Creative Capital
INVESTING IN ARTISTS WHO SHAPE THE FUTURE

2013
Creative Capital has committed $29 million to 529 innovative artists with big ideas through funding, counsel and career development services.

This has been another banner year for Creative Capital, including the announcement of 46 new grantees in Emerging Fields, Literature and Performing Arts; our artists making national headlines and impacting communities with their boundary-pushing work; and our continued commitment to surrounding artists with the resources they need to be successful.

We believe that artists are entrepreneurs in the cultural arena and that they deserve access to tools and resources that parallel what is available in other sectors. That’s why we partner with our grantees over the long-term to help them transform their careers. We have seen our model break the cycle of artists working project-to-project, building the sustainable practices needed for them to thrive as artistic visionaries and affect change as creative placemakers.

Building on this core belief that artists with healthy careers grow healthy communities, our Professional Development Program brings our model for self-management and strategic planning to artists across the U.S. Now in its 10th year, this artist-centered system has helped 6,500 artists working in all disciplines achieve success as they define it.

As we look back on the last 15 years, and 2013 in particular, we have so much to celebrate. I am incredibly proud of the Creative Capital system, and even more proud of what our remarkable grantees have accomplished as they envision and invent the world of tomorrow.

I hope you enjoy reading about some of our activities this year, and that you will join us in investing in artists who shape the future.

Best wishes,

Ruby Lerner
President & Founding Director
Creative Capital

“It is difficult to put into words how powerful the Creative Capital Artist Retreat has been for us, and all of our peers. It is disorienting to feel so much support, encouragement and wisdom. And we think we understand this revolution that you are creating. We felt that we were seeing the future of America in all of its complicated glory—as if all of these artists’ work are one radical body, each resonating on a different frequency of the same music. Some more from the head, some more from the heart, some more from the gut, but all from a sense of wanting to change our society to become a more compassionate, inclusive and honest place.”

Joshua Kohl & Haruko Nishimura, Degenerate Art Ensemble, 2013 Performing Arts

DEGENERATE ART ENSEMBLE
PHOTO BY BRUCE TOM

PHOTO BY GULSHAN KIRAT
Creative Capital’s unique model of grantmaking is based on the core principle that time and advisory services are as crucial to success as funding. Our pioneering approach, inspired by venture-capital principles, helps artists working in all creative disciplines realize their visions and build sustainable practices. In addition to a total of $50,000 in financial support provided at key moments in a project’s life, we offer each grantee a flexible program of advisory support valued at $40,000.

Over the last two years, we have enhanced our Artist Services to create a more individualized structure that surrounds grantees with the resources, information and people they need to achieve their project and career goals.

Each grantee now has a Project Support Team, comprised of a staff member, a previously funded artist who serves as their Artist Advisor, and a Cohort of fellow new grantees. The team may also include professionals across artistic disciplines and experts in topics their work is addressing. Additionally, artists have access to clinics to help guide them through legal, financial, business planning and PR questions.

Our working relationship with new grantees begins with a three-day Orientation, an intensive series of presentations and discussions focused on the money, space, people and time their projects require. Grantees meet with their Artist Advisors and Cohorts to discuss issues affecting their field and troubleshoot questions about their individual practices. Our Project Workbook helps artists address these issues and create a strategic plan once they’ve returned home.

“It’s so great to know solidly that I have a team of allies to provide guidance. From the office staff to my Cohort leader to the team of outside consultants and advisors, the entire Creative Capital ‘family’ has rapidly become the essential and primary team in my professional life.”
Quintan Ana Wikswo, 2013 Emerging Fields

“The infusion from Creative Capital’s Loan Fund allowed us to meet pressing financial obligations and advance our work on ‘Citizen Koch.’ In the face of scarce foundation funding, dwindling government support, and powerful forces that isolate political artists and push our work to the margins, Creative Capital always has our back.”
Carl Deal and Tia Lessin, 2008 Film/Video

“Often artists want to share what they are working on among peers to get early feedback on a project. With Creative Capital’s support, we organized a Community Capital event at Eyebeam for grantees to present their work, mingle and exchange ideas.”
eTeam, 2009 Emerging Fields

The Retreat is the centerpiece of our Artist Services. The 2013 Retreat in Williamstown, MA, was our largest convening to date, attended by 350 artists, arts professionals and arts advocates. This four-day event included presentations by 86 artists on their works-in-progress, consultations and networking events, and focus sessions on key issues in the field.

The 2013 grantees came to Williamstown two days early for Pre-Retreat workshops concentrating on the public phase of their projects—helping the artists reach their desired constituencies and maximize their impact.

To extend the powerful spirit of convening we created at the Retreat, we’ve launched Community Capital, a program that facilitates and financially supports regional gatherings organized by Creative Capital artists throughout the year.

Expanded Alumni Loan Fund
In 2011, with funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Creative Capital launched the Loan Fund for Performing Arts, offering low-interest loans to grantees who have completed their Creative Capital-supported projects. Thanks to a major contribution from the Estate of Theo Westenberger, we expanded the Loan Fund in 2013 to support new projects in all disciplines by alumni grantees. An artist can only receive a Creative Capital grant once, but the loan program allows us to continue to support our grantees as they move on to their next projects, while also helping them build good credit and learn to responsibly manage their financial lives. The loans, which are underwritten by Creative Capital, are accompanied by the opportunity to participate in a financial planning clinic.
Creative Capital and our artists were everywhere in 2013—in the headlines, at major festivals and venues—and we celebrated the premieres of 14 supported projects.

**Byron Au Yong & Aaron Jafferis** (2009 Performing Arts) premiered their eclectic music-theater work *Stuck Elevator* at American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco. Based on the true story of a Chinese food deliveryman who was trapped in an elevator in the Bronx for 81 hours, the production received glowing reviews and toured to the Art & Ideas Festival in New Haven, CT.

**Brad Butler** (2012 Film/Video) and collaborator Karen Mirza premiered *Direct Speech Acts*, a series of films exploring the complexities of fearless speech, in a solo exhibition at the Walker Art Center. The show was praised in an *Artforum* review by Julia Bryan-Wilson as “an urgent and timely provocation.”

**Lucien Castaing-Taylor & Véréna Paravel** (2012 Film/Video) celebrated the theatrical release of *Leviathan*, which has screened in more than 25 international film festivals. The film, which captures the clash of man, nature and machine in the harsh theater of long-haul commercial fishing, received rave reviews, including NPR, *The Wall Street Journal*, and Dennis Lim of *The New York Times*, who wrote, “*Leviathan* looks and sounds like no other documentary in memory...”

**Anita Chang** (2008 Film/Video) premiered her documentary *Tongues of Heaven*, which explores the questions, desires and challenges of young indigenous peoples learning the languages of their forebears, at the Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival.

**James Coupe** (2009 Emerging Fields) exhibited the responsive media installation *Swarm* at the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, in conjunction with the Toronto International Film Festival. *Swarm* marks the culmination of Coupe’s Creative Capital-supported project, *Surveillance Suite*, which employs contemporary surveillance technology to highlight demographic profiling practices.

**Rodney Evans** (2008 Film/Video) celebrated the theatrical release of *The Happy Sad*, a feature film that follows two couples whose lives become intertwined as they explore sexual identity and redefine monogamy. The film also screened at Frameline37 in San Francisco, QFest in Philadelphia and Outfest in Los Angeles.

**Ken Jacobs** (2012 Film/Video) premiered two new films supported by Creative Capital in the MoMA exhibition *Carte Blanche: Ken Jacobs*, commemorating the artist’s 80th birthday. These films, entitled *Joys of Waiting for the Broadway Bus* and *A Primer in Sky Socialism*, represent Jacobs’ current experiments in digital 3-D filmmaking.

**Kalup Linzy** (2008 Visual Arts) released his feature-length film *Romantic Loner* online, and presented a live performance version of the film at MoMA PS1, co-sponsored by the Tribeca Film Institute.

**Neal Medlyn** (2013 Performing Arts) presented *King*, the finale of a performance series inspired by pop stars, at The Kitchen in New York. Built around Michael Jackson, *King* includes radically rethought versions of Jackson’s music and considerations of Medlyn’s personal and artistic trajectory.
Ken Nintzel’s (2009 Performing Arts) *You Are Here* premiered in the Brooklyn Academy of Music’s Next Wave Festival. The installation recreates the constellations of the night sky in physical form and suspends them overhead to create a life-size stellarium.

Rick Prelinger’s (2012 Film/Video) *No More Road Trips*? premiered in the Convergence program at the New York Film Festival. This experimental film takes to the highways and byways through thousands of home movies and amateur films. Related work from the Prelinger Archive is now available online and through the Linger iPhone app.

Daniel Sousa (2008 Film/Video) premiered his hand-drawn animation *Feral* in the Sundance Film Festival shorts competition. This film about a boy raised in the wild struggling to acclimate to human society played at dozens of festivals and received the Grand Prix Anima in Brussels and Corfu, Greece.

lauren woods (2008 Visual Arts) premiered the public art installation *Fountains* at the Dallas County Courthouse, with a series of free public programs. *Fountains* transforms a functional public drinking fountain into an interactive monument to civil rights protests in the 1960s.

Mario Ybarra, Jr. (2008 Visual Arts) premiered his *Curry Corndog Stand* in the exhibition *Around the Table: Food, Creativity, Community* at the San Jose Museum of Art. Ybarra is developing, producing and selling corndogs at this homemade stand to engage viewers around issues of food, identity, marketing and history.

Major Awards & Milestones:

**Kyle Abraham** (2013 Performing Arts) and **Vijay Iyer** (2002 Performing Arts) were awarded MacArthur “Genius” Fellowships.

**Sanford Biggers** (2008 Visual Arts) won the Berlin Art Prize.

**Akosua Adoma Owusu** (2012 Film/Video) won an Africa Movie Academy Award.

**Theaster Gates** (2012 Visual Arts), **Suzanne Lacy** (2002 Emerging Fields) and **Naeem Mohaiemen** (2008 Film/Video) were awarded Creative Time Global Residencies.

**Lucien Castaing-Taylor** (2012 Film/Video) won the Alpert Award in the Arts.

**John McManus** (2013 Literature) received a Fulbright to research his Creative Capital-supported project, a novel about gay refugees in South Africa.

**Complex Movements** (2013 Performing Arts) received the Knight Arts Challenge award for their Creative Capital-supported project *Beware the Dandelions*.

**Tia Lessin** and **Carl Deal’s** (2008 Film/Video) Kickstarter campaign for *Citizen Koch* raised $169,522. The 3,384 backers for this project put them in the top one per cent of all Kickstarter campaigns.


**Dan Hurlin** (2002 Performing Arts) and **Reynold Reynolds** (2001 Film/Video) received the Rome Prize.

**Penny Lane & Brian Frye’s** (2012 Film/Video) *Our Nixon* premiered to rave reviews on CNN and in theaters.

**In the News:**

Creative Capital was the subject of a *Wall Street Journal* feature, “Where Good Ideas Go to Live.” Our 2013 Artist Retreat was highlighted in articles in *Hyperallergic*, *Art F City*, *Artforum* and *The Houston Chronicle*. The controversy over *Tia Lessin* and *Carl Deal’s* film *Citizen Koch* was the subject of a feature in *The New Yorker*, and their story was featured on hundreds of news outlets.

**Laura Poitras** (2008 Film/Video) helped break the NSA story in *The Washington Post* and *The Guardian* (UK) after being contacted by Edward Snowden. Laura was later featured on the cover of *The New York Times Magazine*.

**Legislative Victories:**

**Artists Take On Social Injustice**

**Laurel Jo Reynolds** (2013 Emerging Fields) Tamms Year Ten campaign led to the closure of the Tamms Supermax Prison in Illinois. She was awarded Creative Time’s Leonore Annenber Prize for Art and Social Change.

**Nick Snuhla** (2006 Emerging Fields) Campaign for Prison Phone Justice celebrated a major victory when the Federal Communications Commission ruled to regulate inter-state phone charges to inmates.

For more artist news and events, visit creative-capital.org.
2013 Awardees

In January, Creative Capital announced our 2013 awards to 46 projects in Emerging Fields, Literature and Performing Arts, representing an investment of $4,140,000. The remarkable artists in this year’s class, hailing from 17 states and Puerto Rico, were selected through an open-call, three-phase application process from a pool of more than 2,700 applicants.

Read about these artists and their projects at creative-capital.org and blog.creative-capital.org.
Ten years ago, we launched our Professional Development Program (PDP) to share with a broader community of artists the strategies for career development that we created for our grantees. Developed by artists for artists, PDP provides career, community and confidence building tools to help artists achieve success as they define it.

The program now includes dozens of in-person and online offerings, including strategic and financial planning, technology tools, verbal communications, branding and marketing, and community engagement, as well as a workshop created specifically for Spanish-speaking artists. Over the years, our workshops have changed lives and communities, helping artists define and reach their goals, achieve financial sustainability and hone their negotiation skills. Partner organizations often report the transformative impact that our workshops have on artist communities in the longer term.

To date, PDP has reached 6,500 artists in 275 communities through our workshops and webinars.

“What impressed me most was that the Creative Capital workshop was offered in Spanish… It was the first offering in many years of my attending meetings sponsored by the city that took into account the power of participants interacting in their native language.”

PDP Participant, Taller Professional de Desarrollo Para Artistas (Spanish-language workshop)

“The most pivotal aspect of the program is the continued support of Creative Capital to all of us in Miami that have been through the program. The alumni are becoming a denser part of the fabric that comprises ‘creative Miami,’ collaborating with each other and bringing new artists into the mix. The pressure of being ‘an artist’ is lessened by the knowledge that I have several others looking out for my interests.”

Tom Virgin, Miami, FL

“It would be hard to overstate the impact that the Creative Capital Professional Development Program had on my life. I participated in the workshop eight years ago. It was truly a turning point, a eureka event that changed my self-image as an artist, changed my ability to set and achieve personal and artistic goals, changed my mindset… and set me on a path to connect within the art world that I had not imagined.”

Lillian Warren, Houston, TX
PDP is Built on Four Core Values:

**Artist to Artist**
Our leaders are not only experts in what they teach—most are practicing artists, and many are Creative Capital grantees. Leaders introduce concepts and practical tools, then share how they are used in their own lives. This approach helps participants understand how they can use these skills and encourages them to share resources with their peers.

**Practical Tools**
We understand the importance of both immediate and lasting impact. PDP offers a variety of practical tools and strategies that artists can start using right away, along with personalized strategies for long-term success.

**Community Building**
Our artist-to-artist model encourages artists to work together to strengthen their communities. We believe collaboration creates vibrant and long-lasting arts communities nationwide. It’s why we partner with local organizations to offer our workshops, encourage a diverse participant group and keep workshop sizes intimate.

**Sustainable Success**
We are dedicated to ensuring that artists have the newest and most relevant ideas and information to thrive in an increasingly complex world. We are committed to helping artists build communities that will continue to grow together after PDP workshops, and to providing online and in-person tools to help them as challenges arise.

“It’s an immense honor to receive this award and to keep company with this highly esteemed cast of fellow awardees. The Doris Duke Performing Artist Awards allows me to breathe a bit easier financially while pursuing my artistic goals with continued vim and vigor.”
Rudresh Mahanthappa, 2013 Doris Duke Artist

“Receiving the Arts Writers Grant was a life-changing event. I became a regular critic at the Los Angeles Times, a contributing editor for Art on Paper, and wrote my first feature for ArtForum. It was a truly gratifying experience to focus full-time on the work I love most.”
Sharon Mizota, 2007 Arts Writers Grantee

“If an artist makes a noise in the woods and no one is around to experience it, did it happen? MAP made it possible not only for us to bring the performance ‘out of the woods’ but also to bring an audience to witness it.”
MAP Fund Grantee

Creative Capital manages three ancillary programs that collectively award grants totaling more than $7.7 million each year!

In 2011, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation partnered with Creative Capital to create the **Doris Duke Performing Artist Awards**, which offers up to $275,000 to extraordinary creative talents in contemporary dance, theater and jazz. In April, the program announced its second class of 20 Doris Duke Artists, including five Creative Capital grantees: Lisa D’Amour, DD Dorvillier, John Malpede, Tere O’Connor and Elizabeth Streb.

The **Creative Capital Warhol Foundation Arts Writers Grant Program**, now in its 8th year, received 583 applications for the most recent grant round supporting individual writers whose work addresses contemporary visual art. The grants range from $3,000 to $50,000, and support a wide range of writing projects, including articles, blogs, books, and new and alternative media. The 2013 grantees will be announced in December.

The **MAP Fund**, which is supported by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, awarded 41 grants in 2013, representing a total of $1.2 million to new performing arts projects. The 2013 MAP Fund grantees include 12 artists who have received Creative Capital grants: Kyle Abraham, Luciana achugar, Nora Chipaumire, DD Dorvillier & Jennifer Monson, Headlong Dance Theater, Emily Johnson, Daniel Alexander Jones, Dohee Lee, Young Jean Lee, Los Angeles Poverty Department (LAPD) and Taylor Mac.
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The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts

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*Indicates Creative Capital Artist (List as of October 2013)
Apply 2014
Save the Date! On February 3, Creative Capital will begin accepting online Letters of Inquiry for grants in Film/Video and Visual Arts. The Inquiry Form will close on February 28. Learn more about our grant program and eligibility at creative-capital.org/apply.

Participate in PDP
Our Professional Development Program (PDP) offers several webinars per month on a range of career development topics, for only $25 each. Sign up at creative-capital.org/pdp/online.

Bring a one-day or weekend long career development workshop to your community! More info available at creative-capital.org/pdp/host.

Donate
Your contribution directly supports Creative Capital’s work with groundbreaking artists nationwide! Donate online at: creative-capital.org/engage/donate.

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