

**Date organization was incorporated:** 1981

**Mission/purpose of your organization:** The mission of Burlington City Arts (BCA) is to sustain and enhance the artistic life of the greater Burlington area. We implement this mission by: Offering arts in education opportunities through programming, residence and outreach; Serving as the City's cultural planner by making the arts integral to the area's economic and educational development and its urban design; Fostering partnerships among the arts, education, human service and business communities; Recognizing and meeting our area's cultural needs through quality arts programming that benefits all members of the community; and Supporting Vermont artists and the region's burgeoning talent.

**Organization overview:****a. & b. Overview of Activities & Examples of Ability**

BCA is a department of the City of Burlington and also a separate 501-c-3 organization. This structure affords the organization maximum flexibility in both fundraising and responding to an ever-evolving community. BCA activities include the curation and outreach for contemporary art exhibitions in the 10,000 square-foot BCA Center, developing and promoting classes, workshops and professional development artists of all ages and abilities, cultural planning for the City of Burlington, producing festivals and events, and the commissioning of art works for permanent and temporary exhibition. Last year, more than 50,000 people visited our gallery; 6,680 people attended education offerings; and 63 artists were supported through residencies, gallery exhibits and art commission and sales opportunities. For the 11<sup>th</sup> year in a row, the Center was named the "Best Art Gallery" by the readers of *Seven Days*. BCA is experienced in bringing artists, design professionals, city departments, developers and a wide spectrum of citizens together to integrate artistic ideas and works of art into complex development and community projects. In 2011, BCA received an NEA Our Town grant to support *Imagine City Hall Park*: arts-based outreach activities that informed a BCA commissioned master plan for City Hall Park. That project is now slated as a capital priority for the City of Burlington with plans for implementation beginning in 2015. Other past examples include: a \$3.5m capital campaign and renovation/restoration of the historic Ethan Allen Firehouse into a 5 floor arts center, where BCA is now located; the commissioning of two major public art installations at the Burlington International Airport; and consistent partnerships with the Department of Public Works commissioning artists to design functional infrastructure such as bike racks, manholes and median displays. BCA also works frequently with the private sector to elevate the design quality of everyday environments by weaving the arts into healthcare settings, rotating works at the Burlington International Airport, and helping developers commission permanent works for new and existing spaces. Examples include a pocket park for a private developer at one of Burlington's gateway sites, art installations at two Burlington hotels, and several works for Fletcher Allen Healthcare, Burlington's hospital that serves Vermont and upper New York State.

**c. & d. The Community We Serve & Efforts to Reach a Broad Segment**

In the small state of Vermont, Burlington is considered a big city, despite the fact that our population is only a bit over 40,000. And, while there are small pockets of wealth, more than 1 out of every 5 people live below the poverty level. Burlington's median household income is \$11,738 lower than the national average and we have the highest number of people receiving food stamps in the state of Vermont. Compounding these economic issues is that Burlington is a refugee resettlement community, and 1 out of every 10 residents speaks a language other than English at home. To reach those with economic hardship, we provide *scholarships* for adults and children to attend our classes and summer camps. We partner with social service and mentoring agencies to bring at-risk youth into our professional *art studios* for open-ended and structured art-making experiences. *Art from the Heart* brings art supplies and crafts to children in the intensive care floor of our local hospital. Our gallery education program, *See-Think-Do*, brings students (most of whom attend schools where the free/reduced lunch rate is over 65%) and their parents and caregivers into the gallery to experience firsthand the power of art to spark dialogue and joy. To ensure participation in the *Imagine City Hall Park* project, BCA placed artists and facilitators in locations where diverse communities gather--senior centers, the VNA, preschools, etc. For the past four years, we have been an active partner in the transformation of one of Burlington's most diverse and challenged schools into an arts magnet school, the Integrated Arts Academy. Additionally, board and staff have been participating for the last three years in city-wide cultural competency workshops with the goal of better understanding and serving everyone in our community.

- a. **Major project activities.** Burlington's project type is Community Engagement Design Activities for *planBTV-South End*. In an effort to preserve and enhance a unique arts/industry neighborhood, this project will take advantage of our city's strengths in arts and public engagement to implement an arts-based visioning process for Burlington's South End. This process will influence the development of a comprehensive master plan that outlines future development, infrastructure, greenspace, multi-modal circulation needs and opportunities, and identifies measures needed to protect the affordability of artist spaces, including affordable artist housing and work-live space. A more detailed streetscape design will outline opportunities for new cultural spaces and public art along the business-and-arts concentrated Pine Street Corridor. Activities will include: **1)** Procurement of a master planning team, which will be charged with devising information gathering sessions using both traditional public engagement methods and arts-based visioning events; designing a master plan for the South End and designing a streetscape for the Pine Street Corridor (core of the study area) that maps locations for new and existing public and art spaces; and presenting outcomes to the community for feedback. **2)** Management of artists to conduct community workshops and residencies and facilitate or create temporary public art projects. Activities will be refined in collaboration with BCA staff to suit varying demographic profiles, and may include video/audio storytelling, photography, temporary public art installations and design charrettes inspired by the history of the South End, current uses, cultural diversity, and hopes for the future. **3)** Curating and mounting of *Shifting Ground*, an exhibition about the lived reality of neighbor gentrification, social change, and reimagining a future based on present circumstances. Each artist in the exhibition will become intimately connected with the challenges of the South End and charged with exploring ways to visualize data and information about the area to make tangible the everyday lived experience. Through this process, we will find different ways to sift through the "facts" of the present to uncover new perspectives on the future. **4)** Documenting the project planning process, projects and outcomes through film, photography and an exhibition catalogue.
- b. **Goals and impact.** A number of Burlington projects that have been in various stages of development for the last 40 years are converging in the South End and promise to rapidly change the existing district over the course of the next 5 years. This, combined with increasing diversity, strong community interest in developing new makers, arts and industrial spaces, and pressure to allow new uses such as retail and housing, necessitate a plan that thoughtfully directs growth. Most significantly, this community has experienced an extreme number of "planning processes" over the last few years that threaten to dilute the results for the average citizen. Therefore, the need for new visual and experiential strategies for conveying information right now is crucial. Because the arts have the ability to demystify, humanize and provide multiple means of exploring information, our goal is to support the digestion of foundational information through exhibition and arts engagement so that the visioning and planning process is grounded in reality and public enthusiasm. We will also protect the arts and industrial identity of the district and identify locations for public space and arts development that is well-coordinated with imminent multimodal transportation projects. The impact on the livability of the South End will be the regaining and shaping of public space by and for its citizens. As a result, residents and business owners will become invested in the quality of their built environment. **Several model concepts:** 1) Burlington City Arts (BCA) has been developing the use of contemporary art exhibition as a method for advancing community conversations and placing Burlington in a more global context for a number of years (*Human=Landscape*, 2009, *Inner Landscapes-Jonathan Harris*, 2010, *Seat's Taken*, 2013). Using open-ended questioning and visual thinking strategies around the art works as a facilitation technique, people are able to express their opinions in a forum that is non-confrontational, evolving biases and encouraging new perspectives. 2) Because of Burlington's destination as a resettlement community, its history of progressive, engaged community decision-making processes and a strong arts and culture scene, it has developed some characteristics of much larger cities. Its small population makes it an ideal laboratory to test-drive new methods of approaching problems that are adaptable to other communities. 3) Because of Burlington's unique asset in BCA, a mature arts agency that can act as a convener for community-wide arts needs, *planBTV South End* is positioned to launch with relative ease. The results of *PlanBTV-South End* will also strengthen the case for the value of investment in local arts organizations by government and private sources in developing sustainable economies and livable places in concert with a deeply engaged citizenry.

- c. **Outcome(s) and Measurements.** *PlanBTV-South End* will address the NEA outcome for *Livability: Strengthening communities through the arts* by 1) developing a master plan where the arts are core to the process of community engagement and the outcomes define and enhance the unique character of the area; 2) engaging citizens in a meaningful dialogue about their neighborhood and its future; 3) defining opportunities for arts activities, local start-ups and innovative small businesses to grow and develop; 4) encouraging excellent design and arts inclusion in pedestrian/multi-modal and public spaces. *PlanBTV-South End* also addresses the **creation** outcome by commissioning temporary works of art for exhibition and public space that bring visibility to the process and to outcomes, and providing artists with opportunities to make new work.
- d. **Budget.** The *planBTV-South End* budget is \$241,430. This includes \$25,000 for master planning/design consultants (the majority of this cost is not included in this budget, as it will be funded in part by other federal sources: an EPA Area Wide Planning Grant and a grant from the Chittenden County Regional Planning Org.), \$50,000 for artist fees, \$15,000 for advertising and printing, \$15,000 for documentation, \$16,000 for supplies, hospitality, access accommodations and translation and \$120,430 for staff time devoted to the project. The primary match sources are the City of Burlington through a combination of in-kind staff time and general fund cash and from a confirmed State Municipal Planning Grant. Thriving Pine Street Corridor businesses who have expressed enthusiasm for the planning process and with whom BCA and the City of Burlington have developed strong relationships will be asked to sponsor art exhibition and installation projects.
- e. **Schedule of Key Dates.**  
**September 2014:** Publicity begins. *Shifting Ground* exhibition opens.  
**September 2014- February 2015:** Visioning and community engagement events take place in neighborhood settings and arts venues, kicking off with the South End Art Hop.  
**February 2015- April 2015:** Draft master plan development begins using data and input received during visioning events.  
**April-May 2015:** Exhibition of community projects collected from visioning events on display in neighborhood art venues, alongside master plan concepts. Includes forum for public comment.  
**June-August 1, 2015:** Master plan revised and completed.
- f. **Partners, key organizations, individuals, and works of art.** BCA and the City of Burlington Planning and Zoning Department will work together closely on this project to procure a master planning team and develop a comprehensive list of engagement offerings including design charrettes and arts-based activities. BCA will satisfy the cultural requirement of this grant. Planning and Zoning will manage the contracts for master planning consultants and coordinate city staff. Selection procedures for the master planning team will follow the City of Burlington's procurement process. Qualifications for the master planning team will require planning expertise, experience in arts-based visioning in community settings, and a history of excellent design in landscape architecture. BCA has worked with a number of consultants and artists to implement outreach for Chittenden County's HUD planning grant in 2012 and BCA's Our Town grant in 2011, and as a result have assembled a list of individuals who will be provided as potential master plan team members, including Andrea Grayson and Matt Heywood. BCA will manage artist contracts and work with artists to develop functional engagement projects with target groups, curate the exhibition *Shifting Ground* and manage documentation and publicity for the project. Key organizations we will engage include the South End Arts and Business Association (SEABA) and the Vermont Coalition for Affordable Housing, who will collaborate with us to encourage constituent participation on their sites. Suggested artists include Kate Donnelly, Clark Derbes and Jean Luc Dushime, Meara McGinnis, Judy Natal, Chris Thompson and Jennifer Karson. Additional artists will be procured using both RFPs and curation, and will be selected by a community review panel and/or a BCA staff review team including the Executive Director, Assistant Director and Curator based on the quality of past artistic work, interest in cross-disciplinary practices, ability to distill complex information through artistic mediums, experience with community/social arts practices, and experience working with diverse constituencies.
- g. **The target community.** According to the 2010 census, the South End is home to 12,160 of Burlington's 42,417 residents. The South End is one of the only places in the city where many commercial-industrial uses are permitted. Because of this industrial character, artists have honey-combed the area with studios for decades, which

has both attracted and supported the incubation of creative and tech businesses in the corridor. The western portion of the South End is also included in the City's HUD Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy area, which contains a composite percentage of low/moderate-income residents of 71.1%. According to the local school, the ethnic background of students in the area includes students from Bosnia, Vietnam, China, Tibet, Romania and Somalia as a result of resettlement programs. BCA has collaborated in the past with SEABA to promote and provide programming for their signature event, the Art Hop, and has partnered with them on artist professional development initiatives. BCA has also managed a public process for procuring public art for private businesses in the South End, and has supported South End artists by exhibiting and selling their work and acting as a fiscal agent for individual projects. To ensure that we reach all members of the target community, including low-income and New American members, collaborations may be developed to include residencies/workshops with members of the Vermont Affordable Housing Coalition, the SEABA, area social service agencies and schools, artists and business owners. We will also consult with the Vermont Refugee Resettlement program to develop functional outreach initiatives for ESL residents.

**h. Plans for promoting and publicizing.**

Following a period of publicity for *planBTV South End*, we will kick off outreach during the South End Art Hop, an annual event in which artists open up their studios, businesses exhibit artwork to the public and Burlington celebrates the gritty, creative, innovative nature of the district. The event attracts over 30,000 people over the course of three days. We will use the opportunity to survey artists, residents and visitors, and use arts-related incentives to encourage responses. Similarly to other exhibitions BCA has presented in the past, *Shifting Ground* will play a central role in our outreach to, dialogue with, and publicity to a broad demographic of citizens through facilitated tours by our curator and direct conversations with artists about the ideas behind the art works. Publicity for visioning events and follow-up events will be conducted through communications activities such as email list serves, front porch forum, social media and mainstream media. Information and analysis collected will be transformed into an interactive visual artwork used to inform participants about needs, limitations and opportunities to be considered in the planning process.

**i. Plans for documenting and evaluating.** Immediate performance indicators will include the number of citizens engaged in the process, the diversity of demographics engaged as data allows, the number of artists contracted to conduct engagement activities, and the number of temporary public art works created. Data will be collected in short surveys conducted in person and on line. A final report of recommendations and actions resulting from the public engagement will establish additional performance measurements. Examples may include the number of opportunities identified in the master plan for arts related activities in public spaces; the inclusion of arts on regulatory mechanisms such as public space standards of the Form-Based Code; mechanisms identified for funding new arts development and supporting arts infrastructure; non-regulatory actions such as integrating public art and arts infrastructure into capital improvement planning, city operations and maintenance. Long-term, we hope to see an increase in the creation of public spaces and artworks in the South End, an increase in the number of arts, tech and business startups in the South End, and increased retention of entrepreneurs and workers city-wide. All projects and processes will be documented through photography, interviews and film and exhibited in the South End for public feedback. A catalogue documenting *Shifting Grounds* will be created and distributed through businesses and arts venues in the South End.

**j. Accessibility.** The project will be designed with all accessibility standards included, and every effort will be made program activities in accessible spaces. BCA partners with VSA Vermont to programmatically better serve individuals with disabilities through training in universal design for learning, sighted tours, audio description and designing with sensitivity to disabilities. We provide language and sign language translation when needed, text in large print and Braille and audio assisted devices upon request.





# NEA Application Financial Information

Read the  
instructions for  
this form before  
you start.

OMB No. 3135-0112  
Expires 11/30/2013

If you are a parent organization, this information should refer to the component on whose behalf you are applying.

**Applicant** (official IRS name):

OPERATING BUDGET	MOST RECENTLY COMPLETED FISCAL YEAR		CURRENT FISCAL YEAR (ESTIMATED)		NEXT FISCAL YEAR (PROJECTED)	
	( / / -- / / )	( / / -- / / )	( / / -- / / )	( / / -- / / )	( / / -- / / )	( / / -- / / )
	START DATE	END DATE	START DATE	END DATE	START DATE	END DATE
<b>Income:</b>						
Earned	\$	_____	\$	_____	\$	_____
Contributed	\$	_____	\$	_____	\$	_____
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	_____	<b>\$</b>	_____	<b>\$</b>	_____
<b>Expenses:</b>						
Artistic salaries and fees	\$	_____	\$	_____	\$	_____
Production/exhibition/ service expenses	\$	_____	\$	_____	\$	_____
Administrative expenses	\$	_____	\$	_____	\$	_____
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	_____	<b>\$</b>	_____	<b>\$</b>	_____
Operating surplus/(deficit)	\$	_____	\$	_____	\$	_____

In the space below, discuss the fiscal health of your organization. You must explain 1) any changes of 15% or more in either your income or expenses from one year to the next, and 2) plans for reducing any deficit (include the factors that contributed to the deficit and its amount):

**2010-11**

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>ARTIST/KEY INDIVIDUALS</b>	<b>PROJECT BUDGET</b>
Dissonance/Resonance	Exhibition installation: viewers navigate under and through sculptural forms reflecting the artist's first-hand experiences with struggles in Israel and the West Bank. Accompanied by visual thinking strategies-based facilitation.	Mia Feuer, artist Chris Thompson, BCA curator	\$10,000
Big Joe Burrell Statue	Bronze statue completion and installation on the Church St Marketplace commemorating beloved local Jazz hero.	Chris Sharp, artist Sara Katz, BCA public art staff	\$100,000
Digital Lab	New facility for media arts opened for educational and community use in the BCA Center.	Mary Zompetti, Melissa Steady, BCA education staff	\$30,000
Seven Below Artist Residency	Six national and international contemporary artists selected to receive stipend and attend BCA's 6 week summer artist residency. Jurors selected from BCA university and exhibition affiliations.	Steve Budington, Nancy Dwyer, Pascal Spengemann, Gregory Volk, Chris Thompson, Jurors.	\$50,000
Inner Landscapes	Nine works presented explored the cross-section between anthropology, software development, complex systems analysis, graphic design, and storytelling. Harris's unique body of internet-based work exposed human emotion on massive and intensely intimate scales.	Jonathan Harris, Artist Chris Thompson, BCA curator	\$7500

**2011-12**

Drawing Strength	Artist and architect Alisa Dworsky's exhibition installation reinterpreted two-dimensional drawing into three-dimensional forms.	Alisa Dworsky, artist Chris Thompson, BCA curator	\$3,000
Thought Bombers	Highlighting Jager and his team's twenty years of creative output, including snowboard and product design, and inspired by the legacy of 1960's activist-artist-nun Sister Corita,	Michael Jager, Designers from JDK Design firm, artists Chris Thompson, BCA curator	\$10,000

	this exhibition created a fusion of community activism, graphic design and personal expression.		
Imagine City Hall Park	Community arts engagement process to gather input about the future of City Hall Park program and design, included more than 30 concerts in the park, expanded festival activity, and facilitated activities with community groups.	Michelle Saffran, George Gonzalez, Matt Heywood, Justin Gural, artists; Andrea Grayson facilitator; Sara Katz, BCA Staff	\$72,000
PlanBTV	For Burlington's HUD funded new plan for the downtown and waterfront area, BCA provided a cultural facilities assessment.	Sara Katz and Doreen Kraft, BCA Staff	\$4,500
ECOS Project	For Chittenden County's HUD funded Regional Plan, BCA used arts-based tools developed for <i>Imagine City Hall Park</i> to engage citizens in various public settings.	Doreen Kraft, BCA Staff Andrea Grayson, Facilitator	\$18,000
Seven Below Artist Residency	Six national and international contemporary artists selected to receive stipend and attend BCA's 6 week summer artist residency. Jurors selected from BCA university and exhibition affiliations.	Anthony Grudin, Chelsea Spengemann, Christopher Thompson, Gregory Volk, Jurors.	\$50,000

**2012-13**

David Stromeyer Equilibrium: Career Retrospective	Monumental works by a nationally acclaimed outdoor sculptor transformed Burlington's City Hall Park into an outdoor sculpture park. In collaboration with the Burlington Parks Department.	Kerri Macon, BCA exhibitions staff, Sara Katz, BCA public art manager David Stromeyer, artist	\$25,000
Redstone Hotel Public Art Request for Proposals	Contract to seek public art proposals for new downtown hotel for private developer.	Sara Katz, BCA public art manager	\$10,000
Imagine City Hall Park	Design process integrated public comments from the prior year's engagement period into a master plan.	H. Keith Wagner Partnership, landscape architects	\$20,000

Hotel Vermont art placements	BCA worked with Hotel Vermont's interior design firm to develop artwork for rooms that represented Vermont in unexpected ways, including wall silkscreen designs and original art work placements.	Nissa Kaupilla, Torrey Valyou, Gail Salzman, Don Ross, artists Truex Cullins Interiors, interior designers	\$15,000
Seven Below Artist Residency	Six national and international contemporary artists selected to receive stipend and attend BCA's 6 week summer artist residency. Jurors selected from BCA university and exhibition affiliations.	Nancy Dwyer, DJ Hellerman, Anthony Grudin, Beth Montuori Rowles, Gregory Volk-- Jurors. BCA Staff: DJ Hellerman, Curator	\$50,000
Arts Connects	BCA partners with Burlington's art magnet school to provide artist residencies that work with classroom teacher to co-deliver elementary curriculum using principles of Universal Design for Learning.	Artists: George Gonzalez, Kim Desjardins, Michelle Saffran Staff: Melissa Steady, Sara Katz	
Seat's Taken	Exhibition designed to foster community-wide dialogue about exclusion, inclusion, and diversity and equity through the work of twelve artists and accompanying lectures, performances, workshops and visual thinking strategies-based facilitation.	Artists: Angelo Arnold, Nick Cave, Frohawk Two Feathers, Vanessa German, Amber Kempthorn, Stella Marrs, Liz Maugans, Todd Pavlisko, Alix Smith, Nathan Vincent, Noako Wowsugi Partners: Vermont Refugee Resettlement program, Diversity Rocks BCA Staff: DJ Hellerman, Curator	\$20,000
Land and Local	State-wide series of exhibitions intended to spark dialogue about the Vermont landscape. Implemented with partner arts institutions and in collaboration with the VT State Department of Tourism.	More than 50 primarily Vermont artists exhibited, in 7 different venues including Jean Luc Dushime, Meara McGinnis BCA Staff: DJ Hellerman, Curator	\$50,000

## KEY PERSONNEL

**Burlington City Arts (BCA) Executive Director, Doreen Kraft**

Doreen was one of the founding volunteers of BCA at its inception in 1981, and has since played a significant role, both as a board member and as executive director, in shepherding the organization through monumental growth in programs, staff and operating budget. Doreen's accomplishments at BCA include a \$3.5 million capital campaign to restore the historic Ethan Allen Firehouse (BCA's current home), the development of the BCA Center as one of the only contemporary art showcases in Vermont, the formation of Burlington's 30-year-old *Discover Jazz Festival*, and the establishment of the Art in Public Places program for the City of Burlington. Doreen has produced, directed and animated several films, including the award winning animation "Black Dawn", Lille Festival 2<sup>nd</sup> place. She received the Susan B. Anthony Award for Leadership in the Arts (1999) as well as the Awards in the Visual Arts Outstanding Visual Artist National Award (1988).

**BCA Assistant Director, Sara Katz**

Sara Katz has worked with Burlington City Arts since 1999, hired initially to provide support for the newly launched Firehouse Center for the Visual Arts Capital Campaign. Since then, she has taken on numerous roles at Burlington City Arts, always with a special interest in the intersection of the arts and social concerns. She has been instrumental in programming the Firehouse Center for the Visual Arts (now the BCA Center), advancing existing programs such as Art in Public Places, the Free Concert Series in Battery Park, and developing new programs such as Festival of Fools. She has extensive experience in fundraising, strategic planning and staff management, and was a lead staff member for Imagine City Hall Park, BCA's 2011 Our Town funded project culminating in a new master plan for Burlington's City Hall Park. She received her BS in Fine Art from Skidmore College and is also an active artist.

**BCA Curator, DJ Hellerman**

DJ Hellerman came to BCA in 2012 after seven years working for the Progressive Art Collection in Cleveland, Ohio. At Progressive, DJ worked within the human resources department exhibiting their formidable contemporary art collection in their sites nationwide as method for advancing corporate initiatives such as diversity and equity. He also co-curated group exhibitions at several locations in the Cleveland area, including the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage, and the Cleveland Museum of Contemporary Art. Hellerman holds committee positions at the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage and teaches art history courses at the University of Vermont and Champlain College. He studied Modern and Contemporary Art at Case Western Reserve University where he graduated with a master's degree in Art History in 2009.

**David White, Burlington Planning Director**

David has served as the City of Burlington's Planning Director since 2007. In his 20 years of service to the City, David has had a hand in helping to maintain Burlington's place as one of the country's most livable and dynamic small cities. He has played a lead role in the creation of Burlington's *Municipal Development Plan*, *Open Space Protection Plan*, the *North Street Commercial District Revitalization Plan*, the *Burlington Transportation Plan*, and a comprehensive revision of the *Burlington Zoning Ordinance*. He is now leading the development of a comprehensive master plan for the city's downtown and waterfront area. David was admitted to the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) in 1997. He is a past-president of the Northern New England Chapter of the APA, and currently serves on the National Membership Standards Committee of the AICP. David holds a Master's Degree from Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences received in 1989, and a Bachelor's Degree in Geography from the University of Vermont received in 1984.

**Sandrine Thibault, Burlington Comprehensive Planner**

Sandrine Thibault has served as the City of Burlington's Comprehensive Planner since January 2008. For the past 2 ½ years, she has managed planBTV, a master plan for the downtown and waterfront area of

Burlington. This planning process has engaged over 2,000 diverse stakeholders and has been one of the most comprehensive public engagement processes in the City. Her prior experience includes three years as a Principal Planner with the State of New Hampshire's Office of Energy and Planning, two years as a Principal Planner with the North Country Council in New Hampshire and one year as Zoning Review Coordinator for the City of Baton Rouge in Louisiana. She holds a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of New Orleans and a bachelor's in urban planning from the University of Montreal, Canada.

#### PROPOSED ARTISTS AND CONSULTANTS:

##### **Clark Derbes, Artist**

South End artist Clark Derbes uses a multitude of materials and surfaces to create paintings, sculptures, and installations, ranging in size from the miniscule to the monumental. He sources architectural and biological elements to create works of art that are both primitive and futuristic using an approach that matches intuition with deliberation. He has been drawn to public art projects that take place in worn or industrial locations, and that include youth and community members to encourage “a healthy sense of ownership in our city.” Derbes was born in New Orleans, Louisiana in 1978. He earned a BFA at Louisiana State University, and currently lives and works in Vermont.

##### **Jean Luc Dushime, Artist**

Jean Luc Dushime is an adventurous and worldly storyteller. Born in Rwanda, Dushime grew up between the D.R.Congo and the Republic of Congo. His work explores issues of cultural displacement and the difficulties of forging community bonds in strange new places. His past, as a survivor of multiple wars and massacres, has inspired him to capture the resiliency of the human soul, documenting social and cultural issues, the effects of migration and integration on small communities and vice-versa. “I want to make art that challenges people to talk more about the past, the present, and maybe share their hopes,” Dushime says. “Physical boundaries and internal boundaries are all linked. People don't realize that physical experiences have repercussions on our internal lives.” Dushime's medium—storytelling— now takes many forms, from photography and video to motivational speaking and mentoring youth. Dushime has a degree in public relations from Champlain College and he is now a U.S. citizen living in Vermont.

##### **Kate Donnelly, Artist**

South End artist Kate Donnelly has worked in a variety of media throughout her career, including printmaking, painting, sculpture, installation and interactive based projects. Her current work in performance and video is driven by a desire to publicly engage both a select and broad audience while exploring ideas about being human, about our everyday behaviors, habits and rituals, and places in our lives. Donnelly received a BFA in printmaking from the Rhode Island School of Design. Recent work includes *Also There*, a performance and video that explores everyday, routine transitions and what we may be missing. The video, *Also There*, was chosen to be in two exhibitions in NYC in 2012 including A.I.R Gallery's 10th Biennial curated by Ingrid Schaffner. Recent awards include an Individual Artist grant from the Vermont Community Foundation, The Barbara Smail Award, the Creation Grant from the Vermont Arts Council, and the Artists' Space Grant at the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts.

##### **Chris Thompson, Artist**

Chris Thompson works in the overlapping worlds of art, art history, technology and information graphics. His art seeks ways to visually express the ever-expanding, multilayered complexity of our culture and its pervasive sense of information overload. Chris was the BCA Center curator for five years and is currently a candidate for a master's degree in emergent media at Champlain College, where he is focusing his thesis on developing a community makers space in Burlington.

##### **Judy Natal, Artist**

Judy Natal's photographs examine and document landscapes that have been altered by scientists, engineers, designers, and Utopians. Her work describes important aspects of our contemporary world and

contributes significant observations about mankind's ideas of nature, our effect on our landscapes, and what the future might hold for us. Natal's photographs are in the permanent public collections of the Museum of Contemporary Art, California Museum of Photography, Center for Creative Photography, the International Museum of Photography and Film at George Eastman House, and the Museum of Contemporary Photography, among others. Her work has been exhibited at Projects International and Photograph Gallery in New York City, the Nelson Atkins Museum, Kathleen Ewing Gallery, Washington, D.C., and the Sao Paulo Biennial. She has received numerous grants and fellowships including a Fulbright Travel Grant, Illinois Arts Council Photography Fellowships, Polaroid Grants and New York Foundation for the Arts Photography Fellowships. Natal has also been awarded numerous artist residencies nationally and internationally, most recently in Iceland and the Biosphere 2 for her current work *Future Perfect 2040•2030•2020•2010*.

**Jennifer Karson, Artist**

Trained as a classical singer and musician, Jennifer Karson's sound installations explore urban and rural places, the overlapping network of humans, machines, animals and elements and the shifting negotiations of cultures. Karson's work also investigates the sonic history of technology and place, and she often seeks collaborations with technologists, scientists and architects. She is a founding member of Vermont Makers, a volunteer collective of members who are artists, scientists and engineers. She received an MFA in Design and Technology at the San Francisco Art Institute and a BA in Political and Environmental Sciences at the University of Vermont.

**Meara McGinnis, Artist**

McGinnis' work employs history and narrative, dance, and performance and cloth making to investigate the intersection landscape, memory, and home. By making houses of all sizes and forms, McGinnis interprets the idea of "home," an ideal space that may never materialize in reality but can be a driving force in how we live and interact with the world around us. Her current work uses cloth as structure and metaphor to explore intimacy, work, and identity, especially in the context of industrialization and the American quest for utopia. McGinnis received a B.A. from Burlington College and an M.F.A in Interdisciplinary Arts from Goddard College.

**The Image Farm, Artist/Consultant**

The image farm is a graphic design, illustration and communication firm that specializes in strategies to build communities, create change and market innovative goods and services. Matt Heywood cofounded The Image Farm in 2006 and earned his design and illustration degrees from Rochester Institute of Technology School of Art and Design in Rochester, NY. The Image Farm has worked with Andrea Grayson to develop a unique facilitation system founded on the inherent excitement and ownership of the process people feel to see their ideas expressed visually. Not only do the resulting illustrations convey information, they are artworks that participants can be proud of, and thus promote a deeper community buy-in.

**Andrea Grayson, EdD, MA, Facilitator/Consultant**

Andrea Lee Grayson, EdD, MA works as a social change marketing consultant, focusing on the creative use of print, media, and environmental strategies to support social and behavior change initiatives. Employing numerous creative and dialectic approaches, Grayson convenes and engages constituencies in ways that elicit involvement in community initiatives, and empowers participants through creative expression and documentation of their ideas. She has experience with outreach to, and engagement with, underrepresented communities, honoring the spirit and letter of Title VI guidelines. Grayson has a doctorate in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from The University of Vermont, a Master's in Media Ecology from New York University, and a Bachelor's degree with a major in Art & Aesthetics from Bard College at Simon's Rock.

**Dan Harvey** --PAST PRESIDENT

University of Vermont  
Assistant Dean, College of Engineering  
and Mathematical Sciences

**Sandy Berbeco**

Artist

**Leslie Black Sullivan**

Vice Chair, ArtSpace Board of Directors

**Lee Bouyea** –TREASURER

Managing Partner, Fresh Tracks Capital

**Rachel Kahn-Fogel**

Artist

**Billi Gosh**

Vermont State Committee of the National  
Museum of Women in the Arts

**Michael Metz**

President, M.M. & Associates, Inc.

**Michael Monte**

Executive Director, Champlain Housing  
Trust

**Lori Rowe**-SECRETARY

Human resources consulting

**Beth Montuori Rowles**–PRESIDENT

Manager, Phish, Inc

**Sherrill Musty**

Owner, Waterfront Books

**Barbara Perry**

Textile Artist

**William G. Post, Jr.**

Gravel & Shea, Attorneys at Law

**Pascal Spengemann**

Marlborough Gallery, NY

**Dana vanderHeyden**

St. Michael's College

Emeritus

**Patrick S. Robins**

**Judy Kelly**

**Nicky Roth**

The study area for this project is the South End of Burlington, which includes both residential and commercial/industrial zones. The study area contains several natural and cultural resources areas of sensitivity including both a listed and a proposed National Register Historic Districts in the northern portion of the study area. It also features the Barge Canal Superfund site, a RCRA landfill, a rail yard property and a number of known hazardous sites as identified by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. The redevelopment of brownfields is a specific strategy in the city's Consolidated Plan. The City of Burlington was one of the first EPA Brownfield Pilot Programs in 1996. The program has since successfully received subsequent funding and leveraged private funding and is managed by the City's Community and Economic Development Office. Over the past several decades, numerous properties have changed hands and have been cleared of hazards for beneficial use, the Superfund site has been mitigated, and with few exceptions, properties redeveloped. The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation has significant data on environmental conditions in the area, detailing the mitigation of properties and specifying sources and locations of contamination.

This project as proposed is a planning and policy effort that alone will pose no direct impact on any natural and cultural resources. Part of the work to be undertaken will be to expand our understanding of any resources that may exist within the study area, and consider any potential impacts various planning and development initiatives or recommendations may present. We will build upon existing information, and utilize both in-house and outside expertise. Burlington is a Certified Local Government (CLG) in partnership with the VT Division for Historic Preservation and the National Park Service.



135 Church Street  
Burlington, VT 05401  
P 802.865.7166  
F 802.865.5839  
[BURLINGTONCITYARTS.ORG](http://BURLINGTONCITYARTS.ORG)

January 9, 2014

Burlington City Arts grants permission to share our attached application with other funders.

Sincerely,  
Doreen Kraft

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doreen Kraft". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Executive Director,  
Burlington City Arts



## Office of Mayor Miro Weinberger

January 9, 2014

National Endowment for the Arts  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20506-0001

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic endorsement for the planBTV South End project, the only project submitted to *Our Town* from the City of Burlington. Burlington's South End has organically evolved from a declining industrial district into a thriving heart of our creative community. As a prime location for our most dynamic businesses, it is at a critical juncture in its development. Engaging the public and stakeholder groups around the attendant challenges and opportunities will be a critical part of the process. Understanding the intersection of individual projects with a complex range of district-wide issues (including housing, arts, ecology, and transportation) is a key goal. Active projects include the Railyard Enterprise Project area, a multi-modal framework for infill, mixed-use developments, and the long-awaited Champlain Parkway, designed to improve safety and open access to numerous redevelopment sites. Because of the South End's identity as a creative hub for the City, the arts are perfectly suited to raise visibility for key issues and to help facilitate a multi-faceted discussion with an increasingly diverse citizenship. The partnership with Burlington City Arts (BCA) and the connection to our arts community through planBTV South End will be important to achieving this outcome.

Burlington's 2013 planBTV Downtown & Waterfront process led by Burlington's Planning & Zoning Department provided the City with a functional roadmap for the future of our downtown and waterfront built upon citizen participation. I am confident that the partnership between BCA and Planning & Zoning will yield a rewarding process and will benefit the growth of our creative community and community at large. BCA is the designated cultural planner for the City of Burlington and has regularly spearheaded projects to engage artists in community participation efforts, including Imagine City Hall Park, which developed a new master plan for City Hall Park, and two HUD-funded projects, planBTV Downtown & Waterfront and Chittenden County Regional Planning's ECOS project.

For more than 30 years, Burlington has placed serious value on inclusive development processes and has received a number of accolades as a great arts town. So much of our creative output is already happening in the South End—among artists, entrepreneurs, and

now significant and growing tech businesses. What began quite organically by entrepreneurs and artists is now an incredible asset that we want to intentionally encourage and protect. It is time to define a comprehensive vision for the South End and proactively prepare for inevitable continued growth of the area. I am eager to see this growth develop in a way that is authentic to who we are and that enhances our strengths, starting with planBTV South End. We hope you will consider our application to advance this exciting project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Miro Weinberger', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the bottom right.

Miro Weinberger  
Mayor

## Department of Planning and Zoning

149 Church Street  
Burlington, VT 05401  
Telephone: (802) 865-7188  
(802) 865-7195 (FAX)  
(802) 865-7142 (TTY)

[www.burlingtonvt.gov/pz](http://www.burlingtonvt.gov/pz)

David E. White, AICP, Director  
Ken Lerner, Assistant Director  
Sandrine Thibault, AICP, Comprehensive Planner  
Jay Appleton, Senior GIS/IT Programmer/Analyst  
Scott Gustin, AICP, Senior Planner  
Mary O'Neil, AICP, Senior Planner  
Nic Anderson, Planning & Zoning Clerk  
Elsie Tillotson, Department Secretary



Thursday, January 9, 2014

RE: City of Burlington's NEA Our Town Grant Application, planBTV-South End

To Whom It May Concern:

This comes in enthusiastic support and as an expression of our commitment to the City of Burlington's NEA Our Town grant application for the development of a master plan for the South End of Burlington.

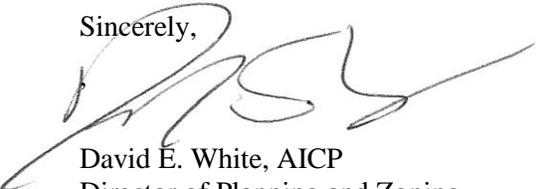
In the Fall of 2010, the City of Burlington was awarded a Sustainable Communities Challenge Grant by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and established "Preferred Sustainability Status" under the Federal Partnership for Sustainable Communities. This grant enabled the development of a comprehensive master plan for Burlington's Downtown and Waterfront area. This grant provided us with a unique opportunity to invest in the future, and advance Burlington's place as one of America's most livable and sustainable communities. The planning process placed an emphasis on ways to promote and improve mixed uses and quality urban design, affordable and workforce housing, transportation and parking management, and the quality and capacity of public infrastructure. The final result was an award winning document that sets a realistic vision for the future of the economic and cultural core of the city. We are intent on achieving similar results with the planBTV-South End project

Our office is particularly excited about how well this South End project will continue the efforts achieved by the City by the *planBTV-Downtown & Waterfront Master Plan* and the opportunity to expand into another area of the City. The planBTV-South End project will influence the development of a comprehensive master plan that outlines future development, infrastructure, greenspace, multi-modal circulation needs and opportunities, with a specific focus on identifying measures needed to protect the affordability of artist spaces, including affordable artist housing and work-live space in Burlington's South End. The community engagement process will be innovative in its use of artists to help develop and convey the public input received from citizens, businesses and others.

This planning effort will built upon other initiatives in this part of the city including analysis of the neighborhood using the LEED-ND criteria undertaken last summer by Global Green and supported by EPA's Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Grant Program, and an EPA Area-Wide Planning Grant currently underway to help identify brownfield sites and identify strategies for their remediation and reuse.

Our Department brings expertise in the areas of urban design; land use and development; historic preservation; community planning and engagement; project planning; permitting and implementation; and, information collection and management. In closing, we very enthusiastically encourage your support and favorable consideration of the City of Burlington's NEA Our Town grant application. Please don't hesitate to contact me should there be any additional information we can provide.

Sincerely,

  
David E. White, AICP  
Director of Planning and Zoning  
[DEWhite@ci.burlington.vt.us](mailto:DEWhite@ci.burlington.vt.us)  
802.865.7194

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4502

January 10, 2014

The Honorable Acting Chairman Joan Shigekawa  
National Endowment for the Arts  
110 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20506-0001

Dear Acting Chairman Shigekawa:

It is my pleasure to write in support of the City of Burlington's application to the National Endowment of the Arts' 2014 Our Town Grant (CFDA # 45.024) program. I am pleased to bring this proposal to your attention.

The South End of Burlington has been the focus of many development projects over the past 40 years. The growing diversity of residents and the strong community interest in new retail and housing accommodations have only heightened interest in the area. Many Vermont artists are drawn to the South End, forming a unique cultural corridor. With help from this grant funding, PlanBTV-South End will work to incorporate the arts with the ongoing development to ensure that the arts and industrial identity is supported and protected.

PlanBTV-South End will task a team to design a detailed streetscape integrating new cultural spaces and public art along the Pine Street Corridor. This mission is to create workshops, public art projects, and exhibits to engage the public and connect this diverse community. PlanBTV aims to use art to promote discussion among the community members about the future of their neighborhood. This project will present opportunities for local businesses to grow, thereby encouraging investment in the local community.

Thank you for giving this request the consideration it deserves. If I can provide further evidence of my support for this proposal, please contact Diane Derby of my Vermont staff at (802) 229-0569.

Sincerely,



PATRICK LEAHY  
United States Senator



south end arts + business association

January 10, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

The South End Arts and Business Association (SEABA) represents over 250 businesses and artists in the South End Arts District. We have been providing advocacy, education, opportunity, and marketing to our constituency for over 27 years. The South End has evolved over those 27 years, with many dilapidated warehouses and buildings becoming creative incubator spaces, and the growth of the largest exhibit of visual arts in Vermont, the South End Art Hop. It is our goal to maintain the artistic vibe and culture of the South End Arts District, while working with the City of Burlington on growth and development opportunities.

SEABA would like to extend our support to Burlington City Arts, in pursuing a grant intended to gauge community concerns, interest, and developing artistic components to this growth in our District. From the Barge Canal, to the Champlain Parkway, to the Railyard Enterprise Project, SEABA is invested heavily in this historic, artistic community and will continue to advocate for creative growth.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Adam C. Brooks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Adam C. Brooks

Executive Director, South End Arts & Business Association

[www.seaba.com](http://www.seaba.com), [director@seaba.com](mailto:director@seaba.com)  
(802) 859-9222



vermont affordable housing coalition

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January 9, 2014

Sara Katz  
Assistant Director  
Burlington City Arts  
135 Church Street  
Burlington, VT 05401

Dear Sara,

I am writing on behalf of the Vermont Affordable Housing Coalition to support the Burlington City Arts' Our Town application for funding to support arts-based visioning events and community workshops in the South End. Arts engagement activities have become a major component of our resident organizing program as a tool for building community bonds and facilitating the growth of resident associations in affordable housing complexes. Our community building efforts in the South End district would benefit from public art works that emphasize the historical significance of the area while also envisioning future possibilities and opportunities for its diverse population.

The preservation of existing affordable housing has long been a cornerstone of our mission and an integral part of our campaign to ensure the sustainability of the current affordable housing stock. In 2011, our organization assisted in preserving both the Wharf Lane and Bobbin Mill apartments—two notable affordable housing developments located in the South End—that were at risk of converting to market-rate housing. Ever since, we have been involved in an effort to empower these residents and build community by assisting them in the creation of self-sustaining tenant associations. Working directly with residents, we have identified a keen interest and need for engagement activities that generate greater sense of place and neighborhood pride for the residents. We see an arts-based community building strategy as integral to this effort.

By documenting the history of the successful 2011 "Save Our Homes" campaign, while also drawing upon the personal histories of residents living in the apartments, we hope to develop stronger community bonds and neighborhood affiliation among the residents. We are interested in implementing public arts projects that develop this sense of resident buy-in to the neighborhood through mural projects as well as oral history projects. These projects inspire residents, empowering them to have a greater voice in decisions affecting their housing and surrounding neighborhoods.

The Coalition is enthusiastic in our support for the fundamental purpose and vision of BCA's creative placemaking application for arts engagement in the South End. As we continue our work with residents in this section of Burlington, we look forward to creating innovative projects that cultivate more resilient communities. Our organization is looking forward to collaborating with BCA in hopes of generating community-based public art works and engagement activities that yield a strong vision for the future of this neighborhood. We look forward to working with you in the development of community arts engagement projects that represent just one of the many diverse communities of the South End.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erhard Mahnke".

Erhard Mahnke  
Coordinator



AUG 27 2014

Ms. Doreen Kraft  
Authorizing Official  
Burlington City Arts Foundation  
135 Church St  
Burlington, VT 05401-8429

Dear Ms. Kraft:

On behalf of the National Endowment for the Arts, it is a pleasure to inform you that your organization has been awarded a grant.

Grantee: Burlington City Arts Foundation  
Grant #: 14-4292-7084 CFDA #: 45.024  
Grant Amount: \$100,000 Outcome: Livability  
Period of Support: September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2015  
Discipline/Program: Design - Our Town  
Grant Project: To support an artist-led engagement and visioning process to develop a comprehensive cultural master plan for Burlington's South End, as described in your application (A14-953419) and the enclosed project budget.

**Special Term:** It is a term of this award that you provide in-kind documentation with each payment request and the Federal Financial Report if you claim in-kind donations to meet the minimum required match for this grant.

Please review your award packet. A copy of the approved budget is included. If changes were made to the budget they are noted at the bottom of the budget page.

Award materials are online at [www.arts.gov/manageaward](http://www.arts.gov/manageaward). The *General Terms & Conditions* provide detailed information concerning the NEA's regulations and procedures, the administrative requirements that apply to your grant, and your responsibilities as a grantee. Instructions for requesting grant funds and reporting on your project are also here.

If you have any questions regarding the administrative requirements of this grant, our Grants & Contracts Office staff will be happy to assist you. They may be reached at [grants@arts.gov](mailto:grants@arts.gov) or (202) 682-5403. Congratulations on your grant award!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Chu".

Jane Chu  
Chairman

Grantee DUNS #: 824742519

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS  
APPROVED PROJECT BUDGET

Grantee: Burlington City Arts Foundation

Grant #: 14-4292-7084

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**INCOME**

Match	Cash: \$	<u>72,000</u>	
	In-Kind: \$	<u>64,430</u>	<b>Total MATCH: \$</b> <u>136,430</u>
			<b>NEA GRANT: \$</b> <u>100,000</u>
			<b>TOTAL PROJECT INCOME: \$</b> <u>236,430</u>

**EXPENSES**

Direct Costs	Salaries & Wages: \$	<u>83,030</u>	
	Fringe: \$	<u>37,400</u>	
	Travel: \$	<u>0</u>	
	Other: \$	<u>116,000</u>	<b>Total DIRECT Costs: \$</b> <u>236,430</u>
			<b>INDIRECT Costs: \$</b> <u>0</u>
			<b>TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES: \$</b> <u>236,430</u>

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**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

You are responsible for reviewing the **General Terms & Conditions** for your award, which are available on our website at [www.arts.gov/manageaward](http://www.arts.gov/manageaward). Failure to comply with these Terms may result in the disallowance of project expenditures and/or the reduction or withdrawal of Arts Endowment support for your project.

- This budget is derived from your application, revised budget, and/or other communication. All costs must be incurred within the period of support listed on your award letter. It is understood that this budget reflects estimated expenditures and that actual, allowable expenditures will be reported on all financial reports.
  - This grant must be matched dollar for dollar (1 to 1) unless otherwise indicated in your grant award letter. Match must be nonfederal.
  - Certain unallowable costs may have been removed from your budget (see Budget Notes); these costs cannot be supported with Federal or matching funds and should not be included on future financial reports for this award.
  - Expenditures on your project should be in general agreement with the line item costs outlined in this budget. Some budget changes may require prior NEA approval (for example, adding foreign travel or indirect costs).
  - This budget cannot include overlapping project costs with any other direct Federal grant including awards made directly by the NEA or another Federal Agency (e.g., NEH, HUD, etc.)
  - NEA funds that are sub-granted to you through a state or regional arts agency, or a local arts organization, cannot be used as match on this award.
  - Proper documentation must be maintained for all costs in this budget, including all salaries charged, in whole or in part, to this award.
  - Proper documentation must be maintained for all in-kind contributions claimed.
  - All activities supported with NEA or matching funds, including performance/touring activities as well as publications, websites, or other media projects, must be made accessible to people with disabilities in compliance with Section 504 and the ADA.
  - Payments to foreign nationals and/or non-compliant travel to or from countries sanctioned by the U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Asset Control are unallowable.
- 

**BUDGET NOTES:**

Hospitality removed from OTHER; unallowable. CASH decreased to balance the budget.