ALLIANCE OF ARTISTS COMMUNITIES
20th Annual Conference
ADVANCING TODAY’S ARTISTS
Boldness + Abundance in a New Economy
October 20-23, 2010 :: Providence, RI
conference schedule at a glance

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

8:30 am - 2:30 pm   Day of Service

6:00 - 8:00 pm   Opening Night Reception   ..The Peerless Building

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

8:00 - 8:45 am   Continental Breakfast   ..Biltmore Hotel, Mezzanine

9:00 - 9:15 am   Welcome Address   ..RISD, Chace Center

9:15 - 9:45 am   Providence Welcome :: Mayor David N. Cicilline   ..RISD, Chace Center

9:45 - 10:30 am   Keynote Address :: Anna Schuleit   ..RISD, Chace Center

11:00 am - 12:15 pm   Breakout Sessions

12:30 - 1:30 pm   Lunch   ..RISD, Upper Met, A

1:45 - 3:00 pm   Breakout Sessions

What Funders Want You to Know   ..RISD, Chace Center

Engaging Artists :: Getting and staying in touch   ..RISD, Upper Met, B

Open Doors :: Creating opportunities for under-served artists   ..RISD, Upper Met, A

3:30 - 4:15 pm   Breakout Sessions

An Insider’s Guide to Applying to the NEA   ..RISD, Chace Center

Arts & Ecology   ..RISD, Upper Met, B

Progressive Partnerships :: Small organizations with large impact   ..RISD, Upper Met, A

Board Leadership in a New Economy   ..RISD, Upper Met, C

6:00 - 7:30 pm   Alliance Benefit + Auction Party   ..Providence Art Club (tickets required)

See map in your conference folder for walking directions to meeting venues.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22

8:00 - 8:45 am   Continental Breakfast   ..Biltmore Hotel, Mezzanine

9:00 - 9:30 am   Storyteller Valerie Tutson   ..Trinity Repertory Theatre

9:30 - 10:00 am   Alliance of Artists Communities :: 20 Years in the Making   ..Trinity

10:00 - 10:45 am   Keynote Address :: Clay Rockefeller   ..Trinity

11:15 - 12:30 pm   Breakout Sessions

The Danger of a Single Story   ..Perishable Theatre

Building a Culture of Abundance :: Generosity in a new economy   ..AS220

Artist Residency Spotlight :: AS220 + Perishable Theater

12:30 - 1:30 pm   Lunch   ..AS220

2:00 - 5:00 pm   Off-Site Tours and Events

Pawtucket Arts Tour   Community Arts Tour

Steel Yard Egg Drop   “Art + the City” Historic Walking Tour

6:30 - 9:00 pm   Keynote Address + Party :: Daniel Bernard Roumain   ..Eco-Arts Space

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23

8:30 - 9:15 am   Continental Breakfast   ..Biltmore Hotel, Mezzanine

9:30 - 10:15 am   Keynote Address :: Elizabeth Streb   ..Johnson & Wales, Pepsi Forum

10:30 - 11:45 am   Breakout Sessions

Artist Spaces :: Renewing communities   ..J&W

Micro-Philanthropy :: How grant-making has gotten more responsive, nimble, hands-on, and do-it-yourself   ..J&W

From Solitude to Solidarity :: Supporting artist collectives   ..J&W

12:00 - 1:30 pm   Lunch + Town Hall Forum   ..Beneficent Church

2:00 - 5:00 pm   Off-Site Tours and Events

Alternative Spaces   Storytelling Workshop

Providence Open Studios   East Bay Bike Eco-Tour

7:00 - 10:00 pm   Closing Night Dinner Party   ..Biltmore Hotel, L’Apogée (tickets required)
We are especially excited to welcome you to Providence, the Alliance’s home – a place of incredible energy, creativity, quirkiness, and super-sized personality. In just 18 square miles, you’ll find an abundance of artists, languages, restaurants, arts spaces, cultural organizations, colleges, tattoo parlors, coffee shops, historic landmarks, waterways, farmers markets, and more.

Collaboration is a hallmark of Providence’s arts community, so it is no surprise that so many individuals and organizations have partnered with the Alliance to make this conference a success – AS220, Johnson & Wales, RISD, The Steel Yard, Trinity Rep, and so many more. We would also like to thank Bank RI, The Rhode Island Foundation, and Rhode Island State Council on the Arts for their leadership and generosity, not only in support of this conference but for all they do for our community. And thank you, too, to The Kresge Foundation, The Mellon Foundation, The Joan Mitchell Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts, for their support of Alliance programming and their ongoing partnership as we work together to build greater resources for artists and arts organizations.

Please also join me in thanking the Alliance staff – Adam Short, Development Program Manager; Carla Wahnon, Director of Operations; and Lilli Weisz, Research Associate; the local planning committee (see back cover for a list of our extraordinary partners); and the Alliance’s extraordinary Board of Trustees who offer their wisdom, guidance, and hard work with humor and grace.

This year’s conference theme challenges us to explore how we advance artists – advance their creative development, advance their work, and advance their role in society – and how we do so, in particular, in an era of new models, changed resources, and increased connectivity.

We are proud to facilitate this vibrant gathering of administrators, artists, innovators, cultural leaders, public officials, funders, advocates, and others who believe in advancing today’s artists. Thank you for joining us!

Caitlin Strokosch
Executive Director
and how we can be stronger advocates for culture wars, and created a voice to be filled...

How the NEA's individual artist fellowships CULTURE WARS

11:00 am - 12:15 pm
Location: RISD | Chace Center Auditorium

KEYNOTE ADDRESS :: ANNA SCHULEIT
9:45 - 10:30 am
Location: RISD | Chace Center Auditorium

WE WANT YOU! :: MATCHING ARTISTS WITH MISSION
9:00 - 9:45 am
Location: RISD | Chace Center Auditorium

PROVIDENCE WELCOME
9:15 - 9:45 am
Location: RISD | Chace Center Auditorium

OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION
The Peerless Building
6:00 - 8:00 pm

Site is a 5-minute walk from the hotel
Connect with old friends and make new ones! Join us at The Peerless building, a stunning 1890s commercial-turned-residential building in the heart of downtown Providence.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

All sessions at RISD unless otherwise noted.
Site is a 10-minute walk from the hotel

8:00 - 8:45 am
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
Biltmore Hotel | Mezzanine

WE WANT YOU! :: MATCHING ARTISTS WITH MISSION
Selecting artists for grants, fellowships, and residencies doesn’t follow a one-size-fits-all approach. How do we develop a process that cultivates the artists best-suited for the opportunities we have to offer, and how do we minimize the hassle and bureaucracy that applicants too often have to endure? With Linda Marston-Reid, Bellagio Center / Artists Communities (moderator); Alix Refshauge, Pilchuck Glass School (moderator); Barbara Schaffer Bacon, Animating Democracy at Americans for the Arts; Howard Ben Tré, artist; Wayne Lawson, Ohio Arts Council; and Hunter O’Hanian, Board Chair, Alliance of Artists Communities (moderator).
Location: RISD | Chace Center Auditorium

LUNCH
11:00 am - 12:15 pm
Location: RISD | Chace Center Auditorium

Breakout Sessions
CULTURE WARS
How the NEA’s individual artist fellowships shaped a generation of artists, fueled the culture wars, and created a voice to be filled... and how we can be stronger advocates for individual artist support today. With Barbara Schaffer Bacon, Animating Democracy at Americans for the Arts; Howard Ben Tré, artist; Wayne Lawson, Ohio Arts Council; and Hunter O’Hanian, Board Chair, Alliance of Artists Communities (moderator).

Location: RISD | Chace Center Auditorium

12:30 - 1:30 pm
LUNCH
Location: RISD | Upper Met

1:45 - 3:00 pm
Breakout Sessions
WHAT FUNDERS WANT YOU TO KNOW
Hear from funders about making the case, being a partner, donor stewardship, and what you might be doing wrong – from government agencies, community foundations, corporate funders, and individual philanthropists. With Randy Rosenbaum, Rhode Island State Council on the Arts (moderator); Sara Jane DeHoff, philanthropist; Mario Garcia Durham, National Endowment for the Arts; Holly Jensen, Fidelity Investments; and Daniel Kertzner, The Rhode Island Foundation.
Location: RISD | Chace Center Auditorium

3:30 - 4:45 pm
Breakout Sessions
AN INSIDER’S GUIDE TO APPLYING TO THE NEA
Mario Garcia Durham, Director of Artist Communities at Presenting, National Endowment for the Arts, will lead a hands-on workshop on applying to the NEA, including understanding eligibility, planning ahead, and making your best case.
Location: RISD | Chace Center Auditorium

BOARD LEADERSHIP IN A NEW ECONOMY

In times of challenge and rapid change, a strong board is more important than ever, but board engagement can be difficult to sustain, especially after a crisis has passed. Explore ways of keeping boards invested, on track, and on mission. With James Baker, Pilchuck Glass School (moderator); Barbara Bloemink, Anderson Ranch Arts Center; Paul Hogan, retired, FleetBoston Financial; and Ed Shea, 2nd Story Theatre.
Location: RISD | Upper Met - Room A

PROGRESSIVE PARTNERSHIPS :: SMALL ORGANIZATIONS WITH LARGE IMPACT

In the new economy, many organizations are building partnerships to increase their impact without increasing infrastructure. With Stephanie Gerson, instigator (moderator); Meri Jenkins, Massachusetts Cultural Council; Bruce Rodgers, Hermitage Artist Retreat; and David Wells, Edenfired.
Location: RISD | Upper Met - Room B

OPEN DOORS :: CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNDER-SERVED ARTISTS
Examine the barriers, challenges, and opportunities for supporting under-served artists, and work together to develop strategies for changing organizational culture to be more open and welcoming to new audiences. With Leslie King-Hammond, Maryland Institute College of Art (moderator); Pamela Winfrey, Exploratorium; and Jeannine Chartier, VSA arts Rhode Island.
Location: RISD | Upper Met - Room A

ENGLISH ARTS :: GETTING AND STAYING IN TOUCH
Explore how to build engagement with artists from the start, provide artists with opportunities and tools for engagement, and develop artist alumni as ambassadors and supporters. With Sara Archambault, Lef Foundation; Caroline Crumpacker, Millay Colony; Kate Haw, Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture (moderator); and Dejen Tesagigios, ArtsApp.
Location: RISD | Upper Met - Room B

STAYING IN TOUCH

This discussion will include organizations from artists who address the intersections of the natural and built world and engage the public to examine our ecology in provocative ways. With Holly Ewald, multidisciplinary artist; Alicia Lehrer, Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council; Ama Rogan, A Studio in the Woods (moderator); and Eric Vines, Sitka Center for Art & Ecology.
Location: RISD | Upper Met - Room B

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE
ARTS ENVOYS :: PARTNERSHIPS FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE
Hear from arts organizations, cultural agencies, artists, and others working to bring artists into communities around the world – the challenges, the rewards, and the amazing work artists are undertaking away from home. With Clare Dowd, ArtsCorps, Inc.; Yvan Gauthier, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec; Megan & Murray McMillan, artists; Steve Whitten, Art of Funding; and Lori Wood, Fes Medina (moderator).
Location: RISD | Upper Met - Room A

PROVIDENCE WELCOME
9:15 - 9:45 am

WELCOME ADDRESS
Caitlin Strokosch, Executive Director, Alliance of Artists Communities; Hunter O’Hanian, Board Chair, Alliance of Artists Communities
Location: RISD | Chace Center Auditorium

Breakout Sessions
CULTURE WARS
How the NEA’s individual artist fellowships shaped a generation of artists, fueled the culture wars, and created a voice to be filled... and how we can be stronger advocates for individual artist support today. With Barbara Schaffer Bacon, Animating Democracy at Americans for the Arts; Howard Ben Tré, artist; Wayne Lawson, Ohio Arts Council; and Hunter O’Hanian, Board Chair, Alliance of Artists Communities (moderator).
Location: RISD | Chace Center Auditorium

破语
6:30 - 7:30 pm
ALLIANCE BENEFIT + AUCTION PARTY
Providence Art Club
(tickets required)

Cocktails and hors d’oeuvres
Site is a 10-minute walk from the hotel
Help the Alliance launch its 20th Anniversary Celebration with a benefit and auction party. Bid on exclusive events and original art, to fit every budget. Tickets are $35 (available at the door or the registration table) and include hors d’oeuvres, cocktails, and live music by the Laotian trio Raksmey Kampuchea Music.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22
Sessions at Trinity Repertory Theatre, AS220, and Perishable Theatre.
Site is a 10-minute walk from the hotel

8:00 - 8:45 am
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
Biltmore Hotel | Mezzanine

9:00 - 9:30 am
STORYTELLER VALERIE TUTSON
Renowned storyteller Valerie Tutson will share a story of the creative process.
Location: Trinity Repertory Theatre

9:30 - 10:00 am
ALLIANCE OF ARTISTS COMMUNITIES :: 20 YEARS IN THE MAKING
Join us for a special anniversary recognition of the Alliance and the leaders who have shaped its history.
Location: Trinity Repertory Theatre

10:00 - 10:45 am
KEYNOTE ADDRESS :: CLAY ROCKEFELLER
Clay Rockefeller, artist, activist, and community organizer, has developed spaces for artists and the community have have been critical in the creative and economic revitalization of Providence. Clay’s keynote address with be an interview with Drake Patten, Executive Director of the Steel Yard.
Location: Trinity Repertory Theatre

11:15 - 12:30 pm
Breakout Sessions
THE DANGER OF A SINGLE STORY
This conversation will explore how artists and communities can better understand each other with intention and cultural mindfulness. “The Danger of a Single Story” derives from the TED talk of the same name, wherein author Chimamanda Adiche warns that if we hear only a single story about another person or country, we risk a critical misunderstanding. With Megan Hall, WRNI; SueEllen Kroll, Rhode Island Council on the Humanities; Peter Hocking, Office of Public Engagement, Rhode Island School of Design (moderator); and Kareem Roustom, composer.
Location: Perishable Theatre

BUILDING A CULTURE OF ABUNDANCE :: GENEROSITY IN A NEW ECONOMY
Generating support is about more than raising money. Hear how arts leaders have forged ahead with bold plans and have inspired investors, donors, and communities to come together around strong visions – from ambitious new facilities to capital campaigns to grassroots giving and in-kind support. With Peter Bramante, FirstWorks (moderator); Richard Fishman, Creative Arts Council, Brown University; Mark Masuoka, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts; Drake Patten, The Steel Yard.
Location: AS220

12:30 - 1:30 pm
LUNCH
Location: AS220
NOTE: Busses for the Steel Yard will depart at 12:45 and participants will be provided with lunch when they arrive on-site.

2:00 - 5:00 pm
Off-Site Tours and Events
Tours will leave from Empire Street

6:30 - 9:00 pm
KEYNOTE ADDRESS + DANCE PARTY :: DANIEL BERNARD ROUMAIN (DBR)
Eco-Arts Space

Shuttles depart from the Biltmore Hotel starting at 6:15 pm
Composer and musician Daniel Bernard Roumain (DBR) will offer an evening keynote address and performance, and we’ll provide food, drink, and the mixing of DJMicah Jackson. Our party’s host is John Jacobson, of JTJ Investments, at the Eco-Arts Space – a gallery, office space, and event venue in Providence’s Promenade District.

NOTE: Busses will depart at 12:45 for this tour and participants will eat lunch at the Steel Yard. From the folks who created the Iron Chef weld-a-thon and Clay-Doh, we bring you the first-ever Steel Yard Egg Drop! The classic design competition will challenge participants to create a package that will keep an egg from breaking when dropped from a height of several stories. Each person will be given a supply of drinking straws, tape, and notebook paper to create parachutes, wings, crumple zones, roll cages and anything else you think will safely deliver your Humpty Dumpty to the concrete below. Note: this tour is wheelchair accessible.
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23
All sessions at Johnson & Wales University’s TACO Center unless otherwise noted
Site is a 15-minute walk from the hotel

8:30 - 9:15am
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
Biltmore Hotel | Mezzanine

9:30 - 10:15 am
KEYNOTE ADDRESS :: ELIZABETH STREB
Location: Pepsi Forum

10:30 - 11:45 am
BREAKOUT SESSIONS
ARTIST SPACES :: RENEWING COMMUNITIES
Artist spaces can transform neighborhoods into engaged, collaborative communities. They animate, challenge, and center communities. And they build bridges beyond the arts while pushing the boundaries of artmaking. With Tim Jones, Artscape Toronto; Tom Morrissey, Texarkana ArtWorks; Janice LaMotta, Billings Forge Community Works; and xander Marro, AS220 and Dirt Palace (moderator).
Location: J&W

12:00 - 1:30 pm
LUNCH + TOWN HALL FORUM
Join us as we announce our plans for the 2011 conference and 20th anniversary year, and share your vision of the future in this informal town hall-style forum for members and non-members alike.
Location: Beneficent Congregational Church

2:00 - 5:00 pm
OFF-SITE TOURS + EVENTS
ALTERNATIVE SPACES
The availability of unused industrial space and historic buildings has encouraged Providence’s artists and creative professionals to find alternative uses for unusual places. The tour will visit spaces in the city’s downtown and West Side – including the Box Office, Dirt Palace, and Cornish Associates’ many alternative arts spaces in Downcity – to explore the ways in which industrial and historic buildings have been transformed into ecologically sensitive and artistically vibrant work spaces. The tour will also include an interactive session with the internationally renowned Big Nazo Puppet Lab. Led by Anna Shea, Firehouse XIII. Note: this tour will include a fair amount of walking.

PROVIDENCE OPEN STUDIOS
With more artists per capita than any city in the country, Providence has an abundance of artist studios – from individual painting studios to glass and printmaking collectives to industrial workshops. Led by Margie Butler, artist; and Peter Hocking, RISD. Note: this tour will include a fair amount of walking.

STORYTELLING WORKSHOP
Professional storyteller Valerie Tutson will lead a workshop on the art of the oral story. A graduate of Brown University, Valerie has been telling stories in schools, churches, libraries, festivals, and conferences since 1991. She draws her stories from around the world, with an emphasis on African traditions. Note: this activity is wheelchair accessible.

7:00 - 10:00 pm
CLOSING DINNER PARTY
L’Apogée at the Biltmore Hotel (tickets required)
Beer/wine/cocktails and dinner
Wrap up the conference with dinner and dancing, local food, and good company. Enjoy L’Apogée, at the top of the Biltmore Hotel, overlooking the city, and dance to the music of the Carlos de Leon Latin Jazz Band.
Sara Archambault, Program Manager
LEF Foundation
Boston, Massachusetts
Sara Archambault began work as LEF’s Program Manager in January 2009. She has previously worked as Managing Producer on Katrina Browne’s film, *Traces of the Trade*, and also served as Executive Director of the Rhode Island Council for Humanities. When not championing the work of today’s filmmakers, Sara is singing with the Assembly of Light Women’s Choir and volunteering for Girls Rock! Rhode Island.

Barbara Schaffer Bacon, Co-Director
Animating Democracy at Americans for the Arts
Washington, D.C.
As Co-Director ofAnimating Democracy, Barbara Schaffer Bacon has supported a wide range of arts organizations doing compelling civic engagement work, implemented national research, and developed field resources and publications. Barbara is a co-author, editor, and contributor to publications including Civic Dialogue, Arts & Culture: Findings from Animating Democracy; Case Studies from Animating Democracy; Animating Democracy: The Artistic Imagination as a Force for Civic Dialogue, Fundamentals of Local Arts Management, and The Cultural Planning Work Kit. Her consulting work includes program design and evaluation for state and local arts agencies and private foundations nationally. Barbara has spoken and provided training on the topic of Arts & Civic Engagement in Australia, England, and Canada. An arts management educator, she has served as a primary instructor for the Fundamentals and Advanced Arts Management seminars presented by the Arts Extension Service.

James Baker, Executive Director
Pilchuck Glass School
Stanwood, Washington
James Baker joined Pilchuck Glass School in June 2010. Most recently, Jim served as President of Maine College of Art in Portland, Maine (2006-2010) and as Executive Director of Anderson Ranch Arts Center in Snowmass Village, Colorado (1995-2006). In both roles, Jim worked with board and staff to implement comprehensive strategic plans, develop strong community programs, broaden educational opportunities for faculty and students and lead significant capital and endowment campaigns. Baker served on the Alliance of Artists Communities board 1999-2005, and was the Chair of the Board 2004-2005. An accomplished photographer, Jim received his undergraduate degree in Meteorology from The Pennsylvania State University in 1973 and an MFA in photography from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1975.

Howard Ben Tré, Visual Artist
Providence, Rhode Island
Howard Ben Tré is internationally recognized for his unique sculptures and large-scale works of art for public and private spaces. A pioneer in the use of cast glass as a sculptural medium, his work is included in more than 85 museum and public collections worldwide. Howard’s work has been featured in 39 solo exhibitions in the U.S. and abroad, including a ten-year retrospective organized by the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C., that traveled nationally. Howard was born in Brooklyn and received a BSA from Portland State University in 1978 and an MFA from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1980. He is a three-time recipient of the National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship and a three-time recipient of the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts Fellowship. In 1996, his achievements in the visual arts were recognized by the First Annual Pell Awards for Excellence in the Arts.

Daniel Bernard Roumain (DBR), Composer/ Musician
Boston, Massachusetts
Having carved a reputation for himself as an innovative composer, performer, violinist, and band leader, Haitian-American artist Daniel Bernard Roumain (DBR) melds his classical music roots with his own cultural references and vibrant musical imagination. From collaborations with Lady Gaga on American Idol, to being named “Top 40 Under 40” business people in *Crain’s New York Business*, to a spotlight as a “New Face of Classical Music” in *Esquire*, DBR is omnivorous. He has written music for film and television, regularly composes for orchestras and chamber music ensembles around the globe, and tours with his genre-jumping ensemble DBR @ THE MISSION. He has just released his second solo album *Woodbox Beats & Ballady* (Thirsty Ear Recordings).

Barbara Bloemink, Executive Director
Anderson Ranch Arts Center
Snowmass Village, Colorado
Barbara joined Anderson Ranch in May 2010 as Executive Director. She has worked as an international museum consultant, museum director, curator of international contemporary art and design, author, and art historian. Previously the Curatorial Director of the Smithsonian’s National Design Museum, Barbara also served as the Director and chief curator of five art museums including the Guggenheim Hermitage @ Las Vegas Museums, the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, the Contemporary Art Center of Virginia, and the Hudson River Museum. She received her BA in art history from Stanford University, MA from the Institute of Fine Arts (NYU), and an MA and PhD from Yale University.

Ann Brady, Executive Director
Atlantic Center for the Arts
New Smyrna Beach, Florida
Ann ascended to her current position in 2005 after 11 years in various roles at Atlantic Center. Ann received a BA in Journalism in 1981 from Temple University in Philadelphia. In the years prior to working at Atlantic Center, she worked in Philadelphia, Atlantic City, and Orlando as a professional grant writer, editor, and program developer for cultural organizations, as well as women’s advocacy and social service agencies. She also worked in the for-profit sector in communications, public relations, and marketing. She has served on numerous state grant panels and special task forces, and is on the executive board of the local arts agency, the Volusia County Cultural Alliance.

Peter Bramante, Managing Director
FirstWorks
Providence, Rhode Island
Peter Bramante has over 20 years of experience in the nonprofit sector as an executive, manager, artist and educator. Prior to joining FirstWorks, Peter served as the Executive Director of the Arts @ Business Council of Rhode Island. Under his leadership the organization expanded local programs and services, created innovative audience development tools and broadened the scope of nationally funded resources aimed at building Rhode Island’s cultural capital. His interest and ideas around connecting arts to business practices and civic life have been presented at panels for Americans for the Arts, The National Arts Marketing Conference, and The Association of Performing Arts Service Organizations. An advocate for experiential, arts-based learning, Peter has held adjunct and associate professorships at Brown University/Trinity Repertory Consortium, Roger Williams University, Rhode Island College, and Connecticut College where he received an MFA in Dance Science and Performance studies and earned a full fellowship.

Margie Butler, Artist @ Consultant
Pawtucket, Rhode Island
Margie Butler got her start in the New York world of brand strategy after which she pursued even more creative callings by completing an MFA from the Art Institute of Boston and serving as Director of New Bedford’s downtown cultural economic development project from 2003 to 2007. Part of Margie’s initial transition from business consulting to the arts included two residencies.
Speaker biographies, continued

one at Vermont Studio Center and the other in New Bedford, MA at a joint program run by UMass Dartmouth’s School of Visual and Performing Arts and Artworks! Having resided in Providence for six years Margie has been involved with the city’s navigation of what it means to be a creative city. In 2008 she launched BUY ART Providence for the City’s Department of Art, Culture + Tourism. Margie has a studio locally and maintains a consulting practice working across the arts and corporate marketing fields.

Jeff Chartier, Executive Artistic Director
VSA arts of Rhode Island
Pawtucket, Rhode Island

After surviving childhood polio, Jeannine Chartier was raised in the working class neighborhood of Pawtucket’s St. Joseph Parish. As a visual artist she works using both digital technology and mixed media fabrication, referencing images of personal and political identity. While working in Rhode Island and New York City as a designer in the cultural arts and fashion industries, Jeannine was recruited by the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts in 1986 to help create VSA arts Rhode Island, a nonprofit arts and education organization providing programs where people with disabilities actively participate in the arts, and in 1996 was asked to serve as Executive Artistic Director. Through its collaborations with partners across the arts, cultural disability, and educational communities, VSA arts RI advances integration while promoting the educational and cultural benefits of the arts for all people. In addition to developing programs for VSA arts RI, Jeannine conducts professional development workshops for arts education, universal design, and inclusion in locations as varied as New England, Brazil, Cuba, and the Pacific Rim. She currently is on the Steering Committee for the New England Consortium of Arts-Education Professionals, the RI Arts Learning Network, and the Access Committee at RISD Museum of Art.

Perry Chen, Co-Founder + CEO
Kickstarter
New York, New York

Perry Chen is co-founder and CEO of Kickstarter, a new way to fund and follow creativity. Perry graduated from Tulane University in New Orleans.

David N. Cicoline, Mayor
City of Providence
Providence, Rhode Island

David Ciciline was born on the South Side of Providence and graduated magna cum laude with a degree in political science from Brown University, where as an undergraduate he established a branch of the College Democrats with his classmate, the late John F. Kennedy, Jr. He earned his JD from Georgetown University Law Center and served as a public defender in the District of Columbia before returning to Rhode Island to open a practice in civil rights law and criminal defense. Ciciline began his career in public service in the Rhode Island House of Representatives, where he represented the East Side of Providence and a neighboring section of Pawtucket for four terms. In 2002, when the City of Providence was buckling under a $59 million deficit, the legacy of decades of corruption, Ciciline was elected mayor on his pledge to restore public confidence in City Hall and to revitalize the city’s neighborhoods. Since then, he has led a comprehensive transformation of city government, ushering in $3 billion in new investments and restored vibrancy to the city.

Curt Columbus, Artistic Director
Trinity Repertory Company
Providence, Rhode Island

Curt Columbus joined Trinity Rep as artistic director in January 2006. He has directed his own translation of Cherry Orchard for Trinity, as well as productions of The Receptionist, A Christmas Carol, Memory House, Blithe Spirit, Cabaret, and The Odd Couple. Trinity Rep was home to the world premieres of two of his plays, Paris by Night and The Dreams of Antigone. Curt was associate artistic director of Chicago’s Steppenwolf Theater Company from 2000-2005. His adaptation of Dostoevsky’s Crime and Punishment (with Marilyn Campbell) is published by Dramatists’ Play Service. Curt’s translations of Chekhov’s plays have been published by Ivan R. Dee, including Chekhov: The Four Major Plays. The Dreams of Antigone will be published by Broadway Play Publishing in June of 2010. Curt lives in Pawtucket with his partner, Nathan Watson.

Umberto Crenca, Artistic Director & Founder
AS220
Providence, Rhode Island

Bert Crenca is a visual artist and the founder and artistic director of AS220, a nonprofit center established in 1985 to provide a local forum and home for the arts, and dedicated to supporting and presenting unjuried and uncensored visual art, music, and poetry. The organization maintains 19 artist live/work and studio spaces, five galleries, and two performance spaces, and has established a powerful presence in the Downtown Arts and Entertainment District. Bert is committed to the revitalization of downtown Providence, and plays an important role in community efforts across the region. He serves on the Mayor’s Art, Culture + Tourism Advisory Board, and is a past member of the Providence School Board. In the past two decades, Bert has been a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts, The Urban Institute, The Ford Foundation, LEF Foundation, Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, Massachusetts Cultural Council, Connecticut Council on the Arts, the New England Artists’ Trust, and the Creative Cities Summit.

Caroline Crumpacker, Executive Director
The Millay Colony
Austerlitz, New York

Caroline Crumpacker has been the Executive Director of The Millay Colony since 2006. In that role she oversees all aspects of the Colony’s governance. Prior to joining Millay, Caroline served as Managing Director of the Poetry Society of America, Director of Government Relations for the Public Theater/New York Shakespeare Festival, and as Deputy Director of Government and Foundation Underwriting for Channel 13/WNET. Caroline holds a BA in English and Creative Writing from Brown University and an MFA in Creative Writing from Columbia University’s School of the Arts. She is author of Recherche Theories, a poetry chapbook from Etherdome Press, and her poetry, essays and translations have appeared in Not For Mothers Only: An Anthology of Poems by Mothers (Fence Books, 2007); Talisman Anthology of Contemporary Chinese Poetry (Talisman, 2006); American Poets in the 21st Century: Who we are Now (Wesleyan University Press, 2006); and Love Poems by Younger American Poets (Verse Press, 2004). She is a member of Belladonna* Collective, a reading series and publisher dedicated to feminist and avant-garde writing. She lives in Rhinebeck, NY with her daughter Coco and her beau Roberto Rossi.

Andy Cutler, Founder & Principal
Cutler & Company
Providence, Rhode Island

Andy Cutler has 20 years of experience in the area of strategic communications. In 2003, he founded Cutler & Company in Providence, RI, providing communications counsel to such institutions as Afferent Corporation, Bioprocess Technologies, Business Innovation Factory, City of Providence, Global Alliance to Immunize Against AIDS, Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, Rhode Island School of Design, Slater Technology Fund, and Tizra. Andy specializes in counseling public and private institutions and entrepreneurial ventures on issues related to corporate image enhancement, media relations, crisis communications, and community relations programming aimed at improving key stakeholder relationships. He is a member of the Business Innovation Factory’s Next Generation Network, AS220,
West Broadway Neighborhood Association, Industrial Designers Society of America, and E3 (Entrepreneurs Enabling Entrepreneurs). Andy also serves as Communications Chair, Industrial Designers Society of America-RI Chapter, Board of Trustees for the Providence Preservation Society, and chair of Rhode Island’s Communications Leadership Council. He received his BA from George Washington University.

Sara Jane DeHoff, Philanthropist
Perrysburg, Ohio
Sara Jane DeHoff is a community volunteer who works with organizations that support the arts, education and land conservation. She sits on the boards of the Toledo Museum of Art, the Toledo Community Foundation, the Adirondack Nature Conservancy & Land Trust, and the executive board of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra. She started the Black Swamp Conservancy and the Young Artists At Work program in Toledo and is the chairperson and founder of the Toledo United Way Women’s Initiative and the Toledo School for the Arts. Sara Jane has also served as President of the Board for the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo and has been a board member of Ohio Citizens for the Arts, American Institute of Food & Wine, Maumee Valley Country Day School Boys at Girls Club, Planned Parenthood of Northwest Ohio, Lake Placid Center for the Arts, and the Lake Placid Institute for the Arts and Humanities. In Lake Placid, in conjunction with the Lake Placid Institute, she heads a residency program for ten writers from New Dramatists. In 2001, she received the Philanthropy Award for Northwest Ohio and in 2004, the YWCA honored her with the Milestone award for community volunteers.

Clare Dowd, Executive Director
ArtsCorp, Inc.
Clare Dowd is the Executive Director of ArtCorps, Inc., an international nonprofit organization promoting the use of art and culture as tools for development. Since 2006, Clare has worked to forge strong partnerships with grassroots NGOs in Central America while building the organizational structure that will enable the ArtCorps to share its field-tested Art for Social Action model with communities worldwide. Clare brings over 15 years of experience in international marketing and development to ArtCorps, coupled with a passion and commitment to arts for social change. Clare’s interest in international development began with her work as a teacher in Colombia in the mid-80s followed by her years as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Kenya. After obtaining her MBA in international business, she worked in international trade, and later returned to the non-profit sector through a series of consulting opportunities including PACT’s Women’s Empowerment Program serving as the Director of Development for Cultural Survival, a Cambridge-based indigenous rights organization. Clare has travelled throughout the world and believes in the power of arts and culture to bring about lasting change.

Mario Garcia Durham, Director, Artist Communities & Presenting
National Endowment for the Arts
Washington, D.C.
Before joining the National Endowment for the Arts, Mario Garcia Durham was the founder and Executive Director of Yerba Buena Arts & Events at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco. Prior to founding the festival, Mario was the Performing Arts Curator and a founding staff member of the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. Mario has served on numerous boards, including the Executive Committee of the Association of Performing Arts Presenters and on the board of the American Arts Alliance. Since starting at the NEA in 2004, Mario has been responsible for a renewed NEA focus on the role of Presenters, Artist Communities, Service Organizations, and Outdoor Festivals, and he is responsible for the creation of the American Masterpieces – Presenting program. In 2009, Mario’s role at the NEA expanded to include direction of the new Artist Communities discipline, a category he helped create in 2008.

Holly Ewald, Multidisciplinary artist
Providence, Rhode Island
Over 30 years as an artist, Holly Ewald has developed an approach to making art that increasingly merges her studio practice with facilitating community engagement. Since receiving her MFA in Painting from Brooklyn College and moving to Rhode Island she has initiated several locally based projects in collaboration with other artists, scholars, technicians, and the public. They have included installations, street processions, and visual dialogue correspondence. Her collaborative work has been published in River Styx 36, the visual word, Resurgence Magazine (Spring ’04), A Moving Journal, The Penland Book of Handmade Books, Community Performance, An Introduction, and her own book with folklorist Michael Bell, Languages of the Land, A Dialogue with the Downs. Awards include numerous arts and humanities grants as well as an education award from the Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission and a Clearwater Award from The Waterfront Center in Washington, D.C.

Shea’la Finch, Co-Founder
Tiny Showcase
Providence, Rhode Island
Shea’la Nicole Finch was born on an island, grew up on an island, and, regardless of actual location, is always somewhat on an island. She is also the co-founder of Tiny Showcase, an online gallery that publishes limited edition print projects on a weekly basis. Tiny Showcase was created with the mission of making art accessible and affordable, as well as offering burgeoning contemporary artists a forum for exposure, a way to pay the rent, and an introduction into a community of like-minded individuals. A portion of the proceeds of each edition are portion of the proceeds of each edition are portion of the proceeds of each edition donated to the charity of the artist’s choice. Shea’la has earned degrees in Photography and Library and Information Studies. Recently she transitioned from a position at the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts to the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities, and has her sights set on the Rhode Island Council for Everything. In her spare time, she’s into making jokes, thinking about why people make jokes, inclement weather, intellectual freedom, and tangible things that don’t exist on the internet.

Richard Fishman, Director, Creative Arts Council
Brown University
Providence, Rhode Island
Richard Fishman is a visual artist, Professor of Art at Brown University, and Chair of the Visual Arts Department. As Director of Brown’s Creative Arts Council, Richard brings together representatives from each of the arts units at Brown, plus the David Winton Bell Gallery and Rites and Reason Theatre, to collaborate on programming, grant-making, and curriculum. Richard received his BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design and his MFA from Tulane. He has been awarded both Howard Foundation and Guggenheim Fellowships. Richard is primarily interested in sculpture. In the past few years he has focused on a combination between old-world techniques using stone and glass as well as new technologies involving computer aided imaging and 3-dimensional rapid prototyping.

Yvan Gauthier, CEO
Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec
Montreal, Quebec
Prior to his appointment at the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec in 2004, Yvan Gauthier occupied high managerial positions in organizations involved in cultural, communications, and leisure activities for over 20 years. Yvan Gauthier obtained a bachelor’s degree in cultural affairs and completed the course work for a master’s degree in economic history at the Université du Québec à Montréal. From 1992 to 2004, he was Director General of the Conseil des métiers d’art and of its affiliated corporations. Prior to that, he was
Megan Hall’s radio career began as a student at Brown University where she produced a radio documentary about the city’s attempts to save low-income housing. Her work has appeared on nytimes.com, NPR, Transom.org, KXOT, East Village Radio, and KOPB. Before becoming WRNI’s healthcare reporter in 2008, Megan worked at the station in many different capacities, first as an intern and later as an assistant producer and freelance reporter. Originally from Portland, Oregon, Megan now lives in Providence’s Federal Hill neighborhood with two new kittens named Flo and Jonic.

Kate Haw, Executive Director, Development & Administration
Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture
Skowhegan, Maine & New York, New York
Kate Haw joined Skowhegan in November 2006. She works in Skowhegan’s New York office handling all financial and administrative aspects of the program, directing fundraising, and producing all of Skowhegan’s publications. She came to the School with a wealth of experience in the art world, first in the curatorial and exhibitions fields and later in development. Immediately prior to coming to Skowhegan, Kate was Director of Development and Acting Director of External Affairs at the American Federation of Arts (2004-2006). Earlier in her career she worked in the Department of French and Northern Baroque Paintings at the National Gallery of Art from 1994-1997, was director of Peter Tillou Works of Art from 1997-2000, and was a curator at the American Federation of Arts from 2000-2004, where she organized exhibitions ranging in subject matter from Chola bronzes to the work of Edgar Degas. Kate has a BA in art history and religion from Sweet Briar College in Virginia and an MA in art history from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Peter Hocking, Director, Office of Public Engagement
Rhode Island School of Design
Providence, Rhode Island
Peter Hocking is the founding director of Rhode Island School of Design’s Office of Public Engagement. From 1988 to 2005, he was a staff member of the Howard R. Swearer Center for Public Service at Brown University. As the Swearer Center’s director and as an Associate Dean of the College, he worked to develop innovative university-community partnerships, undergraduate research opportunities, social entrepreneur projects, and to integrate community-based learning with the academic curriculum. Locally, he’s worked with dozens of nonprofit organizations as a partner, board member and strategic planning leader. In addition to his community practice, he is a working artist. As a teacher, he offers several courses at RISD and is a part-time faculty member at Goddard College. He holds an MFA in Interdisciplinary Art from Goddard College and a BFA from Rhode Island School of Design.

Paul Hogan, retired
FleetBoston, Financial
Milton, Massachusetts
After receiving his Masters in Business Administration from Dartmouth College in 1974, Paul Hogan began a distinguished career with FleetBoston Financial, formerly First National Bank of Boston. He served in a number of capacities during his 30-year tenure, most recently as Chief Risk Officer, until his retirement in 2003. Paul is past Director of Draper Laboratories in Cambridge, and past Director of Carney Hospital in Boston. He serves as the Finance Committee Chair of the Paulist Center and as Board Treasurer for the Alliance of Artists Communities. Paul received a Bachelors degree in Chemistry from Boston College, and a Masters in Chemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Shalonda Ingram, Founder, Nursha Project
Producer, Dance Theater Workshop
New York, New York
Shalonda Ingram is a strategist, producer, and social entrepreneur committed to transforming the planet via pro-activism and to sociopolitical change through community empowerment and civic, youth, and arts engagement. Shalonda is also the founder of Born Brown: All Rights Reserved®, a social enterprise agency that promotes understanding and collaboration among people of color, and United States of Consciousness™, a consortium of responsible business-to-business consumers united by their interest to leverage purchasing power. In 2005, Shalonda partook in the manifestation of the Bay Area Black United Fund document, “Microloan and Worker Cooperative: A Strategy for Youth Enterprise Development,” which explored microfinance lending for youth entrepreneurs. In addition to serving as the Producer at Dance Theater Workshop, Shalonda sits on various arts funding councils including the City of Oakland’s Funding Advisory Board and the Brooklyn Arts Council Community Arts Regrant Program. In 2009, she was nominated for The Corporation for National & Community Service Eli Segal Award and the New York Innovative Theater Award for the Nursha Project production, Where My Girls At?. Shalonda is continually exploring ways through which she can fulfill her commitment to creative exchange and sustainability in light of infinite possibility.

Meri Jenkins, Program Manager
Massachusetts Cultural Council
Boston, Massachusetts
Meri Jenkins is the program manager of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state arts agency, and oversees the John and Abigail Adams Arts Program. The program fosters the use of cultural assets in economic development efforts throughout the Commonwealth. She was formerly the principal manager of Business in the Arts South in the U.K. BiAS develops relationships between the commercial and cultural sectors through programs designed to affect mutual benefit and to strengthen understanding between the two sectors. With over 25 years of experience in the cultural sector, she has a thorough acquaintance with the challenges of the nonprofit cultural sector, both in the United States and in the United Kingdom. A through line in all her work has been to reach under-served populations. She believes that government support – be it federal,
state or local – for cultural organizations is an investment that enables access for all, improves quality of life, allows for economic growth, and has far reaching consequences for the well-being of a community.

**Holly Jensen**, Senior Community Relations Manager

**Fidelity Investments Providence, Rhode Island**

During her nine years with Fidelity Investments, Holly Jensen has been responsible for managing Fidelity’s community efforts in Rhode Island including corporate sponsorships, employee volunteer activities, college relations, and media relations. She currently serves on the board of directors for the Grantham Foundation of Rhode Island and is a member of the fundraiser committee for WaterFire Providence. Previously, she served as the President of the Board of Directors for WaterFire Providence and as a member of the Providence Mayor’s Arts Investment Task Force, among others. Holly grew up in Massachusetts and received a BA in English and an MA in professional writing from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. When she’s not working at Fidelity or volunteering within the community, Holly is also an award-winning and published playwright and will graduate in November with an MFA in playwriting from Spalding University.

**Tim Jones**, President & CEO

**Artscape Toronto, Ontario**

Tim Jones is a champion for the role that the arts play in transforming cities and communities. Under his direction since 1998, Artscape has grown from a Toronto-based affordable studio provider to an internationally recognized leader in city-building through the arts. In Toronto, Tim has played a catalytic role in the redevelopment of the Distillery District and galvanized the vision, interest, and investment to create Artscape Gibraltar Point and the award-winning Artscape Wychwood Barns. In Canada and abroad, Tim acts as a consultant and advisor on projects, policy and initiatives and speaks at more than 20 conferences and events each year. He and his colleagues at Artscape are passionately committed to exchanging knowledge with others on how arts, culture and creativity can help make our world more livable, sustainable, and prosperous.

**Daniel Kertznor**, Grant Programs Officer

**The Rhode Island Foundation Providence, Rhode Island**

Daniel Kertznor serves as the strategy leader for The Rhode Island Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking in the arts. In that capacity, he serves as the primary grant reviewer for arts-related requests, manages the Expansion Arts Program serving emerging to small ethnically-aligned arts organizations, and administers the MacColl Johnson Arts Fellowship. Together with the Director of the Foundation’s Initiative for Non-Profit Excellence, he has spearheaded a capacity building initiative for performing arts organizations that will launch this spring. Prior to coming to the Foundation, Daniel directed the Local Cultural Council Program at the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC), the most extensive grassroots arts program in the country. While at MCC, Daniel was actively involved in policy discussions about how cultural participation can address community needs and played a lead role in advocacy efforts that resulted in increased state funding for the arts. He has a degree in organizational behavior and management from Brown University. The results of his research on organizational culture and arts-based civic dialogue were later published in *Mastering Civic Engagement: A Challenge to Museums*, a publication of the American Association of Museums’ Museum and Community Initiative.

**Leslie King-Hammond**, Founding Director

**Center for Race & Culture Maryland Institute College of Art Baltimore, Maryland**

Leslie King-Hammond was born in the South Bronx and educated in the New York City public education system. She won a full stipend-tuition scholarship awarded under the SEEK Grant (Search for Education, Evaluation, and Knowledge) at the City University of New York, Queens College, earning a BFA in 1969. She attended The Johns Hopkins University under a Horizon Fellowship for doctoral studies in art history, where she earned her PhD. In 1973, she began to teach the art history courses at Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) and Leslie was appointed Dean of Graduate Studies in 1976, overseeing 200 students annually in eleven degree programs. Between 1985 and 1998, King-Hammond became the project director for Ford/Phillip Morris Fellowships for Artists of Color at MICA, and in 2008 she became Graduate Dean Emeritus and was appointed the Founding Director of the new Center for Race & Culture at MICA. Leslie has received Mellon Grants for Faculty Research, the Trustee Award for Excellence in Teaching, and an NEA artist grant. In 2007 she was appointed Chairperson of the Board of the Lewis Museum. She also sits on the Board of the Creative Alliance for the Artists, in Baltimore.

**SueEllen Kroll**, Grants Director

**Rhode Island Council for the Humanities Providence, Rhode Island**

SueEllen has been with the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities since 2004 serving as Action Speaks coordinator, program officer, and now grants director. As grants director, SueEllen administers the Council’s grants program, including counseling prospective applicants through the grants process by providing support, a sounding board, and advice along the way. Since moving to Providence in 2001, SueEllen has helped out on various community projects, including RI Human Rights Film Festival, Recycle-A-Bike, and Social Justice Nights. In her spare time, she enjoys gardening, bike rides, collecting African literature, and working on her historic home. SueEllen holds a BA in English Literature from Wheaton College.

**Janice LaMotta**, Program Coordinator

**Billings Forge Community Works Hartford, Connecticut**

Janice LaMotta has served as Program Coordinator at Billings Forge Community Works since 2009. Janice oversees The Workshops @ Billings Forge (an artist residency program) and The Studio @ Billings Forge (a multi-purpose space for performances, classes, meetings, and events). An accomplished artist, curator, and gallerist, Janice has also served as a juror for the Greater Hartford Arts Council, The Edward C. & Ann T. Roberts Foundation, and the Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism. Her work has shown extensively throughout New England, and Janice is the recipient of several awards, including “Best of Hartford 2002: Hartford Advocate”, “Ten Amazing People” named in SPIRIT magazine, a Blanche E. Colman Award, a “Connecticut Artists Under 35” award, and the 57th Annual Connecticut Women Artists’ Binney & Smith Award. Janice was awarded a visiting artists fellowship by Weir Farm Art Center in 1999-2000.

**Wayne Lawson**, Director Emeritus

**Ohio Arts Council Columbus, Ohio**

Wayne Lawson served as the fourth executive director of the Ohio Arts Council, 1978-2006. Under his direction the OAC became one of the foremost state arts agencies in the nation in terms of funding, long-range planning and evaluation, support for individual artists and innovative services to constituents in all arts disciplines. Wayne, who was born in Cleveland, studied Romance languages at The Ohio State University, earned a Masters degree in European literature, and a doctorate in theatre and comparative literature. He is an adjunct professor of art education at Ohio State. He has served on many panels for the NEA, and was chairman of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies and Arts Midwest. Wayne has received numerous awards, from The Association of American Cultures, the National Assembly of State Arts...
 Agencies, the Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, the Ohioana Career Award, the Alumni Award of Distinction from the College of Humanities at Ohio State, and from the Columbus Metropolitan Library. Wayne is a trustee of the James Thurber House and the Columbus Museum of Art in Columbus, Ohio.

Alicia Lehrer, Executive Director
Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council
Providence, Rhode Island
Alicia Lehrer joined the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council as Executive Director in March 2008 and is a Providence resident. She has a Bachelor’s degree in Environmental Science and a Master’s degree in Natural Resources Science with a specialization in Water Quality. Prior to joining the Council, Alicia served for ten years as the District Manager of the Southern Rhode Island Conservation District, for four years as the Volunteer Environmental Monitoring Network Coordinator for the Merrimack River Watershed Council in Lawrence, Massachusetts, and as staff at University of Rhode Island Watershed Watch.

Xander Marro, Managing Director, AS220
Co-Founder, Dirt Palace
Providence, Rhode Island
Xander Marro is a fake scientist/olde-style tinker residing at the dirt palace – a feminist cupcake-encrusted netherworld located along the dioxin-filled banks of the Woonasquatucket River, in Providence’s Olneyville neighborhood. From this post she makes movies, quilts, puppet shows, prints, and phone calls. Her adventures underground have included curating the “Movies with Live Soundtracks” film series and performing in various theatric/ musical formats as one of the variety of her alter egos (Madame Von Temper Trantum, Lady Long Arms, Lil Blood-n-Guts, Madame Von Malt Liquor, etc.). In her spare time, she is the managing director of AS220 where she crafts endless spreadsheets and reports documenting the possibility of an organized egalitarian approach to art-making as a transmutative tool in generating beauty, achieving equality, next-level human consciousness, and putting a final end to humanity’s terrible habit of endless war-making.

Linda Marston-Reid, Bellagio Center Coordinator
The Rockefeller Foundation
Bellagio, Italy & New York, New York
Linda Marston-Reid is a native of the southern California desert, has lived in places as exotic as Eugene, Oregon and now resides in Brooklyn. She has worked as a visual artist throughout her life, exhibiting her work across the United States and is a Virginia Center for the Creative Arts fellow. Since 2002 she has worked at the Rockefeller Foundation in the Bellagio Program, an interdisciplinary and international residency program for scholars, practitioners and creative artists at its northern Italian location. Previously she was the founder/president The Arts Center in Orange, a nonprofit community arts center. Through her work at the Arts Center, she gained a real appreciation for the service that the nonprofit and philanthropic sector provides. She is finishing up a master’s degree in nonprofit management from Milano/New School University in New York, proving it is never too late to go back to school.

Mark Masuoka, Executive Director
Bemis Center for the Contemporary Arts
Omaha, Nebraska
Originally from Honolulu, Mark Masuoka earned his BFA in Ceramics/Class from the University of Hawaii in 1983, and an MFA in Ceramic Sculpture in 1987 from Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, MI. In 1989, Mark established the Mark Masuoka Gallery in Las Vegas. After four years in the commercial art business Mark entered the nonprofit arena and was appointed the Director of the Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art in Las Vegas. Shortly after relocating to Denver in 1999, he was appointed Director of the Museum of Contemporary Art/Denver. Mark returned to the commercial gallery business in 2000 and was an owner/partner in the Carson Masuoka Gallery in Denver. In July of 2003, he was appointed Executive Director of the Bemis Center in Omaha.

Megan and Murray McMillan, Video, photography and installation artists
Providence, Rhode Island
Megan and Murray McMillan have been collaborating as artists since 2002. They have exhibited at the the State Museum of Contemporary Art in Thessaloniki, Greece, the National Museum of Art in La Paz, Bolivia, the Kunsthalen Brandts Museum in Odense, Denmark, and the Casa Masaccio Center for Contemporary Art in Italy. They are represented by Qbox Gallery in Athens, Greece. The McMillans have been artists-in-residence in Barcelona; Los Angeles; Tzia and Athens, Greece; and Turku and Kokar, Finland. Their work has been featured in film festivals in London, Los Angeles, Switzerland, Austria, Croatia, and Romania, and has been included in the 2nd Thessaloniki Biennale of Contemporary Art (2009), the Video Art Program at Preview Berlin: The Emerging Art Fair (2008), the 10th International Istanbul Biennial (2007). Their solo show at White Flag Projects in St. Louis was reviewed in the November 2007 issue of Art in America. Megan has an MFA from Massachusetts College of Art and Design, and Murray has an MFA from The University of Texas at Austin and a BFA from Kansas City Art Institute. The McMillans have been married since 1997 and live and work in Providence.

Tom Morrissey, Founder
Texarkana ArtWorks
Texarkana, Texas & Providence, Rhode Island
Thomas Morrissey is in the early stages of creating a new artist residency program in Texarkana, on the Texas/Arkansas border. As an artist, Tom has taught photography for over 30 years and has worked as a professional photographer on several international projects. He has an MFA from Arizona State University and is a professor of art at the Community College of Rhode Island. His work is included in several museum collections, including RISD, the International Center for Photography in New York, and the Corcoran in Washington; and he was recently awarded a residency at Vermont Studio Center.

Hunter O’Hanian, Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Massachusetts College of Art & Design
Boston, Massachusetts
From 1997 to 2006, Hunter served as the Executive Director of the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Massachusetts. In December 2006 he was appointed President of Anderson Ranch in Snowmass Village, Colorado. He joined MassArt in August 2009. He is a former litigation partner at the Boston law firm of Morrison, Mahoney & Miller, focusing on commercial and contract litigation. He is also the past Chairman of the WGBH Community Advisory Board, and the Art Institute of Boston Board of Trustees. Hunter was an overseer for the Pilgrim Monument and Provincetown Museum, is involved with Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, and served as Chair of Provincetown’s Licensing Board. Hunter taught financial management for nonprofits at Boston University for five years, prior to moving to Colorado. He received his Bachelors degree from Boston College and JD from Suffolk University Law School.

Drake Patten, Executive Director
The Steel Yard
Providence, Rhode Island
Drake Patten is a graduate in History and Material Culture from Skidmore College and holds advanced degrees from the University of Durham, the College of William and Mary, and the University of Virginia in Medieval Archaeology, American History and Cultural Anthropology respectively. Drake served as Executive Director of the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities (1999-2004). A professional archaeologist for 13 years, Drake has been involved with museums and public history since 1983. She has written and lectured on the archaeology of race, the role...
of fiction in archaeological research, American material culture, 19th C. ceramics, and well as on post-colonial literature and nationalism. Drake has also worked as an archaeological curator and educator at a number of national historic sites including Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello, Historic Shadwell, and Jefferson’s Poplar Forest. Until 1999, Drake was the principal of Artfactory, an archaeological contract and research firm, and she remains president and artistic director of Draconian Measures, an interior design company. Prior to joining the Steel Yard, Drake spent 18 months as director of the Millay Colony for the Arts in Austerlitz, New York.

Jane Preston, Director of Programs New England Foundation for the Arts Boston, Massachusetts

Jane Preston serves as Director of Programs at New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA), providing leadership and oversight in program design and delivery of NEFA grants and services in regional touring, public art, Native Arts, the National Dance Project, National Theater Pilot, and international exchange. Among her priorities is assuring quality and integration of NEFA’s research and evaluation processes in these program areas and toward building the cultural policy case for the creative economy and artist employment. Jane has over twenty-five years of professional experience in the cultural and nonprofit community, with emphasis on working at the intersection of public and private initiatives; addressing issues of the arts and community development; and creating new partnerships and resources. She holds a BA in economics from Wellesley College and a Master in Public Administration from Harvard University.

Alix Refshauge, Director, Artists-in-Residence Program & Director of Development HUB-BUB Spartanburg, South Carolina

Alix Refshauge was born and raised in South Carolina, and studied studio art at Furman University. Her post-college career included working for Christie’s Auction House with 19th C. European Furniture, working for Burton Snowboards as a traveling/snowboarding nanny, a summer in Denali, Alaska as a hotel housekeeper and dishwasher, a couple of years in Spartanburg as a faux finisher/painter, and getting an MPA in Arts Management in Charleston, SC. Alix returned to her hometown of Spartanburg in June of 2007 when she was offered the dream job of working for HUB-BUB as the Director of the Artists-in-Residence Program and Director of Development.

Clay Rockefeller, Artist & activist Providence, Rhode Island

Clay Rockefeller grew up near Portland, Maine and moved to Providence in 1998 to attend Brown University. While still pursuing a dual degree in American Civilization and Visual Art, Clay teamed up in 2001 with three other artists and began working on renovating the former Armington Sims steam engine factory into 39 live/work units to be marketed to working artists. Ten of these units were awarded HUD funds to help subsidize their sale prices and help assure their affordability into the future. In 2002, Clay co-founded the Steel Yard, a nonprofit organization created to serve as a catalyst in the creative, economic revitalization of the industrial valley district of Providence. In fostering the industrial arts and incubating small business, the Steel Yard has worked to cultivate an environment of experimentation and a community strengthened by creative networks. Clay’s foremost philanthropic interests are in social entrepreneurship, affordable housing, alternative education, economic development, the arts, and issues surrounding sustainability. Clay has served on the board of and as a consultant to a number of nonprofits, including English-for-Action, AS220, Olneyville Housing Corporation, the David Rockefeller Fund, and the Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors.

Bruce Rodgers, Director Hermitage Artist Retreat Englewood, Florida

Bruce is a musician, writer, playwright, creative consultant, and arts administrator. His musical education was at the Eastman School of Music and at the Crane School of Music in Potsdam, NY. From 1971 to 1974 he was the percussion section leader for the United States Military Academy Band at West Point. As a playwright, his work has been produced at professional theatres throughout the United States as well as in Ireland and France. Bruce was named a Distinguished Artist by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts; he is a MacDowell Colony Fellow; a Seaside “Escape to Create” Fellow; and a Playwriting Fellowship winner from the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs. He has consulted for the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, and twice for the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, DC. As an ardent advocate for Arts Education, Bruce has served as vice president of board of the Florida Alliance for Arts Education / Arts for a Complete Education. He is the co-author of Innovation, Inc., (Wordware) a book on creativity in the workplace. He has worked as Literary Manager for the GeVa Theatre in Rochester, NY; was affiliated with the McCarter Theatre in Princeton, NJ as resident playwright, and he was the Associate Artistic Director of the Asolo Theatre Company from 1993 to 2004.

Ama Rogan, Managing Director A Studio in the Woods New Orleans, Louisiana

A Studio in the Woods of Tulane University offers a wooded sanctuary for artists and the environment located in Lower Coast Algiers, New Orleans. As a member of the founding board, an early staff member, and now director, Ama Rogan has been an integral part of the organization’s growth for over 10 years. As Managing Director she is key in the development and management of arts and environmental programming, fund and board development, community outreach and communications, and financial oversight. Ama is a native New Orleanian and a visual artist with a BFA from Rhode Island School of Design. With her husband, musician Ben Schenck, she is parenting two young children.

Randall Rosenbaum, Executive Director Rhode Island State Council on the Arts Providence, Rhode Island

Randall Rosenbaum has served as Executive Director of the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts since 1995. Established in 1967, RISCA is charged by the state legislature to stimulate public interest and participation in the arts and to serve as the liaison to the state arts community. During his 10 years with the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, Randy served as Director of the Dance Program, Director of the Presenting Organizations Program, and Deputy Director. Randy has a Bachelor’s degree in Music Education / Voice from Temple University.

Karen Roustom, Composer Providence, Rhode Island

Syrian born Kareem Roustom is an award-winning composer who has written music for film, television, the concert hall, and album projects. Steeped in the musical traditions of the Arab Near East and trained in Western music, Roustom is a musically bilingual composer who has collaborated with a wide variety of artists ranging from the Philadelphia Orchestra to Shakira. He is a 2010 Emmy nominee in the Music & Sound categories for his score to the PBS documentary, The Mosque In Morgantown. An active composer of film music, he has scored a number of short and feature-length films, and his score for the award-winning documentary Encounter Point earned him the Best Musical Score Award at the 2006 Bend International Film Festival. In June 2010, Roustom was awarded a fellowship to the prestigious Sundance Film Composers Lab held annually at the Sundance Institute. New works in progress include a large scale choral commission for Easter of 2011 based on the Khalil Gibran’s “Jesus The Son of Man” and the recently completed “Resonances” – a double concerto for Arabic violin, cello, hand percussion, and string quartet commissioned by Philadelphia Orchestra cellist Ohad Bar-David. Kareem has recorded and/or produced music for Epic Records, Warner Brothers Classics, Fuller Street Music, Xauen Music, and others.
Anna Schuleit, Visual artist
New York, New York
Anna Schuleit studied painting while a student at Rhode Island School of Design and has been an artist-in-residence and guest lecturer at MIT, Smith, Brown, and Bowdoin. Anna has been the recipient of fellowships from The MacDowell Colony, Yaddo, Blue Mountain Center, and Bogliasco, as well as from the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies at Harvard. In 2006 she was named a MacArthur Fellow. A solo show of her paintings and works on paper was on view at Coleman Burke Gallery in New York last fall, she recently completed a large painting commission for the University Gallery at UMass Amherst, and she is currently working on a set-design for Ivy Baldwin Dance in New York City.

Ed Shea, Co-Founder + Artistic Director
2nd Story Theatre
Warren, Rhode Island
Long before his twelve-year residency at Trinity Rep, and years before his tenure on the faculty of Trinity Conservatory, Ed Shea was at the vanguard of Rhode Island’s “Off-Trinity” theater scene. A home-grown talent, Ed co-founded the legendary 2nd Story Theater with long-time associate Pat Hegnauer in 1978. Since then, he has gone on to produce and/or direct well over 150 area productions. Whether wrestling with classics at Rhode Island Shakespeare Theater or exploring avant-garde world premieres at Brown University’s New Play Festival, Ed saw each venture as an opportunity to nurture the actor’s growth. And although he boasts a varied and extensive professional resume, Ed admits his most long-time associate Pat Hegnauer in 1978. Since then, he has gone on to produce and/or direct well over 150 area productions. Whether wrestling with classics at Rhode Island Shakespeare Theater or exploring avant-garde world premieres at Brown University’s New Play Festival, Ed saw each venture as an opportunity to nurture the actor’s growth. And although he boasts a varied and extensive professional resume, Ed admits his most

Sydney Smith, Artist Communities + Presenting Specialist
National Endowment for the Arts
Washington, D.C.
Sidney “Pepper” Smith was named the Specialist for Artist Communities & Presenting at the National Endowment for the Arts in 2010. A former editor, journalism professor, Peace Corps Volunteer (China), education volunteer (Honduras), poet, short story writer, and freelancer, Smith joined the NEA in 2004 where he served in the Public Affairs Office.

Elizabeth Streb, Choreographer/dancer
Brooklyn, New York
Once called the Evel Knievel of dance, Elizabeth Streb’s choreography, which she calls “PopAction,” intertwines the disciplines of dance, athletics, boxing, rodeo, the circus, and Hollywood stunt-work. The result is a bristling, muscle-and-motion vocabulary that combines daring with strict precision in pursuit of the public display of “pure movement.” Elizabeth was awarded in 1997 a MacArthur Foundation “Genius” Fellowship. She holds an MA in Humanities and Social Thought from New York University, a BS in Modern Dance from SUNY Brockport from which she has received an honorary doctorate of fine arts, and an honorary doctorate from Rhode Island College. In 2004, she was a Master Artist-in-Residence at Atlantic Center for the Arts. In 2003 Elizabeth established S.L.A.M. (STREB Lab for Action Mechanics) in Brooklyn. S.L.A.M.’s door is literally open for the community to come in and watch rehearsals, take classes, and learn to fly. Elizabeth believes that true movement invention (the rubric of her investigations) happens accidentally with the milling together of strangers and out of the diverse movement voices that accidentally cross paths. S.L.A.M. is the Petrie dish that feeds the possibility for these new forms to emerge.

Caitlin Strokosch, Executive Director
Alliance of Artists Communities
Providence, Rhode Island
Caitlin Strokosch has served the Alliance since 2002, and was appointed Executive Director in 2008. Prior to joining the Alliance, Caitlin managed several nonprofit professional music ensembles in Chicago. She holds a Bachelor’s Degree in music performance from Columbia College Chicago and a Master’s in musicology from Roosevelt University, where her research focused on music as a tool for building communities of resistance and social dissent.

Allan Tear, Board Member
Awesome Foundation
Providence, Rhode Island
Allan Tear is managing partner at the consultancy Aptus Collaborative and a serial entrepreneur well-known in local technology circles. In 2008, he was chosen as one of Providence Business News’s 40 Under Forty. Allan recently co-founded Betaspring, a Providence-based startup aimed at young entrepreneurs. He serves on the board of the Providence chapter of Awesome Foundation.

Dejen Tesfagiorgis, Founder & President
ArtsApp
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Dejen Tesfagiorgis is the Founder and President of ArtsApp, an online social network and portfolio management tool for arts schools and administrators. Current ArtsApp partners include The Juilliard School, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and the Ragdale Foundation. Dejen holds a BA in Music and Entrepreneurship from the University of St. Thomas (MN). He is the recipient of the 2008 Tommie Award, an annual award given to a single student in recognition of achievements in scholarship, leadership, and campus service. He has presented on topics of entrepreneurship and technology to students at the University of St. Thomas Opus College of Business and the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management. Dejen’s primary musical instrument is saxophone, and has studied under Ruben Haugen, Roscoe Mitchell, and Ryan Meisel. Dejen has also taught classes on jazz and musicianship at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Summer Music Clinic.

Valerie Tutson, Storyteller + Founder
Rhode Island Black Storytellers
Providence, Rhode Island
Valerie Tutson is a graduate of Brown University with an MA in Theatre Arts and a BA in the self-designed major, Storytelling with an emphasis on African traditions. Valerie has been telling stories for 20 years and draws her stories from around the world with an emphasis on African traditions. Valerie teaches workshops and classes to students of all ages, and hosts Cultural Tapestry, an award-winning cable television show celebrating diverse cultures. Valerie founded Rhode Island Black Storytellers and most recently served as the Co-Director of the National Black Storytelling Festival in Providence.

Eric Vines, Executive Director
Sitka Center for Art & Ecology
Otis, Oregon
Prior to his current position, Eric Vines founded and operated Vines Leadership Design, a business advisory company focusing on executive leadership design for businesses, non-profits and their boards. He also spent six years as the associate director of Programs at the Edward Lowe Foundation.
in Michigan. He serves on the Board of the Association of Women Business Centers, a national organization representing over 125 business centers and 140,000 women and has personally worked with more than 300 men and women business owners in the last 7 years helping them develop stronger leadership skills and better business practices. Vines has an MBA in Finance and Entrepreneurship from the University of Oregon as well as an undergraduate degree in physics and math from Whitman College.

Lilli Weisz, Research Associate
Alliance of Artists Communities
Providence, Rhode Island
Lilli joined the Alliance in February 2010 as the new Research Associate, and her work has focused on supporting dance residencies. Lilli has an MA in Nonprofit Arts Management with a concentration in performing arts from NYU, where she completed her thesis “Supporting the Artist, Not Just the Art: A Consideration of Artist Support in a Challenging Environment.” She has worked as a performing arts manager at the 92nd Street Y, Brooklyn Academy of Music, and Chicago’s Dept. of Cultural Affairs. Lilli served as a Research Consultant at New York Foundation for the Arts, surveying more than 100 artist service organizations and 1,700 artists nationwide. She also freelances as a professional organizer, creating systems of organization for homes, offices, and artist studios. Lilli recently returned to New York City and is working as an independent consultant.

David Wells, Executive Director
Edenfred
Madison, Wisconsin
David Wells is currently Executive Director of Edenfred, the creative residency program of the Terry Family Foundation. In this capacity he has developed the arts residency programs, a statewide forum for arts curators, and curates visual art exhibits for Edenfred and for Sundance Cinemas Madison. David has pursued interdisciplinary interests as an exhibiting artist, consultant, gallerist/curator, and arts administrator for over 30 years in both the business and nonprofit sectors. In 2009, David served on the first NEA panel for grants to artist residencies. He is currently a member of the Steering Committee for the City of Madison Cultural Plan and as an advisor to the James Wrous Gallery of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences Arts & Letters. David has been a frequent lecturer for the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art and UW-Madison and has been a guest artist/critic at numerous schools and universities. He has exhibited across the United States as well as in Mexico, Japan and Czech Republic, with numerous solo installation exhibits in Southern California and Wisconsin.

David White, Executive Director & Producer
ARTVENTURES New Hampshire
Hopkinton, New Hampshire
A former dancer and filmmaker, David White served as Executive Director & Producer of Dance Theater Workshop, and has come to be known as one of the country’s most influential and innovative producers, arts administrators, and cultural community-builders. David founded National Performance Network in 1984, which provides real financial support to progressive alternative cultural centers and artists around the country. David has served on Atlantic Center for the Arts’ National Council (its artist advisory group) for over two decades, and succeeded Edward Albee at ACA’s chair in 2006. David has consulted with The Rockefeller Foundation, The Rhode Island Foundation, and many other organizations, and is currently working with Providence-based Everett Dance Theatre and First Works. ARTVENTURES New Hampshire is a statewide non-profit cultural development and artist production project under the institutional aegis of the Crotched Mountain Foundation, and is supported by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, the University System of New Hampshire, the Crotched Mountain Foundation, and individual donors concerned about the future of New Hampshire’s cultural landscape.

Steve Whitten, Principal & Lead Consultant
Art of Funding
Providence, Rhode Island
For more than 25 years Steve Whitten has counseled artists and designers on both their career paths and the means to make those goals real. As part of that process, he has guided candidates as they applied to important funding resources (including the Fulbright US Student Grant, Watson Fellowship, Guggenheim Fellowship, Rome Prize, Marshall Fellowship, Rhodes Scholarship, Windgate Fellowship, and the Devan Lewis and Gelman Fellowships) and to notable residency programs (including OX-Bow, Skowhegan, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, The MacDowell Colony, Anderson Ranch Arts Center, Vermont Studio Center, Yaddo, Bemis Center, and the Fine Arts Work Center). Currently he is the principal and lead consultant of Art of Funding, a consultancy for creative people. Prior to that he was Director of the Alumni and Career Services Office at Rhode Island School of Design, and a special education educator and administrator at the renowned Landmark School in Prides Crossing, Massachusetts.

Pamela Winfrey, Senior Artist
The Exploratorium
San Francisco, California
Pamela Winfrey is a playwright and performer with a bachelor’s degree in theater and a master’s degree in interdisciplinary arts. She has been at the Exploratorium since 1979 and has worked as an Explainer and for the teaching programs, ran the Tactile Dome, started the Volunteer department, was the director of the performing arts program, acted as director for the arts, and is now a senior artist. Over the years, she has curated numerous performance series, exhibitions, artist residencies, and gallery installations. Pam has served on many panels, including the Interactive Arts Panel for Ars Electronica, and in 2009 was the lead curatorial consultant for emerging art forms for Creative Capital. As a playwright, she specializes in writing absurd plays for a thinking audience. She is currently in residence at Climate Theatre.

Lori Wood, Director
Fes Medina
Fes, Morocco
Lori Wood has an extensive background in the field of artist residency programs and social entrepreneurship, and conducted the first field assessment for artists’ communities in 1991, which was instrumental in the founding of the Alliance of Artists Communities. Lori directed the Villa Montalvo Artist Residency Program in California from 1991-1995, where she organized the NEA-funded “El Taller Nepantla,” a collaboration between Villa Montalvo and Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana (MACLA), and other international residencies. She is currently managing a two-year IMLS leadership grant, a collaboration between the Salinas Public Library and the National Steinbeck Center, re-imagining Salinas, California as a City of Letters. She is also the founder and director of a social venture project in Fes, Morocco which is restoring traditional properties in Fes’s medieval medina and will provide non-profit residencies for artists from around the world. Lori holds a BA in Literature from Harvard College, an MBA in Entrepreneurial Management from The Wharton School, and a Masters in International Studies from the University of Pennsylvania with a focus on France and North Africa.
conference sites

AS220
AS220 is a thriving community arts space offering galleries, workshops, performance space, live-work space, and an artist-in-residence program. AS220’s residential and work space supports artists who seek a diverse, stable and affordable studio environment. The residents encourage a community of ideas rather than simply a community of tenants, fulfilling the goal to create a cooperative living environment driven by the artistic energy of its inhabitants.

BENEFICIENT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Gathered as a congregation in 1743, Beneficent Church has been engaged in active outreach to the wider community for over two and a half centuries. They have a long history of social justice within Providence and beyond. From American independence to the antislavery movement, racial justice, and care for the poor, Beneficent has always been an activist church, responding to social needs.

ECO-ARTS SPACE
Eco-Arts Space is a gallery, office space, and event venue in Providence’s Promenade District. Originally built in 1890, the building is Rhode Island’s first and only net-zero environment. Built without local tax breaks or incentives, Eco-Arts Space contributed $1.1M into the local economy with a focus on businesses involved with green building and sustainable technology.

JOHNSON & WALES UNIVERSITY
JWU was founded as a business school in 1914 and is well-known for its strong commitment to specialized business education and the high ideals of its founders. In 1973, JWU opened the College of Culinary Arts, now renown as one of the leading culinary arts programs in the country.

THE PEERLESS BUILDING
Construed in 1890s, what is now known as the Peerless Building is actually comprised of five individual buildings. Located at the corner of Westminster and Union, this cluster of buildings makes up the entire block of downtown, famous for housing the largest and most successful regional department stores until the 1980s.

PERISHABLE THEATRE
As a research-and-development lab, Perishable Theatre incubates artists and cultivates audiences in Rhode Island. Now in its 26th year, performance at Perishable can encompass music, dance, puppetry, digital media, literature, poetry, sculpture, architecture, painting, and more. Perishable believes that performance provides artists with the forum to engage in big public ideas and offers audiences the unique experience of having a personal experience safely within a group of strangers.

PROVIDENCE ART CLUB
The Providence Art Club, founded in 1880, was created to stimulate the appreciation of art in the community. The picturesque procession of historic buildings is home to studios, galleries, and a clubhouse. Through its public programs, art classes, and exhibitions, the Art Club continues a tradition of supporting the visual arts in Providence and beyond.

RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN
Rhode Island School of Design (RISD), founded in 1877, is a vibrant community of artists and designers that includes 2,200 students from around the world, approximately 350 faculty and curators, and 400 staff members.

TRINITY REPERTORY COMPANY
Since its founding in 1963, Trinity Repertory Company has been one of the most respected regional theaters in the country. Featuring the last permanent resident acting company in America, Trinity Rep presents a balance of world premiere, contemporary, and classic works. In its 45-year history, the theater has produced 57 world premiers, mounted national and international tours, and, through its MFA program, trained hundreds of new actors and directors. Trinity is housed in a historic landmark built as the Majestic Theatre in 1917.

alliance of artists communities

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ALLIANCE OF ARTISTS COMMUNITIES
Providence :: Downtown + RISD Walking Map

KEY (distances given are from the Biltmore Hotel)

1. Biltmore Hotel :: 11 Dorrance Street
2. Peerless Building :: 150 Union Street (0.1 miles)
3. RISD | Chace Center :: 20 North Main Street (0.3 miles)
4. RISD | Upper Met :: 30 Waterman Street (0.4 miles) (accessible entrance at 55 Angell Street)
5. Providence Art Club :: 11 Thomas Street (0.4 miles)
6. Trinity Repertory Theatre :: 201 Washington Street (0.3 miles)
7. AS220 :: 115 Empire Street (0.3 miles)
8. Perishable Theatre :: 90 Empire Street (0.3 miles)
9. Johnson & Wales | Wales Hall + TACO Center :: 8 Abbot Park Place (0.3 miles)
10. Beneficent Church :: 300 Weybossett (0.3 miles)

map by Carla V. Wahnon