



ARTISTS

# Community Fund Announces New Awards

The Community Fund allows artists and NPN/VAN Partners to extend a residency by deepening relationships between organizations, artists, and communities, providing the time and funding to take risks, implement new programs, forge new relationships, and/or diversify connections. Community Fund subsidies can support planning, follow-up, documentation, evaluation or even direct support to local artists or community organizations. Guidelines are flexible by design, allowing Partners and artists to exercise their creativity in structuring projects.

A total of \$31,000 was awarded to support eight projects, including four awards going to Visual Artists Network (VAN) Partners for the first time with a separate pool of resources from the Joan Mitchell Foundation.

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Equivalencies, 2012 Emily Arthur, Marwin Begaye & John Hitchcock screenprint and drawing 44 x 30 inches

## **Community Fund Awards**

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#### Fusebox Festival (Austin, TX)

Motion Bank + Jeanine Durning, Roz Warby and Deborah Hay will develop a community collaboration that builds a unique connection among three of Austin's defining communities: the University of Texas, the high-tech community, and the creative/ artistic community.

#### Junebug Productions (New Orleans, LA)

NPN Partner Carpetbag Theatre (Knoxville, TN) and Junebug Productions will facilitate community dialogue — around women, trauma, resilience and healing — through workshops, story circles and panel discussions. These activities will culminate in a short documentary addressing the connection between those on the frontlines and those who have experienced trauma on the streets in New Orleans.

#### Painted Bride (Philadelphia, PA)

The Bride will host a series of community engagement activities prior to the world premiere of *If She Stood* by Ain Gordon, which explores the motivations of a multi-racial group of women who founded Philadelphia's Female Anti-Slavery Society in 1833.

#### The Theater Offensive (Boston, MA)

Daniel Alexander Jones will conduct a weeklong, four-workshop series that focuses on the powerful and performative nature of building a drag character. Theater Offensive and Jones will work with four local organizations for LGBTQ youth and adults of color.

The Community Fund is made possible in part by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts (a federal agency), the MetLife Foundation, Joan Mitchell Foundation, and the Nathan Cummings Foundation.

## **VAN Community Fund**

The Visual Artists Network (VAN) is proud to announce the inaugural VAN Community Fund Awards for 2013 with funding provided by the Joan Mitchell Foundation. \$15,000 was awarded to four projects:

#### DiverseWorks (Houston, TX)

Liz Magic Laser of New York City, along with expert political, media and marketing strategists, will lead a series of workshops to teach participants how to deliver texts to maximize audience empathy and compassion. The series of week-long workshops will lead to an interactive performance that uses the format of a news talk show to dissect the emotionally manipulative methods used by politicians and newsmakers to generate empathy and support. Through these workshops, Laser poses the question: "Can the public level the playing field by understanding how to engineer empathy as well as our politicians do?"

#### Real Art Ways (Hartford, CT)

Kameelah Janan Rasheed of Brooklyn will engage 10-15 young people in collaborative research of local history that will culminate in an exhibition of the youths' narrative photographic works. The project, *Excavating and Reimagining Our Community*, builds on Real Art Ways' ongoing work in its communities. LACE/Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (Los Angeles, CA)

Eric Zimmerman of Brooklyn, NY will lead a planning and documentation project that will include a survey of past VAN artists and community participants, as well as an advance site visit to make stronger community connections. The project will be documented in a *Practice Sessions* video to be shared with online audiences.

#### 516 Arts (Albuquerque, NM)

Native American printmakers John Hitchcock (Madison, WI) and Emily Arthur (Jacksonville, FL) will extend their residency to work with local artists Marwin Begaye and Ryan O'Malley. They will create a large-scale public art banner, work with community members to create and ceremonially distribute prints in the Native "give-away" tradition, and participate in a Parade of Flags, featuring both new work and flags created for the 2013 Venice Biennial.

DORIS DUKE

8 FORDFOUNDATION

ART WORKS.

**MetLife Foundation** 

Joan Mitchell Foundation



## Doin' It on the Road Comes Home for Final 2013 Workshop



The last in a series of workshops for artists who want to tour (or expand their touring) will be held in:

New Orleans, Louisiana Tuesday, June 11, 2013 4-6:30 pm Contemporary Arts Center

To RSVP for this free two-hour workshop led by CEO MK Wegmann, contact:

Jenny Howell jenny@npnweb.org

## **Sneak Peek of Next Month's Newsletter Feature**



What began as a search for *quidance from two founder-driven* organizations quickly turned into a "women of color collective" that created a much-needed space for *"collective learning and sharing that"* is rooted in our past and helping us chart our future," according to Stephanie McKee. NPN staff Will Bowling sits down with McKee, new artistic director of Junebug Productions, for a conversation about the lessons learned when she and Carpetbag Theatre Director Linda Parris-Bailey embarked on a mentorship effort.



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## With Gratitude

NPN is proud to announce recently awarded grants from the Nathan Cummings Foundation and the Keller Family Foundation. As a sign of their continued support, the Cummings Foundation awarded a \$100,000 grant to NPN for general operating. Support from the New Orleansbased Keller Family Foundation in the amount of \$5,000 will be used to enhance the participation of NPN's Local Network Partners at the 2013 Annual Meeting in New Orleans, December 12–15.

Southwest Airlines, Official Airline of National Performance Network

