



**THE SHELLEY & DONALD RUBIN FOUNDATION
AWARDS GRANTS IN 2017 THROUGH ITS ART AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
INITIATIVE TO 47 NEW YORK CITY ORGANIZATIONS**

Vital support to be given to cultural leaders in artistic activism, grassroots organizations, and community and service centers

New York, January 26, 2017 – Following the second annual *Art and Social Justice* open call, **The Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation** is pleased to announce the **grant recipients for 2017, 47 organizations** serving the five boroughs of New York City. The 2017 grantees were selected for their commitment to social justice, using art as a tool to catalyze collective action, promote equality, contribute to advocacy and policy change, and develop capacity for greater civic engagement and public discourse. The support provided will assist in day-to-day operations, ongoing programming, as well as support for exhibitions, performances, special projects, and educational programs.

The organizations selected exemplify the *Art and Social Justice* initiative's areas of interest – **arts education, art in service and community centers, artistic activism, community-based museums, expanded cultural access, public art, and emerging artistic practices**. Representing a diversity of programming approaches, organizational scales, and missions, grantees include **The Laundromat Project** for its creative community development project in the Hunts Point/Longwood neighborhoods of the Bronx; the **AXS Map Gallery Project**, a dedicated network of organizations and people who are building awareness of accessibility and disability inclusion by focusing on artistic venues such as galleries, museums, and community art centers; **The Arab-American Family Support Center** for "I Need to Be Heard!" a youth-led, anti-Islamophobia artistic activism initiative; and the **Isamu Noguchi Foundation and Garden Museum** for their upcoming exhibition "Self-Interned, 1942: Noguchi in Poston War Relocation Center." A complete list of grantees is below.

For over 20 years, the Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation has supported access to art and culture as well as social justice organizations. Launched in early 2015, the Foundation's *Art and Social Justice* initiative further focuses its commitment to art and culture with the belief that art is a cornerstone of cohesive, resilient and engaged communities. Through its grants program, the Foundation provides necessary funding and programmatic support to organizations promoting art as a mechanism for positive social change with an emphasis on New York City.

"Now more than ever, The Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation is proud to support organizations that believe in the crucial role that art plays in the fight for social change"

said Sara Reisman, Artistic Director of the Foundation. “The grantees are at the forefront of community engagement and cultural advocacy in their communities, tackling timely issues related to xenophobia, islamophobia, LGBTQ rights, racism, criminal justice, income inequality, and women’s rights among many others. The work they do to provide fundamental access to the arts in the five boroughs of New York City will be critical in the years to come, given the current political landscape.”

In addition to providing integral financial support, the Foundation will bring together grant recipients at The 8th Floor – the Foundation’s exhibition and programming space – for workshops, panels, and events. These events will offer a platform for dialogue and exchange between organizations to strengthen their work, and build a sense of community while promoting social justice through art.

2017 Grant Recipients

The Arab-American Family Support Center
The Architectural League of New York
ARTs East New York
AXS Lab
Battery Dance
Center for Architecture
Center for Book Arts
Center for Urban Pedagogy (CUP)
Clemente Soto Velez Cultural & Educational Center Inc.
Creative Capital
Creative Time
CUE Art Foundation
Dance Theatre Etcetera
Dancing in the Streets
FiveMyles
Foundation for Contemporary Arts
Franklin Furnace
Friends of Materials for the Arts
Gina Gibney Dance, Inc.
Haleakala, Inc, DBA The Kitchen
Ifetayo Cultural Arts Academy
The Isamu Noguchi Foundation and Garden Museum
ISSUE Project Room
The Laundromat Project
Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC)
Mark DeGarmo Dance
Maysles Institute (dba Maysles Documentary Center)
Movement Research
The New Museum
New York City Department of Cultural Affairs

The New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA)
PARTICIPANT INC
Pepatian
Ping Chong + Company
Queens College - Social Practice Queens (SPQ)
Queens Museum
Radiator Gallery, fiscal sponsorship via NYFA
Recess
Rush Philanthropic Arts Foundation
Socrates Sculpture Park
Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art and Storytelling
Theatre of the Oppressed NYC
Triangle Arts Alliance
Visual AIDS
Weeksville Heritage Center
Working Artists and the Greater Economy (W.A.G.E.)
Young New Yorkers

About The Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation

The Foundation believes in art as a cornerstone of cohesive, resilient communities and greater participation in civic life. In its mission to make art available to the broader public, in particular to underserved communities, the Foundation provides direct support to, and facilitates partnerships between, cultural organizations and advocates of social justice across the public and private sectors. Through grantmaking, the Foundation supports cross-disciplinary work connecting art with social justice via experimental collaborations, as well as extending cultural resources to organizations and areas of New York City in need. www.sdrubin.org

Join the conversation with the Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation on Tumblr ([shelley-donaldrubinfoundation](https://www.tumblr.com/shelley-donaldrubinfoundation)) Facebook ([The Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation](https://www.facebook.com/TheShelley&DonaldRubinFoundation)), Twitter ([@rubinfoundation](https://twitter.com/rubinfoundation)) and Instagram ([@rubinfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/rubinfoundation)) with the hashtags #RubinFoundation #ArtandSocialJustice and #RubinGrants.

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