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LOWER MANHATTAN CULTURAL COUNCIL AWARDS
2011-2012 WORKSPACE RESIDENCIES IN FINANCIAL DISTRICT
TO 23 EMERGING ARTISTS & WRITERS

Nine-month residency includes free studio space, seminars, public programs, networking, and other professional development opportunities

<http://lmcc.net/residencies/workspace>

New York, NY (October 13, 2011) – Redefining what it means to "work Downtown," twenty-three artists and writers in the early stages of their careers will have the opportunity to use temporarily vacant office spaces in Lower Manhattan as their studios for the next nine months, the **Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC)** announced today.

The organization's 2011-2012 *Workspace* Residency will provide free studio space in Downtown Manhattan to seventeen visual artists and six writers working in a range of media and genres, including sculpture, video, performance art, playwriting, and poetry. The program also includes talks and seminars, public programs, access to a network of peers and new audiences, a financial stipend, and other professional development opportunities.

Administered by LMCC Artist Residencies, the program addresses the critical need for affordable studio space in Manhattan by securing and adapting underutilized office space just blocks from Wall Street, in partnership with generous property owners.

"At a time when one of the greatest challenges for New York artists is finding affordable space in which to make art, LMCC's *Workspace* program matches them with unoccupied real estate that would otherwise lie fallow," said Sam Miller, President of LMCC. "More importantly, the program connects the creative practice and energy of artists to the economic and social aspirations of our changing community."

The residency will culminate in the spring of 2012 with *Workspace: Open Studio Weekend*, an open studio weekend that allows the public to meet the Artists- and Writers-in-Residence and see what they've been working on for the past nine months.

Since its launch in 1997 at the World Trade Center, LMCC's *Workspace* program has provided hundreds of the city's most exciting emerging artists and writers with studios in noted Downtown landmarks. The program has established itself as a breeding ground for new artists and writers, including Sanford Biggers, Beth Campbell, and LaToya Ruby Frazier. Previous participants have gone on to show work at the Museum of Modern Art, the Moscow Biennale, and numerous galleries around the world.

The 2011-2012 *Workspace* residents are:

Visual Artists

Firelei Báez
Joell Baxter
Daniel Bejar
Waa Bilal
Juanli Carrión
Rob Carter
Agathe de Bailliencourt
Dru Donovan
Tracey Goodman
Bang-Geul Han
Moo Kwon Han
Hugh Hayden
Valerie Hegarty
Yamini Nayar
Jessica Ann Peavy
Dread Scott
Austin Shull

Writers

Nastaran Ahmadi
Sherisse Alvarez
Erica Ehrenberg
Samuel Leader
Amy Whitaker
Paul David Young

About Lower Manhattan Cultural Council

For nearly 40 years, LMCC has been the leading voice for arts and culture in Downtown New York City, producing cultural events and promoting the arts through grants, services, advocacy, and cultural development programs. LMCC offers a range of funding opportunities and support services for artists working in all artistic disciplines across Manhattan, and a broad range of free programs in the visual, performing and media arts that help cultivate new arts audiences and improve the quality of urban life. LMCC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization supported by a range of foundations, corporations, individuals and government entities. For more information visit www.LMCC.net