WEST SIDE LOTS PROJECT

CEPA GALLERY
CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY & VISUAL ARTS CENTER
Phone: (716) 856-2717
WEST SIDE LOTS & CEPA GALLERY

The West Side Lots project is an exciting series of temporary site-specific public art commissions that will transform vacant lots—remnants of what was once urban blight on Buffalo’s West Side—into vibrant, engaging, and interactive public displays. Projects will foster community engagement, support existing grassroots revitalization efforts, and promote the importance of art and culture on community vibrancy.

Buffalo’s West Side is a microcosm of the city’s growing global populace. Over 30% of New York’s refugee population have resettled in Buffalo, with a substantial percentage having made the West Side their home. People hailing from Burma, Bhutan, Iraq, Somalia, in addition to a large Hispanic population, have relocated to Buffalo’s West Side to reclaim their lives and create a sense of community.

With the support of a strong coalition of community-based non-profits, they have begun working towards creating an incredible, self-propelled neighborhood renaissance. The project’s successful integration into the West Side will help engage local residents, bring attention to this unique community and promote new approaches to community building by drawing together diverse audiences. CEPA Gallery, with its long history of community action, critical engagement and cultural presence, is in a unique position to help support the efforts of the West Side community through contemporary art.
PROJECT LOCATIONS:
MEDITATIVE ENERGY GARDEN – 44 Brayton Street
WOOLLY MAMMOTH – 34 Helen Street
FULL CIRCLE – 368 Auburn Avenue
SOUND GARDEN – *1100 Niagara Street
P.U.S.H BUFFALO – 43 Lawrence Street
PROJECT GRANT – Various West Side locations

*suggested location not yet secured.
MEDIATIVE ENERGY GARDEN - THE MEG

• Sculpture will illuminate imagery using the four elements - fire, water, air and earth.

• Studies have shown that our moods can change with the right color combination.

• This type of illuminated sculpture units has proven to be very therapeutic.

MEDIATIVE ENERGY GARDEN - THE MEG

The process starts with a photography expedition to various local WNY locations. Images are gathered for collaboration and future electronic blending and manipulations. Once an image is selected, artistic intent is combined with Reiki healing energy, fusing positive energy into the images.
MEDIATIVE ENERGY GARDEN - THE MEG

This public art sculpture is meant to be enjoyed visually, but functions as interactive art that can be changed with a remote control. The colors, brightness, any of the 4 program loops, and the speed of the loops can be turned on and off.

This illuminating sculpture has a calming hypnotic effect. Many scientific studies have proven that colors have an effect on our moods. Our moods can be changed with the right color combination, making these units very therapeutic in nature.

The garden will illuminate imagery using the four elements: fire, water, air and earth, elements as we know them, that are outwardly manifested in forms of the elements themselves. The element of water has magnetic properties; it nurtures and sustains. The element of fire has electrical and creative properties. Air is a detached element and enables co-existence of the two main elements, fire and water. The element of earth binds fire, water and air in various proportions, which makes possible the formation of materials with different properties.

THE BILLLINDA AFFECT - Bill E. Myers / Linda Gale Gellman

(716) 830-8800 - lge628@aol.com

Two photography-based artists met in 2009 by fate picking up work for clients on a cold wintry Buffalo, New York day at the photo lab.

LINDA GALE GELLMAN

Founder of CLICK Artistic Visual Creations since 1998. She began her photographic studies at Villa Maria College, as business increased and single parenting became her life, she halted her education. Her work is dedicated to the law community, corporate conferences, conventions, interior design portfolios, artist portfolios and a diverse list of private family live cycles. Artistically, her work is held in many private collections as well as The Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Ms. Gellman is also a long-time CEPA Gallery Board Member, currently serving as Vice President. Her previous board appointments include, The Woman’s Committee of the BPO, The Junior Board of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery and Jewish Federation of Greater Buffalo. She is currently president of her neighborhood block club. Community involvement has always been a priority, which is why this project is so important to her.

BILL E. MYERS

Bill received his Associates Degree in audio visual studies from Alfred University. His formal photography training was with New York Institute of Photography in the 1970’s. While in the Air Force (1974-1986) he took on a photo assignment which lead him to be hired as the lead photographer traveling around the world as an Air Force photographer, winning national awards for his photojournalism. Upon leaving the Air Force, Myers & Myers Photography Studio was founded and operated for 30 years. Today, Bill & Linda collaborate on art together and their creations are called THE BILLLINDA AFFECT.

ALANA A. FAJEMISIN

(716) 856-2717 | ext.10-alana@cespagallery.org

Alana Fajemisin was born and raised on Buffalo’s East Side. She received her dual Bachelor’s degree from the State University at Buffalo in Fine Arts Painting and Photography and is currently working towards her Master’s degree in Museum Education & Community Engagement at the State College at Buffalo.

Alana currently serves as the Program Coordinator for CEPA Gallery and curates semi-annual exhibitions for downtown Buffalo’s Kaydara Noodle Bar restaurant alongside Starlight Studios Gallery. She has a passion for working alongside like minded creatives to bring accessible arts programming into Buffalo’s underrepresented neighborhoods.
WOOLLY MAMMOTH

- This prehistoric Woolly Mammoth will be dramatic, full-scale and realistic in texture and color made of lightweight foam with a concrete outer shell.

- This large creature, whose shoulders will be 6 feet off the ground will capture attention of viewers in all seasons.

- The city will gain an engaging sculpture with the fabrication of the Woolly Mammoth and a Starlight Studio artist will be able to realize his vision and finally create a full-size prehistoric animal.

STARLIGHT STUDIO

Starlight Studio and Art Gallery’s mission is to support the artistic expression of people with disabilities through the provision of a cooperative art studio environment with individualized guidance, goal setting, technical assistance, demonstrations, and critiques. Starlight opened its doors in 2005 and quickly became part of the Buffalo Arts Community with a full calendar of exhibitions.
WOOLLY MAMMOTH

With secured funds, the creative director at Solid716 will work with Starlight Studio Artist, Chace Lobley, to acquire sketches of the Woolly Mammoth from various angles. These sketches will be utilized for creating an armature and rough full-scale sculpture of cut foam block by Thermal Foams, Inc. The finishing work will be handled by Solid716 and Chace Lobley.

The finishing work will include: sanding the rough armature; adding a layer of muslin gauze; coating the structure with a thin layer of spray-on cement; adding the bodily details through hand-sculpting of additional cement; and finally, staining the skin for a realistic color. The first step in the fabrication process will take 1 week to complete and will occur at Thermal Foams. The finishing work will take an additional 3 weeks and most will occur at Solid716. At the site of the West Side lot, final details will be added after it is affixed to its concrete foundation. Each foot of the finished sculpture will be secured to the ground by four poured cement anchors.

CHACE LOBLEY
(716) 842-1525 | www.starlightstudio.org

Chace gravitates towards clay, but this Buffalonian has a natural ability and understanding of almost every material introduced to him.

He has created excellent sculptures and drawings with many materials such as tissue paper, linoleum block prints, and charcoal. His interests extend beyond dinosaurs to mythical beasts, monsters, and cartoons as well.

Furthermore, he would like to someday teach children all he knows about dinosaurs.

STARLIGHT STUDIOS
(716) 842-1525 | www.starlightstudio.org

Through on-and off-site exhibitions, Starlight Studio and Art Gallery offers opportunities for representation and sales. The Starlight artists hone their artistic interests, become stronger advocates and better integrated citizens. Starlight opened its doors in 2005 and quickly became part of the Buffalo Arts Community with a full calendar of exhibitions.
FULL CIRCLE

- No longer partaking in parallel movement as on a typical swing-set, the users of this participatory sculpture will be confronted and involved in a playful dialogue.

- The individual user will decide whether to face into or outside the circle, thus determining his or her level of interaction with others.

- Nestled in a typical West Side lot and taking the elements of a typical swing-set as a starting point, FULL CIRCLE twists the reference to become an abstracted and engaging spatial installation.

C.S.1 CURATORIAL PROJECTS

C.S.1 Curatorial Projects’ mission is to expand the role of contemporary art. Through commissioning and producing new work and collaborating with a wide range of artists, individuals, and institutions, C.S.1 facilitates creative art projects in unexpected spaces. Founded in 2013, C.S.1 is dedicated to building community through site-responsive and participatory work.
FULL CIRCLE

This artwork grows out of an interest in play spaces and playgrounds, in the broadest definition of that term, as spaces which can be used to liberate the individual from the realm of the generic and at the same time offer opportunities for the enrichment of the ordinary.

Starting with a familiar construct and transforming it, the installation will twist the typical experience of a swing-set by including elements of confrontation and dialogue through the positioning of individuals in relation to the work and each other. Bringing a piece of playground equipment together with the charged spatial arrangement of political round-tables and corporate conference rooms, the installation takes the playful construct and positions it in the adult world. By focusing on the user, the project will be a manifestation of these ideas and an embodiment of socially conscious and thereby political engagement of design in the questioning of the basic relationships between people in space.

Taking a familiar play-structure and through a simple rotation giving it a new logic and spatial organization, endows it with the possibility to spark communication and dialogue between its users. No longer partaking in parallel movement as on a typical swing-set, the users of FULL CIRCLE will be confronted and involved in a playful dialogue. The individual user will decide whether to face into or outside the circle, thus determining his or her level of interaction with others.

CORYN KEMPSTER
www.ck-jj.com

Coryn Kempster studied art and architecture at the University of Toronto and earned his M.Arch from MIT.

Before relocating to Buffalo he practiced in Basel, Switzerland for seven years, first as an Architect at Herzog & de Meuron and later as a Project Director at Harry Gugger Studio. Between these two offices he designed numerous museum projects, each of which shares a particular focus on a sequence of novel public spaces as the organizing principle for the design of the building. Notable museums include the Kolkata Museum of Modern Art (HdeM) and the Museo Maya de America in Guatemala (HGS), both currently under construction.

JULIA JAMROZIK

Julia Jamrozik is a graduate of the University of Toronto where she studied both architecture and art history and holds an M.Arch from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. Her research interest focuses on public space, public buildings and the role that an understanding of both playfulness and play can have in the shaping of these environments. In collaboration with Coryn Kempster, she has worked on a series of independent installations and art projects which investigate everyday situations and re-present them to be experienced anew. With an interest in the public realm and in the way that individuals and groups use the space of the city, she has created objects, spaces and situations that interrupt the ordinary in a critically engaging and playful way.

C.S.1 CURATORIAL PROJECTS
www.cslprojects.org

C.S.1 Curatorial Projects was founded by former Albright-Knox Art Gallery Curator Claire Schneider. Currently, C.S.1 is working with Artfarms, Pelion Community Garden, and City Honors School on a proposed sculpture designed to challenge students to contemplate the night sky. In 2018, C.S.1, Silo City, Ujima Theater, Say Yes to Education Buffalo, and Young Audiences of WNY celebrates Buffalo’s diversity through a series of cross-neighborhood public art performances with noted African-American artist Nick Cave. In 2013, Schneider won an Association of Art Museum Curator’s award for More Love: Art, Politics, and Sharing since the 1990s
POP-UP SOUND GARDEN

This project envisions the power of the garden as a space, which amplifies our rights as citizens of the world to exchange words freely.

A cluster of individual conical light-weight steel structures clad in an impermeable, sound reflective membrane, the constellation grows and multiplies as desired.

The intention of this Garden is to create a space and place, which encourages people of all ages to enjoy and interact with, both visually and physically, while creating a new tool for communication.

POP-UP SOUND GARDEN

Pop-Up Sound Garden is an architectural performance that transitions from wearable garment to structure, providing an instantaneous platform to activate social and political engagement between the city and its citizens anytime, anyplace. A landscape of projected and funneled din, Sound Garden provides a new platform.
POPP-UP SOUND GARDEN

Pop-Up Sound Garden is part of a series that has been experimented with in various scales, materials, and configurations. The project envisions the power of the garden as a space, which amplifies our rights as citizens of the world to exchange words freely.

Where the garden traditionally has offered individuals the opportunity to experiment with physical, artistic expressions, this Garden allows for one to experiment with audial gestures to create landscapes of changing dialogue.

Creating space with the invisible, this project not only plays with material and construction methodology, but taps into sensorial experiences and imagination.

Reconfigurable on site, orientation and relationships of cluster works with the unpredictable variables within each given location, allowing for flexibility and assurance of appropriate egress and clearances. Properly weighed down with ballasts or anchored into the landscape, the garden securely situates itself as a free standing structure to the site.

A landscape of funneled din, Pop-Up Sound Garden provides a temporary platform for human expression to be defused and infused into and throughout its surrounding context in a moment’s notice.

Inverting the idea of garden as a grounded, quiet and peaceful landscape of multi-color fusion, with a boisterous and loud energy housed amidst a symphony of white, the Garden’s undulating structure of conical units are mirrored by waves of voices and sounds that are amplified from inside to out and outside to in.

GARBIELLA D’ANGELO
(716) 830 - 5771 | dangelo@hws.edu

Born, raised an educated in Upstate New York, Gabriella has experienced ebbs and flows of regions successes and failures over the past 30 years. She becomes sincerely excited when opportunities arise along her own personal initiatives to make Upstate a stronger, more inspiring place to live and grow. Having lived in Buffalo for 6 years, she has seen many ideas flourish within the past decade. Buffalo is a city that she holds near and dear to her heart and being able to work on projects like this have helped her become the designer and educator that she is today.
PUSH BUFFALO COLLABORATION

- Terence will be screening a video work onto the back side of a new handball court wall that was built by PUSH at their Massachusetts Avenue Park property, located on Lawrence Street.

- He will work with youth in the community teaching them how to develop, storyboard, and create an animation, resulting in the creation of flip books.

- The books will also be digitized at CEPA and then merged to create a collective short animated film, creating a montage akin to the Surrealist ‘Exquisite Corpse’ exercise.

PUSH BUFFALO COLLABORATION

This film will be screened at a special event celebrating the completion of the West Side Lots projects. The element of fire has electrical and creative properties. Air is a detaching element and enables co-existence of the two main elements, fire and water.
PUSH BUFFALO COLLABORATION

Terence will be screening a video work onto the back side of a new handball court wall that was built by PUSH at their Massachusetts Avenue Park property, located on Lawrence Street. Additionally, he will work with youth in the community teaching them how to develop, storyboard, and create an animation, resulting in the creation of flip books. The kids will be given a theme from which to work. The books will also be digitized at CEPA and then merged to create a collective short animated film, creating a montage akin to the Surrealist ‘Exquisite Corpse’ exercise. This film will be screened at a special event celebrating the completion of the West Side Lots projects in October. Stacey is designing a mural that will reflect on the unique social and economic character of the neighborhood. The mural will be installed on the front side of a handball court wall.

01 TERENCE NANCE
www.terencenance.com

Terence Nance is an artist born and raised in Dallas, Texas. He makes music under the name Terence Etc. His first feature film, An Oversimplification of Her Beauty, premiered in the New Frontier section of the 2012 Sundance Film Festival. The album of the same title will be released this year.

The film has garnered Terence recognition from Filmmaker magazine, where he was selected as one of the 25 new faces of independent film. Oversimplification... also won the 2012 Gotham Award for “Best Film Not Playing at a Theater Near You.” The film has since been released theatrically in the US, UK, France, and South Africa. In addition to his personal work, Terence is also an accomplished music video director having collaborated on short films and music videos with Blitz the Ambassador, Cody Chesnutt, and Pharoahe Monch to name a few. Terence currently resides in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn and is currently developing his next feature film.

02 STACEY ROBINSON
www.staceyrobinson.tumblr.com

Robinson creates multimedia art works as resistance to Black oppression in colonial America. His drawings, paintings, writings and performances examine Black culture and the Black body as a “technology” that addresses ideas and the intricacy of love, sex, religion and de-colonialism.

Robinson illustrates the conflicts of integration, mis-education, unresolved slavery, undetermined emancipation and Black people’s lack of ability to self-organize and self-govern.
PROJECT GRANT

- Over the course of six weeks during the Summer of 2016, Project Grant will offer FREE art workshops to the youth communities on the West Side at the Massachusetts Avenue Park.

- This program provides the youth of the neighborhood with a positive experience.

- Project Grant artist, Amy Geevan will work to produce a series of workshops that explores the local youth’s relationship to home, place and identity.

PROJECT GRANT

Project Grant is a community arts organization that provides free art workshops and produces community festivals in under-resourced neighborhoods in Buffalo. Project Grant was launched in the Fall of 2014 out of the home of artist Tina Dillman, as an artist residency program to offer artists with paid teaching opportunities and free public programming accessible to the local community.
Last year, Project Grant served the West Side and the Old First Ward through three projects, and this year Project Grant be expanding their community network to partner with East Side organizations, along with returning to last year’s neighborhoods.

Currently based in Buffalo, New York, Tina Dillman received her MFA in New Genres at the San Francisco Art Institute in 2014, and her BFA from the University of Iowa in 2003. While in graduate school Tina focused her studies on performance/installation and curatorial studies, and in early 2015, she launched a socially engaged artist residency program out of her home, called PROJECT GRANT.

Amy Greenan was born in 1970, and raised in the exurbs of Buffalo, NY. She studied at SUNY Purchase and the University at Buffalo. Her first post-graduate solo show in 2009, part of the TopSpin Series introducing emerging artists at Niagara University’s Castellani Art Museum, brought her to the attention of serious collectors and institutions. Her work has since been shown internationally, and has been accessioned into the permanent collections of the Burchfield Penney Art Center in Buffalo, NY, the Gibson Art Gallery at SUNY Potsdam, and the Spencer Museum of Art in Lawrence, KS. She lives and works in Niagara Falls, NY.
West Side Lots Project
CEPA Gallery
Fall 2016 – Spring 2017

Donation Form

LEVELS OF SUPPORT:
• Presenting Sponsor: $5,000 and above
• Patron Sponsor: $2,000-$3,000
• Sponsor: $250-$1,500

☐ I am pleased to support the West Side Lots Project with a donation of $__________.
  ☐ General Support for WSL Project
  ☐ Meditative Energy Garden lot
  ☐ Woolly Mammoth lot
  ☐ Full Circle lot
  ☐ Sound Garden lot
  ☐ P.U.S.H. Buffalo lot
  ☐ Project Grant lot

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Thank you for your support!