

In a struggle for justice / Art is / Passion / Blood /
Life / Art is breathing / An absolute necessity for
change / It is the recovery of humanity, It allows us
to feel our own flesh / To connect with our joy /
Pain fear anger happiness hopes / We believe that
art / Lives in all of us / Comes out in intricate
cornrows / Improvised gourmet meals / Songs
sung to quiet a restless child / Lovingly made
picket signs it comes out in art that feeds us / Gets
off its pedestal / Comes out from behind the glass
/ And gets its hands dirty / Practical useful
sustainable / Fiercely beautiful / Art is the language
of change / It is our tongue / So the legs can be
nourished / For the long march / Toward liberation
/ Art carries us / Into daily struggles / Large and
small / And allows us / To envision a new world /
Based on our hearts / And not just our heads / The



leeway foundation

2014 GRANTS AND AWARDS

FUNDING WOMEN
AND TRANS ARTISTS
CREATING ART FOR
SOCIAL CHANGE

leeway foundation

The Philadelphia Building
1315 Walnut Street, Suite 832
Philadelphia, PA 19107

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WAGING WELLNESS

*“At a time when this country and the world are witnessing so much violence against women and transgender communities, this need for safety is urgent but not always met with any great sense of urgency reflected in policy or the spaces that are important to us. But that does not mean that safety does not or cannot exist for us. It means that it must be found or created. ... Searching for the “salt” and its healing properties is an arduous journey that first requires much inner work. That’s why Mama Toni asks, are you sure? Translation: are you willing to do the work? ... This is how it begins, the process of healing and the creation of bridges.” — **fayemi shakur***

More and more at Leeway we’re seeing grant applications framing a variety of healing modalities as something transformative for individuals and the communities of which they’re a part. Sadly, these applications often address the many faces of violence and its long-term cyclical impacts that become part of a legacy of oppression — internal and external, inside and out. ... They raise questions of safety and how we care for and sustain ourselves, our families, and our communities at the same time that we engage with and sustain our movements.

Because of this I’ve been thinking a lot about healing, safety, and the notion of “self-care” within the context of how we might build a culture of care in our communities and movements. What would it mean to me and to the communities I engage with for folks to take care of self and other? What is the embodiment of that care? What does it mean to “be well,” and as Toni Cade Bambara’s iconic question asks us, are we sure we’re ready? In her essay on page 6, writer and cultural worker, fayemi shakur reminds us that this work of healing is everyone’s responsibility, which raises interesting questions about the future of social justice organizing. What happens when we seek a kind of life balance in the context of organizing for our lives? What does it mean to prioritize the autonomy, health, and well-being of a community? How do we preserve

our passion and our wholeness in equal measure? What might happen when we seek, no, demand a balanced life?

It is interesting to reflect on these issues as we move toward the 50th anniversary of the Black Panthers, and think about the Ten-Point Program and its articulation of the importance of community care: “We want land, bread, housing, education, clothing, justice, and peace.” Their analysis recognized that when an entire community is denied access to resources, it becomes an extreme challenge for members of that community to move to collective action.

For many years the model in most social justice communities was one of individual sacrifice. You know what I’m talking about — leaders who denied themselves (and others) rest or pleasure for the good of the movement. But a quick review of the experience of leaders emerging out of the Black Panthers and other radical movements of their time makes it clear that way of working for change was not sustainable. It leads to fatigue and burnout at every level — physical, emotional, and spiritual. There was no space on that path to honor our complex realities as human beings or acknowledge that our source of power needs to be fed through stillness, self-reflection, and love. This is what I find beautiful about fayemi’s piece — the acknowledgment of what it takes for artists to “move

beyond their fears, to create or pour into dreams that are larger than themselves. It is the circle. It is community. It is the creation of safe spaces when we are pushed out of ones that are important to us.”

In 2014, Leeway gave \$245,655 to 54 artists and cultural producers. Nine received the Transformation Award; another 45 received the Art and Change Grant. Through their work, these bridge builders explore a dizzying range of human experience and use story, song, movement, and other mediums to create safe spaces and foster personal and social transformation. They connect us to ancestral and contemporary trauma, our histories of resistance and survival, and our stories of faith and resolve. They use their practices to illuminate the potential for joy and for creating and sustaining community; shift our perspective on the gendered ways we view nurturing; provoke thoughtful and nuanced discourse on healing community trauma and resisting cycles of racial injustice and violence; explore the fragile nature of memory, longing, and loss; and expose the trauma and resilience within immigrant experiences in an often hostile land.

I’m honored to be part of an organization whose vision is to invest in a process of healing for individuals and communities of which they’re a part through the power of creative practice and the reclaiming of culture. Many thanks to Leeway’s board and staff for all they do to support this investment. To our allies, colleagues, and partners in the field and on the ground, we look forward to continuing to build safe, welcoming, and affirming spaces together while we continue to engage in a process of global healing. In a world where overstimulation is the norm, maintaining a balanced life may be too ambitious.

However, I believe the work is not so much in striking the balance, but in the constant search of what balance is. If we pay attention, listen carefully, and acknowledge the wisdom contained within, perhaps we’ll find where the edge is so we can connect and return to the source again and again, ensuring we have energy to reach our goals. As you look through this book, recognize how many of these artists have a vision for how to build the skills and relationships necessary to assess and provide what is needed.

I believe the future of building movements for justice will ultimately depend upon our ability to practice care toward one another and create models that liberate others to do the same. Going forward, let’s build into our visions of justice ways that keep us safe and whole. Let’s connect to joy and allow ourselves pleasure. It’s how we can sustain movements against systems not meant to sustain us, by waging wellness.

“Ensuring our emotional, physical, spiritual well-being is intrinsically connected to the sustainability of our communities and movements. We must hold spaces for healing, building accountable and authentic

relationships, facing conflict and resolution, and transforming ways we work together.”

— *Kindred Southern Healing Justice Collective*

Ashe!

Denise M. Brown
Philadelphia



SAFE SPACES

“Are you sure, sweetheart, that you want to be well?”

This is how Toni Cade Bambara begins her classic book, *The Salt Eaters*. It is a perfect beginning and also one of the most poignant questions an individual can ever respond to.

Sometimes I go quiet and deep into my solitude, looking for wonder, light, and beauty. Sometimes it takes longer than I'd like. The longer it takes, the quieter I become. At a time when boldness and speaking truth to power is everything, quiet can feel like the wrong thing to be — like being a woman, too feminine, too fragile. But quiet and feminine is in no way a reflection of weakness, I've learned, and there's a difference between stillness and acquiescence. The duality that exists in the feminine, fierce and soft energies, like ocean tides, rises and falls, cascading our waters within. Embracing the quiet allows time for self-study and the formation of steady and healthy thoughts, I think. “If love is not present in our imaginations, it will not be there in our lives,” bell hooks says. What would we be without our imagination?

Part of this quietness is about the need for safety, safe spaces, and relief. I think every writer, artist, and cultural worker has a cave they go to especially for this purpose. It's necessary because without stillness, without giving space for reflection, the mind just naturally spins without reaching a firm stance or balance. At a time when this country and the world are witnessing so much violence against women and transgender communities, this need for safety is urgent but not always met with any great sense of urgency reflected in policy or the spaces that are important to us. But that does not mean that safety does not or cannot exist for us. It means that it must be found or created.

What does any of that have to do with Bambara's *Salt Eaters*? This need for healing is a great responsibility of not just our individual selves but also our collective communities. The unsung heroes who have led and carried our families and communities through difficult, complex, and rocky waters are many. Searching for the “salt” and its healing properties is an arduous journey that first requires much inner work. That's why Mama Toni asks, “Are you sure?” Translation: Are you willing to do the work?

An important duality exists for artists too, who swing between the need for solitude and community. It is no small thing when a woman and/or trans person of color — queer, straight, or privileged — decides to move beyond their fears, to create or pour into dreams that are larger than themselves. After all, it likely comes after much rejection, doubt, neglect, abuse, and trauma. Time and time again, historically and communally we form circles around each other with joined hands and a quiet knowing. This is how it begins, the process of healing and the creation of bridges.

Violence is defined by the World Health Organization as “the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, which either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment, or deprivation.” How many feminists still fight for comparable compensation, equal pay, and health care that supports their practice? Given the use of the word “power” in this definition, depriving financial empowerment or money can also be a form of economic violence. And still our progress is not only possible, but we thrive in our possibilities.

That is why I was moved to tears when I met with other dynamic feminists to participate in Leeway’s decision process, learning about an institution dedicated to funding creative endeavors by women and trans artists who effect social change. Our final meeting took place on the weekend that the grand jury in Ferguson, Mo., decided police officer Darren Wilson would go free in the murder of 18-year-old Michael Brown. The streets were swelling, chanting “Black lives matter,” and inside Leeway’s offices we were feeling emotional and raw, but also grateful to be in the presence of one another, diving deep into the words and dreams of each applicant. We brought all of our love, passion, and uncertainty to the table, and emerged changed by the process. I am moved to tears again as I write this, remembering that weekend.

I could go on and on with the words of women writers who have filled my spirit and inspired me to keep pushing in my moments of solitude. “We are each other’s harvest; we are each other’s business; we are each other’s magnitude and bond,” said poet Gwendolyn Brooks.

I would like to acknowledge Leeway’s staff and trustees past and present for their vision, hard work, and commitment to women and trans artists and the beautiful spirits I had the opportunity to build and learn with and from: Seyi Adebajo, Yowei Shaw, S.T. Shimi, Sage Crump, and Lorna de Cervantes.

I am deeply honored to introduce this year’s Leeway Foundation grantees. Their practice and their lives should be celebrated, as they represent more growth and more fuel for the fires within towards the greater good.

Peace, Love, Respect, and Power,

fayemi shakur / May 12, 2015

fayemi shakur is a writer, cultural worker, creative consultant, and certified yoga instructor based in Newark, N.J. For the past 15 years her creative practice has included music, poetry, art, culture, activism, and community service. Her writing has been featured in *The New York Times*, *The International Review of African American Art*, *Ebony.com*, and *HYCIDE Magazine*, a photojournalism publication she co-created in 2011.

OUR MISSION

Leeway Foundation supports women and trans* artists and cultural producers working in communities at the intersection of art, culture, and social change. Through our grantmaking and other programs, we promote artistic expression that amplifies the voices of those on the margins, promotes sustainable and healthy communities, and works in the service of movements for economic and social justice.

**We use the term “trans” in its most inclusive sense, as an umbrella term encompassing transsexual, transgender, genderqueer, Two-Spirit people, and more generally, anyone whose gender identity or gender expression is nonconforming and/or different from their gender assigned at birth.*

OUR VISION

We at Leeway believe that art is a vital tool for community building, self-expression, and individual and collective transformation. Art can bridge difference, center those who have been on the margins, and challenge and connect communities and individuals to live in peaceful coexistence.

We envision a world in which art flourishes in many forms as the cultural lifeblood of communities, where all have access to creative expression regardless of who they are, and where art and art making are considered essential elements of our collective efforts to create a more just, peaceful world where all can live with dignity.

OUR VALUES

Community — We recognize that artists and cultural producers play a central role in building a healthy and vibrant community.

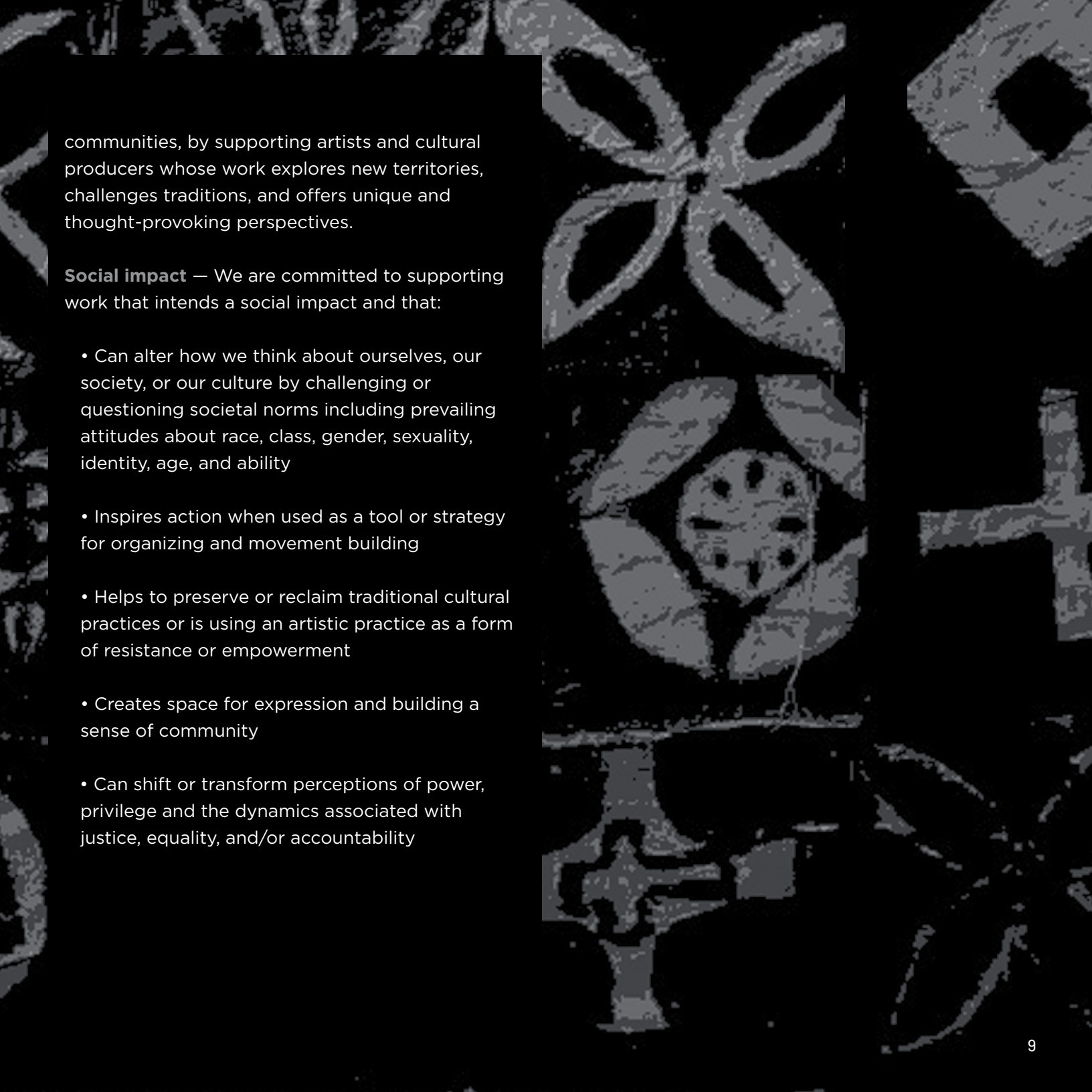
Diversity — We believe that multiple and divergent perspectives stimulate a culture of vitality and hope. We therefore have an emphasis on supporting women and trans artists because their work is not yet equitably represented in mainstream culture.

Continuity — We believe that supporting the current generation of underrepresented artists will stimulate the production of exceptional and inspiring work that will in turn kindle the next generation of artists and cultural producers.

Integrity — We are committed to operating all of our programs with a high standard of efficiency, responsiveness, effectiveness, and clarity of both purpose and process.

Opportunity — We believe it is important to elevate and make more visible the work of artists and cultural producers who are creating work at the nexus of art and social change and commit to using resources to provide a wide variety of opportunities for artists to show work and share their expertise, including exhibitions, peer-to-peer networking, and workshops.

Originality — We are committed to helping expand the notion of art beyond the traditional canons, as well as challenging mainstream ideas about what art is, the artists' place and their connection to



communities, by supporting artists and cultural producers whose work explores new territories, challenges traditions, and offers unique and thought-provoking perspectives.

Social impact — We are committed to supporting work that intends a social impact and that:

- Can alter how we think about ourselves, our society, or our culture by challenging or questioning societal norms including prevailing attitudes about race, class, gender, sexuality, identity, age, and ability
- Inspires action when used as a tool or strategy for organizing and movement building
- Helps to preserve or reclaim traditional cultural practices or is using an artistic practice as a form of resistance or empowerment
- Creates space for expression and building a sense of community
- Can shift or transform perceptions of power, privilege and the dynamics associated with justice, equality, and/or accountability

OUR HISTORY

Leeway's commitment to funding women and trans artists creating social change through their artistic and cultural practice came about as the result of the diligent work of the foundation to find ways to more fully express and authentically live out its mission.

Funded by an initial gift from Philadelphia-based artist Linda Lee Alter in 1993, Leeway Foundation was established "to promote the welfare of women and to benefit the arts" in the five-county Philadelphia area via grants to individual women artists to "encourage their increased recognition and representation in the arts community."

In the late 1990s, Leeway's leadership began to engage with women artists who were actively working toward community transformation, and over time began to reflect on how the foundation might support this work and express its commitment to art as a vehicle for achieving social change. This commitment was inspired by regional and national organizations and activist groups that were dedicated to working at this intersection and to making the connection between art, culture, and social change, as well as by individuals in the Leeway community including board and staff who believed in the powerful potential of this link. Leeway's leadership saw in this an opportunity for the foundation to support practitioners and the communities they work in and thereby contribute to larger movements for social justice. The idea of Leeway stepping up to this effort and taking on a more active role was an exciting vision that many in the Leeway community rallied around. In 2004, Leeway began a program redesign process to further its commitment to explore

the intersection of art and social change with a focus on community transformation at its core.

Over the last decade, with the active engagement and support of Leeway's donor family, its board of directors, advisory council, staff, artists, activists, community partners, and other supporters in the region and beyond, the foundation transformed from an almost exclusively white, woman-focused foundation grounded in feminist principles to one that engages people of color in positions of influence; committed to a process of examining the dynamics of racism in organizational relationships, practices, policies, and programs; changed the governance and decision-making authority from a family-run, one-member structure to a board comprising people from the community committed to an active framework of personal and political transformation; and expanded its eligibility criteria to include trans artists as an extension of the foundation's efforts to support artists underrepresented because of their gender.

This work did not happen overnight, nor with ease. Those in Leeway's community opened up to challenging their existing perceptions through an examination of their commitment to the new vision, and in doing so they were able to face their own biases and the other forms of inequity that mark our society.

Today, as the foundation continues to explore ways to build new partnerships, strengthen existing alliances, and engage with its mission, vision, and values, Leeway continues to move forward and push itself to refine its vision and deepen its social impact with the hope that other funders, organizations, and communities might be inspired to take their own paths to transformation.



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2014
**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 trans artists in the Delaware Valley region.

This grant is distributed two times per year.



Amanda

NARDONE

Amanda's project, XWHY, was a weekend event that included an art exhibition as well as a fiber and drag workshop. The exhibition featured gender-nonconforming lingerie and reinterpretations of drag, while the workshops engaged queer folk in a creative process to redefine the visual expression of gender identity. The event united the young artist community and the Philadelphia LGBT community. Amanda's audience not only created a dialogue revolving around the normative public perception of gender, but they were also impacted on a personal level.

NEIGHBORHOOD

North
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Crafts &
Textiles/
Visual Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Philly AIDS
Thrift

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500

Amy Lyn

BRAND

Amy advocated support for breastfeeding through a gallery exhibition of her sculpture, drawing, and text. With a mission to inform, desensitize, and shift perspective around the ways we view nourishment, Amy envisioned all stages of her project as a two-way dialogue focused around questions rather than definitive statements. The exhibit explored areas of ambivalence and tension around women's experiences, revealing both its benefits and demands. She investigated the broader feminist topics related to nourishment and nurturing, as well as celebrated and critiqued the experience of motherhood in our society.



Photo: Rachael Demeter

NEIGHBORHOOD

Pennsburg

DISCIPLINE

Visual Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Maggie
Buckwalter

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Photo: Sandra Andino

Andrea

WALLS

Andrea's poetry manuscript, *The Black Body Curve*, was transformed into a free-access, interactive website with visual content and teaching curriculum. Revolving around the officially sanctioned May 13, 1985, MOVE bombing, Andrea's project promotes awareness of the continuing historical contexts for the bombing and the ways they are connected to global acts of violence, including poverty. Andrea's intent was to not only engage youth using accessible technology, but to also provoke thoughtful and nuanced discourse on healing community trauma and resisting cycles of racial injustice and violence.

NEIGHBORHOOD

Fairview,
Camden
County

DISCIPLINE

Literary
Arts/
Media
Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Marissa
Johnson-
Valenzuela

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500

Bernadene

DAVIS

Bernadene taught and supervised the creation of an original book of poetry by youth. Utilizing various writing formats such as rhyme and alliteration, Bernadene facilitated both the children's writing process as well as stage presence. The children had their book produced and professionally printed and also recited their work publicly. Through her project, Bernadene decreased marginalization in the lives of these children as well as preserved African American writing in the community.



NEIGHBORHOOD

Southwest
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Literary
Arts/
Performance

CHANGE PARTNER

Mahdi El

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Photo: Sandra Andino

Betty

LEACRAFT

Betty used textiles to engage master instructors of West African dance and drum traditions in the craft of hand-dyeing. These African-inspired textiles were created for their studio home at the Community Education Center. Two hand-dyeing workshops resulted in wall banners that will serve as visual inspiration to children, teens, and adult students of dance and drum. In July 2014, Betty traveled to South Africa and then conducted a presentation to this community about her trip from an artist's perspective.

NEIGHBORHOOD
West
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE
Crafts &
Textiles/
Visual Arts

CHANGE PARTNER
Community
Education
Center

GRANT AMOUNT
\$2,500

Catherine C.

QUILLMAN

Catherine published *Walking the Uptown*, a book exploring West Chester's West End, a historic African American neighborhood and birthplace of civil rights activist Bayard Rustin. This is the second publication by Catherine about the West End that focuses on the early black business community and industrial job sites of African Americans from the mid-1800s to the 1960s. *Walking the Uptown* also includes landmarks such as the restaurants and theaters where Rustin encouraged sit-ins and other forms of activism.



Photo: Sandra Andino

NEIGHBORHOOD

West Chester

DISCIPLINE

Multi-Disciplinary

CHANGE PARTNER

Sarah Wesley

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Catzie

VILAYPHONH

Catzie's *Laos In The House* project celebrated and honored the work and legacy of renowned Lao dancer, teacher, and artist Pom Khampradith, who passed away from breast cancer in April 2014. By presenting Pom's story and work through her first five students and son Ravi, Catzie's project showcased the collaborative efforts of remembrance as well as preserved cultural and historical traditions for current and future generations. The goal of the project was to resist the rejection of cultural traditions for Lao Americans who are often marginalized by a culture that does not prioritize art or embrace social commentary.

NEIGHBORHOOD

South
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Performance/
Music

CHANGE PARTNER

Susie
Ratsavong

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500

Denise

ALLEN

Denise created a photo exhibit of African American boys as seen through the eyes of their mothers. Accompanied by written statements from the mothers, these photos elevated and honored these young men and also shined a light on their stigmatized existence. Audience members had the opportunity to participate in the exhibit by sharing their thoughts, fears, and best parenting strategies, which were displayed at the end of the show. Denise's exhibit negated stereotypical images of African American young men as portrayed in the media and provided a platform to reshape those images.



Photo: Jordan Allen

NEIGHBORHOOD
Jenkintown

DISCIPLINE
Visual Arts

CHANGE PARTNER
Vashti DuBois

GRANT AMOUNT
\$2,500



Photo: Meredith Edlow

Donna

BACKUES

Donna taught an Indonesian batik workshop within the Indonesian community of South Philadelphia with the primary vision of preserving a cultural tradition that is a national treasure for the people of Indonesia. Besides learning the technique, teen and adult students also learned about the history of batik in Indonesia, an art form that has been a strong source of identity for Indonesians crossing religious, racial, and cultural boundaries. Together, students created both an individual and collaborative piece that served as a visual representation of the hopes and dreams of the Indonesian community in Philadelphia.

NEIGHBORHOOD
South
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE
Visual Arts/
Performance

CHANGE PARTNER
Hani White,
Indonesian
Diaspora
Network

GRANT AMOUNT
\$2,500

Donna

OBLONGATA

Donna offered a free performance workshop, Clown Through Mask, a complete introductory course that uses the Pochinko clowning technique created by visionary master teacher Richard Pochinko. Donna's workshop was open to the public and marked the first time that this often-expensive training has been offered for free within the United States. As a performance art that holds potential for inclusivity, this workshop expanded the types of bodies and stories we see on the mainstream stage and celebrated personal histories, rather than ignoring them, within the creative process. The workshop culminated with a public showing of student work.



Photo: Lorelei Narvaja

NEIGHBORHOOD

West
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Performance

CHANGE PARTNER

Sarah Lowry

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Photo: Colin M Lenton

Frances

MC ELROY

Frances' documentary *Black Ballerina* uses the overwhelmingly white world of ballet to raise consciousness about issues of race, equality, and inclusion. Told through the stories of six women from varied generations united in their passion for ballet, Frances' film illustrates how the climate for some ballerinas of color has become more encouraging, whereas for others there continues to be a lack of opportunity. Not only does *Black Ballerina* stimulate dialogue revolving around social change, but it also increases awareness about the lack of diversity in ballet and encourages the creation of more opportunities for ballerinas of color. Frances' goal is to make the gatekeepers of ballet aware of their own limited, traditional way of thinking.

NEIGHBORHOOD

Narberth

DISCIPLINE

Media Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Joselli Audain
Deans

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



G

RAGOVIN

G Ragovin's *Queer Homes Oral History Project* investigates and documents queer communal living histories in Philadelphia for people who could not or would not create "normal" families for themselves. In its first phase, the project focused on gay presences within and influences on the Movement for a New Society (MNS) and examined the intersection of radical praxis and queer politics. Additional phases will examine neighborhoods, houses, eras, and notable individuals. Filling a major gap in the written history of queer Philadelphia as well as the United States, G's project preserves queer history and provides opportunities for individuals to learn from the successes and mistakes of their predecessors.

NEIGHBORHOOD

Cedar Park

DISCIPLINE

Media Arts/
Literary Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Trans Oral
HistoryProject

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Genesis

CRESPO

Genesis believes that for social shifts to thrive, we must create a home to hold space for our nuanced identities. Genesis expressed these identities in an installation titled *Una Casita Luna (the Little Moon House)*. *Una Casita Luna* followed the traditions of early Puerto Rican immigrants of Manhattan's Lower East Side who created them to cope with displacement. With the help of the Norris Square Neighborhood Project's Art Factory, *Una Casita Luna* was made public through an after-school program. Genesis hosted workshops on relief and relief printmaking, the process of inking the protruding areas of a surface, leaving recessed areas free of ink.

NEIGHBORHOOD
Cedar Park

DISCIPLINE
Visual Arts

CHANGE PARTNER
Elena Perez

GRANT AMOUNT
\$2,500



Heidi

BARR

Heidi hosted a series of events celebrating community gardens in Strawberry Mansion. The events included three multi-generational workshops, culminating in large-scale sculptural installations at garden festivals hosted by the East Park Revitalization Alliance. Designed to foster community, educate participants about urban farming and environmental issues, and include them in the creation of the installation art, the workshops taught plant-based dye techniques and seed bombing. Heidi's project not only helped gardens growing all along the Ridge Avenue corridor, but also inspired growth: growth of food, awareness, creativity, community, and public support.

NEIGHBORHOOD

Roxborough

DISCIPLINE

Visual Arts/
Crafts &
Textiles

CHANGE PARTNER

The East Park
Revitalization
Alliance

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Photo: Jose Mazariegos

Jasmine

RIVERA

Through a video project, Jasmine interviewed and documented three Peruvian women about their experiences within resistance and social justice movements. Capturing firsthand the role of these immigrant women of color, the project examined what worked and did not work at the time and how individuals can apply the lessons from these experiences to their work today. In addition to serving as an educational and organizing tool, Jasmine's project preserved Latina culture and the knowledge that one's own history is a vital first step in movement building. The project concluded with a public screening.

NEIGHBORHOOD
Point Breeze

DISCIPLINE
Media Arts

CHANGE PARTNER
Myryam Avila

GRANT AMOUNT
\$2,500

Jennifer

BENNETT

Jennifer's documentary *Spirit of the Times* tells the story of two brothers, Rashie Abdul Samad and Sharif Abdur Rahim, who built a 40-year business and family legacy using raw materials and the black liberation spirit. In its exploration of the brothers from idealistic youth to local and global traders, the film is being used to inspire the disenfranchised with the belief that they can improve their personal economies and build their communities. Screenings were followed by open-forum discussions about the role of culture and economy in the black community and provided networking opportunities to further the potential success of black businesses.



Photo: Meredith Edlow

NEIGHBORHOOD

West
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Media Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Scribe Video
Center

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Jennifer

YEE

Jennifer composed a feature-length screenplay about caregivers for loved ones battling Alzheimer's disease. Revolving around the story of a musician who loses his ability to complete daily tasks while still retaining his ability to play music, the work resists assumptions and stereotypes made about individuals with disabilities. Jennifer's project builds a sense of community for caregivers in America as well as raises awareness, tolerance, and understanding for those living with disabilities and chronic illnesses.

NEIGHBORHOOD

Narberth

DISCIPLINE

Literary
Arts/
Media Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Camille
Sorrentino

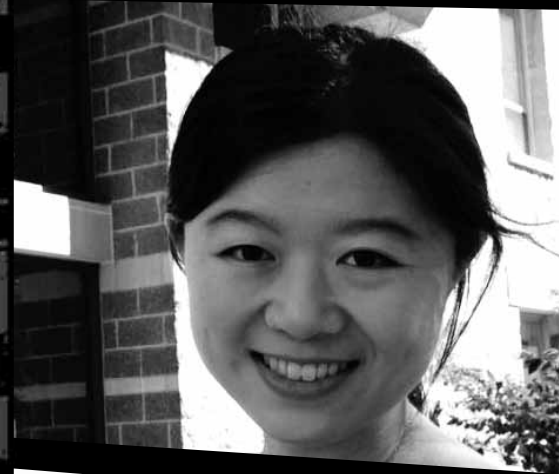
GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500

Jingchao

MA

Jingchao created a short film that presents the diverse understandings and imaginations of home and family from queer and trans communities in Philadelphia and Taiwan. Based on interviews conducted locally and abroad in Taiwan, the film is open-ended and explores various meanings of home and home building. Jingchao's project conveys the different yet similar voices captured throughout the interviews and brings them together, so that an audience can appreciate and celebrate the rich ways of thinking and living that these communities create.



NEIGHBORHOOD

University
City

DISCIPLINE

Media Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Chinese Lala
Alliance

GRANT AMOUNT

\$1,960



Photo: Rachael Demeter

Julie

RAINBOW

Julie created a public exhibition using video, photographs, and narratives called *Grits Greens and Griots*. In response to the 100th anniversary of the Great Migration, the exhibit explored the diverse experiences of African American elders — 90 years of age and older — from the North and South. The project produced a public history record that compares the lives of African American elders who remained in the South to those who participated in the Great Migration north to Philadelphia. The exhibit challenged our perception and collective understanding of life in the South during the 20th century and highlighted contributions elders continue to make in many communities.

NEIGHBORHOOD

Jenkintown

DISCIPLINE

Visual Arts/
Literary Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Jenny
Campbell

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500

Kathryn

SMITH PYLE

Kathryn created a dynamic website in order to further the social change work of two films she produced. As two short documentaries, *Farm Labor* features farmers and immigrant workers and tells stories of immigration reform, small family farms, and sustainable models of seasonal farm labor. Kathryn sees her audience as congress members and local policymakers because of their critical importance in the immigration reform legislation debate.



NEIGHBORHOOD

Center City

DISCIPLINE

Media Arts/
Literary Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Michael
Seltzer

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Photo: Sandra Andino

Kay

WOOD

Kay created a graphic novel called *The Big Belch*, a work that uses humor to capture the reader while raising consciousness around serious environmental issues. *The Big Belch* begins when Big Oil causes an enormous oil spill that produces vast ecological destruction in the Gulf of Mexico. The graphic novel engages audiences outside the environmental activist community and includes them in discussions about the effects of fossil fuel energy and climate change.

NEIGHBORHOOD

Mt. Airy

DISCIPLINE

Literary Arts/
Visual Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Tess Kissinger

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500

Leila

GHAZNAVI

Leila produced *Broken Wing*, a play in which East meets West. Two men, one Iranian and one young American, struggle to do what each thinks is best for an orphaned young woman, who herself is awakening to her own identity. Incorporating photography, puppetry, Iranian mythology, and Persian poetry, *Broken Wing* educated audiences about the history and politics of Iran through dramatic storytelling and created discourse that can shift current social and political thought. The play also brought both Middle Easterners and Americans into the same space to share a common experience.



Photo: Sandra Andino

NEIGHBORHOOD

Fairmount

DISCIPLINE

Performance/
Literary Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Enid Whyte

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Lenora

EARLY

Lenora's film *Embarkations* explores the family life of John Coltrane during his early years as a young musician in Philadelphia and focuses on the family's experience as members of the second Great Migration. The film will not only preserve Coltrane's story but will also relate the black housing problems of the past to today's struggle to attain decent housing. Lenora recorded local history in order to foster communal identity and encourage resistance to neighborhood incursion, gentrification, and dissolution.

NEIGHBORHOOD

South
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Media Arts/
Literary Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Kelli Caldwell
of Occupy
Airwaves

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500

Leticia Roa

NIXON

Leticia used field recordings and photographs that tell the stories of Philadelphia-based Mexicans who were born in Huejotzingo, Puebla. Huejotzingo is the cradle of the centennial carnival, a festival commemorating the 1892 Battle of Puebla. For the past eight years, Mexicans living in South Philadelphia have recreated the celebration here. This multimedia project served to document the emerging Mexican immigrant community and share their traditions and experiences with displacement as they create ways to preserve their culture.



Photo: Lovella Calica

NEIGHBORHOOD

South Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Folk Arts/
Media Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Edgar
Ramírez,
Philatinos
Radio

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Photo by Maria Möller



Photo by Maria Möller



M. Asli

DUKAN

M. Asli created a poster-sized infographic revolving around the history of African Americans in speculative fiction books and movies. Through images and text, the poster supplies the reader with an introduction to this canon of work and connects it to a larger framework that is contemporary and relates to African American youth. The poster was introduced as an educational tool within select Philadelphia high schools, with accompanying presentations and workshops that encourage students' engagement in story and world-building techniques that can potentially enrich and transform their lives.

Photo: Anissa Weinraub & Simon McDermott-Johnson

NEIGHBORHOOD
Southwest
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE
Visual Arts

CHANGE PARTNER
Brendon Jobs

GRANT AMOUNT
\$2,500

M. Nzadi

KEITA

M. Nzadi facilitated a multi-week personal writing workshop for youth and adults living in Germantown, the Toni Cade Bambara/Germantown Stories Project. Using exercises and images, this workshop taught self-expression and regard for social history and reflected what the writers value about Germantown. Collectively, the writers shared the work that stimulates vision and action.



Photo: Liz

NEIGHBORHOOD

Germantown

DISCIPLINE

Literary Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Germantown
Arts
Roundtable

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Photo: Meredith Edlow

M

TÉLLEZ

M created a paperback and audiobook collection of nonbinary, queer dystopian sci-fi composed of preexisting and yet-unpublished stories from the *All That's Left* zine series. The project is available online in digital format for free and was showcased through readings and performances. The collection seeks to fill the void of science fiction that speaks to the emotional experience of marginalized communities and allows readers to see the world through a new perspective. M's collection enables readers to critique power dynamics and inspires them to re-envision our world.

NEIGHBORHOOD

West
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Literary Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Metropolarity

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500

Mai

SCHWARTZ

Mai translated *Austria-Hungary*, a poetry collection by Argentinian writer and activist Néstor Perlongher, which deals with nationalism, state violence, and queer resistance. Never before published in English, this translation preserves Perlongher's work while offering understanding among queer and trans people within a movement for self-determination. By creating this chapbook, Mai contributes to conversations within gender-variant communities and adds to the arsenal of creative responses to violence.



Photo: Lorelei Narvaja

NEIGHBORHOOD

West
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Literary
Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Elliott
batTzedek

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Photo: KAS Photography

Mari Morales-

WILLIAMS

Mari conducted a 12-week program in which high-school girls, ages 14 to 18, focused on anti-violence work using art for healing, activism, and community organizing. Addressing issues of race, gender, and sexual violence, the program utilized dance as an impetus for community building. Young black and Latina women used dance, movement, and spoken word to create safe spaces for individual and collective healing. In the process, these same girls were lifted up to become community leaders as they planned three community events that promote anti-gender violence through the arts. The program was documented through film.

NEIGHBORHOOD
West
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE
Multi-
Disciplinary

CHANGE PARTNER
Nuala Cabral

GRANT AMOUNT
\$2,500



Maria

MANEOS

Maria's *Brush With the Law* was a visual arts program, conducted within the Montgomery County Correctional Facility, that inspired introspection, provided a positive outlet for self-expression, reduced recidivism, and helped offenders confidently re-enter and reconnect with their communities. This program encouraged students to use the visual arts as a catalyst for positive transition and helped society understand the need for rehabilitation in the prison system for peaceful coexistence and re-entry. At the end of the program, there were two exhibits of selected works from each student, which solidified their own recognition as creative beings and also allowed their voices to be heard.

Photo: Meredith Edlow

NEIGHBORHOOD

Montgomery
Township

DISCIPLINE

Visual Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

David Gussak

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Maria

MÖLLER

Maria's project, *75° West*, was an exchange-based collaboration between artists, activists, and communities in Philadelphia and Medellín, Colombia. In response to injustice, people of these two cities, both of which sit at the 75° west longitudinal line, created and traded both material objects and intangible experiences that fostered a greater understanding of human connection, political change, and transformative action. The initial conception of the project was an exchange of photographs that hold cultural and emotional significance, but cross-cultural discussion informed and illuminated the entire process.

Photo: Maria Moller & Gwendolyn Rooker

NEIGHBORHOOD

East
Passyunk

DISCIPLINE

Multi-
Disciplinary

CHANGE PARTNER

Amber Art
and Design

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500

Martha

MCDONALD

Martha created a performance installation at the Woodlands, a Victorian cemetery in West Philadelphia. The project explored the fragile nature of memory and highlighted the lineage of women who preserve family and community memories through the making of memorial handcrafts. Dressed in Victorian costume, Martha led the audience on a song tour of the cemetery, singing Appalachian folk songs about longing and loss, telling stories about the lost garden, and exploring how class and social status determine who was memorialized at the Woodlands and who was relegated to the anonymity of a potter's field. Martha also facilitated knitting workshops along with the performance and exhibition.



Photo: Ryan Collerd

NEIGHBORHOOD

South
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Performance/
Visual Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Jessica
Baumert, the
Woodlands

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Photo: Rachael Demeter

Monnette

SUDLER

The Monnette Sudler Philadelphia Guitar Summit in January 2015 featured four workshops and a concert at Montgomery County Community College. Free workshops, hosted by Montgomery Community College, the Senior Center in the Park, and the Clef Club of Jazz and Performing Arts, addressed topics such as the culture of African, jazz, and blues music and the emergence of young women within the Philadelphia music scene. The project raised consciousness, created space for expression, and challenged racism, sexism, and ageism through diversity. The Summit also engaged participants in a reciprocal process in which learning and teaching occurred simultaneously.

NEIGHBORHOOD
Germantown

DISCIPLINE
Music/
Performance

CHANGE PARTNER
Brent Woods,
Montgomery
County
Community
College

GRANT AMOUNT
\$2,500

Pheralyn

DOVE

Pheralyn's performance piece, *Sacred Soul Sister: A Tribute to Trudy Pitts*, preserved Trudy Pitts' musical legacy as a pianist, singer, composer, arranger, conductor, and educator. Through narration, acting, and spoken-word sequences, the project brought Trudy out of obscurity and viscerally inspired viewers to take positive actions for living out their own dreams. Performed locally, nationally, and internationally, each performance was followed by a talk-back segment, which fostered dialogue and motivated positive self-reflection within audience members.



Photo: Sandra Andino

NEIGHBORHOOD
Overbrook

DISCIPLINE
Performance

CHANGE PARTNER
Philadelphia
Clef Club of
Jazz and the
Performing
Arts

GRANT AMOUNT
\$2,500



Photo: Rachael Demeter

Qui

DORIAN

Qui's project, *Bodywerq*, shares information and starts discussion around the power of yoga as a movement practice and healing art in queer and trans communities of color. Specifically directed toward these communities regardless of experience or physical limitations, *Bodywerq* is a collection of filmed instructional yoga and meditation practices. In addition, a short documentary was produced that featured both local and national queer and trans yogis of color, serving as a catalyst for meaningful discussion around honoring the identities of queer and trans people of color through yoga and the healing arts as well as their access to it.

NEIGHBORHOOD
Southwest
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE
Folk Arts/
Media Arts

CHANGE PARTNER
Studio 34
Yoga and
Healing Arts

GRANT AMOUNT
\$2,500

Robin

MARKLE

Robin's project, *Live the Revolution Now*, is an interactive web documentary recording the history and legacy of Movement for a New Society (MNS) with an emphasis on their impact in West Philadelphia. Free and available to the public, the project explores MNS using writing, illustration, stop-motion, narration, archival interviews, and footage. Visitors to the website can also submit their own stories, reflections, and archival documents in the process. Robin's project explores the stories of MNS' development and struggles, and offers insight that activists of today may use in their own organizing efforts.



Photo: Rachael Demeter

NEIGHBORHOOD

Cedar Park

DISCIPLINE

Media Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Andrew
Cornell

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Photo: Betty Leacraft & Wally Loreda-Santiago

Sandra

ANDINO

Through this audio-photo documentary project, *What It Means to Be Afro-Latino in Philadelphia: Stories From El Barrio*, Sandra explored Afro-Latino identity, race, and racism in Philadelphia. Seeking to fill a void in Afro-Latino representation, the collaborative series featured seven large-scale black-and-white digital portraits and accompanying interviews that described the struggle to assert Afro-Latino identity and the racial prejudice and conflicts experienced both inside and outside the communities. These conversations also expressed the subjects' resiliency and pride in their African heritage and ancestry. As a supplementary component, Sandra led workshops and engaged youth in a dialogue about racial and ethnic identity, racism, and cultural pride.

NEIGHBORHOOD

North
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Visual Arts/
Media Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Mary Lou
Williams
Center for
Black Culture

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Tatiana

BACCHUS

Tatiana produced *Freedom Denied*, a feature-length documentary that posthumously tells the story of Haitian Jean-Baptiste Edvard Pierre's near decade-long battle for political asylum in the United States, as told by the attorneys and community activists who fought side by side for his freedom. Tatiana's documentary is a catalyst for a broader conversation about U.S. immigration policies, which will hopefully lead to changes in current laws.



Photo: Meredith Edlow

NEIGHBORHOOD

Lower
Makefield
Township

DISCIPLINE

Media Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Alexis Walker

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Tayarisha

POE

Tayarisha created *Selah and the Spades*, a series of film and photograph vignettes. The main character of the film is Selah, a cheerleader-cellist-valedictorian-gang member who is falling out with her best friend Max. The story explores friendships among teenagers and questions ideas around gender and race in a fictional Pennsylvania town.

NEIGHBORHOOD
West
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE
Media Arts/
Visual Arts

CHANGE PARTNER
Jumatatu Poe

GRANT AMOUNT
\$2,500

Tokay

T O M A H

Tokay composed a traditional Liberian song and music video with input from young people that educates Philadelphia youth about HIV/AIDS.

Tokay's project encourages compassion and positive action, sets the stage for ongoing dialogue about harm reduction, and opens the path to further work at the intersection of culture and public health as it relates to social justice.



Photo: Anna Mulé

NEIGHBORHOOD

Upper Darby

DISCIPLINE

Music

CHANGE PARTNER

Liberian
Refugee
Relief
Organization

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Photo: Sandra Andino

Toni Shapiro-

P H I M

Toni's photographic essay project highlighted the memories of humanitarian aid workers on the Thai-Cambodian border during the Cambodian refugee crisis in the 1980s and shared these stories with Cambodians who were in those camps. Toni photographed aid workers holding a picture that illustrates something powerful for them about the Cambodian refugee crisis and recorded their experience of it. These portraits and accompanying text are captured in an online photo essay posted on the website of the Cambodian Association of Greater Philadelphia. Toni's project broadened the historical record and drew attention to the terror, chaos, and injustice of war and statelessness.

NEIGHBORHOOD

Merion
Station

DISCIPLINE

Visual Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Rorng Sorn

GRANT AMOUNT

\$1,195

Trapeta B.

MAYSON

Through the creation of the Kergiema Liberian Youth Cultural Arts Exchange and a series of eight workshops revolving around the theme “I am from,” Trapeta engaged Liberian youth in Southwest Philadelphia in creative instruction and performance. Trapeta used cultural arts — poetry, traditional dance, singing, and drumming — as a foundation for youth to learn about Liberian culture, as well as creatively express themselves. With an aim to teach, exchange, and expand cultural knowledge, the project explored youth perceptions of place and their struggles with identity and self in America. The project culminated in a community showcase.



Photo: Monnette Sudler

NEIGHBORHOOD

Germantown

DISCIPLINE

Literary Arts/
Folk Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Federation of
Neighborhood
Centers

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Photo: Lorelei Narvaja

Valerie V.

GAY

Valerie's project, *ROW:HOME*, or *Reclaim Our Wall: Helping Ourselves Modify*, brought together the neighbors on and around the 900 block of South Paxon Street in Southwest Philadelphia to create a mosaic mural. The mural engaged community and brought beauty to its surroundings, but it also evoked history and purpose to a wall that divided the community and typified the blight and general sense of neglect felt and seen in the community. Community members donated much of the mural's materials and worked together to install the mosaic, demonstrating the importance of art in community engagement. Valerie's project preserved and honored past and present communities on the block and amplified the voice of a neighborhood that often goes unheard.

NEIGHBORHOOD
Southwest
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE
Craft &
Textiles/
Visual Arts

CHANGE PARTNER
Salima Pace

GRANT AMOUNT
\$2,500

VOYAGER

Voyager's manuscript about the creative processes of healing from lived and ancestral trauma weaves narrative elements such as use of transformative rituals, gay liberation art histories, and gender transition. Voyager hosted a book release event and shared tools to heal through art and ritual. With the book, Voyager provokes conversations around ancestry, transgender identity, and trauma.



Photo: Emily Smith & Kwai Lam

NEIGHBORHOOD

West
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Literary Arts

CHANGE PARTNER

Ezra Berkley
Nepon

GRANT AMOUNT

\$2,500



Photo: Meredith Edlow

Yared

PORTILLO

Through the creation of community workshops, Yared's project created a space in Philadelphia for Son Jarocho, a traditional style of music from Veracruz, Mexico, that has served as a symbol of racial and cultural resistance. Yared taught Son Jarocho with a focus on learning the *jarana* and *el zapateado*, the primary instrument and dance of the style. In addition, the project incorporated this music into the immigrant advocacy work and action already occurring at Juntos. Yared's project will allow individuals to reflect on the immigrant experience through music, creation, and cultural preservation.

NEIGHBORHOOD
Swarthmore

DISCIPLINE
Music/
Folk Arts

CHANGE PARTNER
Juntos

GRANT AMOUNT
\$2,500

2014 ART AND CHANGE GRANT PANELISTS

A. Naomi Jackson

A. Naomi Jackson is a writer. Born and raised in Brooklyn by West Indian parents, she is the author of *The Star Side of Bird Hill* (2015) and was the 2013-2014 ArtsEdge resident at the University of Pennsylvania's Kelly Writers House. She studied fiction at the Iowa Writers' Workshop, where she was awarded the 2013-2014 Maytag Fellowship for Excellence in Fiction to complete her first novel, *Who Don't Hear Will Feel*. She spent the summer of 2012 in Barbados researching and writing with the support of a Stanley Graduate Award for International Research from the University of Iowa. She traveled to South Africa on a Fulbright scholarship, where she received an M.A. in creative writing from the University of Cape Town. She is a graduate of Williams College, and her work has appeared in *Brilliant Corners*, *The Encyclopedia Project*, *Obsidian*, *The Caribbean Writer*, and *Sable*. Her short story

"Ladies" was the winner of the 2012 BLOOM Chapbook Contest. She has been a resident at Hedgebrook and Vermont Studio Center and received the Archie D. and Bertha H. Walker Scholarship at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown. She cofounded the Tongues Afire creative writing workshop at the Audre Lorde Project in Brooklyn in 2006.

Amy Sadao

Amy was appointed the director of the Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) in Philadelphia in September 2012. Before assuming the directorship of ICA, Amy served for 10 years as executive director of Visual AIDS in New York City. She was notably honored by Christine Quinn, speaker of the New York City Council, as a Women in the Arts Leader; knighted by the Imperial Court of New York, the city's oldest drag house, for her work as an AIDS and art activist; and received the 2014 ArtTable New Leadership Award. She serves on the board of directors of Denniston Hill, an artist residency program, and is a director emeritus of Visual AIDS. She has published catalogs and exhibition brochures including *Undetectable*, curated

by Nathan Lee with Rachel Cook (2012); *ReMixed Messages*, curated by John Chaich (2012); *Mixed Messages*, curated by John Chaich (2011); *The Sword of Damocles*, curated by Patrick O'Connell (2011); *Untitled Resource Guide* (2011); *To Believe*, curated by Jeffrey Walkowiak (2010); *Tainted Love*, curated by Steven Lam and Virginia Solomon (2009); *You Make Me Feel [Mighty Real]: The Work of Robert Blanchon*, curated by Sasha Archibald, Tania Duvergne, and Bethany Martin-Breen (2009); *SIDE X SIDE*, curated by Dean Daderko (2008); and *Share Your Vision* (2003). She is the co-editor of *Robert Blanchon* (2006), and she selected and interviewed the artists for *Oakazine* No. 4 (2009). Amy began her arts career as a curatorial intern at the Whitney Museum of American Art and then as gallery coordinator for the Downtown Arts Festival.

Deborah Rudman (March cycle only)

By day, Debbie is programming director for Philadelphia Community Access Media (PhillyCAM), Philadelphia's public access television station. Her experience includes curating and collaborating in all phases of the video production process. Debbie

is co-producer of numerous independent video projects presented at festivals and on national television. She has also served as media coordinator of Drexel University TV and facilitator of Scribe Video Center's Documentary History Project for Youth and Community Visions project. By night, Debbie is on the board of directors for the Termite TV Collective. She maintains a passionate and active engagement in social issues and communication through media art.

Nijmie Dzurinko (August cycle only)

Nijmie has brought her hard-earned and time-tested skills in organizing, strategy, leadership development, and communications to the service of local, regional, and national organizations, networks, and campaigns. Nijmie is a founder of Put People First! PA, a statewide grassroots, multi-issue base-building organization uniting people across traditional divides in Pennsylvania. She is obsessed with building a new organizing model for the 21st century that combines base building, study, and narrative. Nijmie is a cofounder of the Media Mobilizing Project and a former executive director of the Philadelphia Student Union.



2014
**LEEWAY
TRANSFORMATION
AWARD**

The Leeway Transformation Award provides unrestricted annual awards of \$15,000 to women and trans 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 a commitment to social change work.

This award is distributed once per year.

Annie

M O K

Annie is a comic book creator who seeks to affirm the lives and experiences of trans women and survivors. Through her fictional and memoir-based comics, she aims to agitate, engage, and encourage inquiry. Annie works to inspire personal and artistic confidence by breaking down feelings of isolation within her community. In her art, Annie explores themes of trans women's identity, long-term effects of sexual abuse, and disability stemming from mental illness. She was a recipient of the Xeric Grant for Comic Book Self-Publishing, and her work has been featured in several anthologies, comic conventions, galleries, and events. Annie also tours her work in an ongoing transnational series of readings, which include guest readers whose work examines racism, abuse, and marginalization in beautiful and striking ways. Annie creates space and prioritizes artists and readers who identify as trans* female, disabled, queer, and/or people of color.



Photo: Glitter Guts, Paul Gargagliano

NEIGHBORHOOD

West
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Literary Arts/
Visual Arts

Debora

KODISH

Debora is a cultural worker and organizer who has been committed to supporting the growth and development of folk arts for over 30 years. A self-described “facilitator, cultivator, clarifier, instigator, and midwife for change,” she creates contexts and settings through which diverse people can imagine and build community. She is the founder of the Philadelphia Folklore Project (PFP), an institution that is characterized by the creative development of folk arts as a tool for justice, power, and self-knowledge. Through her 27 years as director of PFP, Debora supported more than 350 folk artists and cultural workers in the development of their own work in folk arts and social change. Debora situates herself in collaborative and collective action and fights for educational equity through her development of FACTS Charter School. Her goal is to foster folk arts theory and practice in order to regenerate the ground of culture and build resources for movements, as well as seed, strengthen, and cultivate culturally healthy communities.



Photo: Sandra Andino

NEIGHBORHOOD

West
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Folk Arts

Ezra Berkley

NEPON



Photo: Sandra Andino

Ezra's work as an artist and activist comes from their hunger for stories and spaces that allow marginalized people to know they are not alone. Whether using film, theater, writing, or organizing, Ezra makes art in conversation with their communities, while also intending to keep it accessible to those outside their circles. An active member of the queer, trans, and radical Jewish communities, they make space for people to find each other, see each other, and let their walls down in the rare places where their pieces fit together with healing edges exposed. Ezra has showcased their work from living rooms, salons, synagogues, and anarchist bookstores to cabarets, art auctions, and international festivals. They use "dazzle camouflage," a technique that uses surrealism, satire, camp, and humor to disarm and charm those who might at first be hostile to their messages. They believe that visibility to each other in a world that tells us we don't exist or matter is part of our path to healing and building power.

NEIGHBORHOOD

West
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Performance/
Literary Arts

Kariamou

W E L S H

Kariamou's work as a dancer, choreographer, and educator seeks to tell stories, relate history, and retrieve myths, legends, and narratives that speak to the struggle and strengths of the African diaspora. Also known lovingly as Mama Kariamou, she uses movement vocabulary that reflects and challenges oppression and injustice. More than 40 years ago, she developed the *Umfundalai* dance technique as a means to see and accept each other in the present moment. Since then, it has been the vehicle through which she creates, as it reflects her history, aesthetic, and heritage. Kariamou does a number of outreach programs a year that have targeted women in prisons and teenagers at risk. Her work crosses generations and sheds light on the lives of marginalized people.



Photo: Sandra Andino

NEIGHBORHOOD
Wyndmoor

DISCIPLINE
Performance/
Literary Arts

Michelle

MYERS

Michelle is a spoken word poet who aims to raise awareness about social injustices and build positive relationships across communities. With more than 14 years of experience, she believes that poetry can be a bridge to community building where people learn, reflect, communicate, share, compromise, and connect. She teaches at Philadelphia Community College and is a founding member of *Yellow Rage*, a dynamic duo of Philly-based Asian American spoken word poets, and has showcased her work at multiple events, including HBO's *Russell Simmons Presents Def Poetry*. On the page and stage, she explores intersections of race, culture, gender, community, and self. By sharing her emotions and experiences, she draws in disparate and marginalized people to create a balanced vision of community and translates that vision into reality.



Photo: Lorelei Narvaja

NEIGHBORHOOD

Camden
Riverfront

DISCIPLINE

Performance

.O

.O is a solo performance artist and creative place maker. A self-described organizer, educator, healer, and provider of calm and nurturing energy in a world that is relentless in its chaos and violence, .O challenges traditional social, political, and gender roles through her work, amplifying the voices of people most affected by injustice. In 2010, she cofounded Serenity House, a community healing center in North Philadelphia where art is used to foster personal and social transformation. Here, she forges collaborative partnerships between communities, creates safe spaces, and facilitates the Women in the Round and Men in the Round programs, where people interested in healing and transformation work can gather. .O believes that social change is best brought about by the people who need it the most and the lasting progress that comes from building their strength to advocate on their own behalf. She hopes to use her artistic abilities as a revitalization tool to educate, preserve celebrate, support, improve, and transform community.

NEIGHBORHOOD

North
Philadelphia

DISCIPLINE

Performance



Photo: Meredith Edlow



Photo: Gralin Hughes, Shelby Kay and Ted Passon

Sara Zia

EBRAHIMI

Sara Zia is a filmmaker and film curator dedicated to blurring the line between artist and activist. Through her work, she explores issues of displacement and the experiences of first-generation immigrants in innovative ways. Sara Zia poses questions that don't often get asked, pushing audiences to be active media consumers rather than passive spectators. As a curator, Sara Zia aims to build community and offer space for dialogue and learning. For Sara Zia, whom she chooses to work with is not just about the individual, but also about accountability to the community. She has hosted screenings programmed by women, people of color, and LGBT people to challenge the dominant tendency of film festivals and independent film venues. In spring 2015 she released *Bailout*, a web series that she wrote and directed.

NEIGHBORHOOD
Wyndmoor

DISCIPLINE
Media Arts

Sosena

SOLOMON

Sosena is a social documentary filmmaker, photographer, and visual artist whose art for social change work focuses on visually documenting personal narratives of underrepresented communities that are facing some aspect of change. As an Ethiopian American who comes from a family of storytellers, she seeks to capture a moment in time before it disappears. By doing so, she hopes that these experiences can live on so that other generations may engage and learn from them. Sosena documents marginalized communities and subcultures and engages audiences through discussions of her work. She also conducts a travelling interactive installation experience that allows people to engage with multimedia art and each other. Sosena's goal is to culturally preserve and share unheard voices, offering her viewers, as well as herself, a deeper intimacy and understanding of others.



NEIGHBORHOOD

Fairmount

DISCIPLINE

Media Arts/
Visual Arts

Tokay

T O M A H



Photo: Anna Mulé and Toni Shapiro

Tokay is a singer, songwriter, and recording artist who seeks to inspire critical thinking, dialogue, and action through her music. As a Liberian immigrant woman with over 25 years of experience in her field, she has been a member of Liberia's National Cultural Troupe, performing various songs and dances across the country and abroad. Through her art, she raises awareness around issues of gender equality, cultural preservation, conflict resolution, immigrant concerns, domestic violence, and HIV/AIDS, aiming to help people discuss and discover ways to create change. Tokay feels a responsibility to speak about injustices in her community. She sings traditional and original songs to Liberian audiences to start conversations around these important issues. When she performs in the various languages of Liberia, she helps to preserve her culture's rich song and storytelling traditions. She teaches rhythms that have meaning and reinforces appreciation of those traditions and meanings. She currently performs with the Liberian Women's Chorus for Change.

NEIGHBORHOOD
Upper Darby

DISCIPLINE
Music/
Folk Arts

2014

TRANSFORMATION AWARD PANELISTS

fayemi shakur

Writer, editor, and activist fayemi shakur first began writing political and cultural news stories for *The Source* magazine in 1999. Her interviews and published work have appeared in *The International Review of African American Art*, *HYCIDE Magazine*, *UPTOWN*, *Ebony.com*, *Essence*, *The Ave*, and various online and print media outlets. In 2004 she was a senior producer of the first National Hip Hop Political Convention held in Newark, N.J. Currently fayemi serves as an advocate for political prisoners, teaches yoga and meditation to heal trauma and anxiety, and works on programs and marketing at Aljira, a Center for Contemporary Art.

Lorna Dee Cervantes (stage 2 only)

Lorna is an award-winning Chicana, Native American (Chumash), feminist, activist poet who is considered one of the major

Chicana poets of the past 40 years. She has been described by *Alurista* as “probably the best Chicana poet active today.” Lorna was born in 1954 in California. Her collections of poetry, *Emplumada*, *From the Cables of Genocide*, *Drive: The First Quartet*, and *Ciento: 100 100-Word Love Poems*, are held in high esteem and have attracted numerous nominations and awards. Lorna regularly gives poetry readings, workshops, and guest lectures across the U.S. She was part of the 2012 Librotraficante Caravan to Tucson that intended to smuggle books back into the hands of students after they were boxed up and carted out of classrooms during class time in order to comply with Arizona House Bill 2281. Lorna delivered a moving speech to the movement’s supporters outside the Alamo in March 2012.

S.T. Shimi (stage 2 only)

Shimi is a foxy brown performance artist born and raised in Singapore who has been living and working in San Antonio for two decades. Her theater work examines the intersections and contradictions of multiple identities in irreverent, provocative, and visually

intriguing ways. Her solo works include *Lost in Translation*, *Southern Discomfort*, and *On the Island*, which was staged at the first National Asian American Theater Festival in 2007. She has created and collaborated on several original performance works, including site-specific pieces, that have been selected for the *San Antonio Express-News* Annual Top Ten Theater Shows. She also collaborates on multimedia and movement experiences at major local arts festivals and on stages around the country. Her dance background includes 15 years of training in American cabaret-style belly dance, several years of training on aerial apparatuses such as tissu and pole, circus arts such as hoop and fire dance, and burlesque. She was on staff at Jump-Start Performance Co. for 20 years, largely as the artistic director, and remains a company member. She also teaches dance and performance at studios in San Antonio and is an arts educator and the coordinator of W-I-P, a long-running dance lab series. She has served on the executive board of Alternate ROOTS and as a representative to National Performance Network. She graduated from Dartmouth College with a degree in theater and women's studies.

Sage Crump (facilitator)

Sage is a cultural strategist based in the U.S. South who works to embed arts and culture into social justice movements. With more than 20 years of arts and organizing experience, Sage works with artists and organizations to develop or refine how they engage strategies for change. She has facilitated and been a member of local, regional, national, and international panels dealing with art and social justice issues. Sage is a longtime member of Alternate ROOTS and has served in multiple capacities, including staff member, strategic planning chair, and board president. She also serves on the National Advisory Board of Women of Color In the Arts, is vice chair for Art2Action, and is a board member for the Center for Media Justice. Sage is a founding member of Young African Writers Collective, Oyster Knife, and Community Theatre Initiative and is a performance poet and vocalist.

Seyi Adebajo

Seyi is a queer, gender-nonconforming Nigerian media artist living in the South Bronx. As a media artist, Seyi raises awareness around social issues through

digital video, multimedia photography, and writing. Seyi's work is the intersection of art, media, imagination, ritual, and politics. The work is lyrical, telling stories with ingenuity, ritual, and words while engaging people in trans-formative, political, and spiritual dialogues. Seyi is an accomplished artist and has performed with Sharon Bridgforth and Cherry Muhanji. Seyi was a 2013-2014 Queer/Art/Mentorship fellow. Seyi has been an artist in resident with Allgo along with Maysles Institute, IFP, and the City Lore Documentary Institute. Seyi is the recipient of the Pride of the Ocean LGBT Film Festival Grant and Hunter College's Dean of Arts & Sciences Master's Thesis Support Grant. Seyi's short documentary *Trans Lives Matter! Justice for Islan Nettles* has screened as an official selection of the 28th BFI Flare London LGBT Film Festival, the San Francisco Transgender Film Festival, Bronx Documentary Center, and the Sydney Transgender International Film Festival. It has also screened at the Brooklyn Film Festival, Reel Sister of the Diaspora Film Festival, the Los Angeles Transgender Film Festival, and the Walker Art Center.

Yowei Shaw (LTA '13, ACG '13, '12, '11, '10, '09)

Yowei is a freelance audio producer and public radio reporter based in Philadelphia. She has reported for WNYC's *Studio 360*, NPR's *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered*, and *Weekend Edition Sunday*, PRI's *The World*, WHYY, and other outlets. Yowei has also worked as an associate producer with NPR's *Fresh Air With Terry Gross* and NPR's *World Cafe With David Dye*. She has received a National Journalism Award from the Asian American Journalists Association and an Honorable Mention for Best Documentary award from Third Coast International Audio Festival. In 2011 she created Philly Youth Radio, a project that provided high school students with the tools and training to produce radio stories about their lives and communities.

2014

OUTREACH EVENTS

The following events took place at Leeway Foundation unless otherwise noted.

GRANT INFORMATION SESSIONS

January 27

African Cultural Alliance of North America

April 7

Juntos

May 5

IDEA Performing Arts Center, Camden

May 5

TMAN - Trans Masculine Advocacy Network

May 8

Sisterly Love

June 23

Coatesville Area Public Library

July 14

Raíces Culturales Latinoamericanas
(Offered in English and Spanish)

APPLICANT SUPPORT SESSIONS

February 10

Philadelphia Folklore Project

April 22

William Way LGBT Community Center

July 17

The Village of Arts and Humanities

EXHIBITS

January 31 - March 15

**Be Alarmed: The Black Americana Epic,
Movement I — The Visions**

Tiona McClodden (ATR '13) Leeway Foundation
Art + Technology Residency Exhibit at the
Esther Klein Gallery



Photo by Denise Allen

WORKSHOPS & MASTER CLASSES

January 13

Understanding Taxes for Artists

Amy Smith from Headlong Dance Theater explained the impact of grants and awards on taxable income to recipients of Leeway grants and awards.

April 10

Unpacking Equality in Arts and Culture

A Spiral Q conversation with Leeway Foundation, Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance, and the Philadelphia Folklore Project about improving equality in the arts and what it means to broaden access to resources for both the artists and audience.

August 20

Twitter for Artists Workshop with Sara Zia Ebrahimi

Twitter for Artists, facilitated by Sara Zia Ebrahimi (ACG '13, '09) was a hands-on technical training to familiarize artists with Twitter as a tool to gain momentum around social change projects.

December 7

Sunday Afternoon Tease: Burlesque

Workshop with Black Orchid

Take The Lead Dance Studio

Black Orchid, aka S.T. Shimi, led a fun crash course in bump and grind dance, clothing removal and stage presence, culminating in sassy burlesque choreography.

EVENTS

January 31

Be Alarmed: The Black Americana Epic, Movement I – The Visions

Opening night reception at Esther Klein Gallery

June 12

Second Annual 2014 Trans Literary Salon

Featured Annie Mok (ACG '14, '13), Dark Matter, Imogen Binnie, J Mase III (ACG '07), and KOKUMO
Pennsylvania Convention Center

August 5

Imprint: Independent Publishing Panel
Moderated by Lillian Dunn (ACG '12) of Apiary Magazine, the panel consisted of Lovella Calica (ACG '13, LTA '09, ACG '07, ACG '06) of Warrior Writers, Marissa Johnson-Valenzuela (ACG '12, LTA '05) of Thread Makes Blanket Press, Rasheedah Phillips of Metropolarity, and Yaba Blay (ACG '10) of BLACKprint Press

October 22

Crushes and Mountains

A night of films, music, and reading with Elisha Lim and Vivek Shraya
Asian Arts Initiative

EVENTS CO-SPONSORED BY LEEWAY

August 2

Little White Lie at the BlackStar Film Festival

August 2

Culture Strike: Social Justice Shorts at the BlackStar Film Festival

September 20

Terri Lyne Carrington's *Money Jungle* at OutBeat Jazz Festival

November 12-13

Beth Nixon's *Lava Fossil* at First Person Arts

November 14

Dael Orlandersmith's *Forever* at First Person Arts

November 21

Plastic Paradise at the Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival

November 22

Kumu Hina at the Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival

2014

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Leeway partners with organizations in the Delaware Valley region as a way to help extend our connections to diverse communities; create a wide range of programming including exhibits, panels, workshops, and screenings; and raise awareness about our grant programs and the powerful intersections of art and social change.

African Cultural Alliance of North America

5530 Chester Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19143
215.729.8225
www.acanaus.org

The African Cultural Alliance of North America is an agency founded on a mission to provide culturally sensitive social services, cultural programs, economic and workforce development programs, community engagement and development programs, and other services targeting mainly African and Caribbean immigrants in the United States.

AfroFuturist Affair

afrofuturistaffair@gmail.com
215.469.1606
www.afrofuturistaffair.com

The AfroFuturist Affair is a community formed to celebrate, strengthen, and promote Afro-futuristic and sci-fi concepts and culture through creative events and creative writing.

Apiary

www.apiarymagazine.com

Apiary's mission is to nurture emerging and established authors in Philadelphia, to increase local and national engagement with local literature, and to develop literary spaces that foster cross-cultural understanding among Philadelphians.

Art Sanctuary

628 S. 16th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19146
215.232.4485
www.artsanctuary.org

Art Sanctuary is dedicated to bringing Philadelphians together through the unique community-building power of black art. We celebrate diversity passionately, understanding the unparalleled strength we gain by embracing our cultural differences.

Artists U

www.artistsu.org

Artists U is a grassroots, artist-run platform for changing the working conditions of artists.

Attic Youth Center

255 S. 16th St.

Philadelphia, PA 19102

215.545.4331

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.

Bartol Foundation

230 S. Broad St., Suite 1003

Philadelphia, PA 19102

215.545.4037

www.bartol.org

The Bartol Foundation believes that arts and culture are essential parts of a vibrant community. The arts are a catalyst for meaningful communication and connection, building a strong social fabric in Philadelphia's neighborhoods. The value of art lies as much in the creative process as in the product, as much in its purely aesthetic experience as in its unquestionable social value.

BLACKprint

www.blackprintpress.com

BLACKprint is a small, independent press devoted to giving black artists a platform through which to tell our own stories in a publishing climate that continues to marginalize everyday black realities in favor of stereotyped and sensationalized ones.

BlackStar Film Festival

www.blackstarfest.org

The BlackStar Film Festival is a celebration of cinema focused on work by and about people of African descent in a global context.

Bread & Roses Community Fund

1315 Walnut St., Suite 1300

Philadelphia, PA 19107

215.731.1107

www.breadrosesfund.org

Bread & Roses is a unique gathering of activists committed to supporting social justice by raising and distributing funds. A public foundation, Bread & Roses has distributed over \$10 million to groups working for access to health care, economic justice, a clean and safe environment, civil and human rights, peace, and other social justice issues. In addition, Bread & Roses provides services such as technical assistance and leadership development to grantees and donors.

Coatesville Area Public Library

501 Lincoln Hwy.

Coatesville, PA 19320

610.384.4115

www.coatesvillearealibrary.org

The mission of the Coatesville Area Public Library is to serve the residents of its service area with a variety of library materials and services that provide for the educational, informational, cultural, and recreational needs of its residents.

First Person Arts

443 W. Girard Ave., Suite 2C

Philadelphia, PA 19123

www.firstpersonarts.org

First Person Arts is a Philadelphia nonprofit organization that celebrates the power of the personal. First Person Arts' storytelling, social impact, and festival programs reinforce their mission: everyone has a story to tell, and sharing these stories connects us with each other and the world. Whether you consider yourself an artist or observer, you have a

story. And we have a way for you to share it, at a StorySlam, through a memoir writing class, or at the annual First Person Arts Festival.

GALAEI

149 W. Susquehanna Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19122
215.851.1822
www.galaei.org

GALAEI is a queer Latin@ social justice organization. Queer acknowledges and represents the mosaic of sexual and gender identities within our communities. Latin@ represents the multiracial, multicultural experience of Latinidad. GALAEI embodies the common history of resistance and resilience of Latin@ and queer people. We are unwavering in our commitment to the advancement de nuestra familia through leadership and economic development, sexual empowerment, and grassroots organizing.

Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance

1315 Walnut St., Suite 732
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215.557.7811
www.philaculture.org

Since the early 1970s, the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance has played a key role in the cultural life of the region, helping to establish the Philadelphia Cultural Fund and re-establishing a stronger Philadelphia's Office of Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy. Today, the Cultural Alliance leads, strengthens, and gives voice to more than 400 member organizations who generate over \$3.3 billion in economic impact for the region.

IDEA Performing Arts Center

1 Harbor Blvd.
Camden, NJ 08103
856.986.3506
www.idea-arts.org

The Institute for the Development of Education in the Arts (IDEA) was founded in 1996 to serve as a healing presence in the

lives of the city's adolescents, 46% of whom live in poverty. IDEA is a creative learning organization that exists to create better futures for youth in Camden and throughout Southern New Jersey, by tapping into their creative spirit in order to inspire and give power to their dreams and aspirations through arts education.

Juntos

1537 S. 6th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19147
215.218.9079
www.vamosjuntos.org

Juntos is a Latino immigrant community-led organization in Philadelphia fighting for our human rights as workers, parents, youth, and immigrants. Juntos combines leadership development, community organizing, and focused collaborations with other community-based and advocacy organizations to build the power of our community so we may be active agents of change. We believe that every human being has the right to a quality education and the freedom to live with dignity regardless of immigration status.

Lambda Literary Foundation

5482 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1595
Los Angeles, CA 90036
323.643.4281
www.lambdaliterary.org

Lambda Literary believes lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer literature is fundamental to the preservation of our culture, and that LGBTQ lives are affirmed when our stories are written, published, and read.

Metropolarity

www.metropolarity.net

Metropolarity was born in a pixelated summer, desperate for a space where technology and community could intersect. We at Metropolarity believe that those without power must take advantage and control of the media outlets that we have access to. We choose science fiction as our lens to create new worlds, identities, and self-paradigms and to destroy old, harmful ones.

Philadelphia Asian American Film & Filmmakers

www.phillyasianfilmfest.org

Philadelphia Asian American Film & Filmmakers is a volunteer-run nonprofit organization founded in 2008 to educate and expose the Philadelphia region to films by and about Asian Americans primarily through an annual film festival as well as year-round events.

Philadelphia Folklore Project

735 S. 50th St.

Philadelphia, PA 19143

215.726.1106

www.folkloreproject.org

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

PhillyCAM

699 Ranstead St., Suite 1

Philadelphia, PA 19106

267.639.5481

www.phillycam.org

PhillyCAM is a community media center that brings together the people of Philadelphia to make and share media that promotes creative expression, democratic values, and civic participation.

Raíces Culturales Latinoamericanas

1417 N. 2nd St., 1st Floor Annex

Philadelphia, PA 19122

215.425.1390

www.raicesculturales.org

Raices Culturales Latinoamericanas’ mission is to support, promote, and increase public awareness of the richness, beauty, and diversity of Latin American cultures and their roots through performing and visual arts and dynamic educational programs.

Scribe Video Center

4212 Chestnut St., 3rd Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19104
215.222.4201
www.scribe.org

Scribe Video Center was founded in 1982 as a place where emerging and experienced media artists could gain access to the tools and knowledge of video making and work together in a supportive environment.

Spiral Q

4100 Haverford Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19104
215.222.6979
www.spiralq.org

Philadelphia's Spiral Q lives at the intersection of arts and social justice. Established in 1996, Spiral Q uses popular arts (parades, print, pageantry, and puppets) to build an urban arts democracy rooted in principles of accessibility, inclusion, self-determination, collaboration, sustainability, and lifelong learning.

Sylvia Rivera Law Project

147 W. 24th St.
New York, NY 10011
212.337.8550
www.srlp.org

The Sylvia Rivera Law Project works to guarantee that all people are free to self-determine their gender identity and expression, regardless of income or race, and without facing harassment, discrimination, or violence.

TMAN (Trans Masculine Advocacy Network)

tmanphilly06@gmail.com

TMAN is a grassroots organization based in Philadelphia dedicated in its efforts to uplift people of color along the transmasculine spectrum.

Thread Makes Blanket Press

www.threadmakesblanket.com

Thread Makes Blanket is a small press that embarks on collaborations with artists and

authors to produce books of substance and beauty. With a wealth of collective knowledge and effort supporting the press, Thread Makes Blanket comes out of community.

Topside Press

228 Park Ave. S., Suite 14261
New York, NY 10003
212.457.5660
www.topsidepress.com

Topside Press, founded in 2011, is a new independent press with the intent of publishing authentic transgender narratives.

Trans* Wellness Project/Sisterly L.O.V.E.

21 S. 12th St., 8th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215.563.0652
www.mazzonicenter.org

The Trans* Wellness Project is a program of Mazzoni Center that is focused on meeting the self-identified needs of trans communities. Through the peer outreach team, we connect trans women to health

care, provide referrals and information about programs and services, as well as provide one-on-one support. The Trans* Wellness Project works in collaboration with the Sisterly L.O.V.E. community advisory board to provide leadership development, training, and educational opportunities to trans women in the Philadelphia area.

Twelve Gates Arts

51 N. 2nd St.
Philadelphia, PA 19106
215.253.8578
www.twelvegatesarts.org

Twelve Gates Arts aims to showcase international and South Asian arts bound by the sensibilities of a transnational identity, to compose and promote projects crossing cultural and geographical boundaries, and to educate the community about culture as “other.”

The Village of Arts and Humanities

2544 Germantown Ave.

Philadelphia, PA 19133

215.225.7830

www.villagearts.org

The Village of Arts and Humanities is a multifaceted arts organization dedicated to community revitalization through the arts.

William Way LGBT Community Center

1315 Spruce St.

Philadelphia, PA 19107

215.732.2220

www.waygay.org

The William Way Community Center seeks to encourage, support, and advocate for the well-being and acceptance of sexual and gender minorities through service, recreational, educational, and cultural programming.

Wooden Shoe Books

704 South St.

Philadelphia, PA 19147

215.413.0999

woodenshoebooks.com

Founded in 1976, the Wooden Shoe is an all-volunteer, collectively run anarchist bookstore.



PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

2013

A Stick and a Stone
Adriana Arvizo
Annie Mok
Azia Squire
Barbara Grant
Ben Singer & Ksenya Leah
Basarab
Bianca McClendon Frisby
Brenda Howell, Janice
Hayes-Cha, Julie Mann, Karen
Hunter McLaughlin &
Kimberly Mehler
Chana Rothman
Chantelle Bateman
Chaska Sofia
Colette Fu
Counter Narrative Society
Cyrée Johnson
Desi Burnette
Erin Filson
Indah Nuritasari
Joan Myers Brown
Jos Duncan
Kerri Radley

Kitt Eileen Reidy
LaNeshe Miller-White
Liz Walker
Lorelei Narvaja
Lori Waselchuk
Lorna Williams
Lovella Calica
Maryam April Pugh &
Misty Sol
Mica Root
Michelle Angela Ortiz
MJ Kaufman
Muthi Reed
Nanci Hersh
Noveau Noir
Rhetta Morgan
Ritu Pandya
Robin R. Muldor
Sara Zia Ebrahimi
Shannon Thompson
Shanti Sheena
Shari Tobias
Sistah Mafalda
Sosena Solomon
Susan DiPronio
Suzana Berger & Miriam
White
Talia Young
Theresa BrownGold
Wilna Julmiste
Yowei Shaw

2012

Alie Vidich
Alison Crouse
Anne-Marie Mulgrew
August TARRIER
Beth Patel
Charlotte Ford
Cymande M. Lewis
Denice Frohman
Eiko Fan
Eli J. VandenBerg
Elliott batZedek
Emily Satis
Emmett Ramstad
Fatu Gayflor
Germaine Ingram
Hazami Sayed
Jennie Shanker
Mama Kariamou
Joe Ippolito
KellyAnne Mifflin
Kishwer Vikaas
Leila Ghaznavi
Lillian Dunn
Lorelei Narvaja
Lorna Ann Johnson-Frizell
Madhusmita Bora
Magira Eue Ross
Marissa Johnson-Valenzuela
Megan Williamson
Melissa Beatriz Skolnick,
Kate Zambon & Joanna

Luz Siegel
Michelle Angela Ortiz
Nancy Lewis Shell
Nikki López
Ovid Amorson
Sarah Mitteldorf
Shaily Dadiala
Shelley Spector
Sinema White
Susan Lankin-Watts
Syd Carpenter
Takeya Trayer
Vashti DuBois
Wanda A. Dickerson
Yowei Shaw

2011

Adelaide Windsome
Amanda Benton
Ana Guissel
Angela “Sadio” Watson
AnOmali
Betty Leacraft
Beverly Dale
Brenda Howell, Janice Hayes-
Cha, Julie Mann, Karen
Hunter, McLaughlin &
Kimberly Mehler
Chaska Sofia
Che Gossett
Dalia O’Gorman

Debra Powell-Wright
Elisabeth Nickles
Erica Cho
Esterlina Onalisa Fernandez
Genne Murphy
Indah Nuritasari
Iresha Picot
JaFang Lu
Janet Goldwater &
Barbara Attie
Jardyn Lake
Joe Ippolito
Jojo
Jos Duncan
Kathryn Pannepacker
Ketch Wehr
Kimberly Murray
Kukuli Velarde
Lee Ann Irizarry
Leonor
Lynn Blackwell Denton
Maria Möller
Mia McKenzie
Michelle Myers
Miranda Thompson
Misty Sol
Monnette Sudler
Natalie Helen Hoffmann
Nora Hiriart Litz
Nuala Cabral
Ondartza
Pat McLean
Rachel Gucwa & Kathryn
Pannepacker
Robin Williams-Turnage

Rowen Haigh
Shari Tobias
Shawnta Smith-Taylor
Sinema White
Tamara Anderson
Thomasin Parnes
Tili Ayala
Toni Kersey & Christina E.
Johnson
Vera Nakonechny
Viji Rao
Vivian Green
Yowei Shaw

2010

Aja Beech
Alie Vidich
Amai Myrna C. Munchus
Amanda Johnson
Andrea Okorley
Angie Arahood
Ayoka Wiles Quinones
Ben Singer
Benita Cooper
Beth Nixon
Carina Romano
Catherine C. Quillman
Catzie Vilayphonh
Che Gossett
Cindy L. Burstein

Deborah Caiola
E. Kairo Miles
Ethel Cee
Fatimah Lorén
Frances McElroy
Jenna S. Peters-Golden
Jennifer Baker
Keila Cordova
Laura Deutch
Lorelei (Narvaja)
Shingledecker
Madhusmita Bora
Marta Sanchez
Mary DeWitt
Mendal Polish
Milena Velis
Monique E. Hankerson
Najee
Nanci Hersh
Niv Acosta & iele paloumpis
Nsenga A. Knight
Pallabi Chakravorty
Qian Li
Ra'sheeda Bey
Saida Agostini
Sara Yassky
Serena Reed
Shannon Murphy
Stephanie "Amma" Young
Takeya Trayer
Tanji Gilliam
Trish Metzner-Lynch
Tristan
Vena Jefferson
Wren Warner

Yaba Amgborale Blay
Yinka Orafidiya
Yowei Shaw
Zaye Tete

Geri Allen
Heidi Saman
Indah Nuritasari
Irma Gardner-Hammond
Janet Goldwater &
Barbara Attie
Janice "Jawara" Bishop
Jax Peters Lowell
Jaye Allison
Jennifer Turnbull
Jeri Lynne Johnson
Jesse White
Joan May T. Cordova &
Kathy Shimizu
Joann Frasier Dasent
Julia Galetti
Leo T. Watts
Lisa Jo Epstein
Lisa Kraus
Lois Fernandez
Lovella Calica
Lynn Levin
Madhusmita Bora
Marie Alarcón
Marilyn Kai Jewett
Mary DeWitt
Molik Michal Harvey
Morgan Rich
Najee
Nora Hiriart Litz
Phelena Jean
Rebecca Davis
Rhashidah Perry-Jones
Rick Feely
River Huston

2009

A.M. Weaver
Abby Longo
Adrienne Kenton
Ahdanah
Aisha Goss
Amatus
Angela V. Harvey
Bahamadia
Barbara Ann Grant
Beth
Betty Leacraft
Beverly Collins-Roberts
bex*
Brenda Dixon Gottschild
Celestine Wilson Hughes
Charlene Arcila
Charlotte Ford
Deborah Rudman
Dina Dashiell
Dina Khouri
Elizabeth Castiglione
Erica Vanstone
Eva Agbada
Gavin Outlaw

Sandra Andino
Sara Zia Ebrahimi
Sarah Lowry
Sekai
Selina Carrera
Shawn Hunter
Sky
Stacey Robinson
Susan Collins
Suzanne Povse
Tatiana Bacchus &
Cymande Lewis
Tessa Micaela
Tina Smith-Brown
tiona.m.
Victorious & Krazzy K
Wolfie E. Rawk
Yowei Shaw

2008

Allison Harris
Ama Schley & 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 & Julie Goldstein
Erin Howley
Gage Johnston
Germaine Ingram
Gwynne B. Sigel
Iya Sangolade
Jodi Netzer
Julia Katz
Julianne Bernstein
Theodoropulos
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 &
Gigi Naglak

Mehret Mandefro
Meredith McDonald
Michele Byrd-McPhee
Michelle Angela Ortiz
MJ 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-fx
Elaine Hoffman Watts
Emiko Sugiyama
Emily Nepon
Ife Nii Owoo
Isabel C. F. DeBeary
Isyss Adams
J. Mason
James Wells
Jaye Allison
Jeannine Cook
Jenée Alicia Chizick
Jeri Lynne Johnson
Jessica Rodriguez &
Pascal Emmer
Jovida J. Hill
Joy Esther Phillips Butts
Joy Keys
Joy Rose
Judith Trustone
Julia Galetti
Kameelah Waheed

Karl Surkan
Katrina Clark
Laureen Griffin
Leah Keturah Caesar
Lili Bita
Lonnie Grant
Lovella Calica
María R. Texidor
María Teresa Rodríguez
Marsi Maxwell
Melissa Ezelle
Michelle Posadas
Missy Risser
Misty Sol
Molik Harvey
Nana Korantemaa Ayebofo
Natalie O'Hara
Ninah Harris
Nita Jalivay
Putery A. Long
Rachel Goffe
Reva McEachern
Sara Felder
Sarah Drury
Sasa Ynoa
Susan DiPronio & Linda Dubin
Garfield
Sylvia Coleman
tiona. m.
Toni Kersey
Trapeta B. Mayson
Valerie Harris
Vena Jefferson
Wadzanai Mhute
Williena J. Owes

2006

Adjua 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 Ayebofo

Niama Leslie JoAnn Williams
Pallabi Chakravorty
Patricia McLean
Priyank Jindal
Qaadira Allen
Rachelle 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
Cassendre 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
Jamese 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 Daviná 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 Hyoejin 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
Shinjo 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 McEaneaney
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 Tanyá Daviná 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 (3 grants)
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 (2 grants)
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 Biemiller
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 Goings

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 Spierer
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'S VISION POEM

By Walidah Imarisha

Inspired by and with input from the Leeway Foundation, 2006

In a struggle for justice / Art is / Passion / Blood / Life

Art is breathing / An absolute necessity for change / It is the recovery of humanity / It allows
us to feel our own flesh / To connect with our joy / Pain fear anger happiness hopes

We believe that art / Lives in all of us / Comes out in intricate cornrows / Improvised gourmet
meals / Songs sung to quiet a restless child / Lovingly made picket signs / It comes out in art
that feeds us / Gets off its pedestal / Comes out from behind the glass / And gets its hands
dirty / Practical useful sustainable / Fiercely beautiful

Art is the language of change / It is our tongue / So the legs can be nourished / For the long
march / Toward liberation.

Art carries us / Into daily struggles / Large and small / And allows us / To envision a new
world / Based on our hearts / And not just our heads

The intersection between art / And justice / Is where revolution / Is birthed. / How you make
art / Is not only as important / As the art you make, / It is part / Of the art you make.

That being the case, / Leeway dreams a world / Where the communities / That have been
blanketed in silence / Are finally heard / To be screaming. / Where no one owns our bodies /
And the community owns / The pieces of it that go out into the world / Where art knows the
heavy / And joyful / Responsibility it carries. / We dream a world where / The one is part of
the many / Like rivulets of water /
That form a raging ocean

Leeway wants to stretch the skin / The idea / Of art / To clothe all of our bodies / So that the
creativity / That flows through all of us
And bursts like capillaries
Has space.



Intersection between art / And justice / s where
revolution / Is birthed / How you make art / Is not
only as important / As the art you make / It is part
of the art you make / That being the case / Leeway
dreams a world / Where the communities / That
have been blanketed in silence / Are finally heard
To be screaming / Where no one owns our bodies
And the community owns / The pieces of it that go
out into the world / Where art knows the heavy / And
joyful / Responsibility it carries / We dream a world
where / The one is part of the many / Like rivulets
of water / That forms a raging ocean / Leeway
wants to stretch the skin / The idea / Of art / To
clothe all of our bodies / So that the creativity
/ That flows through all of us / And bursts like
capillaries / Has space / By Walidah Imarisha /
In a struggle for justice / In a struggle for justice