Support for individual artists is at the core of Leeway's mission. The foundation serves as an important resource for women and transgender artists who often struggle to find funding for their work and hopes to grow the way its resources – its funds, community space, and relationships – can support social change through art.

Leeway is...

Committed to examining and illuminating the relationship between art and social change.

Invested in art that has extraordinary vision, as well as art that expands the notion of art and the artist's place and connection to communities.

Committed to expanding the notion of art beyond the traditional canons.

Dedicated to exploring the role of the artist and how their participation and investment in community forwards the kind of world we want to see.

Devoted to building strong relationships with an international community of artists, curators, presenters, and producers who are working at the nexus of art, culture, and social change.

Purpose of Grant Programs

- Use foundation's resources to invest in artists who are committed to using their artistic practice to illuminate pressing social issues affecting their communities.
- Build community by expanding the community of artists interested in working at the intersection of art and social change and mentoring new and emerging practitioners.

- Help artists gain access and entrée by leveraging their affiliation with Leeway to increase the range and variety of resources available (i.e., space, additional funding, mentors, collaborators, and other kinds of support).
- Elevate the context within which the artists and their practices are profiled and how the work is presented.
- Help shape the field of art and social justice philanthropy.

Our grant programs, the Art and Change Grant and the Leeway Transformation Award, are open to women and transgender artists living in the Philadelphia region working in any medium of art, including traditional and nontraditional as well as multimedia and experimental forms. Creating change must be integral to the ideas, beliefs, and goals that are woven throughout the work and the process of creating and sharing the work.

HISTORY

Leeway's commitment to funding women and transgender artists creating social change through their art is the result of diligent work of the foundation to find new ways to more fully live out its mission.

Leeway began in 1993 as a foundation dedicated to supporting women artists in the Philadelphia area. It was funded by an initial gift from Philadelphia-based artist Linda Lee Alter. In the late 1990s, Leeway's leadership grew its commitment to art as a means of helping achieve social change. Inspiration for this commitment came from organizations and activist groups devoted to connecting art and social change, as well as from individuals in the Leeway community who believed in the powerful potential of this link.

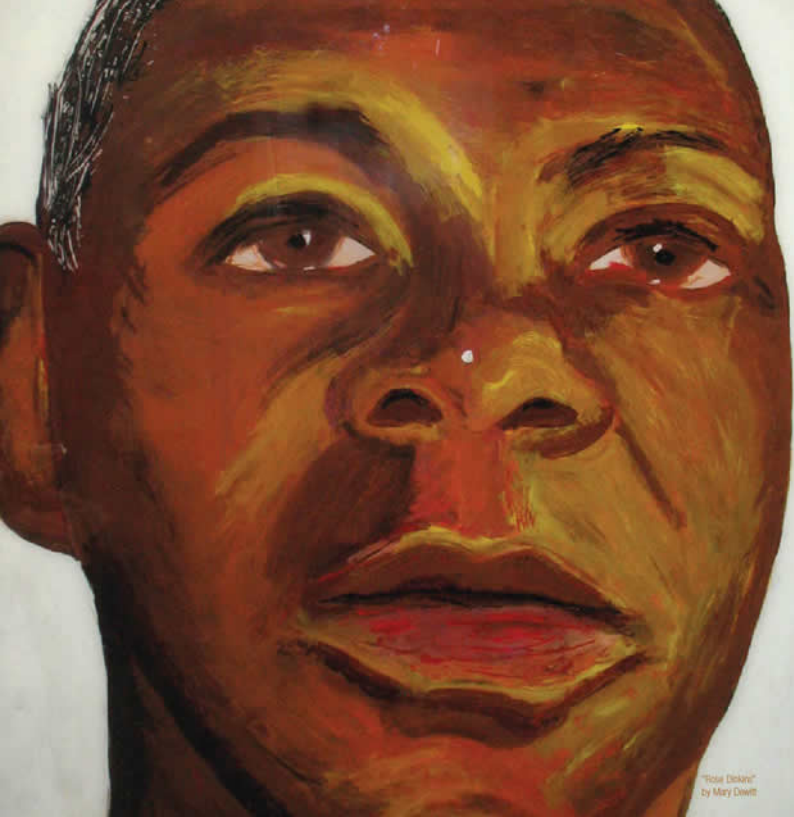
Leeway's leadership saw a chance for the foundation to contribute to larger movements for social justice. The idea of Leeway stepping up to this effort and taking a more active political stance was an exciting vision that many in the Leeway community rallied around.

In 2005, Leeway's donor family, board of directors, staff, and advisory council worked to transform the foundation in several remarkable ways. They engaged people of color in positions of influence and committed to a process of dismantling racism in organizational relationships, practices, policies, and programs. They moved decision-making power from a single-family-member structure to a board comprising people from the community and committed to an active framework of personal and political transformation. Then in 2006, they expanded Leeway's mission to support both women and transgender people who make art as a means for transforming individuals and communities.

This work did not happen overnight, nor with ease. The changes required the vision and hard work of dozens of committed board and advisory council members, staff, artists, activists, and community supporters.

Those in Leeway's community had to examine their commitment to its goals, face challenges to their perceptions, and consider new perspectives on the inequities that mark our world. Leeway's board and staff moved forward with the hope that other funders, organizations, and communities might be inspired to take their own paths to personal and political transformation.

In the summer of 2007, Leeway turned its focus to an intensive planning process to deepen and concretize its renewed vision. Over 40 interviews with Leeway stakeholders — past and current staff, past and current board members, grant applicants, awardees and grantees, review panelists, and community partners — were conducted by an independent consulting team. These interviews were distilled, edited, and published in December 2007, outlining a broad set of perspectives on Leeway's strengths, challenges, and opportunities for moving forward, providing a framework for the three-year strategic plan adopted by the board in late 2008.



"Hose Dinkins"
by Mary Dawitt



ART AND CHANGE GRANT

The Art and Change Grant provides project-based grants of up to \$2,500 to fund art for social change projects by women and transgender artists in the Delaware Valley region.

This grant is distributed three times per year.

In 2009, \$151,461 was granted to 65 women and transgender artists.



Neighborhood:
South Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Creative Access

Discipline:
Literary Arts & Visual Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



Photos by Loretha Calise

ADDY LONGO

Abby produced *Little Clerc*, a series of American Sign Language (ASL) books for children and parents, aiding in the understanding between hearing and deaf families. This project put in print what Longo has been teaching at the Expressive Hand, her ASL studio. As a deaf woman, Abby has faced many adversities, and through her books she created change in a fun and innovative manner.

Neighborhood:

Bella Vista

Change Partner:

Tanya Elaine Hamilton

Discipline:

Media Arts

Grant Amount:

\$2,500



ADRIENNE KENTON

Adrienne wrote *Harvesting Gold*, a feature-length screenplay set in South Carolina during the period of American slavery. Her epic story about an enslaved woman who is the protagonist and central focus in the film offered a dignified and culturally accurate perspective. Hoping to shift the mythology of romanticized plantation life, she shows how in the face of unimaginable brutality and terror, a people fought to maintain hope and were able to cultivate a rich culture that has profoundly influenced the collective American culture.



Neighborhood:
Overbrook Farms

Change Partner:
JUNTOS/Casa de los Soles

Discipline:
Visual Arts & Literary Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



AHDANAH

Using the power of photography, written word, and moving images, Ahdanah created a book of oral stories and photo essays documenting the Mexican community in South Philadelphia. It served to bring a multilayered dimension to the language of families and women, and to the regional differences of Mexican immigrants in South Philadelphia. Through the inclusion of these voices in daily life, alternative ways of speaking, writing, and self-expression contributed to their empowerment as a community. To complement this book, she produced a short documentary that serves to educate and inform this emerging community about their human rights as immigrants.

Neighborhood:

Germantown

Change Partner:

Nadine Patterson

Discipline:

Media Arts

Grant Amount:

\$2,500



AISHA GOSS

Aisha created the documentary film *Trial by Fire: Blessings Out of the Ashes* to portray the personal account of her family's heartache in losing everything to a house fire and the diverse community that supported them through this hardship. Expressing both the challenges and unexpected blessings that emerged from the fire, Aisha interviewed each of her family members, as well as members of the diverse and resilient community that supported them through tragedy. The film provided commentary on issues of homelessness, community building, and ways to provide resources for those in need, and created a dialogue between the artist and the audience, redefining the meaning of community and challenging the values of materialistic culture. Aisha held public screenings of the completed film and submitted it to be aired on local public television stations.



Photos by Janiya Gorman



Neighborhood:
Mount Airy

Change Partner:
Mansura Karim

Discipline:
Music & Media Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

AMATUS

Amatus developed a multidisciplinary media piece to explore the reasons for and aftermath of Philadelphia's high homicide rates from 2006 to 2008. Her music/documentary, *I Didn't Know*, creates space for Philadelphia's community members to question and express why this city was ranked No. 1 in the nation for homicide fatality in 2006. It follows the testimonies of victims of gun violence in hopes of framing the delicate relationship between tragedy and change. Personal accounts from community members create a backdrop and context of voices that the 664 deceased left behind that year. This explication in sound and media included interviews and original music from local Philadelphia artists and victims' families.

Photo by Deborah Johnson

Neighborhood:
Cobbs Creek Park

Change Partner:
Carrie Jacobs,
The Attic Youth Center

Discipline:
Literary Arts & Visual Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



ANGELA V. HARVEY

Angela interviewed 25 young lesbians ages 17 to 24 and compiled biographies, photos, and short stories that described their coming-out stories. She put together a booklet portraying their personal relationships, the reactions of their parents, family members, and peers in a way that will reach out to the community. These short stories included obstacles they have faced and overcome. Serving as a positive influence and a peer mentor, she provided guidance for others who might otherwise feel alone in their situations. Compiling these stories created a venue for expression, building a positive sense of community for these women who live in a society that is not always accepting of their identities. The booklets were distributed at The Attic Youth Center and surrounding community spaces.



Photos by Nyke & Quisha Powell



Neighborhood:
Yeadon

Change Partner:
Dr. Paula Matabane

Discipline:
Literary Arts & Performance

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

BARBARA ANN GRANT

Barbara wrote and performed a multimedia story of the struggles she and her 85-year-old mother are facing to combat the social, emotional, and health problems that arise with the coming of age in Philadelphia. The realization of this story through performance gave a voice to African American mothers and daughters, providing a foundation to build strategies and push for nursing home alternatives that support families. These interactive presentations used intimate nontraditional mediums to provide an independent point of view on senior care. Unfiltered by mass media and presented to the hearts of real families overcoming the transitions with their elders, Barbara inspired a stronger senior care advocacy movement.

Neighborhood:
West Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Blanche Epps

Discipline:
Crafts and Textiles
& Folk Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



BETTY LEACRAFT

Betty created Gifts From Mother Earth, which married the folk art of gardening with quilting and fabric design. It celebrated West Philadelphia, youth and elders sharing stories of medicinal plant remedies and built a forum for their preservation. Creating these quilts empowered the community and allowed the memories of women and family members who possess the knowledge of medicinal plants and their uses to continue on through generations.





Neighborhood:
Camden

Change Partner:
Evelyn Dormekpor

Discipline:
Multidisciplinary

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



BEVERLY COLLINS-ROBERTS

Beverly created a documentary film concerning the aftermath of slavery on both sides of the world, primarily in Ghana and Camden, N.J. In 2002 she discovered the secret of slavery and plantations in her hometown of Camden. She later revealed it to the world in 2005 through a multimedia art exhibition, showing her images of the slave mansion Pomona Hall, which had never been seen before as such. Later that year she made a short documentary film entitled *Unhushed* and even traveled to Ghana in 2008 to photograph and film the slave castles and to open up a dialogue with the people there. This part of the project, a documentary film entitled *The Journey*, serves as her own personal journey as well as the journey thrust upon our ancestors over 400 years ago and shares some of the thoughts and feelings of those we have been disconnected from for many lifetimes. It is about those conversations we don't want to have, but must: about the umbilical cord that was severed forever and what it has done to us all.

Neighborhood:

Darby

Change Partner:

Martina Allen Johnson

Discipline:

Visual Arts

Grant Amount:

\$2,500



CELESTINE WILSON HUGHES

The Black Women's Project was a two-dimensional stain glass "installation sculpture" that integrated still and video images of mothers and daughters sharing their dreams. This new work was created based on dialogues and interviews with mothers/caregivers and daughters in the African American Darby community where Celestine lives. She also shared her own story alongside those of her subjects, discussing why women are important to the world and their dreams and aspirations. Through this art circle she hopes that the caretakers will remember how much power they still have, to not just manifest their dreams, but to support their daughters' dreams as well. She photographed and videotaped each session. The mothers and daughters are not only the inspiration and subject of this work; their images and voices made the Black Women's Project speak volumes.



Photos by Luwelle Collins

Neighborhood:
West Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Unity Fellowship of
Christ Church

Discipline:
Performance,
Multidisciplinary

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



CHARLENE AROILA

Charlene facilitated *Trans Journey*, a performance space where trans-identified men and women actors speak about their experiences to an interactive audience. By educating the community in a creative manner about transgender issues and lifestyles, Charlene opened the paths for more understanding and knowledge. All were invited to the congregation during Transgender Day to acknowledge the struggle of "coming out, going through, and coming in."

Photo by Beverly Collier Roberts

Neighborhood:
South Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Emmanuelle Delpech-Ramey

Discipline:
Performance

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



CHARLOTTE FORD

Charlotte created a one-woman clown show about being female in our modern world and performed it at cabarets around the city. She used the comedic and poetic form of clown to address fear, sexuality, and gender, all from a female perspective rarely seen on stage or in our modern media. Clown is a vivid physical and emotional articulation of the truth, and shares emotional vulnerability and honesty with the audience. Charlotte performed excerpts of this clown play in a variety of venues throughout 2009 and 2010 with the aim of developing interactive improvisatory skills, creating a full-length one-woman clown show, and being seen by as diverse an audience as possible.



Photo by AJ Baker, by Dan



Neighborhood:
Northern Liberties

Change Partner:
Unified Taxi Workers
Alliance of Pennsylvania

Discipline:
Media Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

deBORAH RUdMAN

In collaboration with Termite TV Collective, Deborah Rudman produced the documentary *Yo! Taxi* about the struggles of Philadelphia area taxi drivers who have been marginalized. Through conversations, testimonials and activities with the Unified Taxi Workers Alliance, the experiences of this highly visible yet silenced population come to life. Creating this unique portraiture brings into focus taxi drivers' rights, safety conditions, access to health care, and issues of economic justice. This documentary reveals the human face and voice of a community of workers that is so often forgotten.



Photos by: Debra Rudman,
Muzian Kadiemeyan, "Ossu Tashel"

Neighborhood:
West Oak Lane

Change Partner:
Scribe Video Center

Discipline:
Media Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



DINA DASHIELL

Dina Dashiell created the short documentary *When Everybody Goes Home*, which explores her life experience, witnessing over 30 years of homicides in Philadelphia. Her slain loved ones happened to all be black males killed by other black males. She has lost many men in her village, including a current case, her cousin's son. Her documentary will honor these forgotten men and provide the community with a platform to speak, reflect, and honor the memory of their loved ones. Dina is a member of a tightly knit family and neighborhood that have experienced very tragic loss on a large scale. It is her goal to spread awareness of how many lives have been changed immeasurably when a loved one is taken by homicide. The documentary will counter the ways in which news footage has become increasingly impersonal — presenting statistics rather than the truths of individual families destroyed by murders; it also provides a place for black men to articulate their emotional anguish, however painful, to engage the audience and help end the violence in Philadelphia and across the world.





Neighborhood:
Graduate Hospital

Change Partner:
Sana Khouri Accad

Discipline:
Multidisciplinary

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

DINA KHOURI

Dina created a children's book in English and Arabic entitled *How Old is Basma's Jiddo?* The book is written from the perspective of Basma, who wants to find out just how old her grandfather is. Using the game of backgammon, Basma's grandfather teaches her how to count and introduces her to an ancient game that culturally is only played by men. This book hopes to present a positive example of an Arab grandfather fostering the intellectual curiosity of his granddaughter.

Neighborhood:

Wayne

Change Partner:

Lucy Duncan

Discipline:

Visual Arts & Literary
Arts

Grant Amount:

\$2,500



ELIZABETH CASTIGLIONE

Elizabeth Castiglione is an artist and writer whose work focuses on the tensions between art-making, motherhood, and mental illness. She created an art book entitled *Stumbling in the Dark: Art, Motherhood, and Mental Illness*. Compiled from over eight years of work, it consists of 150 sketchbook drawings of her children sleeping, accompanied by handwritten journal entries describing, often humorously, her pregnancies, her children's development, her angst about her identity as an artist, as well as her journeys into depression, mania, and psychosis. Elizabeth received her B.A. from Yale University and her M.F.A. from the University of Washington in Seattle. She has taught art at Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia. In February of 2010 she spoke at Kelly Writers House at the University of Pennsylvania, and the reading aired on WXPX in March. She currently works part-time at a local Friends school.



Photos by Lucretia Collins



Neighborhood:
East Kensington

Change Partner:
South Camden Theatre
Company, Camden
Shipyards and
Maritime Museum

Discipline:
Media Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

ERICA VANSTONE

Erica produced a half-hour documentary on the South Camden Theatre Company's production, *Last Rites*. Through archival materials and interviews, she provided historical reference, bringing to life South Camden's economically depressed plight for rebirth. This production documented the use of theater as a catalyst for change, through art and storytelling.



Photo by Beverly Collins Roberts

Neighborhood:
North Philadelphia

Change Partner:
International Capoeira
Angola Foundation

Discipline:
Folk Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



eva AGDAdA

Eva participated in a master-level training intensive in the Angola style of the traditional Brazilian martial art, capoeira. The intensive training takes place in Bahia with the Grupo Nzinga, which is a capoeira Angola group led by two female master teachers. This project sought to explore and develop connections between women who practice this art form. In learning and practice, women improved confidence, physical ability, and the tools to be a powerful voice in their communities. Since the majority of master teachers (*mestres*) in capoeira are men, it is rare and difficult to find opportunities to train and learn from female *mestres*. After returning to Philadelphia from the training, she held a series of workshops for women interested in both learning the form and intensifying their existing practice.



Photo by Anjali Bhatia



Neighborhood:
West Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Ms. Rosetta Houston

Discipline:
Literary Arts &
Visual Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

GAVIN OUTLAW

Gavin composed a book of poetry and art related to his life as a transgender artist, including everything from love to politics. Raising consciousness by utilizing artistic prose as a form of empowerment to the trans community, he challenged transphobia and questioned mainstream beliefs about the abilities of trans artists. He inspired unity among his transgender community that is beyond race and class through poetry and books.



Photos by Zoe Strauss

Neighborhood:
Coatesville

Change Partner:
Tina Morton

Discipline:
Multidisciplinary

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



GERI ALLEN

Geri created an event to share the history of individuals, families, and the greater community of Coatesville. In addition to showcasing the talents of local people, the event provided a forum for community members to share stories and food and display their art and handmade crafts. There also was a memorial tribute to children who have been lost over the years to violence. Born and raised in the community where she works, Geri used the event to pass the knowledge of a community and its triumphs and struggles from one generation onto another.





Neighborhood:
South Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Enche Tjin

Discipline:
Literary Arts &
Multidisciplinary

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

INDAH NURITASARI

Indah facilitated four memoir-writing workshops for 15 female Indonesian immigrants and migrant workers. These marginalized women usually are out-of-status and have low education. These workshops gave a voice and empowered these women to come together and share their experiences. The writings created in these workshops were published in Indonesian and English books with photography and multimedia documentation.

Photos by Enche Tjin, Beverly Collins-Roberts

Neighborhood:
Germantown

Change Partner:
Thelma Shelton
Robinson

Discipline:
Folk Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



IRMA GARDNER-HAMMOND

Irma led The Mountaintop Experience, a rites-of-passage series designed for mature women. As a Germantown community leader and storyteller for over 20 years, she facilitated this workshop helping to alter the way society portrays the menopausal period of women's lives. She empowered women through identifying later life's gifts, strengths, and wisdom, and developed new rituals, by using storytelling, music, art, and expressive crafts.



Photos by Shilley Riley



Neighborhood:
Spring Garden,
Bala Cynwyd

Change Partner:
Sonia Sanchez

Discipline:
Media Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

JANET GOLDWATER & BARBARA ATTIE

Janet and Barbara began production on a documentary video about the remarkable life and art of internationally recognized poet and activist Sonia Sanchez. Documenting Sonia as an artist, teacher, loving family member, and committed community activist will preserve her legacy and teachings for future generations. Through crucial interviews, live readings of Sonia's poetry, historical footage, and an evocative original soundtrack, the finished piece will both chronicle and inspire artistic achievement and social change.

Photo by Alan Ungar/Photo

Neighborhood:
West Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Community Education
Center

Discipline:
Performance & Folk Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



JAYE ALLISON

Jaye created Philly Tap Challenge on Fire! built on the foundations of tap dance and its relevance in today's world. Jaye upholds the torch passed to her through her many mentors and teachers. Philadelphia is a historical site for street dance rhythms from the 1930s to the '80s and the African Americans whose contributions led to making tap and street dance synonymous with Philadelphia. Jaye created the two-day annual festival paying tribute to the legacy left behind and put into place by these famous African Americans by producing 25 events, classes, teacher trainings, and history lessons with top Philadelphia and internationally known artists.



Photos by Zoe Shuman



Neighborhood:
West Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Spiral Q Puppet Theater

Discipline:
Multidisciplinary

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

JENNIFER TURNDULL

Jennifer created a clear, colorful, and easy-to-use artistic map of Philadelphia's public transportation system. In the process of creating the map, Jennifer raised up the voices and visions of communities that are often silenced, as well as connected and mobilized segregated Philadelphia communities. Combining elements of cartography, visual art, text, and community storytelling, the map spread awareness of stories from neighborhoods around the city. Jennifer plans for the map to help people make choices in planning their own journeys through Philadelphia.



Photos by Loretha Calisa, Fey

Neighborhood:
University City

Change Partner:
The A-Space Anarchist
Community Space

Discipline:
Literary Arts & Crafts
and Textiles

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



JESSE WHITE

To combat self-stigmatization and foster positive self-identity for the trans community of greater Philadelphia, this creative writing and altered book-making project served to offer a safe and nurturing atmosphere for self-reflection and self-expression, as well as strengthening community. Participants constructed their individual stories through the creation of altered books. Each artist met once a week for two hours, for a total of nine weeks, and transformed an existing book into a new work of art using various techniques. The last session provided an exhibition opportunity for those participants who wished to share and celebrate their work with friends and family.



Neighborhood:
East Falls,
West Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Asian Americans United

Discipline:
Multidisciplinary

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



Photos by Lovella Calica

JOAN MAY T. CORDOVA & KATHY SHIMIZU

Joan and Kathy created a book and exhibit documenting the annual Mid-Autumn Festival in Philadelphia's Chinatown. The festival, the community's largest traditional cultural event, draws thousands of people through grassroots community organizing efforts. The artists' project showed how the festival represents intergenerational families coming together to celebrate, to build community, and to affirm their culture. The festival serves as a resource for sustaining this last remaining community of color in Philadelphia's Center City, and a means for pushing back against predatory development schemes. The project included the production of original block prints and photographs depicting scenes from the festival and the development of text from existing festival documents, interviews, and poetry. Through this work, the artists hope to hone their artistic skills and raise awareness of the significance of the Mid-Autumn Festival while changing people's consciousness and understanding of the community in Chinatown.

Neighborhood:

Glenside

Change Partner:

Vena Jefferson

Discipline:

Folk Arts & Performance

Grant Amount:

\$2,500



JOANN FRASIER dASENT

Through theater, storytelling, and historical reenactment, Joann created a program on African American history for youth ages 11 to 17 in her community. The theater program focused on the accomplishments of abolitionists such as Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglas, the Colored Soldiers of Camp William Penn, and Lucretia Mott. Through the project, participants learned about Cremona Frey, the first African American woman to own over 198 acres of land, part of which is now called Glenside (formerly known as Guineatown), and other historical contributions of African Americans in Philadelphia and Montgomery County—specifically in the communities of LaMott and Glenside. Additionally, youth learned dialogues and acting techniques from professional actors and historians, and performed their work at the LaMott Community Center.



Photos by Renald Dasent



Neighborhood:
Francisville

Change Partner:
Project H.O.M.E

Discipline:
Literary Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

JULIA GALETTI

In order to overcome the stigma of parole and homelessness, Julia taught a beginners' writing class and organized a book signing for residents and visitors of Project H.O.M.E. She published the writers' work, all while photographing and documenting the process and giving hope to these individuals. As a formerly homeless woman, she strives to bring awareness to this problem and prevent relapse.



Photo by Richard Brown

Neighborhood:
Northeast Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Lonnie Grant

Discipline:
Visual Arts &
Literary Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



LEO T. WATT'S

Leo followed the lives of five female-to-male transgender people of color who have been on hormone therapy for five years and beyond as they navigated their professional, personal, and social lives. Documenting these vital experiences on video captured the emotional development directly related to hormone therapy and the shift in day-to-day life of becoming a male of color.



Neighborhood:
Mount Airy

Change Partner:
Gas & Electric Arts

Discipline:
Performance

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

LISA JO EPSTEIN

Lisa Jo developed a curriculum and conducted outreach for Power Grrls, an after-school theater-based program that will work with underserved teen girls from Northwest Philadelphia. Its goals are to use Theater of the Oppressed-based techniques to build a vibrant teen girl ensemble that will develop and perform a high-quality interactive theater piece about issues that matter to them. The girls will express personal and social issues while learning core performance skills. Power Grrls will develop their potential as creative thinkers in terms of artistic expression and how to respond to the world, and freely identify and learn to deal with conflict. It will also foster leadership skills as these girls become peer mentors to the newer Power Grrls who join the program.

Photos by Heather Zimmerman,
David Brown, Bill Case

Neighborhood:

Blue Bell

Change Partner:

Philadelphia Dance
Projects

Discipline:

Performance & Crafts
and Textiles

Grant Amount:

\$2,500



LISA KRAUS

Lisa created Red Thread, a project for six women dance artists, three in their late 50s and three in their mid-20s, that was inspired from women's quilting circles, where art is made communally, patterns are shared, and conversation and togetherness take part in creating something of both utility and beauty. Showings, workshops, and performances transmitted the depth and importance of women's relationships with each other, the ongoing transmission across generations, and the value of elders in communities. Red Thread also acted as a forum for older women artists to share with each other, their next generation counterparts, and with audiences in general, to spread their counterculture sociopolitical messages of their work in a workshop setting. Their aim was to celebrate human communication, aging, and healthy, sustainable use of our bodies. The project culminated with performances and workshops in March 2010.





Neighborhood:
Graduate Hospital

Change Partner:
Philadelphia Folklore
Project

Discipline:
Folk Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



Photos by Thomas B. Morton

LOIS FERNANDEZ

Lois recorded her personal life experiences on tape and had them transcribed, both for the public record and for Odunde's archives. She shared her memoirs in an Odunde program book and website, a children's book, and public readings. She talked about how Odunde came to be, how it has impacted her life, and what it means as an African-centered community festival. She shared the struggles to maintain the festival and the battle for community rights and education, and against gentrification. Lois believes that these are the lessons about self-determination, cultural survival, and cultural health that are important to pass on to the next generation: to inspire and encourage others to follow their dreams as the festival has done for her.

Neighborhood:
Southampton

Change Partner:
Ann's Choice

Discipline:
Literary Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



Photos by Beverly Collier-Rosetti

LYNN LEVIN

Lynn conducted a series of poetry writing workshops at Ann's Choice, a nonprofit retirement community in her neighborhood. The program was called Dip Your Pen in the Well of Experience, and was designed to help residents explore, meditate on, and celebrate their evolving self-images as elders living in a group setting and to dispel any ageist notions that might exist. The project helped the participants build new ties through the shared endeavor of poetry reading and poetry writing. It also helped them present aging as a time for artistic growth and personal enrichment. In their poems and in their group discussions, the members of the workshop revealed their humor, wisdom, courage, and creativity. The project culminated in the publication of *Poems from the Well of Experience: Poems by Ann's Choice Poets*, an anthology of the participants' poems, and a poetry reading presented by workshop participants.



Neighborhood:
Germantown

Change Partner:
Janaki Patrik

Discipline:
Folk Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

MADHUSMITA DORA

Madhusmita championed a conservation effort for *satriya* dance by creating a bridge for exchanging ideas related to preservation issues in Philadelphia and Majuli Island (where *satriya* originates). *Satriya* was introduced over 600 years ago by Sankardev, an Indian reformer, and has since evolved and flourished mostly in monasteries along Majuli Island. Now this rich cultural tradition, barely visible in the West, is under attack from geographical, social, and political changes. Through her dance and interactive performances, Madhusmita helped to keep this culturally rich and empowering tradition alive.

Photo by Madhusmita Dora

Neighborhood:
University City

Change Partner:
Youth Health
Empowerment Project

Discipline:
Media Arts &
Performance

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



Photos by Lisa M. Oates

MARIE ALAROÓN

Marie facilitated a six-week program culminating in a video created by youth that utilizes the drop-in resources of the Youth Health Empowerment Project (Y-HEP). The projects depicted personal stories of the youth in highly creative ways, such as animation, dance, and skits in their own eyes and voices. By creating these artistic video documents, the youth directly addressed the missing representations of themselves among their communities and in mass media.



Neighborhood:
Cheltenham Village

Change Partner:
Baba Oba Lumi
Ogunseye

Discipline:
Literary Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



Photos by Ron Allen

MARILYN KAI JEWETT

Marilyn produced *Wisdom of My Elders*, a book that documents the vital and forgotten rituals of acknowledging and honoring one's ancestors. By studying with Oba Lumi Ogunseye on the importance of the *egun* (ancestral spirits) in the Yoruba tradition, Marilyn compiled essential primary resources on these rituals. At the culmination of her project she presented a workshop during Black History Month to teach her community how to commemorate their ancestors through song, drum, and libation ceremonies.

Neighborhood:

Media

Change Partner:

Painted Bride Art Center

Discipline:

Visual Arts & Media Arts

Grant Amount:

\$2,500



MARY DEWITT

Mary visited seven life-sentenced women at SCI Muncy and SCI Cambridge Springs prisons to paint their portraits and record their voices. The finished work was exhibited at the Painted Bride Art Center in fall 2010 and on Mary's website. Through this project, which is a continuation of a body of work she's been developing for many years, Mary brought wider visibility to the lives of this hidden population of women, and helped to raise public awareness of life-sentencing laws unique to Pennsylvania and the impact on those incarcerated, their families, and the community at large. Mary has known most of these women for over a decade and she is passionate about bringing their stories to the public using real faces and voices as a way of exploring the long-term consequences of life sentences without parole that are not often articulated.



Photo: Courtesy of Mary DeWitt



Neighborhood:
West Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Hawley Fogg-Davis

Discipline:
Media Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



Photos by Beverly Collins-Roberts

MOLIK M. HARVEY

Molik produced a documentary interviewing surgeons, religious leaders, scholars, and transgender individuals about the implications of female-to-male (FTM) gender transformation in American society. He challenged us all to think about whether there are moral, ethical, political, and cultural implications involved by asking questions and providing answers on deeper social implications and levels of accountability associated with participating in FTM gender transformation. Molik's goals for this film are to alter how we think about ourselves and question mainstream beliefs about the dynamics of equality, power, and privilege associated with this kind of transformation.

Neighborhood:

Mount Airy

Change Partner:

Trans Masculine
Advocacy Network
(TMAN), Lonnie Grant

Discipline:

Media Arts & Visual Arts

Grant Amount:

\$2,500



Photos by Zoe Strauss

MORGAN RICH

Morgan created a website and online magazine showcasing the success of self-identified trans men of color. This project employed a collection of photographs and films from the trans community telling their stories in different stages of transition. By presenting these personal stories, photographs, and films in varied settings and stages of transition, Morgan hoped to facilitate a positive movement that brings optimism and understanding to this underserved and marginalized community.



Neighborhood:
Germantown

Change Partner:
Adrian Lowe

Discipline:
Visual Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



Photo by Najee

NAJEE

Najee launched a progressive clothing line that challenges society's notion of gender. Najee recycled clothes, modifying them to create coordinated outfits blending textures and mixing symbolism, especially regarding gender and race. In addition to sewing, Najee used airbrushing to create original fabric patterns, adding messages exploring these issues. Najee's designs are meant to raise consciousness, break gender stereotypes of maleness and femaleness, and open the mainstream community's eyes to the spectrum of gender that exists in our society. Najee staged a fashion show at the 5th Annual Trans-Black History Month Awards Celebration in 2010. Najee's work and gift to create was passed down to them by the three influential women of color in their life, their grandmother, Ms. Conway; their mother, Ms. Vee C. Berry; and their loving aunt, Ms. Gloria Brown.

Neighborhood:
Bella Vista

Change Partner:
Pequeñas Comunidades

Discipline:
Visual Arts & Media Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



NORA HIRIART LITZ

Nora led and completed the first phase of *El Viaje*, an ongoing project that uses the arts to raise awareness of the real struggles of the rising immigrant Mexican community in South Philadelphia. She conducted a series of workshops that invited immigrant Mexican families to engage in open dialogue using writing, printmaking, and video to record their stories. Originally from Mexico herself, Nora's goal was to connect with Mexican women, men, and children in a safe space where they can begin to communicate their similar struggles, sacrifices, triumphs, and realities as immigrants in Philadelphia.



Photo by Zoe Shinn



Neighborhood:
Germantown

Change Partner:
Young Friends Society,
Kenya C. Ramey

Discipline:
Performance & Music

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

PHELENA JEAN

Phelena produced a theater adaptation of jazz musician Nina Simone's song "Four Women" in an effort to spark dialogue about the traditions, myths, history, image, and contemporary presence of women descended from African slaves. Using theater, music, dance, and spoken word, Phelena's adaptation explored how black women have historically negotiated spirituality, social identity, militant resistance, and sexuality under the pervasive forces of oppression. By theatrically exploring black female phenomena relative to race, class, and gender, the project encouraged intergenerational discourse about the significance and future of the black feminist movement.



Photos by Stephen Hutzpfe

Neighborhood:
Center City

Change Partner:
Emmanuel
Munyarukumbuzi

Discipline:
Performance

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



REBECCA dAVIS

Rebecca created *Differences*, a cross-cultural collaboration utilizing dance to spark community discussion about ethnic differences. She worked with professional dancers in Rwanda and students in Philadelphia to examine the challenges and benefits of living in a diverse community. The substance of the program used the success stories of perpetrators and survivors living together in a post-genocide Rwanda as a case-study. Parallels were drawn to contemporary American society, where we experience similar challenges in dealing with ethnicity, race, and gender every day.





Neighborhood:
Oak Lane

Change Partner:
Ray Jones

Discipline:
Literary Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

RHASHIDAH PERRY-JONES

Rhashidah's project was part memoir and part informational book sharing her experiences raised as an African American girl with ADHD. She included interviews with parents/guardians raising children with ADHD, as well as children who suffer from the disorder. Through her experiences as a mother, Rhashidah understands the challenges and struggles associated with this condition, and has seen many girls who have gone undiagnosed and untreated, thus worsening ADHD symptoms and creating other social manifestations. This book serves as a vehicle for discussion and a tool for organizing, and provides opportunities for healing, education, and community.

Photos by Zoe Strauss

Neighborhood:
Southwest Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Leigh Seelman

Discipline:
Folk Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



RICK FEELY

Using his background in Western mystery traditions (Wicca and alchemy) and folk art disciplines (natural perfumery and herbalism), Rick created Liquid Alchemy, a line of aromatic oils made from ingredients with traditional magical properties. In many pre-imperialist traditions, trans and gender-variant people were recognized as embodying gifts of transformation and healing. Today their access to holistic and mainstream health care is limited and they are often positioned as powerless or mentally ill within the social order. Rick hosted a summer workshop where trans and gender-variant community members could experiment with making aromatic and magical oils to use on themselves. With this project, Rick seeks to challenge the medical colonization of gender-variant people, to restore mystery traditions and healing folk arts as part of trans health and trans identity, and to provide access to affordable holistic healing products via Liquid Alchemy. Rick first debuted Liquid Alchemy as an exhibition at Fun-a-Day 2010.



Photos by Rick Feely



Neighborhood:
Center City

Change Partner:
Taller Puertorriqueño

Discipline:
Visual Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

SANDRA ANDINO

Sandra created a series of photographic portraits of Afro-Latinos in Philadelphia that will be shown in an exhibition to the general public, community residents, and families of the individuals portrayed in the project. The idea is to represent in photos the presence of Afro-Latinos in Philadelphia and record their experiences and opinions about being Afro-Latinos in the urban diaspora. Sandra engaged in a series of conversations with the selected participants to discuss what it means to be Afro-Latino and how they are represented. Excerpts of these conversations accompanied the portraits of these individuals and provided context and meaning. The goal of the exhibition is to create social awareness and a collective conscience about the connection of Latinos and Latinas to Africa and the presence of African heritage expressed in their culture.



Photo by Beverly Collins Brown

Neighborhood:
East Mount Airy

Change Partner:
Betty Ann, David Fellner

Discipline:
Media Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



SARA ZIA EDRAHIMI

Sara Zia is an Iranian American filmmaker and community activist. She uses storytelling through filmmaking as a means of community building in her neighborhood by running a weekly film screening series, The Flickering Light (TFL). TFL offers an opportunity to filmmakers from around the world to exhibit their work to local audiences year-round, particularly to those whose work is marginalized even in independent film circles. The series is also building community by reviving an empty, unused building and adding to the cultural opportunities in her neighborhood.



Photo by Sarah Higgins



Neighborhood:
West Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Morgan Fitzpatrick
Andrews

Discipline:
Performance

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



SARAH LOWRY

Through Missoula Oblongata, an experimental theater company, Sarah taught a free 30-hour workshop in collaborative theater making. The workshop was open to the public and culminated in a public performance of work created by the students. The workshop offered students the tools to create vibrant, exciting theater and live performance within their own communities using limited resources. The act of fostering local, live performance within a community empowered both the performers and the audience to use the skills and self-confidence gained as a result of the workshop. Sarah hopes students took the tools they learned in the workshop — expansive, creative thinking; mining and use of personal resources; self-empowerment; communication; and faith in one's own ideas and aesthetic — and applied them to other aspects of their lives once the workshop was finished.

Neighborhood:
University City

Change Partner:
Theresa Williams

Discipline:
Performance

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



SEKAI

Sekai produced *Ms. Pearl's Spirit: In the Mysteries of Mirrors*, a poetic musical written from a mature woman of color's point of view that depicted the daily rhythms, challenges, obstacles, and joys of our contemporary urban neighborhoods. *Ms. Pearl's* point of view was based on the idea that a profound change in the inner life of an individual can transform the community because the individual is a part of the whole. Sekai is committed to raising consciousness and uniting multicultural and intergenerational communities.



Neighborhood:
South Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Jovon Eldridge

Discipline:
Performance & Music

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

SELINA CARRERA

Selina Carrera launched a monthly event, The F.res h I.nnovative X.perience (The FIX), to showcase independent artists in the tri-state area. The event sought to combat the negative images often created through the mainstream music and entertainment industry and created a safe haven for young adults outside the common "club" scene. Along with the monthly musical showcase, Selina also provided youth workshops on spoken word performance and poetry to encourage youth to channel their emotions through a positive medium. As a recording artist who walked away from a contract with a major label, Selina hopes to use this project to create a powerful outlet for emerging independent artists.

Neighborhood:
Northeast Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Leo T. Watts

Discipline:
Multidisciplinary

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



SHAWN HUNTER

Shawn created a documentary about the ballroom scene in Philly's GLBT community — giving familiar and unfamiliar viewers alike an up close and personal look into the preparation, execution, and aftermath of six balls in Philadelphia and surrounding areas. Interviews with house members, judges, spectators, and ball veterans, as well as his own personal experience as a new member of the scene, allowed Shawn to explore some of the reasons why so many ball participants have been excluded from the mainstream modeling and fashion industries.



Neighborhood:
Center City

Change Partner:
Louis Ortiz

Discipline:
Media Arts &
Performance

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

SKY

Sky produced *The Audition*, a short film that depicts seven young spoken word artists and how their lives have been impacted by the HIV epidemic. This film utilized a combination of acting, music, poetry, and spoken word to promote conversations about HIV and youth in our communities. Sky facilitated these young people into becoming change agents via performance art, helping to eliminate the stigma about HIV/AIDS.



Neighborhood:
Germantown

Change Partner:
Oasis Arts Center

Discipline:
Multidisciplinary

Grant Amount:
\$391



STACEY RODINSON

Stacey held a six-month workshop at Oasis Arts Studio where she interviewed women between the ages of 23 and 50 who have some form of mental health issues. She facilitated the women in expressing significant experiences in their lives, from the day they started to feel symptoms to when they felt their lives fell apart, and the road to recovery. Through drawing, art journaling, and weaving, she hopes to have helped the women build self-esteem for themselves and their communities.



Neighborhood:
Jenkintown

Change Partner:
Kathy L. Rumer,
Nancy Zieber

Discipline:
Visual Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



SUSAN COLLINS

Susan created a video documentary depicting the cultural and social realities that transgender people face in her region, especially within the health care system. The documentary was shown to health care professionals in the Delaware Valley as an educational tool to aid in their understanding of trans issues. Susan provided an inclusive view of those who identify as transgender in the documentary, interviewing each participant and allowing time for her subjects to share personal expressions (e.g., art, music). The project will facilitate a re-examination of concepts and stereotypes regarding trans people and dispel the myths, fear, and prejudice that often exist regarding trans people, resulting in more accepting and compassionate medical treatment. Susan arranged to have the film shown in health care facilities throughout the Delaware Valley.

Neighborhood:
South Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Philadelphia Folklore
Project

Discipline:
Literary Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



SUZANNE POVSE

Suzanne, a former tool-and-die maker, located and interviewed women who have worked in nontraditional blue collar factory jobs, including welders, electricians, machinists, tool-and-die makers, sheet metal workers, mold makers, and others. She conducted research on the history of local women's presence in these professions and recorded their stories, bringing them together in a series of gatherings to share their daily experiences, support one another, and create change in their respective workplaces through recognizing the historical importance and cultural value of women working in industrial careers. As a feminist who worked as a skilled tradesperson for more than 30 years and faced countless challenges, Suzanne sought out other women with a consciousness of developing their own ways to preserve their role in these male-dominated trades.





Neighborhood:
Lower Makefield,
Germantown

Change Partner:
Mary Salva-Reans

Discipline:
Media Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



Photos by Beverly Collins-Roberts

TATIANA DACOHUS & CYMANDÉ LEWIS

Tatiana and Cymande produced *Porches*, a documentary that examined the lives of some of Philadelphia's greatest treasures — the elderly. *Porches* captured the oral traditions and historical events of five African American women, ages 95 to 105, who live in Philadelphia and have witnessed the city's highs and lows. Tatiana and Cymande encouraged future generations to value and appreciate the importance, wisdom, and life experiences of these remarkable women. This documentary was used as an educational tool in the Philadelphia school system, challenging youth to reconnect to their elders and empowering them to be more conscious of their heritage and community.

Neighborhood:
South Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Eli Goldblatt, Wendy
Osterweil

Discipline:
Visual Arts &
Literary Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



Photos by Wendy Osterweil

TESSA MICAELA

Tessa facilitated *Never on Time*, a project dedicated to reaffirming grassroots poetry while pushing the boundaries of the discipline. The goals of *Never on Time* are to create a forum for local and community-oriented artists to publish, perform, display, and experiment with their craft through monthly reading salons and a themed bimonthly poetry and visual arts journal. Each issue of the journal was a hand-bound effort of love and was distributed in independent bookstores, by hand, and by mail.



Neighborhood:
Northern Liberties

Change Partner:
Art Sanctuary

Discipline:
Literary Arts &
Media Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

TINA SMITH-BROWN

Tina facilitated a letter-writing workshop with students ages 14 to 18 that culminated in the *Letter to My Father Workbook*. Students used the art of letter writing to explore their relationships with their fathers in a formal classroom setting. The goal of this project was to empower the participants to reflect upon a very emotional topic that has stigmatized the Philadelphia community for years. Tina herself comes from a single-mother family and has embraced art and creativity as a vehicle for change.



Photo by Beverly Collins Brown

Neighborhood:
Darby, West Philadelphia

Change Partner:
Lady B, Docta Shock

Discipline:
Media Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,400



VICTORIOUS AND KRAZZY K

The *Big Pay Back* is a significant phase of a larger project, *Raw Talent: A Philadelphia Hip-Hop Dance Documentary*, which is designed to uncover and document the lost and forgotten pioneers of Philadelphia's vital contributions to hip-hop culture. Victorious and Krazzy K interviewed some of Philadelphia's women pioneers in dance, deejaying, and emceeing, whose involvement has been pivotal, although they have received little to no recognition for their work.



Photos by Heather Blomster
Wanda D'Alva



Neighborhood:
Cedar Park

Change Partner:
Clay M. River

Discipline:
Crafts and Textiles
& Media Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500

WOLFIE e RAWK

Wolfie led a series of quilting bees geared towards women, queer, and transgender folks in West Philadelphia that created community dialogue by fostering collaborative art making and skill sharing. The quilts were organized around themes of race, ability, queerness, transgender experience, and class, with an emphasis on resisting dominant oppressive social and institutional systems. These collaborative community bees sought to create personal and group healing by manifesting self-empowered portrayals of the participants' identities. The oral histories of the participants were preserved by tape-recording their stories behind the quilting blocks and were shared in a multimedia exhibition.



Photos by Clay Mowin River

Neighborhood:
University City

Change Partner:
WXPX 88.5

Discipline:
Media Arts

Grant Amount:
\$2,500



YOWEI SHAW

Yowei created a half-hour radio documentary that examines the obstacles and motivations of a small Philadelphia-based group of communists as they attempt to organize for social change. Her work raises difficult questions about sectarianism in the radical left, the feasibility of accomplishing large-scale social change, and the universal fragility of the human condition. The documentary also provides a closer look at a marginalized group not normally considered by the mainstream media.



ART AND CHANGE GRANT PANELISTS

Amadee L. Braxton

Amadee is a writer and filmmaker whose work is chiefly concerned with African American culture and the power of marginalized communities. Amadee has worked on various documentary films as researcher, writer, or associate producer, including *W.E.B. Du Bois: A Biography in Four Voices* (1996), *Watermelon Woman* (1997), the educational health video *Teens On Sex* (1998), *NO!* about sexual assault in the African American community, and *Toward Inclusion, a History of Racial Diversity at Penn* (2006). She is currently penning a biographical portrait of her late father, Marvin A. Braxton. In addition to her creative work, Amadee is a committed social justice organizer and has served in leadership on the boards of the National Black Radical Congress, Prevention Point Philadelphia needle exchange, and the Community HIV/AIDS Mobilization Project (CHAMP). She presently works as director of development for the national office of Iraq Veterans Against the War. Amadee also is a tennis addict and explores her spirituality through Iyengar yoga and as a Reiki master practitioner.

Margie Strosser

Margie is an award-winning producer, director, and writer. Her films, including *Rape Stories*, *Strange Weather*, and *Moon Juice*, have premiered in film and video festivals internationally and aired on PBS and Channel 4 (UK). She has been awarded a Pew Fellowship in the Arts (1994) and a Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Fellowship in theater and scriptworks (2001). She has written four feature-length scripts. Recently, Margie was the senior series producer/writer for three seasons of *Birthday*, on Discovery Health Channel. Most recently, she has returned to producing personal video essays, including *Wherever I Go ... There I'm Not*. Margie has an MFA in film directing with honors from the Columbia University School of the Arts. She currently teaches screenwriting at Temple University and at Scribe Video Center. She resides with her husband in Philadelphia.

L. Capco Lincoln

Lincoln has spent the last 10 years trying to articulate the in-between space of being mixed raced, queer, and gender nonconformist. Born and raised in Florida, grad school has brought Lincoln to Philadelphia to explore the endless possibilities of the moving image (a.k.a. film and video) at Temple University's Department of Film and Media Arts. Lincoln is working on a collaborative documentary with Southerners On New Ground, a multiracial, multi-issued LGBTQ organization working for economic and social justice across the South. In addition, Lincoln is part of Tatlo Mestiz@s, a multimedia artist collective working on shared stories and making art around Filipino American identity.

Ruth Naomi Floyd

Ruth was born and raised in Philadelphia. She received an associate's degree in photography from the Art Institute of Philadelphia and specializes in black-and-white portrait images. She has completed and exhibited two photographic series, *Passage Through the Soul* and *Reflection: Woman and the Veil*. Ruth's work has been published in and on the covers of magazines, brochures, and music compact discs, and is included in permanent and private collections. As well, she has received several awards, prizes, and grants, and is represented by White Stone Gallery in Philadelphia. She is also a vocalist/composer and co-founder of Contour Records. Her distinctive sound of progressive ensemble jazz seamlessly blends messages of hope, faith, peace, and love. Ruth has recorded five compact discs and is in preproduction for her sixth recording. She continues to make the city of Philadelphia her home, where for over 15 years she has been devoted and active in providing compassionate care and spiritual support to people affected by HIV and AIDS.



Evolution of the Journey
by Beverly Collins-Roberts





LEEWAY TRANSFORMATION AWARD

The annual Leeway Transformation Award provides unrestricted awards of \$15,000 to women and transgender artists living in the Delaware Valley region who create art for social change and have done so for the past five years or more, demonstrating commitment to social change work.

This award is distributed once per year.

In 2009, \$210,000 was awarded to 14 women and transgender artists.



Neighborhood:
West Philadelphia

Discipline:
Visual Arts &
Literary Arts



A.M. WEAVER

A.M. is a practicing artist, curator, and writer. Her goal is to shape discourse and disseminate information on visual artists of color and women artists. Early in her career — as a sculptor and printmaker — she created a visual language through a sociopolitical prism that conveyed the challenges of being a black woman artist. As she honed her skills as a curator and writer, she used these early expressions to inform her understanding and examination of other artists. She participated in Bob Blackburn's printmaking workshop in New York during the late 1980s and worked as the director of visual arts at the Painted Bride Art Center in Philadelphia. While at the Bride she organized a number of important shows, including the diverse media series "Whose Vanguard?," which culminated in a lesbian film festival in 1998. Some of her recent curatorial projects have focused on women and women's art in relationship to feminism. Examples include hallmark exhibits such as *Screenings: Public & Private* (2004) and *Convergence* (2002). As a journalist, A.M. continues to examine the work of a diverse group of artists whose concerns range from modernism to sociopolitical percepts. She is currently working on critical essays on how capitalism, the military industrial complex, and racism in America can be challenged through art.

Neighborhood:
Mantua

Discipline:
Music &
Performance



Photos by Kai Tibb

BAHAMADIA

Bahamadia is an internationally respected lyricist known for her dedication to craft. Her goal for her music is to encourage individuals in her community to support positive social change and take an active role in achieving it. She rose to prominence in hip-hop as an artist, lyricist, and producer. Born and raised in Philadelphia, Bahamadia started out deejaying at local house parties in the early to mid-1980s and later stepped out front to polish her skills on the mic as well. She participated in a variety of projects during the late 1990s, including those of several electronica and acid jazz artists and collaborations with The Roots and Talib Kweli. She released her critically acclaimed debut album *Kollage* in 1996, featuring production by Guru and DJ Premier. Her next major-label release was *BB Queen* in 2001, followed by *Good Rap Music*, released in 2006. Bahamadia has participated in several benefit projects, including ReNew Orleans in Philadelphia (2005), Care 4 Africa in Oslo (2008), and Party People in Capetown (2008). Often cited as a living legend in hip-hop circles, Bahamadia's work has inspired many to express and challenge themselves as individuals and artists and contribute to the world in positive ways. Bahamadia currently runs arts workshops at Youth Emergency Services and was recently named a creative ambassador for the City of Philadelphia.



Neighborhood:
Mantua

Discipline:
Visual Arts



Photo by Beth Pulcinella
© Beth Pulcinella

BETH PULCINELLA

Beth is committed to building community arts infrastructure, using her creative energy and multifaceted skills to move resources. She has facilitated workshops and classes in partnership with the Attic Youth Center, Spiral Q Puppet Theater, Fleisher Art Memorial, Southwest Community Enrichment Center, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Through organizing a network of youth-run print shops and cultivating safe spaces for youth and adults, she challenges the community to explore and express their creative potential. She sees screen-printing workshops as a powerful resource for generating political propaganda, developing sustainable business, and supporting cultural production. A few of her past projects include Print for Change, a 15-week workshop for youth, which was supported by a 2008 Art and Change Grant, and creating posters in collaboration with Jews for a Just Peace. In the last five years, Beth has invested much of her creative resources to unpacking what she believes is an oppressive educational model that is a cornerstone of our society. She is a co-founder of Reclaim: Silk Screen Production and Community Workshop, a community-based print shop, where she has helped create T-shirts and posters for a variety of social justice organizations, including Media Mobilizing Project, Casino-Free Philadelphia, and Iraq Veterans Against the War. Believing that through networks and collective action people can create the most impact, she pulls together art, youth, and social change. Beth is currently a member of Prints Link Philadelphia, a coalition of artists and teachers who will present a youth forum in 2010 in conjunction with Philadelphia's International Print Biennial.

Neighborhood:
Camden

Discipline:
Visual Arts &
Media Arts



Photos by Beverly Collins-Roberts,
Sandy Walker

BEVERLY COLLINS-ROBERTS

Beverly has been a fine art documentary photographer for the last 30 years. She has witnessed Camden go from the prosperous years when everyone worked and lived well to what has been described as the most dangerous city in America. Beverly's images are of the children, the elders, and of the aged structures in her hometown. Her photographs show the eyes of the people amongst the decay of the structures. Upon discovering in 2002 the secret history of slavery in her hometown, she began three years of extensive research. In 2005 she curated an exhibition of her photographs of Pomona Hall, an 18th-century "big house." Later that year she organized the three-month-long Still Standing Project to recognize the enslaved Africans who toiled and suffered in Camden, culminating in workshops, lectures, a silent procession, and the first-ever slave route tour. Her relentless research and fearless documentation resulted in *Unhushed*, a short documentary film that she wrote, directed, and produced as part of the Scribe Video Precious Places History Project, chronicling the story of slavery and plantations in Camden. In 2007, the film received honors at the Harlem Stage Film Festival and screened in the Philadelphia Film Festival. She is presently working on her second documentary film, *The Journey*, about the effects of slavery on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean in Accra, Ghana, and Camden, N.J., and is planning a multimedia exhibit, which will include images and video interviews of Ghana, a 30-year retrospective of portraits of Camden and stories of its elders, and the images of Pomona Hall.



Neighborhood:
Nictown

Discipline:
Media Arts &
Visual Arts



Photo by Teal Yardley Bex*

Dex*

bex* is primarily a graphic artist, filmmaker, and photographer. In 2005 and 2006 bex* helped bring together a group of artists to form the queer/leftist Searing Images Collective responsible for numerous local artist-driven social change campaigns. Some of bex*'s other projects include curating and reproducing digital illustrations using spray paint stencils, stickers, patches, and clothing prints. A few of bex*'s past projects include *Nictown*, a short documentary about the neighborhood of the same name and what it's like to move around as an outsider within it, and *Meditation on Intelligibility*, a digital short exploring the relationship of the body to concepts of gender. bex* also creates art and custom clothing designs for the underserved trans/queer community under the name Pleasure & Danger, vending at local and national events. bex* is interested in the viral nature of certain mediums, such as stickers, and how street methods of distribution can be part of the art — specifically work that is related to social justice action. bex* is also very interested in real people and their stories and has come to find that documentary film and photography are the best way to tell them, feeling drawn to capture stories of people who are marginalized and/or often misrepresented.

Neighborhood:
Chestnut Hill

Discipline:
Performance &
Literary Arts



BRENDA DIXON GOTTSCHILD

Brenda is a cultural historian, performer, choreographer, and anti-racist cultural worker who uses dance as a way to measure the pulse of society and the barometer of culture. She considers her work social artistry, having dance at the center of her life and practice. Brenda has used her academic background as a professor of dance and culture to create artistic mediums for the community in which racism, gender, and society are questioned and brought to the forefront of discussions. To demonstrate, she uses her own dancing body and audience volunteers as crucial components in her presentations. Brenda's work has moved increasingly toward urging the dilemmas and celebrating the aspirations of black performers, while also engaging all people in a conversation, a teaching moment, on race. Her past publications include *The Black Dancing Body: A Geography from Coon to Cool* (2003), *Waltzing in the Dark: African American Vaudeville and Race Politics in the Swing Era* (2000), and *Digging the Africanist Presence in American Performance: Dance and Other Contexts* (1998). Brenda's choreographic work is often in collaboration with her husband, dancer/choreographer Hellmut Gottschild, with whom she has created and performed *Stick it Out* (1993), *Frogs* (1996), and *Tongue Smell Color* (2000). They continue to perform *Tongue Smell Color* internationally. As the Philadelphia correspondent for *Dance Magazine*, she writes features and reviews on a range of topics, from the Pennsylvania Ballet to hip-hop. From 1982 to 1999 Brenda was a professor of dance studies at Temple University. She is currently collaborating with Joan Myers Brown in writing a book and giving lectures about the legendary Philadelphia Dance Company (Phuladanco), The Philadelphia School of Dance Arts, and the history of the dance community of black Philadelphia, past and present.



Photos by Beverly Collins-Roberts



Neighborhood:
Fiter Square

Discipline:
Media Arts



Photos by Lovella Galica

Heidi SAMAN

Born in California to immigrant parents, Heidi began as a journalist, striving to deliver complexity and dimension to people and issues that were stymied by ideology, hegemonic practice, and historical racism. While writing on women's issues in the Middle East for a human rights magazine in Cairo, she found the medium of print to be limiting and from there transitioned to film, believing that she could access a broader audience. She has written and directed several successful short films, including *Pears* (2006) and *The Maid (Il Shaghala)* (2008); the latter premiered in competition at the Cannes Film Festival and went on to screen at the Dubai International Film Festival, Slamdance, and other festivals worldwide. Her chosen medium of cinema is a universal language that supersedes any written or spoken dialect and allows for collective discussions not often encouraged in other art forms. She is currently working on a feature-length script about an Egyptian female flight attendant.

Neighborhood:
Wyncote

Discipline:
Performance
& Folk Arts



JANICE "JAWARA" DISHOP

Jawara uses storytelling as a powerful tool to inform, entertain, and educate. She first learned the craft from her grandfather and now uses it as a method of informally introducing sensitive subjects. Storytelling has become a means of survival for Jawara. The eldest of nine children and an educator for over 40 years, she used storytelling to help raise her siblings as well as integrating the practice into her teaching curriculum. In 1987 Jawara took storytelling to another level by co-founding Keepers of the Culture (KOTC), a Philadelphia-based Afro-centric storytelling group. She also founded a creative arts youth group, Just Us Cousins. In 1993, she traveled to the Sea Islands off the coast of South Carolina to research her Gullah/Geechee ancestry. From this trip she created *The Children of the Bermuda Triangle*. In 1995, Jawara co-facilitated *Caught Between Two Worlds*, a three-year program for students promoting racial harmony. She has also written eight original short stories, three of which — "The Crumb Snatchers," "Pinky's Daughter," and "The Gatorburger Story" — have been published. Jawara's mission for her cultural workshops for youth and families is to strengthen self-awareness and preserve family rituals stemming from African traditions.



Photos by Lovella Collins



Neighborhood:
Bella Vista

Discipline:
Literary Arts

JAX PETERS LOWELL



Photo by Jax Lowell

Novelist, poet, short story writer, memoirist, gluten-free author, and activist Jax is driven by the idea that a single voice is a powerful catalyst for social healing and change. She believes that in caring for characters—whether real or imagined—and being moved, shocked, or outraged by their fates, we widen our views and move in new directions not possible in the stridency of political argument. Jax is the author of several books, including *Against The Grain*, *The Gluten-Free Bible*, an illustrated children's book, *No More Cupcakes & Tummy Aches*; and a novel, *Mothers*, the story of two women struggling to raise a child in a culture that frowns upon same-sex parents. She is currently working on a memoir, *An Early Winter*, a moving, harrowing, and mordantly funny story about brain injury, mental illness, and medical betrayal in which she chronicles her experiences as a caregiver, working artist, and chief provider for her family in the aftermath of her husband's brain surgery. In 2009, two of her stories, "Parachute Girl" and "The Two Amigos," were finalists in Glimmer Train Fiction Opens. Her poems have appeared in many literary journals and anthologies and have been honored with a citation from the New York State Assembly and the East End Arts Council. A collection is forthcoming. Jax's best-selling books about celiac disease and gluten intolerance, from which she suffers, have greatly contributed to the awareness of this dietary condition and that it affects more people today than when she was diagnosed in the late 1980s. Her poems and stories put pain firmly into the mouth of language, striking a balance between personal impulse and cultural context, reaching one reader at a time, encouraging them to imagine a more just and progressive society. Global warming, memory, aging, September 11, the value of all families, corporate shenanigans, the plight of illegal immigrants, the disappearance of bees, institutional betrayal, the stigma of mental illness and blunt force of brain injury, and love in the winter of life are among the many matters she cares deeply about.

Neighborhood:
Bryn Mawr

Discipline:
Music



Photos by Beverly Colton Roberts

JERI LYNNE JOHNSON

Jeri Lynne Johnson is an orchestra conductor who has contested the customary persona of the European male conductor and the 19th century social and cultural traditions built upon classical European music through reorienting orchestral culture to reflect the social, cultural, and economic realities of the United States today. In 2003, she led the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia in the world premieres of two innovative commissions that stretched the boundaries of classical music and bridged generational and cultural gaps — one by the Tin Hat Trio and the other by Scrap Arts Music ensemble. In 2005, Jeri publicly presented her iConduct project, which offers audiences a chance to interact with professional orchestras. That same year she also began one of several collaborations with the Free Library of Philadelphia's "One Book, One Philadelphia" program. Jeri later founded the Black Pearl Chamber Orchestra (BPCO), an ensemble whose goals are to establish a pipeline of the next generation of Latino/a and African American classical musicians, which debuted in March 2009. BPCO also strives to perform music of the highest quality while embracing cultural diversity, collaborating with other art forms, cultivating a savvy use of technology, and building meaningful connections with the community. A composer as well, Jeri has performed her own innovative multimedia commissions for the Kimmel Center's "See Hear!" concert series and with the computer visual music ensemble Arts in Motion. Jeri made history as the first African American woman to win the prestigious Taki Concordia Conducting Fellowship in 2005. By stepping outside of the traditional classical music systems, Jeri has become an active ambassador and role model for greater inclusion in and access to meaningful artistic opportunities.



Neighborhood:
Southwest Center City

Discipline:
Folk Arts



LOIS FERNANDEZ



Photos by Thomas B. Moran

Lois is the founder of Odunde, a community festival that started 34 years ago as an alternative cultural response to the gang war prevalent throughout the city in the mid-1970s. Odunde has been the major focus of her art for social change work. As a practice of reclaiming culture and space, the festival came out of Lois's growing cultural awareness and sense of responding to community need. Inspired by Yoruba processions and culture, from the start she sought to create a festival where African Americans could see the beauty in celebrating themselves by showcasing the best of African culture, music, dance, and crafts. Lois began working in civil service jobs in the mid-1950s, fighting discrimination and using her experiences of cultural awareness to foster change. The political and cultural vision of Odunde demonstrates a liberated vision about individuals and their community, as well as how conditions can be changed to support that vision. Involving a primarily volunteer staff of more than 200 people and bringing upwards of half a million people together on the second Sunday every June, Odunde is a true community gathering, an economic development tool, a cultural enrichment tool, an integral part of many extended family annual festivals, and a model for other African community celebrations around the country. To document the festival, Lois collaborated with filmmakers Tina Morton and Warren Bass on documentaries about the festival in 2006 and 1990, respectively. Most recently, she has had to be increasingly vigilant in fighting City Hall and gentrifying neighbors opposing her community's right to assemble.

Neighborhood:
West Philadelphia

Discipline:
Multidisciplinary



LOVELLA CALICA

Lovella Calica uses art making, especially writing, as a way to heal and survive life experiences. She writes and shares to offer awareness, analysis, resistance, and hope. As a tool to emotionally connect, her artistic practice contemplates issues of sexual abuse, the history and violence around colonization and capitalism, war, loss of loved ones, confusion and frustration with gender, racism, and sexism. Lovella published her first book of poetry, *Makibaka: Beautifully Brave*, in 2006 and printed a few hundred copies to give away free to veterans, friends, and family members. A significant portion of Lovella's work is with veterans. In 2006, she founded the Warrior Writers Project, which provides opportunities for creative community and artistic expression among recent veterans and current service members, many of whom have served in Iraq and Afghanistan. She also documents them through film, photography, and audio, along their journeys after/outside the military, facilitates writing and art workshops; edits books of their writing (with two published thus far); organizes exhibits of their artwork; and coordinates performances. Lovella is a facilitator/participant in the Writing Circle and co-founder of Tatlo Mestizo@s, a collective of Filipino American artist/activists that creates multimedia performances addressing issues of gender, grief, assimilation, displacement, and colonization, among others. Her photographs have been exhibited locally and nationally. She has also been co-coordinator and performer for Mantra and Poems not Prisons, which were open-mic series in Philadelphia.



Photos by Heidi Salazar



Neighborhood:
Bridgton Township

Discipline:
Performance &
Literary Arts



RIVER HUSTON

River Huston is a writer and performer who uses her artwork to educate and instigate change. Her artistic practice emerged after she was diagnosed as HIV-positive in 1991. River was transformed through a process of deep despair and release through poetry. She wrote her first book of poems, *Jesus Never Lived Here*, in 1993 and began to use art to educate. She was named Bucks County's poet laureate in 1995. River employs a balance of humor, stories, and spoken word in her one-woman show, *Sex, Cellulite, and Large Farm Equipment: One Girl's Guide to Living and Dying*, which she uses to entertain and educate audiences about HIV, sexuality, and overcoming challenges such as her experiences of leaving home at 15, living in the streets, rape, sordid relationships, addiction, prostitution, extreme self-loathing, death, and grief. River has written a column for *POZ Magazine* for over 14 years and helped readers deal with the stigma of HIV in regard to dating, relationships, and intimacy. She has also collaborated on a photo-essay book, *A Positive Life: Portraits of Women Living with HIV*, which has been used as a tool in classrooms to break stereotypes and stigmas around HIV and continue the dialogue around AIDS. River is currently working on a book and a series of paintings.

Neighborhood:
North Philadelphia

Discipline:
Media Arts &
Visual Arts



Photos by Heather's Sun

TIONA.M.

tiona.m. is a media artist whose mission is to make the invisible visible and humanize her subjects. She believes that her work as a filmmaker and visual artist can inspire various communities by affirming their existence in contemporary society. She considers her work “black social realism” and aims to fight the hyper-realistic imagery that can lead to the silencing of marginalized communities. tiona.m. began her career apprenticing on music video sets and as a freelancer working with various production companies and nonprofit organizations. She has held positions from camera operator to editor to motion graphic animator, which earned her a strong reputation and has allowed her to handle the production of documentary projects on her own. Her point of view as a Black lesbian woman comes from her unique perspective as someone who has experienced painful moments of oppression. In *black./womyn.: conversations with lesbians of African descent*, tiona.m. provides a platform for Black lesbians to speak for themselves and to confront the hypersexualized image of the Black lesbian. Her film strengthens the overall voice of the community by forcing the viewer to listen as the women speak for themselves. *black./womyn.* was awarded the Audience Award for Best Documentary by the Philadelphia International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival in 2008. tiona.m.’s other films include *Strange. Black. Nostalgia.* (2004), which explores family history and the legacy of poverty, segregation, and racism among African Americans from the 1940s through the 1970s, and *hanae.michelle.&.qrescent.* (2006), which chronicles a mother and her two daughters as all three enter university-level studies at different stages of their educational and professional lives. tiona.m. continues to develop and create films on progressive topics with the hope of directing a feature-length project in the near future.

TRANSFORMATION AWARDS PANELISTS

Adrienne Maree Brown (Facilitator)

Adrienne is the executive director of The Ruckus Society, which brings nonviolent direct action training and action support to communities impacted by economic, environmental and social oppression. She sits on the boards of Allied Media Projects and the Center for Media Justice (and just stepped down from the boards of *Wiretap Magazine* and the Brower Center), and is a participant in Somatics and Social Justice. Adrienne facilitates the development of organizations throughout the movement (most recently Young Women's Empowerment Project, New Orleans Parents Organizing Network, ColorofChange.org and Detroit Summer). A co-founder of the League of Pissed Off/Young Voters and graduate of the Art of Leadership and Art of Change yearlong trainings, Adrienne is obsessed with learning and developing models for action, community strength, movement building, and transformation. As a writer, singer, and organizer, Adrienne has been involved in the growth of many organizations, most recently the New Orleans Network, the Future 5000, and the Arctic Indigenous Youth Alliance.

Dara Greenwald

Dara is an interdisciplinary artist with an MFA in writing from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a BA in women's studies from Oberlin College. She worked as the distribution manager at the Video Data Bank from 1998 to 2005, where she distributed independent media and experimental video art and worked on the preservation of the Videofreex collection. Her single-channel videos have screened widely, including Images Festival (Toronto), New York Underground, Yerba Buena Center (San Francisco), and Ocularis (New York). Her writing has appeared in *Clamor* and *Journal of Aesthetics & Protest*. She is a founding member of the tactical media group, Pink Bloque. As a curator, she has presented programs at Pittsburgh Filmmakers, Mess Hall (Chicago), Woodstock Center for Photography, Ann Arbor Film Festival, and Cinematexas. She has collaboratively organized large-scale experimental social convergences including Ladyfest Midwest, Version Festival, and Pilot TV Chicago. Dara is influenced by punk/DIY culture and the anarchist values of mutual aid and non-hierarchical collective action. Combining this with the careerist individualism that official art, academics, and neoliberal capitalism breed, she spends much of her time negotiating contradicting notions of "the good life." She is currently studying electronic arts at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Troy, NY.

D'Lo

Described as a "jolt of creative and comedic energy," D'Lo is a Tamil Sri L.A.nkan-American, political theater artist, writer, music producer, and director, currently causing the most trouble in Los Angeles. D'Lo holds a BA from UCLA in ethnomusicology and is a graduate of the School of Audio Engineering in New York. D'Lo had a sold-out run of *Ballin With My Bois*, D's queer hip-hop theater piece, in 2004, and recently performed in the Cornerstone Theater production of *For All Time* at California Institution for Women, a state prison. D'Lo has also performed in a staged reading of Terry Wolverton's play *Embers*, created sound design for Adelina Anthony's *Brüising for Besos*, directed two solo shows for Tenda's Healing Aloud Season, and wrote and collaborated with Theater Mu. D'Lo has collaborated with several performance groups (Artwallah, Great Leap, Arpana Dance Company, Mujeres de Maiz) and is also an experienced teaching artist and has performed and held workshops extensively throughout the U.S. and in Canada, United Kingdom, Germany, Sri Lanka, and India. Currently, D'Lo is touring with *Ramble-Ations: A One D'Lo Show*, which received the NPN Creation Fund Grant.

Imani Uzuri

Time Out New York says Imani "never fails to mesmerize audiences with her narcotic blend of ethereal sounds." Eclectic, bohemian Imani is one who defies category. She has performed at numerous international venues/festivals including Lincoln Center, Central Park Summer Stage, Performa '07, London's Barbican Center, Blue Note, Japan's World Festival of Sacred Music, Joe's Pub, S.O.B.'s, The Box, Bowery Ballroom, The United Nations, Black Lily Film & Music Festival, Le Lieu Unique, Brooklyn Academy of Music, NYC Culturefest, the Whitney Museum, National Black Arts Festival, and Morocco's Festival D'Essaouira. Imani's recordings/collaborations include work with Herbie Hancock, John Legend, 4-Hero, Talib Kweli, Sly & Robbie, Bill Laswell, and King Britt. Television appearances include *Late Show With David Letterman*, performing with Peter Gabriel and the Afro-Celt Sound System. Her stunning debut album *Her Holy Water: A Black Girl's Rock Opera* features 18 sweeping and captivating songs. She is currently developing a provocative musical theater piece of the same title based on its music, while incorporating coming-of-age memories from her youth in rural North Carolina, multimedia video montage, and anecdotes from her nomadic travels around the world, of which she has just completed two sold-out performances at the legendary Apollo Theater. It has also been successfully showcased at Joe's Pub, The Kitchen, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, and Painted Bride Art Center.

Jawole Willa Jo Zollar

Jawole is a 2008 United States Artists Fellow and recently appointed Fellow of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. Born and raised in Kansas City, Missouri, she trained with Joseph Stevenson, a student of American dance pioneer Katherine Dunham. With a BA in dance from the University of Missouri (Kansas City) and an MFA from Florida State University, she came to New York City in 1980 to study with Dianne McIntyre, artistic director of Sounds in Motion. After four years, she left to establish Urban Bush Women (UBW). Through live music, a cappella vocalizations, and movement, UBW explores the religious traditions and folklore of the African Diaspora. Ntozake Shange describes Jawole's work: "The ensemble that Jawole Willa Jo Zollar has assembled and sustained takes women's bodies, racist myths, sexist stereotypes, postmodern conventions, and the 'science' of hip-hop and catapults them over the rainbow, so they come tumbling out of the grin of the man in the moon." Her choreography is also part of the repertoire of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Philadanco, Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, and a number of university companies. Jawole has received two Inter-Arts grants and three Choreographer's Fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, a BESSIE, and an honorary doctorate from Columbia College in Chicago. UBW has toured extensively throughout the United States and Europe. Jawole is currently the Nancy Smith tenured professor in the dance department of Florida State University.

Michelle Posadas

Michelle examines how our personal stories connect to larger issues, with the idea that telling stories through creating images is a vital part of social change movements. She is a storyteller who works with sculpture, photography, and puppetry, and as a teacher brings communities together in collective art making. She creates art that directly responds to issues she is deeply moved by on topics ranging from the war in Iraq to the gentrification of her neighborhood. Her previous work has been around her identity and she is moving toward making work that engages directly with organizations and becomes part of activist campaigns about the Philippines, queerness, being biracial, politics in Philadelphia, and the 2008 U.S. presidential election. She co-founded the multimedia performance collective Tatlo Mestiz@s with Lovella Calica and L. Capco Lincoln, presenting *Bumalik* and *Siya*, and has performed in collaboration with Anna Whitehead in *Consuming Culture: A Story of Halves and Have-Nots*. Michelle is a teaching artist and has worked with Bread and Puppet Theater, Spiral Q Puppet Theater, and Dream Community in Taiwan. She is a recipient of a 2007 Leeway Transformation Award.

LEEWAY STAFF

Denise M. Brown
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sham-e-Ali al-Jamil
PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Maori Karmael Holmes
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Hope Steinman-Iacullo
PROGRAM ASSISTANT

Vashti DuBois
PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION
CONSULTANT

Brooke Whitaker
SPECIAL PROJECTS
CONSULTANT

Shantay M. Page
OFFICE ASSISTANT

Erin Davis
OFFICE ASSISTANT

Evelyn Salcedo
COMMUNICATIONS INTERN

Cheryl Tse
PROGRAM INTERN

Vanessa Adams
BOOKKEEPER

**Montgomery, McCracken,
Walker & Rhoads, LLP**
COUNSEL

Beard Miller Company
LLP AUDITORS

TUMIS
DESIGN

BOARD OF directors

Amadee L. Braxton
Gretjen Clausing, treasurer
Julia López, president*
Naima Lowe, interim president
Sabina Neem, secretary
Patience Rage
Virginia P. Sikes, Esq.

*term ended February 2009

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Attic Youth Center

255 S. 16th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102
(215) 545-4331 Phone
(215) 545-5774 Fax
www.atticyouthcenter.org

The Attic Youth Center creates opportunities for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth to develop into healthy, independent, civic-minded adults within a safe and supportive community, and promotes the acceptance of LGBTQ youth in society.

Samuel S. Fleisher Art Memorial

719 Catharine Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147
(215) 922-3456
www.fleisher.org

The Fleisher Art Memorial was born from a tradition of social and cultural activism dating back to 1898. The Memorial strives toward the goal that art be accessible to all, and offers tuition-free art instruction to children and adults of diverse cultural and economic backgrounds. Through its mission, the Memorial promotes the presence of different creative and cultural experiences that take place in one common city.

Philadelphia Folklore Project

735 S. 50th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19143
(215) 726-1106 Phone
(215) 726-6250 Fax
www.folkloreproject.org

The Philadelphia Folklore Project is committed to paying attention to the experiences and traditions of "ordinary" people. Its focus is to build critical folk cultural knowledge, sustain vital and diverse living cultural heritage in communities in the Philadelphia region, and create equitable processes and practices for nurturing local grassroots arts and humanities.

Taller Puertorriqueño

2721 N. 5th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19133
(215) 426-3311 Phone
(215) 426-5682 Fax
www.tallerpr.org

Latino artists and activists in the North Kensington area of Philadelphia founded Taller Puertorriqueño in 1974. Discouraged by the absence of outlets for barrio youth desperate to channel their artistic talents, Taller's founders created a community-based graphic arts workshop to provide cultural training alternatives to local youth. For more than three decades, Taller has continued to be a vital resource for progress in the barrio and the region. It is now nationally recognized as a model organization that uses the arts as a vehicle for social change.

previous recipients

2008

Allison Harris
Ama Schley and
Payin Schley
Amanda Whittenberger
Amma Young
Ann Marie Kirk
Ava Blitz
Beth Pulcinella
Betsy Z. Casañas
Beverly Dale
Carol Finkle
Charing A. Ball
Charlotte Ford
Deborah Caiola
Denise DiJoseph
Desi Burnette
Desi P. Shelton-Seck
Dorothy Goins
Elba Hevia y Vaca
Emiko Sugiyama
Erika Almiron
Erika Mijlin and
Julie Goldstein
Erin Howley
Gage Johnston
Germaine Ingram
Gwynne B. Sigel
Iya Sangojaje
Jodi Netzer

Julia Katz
Julianne Bernstein
Theodoropoulos
Kara LaFleur
Karen Lefebvre-Christou
Kathy Padilla
Kay Healy
Keiko Miyamori
Kimberly E. Rollins
Kinyozi-Yvette Smalls
Leo T. Watts
Maggie Von Vogt
Maia Rosser
Marie-Monique Marthol
Martina G.J. Martinas
Meghann Williams and
Gigi Naglak
Mehret Mandefro
Meredith McDonald
Michele Byrd-McPhee
Michelle Angela Ortiz
M.J. Hasty
Nehad Khader
Qaadira Allen
Rebecca Davis
Renee "Oyin" Harris-Hardy
Rika Hawes
Roko Kawai
Sarah Lowry
Sarah McCarron
Shayna Sheness Israel

Shivaani Selvaraj
Shuyuan Li
Sonia Arora
Stephanie Yuhas
Suzi Nash
Tamara Thomas
Tani L. Khabbaz
Tina Smith-Brown
Ursula Rucker
Valerie Gilbert
Valerie Harris
Vania Gulston
Viji Rao
Winifred Collier Bolkus
Yolanda Wisher
Yvonne Lung

2007

A.Q. Quintero
Alexandria Brinae Ali
Bradley
Anula Shetty
Barbara L. Gregson
Beverly Collins-Roberts
Camae Dennis
Cherina N. Broker
Christina E. Jonson
Dorothy Gordon Wilkie
Earth-ix

Elaine Hoffman Watts
Emiko Sugiyama
Emily Nepon
Ife Nii Owoo
Isabel C. F. DeBeary
Isyss Adams
J. Mason
Jamese Wells
Jaye Allison
Jeannine Cook
Jenée Alicia Chizick
Jeri Lynne Johnson
Jessica Rodriguez and
Pascal Emmer
Jovida J. Hill
Joy Eather Phillips Butts
Joy Keys
Joy Rose
Judith Trustone
Julia Galetti
Kameelah Waheed
Karl Surkan
Katrina Clark
Laureen Griffin
Leah Keturah Caesar
Lili Bitá
Lonnie Grant
Lovella Calica
María R. Texidor
María Teresa Rodriguez
Marsi Maxwell
Melissa Poselle
Michelle Osadas
Missy Risser
Misty Sol

Molik Harvey
Nana Korantemaa Ayeboafó
Natalie O'Hara
Ninah Harris
Nita Jalivay
Putery A. Long
Rachel Goffe
Reva McEachern
Sara Felder
Sarah Drury
Sasa Ynoa
Susan DiPronio and
Linda Dubin Garfield
Sylvia Coleman
tiona. m.
Toni Kersey
Trapeta B. Mayson
Valerie Harris
Vena Jefferson
Wadzanai Mhute
Williena J. Owes

2006

Adjuá Sims-Copeland
Angela "Sadio" Watson
Beverly Dale
Blanche Epps
Chelsa L. Clofer
Clarissa T. Sligh
Colette Copeland
Crystal L. Frazier
Debra A. Powell-Wright
Diane Critchlow

Ethel Paris
Felicia Webster
Gwynne B. Sigel
Irit Reinheimer
J. El
Joy Esther Butts
Juanita Beverly
Keisha Hutchins
Khadija Shariff
Linda Goss
Linus Graybill
Lovella Calica
Maia Rosser
Maori Karmael Holmes
Marta Sanchez
Maudeline Swaray
Melissa Talley-Palmer
Misia Denéa
Misty Sol
Na Tanyá Daviná Stewart
Nana Baakan Agyrirwah
Nana Korentemaa Ayeboafó
Niama Leslie JoAnn
Williams
Pallabi Chakravorty
Patricia McLean
Priyank Jindal
Qaadira Allen
Ruthelle Lee Smith
Ruth Naomi Floyd
Samantha Barrow
Sannii Crespina-Flores
Sarah Stefana Smith
Sheena Johnson
Shoba Sharma

Siyade Gemechisa
Soledad Chavez-Plumley
Stefani Threet
Stephanie "Amma" Young
Tania Isaac
Thelma Shelton Robinson
Thembi Langa (Sista Fayah)
Tina Morton
Tulie Reddick
Uva C. Coles
Valerie Gilbert
Vashti Dubois
Zilan Munas

2005

Aishah Shahidah Simmons
Anyta Thomas
Brandi Jeter
Carmen Rojas
Carol Finkle
Cassandre Xavier
Chanté Brown
Christine Duffield
Crystal Jacqueline Torres
Dante Toza
Dao-yuan Chou
Deb Shoval
Denise King
Gwynne B. Sigel
Ham'Diya Mu
Ione Nash
Iris Brown

James Wells
Jaye Allison
Judith Trustone
Julia Elaine Galetti
Kormassa Bobo
Laureen Griffin
Magda Martínez
Maori Karmael Holmes
Maribel Lozada-Arzuaga
Marissa
Johnson-Valenzuela
Mary Roth
Michele Tayoun
Michelle Ortiz
Misia Denea Cole
Na Tanyá Davinā Stewart
Nana Korentemaa
Nancy Bea Miller
Nicole Cousino
Nitza W. Rosario
Pat McLean-RaShine
Patience Rage
Sandra Andino
Serena Reed
Shivaani Selvaraj
Sonia Sanchez
Suzanne Povse
Taína Asili
Tamika A.
Jones-Nwalipenja
Tina Morton
Toni Barber
Valerie Harris
Valerie Linhart

Vanessa Julye
Violeta Rivera
Wendy Brown

2004

Adelaide S. Paul
Adele Aron Greenspun
Ann Tegnell
Anna Rubio
Anula Shetty
Arlene Love
Aryani Manring
Astrid Bowlby
Beverly A. Gross-Spencer
Candy Depew
Charletta Brown
Dawn R. Falato
Deborah Caiola
Deborah Fries
Deborah Shoval
Denise Valentine
Donna Bostock
Dorothy Gordon Wilkie
Elba Hevia y Vaca
Elizabeth Doering
Elizabeth R. New
Ellie Brown
Elysa Voshell
Emily Hubler
Emily Selvin
Erica Zoë Loustau
Gail Bracegirdle
Heather Raikes

Hee Sook Kim
Heidi Barr
Heidi Cruz
Jackie Hoving
Janet Goldwater
Jennifer Blazina
Jessica Smith
Ju-Yeon Ryu
Julie York
Juliette Stango
Justyna Badach
Kate Doody
Katherine Hyeojin Yoon
Kathryn Pannepacker
Kathryn Tebordo
Katie Baldwin
Leticia Roa-Nixon
Lisa Murch
Lois Bliss Herbine
Lynn Riley
Lynne Levin
Madi Distefano
Megan Bridge
Mei-Ling Hom
Melissa Putz
Michele E. Tantoco
Michelle Oosterbaan
Nancy M. Sophy
Nancy W. Wright
Nathalie F. Anderson
Neila Kun
Onomola Iyabunmi
Pamela Jean Cole
Patricia J. Goodrich
Patti Dougherty

Penelope Fleming
Rain Harris
Raquel Montilla Higgins
Roko Kawai
Ruth Wolf
Sandra Weber
Sharyn O'Mara
Shinjoo Cho
Smita Rao
Sondra Blanchard
Sumi Maeshima
Susan Oh
Tally Brennan
Theresa "Indigene" Gaskin
Veleta Vancza
Vivian Appler
Vivian Green
Yu Wei
Yvonne Latty

2003

Amanda Miller
Amanda Tinker
Andrew Clearfield
Anne Seidman
Anne-Marie Mulgrew
Ava Blitz
Barbara Gregson
Carol Towarnicky
Cathleen Cohen
Cheryl Hess
Clarity Haynes
Daniele Strawmyer

Deidre Murphy
Elizabeth Fiend
Gloria Klaiman
Ilana Stanger-Ross
Ione Nash
Iris N. Brown
J.C. Todd
Jamie Merwin
Jennifer Levonian
Jennifer Macdonald
Jessica Dellacave
Jodi Netzer
Josie Smith
Joy Feasley
Julia Granacki
Keiko Miyamori
Laura Watson
Libby Saylor
Liz Goldberg
Lorene Cary
Lynne Allen
Maria T. Rodriguez
Marianne Bernstein
Martha McDonald
Martina Johnson-Allen
Mary DeWitt
Michelle Keita
Molly Layton
Myra Bazell
Nadia Hironaka
Nichole Canuso
Nicole Cousineau
Patricia Goodrich
Patricia Traub
Paula Winokur

Rachel Cantor
Rain Harris
Robin Black
Ruth Naomi Floyd
Sara Steele
Sarah McEaneyey
Sarah Zwerling
Sharon Katz
Sharon Mullally
Sharon White
Susan Abulhawa
Susan Fenton
Susan Magee
Teresa Leo
Toni Shapiro-Phim
Wendy Univer
Won Jung Choi
Yvonne Chism-Peace

2002

Adelaide Paul
Adrienne Stalek
Astrid Bowlby
Barbara Botting
Barbara Bullock
Catzie Vilayphonh
Celeste Starita
Christine Meck
Colleen Quinn
Deborah Stein
Dorothy Wilkie
Ellen M. Rosenholtz

Emily Brown
Gabrielle Mahler
Genevieve Coutroubis
Gina Kazanicka
Heather Raikes
Helen Cahng
Janette Hough
Joan Klatchko
Karen Fogarty
Kristin G. Goddard
Leah Stein
Lee Ann Etzold
Lise Funderberg
Lois Herbine
Lynette Mager
Malkia Kokuyamba Lydia
Marta Sanchez
Martha Kearns
Megan Bridge
Melina Hammer
Michelle Lipson
Na Tanya Davina Stewart
Nadine M. Patterson
Rachel Stecker
Rebekah Wostrel
Roko Kawai
Samantha Barrow
Samantha Simpson
Sondra Blanchard
Susan Bank
Tamar Klausner
Tania Isaac Hyman
Tara Goings
Teresa Jaynes

Tina Bracciale
Tina Davidson
Valentine Aprile
Yukie Kobayashi
Zoe Strauss

2001

Amy S.F. Lutz
Andrea Clearfield
Angela Watson
Anne-Marie Mulgrew
Arden Kass
Celia Reisman
Daisy Fried
Deborah Caiola
Deidra Greenleaf Allan
Eurhi Jones
Feral Willcox
J.C. Todd
Jeanne Obbard
Jennifer Macdonald
Jody Sweitzer
Joy A. Feasley
Julia Lopez
Julie Cooper-Fratrik
Julie Stratton
Karen Stone
Lee Ann Etzold
Lenny Daniels
Lisa Sewell
Lisbeth A. Pelsue
Lynda G. Black

Magda Martinez
Marilyn Holsing
Mary Legato Brownell
Melisa Cahnmann
Michelle Oosterbaan
Mytili Jagannathan
Nadia Hironaka
Nancy Lewis
Nicole Greaves
Nzinga O. Metzger
Pamela Sutton
Patricia Graham
Rachel Cantor
Romi Sloboda
Shannon Bowser
Shuyuan Li
Theresa Gaskin
Toni Brown
Toni Vandergrift

2000

Alice Austin
Alice Oh
Amy Novak
Anda Dubinskis
Andrea Lyons
Ann Hopkins Wilson
Anndee Hochman
Arden Kass
Carolyn Healy
Carrie Patterson
Charlotte A. Schatz
Dana Sunshine

Diane Burko
Dona Dalton
Elizabeth Doering
Elizabeth Leister
Elizabeth McCue
Emma Varley
Jan Yager
Judith Jacobson
Julia Sokol
Kala Lynn Moses
Kate Moran
Kimi Takesue
Laura Jackson
Linda Stojak
Lisa Sylvester
Lynn Denton
Marina Borker
Mary DeWitt
Mary Salvante
Mary Veronica Sweeney
Meg Richter
Meg Saligman
Megan Wall
Melissa Husted-Sherman
Merrilee Challiss
Michele Belluomini
Michelle Oosterbaan
Molly Christie
Nancy Agati
Rachel Fuld
Romi Sloboda
Sarah Biemiller
Susan Hagen
Teresa Jaynes
Tremain Smith

1999

Andrea Cooper
Anna Louise Boothe
Astrid Bowlby
Ava Blitz
Barbara Attie
Barbara Bjerring
Betty Leacraft
Brigid O'Hanrahan
Candy Depew
Carol Leotta-Moore
Celeste Starita
Charmaine Caire
Chris Larson
Christine Stoughton
Debora Muhl
E. Alice Oh
Elizabeth Meyer
Elsa Tarantal
Geri Harkin-Tuckett
Janice Wilke
Jeanne Jaffe
Jennie Shanker
Jill Bonovitz
Judith Schaechter
Judith Westley
Judy Gelles
Kukuli Valarde
Leah Stein
Leslie Kaufman
Lily Yeh
Linda Brenner
Lisa Baird
Liz Goldberg

Lucartha Kohler
Magan Stevens
Mei-Ling Hom
Myra Bazell
Nancy Lewis
Nannette Acker Clark
Rain Harris
Roko Kawai
Sally Grizzell Larson
Sarah Bismiller
Susan Jo Klein
Susie Brandt
Syd Carpenter
Timi Sullivan
Virginia Maksymowicz
Won Jung Choi

1998

Beth Kephart
Carolyn Healy
Eiko Fan Takahira
Frances McElroy
Jonita Gass
Karen Rile
Lynette Hazelton
Margaret Holley
Patricia Traub
Ruth Deming
Susan Viguers
Tara Gongs

1997

Bette Uscott-Woolsey
Bhakti Ziek
Deborah Warner
Emily Richardson
Michelle Marcuse
Pang Xiong Sikoun
Sirirathasuk
Sandra Brownlee
Yvonne Bobrowicz

1996

Danielle Picard-Sheehan
Eileen Neff
Ellen Spier
Judith Taylor
Kate Moran
Martha Madigan
Michèle Frentrop
Paula Chamlee
Rita Bernstein
Ruth Naomi Floyd
Ruth Thorne-Thomsen
Sally Grizzell

1995

Alice Schell
Anndee Hochmann
Beth Kephart Sulit
Debra Leigh Scott
Donna Jo Napoli
Gloria Klaiman
Karen Rile
Lisa Borders
Rachel Carpenter
Susan Magee



leeway foundation



The Philadelphia Building 1315 Walnut Street, Suite 832 Philadelphia, PA 19107 | www.leeway.org

leeway foundation

