



Arts  
Culture  
Community  
Lower East Side

# FOURTH ARTS BLOCK (FABNYC) ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2018/19







1982

Community members begin The M'Pinda Kalunga Garden. They organize to rid the park of drugs and crime, and to protect affordable housing and services in the neighborhood.

# FABNYC

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FABnyc is a team of artists and organizers working to preserve, sustain, and grow the cultural vibrancy of the Lower East Side neighborhood.

We believe a culturally vibrant community includes a thriving network of diverse cultural resources, myriad opportunities for residents to fully participate in culture, and the inclusion of arts and culture in all aspects of community life.

In the Lower East Side, a community experiencing the impact of decades of change, we focus our work on projects which

- Resist cultural and physical displacement
- Expand access to LES culture, resources, and history
- Bring arts and culture into community partnerships to address local challenges

## FABnyc

collaborates with 40+ member organizations and 50+ project partners in the Lower East Side on a range of creative initiatives

commissions and produces community-engaged arts projects, murals, and events

shares a collaborative “people’s history” through The People’s LES project

leads the coordination of Lower East Side History Month each May

provides subsidized rehearsal space to 400+ artists and groups each year

partners on local projects to support resiliency, small business retention, public space, and civic engagement

provides workshops, peer shares, advocacy, and visibility for local cultural groups

works in citywide coalitions to advance cultural equity and community based arts practices



# Травень—це місяць історії дільниці «Ловер Іст Сайд» 五月是下東城歷史月 May is Lower East Side History Month Mayo es el mes de Loisaída 2019



**Local Cultural Celebrations**  
**Walking Tours • Public Art**  
**Hero Awards • Storytelling**  
[www.peoplesles.org](http://www.peoplesles.org)

Poster design by Emilio Martínez Poppe, produced by FABnyc and Downtown Art for The People's LES, supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, City Councilwoman Carlina Rivera, and City Councilwoman Margaret Chin.



# 2018 - 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

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Launched the **LES Community Culture Council**, a group of ten residents, to build skills and program community-curated arts projects in partnership with University Settlement

Organized 14 **member convenings, peer shares, and happy hours** on topics ranging from gentrification to staff resiliency for FAB's 40+ member groups

Commissioned Hatuey Ramos-Fermin's ***Messages to Go***, a reusable shopping bag art project featuring quotes from immigrant small business owners in coordination with **local organizing for small business retention**

Produced ***It's Our Park Day* festival** and commissioned evening projections by The Illuminator to support the return of the Stanton Building in SDR Park to community use

Presented **interactive public art projects** at the SPARC Community Fair, Tompkins Square Library's East Village Arts Festival, Taste of the East Village, Village Alliance / Astor Place, and the Loisaída Festival

Coordinated and led visibility for the sixth year of **Lower East Side History Month** involving 90+ local partner groups

Collected memories, created portraits, and led **multilingual arts workshops with seniors** (English, Spanish, and Chinese) at University Settlement and Grand Street Settlement

Developed **curriculum guides** and resident profiles for **The People's LES** with NYU Steinhardt students

Provided **affordable rehearsal space** to 400+ choreographers and small companies through **Dance Block**

Commissioned **multilingual artists and led local volunteers** across the LES to chalk LES Stories on sidewalks for the launch of Lower East Side History Month

Designed and produced **interactive outreach kit, videos, banners, cards, and buttons** for LESReady!, Cooper Square Community Land Trust, and United for Small Business NY

Led sessions and recorded **oral histories on FAB** for Urban Democracy Lab, NYU, Open Engagement, and A Blade of Grass



Developed a pilot **LES Arts Weekend** program to offer artists information on programs and access at 25 participating LES organizations

Produced the **LES Community Hero Awards**, a people's version of a traditional awards ceremony, focused on celebrating underrecognized members of the LES community

Hosted an arts workshop and presentation for the **Participatory Budgeting Expo** Fair with the Office of Councilmember Carlina Rivera and Arts & Democracy

Convened an **Essex Crossing working group** for cultural stakeholders to collaborate on building community at the new site

Sent out monthly eblasts and posted regularly on social media about **LES cultural events and opportunities**

Created new profiles on our website for FAB member organizations that emphasize **opportunities and access**

Commissioned artist Raul Ayala to expand ***Resistance and Resilience*** visual series for LESReady!

Researched and planned for cultural elements of a new **senior walking trail** in collaboration with University Settlement and senior centers across the LES

Hosted and **produced six podcast episodes** with Native Art Department International, Magnum Foundation, and The Laundromat Project

Co-hosted **citywide convenings** on artist/community partnerships, immigration, and government partnerships with A Blade of Grass (Spring Assembly) and Naturally Occurring Cultural Districts-NY







# FABNYC STAFF & BOARD

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## Staff

Ryan Gilliam	Executive Director
Patrick Jaojoco	Director of Programs
Dakota Scott	Managing Director
Imani Vieira	Programs and Communications Manager
Janeill Cooper	Administrative Assistant
Ro Garrido	People's LES Coordinator (Spring 2019)
Kimberly Golding	Dance Block Associate (thru September 2019)
Emilio Martínez Poppe	Programs Manager (thru August 2019)
Addison Vawters	Operations Manager (thru June 2019)
ArtsPool	Finance and Compliance
Rich & Bander	Accounting / Annual Review
Nello McDaniel	Arts Action Research - Planning Consultant
Gabrielle Bendiner-Viani	Buscada - Research & Planning Consultant

FABnyc shares an Executive Director and workspace with Downtown Art. The two organizations are engaged in a long-term planning process supported by New York Community Trust to develop and fully implement a strategic collaboration that strengthens both organizations.

## Board of Trustees (elected June 2018)

Molaundo Jones, President	The Clever Agency, Queens Council on the Arts
Lee Ann Gullie, Treasurer	New York Theatre Workshop
Ela Troyano, Secretary	Filmmaker & Consultant, Creative Capital
Winston Estevez	IATI Theater
Jasmina Sinanovic	WOW Café Theatre
Tomie Arai	Artist
Dipti Desai	Author and Professor, The Art, Education, and Community Practice Program at NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development

## 2018/19 Artists, Designers, Technicians

Zen Anton, Andrea Arturo, Josselyn Atahualpa, Raul Ayala, Juan Bautista Climent Palmer, Whitney Browne, Amy Calafiura, David Enriquez, Oscar Hallas, Lena Feliciano-Hansen, Leora Fuller, Ricky Garcia, Antigona Gonzalez, Cristobal Guerra, David Hastings, Michael Hickey, Che Min Hsiao, The Illuminator, Molaundo Jones, Benjamin Lundberg Torres Sánchez, Tim Miller, Jennifer Munoz, Amy Neshama, Emily Newman, Hatuey Ramos-Fermín, Anthony Rosado, Arleen Santana, Dominique Sindayiganza, Andrea Smith, Ry Szelong, Miguel Valderrama.

# MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

ABC No Rio

Alpha Omega Theatrical Dance  
Company

Art Loaisaida Foundation

Artists Alliance Inc.

Arts for Art

Below the Grid Lab

Center for Remembering and Sharing\*

Clemente Soto Velez Cultural &  
Educational Center

Cooper Square Committee

Cooper Square Mutual Housing  
Association

Creative Time

Dixon Place

Dorill Initiative\*

Downtown Art

Duo Multicultural Arts Center

East Village Community Coalition

FRIGID New York

GOH Productions

Grand Street Settlement\*

Green Map System

Hemispheric Institute of Performance  
and Politics

IATI Theater

La MaMa E.T.C.

Loisaida, Inc.

\* new in 2019



2019 LES Community Hero Award winners pose with family and friends at the reception held in University Settlement's Speyer Hall. Photo by Whitney Browne.



Lower Eastside Girls Club

Mabou Mines

Magnum Foundation

Mark DeGarmo Dance

Moving for Life \*

More Art \*

MoustacheCat Dance \*

New York Theatre Workshop

Nuyorican Poets Cafe

The Art, Education, and Community  
Practice Program at NYU Steinhardt  
School of Culture, Education, and  
Human Development

Performance Space New York

Phoenix Theatre Ensemble

The Poetry Project \*

Rod Rodgers Dance Company

Swiss Institute

Teatro Círculo

Third Street Music School Settlement \*

The Ukrainian Museum

University Settlement – The  
Performance Project

Village Preservation

Wild Project

Works in Progress NYC

WOW Café Theatre

\* new in 2019



Prerana Reddy, Director of Programs at A Blade of Grass, gives an introduction to the Spring Assembly 2019 at Downtown Art. Photo by Dominique Sindayiganza.

# PROJECT PARTNERS

## Public Art and Community Partners

A Blade of Grass

Association of Neighborhood Housing  
and Development

Below the Grid Lab and SPARC

Cooper Square Committee

Good Old Lower East Side (GOLES)

Magnum Foundation

Office of Councilmember Carlina  
Rivera and Arts & Democracy

Sarah D. Roosevelt Park Coalition

Tompkins Square Library

University Settlement

Village Alliance / Astor Place

Dipti Desai, Jessica Hamlin, and The  
Art, Education, and Community  
Practice Program at NYU Steinhardt  
School of Culture, Education, and  
Human Development

Essex Crossing Working Group with  
Artists Alliance, Below the Grid Lab,  
International Center for Photography,  
Grand Street Settlement, Buscada,  
Noelle Flores-Theard

FABnyc Member Peer Shares co-  
hosted with New York Theatre  
Workshop, Mabou Mines, Swiss  
Institute, and Loisaída Inc.

People's LES Senior Art Workshops  
with University Settlement, Grand  
Street Settlement, and Loisaída Inc.



Banner painting at It's Our Park Day led by artist Josselyn Atahualpa. Photo by Emilio Martínez Poppe.



### **Alliances and Affiliations**

Naturally Occurring Cultural  
Districts - NY

Association of Neighborhood  
Housing and Development

LESReady!

United for Small Business NYC

Stanton Building Task Force

Alliance of Resident Theatres/  
New York

### **The LES Community Culture Council co-established with Performance Project @ University Settlement**

Gustavo Flores

Noelle Flores Theard

Felicia Gordon

Kendra Krueger

Francine Lange

Cynthia Lully

Jonathan Martinez

Saarah Medrano

Tatyanna Santana



Spring 2019 Assembly participants in the Organizing to Build Collective Power walking tour led by Ryan Gilliam and Emilio Martínez Poppe in front of Raul Ayala's LES PEOPLE POWER mural at GOLES. Photo by Dominique Sindayiganza.

**The People's LES Project & Online Archive**

Below the Grid Lab

Downtown Art

Five Boro Story Project

Good Old Lower East Side (GOLES)

Grand Street Settlement - Grand  
Coalition of Seniors

Henry Street Settlement

James Maher Photography

LESReady!

Loisaida Inc.

Marlis Momber Photography

Museum of Chinese in America

NYU Steinhardt School

Sixth Street Community Center

The Tenement Museum

Ukrainian Museum

University Settlement

Village Preservation



Addison Vawters and Ryan Gilliam at Cooper Square Committee's Taste of the East Village. Photo by Michael Hickey.



**LOWER EAST SIDE HISTORY MONTH  
Partners (+ 28 FABnyc Members)**

6th & B Garden

Abrons Arts Center

Allied Productions, Inc.

Anthology Film Archives

Bonnie Slotnick Cookbooks

Bowery Alliance of Neighbors

Bowery Arts + Science

Carmen Pabon del Amanecer Jardin

Centre-Fuge Public Art Project

Chen Dance Center

Chinatown Partnership

City Lore

Commend

Cuchifritos Gallery + Project Space

Earth Celebrations

East River Alliance

East Village Independent Merchants  
Association

East Village Vintage Collective

Essex Street Market Vendor  
Association

Exit9 Gift Emporium

First Street Green

Good Old Lower East Side (GOLES)

International Center of Photography

Katz's Delicatessen



Ryan Gilliam kicking off Lower East Side Arts Weekend 2018. Photo by Emilio Martínez Poppe.

Kehila Kedosha Janina Synagogue & Museum  
 La Sirena Mexican Folk Art  
 Lo Fi Dance Theory  
 Lower East Side Jewish Conservancy  
 Lower East Side Partnership  
 Lower East Side Preservation Initiative (LESPI)  
 Lucky  
 Manny Cantor Center / Educational Alliance  
 Marlis Momber Photography  
 Merchant's House Museum  
 MUD Coffee  
 Museum at Eldridge Street  
 Museum of Chinese in America  
 Museum of Reclaimed Urban Space  
 Nazareth Housing  
 Neighborhood Preservation Center  
 New Museum  
 New York Marble Cemetery  
 Office of Councilmember Margaret Chin  
 Office of Councilmember Carlina Rivera  
 Office of NYS Senator Brian Kavanagh  
 Office of Assemblymember Harvey Epstein  
 Overthrow  
 Pageant Print Shop  
 Queen of Hearts Productions, Inc.

Queer | Art  
 Random Accessories  
 Siempre Verde Garden  
 Sixth Street Community Center  
 Sixth Street Synagogue  
 The Source Unltd Print and Copy Shop  
 Stanton Street Shul  
 The Tenement Museum  
 Theater for the New City  
 Tompkins Square Library  
 Veselka  
 Vision Urbana, Inc.

#### **2018/19 DANCE BLOCK Partners**

Downtown Art  
 IATI Theater  
 Rod Rodgers Dance Company & Studios  
 Teatro Círculo





LOWER EAST SIDE  
COMMUNITY HERO AWARD

**Michael Casiano**

APRIL 30, 2019



# FABNYC HISTORY

Fourth Arts Block (FABnyc) was founded in 2001 by a dozen cultural and community groups on East 4th Street between Bowery and Second Avenue who, after decades of homesteading several vacant city properties, collectively negotiated the purchase of six buildings and two vacant lots. With tremendous community support, FABnyc's founding members secured the properties for \$1 each along with deed restrictions that they be used for nonprofit cultural use in perpetuity. The block, which houses 14 arts groups, 10 cultural facilities, and 22 performance and rehearsal venues, has been identified as having more active cultural space per square foot than any other block in New York City.

FABnyc expanded its mission in 2014 to include the full Lower East Side, from 14th Street to the Brooklyn Bridge, from Bowery and parts of Chinatown to the East River. Over the past five years, our work has grown through local partnerships and community-engaged arts projects, and now takes place at sites across our "city within a city."



Libertad Guerra and Andrea Gordillo of Loisaida, Inc. pose with artist Juan Bautista Climent Palmer in front of his mural installations at FAB's 2019 Benefit Make Magic. Photo by Cristobal Guerra.





# SUPPORTERS

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New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council  
City Councilmember Carlina Rivera  
City Councilmember Margaret Chin  
New York City Small Business Services  
New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo  
and the New York State Legislature  
Humanities NY  
La Vida Feliz Foundation  
New York Community Trust  
Mertz Gilmore Foundation  
Dance/NYC's New York City Dance Rehearsal Space Subsidy Program, made  
possible by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation  
Con Edison  
Harkness Foundation for Dance  
The Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation  
New York University Community Fund  
University Settlement  
LESReady!

## **MAKE MAGIC**

### **FABnyc's 2019 Benefit**

Host Committee: Tomie Arai, Dipti Desai, Winston Estevez, Tamara Greenfield, Ryan Gilliam, Lee Ann Gullie, Michael Hickey, Molaundo Jones, Ela Troyano

Community Sponsors: New York Theatre Workshop, Indie Space, Teatro Circulo, Downtown Art, Cooper Square Committee, New York Marble Cemetery, Exit9 Gift Emporium, Intervine, Joe's Pub, La MaMa, Fragrance Shop, 4th Street Food Co-op, Flower Power, The Source Unltd Print and Copy Shop, Good Old Lower East Side (GOLES), The Poetry Project, GrandLo Café, Grand Street Settlement

In-Kind Donations: Ashley Brockington, Bonnie Slotnick Cookbooks, Brenda Hung, Dixon Place, East Village Acupuncture & Massage, Jalopy Theatre & School of Music, MUD Coffee, Nuyorican Poets Cafe, New York Theatre Workshop, Robert Gullie, Ryan Gilliam, Think.Olio, Wild Project



# BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	June 30 2019	June 30 2018
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Bank	\$ 109,050	\$ 87,401
PayPal	\$ 2,698	\$ -
Petty Cash	\$ 180	\$ 560
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>\$ 111,928</b>	<b>\$ 87,961</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Accounts Receivable	\$ -	\$ 724
Grants and Contributions Receivable	\$ 119,288	\$ 111,358
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 616	\$ 1,325
Deposits	\$ 325	\$ 325
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 120,229</b>	<b>\$ 113,732</b>
<b>Property, Plant and Equipment</b>		
Accumulated Amortization	\$ (12,872)	\$ (12,872)
Accumulated Depreciation	\$ (10,827)	\$ (10,542)
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	\$ 11,494	\$ 11,494
Leasehold Improvements	\$ 12,872	\$ 12,872
<b>Total Property, Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>\$ 667</b>	<b>\$ 952</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 232,824</b>	<b>\$ 202,645</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable	\$ 12,607	\$ 10,477
Accrued Expenses	\$ -	\$ 6,642
Exchange	\$ (55)	\$ (45)
Payroll Disability Withholding	\$ -	\$ 96
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 12,552</b>	<b>\$ 17,170</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>		
Current Year Earnings	\$ 34,797	\$ (2,358)
Temporarily Restricted	\$ 91,376	\$ 83,894
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 94,100	\$ 103,940
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 220,273</b>	<b>\$ 185,476</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 232,825</b>	<b>\$ 202,646</b>

# INCOME / EXPENSE STATEMENT

## INCOME

July 1 2018 -  
June 30 2019

### Earned Income

Member Dues	\$ 4,025
Contracted Services + Other	\$ 159
Dance Block Rental Income	\$ 47,440
<b>Total Earned Income</b>	<b>\$ 51,624</b>

### Contributed Income

Individuals	\$ 1,655
Special Events (gross)	\$ 10,250
Foundations	\$ 141,568
Foundation Grants (Temp Restricted)	\$ 26,732
Corporations	\$ 15,105
Government - City	\$ 69,792
Government - State	\$ 30,950
Government - Temp Restricted	\$ (19,250)
<b>Total Contributed</b>	<b>\$ 276,802</b>

In Kind Contributions	\$ 13,120
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<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 341,546</b>
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## EXPENSES

Salaries, Wages, Taxes, Benefits	\$ 170,120
Professional Fees - Administrative	\$ 38,505
Professional Fees - Artistic & Design	\$ 8,748
Occupancy Expenses	\$ 67,620
Program Expenses	\$ 5,678
Marketing and Communications	\$ 6,406
Fundraising Expense	\$ 2,732
Administrative Expenses	\$ 6,941

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 306,750</b>
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Surplus / Deficit	\$ 34,796
Accumulated Surplus / Deficit	\$ 128,896

#### Front Cover

Artist Che Min Hsiao chalks at Sara D Roosevelt Park for LES Stories. Photo by Dominique Sindayiganza.

#### Front Cover Interior

Projection installation made in collaboration with The Illuminator for the evening intervention of It's Our Park Day. Photo by David Hastings.

#### Page 4

Lower East Side History Month 2019 poster designed by Emilio Martínez Poppe

#### Page 7

Chalking artists Andrea Smith, Anthony Rosado, and Juan Bautista Climent Palmer for LES Stories. Photo by Dominique Sindayiganza.

#### Page 16

Ariana Allensworth and LES Community Hero Michael Casiano at the 2018 Lower East Side Community Hero Awards. Photo by Whitney Browne.

#### Facing Page

Portrait collage made by Olga Colon in The People's LES Oral History Workshop series led by Ro Garrido. Photo by Cristobal Guerra.

Compiled by Ryan Gilliam

Design by Emilio Martínez Poppe

Copy Editing by Dakota Scott





**FAB**  

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**NYC**