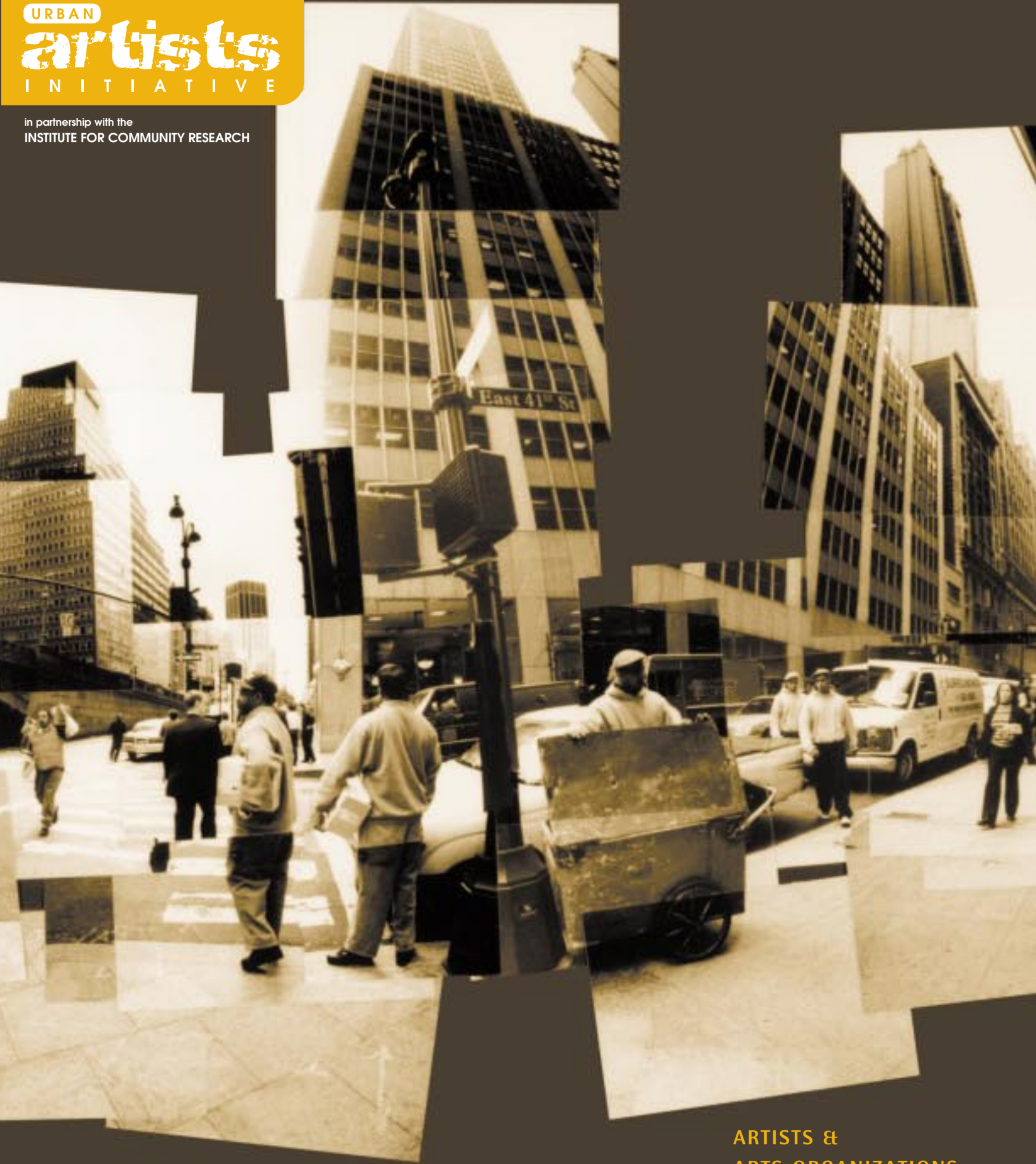


CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON THE ARTS

URBAN  
**artists**  
INITIATIVE

in partnership with the  
INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY RESEARCH



ARTISTS &  
ARTS ORGANIZATIONS  
DIRECTORY

**G**ive a man a fish, and he will eat for a day.  
Teach him to fish, and he will eat for a lifetime.

Chinese Proverb

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

2	Introduction
	Co-Directors' Statement
	Nurturing the Artists Among Us
6	Artists & Arts Organizations by City
	Central Region:
6	Bristol
9	Hartford
13	New Britain
17	Waterbury
	Southwest Region:
21	Bridgeport
24	New Haven
27	Norwalk
30	Stamford
32	New Haven ICCD
36	Index of Artists
39	Index of Arts Organizations

The Urban Artists Initiative is a program of the Connecticut Commission on the Arts in partnership with The Institute for Community Research.

The Connecticut Commission on the Arts is a state government agency whose mission is to support artistic excellence, foster cultural development through the arts, and increase public understanding of, participation in, and support for the arts.

The Institute for Community Research is a private nonprofit research and educational organization partnering with communities in the fields of culture, education and health. In addition to collaborating with the Connecticut Commission on the Arts in the Urban Artists Initiative, the Institute operates the Connecticut Cultural Heritage Arts Program and the ICR Gallery.

The partnership between these organizations is strengthened by the access to arts networks and resources provided by the Connecticut Commission on the Arts and the cultural fieldwork, outreach, documentation and support to communities and artists available through The Institute for Community Research.

**W**hen we originally designed the Urban Artists Initiative, we knew that we could provide resources and support to help nurture the talent of urban artists and arts organizations. We knew that they could make a substantial contribution to the economic and cultural health of our urban communities. Watching this program exceed our high expectations has been an invigorating experience. Funding support from the National Endowment for the Arts and the State of Connecticut has increased substantially in recognition of the exceptional achievements of the program participants and the powerful effect of the initiative in our communities.



Peter J. Crowley

John E. Ostrout, Executive Director  
Connecticut Commission on the Arts

It's been a privilege to be able to participate in the founding and development of the Urban Artists Initiative, a partnership program of the Connecticut Commission on the Arts, The Institute for Community Research, and artists and communities in the cities of Connecticut. We have seen many artists and community arts organizations realizing their visions as a result of their experience with the program and their newly established relationships with mainstream arts organizations and each other. UAI artists have been agents of cultural change in their communities and have increased funding for their organizations, their partners and themselves. We've seen program participants become recognized in Connecticut, in New England and nationally for their work. The Urban Artists Initiative has stimulated, deepened, and enriched cultural life in our state and has changed the cultural landscape of Connecticut forever.



Jean J. Schensul, Executive Director  
The Institute for Community Research

**W**e are pleased to present the third edition of the Connecticut Commission on the Arts' Urban Artists Initiative (UAI) Directory featuring Connecticut artists and arts organizations. We have designed this Directory to promote UAI participants to an audience of educators, cultural event planners, human and social service professionals, healthcare workers, administrators, patrons, community-based organizations, galleries, museums, arts organizations, and other institutions. The UAI Directory demonstrates our commitment to furthering the careers of artists and management of organizations through ongoing marketing.

During the past decade, over 200 artists representing at least 30 different cultural groups and emerging arts organizations have participated in the program in eight cities. Disciplines in the Directory include visual, literary and performing arts. The diverse artists range from painters, sculptors, installation artists, writers and poets to storytellers, dancers, vocalists, musicians, actors and others.

UAI's comprehensive professional development enhances the abilities of artists to produce, present, and market their work effectively to local, regional and national audiences. Since the beginning of the program in 1992, many UAI participants have presented their work to or received awards from local and national arts agencies, organizations, colleges and universities, associations, schools, and other institutions, reinforcing UAI's reputation as a national model for the effective development of artists and arts organizations.

Also featured in the Directory are artists from the Greater New Haven Arts Council's Inner City Cultural Development Program (ICCD). ICCD artists participated in our 16-week training component and continue to collaborate with UAI on events and activities. In our effort to promote collaboration, we are honored to feature these talented artists from New Haven.

We invite you to explore the Directory's resources to learn about the many talents and resources that our artists and arts organizations offer. Whether you represent a school, community center, museum, social service or health organization, you will find an artist or organization that can provide you with a service that meets your program needs.



Peter J. Crowley

David S. Marshall, Program Director  
Connecticut Commission on the Arts



Phillip Fortune

Maryland M. Grier, Program Co-Director  
The Institute for Community Research

## NURTURING THE ARTISTS AMONG US

A Chinese proverb states, "You can give a person a fish and he will eat for a day; you can teach a person to fish and he will eat for a lifetime." Similarly, the Urban Artists Initiative assists people in developing and refining skills that will enhance their careers or facilitate the development of their organizations with professional training, financial assistance and network-building. The Urban Artists Initiative provides culturally and ethnically diverse artists and organizations with the tools to thrive and to enrich the cultural life of their communities.

### Background and History

In 1991, Congress mandated that the National Endowment for the Arts designate funds for underserved artists and arts organizations across the United States. In response, the Endowment created the Underserved Communities Program and requested project proposals from across the US. Rather than offer a new grant program aimed at these communities, the Connecticut Commission on the Arts (CCA) and The Institute for Community Research (ICR) conceived an innovative training program to increase access to resources for urban artists and organizations. The Urban Artists Initiative, which was initially known as the Inner City Cultural Development (ICCD) Program, addressed the unique needs of emerging urban artists and organizations that produce art or present cultural events.

Launched in Bridgeport in 1992, the program expanded to Hartford, New Haven and Waterbury by 1996. In 1998 the program began in Bristol, New Britain, Norwalk and Stamford. (Additionally, the Arts Council of Greater New Haven, working with the CCA, has implemented UAI's approach as part of a regional cultural development plan.) UAI will expand to New London and Norwich in the fall of 2001.

The Urban Artists Initiative provides training, grants, mentors and technical assistance to eight community-based organizations and 15 individual artists over a course of three years in each location. In this way, local arts leadership is developed within the communities. At the end of the incubation period, participants become members of the Urban Artists Initiative Network.

### Building Community Arts Partnerships

From its inception as the ICCD Program, the Urban Artists Initiative has reflected the rich and diverse ethnic and cultural tapestry of our state, nurturing artists and organizations from African-American, Argentinean, Asian, Peruvian, Laotian, Puerto Rican, Cape Verdean, Lebanese, Armenian, Russian, Haitian and other backgrounds. The program design stimulates the formation of new cross-cultural networks within and among Connecticut's major cities to address common concerns and to share resources.

The Urban Artists Initiative also facilitates partnerships with schools, social clubs and social service organizations that include community-based arts programs among their core activities. Such programs that are embedded in pressing community issues reflect

the culture of the community and exemplify the arts as an intrinsic part of community life, meaning and identity. Helping create connections among local artists, different types of community organizations, and the larger Connecticut arts network forms a fundamental component of the Urban Artists Initiative's mission.

### **Program Components**

The UAI Program has four distinct core components:

**Fieldwork** A site coordinator from each city in the Urban Artists Initiative seeks out local emerging artists and organizations. Site coordinators talk to community members and visit service agencies, housing projects, churches, social clubs, schools and local organizations. They also visit less public locations to learn about artists who may be working unrecognized in their homes. Through these informal networks, site coordinators also discover organizations that include arts activities but lack staff expertise or resources to tap into sources of funding and capacity-building.

The search for candidates focuses on artists and organizations typically lacking access to mainstream resources. The program looks for those who are not only talented, but also are involved in their communities. Each site coordinator helps interested candidates apply to the program, and later, becomes a resource person for the artists and organizations selected. A panel of artists and administrators and social scientists screens applications and selects participants. Participants become part of a database of community artists and organizations throughout the state. Staff and participants work together to assess the program using ethnographic techniques such as focus groups, in-depth interviews, and audiovisual documentation.

**Professional Development** Artists and organizations first participate in a 16-week intensive, college-level course that emphasizes the business side of being a professional artist. They learn marketing, budgeting, fundraising, contract negotiation, grantsmanship, and time management, among other skills. Participants from organizations are trained in arts administration. Sessions involve arts leaders from throughout the state, providing participants with crucial exposure and access to the mainstream Connecticut arts network.

**Continuing Education Opportunities** Through continuing education and other professional development, we provide opportunities for participants to attend local, regional and national conferences including: the New England Artists Trust Congress, New England Foundation for the Arts-sponsored conferences, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, International Sculpture Center – Sculpture 2000 Conference, The Association of American Cultures, People's Poetry Festival, and other local conferences. In addition, we have established a 12-month residency partnership with the Farmington Valley Arts Center. We also provide funding for artists to attend other residencies for literary and visual artists in Vermont, New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut. Participants



Central Region (Bristol, Hartford, New Britain, Waterbury) Participants

Phillip Fortune

have taken college-level courses and classes at such schools as Berklee College of Music, New York University, Norwalk Community College, Silvermine Guild Arts Center, Lyman Allyn Academy of Art, and apprenticeships with master artists through the Connecticut Cultural Heritage Arts Program based at ICR. We also provide advanced training opportunities at the University of Massachusetts' Arts Extension Services Conference, The Entrepreneurial Center at the Hartford College of Women, University of Hartford, and the International Women's Writing Guild. Participants in each city meet quarterly to discuss their progress as artists or organizations. The program generally provides a presenter at these sessions who cover an area of concern to the participants. These experiences deepen participants' knowledge base and expand their network of contacts. To maintain the network among participants from the eight participating cities, the UAI Program conducts a biennial conference featuring nationally-recognized arts leaders, exhibitions and readings.

**Classroom Residency Training** Collaboration with local schools and other institutions comprises an important aspect of training. By arranging artist residencies in local elementary schools, the program helps to integrate arts into the school curriculum in a way that contributes to enhancing the cultural and educational resources of the school. The artists gain valuable teaching experience and exposure in the community. Some have become members of the Connecticut Commission on the Arts' Master Teaching Artists roster. We also provide ongoing training in arts administration and management for staff, including site coordinators in the 8 cities. Site coordinators are also teamed with mentors in arts institutions.

**Mentors** When participants have completed the 16-week education component, the Urban Artists Initiative matches them with mentors who are professional working artists or arts administrators.

## INTRODUCTION

Mentors encourage and advise Urban Artists Initiative participants by sharing knowledge gained through years of experience, providing critiques of work in progress, helping develop new skills, or assisting in the preparation of promotional materials. As models of professional success, mentors inspire their proteges to learn from mistakes and persist in the face of challenges.

Mentors benefit from the relationship as well. Beyond having theories and perspectives validated, mentoring can also stimulate one's own creative process.

**Grants** The program offers grants to participants to test the ideas they developed during the training. Participants must design projects that enhance their career development or contribute to the growth of their organization. An artist might print business cards, develop a portfolio and promotional materials, frame paintings, buy recording studio time or purchase material or equipment necessary to produce work. Sometimes participants pool funds to finance large productions. Such seed money can help participants make the leap from "struggling artist" to professional artist. Organizations frequently use funds to undertake projects such as festivals or exhibitions. The Commission and ICR work closely with the participants in preparing their grants as an extension of the training process.

### Program Management

The UAI forms part of the Connecticut Commission on the Arts' Expanded Participation Strategic Initiative designed to broaden participation in and access to the arts for all Connecticut citizens. The program is currently managed by Program Director David Marshall (Commission on the Arts) and by

Program Co-Director Maryland Grier, Program Coordinator Colleen L. Coleman, and Program Administrator Renee Soares (Institute for Community Research). Site Coordinators also form part of the UAI management team. They provide a critical link among the artists and organizations in each city and between cities. Coordinators maintain regular contact with participants, identify and help resolve issues that participants may have in implementing grants or mentorships, provide technical assistance, and assist in planning and organizing activities in their communities.



Southwest Region (Bridgeport, New Haven, Norwalk, Stamford) Participants

### Consulting Opportunities

UAI continuously seeks professional trainers to conduct workshops, seminars, and lectures in such topics as: the business of being an artist, marketing, grantwriting, oral presentation, etc. There are also opportunities to mentor our participants. (UAI has a database of trainers from New England and New York.) If you are interested in working with us, as a trainer or mentor, please contact Maryland Grier or Colleen Coleman at the ICR.

### Resources

Documentary video: *Artists Among Us*

Portrays how artists, whether through active involvement in schools or increased involvement in neighborhoods, help strengthen such neighborhoods and other areas and generally contribute to



Colleen L. Coleman, Program Coordinator

*I am both excited and pleased to be a part of such an exceptional program as the Urban Artists Initiative. From the very beginning of my relationship with the program in 1994 as an emerging artist in New Haven, I have felt like a part of a family of people concerned both with one another's growth and development and with the cultural environment of our individual communities. Our program has more than doubled since then and I am now one of the administrative team members who seeks out new artists, opportunities, and presenters for the program.*

*It makes me very happy to see our artists reaching their career goals and gaining new ground in communities throughout Connecticut and nationally. I hope this directory will become an invaluable tool to you in selecting artists for your various performance, presentation, residency, and exhibition needs.*

revitalizing cities. To order, send a check for \$5.00 to cover postage. Make check payable to the Connecticut Commission on the Arts and mail to: Artists Among Us Video, Connecticut Commission on the Arts, One Financial Plaza-Lobby, Hartford, CT 06103. Artwork by UAI participants is available for sale or exhibition by contacting the artist directly.

### Information

For more information about UAI artists or organizations, please contact the participants directly. All addresses and telephone numbers were accurate at the time of printing. However, as artists tend to be highly mobile, if you have difficulty reaching an artist, contact the Commission on the Arts or The Institute for Community Research for an updated address and/or phone number.

For additional information about the Urban Artists Initiative program, contact the Connecticut Commission on the Arts, Tel: (860) 566-4770 Fax: (860) 566-6462, or The Institute for Community Research, Tel: (860) 278-2044 Fax: (860) 278-2141.

Visit our websites: Connecticut Commission on the Arts: [www.CtArts.org/uai.htm](http://www.CtArts.org/uai.htm)  
 The Institute for Community Research: [www.incommunityresearch.org/uai](http://www.incommunityresearch.org/uai)  
 Urban Artists Initiative: [www.hartnet.org/~UAI](http://www.hartnet.org/~UAI)

### UAI Staff

#### Administrative

David S. Marshall, Program Director  
 Maryland M. Grier, Program Co-Director  
 Colleen L. Coleman, Program Coordinator  
 Renee S. Soares, Program Administrator

#### Site Coordinators

Calvin Ellerbee, Jr., Bridgeport	Manola Sidara, New Britain
Marianela Medrano-Marra, Norwalk	Deborah A. Simmons, Ed.D., Hartford
Liliana Mejia-Sikorski, New Haven	Sylvia Fernandez-Stein, Stamford
Kathleen Parulski, Bristol, Waterbury	Malissa Bowles, ICCD



New Haven ICCD Participants (Arts Council of Greater New Haven)

Phillip Fortune



Jesse Abbott

Renee S. Soares, Program Administrator

**A**s a new staff member of the Urban Artists Initiative, I am delighted to be part of a program that nurtures and fosters the lives and careers of so many artists. This program is unique in that it has been created to aid artists and art organizations to become a vital force within their respective communities. As artists we are often misunderstood and unappreciated. This program seeks to change this state of mind. My decision to become a part of UAI was based upon the fact that as an artist I understand and have a sensitivity to the trials and tribulations that accompany one's creativity. I come to this program as a positive image and force for all involved. My formal training is in theater, which encompasses literary, performance and visual art skills. At this juncture in my artistic life I am involved in the creation of masks that are made from polymer clay and glass beads as well as crafts in various mediums. My work arises from a multicultural background and the belief that I have been placed in this world as a source of inspiration and guidance. 'As everything is within you are within you.' In addition to my administrative duties at UAI, I am also available for exhibitions, commissioned work, workshops, residencies, and outdoor events.



Philip Fortune

**KATHLEEN PARULSKI, SITE COORDINATOR****Arts discipline:** Crafts—specializes in book arts**Services:** Utilizing the premise, “books don’t have to be flat...books can also be containers of knowledge and experience and communicators.” Assists students in the creation of bookworks and book sculptures. Residencies combine language, visual art, basic math principles and curriculum, including classroom and life experiences. Creation of journals, short stories, life stories bound into one-of-a-kind books of traditional and non-traditional materials. Adult classes on basic bookbinding to advanced levels.**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** K-12 residencies, lectures, in-services**Contact:** Kathleen Parulski, 208 Oakland Street, Bristol, CT 06010**Tel:** 860-583-6217 **E-mail:** [ibindbooks@snet.net](mailto:ibindbooks@snet.net)**MARC CHABOT****Arts Discipline:** Visual—specializes in printmaking and drawing**Services:** His monotypes and drawings of landscapes are from the imagination and figures drawn from life. Marc has taught for ten years, offering courses, workshops and lectures on American artists. Available for residencies, lectures and workshops.**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All**Contact:** Marc Chabot, 72 Joshua Road, Woodbury, CT 06798**Tel:** 203-263-3783

Philip Fortune

**CHRISTINE CHABRE****Arts discipline:** Visual/Gallery—specializes in floral photograph note cards**Services:** “I have many of my paintings displayed for sale. I am the owner of the Tri-Art Studio located at 125 West Main Street (2nd floor) in Plainville, CT.”**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All**Contact:** Christine Chabre, 100 N. Main Street, Bristol, CT 06010**Tel:** 860-582-1964 **Fax:** 860-410-1722

Philip Fortune

**MAREK CZARNECKI****Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in Byzantine iconography**Services:** Iconography painted on commission for institutions and private clients, using traditional prototypes and natural materials. Lectures are available on the theology and anthropology of icons as well as hands-on classes in several techniques. Private tutoring also available.**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All**Contact:** Marek Czarnecki, 125 Hepworth Street, Forestville, CT 06010**Tel:** 860-582-6759 **Fax:** 860-582-6759



Philip Fortune

**BETSY DECICCO**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting

**Services:** “Reinventing silliness with Cicco People, Inc., an imaginary world that will be sure to leave you with a smirk on your face. Visit us on the web.”

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** Adult

**Contact:** Betsy Decicco, 229 Dinatali Drive, Waterbury, CT 06705

**Tel:** 860-283-5708 **Website:** www.CICCOPEOPLE.com



Philip Fortune

**CORINNE FEROLA**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in fine art photography

**Services:** Corinne’s Italian Collection spans Italy’s many regions. Her photographs have been reproduced in nationally circulated publications and are sold in galleries and museums in the U.S. and abroad. Offers lectures, slide shows and exhibitions.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Corinne Ferola, PO Box 284, Farmington, CT 06034-0284

**Tel:** 860-677-2350 **E-mail:** cferola@home.com

**VICTOR M. MERCIER**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting

**Services:** “My paintings are in the style of abstract expressionism. Using acrylics in conjunction with other mediums, the paint is manipulated with a variety of tools onto Plexiglas allowing a broad range of visual effects.” Presentations suitable for exhibition.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Victor M. Mercier, 420 Emmett Street, 7G, Bristol, CT 06010

**Tel:** 860-582-1264



Philip Fortune

**JAMES SPINELLI**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting

**Services:** “It is important to me to capture the feeling of my subjects. My self-portraits are not necessarily representational, but rather a combination of familial expression. Abstract and traditional artists such as Frank Auerbach and Kitaj influence me.” Presentations suitable for exhibition.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** James Spinelli, 64 Bradley Street, Bristol, CT 06010

**Tel:** 860-584-9585



Philip Fortune

**ELANA WATRAS**

**Arts Discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting, drawing and clay

**Services:** “I am inspired by the natural world, although at this time, my work appears non-objective. When not teaching art, I can be found painting at my studio.” Presentations suitable for exhibition.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Elana Watras, 219 Camp Street, Bristol, CT 06010

**Tel:** 860-584-1861



Phillip Fortune

**DONALD WEINMAN**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting and sculpture

**Services:** The paintings and found object sculptures of Donald Weinman resonate a raw, deep-rooted clarity which emanates straight from the artist's unwavering commitment to deal head-on with life's toughest issues. Presentations suitable for exhibition.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Donald Weinman, Etc. Gallery, 169 1/2 School Street, Bristol, CT 06010

**Tel:** 860-585-0218

**BRISTOL CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in theater

**Contact:** Mike Ravita, Bristol Central High School, 480 Wolcott Street, Bristol, CT 06010

**Tel:** 860-584-7735



Chuck Koreen

**LIVING TRADITIONS GALLERY**

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary—specializes in contemporary art

**Services:** The gallery presents exhibitions that reflect time-honored processes and the artist's personal voice or style. The gallery's educational programming reinforces its mission of cultural continuity.

**Fees:** Gallery admission is free **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Ruth Ann Graime, 31 East Main Street, Avon, CT 06001

**Tel:** 860-667-8012 **Fax:** 860-585-9521 **E-mail:** [director@living-traditions.com](mailto:director@living-traditions.com)



**DEBORAH ANNETTE SIMMONS ED.D., HARTFORD SITE COORDINATOR**

**Arts Discipline:** Visual/Performance—specializes in textile, music, art education

**Services:** “Music and visual arts are necessary vehicles through which I fulfill my need to create. My fabric art, clay work, as well as my guitar, piano and voice allow me to explore themes about my culture, society and history. These art forms also enable me to create tangible representations of my perceptions of life. As an art educator, I believe my role is to serve as a facilitator for my students towards a greater understanding and appreciation of the art in their lives.”

**Fees:** N/A **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Deborah Simmons

**Tel:** 860-233-1304 **E-mail:** dasimmons@snet.net



**E. DIANN COOK**

**Arts Discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting and collage

**Services:** “Living in Hartford most of my life has given me the opportunity to experience different lifestyles and cultures, which influences my work.” Co-founder of Junior Art Makers, a youth entrepreneurial art company. Workshops, art for purchase, commissions.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** E. Diann Cooke, PO Box 320435, Hartford, CT 06132

**Tel:** 860-242-5247

**ALEXSANDR NIAZYAN**

**Arts Discipline:** Visual—specializes in plaster molding, interior design and installation

**Services:** “I have been doing plaster molding for about ten years. I do all my own designing and most of the installations. I love doing my work and creating something beautiful.” Commissioned work, residencies.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Alexsandr Niazyan, 780 Trout Brook Drive, West Hartford, CT 06119

**Tel:** 860-236-3213



**MARGARET PLAGANIS**

**Arts Discipline:** Multidisciplinary—specializes in integrating visual and language arts throughout the curriculum using collage, sculpture, performance, mixed media and poetry

**Services:** Conducts cooperative or collaborative workshops with teachers and students in book construction, mask making and sculpture. Teacher/curriculum, staff development, residencies and commissioned work.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Margaret Plaganis, 100 Richard Street, West Hartford, CT 06119-2309

**Tel:** 860-232-9966 **E-mail:** LARUS@worldnet.att.net



**GRYSSEL RAMIREZ**

**Arts Discipline:** Performance—specializes in Caribbean music  
**Services:** “As a Puerto Rican performing artist, it is my intent to enhance and reveal to other ethnic groups the popular/classical musical masterpieces of the Caribbean. To perpetuate and cultivate our music inspires me.”  
**Fees:** \$600 & up, negotiable **Audience:** All  
**Contact:** Grysael Ramirez, 77 Mountford Street, Apt. B4, Hartford, CT 06114  
**Tel:** 860-297-8420 **Fax:** 860-722-8547



Kim Meneger

**GRACIELA QUINONES-RODRIGUEZ**

**Arts Discipline:** Visual—specializes in fine art crafts, string instruments, mixed media and the use of recycled materials  
**Services:** Use of clay, mixed media, collages and language arts incorporated in culturally diversified education and preventive programming. Strong clinical social work background allows for therapeutic activities with special needs populations.  
**Fees:** Negotiable **Audience:** All  
**Contact:** Graciela Quinones-Rodriguez, PO Box 1811, West Hartford, CT 06127-1811  
**Tel:** 860-524-1720 **E-mail:** graciela2000@hotmail.com



**BERTA VARGAS**

**Arts Discipline:** Visual—specializes in oils and potichomania  
**Services:** “I create my work exploring the sensuality of certain forms and the effects of light and shadows. I also decorate clear glass with a technique called potichomania, incorporating enamel paint, gold leaf and paper.”  
**Fees:** Negotiable **Audience:** All  
**Contact:** Berta Vargas, 56 Church Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067  
**Tel:** 860-273-6168

**CULTURAL DANCE TROUPE OF WEST INDIES, INC.**

**Arts Discipline:** Performance—specializes in Caribbean dance and theater  
**Services:** A professional dance and theatre company presenting traditional Caribbean folk form using Martha Graham technique to produce a folklore ballet. Disciplines include jazz/modern contemporary music.  
**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All  
**Contact:** Valencia Coleman, PO Box 4046, Hartford, CT 06147-4046, Studio: 2998 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06120  
**Tel:** 860-249-8915

**GUAKIA, INC.**

**Arts Discipline:** Visual/Performance—specializes in music and dance  
**Services:** After-school classes for children, youth, and adults offering educational and cultural workshops/lectures/films, art exhibits, support groups. “Taking our name from the Taino word meaning ‘us,’ Guakia seeks to embrace, enhance and promote the rich, varied heritage of our Indian, Spanish, and African ancestors.”  
**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All  
**Contact:** Barbara Fernandez, Director, 335 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06114  
**Tel:** 860-296-9141 **Website:** www.ursamajor.hartnet.org/guakia



### MESTIZO MANTA

**Arts Discipline:** Performance—specializes in Peruvian music, dance, arts

**Services:** “Our association preserves and promotes Peruvian culture. Every year we reach out to the community during the Peruvian Festival held in Hartford. Mestizo Manta presents Andean music from Peru and South American countries.” Performances.

**Fees:** \$600 **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Armando Zarazu, 146 Brentwood Road, Newington, CT 06111

**Tel:** 860-666-9912 **E-mail:** mestizomanta@aol.com

### NORTH END ARTS RISING, INC.

#### BUTTONWOOD TREE

**Arts Discipline:** Visual/Performance—specializes in nurturing and fostering the arts

**Services:** Offers 250 events from September to June. Offers classes, summer arts programs and a meeting place for local organizations.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Stephen Allison, Executive Director, 605 Main Street, PO Box 71, Middletown, CT 06457

**Tel:** 860-347-4957 **Fax:** 860-347-4957 **E-mail:** near@buttonwood.org

**Website:** www.buttonwood.org



T.Ghior

### SANKOFA-KUUMBA CULTURAL ARTS CONSORTIUM

**Arts Discipline:** Multidisciplinary—specializes in African dance and music

**Services:** Teaches the richness of African culture through dance, music, and storytelling. Its mission is to uplift children of color by teaching them their history and to set positive goals for their futures.

**Fees:** \$500-\$2500 **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Christine Dixon-Smith, 89 Willowbrook Road, Cromwell, CT 06416-1123

**Tel:** 860-635-0725 **Fax:** 860-632-0391 **E-mail:** PSNKCAC@aol.com

### THE CONNECTICUT BAND

**Arts Discipline:** Performance—specializes in Latin music

**Services:** With Lydia Lebron as lead singer, the band is comprised of a piano, bass, alto and tenor saxophones, trumpet and conga drum. Performances include contemporary Latin music including salsa, merengue and cumbia.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Lydia Lebron, 60 Lepage Road, Windsor, CT 06095

**Tel:** 860-278-3756 (h), 860-247-9211, ext. 230 (w)

### THE MANY COLORS OF A WOMAN, INC.

**Arts Discipline:** Performance—specializes in jazz vocals

**Services:** “Discovery is an integral part of our magic/musical output. Producer Nick Mathis is a vocalist, songwriter, recording artist and talent scout. Our purpose is to present and promote the rich diversity of jazz women’s musical contribution.” Concerts, performances.

**Fees:** Negotiable

**Contact:** Nick Mathis, PO Box 250010, Hartford CT, 06105-0010

**Tel:** 860-231-0663 **Fax:** 860-231-0663



**WEST INDIAN FOUNDATION, INC.**

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary

**Services:** "Since 1978, we have sponsored arts-related exhibitions, performances and outdoor concerts. We also support and promote the Cultural Dance Troupe of the West Indies, maintain summer youth programs and provide other services." Workshops, exhibitions, youth programs.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Keith L. Carr, Director, 3340 Main Street, PO Box 320394, Hartford, CT 06132-0394

**Tel:** 860-241-0379 **Fax:** 860-241-0379



Philip Fortune

**WOMEN OF THE CROSS**

**Arts Discipline:** Performance—specializes in a cappella singing

**Services:** A women's a cappella gospel quartet that uses song to praise the Lord, weaving stories about their experiences and traditions as African American women. They perform a range of programs.

**Fees:** Negotiable **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Jill Henderson, Meta Arts, Inc., 233 Pearl Street, Hartford, CT 06103

**Tel:** 860-527-9800 **Fax:** 860-527-9813 **E-mail:** jdworinens@aol.com

**MANOLA SIDARA, SITE COORDINATOR****Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in Laotian dance**Contact:** Manola Sidara, 67 Merriline Drive, West Hartford, CT 06110**Tel/Fax:** 860-953-8850 **E-mail:** nettms@yahoo.com

Philip Fortune

**DELOIS BARNES****Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in sculpture, wood and stone carving**Services:** Has exhibited work at galleries in Connecticut and Massachusetts for the last six years.

Available for workshops on carving and polishing stone and wood with manual and power tools.

Commissioned work.

**Fees:** \$300-\$500/day **Audience:** All**Contact:** Delois Barnes, 74 West Morningside Street, Hartford, CT 06112**Tel:** 860-243-0286 **E-mail:** degogo@aol.com

Philip Fortune

**STANWYCK E. CROMWELL****Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting**Services:** “My work is a combination of Afro-Caribbean and Afro-American as it relates to shapes and colors of my heritage. The vibrancy of my colors reflects love and happiness.” Available for workshops, after school programs and cultural events.**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All**Contact:** Stanwyck E. Cromwell, PO Box 2303, Hartford, CT 06146**Tel:** 260-242-2725

Philip Fortune

**LORRETA EASON****Arts Discipline:** Visual—specializes in candid photography, yearbook concept and pre-press preparation with the use of computers; illustration in watercolor, acrylics and oils**Services:** Commissioned graphic design for advertising and display. Available for workshops, residencies teaching positive self-esteem through visual art.**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All**Contact:** Lorreta Eason, 28 Norden Street, New Britain, CT 06051**Tel:** 860-225-5965 **E-mail:** llorretas@aol.com



Phillip Fortune

**MELANIO J. GONZALEZ**

**Arts Discipline:** Visual—specializes in crafts

**Services:** “My work is dedicated to the re-creation of pre-Columbian Taino Art.” Sand paintings on slate, crafting of log drums, musical instruments, personal ceremonial items, utilitarian objects, weapons and duhos. Available for oral presentations and sand painting workshops.

**Fees:** \$75/hour, \$250/day **Audience:** Grades 8–12, adult

**Contact:** Melanio J. Gonzalez, 66 Goodwill Avenue, Meriden, CT 06451-3015

**Tel:** 860-237-8707



Phillip Fortune

**TAMARA HERLITZKA**

**Arts discipline:** Literary—specializes in playwriting, creative writing, theatrical improvisation

**Services:** Individual and group workshops and training that feature improvisational exercises designed to help participants discover their creative spirit. Individual workshops to help artists reclaim their life story.

**Fees:** Vary from \$50/hr–\$200/hr **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Tamara Herlitzka, 66 South Burritt Street, New Britain, CT 06052

**Tel:** 860-832-9185 **E-mail:** Herlitz@Juno.com



**BEJA JAMES**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in installation

**Services:** “I am a found object and installation artist. My work comes from a constant and conscious watchfulness of the natural world. I want to encourage others to notice roots, scrap pieces of metal or that one shoe on the highway.”

**Fees:** Starting at \$200 **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Beja James, 3 Fowler Place, Windsor, CT 06095

**Tel:** 860-825-5796 **E-mail:** bushmama52@hotmail.com



**JANETTE MAXEY**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in figurative drawing/painting and children’s face painting

**Services:** Drawing from life, intuitively using symbolic references from religion and ancient cultures. Received B.F.A. from the Hartford Art School, University of Hartford and studied in Corona, Italy.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Janette Maxey, 339 Huntington Hill Avenue #113, Middletown, CT 06457

**Tel:** 860-346-1750 **E-mail:** janettesworld@hotmail.com



Phillip Fortune

**NORMA RAE MUNROE**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in oil painting

**Services:** Norma Munroe is a visual artist who creates mood-provoking abstract oil paintings. Her business, Norma Rae Munroe Originals, produces beautiful and unique fine art note cards and place mats.

**Fees:** N/A **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Norma R. Munroe, 60 Willard Street, Hartford, CT 06105

**Tel:** 860-525-7757



Colleen L. Coleman

**DONNA C. OWENS**

**Arts discipline:** Literary/Visual—specializes in poetry and collage

**Services:** Donna is a poet and collage artist. She gives poetry and collage workshops focusing on the self. Donna offers poetry and collage workshops for youth in the areas of African American history and Kwanzaa.

**Fees:** Negotiable **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Donna Owens, 81 Hayes Street #1, New Britain, CT 06053-2813

**Tel:** 860-225-0392 **Fax:** 860-827-8355 **E-mail:** dcowens@snet.net



Phillip Fortune

**LORI SIKORSKI**

**Arts discipline:** Sculpture/Mixed Media—specializes in installation

**Services:** A sculpture and installation artist whose work addresses issues of transformation relating to culture and the environment. She has been an artist/instructor for the Capitol Region Education Council and is currently the Arts Studio Technician for Wesleyan University.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Lori Sikorski, 106 Shanaghan Road, E. Haddam, CT 06423

**Tel:** 860-873-8405 **Fax:** 860-347-6896 **E-mail:** lorsikorski@hotmail.com



Phillip Fortune

**GLAISMA PEREZ-SILVA**

**Arts discipline:** Literary—specializes in poetry

**Services:** “My words are a chant to the glory of being a Puerto Rican woman. A message of awareness and conscientization about social, racial, and political issues to the Boricuas in exile and others who wish to know our perception from the other side of the coin!”

**Fees:** N/A **Audience:** Adult

**Contact:** Glaisma Perez-Silva, 96 Webster Court, Newington, CT 06111

**Tel:** 860-667-7701 **E-mail:** glaisma@aol.com

**REGINA M. WILEY**

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary—specializes in poetry

**Services:** “I have been a performance poet from the age of seven and now an author. I am always exploring new mediums and I am currently working with wax sculptures.” Festivals/exhibitions.

**Fees:** Starting at \$150 **Audience:** Junior/Senior high school, adult

**Contact:** Regina M. Wiley, 67 Evergreen Avenue, Apt. C6, Hartford, CT 06105

**Tel:** 860-233-5214 **Fax:** 860-674-1877

**AMOR Y CULTURA**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in folk music

**Services:** Musica Jibara is the major national folk music of Puerto Rico. It is rooted in the mix of three cultures—Spanish, African and Taino Indian.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Alfred Rivera, 22 Kent Road, New Britain, CT 06052

**Tel:** 203-238-1008 or 860-225-1284



Philip Fortune

**FOTOBA**

**ABDOULAYE SYLLA**

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary—specializes in West African dance and drumming  
**Services:** Brings to life vibrant dances and pulsating rhythms of Guinea, West Africa. This group of African and American artists light the stage with a joyful spirit and message of cultural unity. Performances, residencies, workshops.

**Fees:** \$250-\$2500 **Audience:** All  
**Contact:** Laurie Sylla, 268 Box Mountain Drive, Vernon, CT 06066  
**Tel:** 860-649-7078 **E-mail:** [sylla@danceanddrum.com](mailto:sylla@danceanddrum.com)

**GREATER NEW BRITAIN ARTS ALLIANCE, INC.**

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary—specializes in community art services  
**Services:** The mission of the GNBA is to promote the arts in New Britain, advocate for the arts, facilitate collaborative activities among members and promote New Britain as a culturally rich community.  
**Fees:** N/A **Audience:** All  
**Contact:** Becky Toth, 185 Main Street, Suite 416, New Britain, CT 06051  
**Tel:** 860-827-7025 **E-mail:** [beckyt2090@aol.com](mailto:beckyt2090@aol.com)



C. Levester Johnson

**NZINGA'S DAUGHTERS**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in voice and prose  
**Services:** Women who entertain in song and prose the music of the African Diaspora. The Daughters sing a cappella spirituals and songs about life from a woman's point of view. Vocalists double on keyboards, bass and percussion.  
**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All  
**Contact:** Dayna Snell, 18 Newton Avenue, Plainville, CT 06062  
**Tel:** 860-747-9383 **E-mail:** [dsnell@snet.net](mailto:dsnell@snet.net)



**REPERTORY THEATER OF NEW BRITAIN**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in theater  
**Services:** A community theater company, now in their 55th season. Included in their four play season calendar is a culturally and ethnically diverse artistic series.  
**Fees:** Call for information **Audience:** All  
**Contact:** Jerilyn Nagel, c/o Repertory Theater of New Britain, 23 Norden Street, New Britain, CT 06051  
**Tel:** 860-223-3147 **E-mail:** [jnagel@snet.net](mailto:jnagel@snet.net)



**SWIVEL HIPS**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in pop/rock collaboration  
**Services:** Swivel Hips is a funky, jazz, pop/rock collaboration that draws together five musically versatile women to create one universal sound uniting poetry, song and infectious vibes into a 'groove that'll move your soul.'  
**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** Adult  
**Contact:** Dawn Lozefski, PO Box 2126, New Britain, CT 06050-2126  
**Tel:** 860-224-4205 **E-mail:** [swivelhips@juno.com](mailto:swivelhips@juno.com) **Website:** [www.swivelhips.com](http://www.swivelhips.com)



Phillip Fortune

**KATHLEEN PARULSKI, SITE COORDINATOR****Arts discipline:** Crafts—specializes in book arts**Services:** Utilizing the premise, “books don’t have to be flat...books can also be containers of knowledge and experience and communicators.” Assists students in the creation of bookworks and book sculptures. Residencies combine language, visual art, basic math principles and curriculum, including classroom and life experiences. Creation of journals, short stories, life stories bound into one-of-a-kind books of traditional and non-traditional materials. Adult classes on basic bookbinding to advanced levels.**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** K-12 residencies, lectures, in-services**Contact:** Kathleen Parulski, 208 Oakland Street, Bristol, CT 06010**Tel:** 860-583-6217 **E-mail:** [ibindbooks@snet.net](mailto:ibindbooks@snet.net)**VANESSA BENNETT****Arts Discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting, drawing, murals**Services:** “I tend to experiment with many different mediums; mostly graphite, charcoal and acrylic paints and inks. Using the power of color to communicate ideas is at the root of all my paintings. When I am drawing, the challenge of eking out as many values as possible and utilizing texture, shape and light to create visual interest is what urges me on.”**Contact:** Vanessa Bennett, 85-5 Bentwood Drive, Waterbury, CT 06705**Tel:** 203-574-0100

Dana Keeton

**STEPHEN BOISVERT****Arts discipline:** Performance/Multidisciplinary—specializes in creating music and soundscapes for dance, theatre, film and commercials**Services:** Solo performances are a mixture of original songs, soundscapes and improvised music. Available for gallery openings and concerts. Stephen also brings together visual artists, dancers and musicians in creating inspirational pieces.**Fees:** Negotiable **Audience:** All**Contact:** Stephen Boisvert, 62 Irving Street, Naugatuck, CT 06770**Tel:** 203-729-9934**RAQUEL FONSECA FIGUEIREDO****Arts discipline:** Visual/Performance—specializes in dance, acting and costume design**Services:** “There are many opportunities for children who are deaf in the US. In my country, Cape Verde, this is ignored. As theatre is my passion, I utilize this to help deaf children.”**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All**Contact:** Raquel Fonseca Figueiredo, 193 Santa Maria Drive, Waterbury, CT 06704**Tel:** 203-591-8848



**RONALD FISHER**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializing in painting, ceramic sculpture, and mold making  
**Services:** “I incorporate social and historic realism in my work. My style of painting is realistic and I do portraits of historical figures or people in every day life.”  
**Fees:** Upon request  
**Contact:** Ronald Fisher, 173 Grove Street, Apt. #409, Waterbury, CT 06710  
**Tel:** 203-755-8276



**KATHY GOOD**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in drawing  
**Services:** CT Certified art educator with 10 years of teaching experience. It is with all my heart that I practice the art of teaching children. Integrates visual art and poetry with ecology, story telling, social studies and character education. Residencies, in-service for teachers.  
**Fees:** \$200/day **Audience:** Elementary grades  
**Contact:** Kathy Good, 23 Center Street, Apt B, Tariffville, CT 06081  
**Tel:** 860-651-0145



Randy Clark

**CAREY MCDOUGALL**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializing in sculpture  
**Services:** Exhibiting sculptor with thirteen years arts education experience including Sacred Heart University, Storm King Art Center, and the Mattatuck Museum. Available for residencies/workshops, integrating into the class curriculum the creation of fabric sculptures and/or drawings to explore issues of identity and community.  
**Fees:** \$250/day **Audiences:** All  
**Contact:** Carey McDougall, PO Box 628, Waterbury, CT 06798  
**Tel/Fax:** 203-263-6783



**JAMES MILLER**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializing in photography  
**Services:** “I work with photoglobe, a 3D spherical photograph created by merging and shaping hundreds of endlessly-shaped photos into one that can be viewed as a globe or flat.” Creates photoglobes for organizations/corporations to promote product or cause.  
**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All  
**Contact:** James Miller, 231 Spencer Street, Naugatuck CT 06220  
**Tel:** 203-723-2672 or 203-723-1932



**ROSANNE SHEA**

**Arts Discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting and art education  
**Services:** Has worked in a realist style producing still life, portrait, landscape and figurative work over the years. Her more recent work consists of oil paintings done in a realist/surrealist style. Workshops and after-school programs.  
**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** Artists, art educators  
**Contact:** Rosanne Shea, 505 Straights Turnpike, Watertown, CT 06795  
**Tel:** 860-757-9248



#### SYLVIE SIMOES

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in a variety of singing venues such as country music, church choir, Portuguese American

**Services:** Possesses a great passion for singing country, church music and Portuguese American music. “Singing is inspiring to me because you can feel and share emotions.” Available for performances.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Sylvie Simoes, 278 Silverwalk Road, Orange, CT 06477

**Tel:** 203-795-3896



#### SUSAN SMYTH

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary—specializes in children’s original theater, creative writing, mask making and set design

**Services:** Residencies, in-services and classroom workshops form 4th grade to adults on self-expression. Workshops offered in papier-maché, comida masks and the history of theatre.

**Fees:** \$200/day; \$65/workshop **Audience:** Elementary, junior/senior high school

**Contact:** Susan Smyth, 472 East Mountain Road, Waterbury, CT 06706

**Tel/Fax:** 203-596-1632 **E-mail:** sbsmyth@snet.net



#### BRASS CITY BALLET SCHOOL

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializing in pre-professional dance training

**Services:** Brass City Ballet Company is a student performance training company with a repertoire of ballet, modern and jazz works. School faculty is available for workshops, lectures, demonstrations, performances in area schools.

**Fees:** \$60-150/workshop, \$500/single performance, \$800/double performance **Audience:** K-12

**Contact:** Elizabeth F. Barisser, P.O. Box 3263, Waterbury, CT 06705-0263

**Tel:** 203-573-9419

#### EHDEN LEBANESE AMERICAN CLUB, INC.

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in folk/traditional music, dance and media arts

**Services:** A social and cultural center for all people established to promote our heritage to the public. Sponsors 2-day heritage festival, a Lebanese ‘mahrajan’ and a 1-day indoor dinner dance, a ‘hafli’; produces weekly cable access program, ‘Eye on Lebanon’.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Joseph Macary, 3 Garthwait Road, Wolcott, CT 06716

**Tel/Fax:** 203-574-0786



#### M. M. GENERALI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary

**Services:** “As a HOTS (Higher Order Thinking School), we expose our students to the culture and heritage of the various ethnic groups within our community. It is our goal to integrate the arts into our curriculum to provide talented role models for our students.”

**Contact:** Mike Blasavage, 3196 East Main Street, Waterbury, CT 06705

**Tel:** 203 574-8174 **Fax:** 203-574-6719

**P.R.I.D.E., INC.**

**Arts discipline:** Visual/Performance—specializes in African dance and mural painting

**Services:** “PRIDE, Inc. (Preserving Racial Identity Through the Development of Education) is an inner city arts and culture center. Our mission is to provide activities that teach youth skills. Offers dance classes and workshops in mural design.”

**Fees:** N/A **Audience:** Ages 11-16

**Contact:** Kay Wyrick or Timothy Norman, P.R.I.D.E., Inc., 186 Cherry Street, Waterbury, CT 06704

**Tel:** 203-753-4216, 203-753-9689



**UNITY DANCE ENSEMBLE**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in dance

**Services:** Unity Dance Ensemble is a performing arts organization committed to emphasizing the cultural and artistic development of students through dance and instrumental music. Planting and nourishing the seeds of culture/heritage in children provides them with the tools/vision to create a better world.

**Fees:** \$500-\$1000/workshop **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Marie Baskerville, 489 Wolcott Street, Unit #2, Bristol, CT 06010

**Tel:** 860-589-5542

**WALNUT-ORANGE-WALSH IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary

**Services:** Youth Center sponsored by the WOW NRZ (Neighborhood Revitalization Zone) Association Inc. “We are an active neighborhood association with a mission of building communities through culture. Our in-house arts and cultural program introduces youth to dance, theater, and visual arts.”

**Fees:** N/A **Audience:** Ages 6-18

**Contact:** Mildred E. Paris, P.O.Box 1223, Waterbury, CT 06721

**Tel:** 203-755-7562



#### **CALVIN ELLERBEE, JR., SITE COORDINATOR**

"I enjoy working with people and connecting them with other people. It is a gift from God. The UAI program has given me the vehicle to share my talents. Being one of the first participants in the program and watching it grow by leaps and bounds has meant so very much to me. When we first met at the International Institute of Connecticut in Bridgeport, who would have expected the program to go full bloom. There is now an Art and Entertainment District in Bridgeport and the local artists receive the much-deserved respect for their work. Hard work pays off and the children in the community are now benefiting from the UAI program in all cities involved and the state as a whole. Artists who began in Bridgeport became empowered and consequently started their own programs. Together we can and have made a difference."

**Services:** Available for planning and organizing events

**Fees:** Upon request

**Contact:** Calvin Ellerbee, Jr., 91 White Rose Avenue, Waterbury, CT 06708

**Tel:** 203-757-7880 **E-mail:** ellerbeejr@aol.com

#### **ANN EVANS DE BERNARD**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in photography and painting

**Services:** "My work is about love and respect for the landscape and people of the island of Utila in Honduras who are a unique cultural mix of Spanish, African, and English influences."

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Ann Evans de Bernard, 294 Ellsworth Street, Bridgeport, CT 06606

**Tel:** 203-576-0579 **Fax:** 203-586-8153 **E-mail:** bronwyn346@aol.com

#### **MICHAEL BRYAN**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in portraits and murals

**Services:** Caricature artist for picnics, birthdays, weddings, etc. Custom relief portraits, sculptures and busts in plaster, clay and bronze. Murals from bedroom to boardroom, 4' to 40.' Artist has relocated to New York.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Michael Bryan, 106 Fayette Street, Uniondale, NY 11553

**Tel:** 516-483-8572

#### **SUZANNE M. KACHMAR**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in figurative drawing and painting

**Services:** "A figure and landscape painter, I am interested in the mood and effect of light. I find the figure a challenging, beautiful motif for expression." Classes in figure drawing, oils, charcoal, tempera.

**Fees:** Negotiable **Audience:** Adult

**Contact:** Suzanne M. Kachmar, 11 North Main Street, South Norwalk, CT 06854

**Tel:** 203-854-9868 (h), 203-783-9718 (w)



#### **JOHN LAWSON**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting, drawing, airbrush, and murals

**Services:** "It is the respect and appreciation for life that drives me to assume the role of servant and documentor of the human spirit. My work expresses the many complex layers of the human soul."

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** John Lawson, 116 Oman Street, Bridgeport, CT 06606

**Tel:** 203-372-6218 **Fax:** 203-332-4308 **E-mail:** lawson@access.bridgenet.org



**NANETTE MALONE**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in poetry

**Services:** Nanette brings to life the poetry of Black and Native Americans. Performances include Black history through prose, stories for all ages and a poetic tribute to jazz. Residencies and workshops geared towards developing communication, interpersonal skills, self-esteem, creativity and imagination.

**Fees:** Negotiable **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Nanette Malone, 55 Valley Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06606

**Tel:** 860-527-9800 **Fax:** 203-371-5381



**CLAIRE MASTROMONACO**

**Arts discipline:** Dance—specializes in workshops, residencies and performances

**Services:** “The beauty and passion of the world inspires me—not only the visible manifestations, but also the emotional and spiritual. The soul of humanity, in all its depths and heights, moves me to express myself through dance.”

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** Ages 6-16

**Contact:** Claire Mastromonaco, 111 West Parkway, Bridgeport, CT 06604

**Tel:** 203-367-8555 **Fax:** 203-368-6753

**JOSEPH SENTEIO**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting and mixed media

**Services:** “My life and the relationships I have had with people and my art are inseparable, as is my life and relationship with my God and my Lord, Jesus Christ.” Commissioned work.

**Fees:** Write for information **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Joseph Senteio, 66B King Street, Bridgeport, CT 06605



Gabe Zucker

**EFRAIM SILVA**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in Capoeira

**Services:** “Capoeira is an Afro-Brazilian art form that combines elements of self defense, gymnastics, dance and music; Maculele, a dynamic stick dance form created in Brazil; Samba, the colorful dance of Rio de Janeiro.” Performances, workshops and residencies.

**Fees:** Vary according to service **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Efraim Silva, 23 Rock Street, Milford, CT 06460

**Tel:** 203-768-5050

**VINCENT VERRILLO**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in photography, painting and drawing

**Services:** “I create abstract photographs of water as well as oil paintings and sketches.” Commissioned work.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Vincent Verrillo, 74 E. Pasadena Place, Bridgeport, CT 06610

**Tel:** 203-374-8700 **Website:** www.verrillo.com



#### YOHURU RALPH WILLIAMS

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary—specializes in musical instrument making

**Services:** “I am the urbanian sound scientist discovering new combinations of sound vibrations, using an unlimited battery of materials from our urban environment.” Performances, workshops.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** K-12, adults

**Contact:** Yohuru Ralph Williams, 112 Remington Street, Bridgeport, CT 06610-2211

**Tel:** 203-367-0438 (leave message), 203-543-1361 **E-mail:** yohuru-williams@webtv.net



#### CAPE VERDEAN WOMEN'S SOCIAL CLUB

**Arts discipline:** Service Organization

**Services:** “Our organization is dedicated to the culture, education and well-being of the Cape Verdean community in the Bridgeport area and throughout the world.”

**Fees:** Negotiable **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Antonia Sequeira, 52 Dewey Street, Stratford, CT 06497

**Tel:** 203-375-3132 **Fax:** 203-331-9227

#### INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CONNECTICUT, INC.

**Arts discipline:** Service Organization—specializes in cross-cultural programming and English as a second language

**Services:** “We assist immigrants, refugees and their families in transition and promote cross-cultural understanding and cooperation in the community.” Performances.

**Fees:** N/A **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Myra M. Oliver, Executive Director, 670 Clinton Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06605-1704

**Tel:** 203-336-0141 **Fax:** 203-339-4400

#### MCGIVNEY COMMUNITY CENTER

**Arts discipline:** Service Organization—specializes in dance, music, theater, visual arts

**Services:** “We hire artists, producers, dance and theater directors for art programs offered to the members of the center from Bridgeport’s eastside.” Offers classes in music, dance, theater, visual art and video.

**Fees:** \$10/membership **Audience:** Ages 7-19

**Contact:** Kevin Simmons, Executive Director, 338 Stillman Street, Bridgeport, CT 06608

**Tel:** 203-333-2789 **Fax:** 203-334-1933



#### THE NETWORK VIDEO GROUP, INC.

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in video and television production

**Services:** A statewide cable television production company involved in projects from promotional materials for new artists to non-profit and live recordings. Works in collaboration with casting companies throughout New England placing artists in television commercials, magazines and shows.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Raymond Leary, 213 Bunnell Street, Bridgeport, CT 06607

**Tel:** 203-336-9035



### LILIANA MEJIA-SIKORSKI, SITE COORDINATOR

"The Urban Artists Initiative's sixteen-week administrative intensive training and mentorship component provided to New Haven artists a better understanding of their visions. Now, after 5 years, we can see that over 50% of the artists and arts organizations have on the whole been positively affected and are strong advocates for the program. We can enjoy the success they have achieved. We find artists with positions in the field of Art Administration both locally and nationally. They stand as a source of strength in their communities by conducting workshops and residencies. Some of our art organizations have grown and expanded, while certain individual literary artists have been published nationally. We are proud to see some of our members go from emerging artists to master teaching artists. Finally, due to our success, the Arts Council of New Haven recognized the value of this program and worked to create a similar program now called ICCD."

**Arts Discipline:** Visual—specializes in paintings, murals, mosaics

**Services:** "I create paintings that express feelings of the closed culture in which I was raised, where traumatic issues are not freely discussed. They bring to light life circumstances like alcoholism, abuse, rape, death, culture, and change. Women can especially relate to my work. Hope, represented through color and the beauty of nature, reaffirms the blessing of being alive." Commissioned work, lectures on women's issues.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Liliana Mejia-Sikorski, 18 Tyrol Lane, West Haven, CT 06516-1027

**Tel:** 203-937-5458



### JUAN CARLOS ARANGO

**Arts discipline:** Literary—specializes in Latin American literature

**Services:** "The burning words are born and as they die, they create uncertain sentences that can best be described as ghosts. Words take us from ourselves to ourselves. Available for poetry readings.

**Fees:** Negotiable **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Juan Carlos Arango, 112 Meadow Brook Court, West Haven, CT 06516

**Tel:** 203-937-6566

### MARY BARNETT/IN GOOD COMPANY

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary—specializes in dance, performance art, acting

**Services:** "I enjoy creating innovative and engaging movement/theater works that combine the challenging ideas, well-crafted text and evocative sets of the best in contemporary theater with the immediacy, energy, sensuality and brevity of the best in contemporary dance."

**Fees:** \$300 & up **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Mary Barnett, 60 Averill Place, Branford, CT 06405

**Tel/Fax:** 203-245-3090 **E-mail:** mary@ingridcompany.org



Philip Fortunc

### COLLEEN L. COLEMAN

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting, assemblage, installation

**Services:** Integrating art with language arts, social studies, math and science using cross-cultural art forms and themes. Experienced in team teaching and has worked with 3rd through 12th grades helping people to see the arts in all facets of learning. Available for workshops, residencies and curriculum development with teachers. Exhibitions of and lectures regarding her work are available.

**Fees:** Start at \$300/day plus travel expenses **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Colleen L. Coleman, PO Box 56, New Haven, CT 06513

**Tel:** 203-776-1748 **E-mail:** colleencoleman@hotmail.com

**CARLOS J. ESTRELLA**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in watercolors, colored pencil, ink

**Services:** “As a visual artist, I feel comfortable among people who, though they don’t understand the meaning of my art, enjoy the art. I work mostly on portraits, landscapes and still life.” Commissioned work.

**Fees:** Call for information **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Carlos Estrella, 125 Putnam Street, New Haven, CT 06519

**Tel:** 203-772-4105



Abney Tyson

**SCOTT KESSEL**

**Arts Discipline:** Multidisciplinary—specializes in percussion, vocal music, visual arts (K-12 certification)

**Services:** “I offer exciting hands-on drumming and singing workshops which are not only educational, but inspiring and fun as well.”

**Fees:** \$200-\$3000 plus expenses **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Scott Kessel, Artist At Large Productions, PO Box 907, Middletown, CT 06457

**Tel:** Studio: 860-344-9981, Home: 860-704-8181 **E-mail:** [artistatlarge@aol.com](mailto:artistatlarge@aol.com)

**EVA SCOPINO**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting, drawing, collage

**Services:** “Nature seeps into my work, especially through symbolism—images about human nature, the nature of memory and loss, the concept of revealing/concealing, metaphors for transition and regeneration. I’m working on evoking the essence of objects rather than illustrating them.” Workshops, residencies.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Eva Scopino, 10 Burton Street, New Haven, CT 06515

**Tel:** 203-397-0077



Jennifer W. Lester

**CLAIRE R. STAMATIEN**

**Arts discipline:** Literary—specializes in sociopolitical poetry

**Services:** “Poetry has always invited me into lives I would not otherwise know. Most of my work is created in a state of consciousness which is as intimate as prayer.” Workshops.

**Fees:** \$100/hr **Audience:** 4-9th grade

**Contact:** Claire R. Stamatien, 223 Kneeland Road, New Haven, CT 06512

**Tel:** 203-469-7085



Jennifer W. Lester

**BRIAN THOMPSON**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting, drawing, graphic design, animation

**Services:** “ICCD made me want to have my own business and I’ve progressed ever since.” Illustrations, ads, flyers, business cards, posters and computer animation.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Brian Thompson, 70 Sheldon Terrace, New Haven, CT 06511

**Tel:** 203-776-4136

#### **EDGEWOOD MAGNET SCHOOL**

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary

**Services:** “We’ve been designated a HOTS (Higher Order Thinking School) by the Connecticut Commission on the Arts. Resident artists collaborate with classroom teachers to play an integral part in the school’s art-infused curriculum. Writing and self-expression are a major focus of the program.”

**Fees:** N/A

**Contact:** Bonnie Pachesa, 37 Edgewood Avenue, New Haven, CT 06515

**Tel:** 203-946-8611 **Fax:** 203-946-8957

#### **LATINO YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary—specializes in music, theater, sculpture, painting, drawing

**Services:** “Our mission is to help Latino youth reach their full educational, social, cultural and recreational potentials. We offer leisure time, quality enrichment, prevention of drugs and alcohol and educational programs to low income Latino children and families.”

**Fees:** N/A

**Contact:** Diana Sallas Benitez, 154 Minor Street, New Haven, CT 06519

**Tel:** 203-776-3649

#### **PEQUENAS LIGAS HISPANAS DE NEW HAVEN**

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary—specializes in music, theater, visual arts

**Services:** “Our mission is to blend the athletic development of children with their cultural, educational and artistic growth. Our job is to make the arts as accessible as possible for the neighborhood.” Workshops, sports programs, etc.

**Fees:** N/A

**Contact:** Peter A. Noble, P. O. Box 954, New Haven, CT 06504

**Tel:** 203-787-3848

#### **ST. MARTIN DE PORRES QUILTING WORKSHOP**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in quilting

**Services:** “We are a non-profit organization that offers a unique opportunity to study the rich cultural tradition of quilting with a local African American master quilter. Workshops.

**Fees:** \$75/six weeks plus \$10/quilting text

**Contact:** Constance Ramsey or Claudia Kay, 136 Dixwell Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511

**Tel:** 203-624-9944, 203-562-6426

#### **VITAL ELEMENTS PRODUCTIONS, INC.**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in music and dance

**Services:** “We are committed to providing quality theater, dance, music, poetry, fashion and personal growth workshops.” Workshops and performances.

**Fees:** \$50/children; \$150/adults **Audience:** Ages 7 and up

**Contact:** Liston N. Filyaw, Director or Gloria Richardson, Assistant Director, P.O. Box 1364, New Haven, CT 06505

**Tel:** 203-773-9662 **Fax:** 203-946-8347



Philip Fortune

**MARIANELA MEDRANO-MARRA, SITE COORDINATOR**

"As site coordinator for Norwalk, I have seen artists blossom, discovering their potential. Our job is to provide information, resources and technical support; the artists' jobs are to take those resources, information and technical support and turn them into their most powerful tools. I feel that the artists have captured the UAI essence. Talented artists who were aware of their talents but did not know how to turn their art into a means of living are now exploring new possibilities. Some of them have discovered that they have more than aesthetics to share with an audience. They are learning, for example, that they can also teach others what they know. I am confident that this network will turn into a very strong community."

**Arts Discipline:** Literary—specializes in Spanish/English creative writing workshops and poetry readings

**Services:** She is available for community organizations, especially those that serve the Latino community and for schools and other organizations at large. Medrano has three books published in her native language and has been included in numerous anthologies throughout the United States, Latin American and Spain.

**Fees:** \$150/hr **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Marianela Medrano-Marra, 15 Orchard Heights, New Milford, CT 06776

**Tel:** 860-354-9016 **E-mail:** MarianelaMed@aol.com

**I.C.Y., INC.**

**Arts discipline:** Literary—specializes in children's literature

**Services:** "My adult writing is about ancestry and relationships of my American black experience, Native American, African and Haitian. My poems, plays and screenplays range from spiritual to social criticism to comedic. My children's literature deals with self-acceptance and learning."

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** I.C.Y., Inc., PO Box 1288, Norwalk, CT 06856

**Tel:** 203-984-4600

**AMPARO JARAMILLO**

**Arts Discipline:** Literary—specializes in poetry and storytelling

**Services:** She creates children's poetry and short stories with multicultural themes in Spanish. Her goal is to encourage children to learn Spanish as a second language, while helping children from Hispanic background to be proud of their language and traditions.

**Fees:** \$150 **Audience:** K-6

**Contact:** Amparo Jaramillo, 57 Ward Street, Apt. #5, Norwalk, CT 06851

**Tel:** 203-847-4542



Philip Fortune

**PAGE MCBRIER  
COLUMBUS MAGNET SCHOOL**

**Arts Discipline:** Literary—specializes in children's books

**Services:** Children's book author/writer. Available for individual presentations, workshop presentations tailored to any curriculum. McBrier is a teacher at Columbus Magnet School.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** Elementary

**Contact:** Page McBrier, 24 Crockett Street, Norwalk, CT, 06853

**Tel:** 203-853-1512 **Fax:** 203-853-1512 **E-mail:** pmcbrier@aol.com



**UMA KUMAR**

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary—specializes in Indian Classical Dance  
**Services:** Trained in several Indian dance and music traditions; paintings exhibited in juried shows; writing including poetry and broadcasting. Ten years of experience teaching dance and music.  
**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** Junior/senior high school, adult audiences, festivals and outdoor events  
**Contact:** Uma Kumar, 3 France Street, Unit D, Norwalk, CT 06851  
**Tel:** 203-846-6857 **E-mail:** Umakumar72@hotmail.com



**ELBA LLANTÍN-CRUZ**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in songwriting and vocals  
**Services:** Performs various types of ballads, R&B, Latin, Soft Rock, and songs for children. Focus is upon music that expresses faith in God and the human spirit.  
**Fees:** \$100-\$200/hour plus traveling expenses **Audience:** Elementary, junior/senior high school, concerts/ events, festivals and outdoor events  
**Contact:** Elba Llantín-Cruz, 91 Ely Avenue, Norwalk CT 06854  
**Tel:** 203-854-9312 (h), 203-899-2840 (w) **E-mail:** Molla411@cs.com



Philip Fortune

**PATRICIA OMONTE**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in graphic design, watercolors, drawing  
**Services:** Residencies and classroom workshops incorporating graphic design projects with emphasis on the school's current topic. Other possible projects using visual arts and language arts.  
**Fees:** \$200-300/day **Audience:** Elementary, adult  
**Contact:** Patricia Omonte, 3 Sheila Court, Norwalk, CT 06851  
**Tel/Fax:** 203-846-1160 **E-mail:** Studiopons@aol.com



Philip Fortune

**RITA I. PHILLIPS**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in quilting  
**Services:** Traditional and contemporary quilting programs integrating visual and language arts, geography, and history. Perfect one-on-one or group activity. Possible projects: theme quilts, historical, diversity, important people, family history.  
**Fees:** Negotiable plus expenses. **Audience:** Elementary, junior/senior high school, adults, festivals and outdoor events  
**Contact:** Rita I. Phillips, 6 Rowayton Court, Norwalk, CT 06853  
**Tel:** 203-838-3427 **E-mail:** quiltdadyrita@net.foundry



Philip Fortune

**ROSALINA TIPTON**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting and art projects  
**Services:** Exhibitions and classroom workshops designed to make students aware of the Amazon rain-forest and its unique flora and fauna. Through the display of her paintings and art projects with students, the ecology of the rainforest is explored.  
**Fees:** \$200/day **Audience:** K-6  
**Contact:** Rosalina Tipton, 233 Westport Road, Wilton, CT 06897  
**Tel:** 203-834-2802 **E-mail:** rosatipton@aol.com



Philip Fortune

**ANNA VECCIA**

**Arts discipline:** Literary—specializes in creative writing

**Services:** Available for workshops with junior/senior high schools as well as teen and adult community centers. Poetry readings available for adult and teen audiences.

**Fees:** \$100/hour **Audience:** junior/senior high schools, adult

**Contact:** Anna Veccia, P.O. Box 1183, South Norwalk, CT 06854

**Tel:** 203-852-1837 **E-mail:** [girltuesday@webtv.net](mailto:girltuesday@webtv.net)



Philip Fortune

**WILLIAM J. VELEZ****GRACE OUTREACH**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in contemporary Christian music

**Services:** Velez is a graduate of the Connecticut School of Broadcasting. Services include voiceover, narration, animation and master of ceremony.

**Fees:** \$50-100/hr **Audience:** All

**Contact:** William J. Velez, 8 Sleepy Hollow Drive, Norwalk CT 06851

**Tel:** 203-846-6724



Philip Fortune

**SYLVIA FERNANDEZ-STEIN, SITE COORDINATOR**

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary—specializes in sculpture and dance as well as coordinating concerts and festivals

**Contact:** Sylvia Fernandez-Stein, 67 Leonard Street, Stamford, CT 06906

**Tel:** 203-358-0777 **Fax:** 203-327-5561 **E-mail:** uai\_stamford@yahoo.com



Philip Fortune

**NURIT AVIGDOR**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in Israeli/Jewish music

**Services:** “My goal is to spread my culture and show its beauty through Israeli/Jewish music utilizing my talent on the guitar.” Available for concerts.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Nurit Avigdor, 163 Weedhill Avenue, Stamford, CT 06907

**Fax:** 203-968-2465 **Email:** avigdor@aol.com



Philip Fortune

**JYOTI BATHIJA**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in oil painting

**Services:** “I portray facts from my life experiences in a semi-abstract style and convey my philosophy of life through oil paintings. I strive to show not only the solidity of subjects and people but also their hidden energies.”

**Fees:** \$50-\$75/hr **Audience:** Junior/senior high school, adult, family festivals/events

**Contact:** Jyoti Bathija, 50 Glenbrook Road, Stamford, CT 06902

**Tel/Fax:** 203-325-4147 **E-mail:** jbathija@pol.net



**PHILIP GARDINER**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in theater

**Services:** Philip builds his residency around the beliefs that art is transformative, that the opposite of trauma is transformation and that everyone can be an actor. An original, authentic dramatic work by each student is the goal of each residency.

**Fees:** \$250/day; \$150/half day **Audience:** Junior/senior high school

**Contact:** Philip Gardiner, 60 Puritan Lane, Stamford CT, 06906

**Tel:** 203-323-520, 917-898-4516 (pager)

**VALERIYA KURBATOVA**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in performing traditional Russian romance & folk music

**Services:** Concerts

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** Available for Russian and American audiences of all ages

**Contact:** Valeriya Kurbatova, 80 Lafayette Street #2, Stamford, CT 06902

**Tel:** 203-324-2046 **E-mail:** flavazol@dbtonline.net



Philip Fortune

**MARGUERITE LAURENT**

**Arts discipline:** Literary/Performance/Entertainment Attorney—specializes in poetry

**Services:** Residencies and classroom workshops integrating creative dream improvisation, spoken word, multiculturalism and Afro-Haitian dance. Helps students (K-12) explore and tell their own stories and tales. Artist's poetry pieces and own multicultural, multilingual background complements classroom curriculum and covers hip-hop culture and music.

**Fees:** Start at \$350/single workshop; \$550 per day; residency program: \$1500/week-long residency. Special rate multiple week engagements. Performance (solo or jazz poetry group) from \$900 to \$1500 (negotiable) **Audience:** K-12, family concerts

**Contact:** Marguerite Laurent

**Tel:** 203-323-8242 **E-mail:** erzilidanto@aol.com



Philip Fortune

**IYABA IBO MANDINGO**

**Arts discipline:** Visual/Literary—specializes in poetry and painting

**Services:** "I attempt to infuse as much of my culture and background into my work as a literary artist. I utilize spirituality, esthetics, and a variety of materials." Poetry workshops and ethnic arts classes.

**Fees:** Poetry class-\$25/hour, Ethnic arts-\$40/hour **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Iyaba Ibo Mandingo, PO Box 15824, Stamford, CT 06902

**Tel:** 203-981-3704 **E-mail:** iyabart@hotmail.com

**JEWISH ARTS ALIVE**

**Arts discipline:** Literary—specializes in children's theater

**Services:** Tamar Gershberg is a playwright and director with extensive experience in children's theater. She can be commissioned to work on interactive events or to put on plays and performances with a variety of themes.

**Fees:** \$75/hour **Audience:** Elementary

**Contact:** Tamar Gershberg, 237-38 Strawberry Hill, Stamford, CT, 06902

**Tel:** 203-348-2534 or 203-348-7768



Rajul Mehta

**KALASHAKTI SCHOOL OF INDIAN DANCE**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializing in Indian classical dance

**Services:** Master dancer Sonal Vora has eighteen years experience, does school performances and residencies. Integrating dance with language arts and social studies. Sonal enhances the programs with explanations of different aspects of Indian culture and traditions.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Sonal Vora, 150 Hope Street Unit #2, Stamford, CT 06906-2033

**Tel:** 203-327-1685 **E-mail:** sonalvora@aol.com



Harold Shapiro

“When the new Inner City Cultural Development (ICCD) program came to New Haven in the mid 1990’s, the Arts Council provided the Site Coordinator, Naomi Ayala, with free office space. Watching it grow and prosper, we decided it was the most successful project of developing capacities for artists that we had ever seen. When the program completed its three years, the Arts Council determined it would find a way to duplicate it.

“In 1998, with funds from the Organizational Challenge Grants of the Connecticut Commission on the Arts and the support of the Chase Bank, the Council started its own ICCD program. Now, beginning its third year under the leadership of Coordinator Malissa Bowles, we are serving eighteen distinguished artists from many disciplines whose work is recognized in this directory. Working closely with the Urban Artists Initiative, we believe we have seen our artists become successful professionals and members of a dynamic statewide, creative network.”

**Bitsie (Frances) Clark**  
Executive Director, Arts Council of Greater New Haven

**MEDRIA BLUE**

**Arts discipline:** Literary/Performance—specializes in spoken word  
**Contact:** Medria Blue, 53 Dyer Street, New Haven, CT 06511  
**Tel:** 203-865-5752



Phillip Fortune

**MIGDALIA CASTRO**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in clowning  
**Contact:** Migdalia Castro, 310 Dyer Street, New Haven, CT 06511  
**Tel:** 203-387-4199

**JANICE DAVIS**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in photography  
**Services:** “I am a photographer working in color and black and white imagery. I enjoy documenting city and street life. My photos celebrate life and people’s ability to succeed and survive against all odds.”  
Portraits, parties, collages.  
**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All  
**Contact:** Janice Davis, 7 Mountain Ridge Terrace #48, New Haven, CT 06513  
**Tel:** 203-785-0656 **E-mail:** Petorah@yahoo.com



**PAMELA DEAR**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting and graphics  
**Services:** “As a visual artist, I want my art to share the strength, passion, inspiration and light that is my experience. Art has the power to portray beauty beyond murky images characterized in populace mediums.”  
Residencies, festivals/outdoor events.  
**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All  
**Contact:** Pamela Dear, 318 Shelton Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511  
**Tel:** 203-777-3799 **E-mail:** pameladear@hotmail.com

**NELSON FORD**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting, pastels, pencil/ink, charcoal

**Services:** Nelson Ford's inspiration is to create a sense of pride for our youth and to bring more attention to the positive facts that have been purposely ignored in most history books. Available for lectures/workshops.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Nelson Ford, 22 Edgewood Avenue, Wallingford, CT 06492

**Tel:** 203-265-4891 **E-mail:** ncford@snet.net



Gail Zinkler

**RENEE "SHADOW" GHANT**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in poetry and songwriting

**Services:** "Art is a universal language upon which all other languages are built. As an award-winning songwriter, performance poet, educator and producer, I use art to motivate, educate and integrate."

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Renee Ghant, PO Box 473, New Haven, CT 06502

**Tel:** 203-477-5778 **Fax:** 203-777-6466 **E-mail:** GHANTSHADOW@aol.com

**EDDRIN GIBSON**

**Arts discipline:** Visual

**Contact:** Eddrin Gibson, 154 Roger White, New Haven, CT 06511

**Tel:** 203-789-8981

**BRIAN "JARAWA" GRAY**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in drumming

**Services:** Brian Gray has thirty years experience as a performer who utilizes the drum as a teaching and healing tool. He embraces and interprets the African American experience as a valid and beautiful culture in his teachings and performances.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Brian Gray, 265 Blake Street, #15, New Haven, CT 06515

**Tel:** 203-668-1660

**AARON JAFFERIS**

**Arts discipline:** Literary—specializes in poetry

**Contact:** Aaron Jafferis, 258 Willow Street, New Haven, CT 06511

**Tel:** 203-562-3415

**KATHLEEN MALOZZI**

**Arts Discipline:** Visual

**Contact:** Kathleen Malozzi, 119 Pendleton Street, New Haven, CT 06511

**Tel:** 203-387-2655

**MARIE MILLER**

**Arts Discipline:** Performance—specializes in music

**Contact:** Marie Miller, 12 Collins Drive, West Haven, CT 06516

**Tel:** 203-931-0501

**BURNICE MILLS**

**Arts discipline:** Performance—specializes in music

**Services:** Burnice Mills is the lead musician in the six member jazz group, Burn Mills and Friends. This group's creativity and musical/vocal expertise can be heard on their CD entitled "Sip of My Luv".

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Burnice Mills, 61 Stevens Street, New Haven, CT 06519

**Tel:** 203-789-2939 **E-mail:** millsmecca@netscape.net

**RODNEY MOORE**

**Arts discipline:** Literary/Performance—specializes in poetry and theater

**Services:** Founder of the "Dixwell Theater Group" and serves as its coordinator and performance director. Group created to give inner city youth the opportunity to learn theater and enhance their life skills.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Rodney Moore, 90 Morrissey Lane, West Haven, CT 06516

**Tel:** 203-931-4360



**PAULA PANZARELLA**

**Arts discipline:** Literary—specializes in performance poetry, workshops, and writing

**Services:** "Whether through poetry, stories or essays, I've always used writing as a way to figure out the world. Words are sometimes an effective way to break through barriers. Poetry gives me that opportunity."

**Fees:** Starting at \$150 **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Paula Panzarella, 70 Judson Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511

**Tel:** 203-562-2798 **E-mail:** PLPanz@aol.com

**CARMELLA RICCIARDELLA**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in design arts

**Contact:** Carmella Ricciardella, 86 Webb Street, Hamden, CT 06517

**Tel:** 203-624-4283



**KAREL SLOANE**

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary/Performance—specializes in poetry

**Services:** Ms. Sloane is a slam poet and actress. Her workshops integrate science, math, social studies, visual art and storytelling to promote literacy, build community and teach cultural connectivity.

**Fees:** Starting at \$250 **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Karel Sloane, 344 Norton Street, 2nd floor-#2, New Haven, CT 06511

**Tel:** 203-777-8626 **E-mail:** adastra.06511@yahoo.com



**JANET B. STONER**

**Arts discipline:** Multidisciplinary—specializes in photography and crafts

**Services:** "I believe that art is sensory and is therefore experienced daily through sight, touch, smell, taste, and hearing. My work encourages people to experience the beauty and purpose of art."

Workshops, theater costumes, painted furniture.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Janet B. Stoner, 102 Parkside Drive, New Haven, CT 06515

**Tel:** 203-397-5499 **E-mail:** JART12@aol.com

**NORMA TONEY**

**Arts discipline:** Visual—specializes in painting, design arts and art therapy

**Services:** Ms. Toney is available for commissioned art, drawing projects, residencies, art therapy for individuals and groups, as well as in service workshops designed for therapeutic resolutions, problem solving, etc.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** All

**Contact:** Norma Toney, 177 State Street, Bridgeport, CT 06604

**Tel:** 203-576-8914 **Fax:** 203-338-0777

**L.L. WHITE**

**Arts Discipline:** Literary/Performance—specializes in screenwriting and poetry

**Services:** “Our complexity is his simplicity; our existence is fragmented matter of his origin. Mankind: the creature impersonating the creator.” Available for poetry readings, commercials, corporate videos and writing workshops.

**Fees:** Upon request **Audience:** Junior/senior high school, festivals/outdoor events

**Contact:** L.L. White, PO Box 207107, Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520

**Tel:** 203-789-8787 **E-mail:** gabrielmichaelforce@yahoo.com

# INDEX OF ARTISTS

<b>PAGE</b>	<b>ARTIST'S NAME</b>	<b>LITERARY DISCIPLINE</b>
24	Arango, Juan Carlos	Latin American Literature
32	Blue, Medria	Creative Writing
14	Herlitzka, Tamara	Creative Writing, Playwriting, Theatrical Improvisation
27	I.C.Y.	Children's Literature, Creative Writing
33	Jafferis, Aaron	Poetry
27	Jaramillo, Amparo	Poetry, Storytelling
31	Laurent, Marguerite	Poetry
31	Mandingo, Iyaba Ibo	Poetry
27	Medrano-Marra, Marianela	Poetry, Creative Writing, Poetry Readings
27	McBrier, Page	Children's Books
34	Moore, Rodney	Poetry
15	Owens, Donna C.	Poetry
34	Panzarella, Paula	Poetry, Creative Writing
15	Perez-Silva, Glaisma	Poetry
25	Stamatien, Claire R.	Poetry
29	Veccia, Anna	Creative Writing
35	White, L.L.	Poetry, Screenwriting

## **VISUAL DISCIPLINE**

13	Barnes, Delois	Sculpture, Wood/Stone Carving
30	Bathija, Jyoti	Oil Painting
17	Bennett, Vanessa	Painting, Drawing, Murals
21	de Bernard, Ann Evans	Photography, Painting
21	Bryan, Michael	Portraits, Murals
6	Chabot, Marc	Printmaking, Drawing
6	Chabre, Christine	Painting, Gallery Owner
24	Coleman, Colleen L.	Painting, Assemblage, Installation
9	Cook, E. Diann	Painting, Collage
13	Cromwell, Stanwyck E.	Painting
6	Czarnecki, Marek	Byzantine Iconography, Painting
32	Davis, Janice	Photography
32	Dear, Pamela	Painting, Graphics
7	DeCicco, Betsy	Painting
13	Eason, Lorreta	Photography, Illustration
25	Estrella, Carlos	Painting
7	Ferola, Corinne	Fine Art Photography
17	Figueiredo, Raquel Fonseca	Costume Design
18	Fisher, Ronald	Painting, Ceramic Sculpture, Mold Making
33	Ford, Nelson	Painting, Drawing
33	Gibson, Eddrin	Visual Arts
18	Good, Kathy	Drawing
14	Gonzalez, Melanio J.	Crafts
14	James, Beja	Installation
21	Kachmar, Suzanne M.	Figurative Drawing, Painting
21	Lawson, John	Painting, Drawing, Airbrush, Murals
33	Malozzi, Kathleen	Visual Arts
31	Mandingo, Iyaba Ibo	Painting
14	Maxey, Janette	Figurative Drawing, Painting
18	McDougall, Carey	Sculpture

<b>PAGE</b>	<b>ARTIST'S NAME</b>	<b>VISUAL DISCIPLINE</b> <small>(continued)</small>
24	Mejia-Sikorski, Liliana	Painting, Mosaics, Murals
7	Mercier, Victor M.	Painting
18	Miller, James	Photography
14	Munroe, Norma Rae	Oil Painting
9	Niazyan, Aleksandr	Installation, Plaster Molding, Interior Design
28	Omonte, Patricia	Graphic Design, Painting, Drawing
15	Owens, Donna C.	Collage
6	Parulski, Kathleen	Crafts, Book Arts
28	Phillips, Rita I.	Quilting
10	Quinones-Rodriguez, Graciela	Fine Art Crafts, String Instruments, Mixed Media
34	Ricciardella, Carmella	Design Arts
25	Scopino, Eva	Painting, Drawing, Collage
22	Senteio, Joseph	Painting, Mixed Media
18	Shea, Rosanne	Painting, Art Education
15	Sikorski, Lori	Sculpture/Mixed Media
9	Simmons, Deborah A.	Textile, Quilting
7	Spinelli, James	Painting
25	Thompson, Brian	Painting, Drawing, Graphic Design, Animation
28	Tipton, Rosalina	Painting, Art Projects
35	Toney, Norma	Painting, Design Arts, Art Therapy
10	Vargas, Berta	Painting, Potichomania
22	Verrillo, Vincent	Photography, Painting, Drawing
7	Watras, Elana	Painting, Drawing, Clay
8	Weinman, Donald	Painting, Sculpture, Gallery Owner
	<b>PERFORMANCE</b>	
30	Avigdor, Nurit	Israeli/Jewish Music
32	Blue, Medria	Spoken Word
32	Castro, Migdalia	Clowning
17	Figueiredo, Raquel Fonseca	Acting
30	Gardiner, Philip	Theater
33	Ghant, Renee "Shadow"	Songwriting, Acting
33	Gray, Brian "Jarawa"	Drumming
31	Kurbatova, Valeriya	Russian Romance & Folk Music
31	Laurent, Marguerite	Dance, Improvisation
28	Llantin-Cruz, Elba	Songwriting, Vocals
22	Malone, Nanette	Poetry, Performance Art
22	Mastromonaco, Claire	Dance
33	Miller, Marie	Music
34	Mills, Burnice	Music
34	Moore, Rodney	Theater
10	Ramirez, Gryssel	Caribbean Music
13	Sidara, Manola	Laotian Dance
22	Silva, Efram	Capoeira (Dance & Self-Defense)
9	Simmons, Deborah A.	Music, Art Education
19	Simoes, Sylvie	Vocals, Country Music, Church Choir, Portuguese American
29	Velez, William J.	Christian Music
35	White, L.L.	Poetry Readings, Acting



## INDEX OF ARTISTS

<b>PAGE</b>	<b>ARTIST'S NAME</b>	<b>MULTIDISCIPLINARY</b>
24	Barnett, Mary	Dance, Performance Art, Acting
17	Boisvert, Stephen	Music, Dance, Theater, Film, Commercials
21	Ellerbee, Calvin, Jr.	Music, Event Planner/Coordinator
30	Fernandez-Stein, Sylvia	Sculpture, Dance, Events Coordinator
28	Kumar, Uma	Indian Classical Dance, Writing, Painting
25	Kessel, Scott	Percussion, Vocals, Drumming, Visual Arts
9	Plaganis, Margaret	Collage, Sculpture, Performance Art, Poetry
34	Sloane, Karel	Slam Poet, Actress, Storytelling, Visual Art
19	Smyth, Susan	Children's Theater, Creative Writing, Set Design, Mask Making
34	Stoner, Janet B.	Photography, Crafts
15	Wiley, Regina M.	Poetry, Sculpture, Drumming
23	Williams, Yohuru Ralph	Music, Drumming, Instrument Making

<b>PAGE</b>	<b>ARTS ORGANIZATION'S NAME</b>	<b>DISCIPLINE</b>
15	Amor Y Cultura	Folk Music
19	Brass City Ballet School	Dance
8	Bristol Central High School	Theater
23	Cape Verdean Women's Social Club	Cape Verdean Visual & Performance Art, Poetry
11	The Connecticut Band	Latin Music
10	Cultural Dance Troupe of the West Indies, Inc.	Theater, Dance
26	Edgewood Magnet School	N/A
19	Ehden Lebanese American Club, Inc.	Folk Music, Dance, Media Arts
16	Fotoba	West African Dance & Drumming
16	Greater New Britain Arts Alliance, Inc.	Cultural/Community Services
10	Guakia, Inc.	Dance, Music, Art Exhibits
23	International Institute of Connecticut, Inc.	Cultural/Community Services
31	Jewish Arts Alive	Children's Theater, Playwriting
31	Kalashakti School of Indian Dance	Classical Indian Dance
26	Latino Youth Development	Music, Theater, Sculpture, Painting, Drawing
8	Living Traditions Gallery	Gallery, Contemporary Art
11	The Many Colors of a Woman	Jazz Vocals
23	McGivney Community Center	Dance, Theater, Music, Visual Arts
11	Mestizo Manta	Peruvian Music, Dance, Arts
19	M.M. Generali Elementary School	N/A
23	The Network Video Group	Media Arts, Video, Television Production
11	North End Arts Rising, Inc.	Theater, Dance, Music, Visual Arts
16	Nzinga's Daughters	Voice, Prose
26	Pequeñas Ligas Hispanas de New Haven	Music, Theater, Visual Arts
20	P.R.I.D.E, Inc.	African Dance, Murals
16	Repertory Theater of New Britain	Theater
11	Sankofa-Kuumba Cultural Arts Consortium	African Dance & Music
26	St. Martin de Porres Quilting Workshop	Quilting
16	Swivel Hips	Pop/Rock Music
20	Unity Dance Ensemble	Dance
26	Vital Elements Productions, Inc.	Music, Dance
20	Walnut-Orange-Walsh Improvement Association, Inc.	Dance, Theater, Visual Arts
12	West Indian Foundation, Inc.	Dance, Theater, Music
12	Women of the Cross	A cappella Vocals

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UAI artist James E. Miller creates PhotoGlobes™, two and three-dimensional panoramic collages composed of multiple photographs. He began developing this art form in 1974. Since then he has created 360-degree panoramas of the Brooklyn Bridge, the Statue of Liberty, Niagara Falls, Times Square in New York City on New Year's Eve, and numerous landscapes. His work has been displayed throughout Connecticut. Miller was recently awarded a one-year residency at the Farmington Valley Arts Center in a statewide competition sponsored by the Urban Artists Initiative. Miller attributes the UAI program with "intensifying my focus and discipline through its leadership and professional guidance." Miller has also enjoyed his connection with other artists in the program. "I now know that I'm not the only one with this very intense energy to create," he says. "Being an artist is something we have to do."

Cover, inside cover and border art by James E. Miller. "East 41st Street, New York," photo mosaic, approximately 28" x 57"



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