



2019 UMEZ ARTS ENGAGEMENT GRANTEES

DANCE	
Born Dancing	Born Dancing's <i>Spring 2019 Production</i> of modern dance will feature multiple generations of dancers with and without disabilities. Performances will consist of new choreographic collaborations between able-bodied dancers and performers with disabilities (Deaf, Blind/Visual Impairment, Cerebral Palsy, Amputees, Paralysis and others) and highlight student-dancers with disabilities from BD education programs.
DanceBoissiere	<i>The Empathy Project</i> is an hour-long, immersive dance piece that will run for two nights in June 2019 featuring five female dancers of DanceBoissiere. Through their movements, the dancers will investigate natural empathy, forced empathy and the lack thereof.
Dances For a Variable Population	<i>Revival 3: It's About Time</i> presents free public performances and workshops featuring older professional dancers that will engage 500 West Harlem residents in dance as audience members and participants in dance on the public plaza of Columbia University's new Lenfest Center for the Arts.
General Mischief Dance Theatre	<i>What If We</i> is a production of collaborative dance works that will be presented in excerpt form at community events throughout New York City and culminate in a weekend of full-length performances in Harlem in September of 2019.
The Harlem Swing Dance Society	<i>The Harlem Roots and Rhythm Urban Dance Festival</i> will engage and commemorate Harlem's dance history and the "hidden" dance figures critical to the preservation of Harlem's famed cultural dance art forms. It will be a family oriented event with fun activities with dance, lessons and music for all ages.
Kinesis Project dance theatre	<i>Breathing with Strangers</i> is a large scale, out-door, surprisingly intimate dance experience in Inwood Hill Park by Kinesis Project. Skilled performers host amicably, dancing, guiding the audience over the hilly walkways. Questions on beautifully cut paper tumble from trees. Conversation intertwines with history in the only old-growth forest on Manhattan island.
Matthew Westerby Dance Company, Inc.	<i>The Harlem Project</i> , a community dance project conceived by choreographer Matthew Westerby, will bring together performers of all ages. Inspired by renewal and regeneration, the project performs in unconventional spaces around Harlem before culminating in free public performance in Marcus Garvey Park, produced in collaboration with Children's Aid Society (Harlem).
Ranardo-Domeico Grays / VISIONS Contemporary Ballet	<i>Traces</i> (of what makes us who we are) is a dance concert of spiritually uplifting repertory featuring <i>Blissful Suffering</i> , a new ballet inspired by stories of people who experience pain and suffering through no fault of their own, yet they persevere.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY AND LITERATURE	
Ben Arthur	<i>Song.Writer</i> is a series of five concerts in which songwriters perform songs they've written in response to a story by an author or personality.
Gudrun Buhler	<i>Anina Art Events</i> is a series of arts events presenting Visual Artists and Musicians to an underserved community in Washington Heights and Inwood.
HIGHER GROUND FESTIVAL	<i>Higher Ground Festival</i> is a Northern Manhattan arts initiative which brings together local artists to network and create interdisciplinary, stage-based collaborations presented free to the community at large.

International Communications Association	<i>The Race Aid Project</i> is a unique and attractive "first-aid" Dialogue Model pre-set with short plays, music and Spoken Word to jump-start facilitated conversation on the most feared four-letter word in the English language: RACE.
Inwood Art Works	<i>Film Works Alfresco</i> is a curated free outdoor cinema series presenting independent and popular films, with live pre-show entertainment by local artists, that culturally resonate with the Northern Manhattan community. <i>Film Works Alfresco</i> is New York City's only English and Spanish language free outdoor cinema series.
Jazz Power Initiative	<i>Intergenerational Jazz Jam Sessions 2019</i> at the National Jazz Museum in Harlem invite veteran jazz instrumentalists, singers, dancers and spoken word artists to jam in a family and community oriented atmosphere. Hosted by pianist/singer Eli Yamin, his trio and a renowned special guest, International Jazz Jam runs January-May and September-December open to the public.
La Casa de la Herencia Cultural Puertorriqueña, Inc.	<i>La Casa's Live Music and Comedy Show</i> is a multi-disciplinary, artistic collaboration between the internationally known actress, singer and comedian Sully Diaz, writer, theater & film director Luis Caballero and Desmar Guevara, producer/composer and musical director for Pregones Theater, the Puerto Rican Travelling Theater and the Camaradas Salsa Orchestra.
NYC Kidsfest	The <i>14th Annual NYC Kidsfest</i> is a performing arts festival presenting multi disciplinary performers to diverse family audiences in Morningside and St. Nicholas Parks.
Pan American Musical Art Research (PAMAR)	<i>Latin American Cultural Week 2019</i> is a multi-venue festival organized by Pan American Musical Art Research (PAMAR) showcasing the rich and diverse cultures of the Americas through music, dance, & theater performances.
Word Up Community Bookshop/Librería Comunitaria	<i>Uptown Kid Lit</i> is a one-day children's book festival in Inwood Hill Park.

MUSIC	
andPlay	<i>andPlay (in) conversation</i> is a free series that opens up the collaborative process of creating contemporary music to the public. Featuring composers who work with andPlay, these events include conversations about collaboration in the arts, performances, open discussions, and a graphic score workshop for children.
Phoenix Ensemble	<i>Phoenix Ensemble Concert Series</i> is a set of 3 classical music concert programs taking place in Washington Heights.
The Art Song Preservation Society of New York (ASPSNY)	<i>Spring Into Art Song Festival of New York 2019</i> presents an array of public events on the UWS of Manhattan celebrating spring with art song performance through recitals and workshops. In addition to enjoying high quality music performances by talented musicians, attendees to these public events will have educational opportunities and a chance to interact with the artists.
Candice Hoyes and Noah Jackson	<i>On a Turquoise Cloud</i> is the Duke Ellington you have not heard, yet cannot forget. Interpreted by Hoyes and Jackson, these rare songs are as insightful today as they were generations ago. Straddling jazz and classical music, this one-night collaboration with the Schomburg illuminates the history of American racial imagination.
Cornerstone Chorale	<i>Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass</i> : Cornerstone Chorale brings this favorite choral work to the Washington Heights/Inwood neighborhood, with soloists, chorus, and orchestra.
Taikoza	East Winds, Inc.'s <i>Japanese Music Concert Series</i> will bring Japanese music of high quality to Upper Manhattan Communities. Performances will include energizing giant 150 lb. Taiko drums, soulful bamboo flutes and colorful dances.
Ekmeles	<i>Ekmeles Spring in Upper Manhattan</i> will present two concerts of contemporary vocal music in the Crypt of the Church of the Intercession, entitled Madrigals and Animals, and Mystical Paths by Ekmeles vocal ensemble. The programs include U.S. premieres by European masters, microtonal works, and explorations of the interaction of human and animal voices.

HARLEM ARTS ALLIANCE	<i>The Evolution of the Blues</i> is a four part series of musical theater production that takes the audience on a journey from the roots of jazz and the blues to its international influence today. Events will be performed in Harlem by local, established and emerging artists.
The Harlem Chamber Players, Inc.	<i>The Harlem Chamber Players 2019 Season</i> will present 5 live classical music concerts between February and November in 2019.
Harlem Presents, Inc.	<i>The Harlem Opera Festival</i> will present eight emerging opera singers of color over the course of four Sunday evenings. The shows will precede the Classical Theatre of Harlem's Sunday evening performances.
JACK Quartet	<i>JACK Quartet Concert</i> will present cutting edge contemporary string quartet music that explores new sounds and timbres through the reimagining of familiar instruments.
Los Pleneros de la 21 (LP21)	<i>Cultural Legacy Initiative Project 2019</i> presents a year-long roster of down home Puerto Rican music and culture performances. Between May and December, Los Pleneros de la 21, NYC's Bomba and Plena Ambassadors to the World, will have you singing and dancing with these immersive performances of bomba and plena.
Musica de Camara	<i>Musica de Camara's 39th Anniversary Concert:</i> The Musica de Camara String Orchestra, conducted by Maestro Roselin Pabon, Conductor Emeritus of the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra will perform works by Hispanic composers from the Old and New World.
New York Scandia Symphony	<i>The Scandinavian Music Festival 2019</i> is a unique series of three concerts held on Sundays in June on Billings Lawn, Fort Tryon Park. The concerts feature the music and culture of Scandinavia and are performed by musicians of the New York Scandia Symphony.
Paracademia	<i>Make Music Harlem's Fifth Anniversary</i> will take place on June 21, 2019 on West 119th Street, where it has become a popular tradition. This event is family friendly and combines music, dance, visual and spoken arts and street activities. As part of Make Music New York, it is a free event.
Christine Pulliam Melamed	<i>The Three Billy Goats Gruff: A Children's Opera</i> is an opera that uses music from famous classical operas to tell its story. Featuring four professional opera singers, this production serves to introduce family-friendly opera to children at a young age.
TAK Ensemble	<i>Impossible Tasks</i> is a concert of new music by rising young NYC-based composers Brandon Lopez and Bethany Younge, performed by the adventurous virtuosi of TAK ensemble.
Tenth Intervention	<i>Colectivo: Music from Cuba and New York</i> is a chamber music program consisting of eight pieces by eight living composers living in either Cuba or New York City, alongside a series of workshops with young musicians from the Washington Heights Community Conservatory.
Washington Heights Chamber Orchestra	<i>Winter-Spring Concerts 2019:</i> Washington Heights Chamber Orchestra presents six extraordinary, eclectic concerts, all to take place at Fort Washington Collegiate Church

THEATER	
American Slavery Project	<i>The American Slavery Project's Reading Series: "Africa, Bondage, Crow," the ABCs of Black Beginnings in America</i> is a play reading series focusing on African descended voices in America from Bondage through Jim Crow. Fugitive/Slave/Act by Michael Gene Sullivan will inaugurate the series.
Blackberry Productions	<i>MY HARLEM TIS OF THEE</i> is a documentary theatre piece of personal stories about gentrification, set against the backdrop of a visual art exhibit chronicling the last century of Harlem, and a jazz score that captures the heartbeat and diverse rhythms of a community in transition.
Vienna Carroll	<i>Shallow Brown: Thessalonica and the Free Sailor</i> , is a theater production about Thessalonica, an enslaved tailor from Virginia who meets free sailor Levi when he asks her to unpick secret radical abolition documents sewed into his uniform coat. From that moment, her life and love are inextricably entwined with anti-slavery rebels and the Underground Railroad.

The El Barrio Theatre Group, Inc. (ELBA)	<i>The Mambo Cafe</i> at La Casa Boricua is an experimental interactive theatre production using a café as the stage for 12 Showcase performances. Audience members will be asked to dance with the cast to mambo music during scene breaks, and called upon to participate in a call and answer session.
UP Theater Company	<i>St. Peter's Foot</i> is a new play by Anna Cascio premiering in Washington Heights. The story follows liberal married couple, Mike and Roma, two New Yorkers who are forced to confront their inherent biases when a black infant mysteriously appears on their doorstep.

VISUAL ARTS & MEDIA	
African Diaspora Film Festival, Inc. (ADIFF)	<i>Black Identity in America & Abroad: Continuing the Dialogue</i> is a continuation of African Diaspora Film Festival's initiative to create a bridge among the various Black communities in Harlem through film screenings and discussions.
Andrea Arroyo	<i>EmPOWER!</i> is an exhibition of 30 artworks created by Andrea Arroyo in response to pressing local and global concerns. Images are inspired by historic resistance art and address significant issues and celebrate empowerment and resilience. The exhibition and programs will be at El Taller Latino Americano, during the 2019 Uptown Art Stroll.
William Daniels	<i>Harlem Textile Art Expo</i> is a month-long, multi-venue event in September 2019 in Harlem during New York Textile Month. The collections will highlight the multiplicity of fabric as an expressive medium and showcase the ingenuity employed by textile artists who incorporate complex concepts in their individual practice. Fabric will be available for purchase.
Dyckman Farmhouse Museum Alliance	The Dyckman Farmhouse Museum will host <i>Revealing Hidden Histories Community Engagement Initiative</i> , in partnership with local artist, Peter Hoffmeister, to be a catalyst for community dialogue about the importance of an inclusive local history and the ways in which it continues to impact our lives.
Felipe Galindo / Feggo	<i>Washington: Back in NYC</i> is an exhibition of works on paper, imagining a visit of America's First President to present day Manhattan. Whimsical images portray him exploring the city and his reactions to its transformation, inviting the spectator to ponder the state of our city and nation as well.
Carlos David	<i>Persone II</i> is a series of portraits and interviews of people who are survivors of trauma and conflict. Subjects are invited to express an aspect or character from their dreams or fantasy. The pictures explore the enduring quality of the human spirit, and imagination's ability to provide perspective on lived experiences.
Harlem Needle Arts (HNA)	<i>We the People / Disrupting Silence</i> is a public art textile exhibition series at two of the historic parks in Harlem which will honor four hundred years since 1619 when the first enslaved Africans were brought to America.
Kindred Arts	<i>All Power to All People</i> is a 25-foot iteration of conceptual artist Hank Willis Thomas's renowned Afro Pick sculpture, which will be exhibited for four months at the Africa Center on 1280 Fifth Avenue, New York, at the intersection of 110th Street and Central Park in Harlem.
Puerto Rican Institute for the Development of the Arts, Inc. (PRIDA)	<i>PRIDA Presents</i> : Short video features on Puerto Rican artists engaged in the creation of arts and crafts. These artists creations are usually identified as traditional arts that have a long history and define the cultural identity of the Puerto Rican people.
Susan Stair	<i>Roots on Fire</i> is a sculpture celebrating the people and trees of East Harlem. In the Harlem Art Park it is eight feet tall with roots spreading 25 feet. I'll cast clay from trees adding flags of mosaics. There will be roots throughout East Harlem.
Suprina Troche	<i>Infinity</i> is an interactive public sculpture created using repurposed exterior doors standing upright in the shape of the symbol for Infinity. It will debut in Marcus Garvey Park, Harlem. Four art events, lounging, reading, meeting and picnicking will happen within the sculpture.