



Donovan Richards  
Queens Borough President

# Community Board No. 2

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Danielle Brecker  
Chairperson

Debra Markell Kleinert  
District Manager

January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Arts & Cultural Affairs Committee

***This meeting was teleconferenced using Zoom***

**Attendees:**

Thalia Karesia Batan, Chair  
Kat Bloomfield  
Ryan Smith  
Danielle Brecker  
Karla Perez  
Akello Thomas

**Absentees:**

Anatole Ashraf  
Gianna Cerbone  
Stephen Cooper  
William Garrett  
Kenneth Greenberg  
Benjamin Guttmann  
Badrun Khan

**Public Members:**

Eric Narburgh  
Edjo Wheeler, Culture Lab

**Guests:**

Andre Irving, Co-Founder Cucala Dance Studio  
Lisa Gold  
Jinelle Thompson, MoMA PS1  
Molly Kurzius, MoMA PS1  
Sierra Brown, LIC Partnership  
Carolina Gil, Councilmember Julie Won's Office  
Stephanie Acosta, Dance/NYC

**Community Board 2:**

Debra Markell Kleinert, District Manager

Karesia Batan, Chair welcomed everyone to the Arts and Cultural Affairs Committee meeting.

Karesia Batan introduced Sierra Brown from the LIC Partnership.

- Sierra Brown mentioned the LIC Lunar New Year which is returning for its 2<sup>nd</sup> year starting on Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The website for event is <https://www.liclNY.com/>
- On the website is a list of more than 50 organizations participating in this event.
- Long Island City has a growing Asian community.
- This is an event for all. LIC Partnership is hoping it will attract tourist and locals.

*“Serving the Communities of Long Island City, Sunnyside, Woodside, and Maspeth”*

- LIC Springs event will be on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- LIC Springs is a street festival where the community is involved.
- Danielle Brecker, CB2 Chairperson asked if the Community Board could have a table at LIC Springs. Sierra Brown replied yes.
- Their events calendar is a great place for artists and cultural groups to submit their events. The link is <https://www.longislandcityqueens.com/experience-lic/events/submit/>
- The only requirement to submit to this link is that the event must be in LIC or western queens. The event will then be listed on the site in 24 to 48 hours.
- Karesia Batan proposed the committee collaborate with LICP to help feature a different Arts & Culture group in a new highlight section in the LICP weekly newsletter.
- Sierra Brown mentioned how she, Karesia Batan and others are trying to engage the owners of the towers Managers of the residential highrises in LIC to better communicate neighborhood events to its tenants. More information will follow on this topic in the months ahead.
- In regard to the newsletter, Karesia Batan spoke about a committee clean up of the arts & cultural organizations emails.
- An update to these organizational emails will help to engage community outreach pertaining to these events.
- Karesia Batan mentioned having a better dialogue with the real estate agents, property managers and the developers of these high rises to better work together on projects with the artists and attend the various events of the local artists & cultural groups.
- Molly Kurzius of MoMA PS 1 mentioned how MoMA PS1 would like to assist in any way possible with this endeavor engaging this real estate sector with local arts groups. MoMA PS 1 can act as a meeting place.
- Molly Kurzius went on to mention LICCA and to bring those cultural groups into the conversation as well.

Karesia Batan welcomed Stephanie Acosta of Dance/NYC to discuss the dance industry census and the upcoming roundtable.

- Stephanie Acosta is the Engagement Coordinator for Dance/NYC.
- Dance/NYC has launched the dance industry census which invites dance workers, organizations and entities anyone who works in the dance field.
- This is the first comprehensive census of the dance industry to address economic inequities and to ensure that all dance workers are recognized
- The dance industry census can be entered as an individual or if you have an entity or multiple companies.
- The information will go to a research team and the report will be released at the end of 2023.
- This report will be released to all parts of government that want to make culture part of their platform.

- The link for the Dance/NYC census is:  
<https://www.dance.nyc/DanceWorkforceResilience/DanceIndustryCensus>
- The roundtable events which are being done in every region of the city are the qualitative data collection. It is run by the research team.
- The Queens event is January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the Jamaica Performing Arts Center from 6:30pm to 8pm. Dinner provided.
- The most important part of these roundtables is to gather information for the census.
- The link for the roundtable discussions is:  
<https://www.dance.nyc/programs/dancenyc-events/2023/01/Dance-Industry-Census-Roundtable-Discussion-Queens/>
- Queens is one of the areas that is currently underreported in the census. This unfortunately will not accurately reflect the borough's need for arts funding. Queens artists' experiences and needs must be heard of the dance community.
- There will also be virtual event end of Feb:  
<https://www.dance.nyc/DanceWorkforceResilience/Roundtables>

Karesia Batan welcomed Carolina Gil from Councilmember Julie Won's office.

- Carolina Gil spoke about the discretionary funding for FY 2024.
- The application process opened on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and will remain open until February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023.
- The supplement form can be found on their website and it has been simplified.
- <https://council.nyc.gov/budget/fiscal-year-2024-discretionary-funding-expense-application-filing-period/>
- There will be a training on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6pm for this application process, the link is:
- [https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/free-discretionary-funding-application-workshops-1352369?just\\_published=true](https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/free-discretionary-funding-application-workshops-1352369?just_published=true)
- If the application has no issues, the office will not call back the applicant.
- Discretionary funding is a sum of money that is allocated to each councilmember to distribute throughout the district for not for profit
- To be eligible you have to be registered with the NYS charitable bureau and your own EIN.
- There are citywide, borough, and local initiatives for funding.
- The minimum amount an organization can receive is \$5,000.
- The maximum is \$25,000 if they have not received any council funding before.
- You must have a passport account.
- A question was asked about submitting an application to different councilmembers for funding. Will the applicant get a response from each councilmember if they have been awarded or not?
- The applicant will have to look at Schedule C on the councilmembers website to find out if awarded.
- Councilmember Julie Won's office will be sending award letters to the applicants, but there are no regret letters.

- Karesia Batan explained that this a reimbursement fund, so whatever the organization ask for, they must have that sum of money spent during the year.
- Carolina Gil stated if an organization cannot spend the funds, the councilmember's office can reallocate that money.
- Kat Bloomfield mentioned another way to reallocate that money is through the Bridge Funding.
- Bridge funding for government allocations and contracts: Fund for the City of New York: <https://www.fcny.org/nonprofit-loan-financing/>
- Nonprofit Finance Fund offers bridge loans: <https://nff.org/financing>
- Chair, Karesia Batan shared a link: <https://www.aaartsalliance.org/opportunities/what-can-we-do-micro-grant-award>
- Kat Bloomfield, CB2 Treasurer shared a link: Discretionary Award Tracker: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/mocs/partners/discretionary-award-tracker.page>
- Applicants will know if they are awarded money by July 2023 of this year, but will not receive the money until January/February 2024.

Karesia Batan introduced Lisa Gold, Executive Director of the Asian American Arts Alliance discussing a new grant opportunity.

- Asian American Arts Alliance (A4) is a service organization that just moved to midtown.
- Their mission is to support artists and organizations to insure greater equities and opportunities.
- Lisa Gold talked a new microgrant opportunity called: What can we do?
- The grant is for artists looking to support the Asian American community through engaging projects that are rooted in care.
- Last year 30 artists were selected receiving \$500 to carry out a project in any form.
- This year they would like the project to take place in District 1 and 20 in Flushing.
- The Grant contact at A4: Justine Lee [jlee@aaartsalliance.org](mailto:jlee@aaartsalliance.org)
- The deadline is February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 for this grant opportunity.

DOT Art could not make the meeting. Karesia Batan wanted to share with the committee a DOT Asphalt Art Activation 2023 (**Attachment #1**) which is a Request for Qualifications Artist Open Call. The deadline is February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. This is a muralist type of call.

<https://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/downloads/pdf/dotart-asphalt-art-application.pdf>

A guide to choose the sites that are currently available. (**Attachment #2**)

<https://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/downloads/pdf/nyc-dot-art-site-selection-guide.pdf>

The contact email is: [arts@dot.nyc.gov](mailto:arts@dot.nyc.gov)

Karesia Batan asked the committee if anyone had information to share about the grant outcomes. Specifically, the Cultural Development Fund, NYSCA.

- Kat Bloomfield shared with the committee that it seems DCLA is not funding arts service organizations as much as in previous years.
- NYSCA is also not giving much money to art service providers.

- Karesia Batan commented there may be a shift in focus to trying to reach much smaller organizations.

Karesia Batan, Chair of the Arts & Cultural Committee went around the room and everyone got to speak about their organization and/or introduce themselves. Jamie Kennelley of Woodside Library [Jamie.kennelley@queenslibrary.org](mailto:Jamie.kennelley@queenslibrary.org) spoke about a program called STACKS for children up to 8<sup>th</sup> grade to help with homework, computer class for adults that meets on Thursdays, framed vision boards to be worked on in the children's room. The movie Salma will be shown on the Tuesday after Martin Luther King Jr. day. Edjo Wheeler of Culture Lab mentioned Lunar New Year on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, and to visit the calendar for other events.

Karesia Batan wanted to bring attention to Tony Vaccaro, an amazing photographer who lived in LIC and recently passed away at 100 years old. The Monroe Gallery did a pop-up show of his work. Karesia Batan shared with the committee his work. There are also two documentaries out about his work.

Karesia Batan called for a moment of silence for Tony Vaccaro, a neighbor and legendary photographer. Karesia Batan is wondering if the local arts community could have a permanent piece of Tony's work on display for the neighborhood. Public member Edjo Wheeler mentioned Culture Lab may have an exhibit in the future of his work.

Jinelle Thompson of MoMA PS1 mentioned an event and shared the link <https://www.momaps1.org/events/185-the-art-of-land>  
Closing exhibition: <https://www.momaps1.org/programs/1-life-between-buildings>

#### New Business:

Karesia Batan introduced Arts & Cultural committee member and CB2 Treasurer Kat Bloomfield to discuss local fiscal sponsorship.

- Kat Bloomfield shared with the committee documents explaining fiscal sponsorship (*Attachment # 3*)
- Fiscal sponsorship is that a public charity, a nonprofit, agrees to provide financial legal oversight of a project to be able to accept funds on behalf of a project or even to build their skills.
- Kat Bloomfield shared and explained a Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement (*Attachment #4*)
- A fiscal sponsor will give the entity applying for funding all the necessary information needed.
- It should be stated in the contract that the sponsor will not impose on your artistic judgement as long as you are not violating the law.
- Copyright should side with the person that signs the agreement.
- Once the money is in a fiscal sponsorship agreement it cannot be pulled out for private benefit.
- The money cannot be used for a political campaign.
- Fiscal sponsorship fee should never be more than 10%.

Karesia Batan asked if there are any Arts & Cultural Committee members who are interesting in helping to clean up the Arts & Cultural contact list of the district. Some organizations require outreach to make sure their information is updated.

LIC Partnership will be doing a monthly highlight in their newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kim Waber