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The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage Announces 2014 Grants for Philadelphia Artists, Organizations

PHILADELPHIA—The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage announced its 2014 grants in support of Philadelphia’s arts and cultural community today. They include 12 new Pew Fellowships of \$60,000 each, 35 Project Grants in amounts up to \$300,000, and two Advancement Grants of \$500,000 each.

“Through the work of The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage, we are pleased to support the cultural vitality of greater Philadelphia,” said Michael Dahl, who directs the Philadelphia program for The Pew Charitable Trusts. “These types of high-quality, meaningful cultural experiences continue to make our region an attractive place to live and visit.”

“Our 2014 grantees attest to the dynamism and variety of Philadelphia’s cultural scene and carry the promise of exciting and rewarding experiences for audiences across the region,” said Paula Marincola, executive director of The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage. “We are gratified to support such a vibrant and ambitious group of artists and projects.”

Following is a partial list of artists, projects, and organizations receiving awards. A complete list of grantees can be found at www.pcah.us.

Pew Fellowships:

- Susan Rethorst: internationally recognized, award-winning choreographer, currently in her fifth decade of making dances.
- Leroy Johnson: a mixed-media artist active in Philadelphia’s Black Arts Movement of the 1960s and ‘70s and still creating vital work.
- Matt Saunders: an emerging, experimental performance artist who develops inventive, critically acclaimed set designs for major venues in the United States.

Project Grants for Events, Exhibitions, and Performances:

- Festivals with numerous events and public performances, such as WXPB’s *Zydeco Crossroads* series and Bryn Mawr College’s 10-month celebration of renowned choreographer Trisha Brown, featuring the first American ballet company performance of Brown’s choreography (by the Pennsylvania Ballet).

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- Interdisciplinary and cross-genre projects that blur artistic boundaries, including Janine Antoni's collaborative, performance-driven exhibition at the Fabric Workshop and Museum, and Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture's upcoming performances of Arabic music, which feature Philadelphia choir The Crossing, known primarily for its work with Western new music.
- New commissions and site-specific installations from major international artists, including a video and light sculpture by Barbara Kasten for her retrospective at the Institute of Contemporary Art, and site-specific artwork at the Free Library of Philadelphia's main branch by Germany-based artists and brothers Gert and Uwe Tobias, in conjunction with a show of the library's extraordinary "Fraktur" collection.
- Community-driven projects that will change the way several area cultural institutions think about their missions and inform how they more deeply interact with their neighbors, such as those being organized by the Asian Arts Initiative and Philadelphia Mural Arts Program.

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Advancement Grants:

- The Philadelphia Zoo, for the next phase of its innovative trail system, which will add to an ever-changing and enriching experience for animals and audiences alike.
- Opera Philadelphia, for a multi-year project that will help the organization undertake audience research to further enhance the impact of its programs, as well as bring opera to a variety of audiences in unconventional places and unexpected ways (awarded in December 2013).

More information about the program is available at www.pcah.us.

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The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage envisions greater Philadelphia as a widely recognized hub for dynamic cultural experiences and a place in which creative expression and interpretation, as well as the exchange of ideas, are vital forces in public life. The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage is funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts and administered by the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. For more information, visit www.pcah.us.

The Pew Charitable Trusts (www.pewtrusts.org) is driven by the power of knowledge to solve today's most challenging problems. Pew applies a rigorous, analytical approach to improve public policy, inform the public and stimulate civic life. It partners with a diverse range of donors, public and private organizations, and concerned citizens who share a commitment to fact-based solutions and goal-driven investments to improve society.