



**Lower  
Manhattan  
Cultural  
Council**

EMPOWERING ARTISTS,  
INVESTED IN COMMUNITY

## **PUBLIC ART AND PERFORMANCE**

**MAKING TEMPORARY PUBLIC ART & PERFORMANCE: What Artists Need to Know – March 2015**

### **COMMISSIONERS & PRESENTERS OF PUBLIC ART & PERFORMANCE**

New York City is home to many independent nonprofit organizations committed to public art, offering commissions or presenting public art through designated programs or festivals. Such organizations can bring essential knowledge, expertise and resources to an artist's project. This page features a list of organizations that provide opportunities for artists of various disciplines to create and showcase their works of public art –ranging from nonprofit art presenters to local business improvement districts.

#### **Art in Odd Places**

[www.artinoddplaces.org](http://www.artinoddplaces.org)

Art in Odd Places (AiOP) presents visual and performance art in unexpected public spaces. AiOP also produces an annual festival along 14th Street in Manhattan, NYC from Avenue C to the Hudson River each October.

#### **Art Production Fund**

<http://www.artproductionfund.org/about>

Art Production Fund is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to commissioning and producing ambitious public art projects, reaching new audiences and expanding awareness through contemporary art.

#### **BRIC Arts Media / Celebrate Brooklyn**

<http://bricartsmedia.org/performing-arts/celebrate-brooklyn>

Celebrate Brooklyn! is one of New York City's longest running, free, outdoor performing arts festivals. Launched in 1979 as a catalyst for a Brooklyn performing arts scene and to bring people back into Prospect Park after years of neglect, Celebrate Brooklyn! was an early anchor in the park's revitalization and has become one of the city's foremost summer cultural attractions. Over its history, the Festival has presented over 2,000 artists and ensembles reflective of the borough's diversity, ranging from internationally acclaimed performers to emerging, cutting-edge artists.

#### **Brookfield Place / Arts Brookfield**

<http://brookfieldplaceny.com/arts-events>

Formerly Arts World Financial Center, Arts Brookfield class cultural experiences to hundreds of thousands of people for free each year in both indoor and outdoor public spaces at Brookfield's premier office properties

in New York, Los Angeles, Denver, Houston, Toronto, Perth and Sydney. From concerts, theater and dance to film screenings and art exhibitions, Arts Brookfield presents exciting, world-class cultural experiences to hundreds of thousands of people for free each year in both indoor and outdoor public spaces at Brookfield's premier office properties in New York, Los Angeles, Denver, Houston, Toronto, Perth and Sydney. From concerts, theater and dance to film screenings and exhibitions, Arts Brookfield brings public spaces to life through art. Since 1988, Arts Brookfield has presented interdisciplinary arts programming with an emphasis on commissioned works, site-specific installations and premieres, year-round and free to the public.

### **Chashama, Windows Program**

[www.chashama.org](http://www.chashama.org)

The Windows Program is a public art initiative of Chashama, enlivening vacant storefronts with multi-disciplinary performance and visual installations.

### **City Parks Foundation**

<http://www.cityparksfoundation.org/arts/>

CPF (City Parks Foundation) is the only nonprofit organization to create programs in parks throughout all five boroughs of New York City to enrich and connect New Yorkers through free and accessible arts, sports, education and community-building initiatives. City Parks Foundation's Arts programs offer over 1,200 performances a year—more than any other arts organization in New York City—in music, dance and theater (called "SummerStage") and kids performances through SummerStage Kids, the Swedish Cottage Marionette Theatre and the CityParksPuppetMobile.

### **Creative Time**

[www.creativetime.org](http://www.creativetime.org)

Creative Time is a New York arts non-profit that specializes in public art projects working with exceptionally imaginative artists to create socially conscious projects.

### **Dancing in the Streets**

[www.dancinginthestreets.org](http://www.dancinginthestreets.org)

Dancing in the Streets (Dancing) strives to illuminate the urban experience with free public performances and site-specific installations that examine the kinetic life and history of natural and architectural public spaces. Its productions explore the intersection of the arts and the city, strengthen community life through active engagement with the arts, diversify audiences, and serve as catalysts for the celebration of urban life.

### **Dumbo Arts Festival**

[www.dumboartsfestival.com](http://www.dumboartsfestival.com)

The Dumbo Arts Festival is a multi-disciplinary event celebrating high-quality art ranging from visual to performance, music and literature.

### **Figment**

[www.figmentproject.org](http://www.figmentproject.org)

Through interactive, public arts exhibitions on Governors Island, Figment celebrates creativity and passion while challenging artists and communities to find new ways to create, share, think and dream.

### **Friends of the High Line / High Line Arts**

<http://art.thehighline.org/>

Presented by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art is the public art program which commissions and produces public art projects on and around the High Line. High Line Art presents a wide array of artwork including site-specific commissions, exhibitions, performances, video programs, and a series of billboard interventions, inviting artists to think of creative ways to engage with the uniqueness of the architecture, history, and design of the High Line and to foster a productive dialogue with the surrounding neighborhood and urban landscape.

### **Groundswell**

<http://www.groundswellmural.org>

Groundswell brings together artists, youth, and community organizations to use art as a tool for social change for a more just and equitable world. Our projects beautify neighborhoods, engage youth in societal and personal transformation, and give expression to ideas and perspectives that are underrepresented in the public dialogue. Since 1996 nearly 500 murals have been completed by Groundswell, working with groups of underserved, marginalized, and economically disadvantaged youth and professional artists, in collaboration with more than 300 community-based organizations, neighborhood groups, and government agencies throughout New York City.

### **The Laundromat Project**

[www.laundromatproject.org](http://www.laundromatproject.org)

The Laundromat Project is a community-based public art non-profit that brings arts programming to laundromats in the Greater New York area. The Project seeks to raise the quality of life for people whose incomes do not guarantee broad access to mainstream arts and cultural facilities.

### **Lower Manhattan Cultural Council**

[www.lmcc.net](http://www.lmcc.net)

Through the River to River® Festival and its community initiatives, LMCC commissions and presents site-based and “in the meantime” art activity free of charge to audiences throughout lower Manhattan.

### **Madison Square Park Conservancy / Mad. Sq. Art**

<http://www.madisonsquarepark.org/art>

Mad. Sq. Art is the free, contemporary art program of Madison Square Park Conservancy. Since 2004, Mad. Sq. Art has commissioned and presented thirty premier installations in Madison Square Park by acclaimed artists ranging in practice and media.

### **No Longer Empty**

[www.nolongerempty.org](http://www.nolongerempty.org)

No Longer Empty (NLE) orchestrates public art exhibitions in vacated storefronts and properties in New York City. The non-profit organization was conceived as an artistic response to our present economic condition and to revitalize empty spaces and areas around the venues by bringing thoughtful, high-caliber art installations with accompanying programs to the public.

**Performa**

[www.performa-arts.org](http://www.performa-arts.org)

Performa is a multidisciplinary arts organization dedicated to exploring the role of live performance in the history of 20th century art and to encouraging new directions in performance for the 21st century.

**Public Art Fund**

[www.publicartfund.org](http://www.publicartfund.org)

The Public Art Fund works with established artists as well as emerging artists to produce innovative exhibitions of contemporary art throughout New York City. Additionally, Public Art Fund holds lecture series offering discussions and presentations by some of today's most influential artists.

**Queens Museum / Corona Plaza**

<http://www.queensmuseum.org/corona-plaza>

Corona Plaza is a recently renovated public space in the heart of Corona, Queens. The plaza has been the central site for many of the Museum's public art projects and community festivals, as well as the core of the Museum's recent parks and public space advocacy work.

**Riverside Park Conservancy / Summer on the Hudson**

<http://riversideparknyc.org/summer-on-the-hudson/>

Summer on the Hudson is Riverside Park & West Harlem Piers Park's annual outdoor arts & culture festival that takes place from 59th street to 153rd along the Hudson River and features a mix of music concerts, dance performances, movies showings, DJ dance parties, children's shows, special day-long events, wellness activities, and more. Summer on the Hudson is supported by the NYC Parks and Riverside Park Conservancy.

**Socrates Sculpture Park**

[www.socratessculpturepark.org](http://www.socratessculpturepark.org)

Socrates Sculpture Park provides artists with opportunities to create and exhibit large-scale work in a unique environment that encourages strong interaction between artist, artworks, and the public.

**Staten Island Arts: LUMEN**

[www.lumenfest.org](http://www.lumenfest.org)

LUMEN is a cutting-edge video art and projection festival featuring site-specific video installations, 3D-video technology, sound-based performances, and art interventions by artists around the globe. LUMEN features works by emerging Staten Island artists, as well as established video, new media, projection, and animation artists from New York City and beyond, in an industrial landscape on Staten Island's waterfront.

**Times Square Alliance / Times Square Arts**

<http://www.timessquarenyc.org/times-square-arts/index.aspx>

Times Square Arts, the public art program of the Times Square Alliance, is the largest public platform for innovative contemporary performance and visual arts. With 312,000 daily visitors to New York City's Times Square, it is one of the highest profile public arts programs and since its inception, Times Square Arts has featured works by a diverse group of more than five dozen prominent and emerging artists.

### **Trust for Governors Island / OpenHouseGI**

<http://www.govisland.com/html/permits/program-guide.shtml>

Governors Island, a 172 acre island in the heart of New York Harbor, is only 800 yards from Lower Manhattan, and even closer to Brooklyn. It is a world unto itself, unique and full of promise. The City of New York is now responsible for Governors Island and created the Trust for Governors Island, the organization charged with the operations, planning and redevelopment of 150 acres of the Island.

While not a formal, supported commissioning or presenting program, OpenHouseGI offers 150,000 square feet of indoor space in former officers' houses and over 20 acres of outdoor space on Governors Island, free of charge to any organization that creates programming that is free and open to the public. The OpenHouseGI Program Guide provides organizations with information about holding any kind of public program or exhibit on Governors Island.

### **Wave Hill**

[www.wavehill.org](http://www.wavehill.org)

Wave Hill is a 28-acre public garden and cultural center in the Bronx overlooking the Hudson River and Palisades. Its mission is to celebrate the artistry and legacy of its gardens and landscapes, preserve its magnificent views, and explore human connections to the natural world through programs in horticulture, education and the arts. [generated@wavehill.org](mailto:generated@wavehill.org) is the commissioning program for temporal works on the grounds. Artists are identified by the curators.

### **West Harlem Art Fund**

<https://westharlemartfund.wordpress.com/>

The West Harlem Art Fund, Inc. is a public arts organization offering exhibition opportunities for artists and creative professionals wishing to share their talent with residents uptown and around the city. The West Harlem Art Fund, Inc. showcases art and culture in open, public spaces to add aesthetic interest to our part of the city; promote historical and cultural heritage; and support community involvement in local development.