

THE TRUST FOR GOVERNORS ISLAND

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TRUST FOR GOVERNORS ISLAND ANNOUNCES 24 ARTS, CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO PRESENT FREE PROGRAMMING STARTING THIS SPRING

*Governors Island's historic houses will host free public programs and artist residencies from
May 1 through October 31, 2022*

NEW YORK - (February 9, 2022) – The Trust for Governors Island announced today this year's participants in its annual Organizations in Residence program. Through the program, the Trust invites arts and cultural organizations to present public programming and artist residencies inside former military homes. 24 organizations presenting visual art, environmental education, and cultural programming were selected for the 2022 program, which will be free and open to the public from May 1 through October 31, 2022.

“We are thrilled to welcome back our Organizations in Residence program on the Island. This program and its participants fully embody the diverse cultural community of New York City and offers visitors a unique opportunity to interact and engage with international artists, hands-on activities, workshops and talks,” **said Clare Newman President and CEO of the Trust for Governors Island.** “We encourage visitors to take advantage of this free programming, suitable for all ages, while getting to visit the Island and learn about its rich history.”

“As Governors Island's cultural community continues to grow, we are excited to welcome back Island organizations whose programs continue to evolve through new exhibitions, artists residencies and public programs, while also welcoming new voices and perspectives,” **said Meredith Johnson, VP of Art and Culture at the Trust for Governors Island.** “We look forward to welcoming audiences and kicking off our annual Organizations in Residence Program this year with engaging multi-disciplinary cultural programming that is free for all New Yorkers to engage with and be inspired by.”

Since Governors Island opened to the public in 2005, the Trust for Governors Island has invited cultural, educational and non-profit organizations to utilize its historic houses to present engaging public programs while providing workspace for artists and cultural practitioners. Through its unique Organizations in Residence Program, the Trust provides a platform for non-profit groups to reach a diverse and growing audience of engaged visitors, where collaboration is encouraged between participating organizations and space is provided to presenters free of charge.

Cultural expression is at the core of Governors Island's identity. The Island's rich and varied environments, architecture and histories provide an unparalleled platform for deeply transformative experiences with the arts. Since opening to the public in 2005, Governors Island has become a beloved destination and cultural resource for New York City. Beginning in 2013, the

Trust for Governors Island has commissioned significant permanent and temporary artworks by artists such as Rachel Whiteread, Susan Philipsz, David Brooks, Jacob Hashimoto, Shantell Martin, Duke Riley, Richard Move, Sam Van Aken and Mark Dion. Trust-led arts commissions for the 2022 season will be announced soon.

Each year, more than 200 artists and researchers receive flexible, free workspace through the Organizations in Residence program. In 2020, the Trust partnered with the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council and 19 other arts and culture organizations to launch the Governors Island Residency Initiative, a responsive program designed to support artists impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. More than 100 artists received safe, free studio space, and indoor public programs were transformed into live-stream events and outdoor public art pieces to ensure visitors could safely experience the arts and cultural programming that has become synonymous with Governors Island over the years.

2022 Organizations in Residence Include:

4heads *Manhattan*

As an artist-created organization, 4heads cultivates a supportive community by hosting free large-scale art fairs and studio residency programs for under-represented artists, and by tailoring arts education programs for underserved youth. With a strong focus on artistic excellence and inclusion, 4heads revitalizes historic spaces with contemporary art, as they continue to enrich and expand their creative community: a socially, economically, and culturally diverse reflection of New York City itself.

American Indian Community House (AICH) *Manhattan*

Founded in 1969, AICH is a community-based organization with a mission to improve and promote the well-being of the American Indian Community and to increase the visibility of American Indian cultures in an urban setting. Their space on Governors Island has been used to present exhibitions, performances, and other cultural and educational programs, as well as to host artists in residence.

ArtCrawl Harlem *Manhattan*

ArtCrawl Harlem is a non-profit arts education organization that supports the creation, presentation, and awareness of contemporary art as it relates to the historical legacy of Harlem. ArtCrawl Harlem's "Boundaries & Connections" Residency Program on Governors Island is a unique opportunity for artists to create a series of theme-based artwork. ArtCrawl Harlem will host weekend studio visits for the public during which time the artists in residence will exhibit their existing artwork as well as share their residency work in progress.

Beam Center *Brooklyn*

Beam Center is a Brooklyn-based maker space that engages children, teens, teachers and artists in spectacular collaborative project-making. On Governors Island, visitors will be invited to experience creative project-making and recreational games led by NYC teens and resident artists.

Billion Oyster Project (BOP) *Manhattan*

Based on Governors Island, BOP is restoring oyster populations to NY Harbor in collaboration with NYC communities and through public education initiatives, in turn improving water quality, fostering new marine habitats, and creating greater coastal resilience. BOP's public education hub in Nolan Park offers visitors the chance to learn about the organization's work and get involved in oyster restoration through hands-on volunteer opportunities.

BronxArtSpace *The Bronx*

Founded and opened to the public in 2010 as a space for art exhibits and performances, BronxArtSpace is a community-based organization committed to supporting local and often under-resourced artists, fostering projects that engage vital social, educational, and political concerns. Through curating group exhibitions, offering a residency program for Bronx artists, and providing meeting space for artist-led workshops and community-based interest groups, BronxArtSpace combines forces with similar non-profit organizations to enhance the cultural vitality of their immediate and extended neighborhood.

The Climate Museum *Manhattan*

The Climate Museum's mission is to inspire action on the climate crisis with programming across the arts and sciences that deepens understanding, builds connections, and advances just solutions. In its public programming to date, it has created an activist, cultural approach to community engagement with climate, recognizing that most Americans are worried about the climate crisis but are unsure how to take meaningful action. The Museum's free, accessible exhibitions, art installations, online events, youth programs, and more have broadened the climate movement, introducing an interdisciplinary approach to climate with an emphasis on community, justice, equity, and inclusion.

Escaping Time: Art from U.S. Prisons *Manhattan*

Escaping Time: Art from U.S. Prisons exhibits and sells artworks created within prison walls nationwide. Through art, Escaping Time works to change the narrative and break the stereotype of what society imagines when thinking about the incarcerated. The art serves as a reminder that the men and women in prison are more than their charges. Visitors to Escaping Time's exhibitions come away with a more nuanced view of the criminal justice system and the need for society to have a vested interest in programs to better prepare prisoners to successfully reenter society.

Flux Factory *Queens*

Flux Factory's Mission is to support emerging artists through artist residencies, exhibitions and educational and collaborative opportunities. Flux is an artist-led space that builds sustainable communities and retains creative vitality in NYC. Since 1994 Flux has hosted over 300 artists-in-residence and staged over 700 exhibitions across all disciplines. Flux's home in Long Island City is a creative hive that incubates experimentation with collaborative processes. Flux hosts over 75 annual multidisciplinary events; all are free to the public while all participating artists are compensated. Each year Flux selects 40 artists-in-residence to develop their creative practices by offering affordable studios, shared workspaces, a solo exhibition and professional development opportunities.

Harvestworks *Manhattan*

The Harvestworks Art and Technology Program on Governors Island is centered on art works created at the intersection of art and technology. They present digital media and code-based art exhibitions, public workshops and artists talks. The program provides exhibition opportunities to contemporary electronic media artists and also educates the public about new technology and how artists use it for artistic expression.

KODA *Brooklyn*

Founded in 2019, KODA is a nomadic nonprofit arts organization dedicated to mid-career artists. KODA grants social justice residencies to allow for experimentation and facilitates creative projects through strategic partnerships with socially engaged partners. KODA fosters dialogue and intellectual exchange, and serves the community through exhibitions of contemporary art, events and outreach to strengthen art education.

The Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts (MoCADA) *Brooklyn*

MoCADA is a Brooklyn-based community organization that uses the visual, literary, and performing arts as a conduit that connects the shared history, values, and futures of Africa and its diaspora. Through artistic presentations, community conversations, creative expression, interactive learning, and cultural preservation, MoCADA advances dialogue on pressing issues faced by Black communities worldwide. Most notably, for over 20 years they have been an incubator for Black art—giving platform to and creating safe spaces for artists whose works honor, celebrate, and expand these rich conversations while inviting their diverse community to explore, learn, and engage in collective evolution.

NARS Foundation *Brooklyn*

The New York Art Residency and Studios (NARS) Foundation is a non-profit arts organization committed to supporting artists and curators on an international level as well as engaging the local community. NARS provides creative support services and professional development opportunities for emerging and mid-career artists through short-term integrated residency programs, progressive exhibition programs, international exchanges, and engaging public programs that foster global understanding and dynamic cross-cultural dialogues.

New Art Dealers Alliance (NADA) *Manhattan*

Founded in 2002, NADA is a not-for-profit collective of professionals working with contemporary art. Its mission is to create an open flow of information, support, and collaboration within the arts field and to develop a stronger sense of community among its constituency. Through support and encouragement, NADA facilitates strong and meaningful relationships between its members working with new contemporary and emerging art.

NY Virtual Volcano Observatory *Manhattan*

The New York Virtual Volcano Observatory is a virtual volcano observation station, in which visitors are able to experience what it is like to explore a volcanic activity through virtual reality and video installations, volcanic rocks from the Tri-State region, and special interactive events with volcanologists including a wax 'lava-pouring' demonstration. While Eastern North America is not currently volcanically active, visitors will learn about the colossal volcanic eruptions that spanned New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut hundreds of millions of years ago when the Atlantic Ocean was first opening, and how these eruptions left their mark on the geology and landscapes all around us.

NYC Audubon *Manhattan*

New York City Audubon is a grassroots community that works for the protection of wild birds and habitat in the five boroughs, improving the quality of life for all New Yorkers. For 40 years, New York City Audubon has championed nature in the City's five boroughs through a combination of engaging and entertaining programs and innovative conservation campaigns. Through these efforts, they protect the more than 300 species of birds living in the 30,000 acres of wetlands, forests, and grasslands of New York City.

NYU Gallatin WetLab *Manhattan*

The NYU-Gallatin WetLab is an experimental art-science laboratory for students, artists, and researchers to create, develop, and display collaborative projects across the environmental arts and sciences. WetLab will host the Urban Greening Lab's biology and ecology field station,

workshops from Gallatin's initiative in Science, Technology, Arts and Creativity (STAC), an artist residency, and public lectures.

Pratt School of Architecture *Brooklyn*

The Pratt School of Architecture Department of Graduate Architecture and Urban Design began the RE:Governors Island initiative in Fall 2019. Using various sites throughout the Island, students and faculty are actively studying issues of climate change on the built environment through the development of prototypes that have application beyond the Island itself.

Exhibitions, workshops, talks, testing and prototyping allow the students of Pratt to share work with the public and use the site and its surroundings as a living laboratory of design research.

Swale *Brooklyn*

Swale began as a floating food forest built atop a 5,000 square foot barge that traveled to public piers in New York City and welcomed the public to harvest herbs, fruits and vegetables for free. Since 2016, Swale has promoted Public Food and ecosystem services through educational workshops and local cultural events. Swale continues to promote Public Food through advocacy, building edible landscapes, and educational programming stressing how important it is for more people to be involved in addressing food as a commons.

Syracuse University *Syracuse, NY*

Syracuse University's M.F.A. Program brings together faculty and students to take part in the creation and discussion of contemporary art through seminars, studio visits with national and international visiting artists, distinguished faculty, cross-disciplinary critiques, and diverse academic courses Syracuse University has to offer. The program's Governors Island residency takes the form of an evolving exhibition, workshops evolving from individual research, performances, and screenings; all while initiating experimental means of production and opening this practice to the public.

Triangle Arts *Brooklyn*

Triangle is a visual arts residency in New York founded in 1982, providing a life-changing working environment for committed artists through studio-based opportunities to experiment and create new work, shared community with other artists that lasts a lifetime, introduction of curators and other experts to the work at crucial times, cultivation of new and diverse audiences with public programs, and meaningful exposure to and interaction with the surrounding Brooklyn community and the wider world.

West Harlem Art Fund (WHAF) *Manhattan*

WHAF is a twenty-four-year-old public art and new media organization. Like explorers from the past who searched for new lands and people, WHAF seeks opportunities for artists and creative professionals throughout NYC and beyond. The West Harlem Art Fund presents art and culture in open and public spaces to add aesthetic interest, promote historical and cultural heritage, and support community involvement in local development. Their heritage symbol Afuntummireku-denkyemtreku: is the double crocodile from West Africa Ghana which means unity in diversity.

In September 2021, the Trust and the City of New York announced that Governors Island would be open to the public year-round for the first time in history, with daily, year-round NYC Ferry service on the South Brooklyn Route in addition to Trust-operated ferries from the Battery Maritime Building at 10 South Street in Lower Manhattan. For NYC Ferry service schedules, visit ferry.nyc. For general Governors Island visitor information, and for a full list of ferry service options, visit govisland.org.

Governors Island has undergone a tremendous transformation over the last decade, including the creation of a resilient 43-acre park, a growing arts and cultural program, and remarkable growth

in audience. In 2019, nearly one million people visited the Island. The Island is home to a diverse number of year-round tenants, including the Urban Assembly New York Harbor School, the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, the Billion Oyster Project, Shandaken Projects, Beam Center, and the Institute for Public Architecture, as well as the soon to open QC NY Spa and Buttermilk Labs — a new multi-tenant hub for coastal climate solutions announced in Fall, 2021. In June 2021, the Trust and the City announced a competition to attract an anchor educational and research institution for its plans to develop a Center for Climate Solutions.

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About The Trust for Governors Island

The Trust for Governors Island is the nonprofit corporation created by the City of New York that is responsible for the redevelopment and operation of 150 acres of Governors Island. The Trust's mission is to realize the full potential of Governors Island for the inspiration and enjoyment of all New Yorkers, demonstrating a bold vision for public space. For more information, visit www.govisland.org