



“Strategies for Public Art” February 17-18, 2005 New York City Public Art Resources

New York City agencies and commissions

Art Commission (www.nyc.gov/html/artcom/home.html)

The Art Commission is the New York City agency responsible for the review and approval of works of art, architecture, and landscape architecture on City-owned property. The Commission reviews a wide variety of projects for their aesthetic appropriateness, including: distinctive sidewalks; construction and restoration of buildings, parks and playgrounds; installation of lighting; and the design, installation, and conservation of artwork. The agency consists of eleven members and three full-time staff.

City Planning Commission (www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/home.html)

The City Planning Commission, established in 1936, is responsible for the conduct of planning relating to the orderly growth and development of the City, including adequate and appropriate resources for the housing, business, industry, transportation, distribution, recreation, culture, comfort, convenience, health and welfare of its population. The thirteen-member Commission meets regularly to hold hearings and vote on applications, as described above, concerning the use, development and improvement of real property subject to City regulation. Its consideration of these applications includes an assessment of their environmental impacts where required by law. The Mayor appoints the Chair who is also the Director of City Planning. The Mayor also appoints six other members, each Borough President appoints one member, and the Public Advocate appoints one member. The Chair serves at the Mayor's pleasure while the other 12 commissioners each serve for staggered terms of 5 years.

Department of Cultural Affairs (www.nyc.gov/dcla)

The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs (DCLA) is dedicated to supporting and strengthening New York City's vibrant cultural life. Among its primary missions is to ensure adequate public funding for non-profit cultural organizations, both large and small throughout the five boroughs. DCLA also works to promote and advocate for quality arts programming and to articulate the contribution made by the cultural community to the City's economic vitality. The Department represents and serves non-profit cultural organizations involved in the visual, literary and performing arts; public-oriented science and humanities institutions including zoos, botanical gardens and historic and preservation societies; and creative artists at all skill levels who live and work within the City's five boroughs.

Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission

(www.nyc.gov/html/dcla/html/about/advisory.shtml)

The Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission is mandated by the City Charter to advise the Department of Cultural Affairs on issues relating to the City's cultural life. The current Commission, under the chairmanship of Agnes Gund, was appointed by Mayor Bloomberg in February 2003. Over the past year, the Commission has provided invaluable guidance and expertise on a variety of critical areas, including arts education, capital financing, management and board development and marketing.

Percent for Art Program (www.nyc.gov/html/dcla/html/panyc/panyc_main.shtml)

The Percent for Art Program makes art accessible and visible throughout New York City, one of the world's cultural capitals. Public art serves as an expression of the community, and these public sites provide an important venue for all New Yorkers and visitors to appreciate artwork outside the traditional museum or gallery setting. Percent for Art projects are site-specific and engage a variety of media—painting, mosaic, glass, textiles, sculpture, and works that are integrated into infrastructure or architecture. The Program commissions artists of all races and backgrounds that reflect the diversity of New York City. These projects demonstrate how art that is integrated into its site enhances civic architecture and a wide range of public spaces.

In 1982, the Percent for Art law was initiated by Mayor Edward I. Koch and passed by the Council of the City of New York, requiring that one percent of the budget for eligible city-funded construction projects be spent on artwork for city facilities. Administrated by the City's Department of Cultural Affairs, the Program began in 1983 with the development of a procedure for determining eligible projects and an equitable artist selection process. The Percent for Art Program offers City agencies the opportunity to acquire or commission works of art specifically for city-owned buildings throughout the five boroughs. The purpose of the Program is to bring artists into the design process and enrich the City's civic and community buildings. Since the Program's inception, more than 180 projects with over \$26 million of accumulated artwork commissions have been completed, and 50 new projects are currently in progress.

Department of Design & Construction (www.nyc.gov/html/ddc/home.html)

The Department of Design and Construction (DDC) delivers the City's construction projects in an expeditious, cost-effective manner, while maintaining the highest degree of architectural, engineering, and construction quality. DDC uses in-house resources and private consultants and contractors to perform design and construction services related to streets and highways, sewers, water mains, correctional and court facilities; cultural institutions; libraries; schools; and other public buildings, facilities and structures. DDC coordinates a wide variety of construction projects with utilities, community representatives and private industry, thus minimizing the disruption to individual neighborhoods as well as reducing the costs associated with such projects.

Department of Education and the School Construction Authority (www.nycboe.net)

The Department of Education (DOE) provides primary and secondary education to over 1 million pre-kindergarten to grade 12 students in school districts within 10 regions and over 1,300 schools, and employs approximately 80,000 teachers. The School Construction Authority (SCA) builds new public schools and manages the design, construction, repair and renovation of capital projects in New York City's more than 1,200 public school buildings, half of which were constructed prior to 1949.

Blueprint for Teaching and Learning in the Arts
(www.nycenet.edu/projectarts/PAGES/a-blueprint.htm)

Public Art for Public Schools (www.nycsca.org/ae/paps.html)

The NYC Department of Education (DOE) and the NYC School Construction Authority (SCA) are committed to creating the best possible educational environment for New York City's school children. Public art is an integral component of that environment. The mission of Public Art for Public Schools (PAPS), a DOE unit housed at the SCA, is to commission art for new school buildings and to protect and conserve all existing artworks. To achieve that mission, PAPS administers four programs: Sites for Students, Percent for Art, a professional conservation program, and an adopt-an-artwork program.

The Sites for Students program stresses art education as a component in the creation of permanent public art for new schools. Professional artists/art educators are commissioned to collaborate with students in the conceptualization and creation of projects for these buildings. By inviting students to work with professional artists in designing art for their schools, it is hoped that the artwork will have increased relevance for its immediate audience (and be less vulnerable to vandalism). Working through Percent for Art, DOE and SCA provide direct commissions to artists for the independent creation of permanent artworks for new school buildings. PAPS manages a professional conservation program as the curator of a collection of over 1,300 objects dispersed throughout the school system. Through its Art for Adoption program, PAPS also oversees distribution of art donated to the NYC public schools or relocated from existing sites.

Department of Parks & Recreation (www.nyc.gov/parks)

New York City has more than 1,700 parks, playgrounds and recreation facilities across the five boroughs, covering more than 28,000 acres. Parks & Recreation operates 614 ball fields and 991 playgrounds, and also manages 550 tennis courts, 53 outdoor swimming pools, 10 indoor swimming pools, 35 recreation centers, 14 miles of beaches, 13 golf courses, 6 ice rinks, 3 major stadiums, and 4 zoos.

Parks & Recreation has in its custody the most extensive municipal collection of public art and monuments in the nation. This "outdoor museum," open to the public for free from dawn to dusk, numbers more than 1,200 sites, and includes more than 300 items of sculptural significance. A veritable "Who's who" of American art, it includes the work of nineteenth-century masters such as Augustus Saint-Gaudens, Daniel Chester French and John Quincy Adams Ward, as well as contemporary subjects and conceptions by the likes of Louise Nevelson, George Segal, Alice Aycock and Robert Graham. 300 sculptures and some 1,700 monuments grace the most prominent civic spaces as well as the many localities that constitute the greater metropolis. The

commemorative monuments honor the heights of human achievement and the depths of human sacrifice; they are permanent reminders of the people and events that shaped our city, the nation and the world.

Parks & Recreation has consistently fostered the creation and installation of temporary public art in parks throughout the five boroughs. Since 1967, hundreds of artists have exhibited their works in New York City parks, demonstrating an astonishing array of styles, forms, materials and conceptions. Their works range from steel constructions to installations made from an assortment of organic biodegradable media. Committed to the exhibition of art by emerging and established artists, Parks & Recreation has supported projects ranging from international exhibitions in flagship parks to local, community works in neighborhood parks and traffic islands. Temporary installations are defined by an exhibition period of less than one year, typically remaining on view for three to six months.

Citywide Monuments Conservation Program

In 1997, the Citywide Monuments Conservation Program was launched at the Department of Parks & Recreation with two initial goals: to augment through private investment the City's care of its public art collection and to train the next generation of conservators. The Citywide Monuments Conservation Program monitors the condition of, and performs conservation treatments and maintenance on, the extensive and irreplaceable public art collection in New York City's parks. This program also provides hands-on training to monuments technician apprentices entering the profession of outdoor sculpture conservation. The program, has thus far conserved 41 sculptures, and has provided full-scale, high-quality care for an additional 71 outdoor statues. Seeking to avoid cycles of renovation and decline, the CPF Monuments Conservation Program performs follow-up maintenance of previously conserved statuary. Candidates for maintenance are selected annually in each of the five boroughs, as funding permits. Written and photographic documentation of conservation and maintenance establishes a permanent record of care, and serves to guide further efforts. In addition, CPF manages monuments maintenance endowments, which are a requirement for new sculptures placed in New York City's parks, and also oversees dedicated endowments that may be earmarked for existing statuary. The Citywide Monuments Conservation Program has received preservation awards from the New York Landmarks Conservancy (2003) and the New York City Art Commission (2002) for past conservation projects.

Health and Hospitals Corporation (www.nyc.gov/hhc)

The New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC) oversees the City's public health care system in all five boroughs. HHC consists of 11 acute care hospitals, 6 Diagnostic and Treatment Centers, 4 long-term care facilities, a certified home health care agency, and more than 100 community health clinics. HHC facilities treat nearly one-fifth of all general hospital discharges and more than one third of emergency room and hospital-based clinic visits in New York City.

Landmarks Preservation Commission (www.nyc.gov/html/lpc/home.html)

The Landmarks Preservation Commission is the New York City agency responsible for identifying and designating the city's landmarks and the buildings in the city's historic districts.

The Commission also regulates changes to designated buildings. Established in 1965, the agency, consisting of eleven Commissioners and about 50 full-time staff, is the largest municipal preservation agency in the United States.

NYC & Company (www.nycvisit.com)

NYC & Company— New York City's official tourism marketing organization— is a private, membership-based non-profit dedicated to building New York City's economy and positive image through tourism and convention development, major events, and the marketing of the city worldwide. NYC & Company provides information and assistance with all services and facilities relating to the tourism and convention industries to meeting planners, tour operators, travel agents, individual visitors, and the worldwide news media. With a membership of more than 1,700 businesses, including museums, hotels, restaurants, retail stores, theaters, tour organizations, and attractions, NYC & Company has a current budget of about \$15 million, roughly half of which is contributed by the City of New York.

New York State agencies

Battery Park City Authority (www.batteryparkcity.org)

Battery Park City Authority (BPCA) is a public benefit corporation created by the New York State Legislature in 1968 to develop Battery Park City as a new residential and commercial community. The project area is owned by BPCA.

Lower Manhattan Development Corporation (www.renewnyc.com)

The Lower Manhattan Development Corporation (LMDC) was created in the aftermath of September 11, 2001 by Governor Pataki and then-Mayor Giuliani to help plan and coordinate the rebuilding and revitalization of Lower Manhattan, defined as everything south of Houston Street. The LMDC is a joint State-City corporation governed by a 16-member Board of Directors, half appointed by the Governor of New York and half by the Mayor of New York. LMDC is charged with ensuring Lower Manhattan recovers from the attacks and emerges even better than it was before. The centerpiece of LMDC's efforts is the creation of a permanent memorial honoring those lost, while affirming the democratic values that came under attack on September 11.

The LMDC administered the World Trade Center Site Memorial Competition. Through this competition, the jury selected a design for a single memorial that remembers and honors all loss of life on September 11, 2001, and February 26, 1993. The LMDC received an enormous outpouring of ideas from across the globe with 13,683 registrants and 5,201 Memorial submissions from 63 nations. Competitors were advised to design concepts that are consistent with the Memorial Mission Statement and Program developed by committees convened by the LMDC that included family members, residents, survivors, first responders, arts and architecture professionals and community leaders. These committees premised their work on an initial memorial mission statement and program developed by the LMDC Families Advisory Council. Both documents were subject to extensive public comment and were subsequently revised based on such comment.

MTA Arts for Transit (www.mta.info/mta/aft)

MTA Arts for Transit (AFT) is the office of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) that administers visual and performing arts programs in subway and rail stations. AFT

commissions public art that enhances the transportation environment and touches the lives of hundreds of thousands of people daily. As the MTA rehabilitates subway and commuter rail stations in metropolitan New York, a portion of the Capital Program funds are used for art installations. Through AFT's award-winning Permanent Art Program, art creates unique links to neighborhoods with projects that echo the design context of each station as well as the architectural history of the transit system. Both well-established and emerging artists contribute to a growing collection of works through a competitive selection process. Since 1985, 140 site-specific projects have been installed. Another 40 commissions are in progress.

New York State Council on the Arts (www.nysca.org)

The New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) is dedicated to preserving and expanding the rich and diverse cultural resources that are and will become the heritage of New York's citizens. The Council believes in supporting artistic excellence and creative freedom, as well as the rights of all New Yorkers to access and experience the power of the arts and culture, and the vital contribution the arts make to the quality of life in New York communities.

NYSCA strives to achieve its mission through its core grant-making activity and by convening field leaders, providing information and advisory support, and working with partners on special initiatives to achieve mutual goals. NYSCA's efforts are guided by a belief in the fundamental importance of arts and cultural expression in people's lives and a commitment to serving artists, arts and cultural organizations, and the public.

The Council's activities are determined by legislation, which defines the agency's structure and overall policies. NYSCA's annual appropriation for grants (Local Assistance) and operations (State Purposes) is received from the Governor and the Legislature each fiscal year. In addition to state funds, NYSCA also receives annual support from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), a federal agency.

Non-profit and private sector organizations

Battery Park City Parks Conservancy (www.bpcparks.org)

The Battery Park City Parks Conservancy is a private non-profit organization supported mainly by Battery Park City's residents and its commercial and residential developers, as well as by the Battery Park City Authority, and through private donations. The Conservancy's dedicated staff includes gardening and maintenance personnel, recreation leaders, as well as art and environmental educators. The Conservancy maintains the nearly thirty acres of Battery Park City's permanently protected open space, including public gardens, plazas and parks, and keeps them open to the public at no cost to the City of New York.

Bronx Council on the Arts (www.bronxarts.org)

Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA) is celebrating over 40 years as a private, non-profit membership organization that is the official cultural agency of Bronx County. BCA's mission is to encourage and increase the public's awareness and participation in the arts, and to nurture the development of artists and arts and cultural organizations. Basic Cultural Services include direct financial support to individual artists and non-profit organizations, information services, technical assistance, education and community programming, advocacy and the operation of the

Longwood Arts Project, an exhibition gallery and cyber arts program, and the Bronx Writers Center, an initiative dedicated to the creative and professional development of Bronx writers.

BCA provides cutting edge programming in arts education and cultural strategies to help revitalize local communities. It designs and implements programs that focus attention on issues of concern to Bronx residents including: job training, financial stabilization, independent contracting, business startups, environmental concerns, and health related issues. BCA actively develops partnerships with the private sector, educational institutions, social service agencies and community organizations for program support. Recognized nationally as a leading arts service organization in providing cultural services and arts programs, BCA serves a multicultural constituency in excess of 1.2 million residents.

Brooklyn Arts Council (www.brooklynartscouncil.org)

The Brooklyn Arts Council, Inc. (BAC) is a service organization dedicated to helping artists, arts organizations, and community groups promote and sustain the arts. BAC is unique in Brooklyn in that it assists artists -- both amateur and professional -- in all disciplines. In the firm belief that culture contributes to the health of the community, BAC takes a leadership role in creating an environment conducive to the arts, and provides grants, resources, referrals, networking opportunities, seminars, and other activities that support and encourage the arts. The Council supports many public presentations: the young pianists' competition, the print portfolio, folk-arts presentations, as well as the international film and video festival. Many world-class artists got their start with the Council, including Spike Lee, Danny DeVito, and Suzan-Lori Parks, to name a few.

Through its Arts in Education Program and working with the Board of Education, BAC strives to enhance the study of all art forms in the schools, and hires qualified artists to work with teachers and parents. BAC's grants to local artists are made through its Regrant Program, funded by New York State Council on the Arts and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. BAC regularly gives seminars on topics of interest to both individual artists and arts organizations. These seminars cover issues that range from securing funding to the effective use of the new technology; from legal matters to finding venues and materials. Through its Arts-in-Education Program, BAC sends professional artists into the borough's schools to present art and to provide training in the arts to both the students and teachers. BAC also maintains a referral service, a resource library, and offers information on an ongoing basis in order to bring artists and the public together. BAC was founded in 1966 as the Brooklyn Arts and Culture Association, and is a private, non-profit organization.

Central Park Conservancy (www.centralparknyc.org)

The Central Park Conservancy is a private, not-for-profit organization founded in 1980 that manages Central Park under a contract with the City of New York Department of Parks & Recreation. Thanks to the generosity of many individuals, corporations, and foundations, the Conservancy has raised more than \$300 million to date and has transformed Central Park into a model for urban parks nationwide. Since its founding, the Conservancy has prescribed a management and restoration plan for the Park; funded major capital improvements; created programs for volunteers and visitors; and set new standards of excellence in Park care. With 25 million visitors each year to its 843 acres, Central Park is the most frequently visited urban park

in the United States. The Conservancy provides more than 85% of Central Park's annual \$20 million operating budget and is responsible for all basic care of the Park.

Conservancy public programs take advantage of the invaluable resources available in Central Park. Each year the Conservancy provides education programs focusing on environmental science, and Park history; recreation programs for youths, families, community organizations, and schools; and a volunteer program for youths and adults in horticulture and Park information services. In addition, the Conservancy organizes hundreds of free public programs throughout the year throughout the Park, primarily at the visitor centers operated by the Conservancy: The Charles A. Dana Discovery Center, Belvedere Castle, the Dairy, and the North Meadow Recreation Center.

City Parks Foundation (www.cityparksfoundation.org)

City Parks Foundation (CPF) is the only independent nonprofit organization to work in over 700 parks throughout the five boroughs of New York City, presenting a broad range of free arts, sports and education programs and helping citizens to support their parks on a local level. CPF was founded in 1989 to support the vast majority of New York City parks without access to private resources. By creating arts, sports and educational programs in public parks, and by encouraging community development within public parks as a focal point, CPF helps to revitalize not only parks but also the neighborhoods that surround them. In all of its programming and activities, CPF partners with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation to improve neighborhood parks and the communities they serve.

Council for the Arts & Humanities on Staten Island (www.statenislandarts.org)

The mission of the Council on the Arts & Humanities for Staten Island (COAHSI) is to develop, foster and promote the arts, cultural and humanities activities on Staten Island. COAHSI promotes arts and cultural activities by providing technical services to the community, through programs such as the COAHSI newsletter, grant programs, seminars and workshops. COAHSI serves a borough-wide constituency of artists, cultural organizations, and the general public.

COAHSI provides technical assistance to organizations and individuals, and offers a variety of workshops and seminars. COAHSI administers a five-tier regrant program, and rewards excellence in the performing and exhibiting arts through annual awards. The Council administers a public artworks project; publishes a bi-monthly newsletter and cultural calendar; operates the V.I.S.I.T. (Vital Information for Staten Islanders and Tourists) Center in Whitehall Ferry Terminal; provides networking meetings where individual artists of all disciplines can share work and works-in-progress; and collaborates with other Staten Island organizations on arts and humanities projects.

Creative Time (www.creativetime.org)

Creative Time was founded in 1973. Its history of commissioning, producing, and presenting adventurous public artworks of all disciplines began in the midst of a significant period. Artists were experimenting with new forms and media. Their work moved out of galleries and museums and into the public realm. At the same time, New York's citizens responded to the City's deterioration, which was prompted by the fiscal crisis, with the City Beautification movement. Also recognizing the significance of art in society, the federal government established the

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to herald the role of artists and introduce uninitiated audiences to contemporary art. Creative Time derives its values from this historic impetus to foster artistic experimentation, enrich public space and the everyday experience, and forefront artists as key contributors to democratic society.

Creative Time's earliest programs invigorated vacant storefronts as well as neglected landmarks like the U.S. Customs House in Lower Manhattan. After gaining early renown for Art on the Beach (1978 – 1985), which fostered collaborations between visual artists, architects, and performing artists at the Battery Park City Landfill, Creative Time soon spread its programs throughout New York City. Presenting projects on billboards, landmark buildings, buses, deli cups, ATM machines, and the Internet, among numerous other venues, Creative Time broadened the definitions of both art and public space throughout the 1980s and 90s. In particular, Creative Time encouraged artists to address timely issues such as the AIDS pandemic, domestic violence, and racial inequality. More recently, Art in the Anchorage (1983 – 2001) drew thousands to the majestic chambers of the Brooklyn Bridge Anchorage, which housed annual exhibitions of emerging creative practices in art, music, theater, and fashion until its closure in 2001 due to national security.

Today, Creative Time provides hundreds of emerging and established artists with unparalleled opportunities to create ambitious new works that expand their practices and foster career growth. Each year, Creative Time also offers millions of people rare encounters with contemporary art beyond racial, economic, and age factors, thereby enlivening the everyday experience of New York City. While Creative Time delights New Yorkers with skywriting over Manhattan and colorful sculptures in Grand Central Station, it also inspires with projects like Tribute in Light, the twin beacons that rose from Lower Manhattan. Creative Time's alumni community continues to grow as the world's leading artists join the roster next to Vito Acconci, Diller + Scofidio, David Byrne, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Red Grooms, Jenny Holzer, Takashi Murakami, Shirin Neshat, Sonic Youth, and Elizabeth Streb, among thousands more. Lastly, Creative Time remains committed to promoting collaboration within the creative community, frequently partnering with institutions like the Dia Art Foundation, The Kitchen, Lincoln Center, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, MTA Arts for Transit, and the Whitney Museum of American Art.

Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (www.lmcc.net)

Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC) is an essential part of Downtown's cultural landscape and principal player in its redevelopment – as it has been since 1973. With cultural planning, art services, funding opportunities and free events in the performing, visual and new media arts, LMCC is a leader in enriching New York City's creative capital. Following the loss of their office, studio and programming venues at the World Trade Center, LMCC has re-emerged as a new and improved cultural force.

LMCC supports free cultural programming in the financial district and creating a fertile environment for the area's arts groups and artists. LMCC brings local, national and international artists downtown to create, perform and share their work. Historically, LMCC's downtown contributions were largely focused on enlivening the World Trade Center, both inside and out, through visual and performing arts programs.

Since September 11, 2001, the downtown community has a new spirit of collaboration and purpose, and LMCC is proud to play a key role in the area's revival. In addition to setting up two new residency programs -- at the World Financial Center and in Brooklyn's Dumbo neighborhood -- we are advocating for the diverse array of theaters, dance companies, contemporary art spaces, museums, cultural groups and individual artists essential to the cultural ecology, rhythm and renewal of downtown.

Municipal Art Society (www.mas.org)

The Municipal Art Society is a private, non-profit membership organization whose mission is to promote a more livable city. Since 1893, the Society has worked to enrich the culture, neighborhoods and physical design of New York City. It advocates excellence in urban design and planning, contemporary architecture, historic preservation and public art.

Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) (www.moma.org)

Founded in 1929 in order to help people understand and enjoy the visual arts of our time, the Museum of Modern Art in New York City was the world's first museum dedicated to the education and enjoyment of modern art. MoMA's rich and varied collection constitutes one of the most comprehensive and panoramic views into modern art in the world, and has grown to include over 135,000 paintings, prints, photographs, drawings, sculptures, films, and design objects. The Museum also maintains an active schedule of exhibitions highlighting significant recent developments in the modern visual arts and new interpretations of major modern artists and art historical movements.

P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center (www.ps1.org)

Founded in 1971, P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center is one of the largest and oldest arts organizations in the United States solely devoted to contemporary art. Recognized as a defining force of the alternative space movement, P.S.1 stands out from other major arts institutions in its cutting edge approach to exhibitions and direct involvement with artists. P.S.1 combines a world-class exhibition program, a prestigious International Artist Studio Program, and a broad spectrum of education and public programs that serve our many audiences. MoMA and P.S.1 formalized their affiliation in January 2000, bringing together a leader in cutting-edge art and one of the foremost modern art museums in the country. Housed in a hundred-year-old Romanesque Revival school building in Long Island City, Queens, P.S.1 presents an extensive program of exhibitions and events in its nearly 125,000-square-foot facility.

Public Art Fund (www.publicartfund.org)

The Public Art Fund is New York's leading presenter of artists' projects, new commissions, and exhibitions in public spaces. For over 25 years the Public Art Fund has been committed to working with emerging and established artists to produce innovative exhibitions of contemporary art for neighborhoods throughout New York City. By bringing artworks outside the traditional context of museums and galleries, the Public Art Fund provides increased access to the art of our time -dismantling any barriers to the accessibility of contemporary art - and provides artists with a unique opportunity to expand their artistic practice. Doris C. Freedman created the Public Art Fund in 1977 consolidating two organizations: City Walls (founded by Joan K. Davidson in 1969, and of which Freedman became president in 1971) and Public Arts Council (which Freedman founded in 1971).

Queens Council on the Arts (www.queenscouncilarts.org)

The Queens Council on the Arts is a non-profit arts organization founded in 1966 to support, promote, and develop the arts in Queens County. The Council's mission is to assist arts organizations and individual artists and to present our diverse cultural resources to the two million residents of our borough, to residents of other boroughs, and to visitors to New York City.

The Council's achievements are extensive. The Council has educated more than 1,000,000 Queens school children in 12 schools in the rich diversity of cultures through the Nations in Neighborhoods Arts-in-Education program. It has awarded more than \$1,000,000 in grants to individual artists and arts organizations since 1977 as part of the Queens Community Arts Fund program, which is administered by QCA with funds provided by the New York State Council on the Arts and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

The Queens Council on the Arts continues to present unique opportunities to explore the dance, crafts, visual arts, music and other art forms in Queens. The Council produces a variety of outstanding exhibits celebrating the history, beauty and diversity of Queen, and publishes guides, brochures and maps to bring information and arts management services to residents of the greater New York City area. The Queens Council conducted workshops and produced videos in cooperation with QPTV public access television, and advocated against reductions in funding to the National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

Queens Museum of Art (www.queensmuseum.org)

The Queens Museum of Art (QMA) is dedicated to presenting the highest quality visual arts and educational programming for people in the New York metropolitan area, and particularly for the residents of Queens, a uniquely diverse ethnic, cultural and international community. The Museum fulfills its mission by designing and providing art exhibitions and educational experiences that promote the appreciation and enjoyment of art, support the creative efforts of artists, and enhance the quality of life through interpreting, collecting, and exhibiting art, architecture, and design. The QMA presents artistic and educational programs and exhibitions that directly relate to the contemporary urban life of its constituents.

Socrates Sculpture Park (www.socratessculpturepark.org)

Socrates Sculpture Park was an abandoned riverside landfill and illegal dumpsite until 1986 when a coalition of artists and community members, under the leadership of artist Mark di Suvero, transformed it into an open studio and exhibition space for artists and a neighborhood park for local residents. Today it is an internationally renowned outdoor museum and artist residency program that also serves as a vital New York City park offering a wide variety of public services. Socrates Sculpture Park is the only site in the New York Metropolitan area specifically dedicated to providing artists with opportunities to create and exhibit large-scale work in a unique environment that encourages strong interaction between artists, artworks and the public. The Park's existence is based on the belief that reclamation, revitalization and creative expression are essential to the survival, humanity and improvement of our urban environment.

In recognition for its contributions to both the international art world and the local community in Queens, Socrates Sculpture Park has received many awards.

Studio in a School (studioinaschool.org)

STUDIO's mission is to foster the creative and intellectual development of young people through quality visual arts programs directed by professional artists, and to collaborate with and enhance the capacity of those who provide and support arts programming for youth.

Each year STUDIO helps over 30,000 children discover their creativity through drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture. STUDIO's professional artists work in public schools, transitional housing facilities, childcare centers, and community organizations, providing guidance and inspiration as they share the joy of making art with children of all ages. STUDIO offers significant professional development opportunities for its artists to enable them to create stimulating, age-appropriate, child-directed lessons.

Wave Hill (www.wavehill.org)

A non-profit cultural institution located on 28 acres in the northwest Bronx, Wave Hill is dedicated to exploring the interaction between human beings and the natural environment. Programs in both the arts and sciences are designed to foster public understanding of and appreciation for this complementary relationship. Wave Hill maintains award-winning gardens and greenhouses; manages an urban woodland; provides environmental education for City children, teachers, and over 110,000 visitors annually; offers arts activities for children that strengthen environmental awareness; and presents exhibitions, concerts, lectures and workshops that examine the aesthetic response to nature.