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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Exciting Reasons to Visit this Summer and Fall in Both Peterborough and New York

With summer’s arrival at The MacDowell Colony we naturally think ahead to Medal Day and we look forward to seeing you all on August 14. On that day we celebrate the literary genius of Toni Morrison, a writer whose work has propelled the national conversation in so many ways. Join us for the celebration, picnic and studio visits for this wonderful occasion.

In this issue we see the breadth of work being produced by artists, and the reach of MacDowell’s work across the country and globe. We are excited to announce we are moving from our current Manhattan offices where we’ve been for nearly 30 years, and will move this fall to new space on West 23rd Street in the heart of Chelsea, one of the city’s most active cultural neighborhoods. This bright new welcoming space, visible on the second floor of a gallery building near the Highline, will provide us with greater visibility and greatly enhance staff capabilities to administer this grand “Peterborough experiment.” It will also provide you with more chances to engage with us and MacDowell Fellows.

Another notable change is that Peter Jakub is our new Treasurer, taking over from Gerry Gartner. Former Chairman Robert MacNeil led the tribute to Gerry at a luncheon in his honor for his incredible 23 years of service in this key position in the leadership of the Colony. Gerry is staying on the board.

Please come visit in August, and in Chelsea later this year,

Cheryl A. Young, Executive Director

Journalism Initiative Support Makes Finding the Long Arcs Possible

Journalist Porter Fox arrived at The MacDowell Colony late last January armed with hundreds of stories and countless historical vignettes compiled for a book about the almost-4,000-mile line drawn between the U.S. and Canada. Entitled Northland, it’s both a journalistic historical study of the making of the longest international border in the world as well as a cultural study of the people who live there now. The first-person narrative about the state of the border today will look at its security, economy, and the communities that exist on either side of it, weaving in fascinating historical anecdotes about the state of the border today will look at its security, economy, and the communities that exist on either side of it, weaving in fascinating historical anecdotes about the founding of the State of Washington where the border vanishes into the Pacific.

Fox is one of 15 nonfiction writers over the past year whose residencies have been supported by MacDowell’s Art of Journalism Initiative. It’s part of MacDowell’s commitment to offer writers engaged in deep reporting and complex narrative the uninterrupted time and stimulation that comes out of a creative artistic community. The initiative has raised more than half its $4.5 million goal to endow 20 journalism fellowships as resources for long-form projects in a changing media climate that favors fast news. All new gifts will be matched up to $1 million by a special challenge grant from the Calderwood Charitable Foundation. So far, several fellowships have been created: the John S. Carroll Fellowship, the Markos and Eleni Kounalakis Fellowship, the Sylvia Canfield Winn Fellowship for Environmental Journalism, and there are three Anne Cox Chambers Fellowships to recognize her early support. The Calderwood Foundation also endowed a fund to provide small project grants to cover research and travel costs based on need.

Research for Fox’s book has taken him from Quoddy Narrows at the mouth of the Bay of Fundy as far west as Spokane by foot, canoe, freighter, small plane, and car. “The geographic progression followed almost precisely the chronology of the development of the U.S. and the border,” he says. “By the time I got to the Great Lakes, I was writing about the fur trade and that period, in the Great Plains I’ll be talking about the end of the Age of Native Americans, and in the Rockies I dig into westward expansion.”

With just a little more of the border to examine this summer and early fall, he figures he’ll spend October through next spring writing and revising. A finished narrative should be ready by next May. “The scope of this project is massive,” Fox says. He spent his three weeks at MacDowell completing a large section of writing for his upcoming book, Deep: The Story of Skiing and the Future of Snow, His first, His first, Deep: The Story of Skiing and the Future of Snow, His first, Fox attended the Nieman Narrative Journalism Conference several times and started incorporating the techniques of fiction into his nonfiction. Then he started writing and organizing the large arcs of the story. With tens of thousands of square miles buffeted against the border to report on, that was no small feat.

“I hit the ground running when I got home from MacDowell,” says Fox. “I returned totally inspired and with a clear vision of what I want to do.”

This is Fox’s second dive into long-form journalism. His first, Deep: The Story of Skiing and the Future of Snow, was a narrative nonfiction look at how climate change could void out most of the snow and ice on the planet in the next century, affecting mountain communities and everything downstream of them.

“I was a fiction writer first, and worked at newspapers and magazines as a day job,” says Fox. “I never considered the journalism I was doing was an art form. It was just something I did to pay the bills. But I continued to work at it alongside fiction, and when I figured out what narrative nonfiction was, I realized it was something I had been trying to do for a long time.”

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New Funding: Middle Eastern Artists, Artists with Children, and Oregon Visual Artists

The MacDowell Colony is proud to announce new partnerships with ArteEast and the Sustainable Arts Foundation, as well as a new grant from the Ford Family Foundation for 2016.

ArteEast will fund travel and Fellowship costs for an artist from the Middle East in the coming year. A New York-based nonprofit organization, ArteEast provides support to artists based in the Middle East and North Africa, the emerging region. The MacDowell Colony reaches through its Voices of Change initiative. The goal of Voices of Change is to promote artistic freedoms in regions of political, economic, and social instability. This partnership will support a MacDowell residency of up to two months for an outstanding artist from the Middle East/North Africa that includes a $1,500 stipend.

Meanwhile, for artists with children, taking time off for a residency can be especially challenging. That’s why MacDowell is delighted to receive a $5,000 grant from the Sustainable Arts Foundation to establish MacDowell’s first childcare financial aid fund. Artists of demonstrated need may apply for childcare stipends of up to $1,000 in addition to general financial aid and travel support. Too often, creative impulses are set aside due to the demands of raising a family, and the goal of this grant is to encourage parents to continue pursuing their creative passion.

The Ford Family Foundation has awarded us a new grant to fund seven visual arts residencies for Oregon artists over the next two years. In an effort to connect Oregon artists with the wider art world, the foundation is supporting fellowships at several residency programs. This grant also helps MacDowell cultivate a more geographically diverse artist community.

To find out more, and discover how you can support these causes, visit macdowellcolony.org/giving.
Toni Morrison to Be Honored With 2016 Edward MacDowell Medal

NOBEL AND PULITZER WINNER JOINS VENERATED GROUP OF RECIPIENTS AND WILL BE HONORED AT FREE PUBLIC EVENT AUGUST 14

The MacDowell Colony will award novelist Toni Morrison its 57th Edward MacDowell Medal on Sunday, August 14 during a free, public event on the Colony grounds in Peterborough. Morrison is a Nobel Prize- and Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist, editor, and professor known for writing novels that explore the American experience through the lenses of race, sex, and power with vast themes, rich dialogue, and finely drawn characters. Among her best known novels are The Bluest Eye, Sula, Song of Solomon, Beloved, and A Mercy.

"If any writer could be called our nation’s conscience, that writer would be Toni Morrison," said best-selling author Dave Eggers, chair of the Edward MacDowell Medal Selection Panel, and editor and founder of the literary publishing house McSweeney’s. "And though she was recognized with the Nobel Prize in 1993, since then she has continued to produce novels of astonishing power and beauty. She once said, ‘If you can’t find the book you want to read, you must write it,’ and that urgency is evident in every line and every book that bears her name."

Serving with Eggers on the selection panel were Marlon James, Man Booker Prize-winning author of A Brief History of Seven Killings, The Book of Night Women, and John Crowley’s Dowell; Amy Tan, best-selling author of seven novels such as The Joy Luck Club and The Bonesetter’s Daughter; and MacDowell Fellow and board member Julie Orringer, author of the short-story collection How to Breathe Underwater and the novel The Invisible Bridge.

Morrison was born in 1931 in Ohio and as a child fell in love with reading. She earned a bachelor’s degree from Howard University and a master’s degree from Cornell. She has taught English at Texas Southern University, Howard University, and Yale University, and is currently the Robert F. Goheen Professor Emerita in the Humanities at Princeton University. Her first novel, The Bluest Eye, was published in 1970. Since then, she has written 10 more novels to extensive critical acclaim. She received the National Book Critics Award in 1978 for Song of Solomon and the 1988 Pulitzer Prize for Beloved. In 2006, The New York Times Book Review named Beloved the best work of American fiction published in the last quarter-century.

"With the prophetic vision that is the oldest, truest patrimony of American literature Toni Morrison sees us as we are now, as we have been and as we have never lived up to our promise to become," said MacDowell Colony Chairman, Fellow, and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Michael Chabon. "In the refiner’s fire of that vision she has shaped the raw, hard stuff of our singularly violent history — the factual and the mythic history alike — into epics of everyday tragedy, written in a prose style that like all the greatest American prose styles alloys the fiercely poetic and the wryly conversational to forge a language that shines with compassion and cuts like steel. She is the writer we have been most blessed to have among us during our lifetimes. Her face belongs on postage stamps and mountainsides."

Chabon will present the Medal along with MacDowell Board President Susan Davenport Austin, Executive Director Cheryl Young, and Resident Director David Macy on Sunday, August 14, 2016, beginning at 12:15 p.m. This year, via a grant from the Lincoln Financial Foundation, MacDowell is partnering with high schools in the region to introduce Morrison’s works to students. There will be additional engagement via MacDowell in the Schools, with author Dave Eggers, chair of the Edward MacDowell Medal Selection Panel, and editor and founder of the literary publishing house McSweeney’s. "And though she was recognized with the Nobel Prize in 1993, since then she has continued to produce novels of astonishing power and beauty. She once said, ‘If you can’t find the book you want to read, you must write it,’ and that urgency is evident in every line and every book that bears her name."

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Finnegan Gets the Pulitzer for Surfing Memoir

Congratulations to Fellow William Finnegan (’91, ’96, ’07) for his Pulitzer Prize for Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life. The Pulitzer award committee in the biography and autobiography category called the book “a finely crafted memoir of a youthful obsession that has propelled the author through a distinguished writing career.”

Two MacDowell Fellows had plays that were finalists for the Pulitzer for Drama. Gloria, by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins (’12, ’15), and The Humans, by Stephen Karam (’98, ’10, ’11, ’13) gave way to Hamilton by Lin-Manuel Miranda, who appeared on stage at last December’s Chairman’s Evening with Michael Chernob (12 times ’86-’15) and Martin Scorsese (see page 7).

Fellow Wins Rome Prize for ’16-’17

Theatre artist Kyle deCamp (’12) has been awarded a ’16-’17 Rome Prize by the American Academy in Rome. Her project called “here where the bridge floats.” During the Fellowship in Rome she’ll develop research into a geographic floating east and west of ideas—the movement of bodies and light in architecture—for a live performance/installation.

“The recent demolition of the massive progressive-era Welfare Hospital for Chronic Diseases, renamed Goldwater Memorial on Roosevelt Island in New York (1959-2015) provokes me to explore the rich, unknown histories of this radically designed public health hospital, its context and legacy,” she said. “The hospital’s designer, Russian Jewish immigrant architect Iaadose Rosenfield (1893-1980) is coincidentally my cigar-smoking grandfather. Rosenfield spent the year 1922 in Rome, studying architecture, art and light.”

Twenty-one Fellows and Board Member Win Prestigious Guggenheims

In its 92nd competition for the United States and Canada, the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation has awarded 175 Fellowships (including three joint Fellowships) to a diverse group of 178 scholars, artists, and scientists this year. Appointed on the basis of prior achievement and exceptional promise, the successful candidates were chosen from a group of nearly 3,000 applicants.

MacDowell Fellows among the winners:

Poet Rick Barot (’01, ’08, ’12), composer Edmund Campion (’90), fiction writer Jennifer Clement (’07), photographer Hasan Elahi (’10), interdisciplinary artist Michelle Ellsworth (’11, ’15), writer Amity Gaige (’08, ’12, ’14), photographer Matthew Jensen (’11), filmmaker Dee Hibbert-Jones (’11), poet Cynthia Huntington (’02), filmmaker Manfred Kirchheimer (’78, ’81), writer Paul Lisicky (’89), theatre artist Taylor Mac (’14), composer Laurie San Martin (’99), photographer Eileen Neff (’02), composer Andrew Noonan (’98, ’09, ’11, ’12, ’14), writer Amanda Petrusich (’15), theatre artist Betty Shamieh (’05), writer Robert Thurston (MacDowell Board Member since ’91), filmmaker Nomi Talisman (’11), composer Dalit Hadass Warshaw (’98), choreographer Raphael Xavier (’14), and visual artist Liz Young (’91).

Quade’s Night at the Fiestas Wins National Book Critics Circle Award

In March, the National Book Critics Circle announced the recipients of its book awards for publishing year ’15. The winners included Kirstin Valdez Quade (’11, ’15) who was presented with the John Leonard Prize for her story collection, Night at the Fiestas. The John Leonard Prize was established to recognize an outstanding first book in any genre. If that wasn’t enough, less than a week later, Night at the Fiestas was named by the American Academy of Arts and Letters as its choice for the Sue Kaufman prize for first fiction. Quade is a former Stegner Fellow and Jones lecturer at Stanford University. She was named one of the National Book Foundation’s “5 Under 35” and has received a Rona Jaffe Award.
Freedom of Expression at the Core of Jennifer Clement’s Presidency of PEN International

BY CLAIRE HICKEY

After several months on the job, MacDowell Fellow Jennifer Clement seems right at home—still a little awestruck— as PEN International’s latest president. The Assembly of Delegates of the prestigious and widely respected London-based organization elected the Mexican-American writer as their first female president since its founding nearly 100 years ago. Clement was elected to the post last October.

“It’s a great honor and a great privilege (so be grateful—please!),” said Clement, who was in residence at MacDowell in 2007. “They’re people that have been tortured, who have been imprisoned, who live in exile or who live in fear, or who have dedicated their lives, resources and time to the cause of freedom of expression.” Clement explained that defending freedom of expression and working to promote literature on a global scale are the main thrusts of PEN International’s mission.

Clement was elected as the president of PEN Mexico in 2009 and dedicated herself to researching the abductions of young girls in the country for her novel Prayers for the Stolen. During her research, she started advocating for ending the incarceration to freedom; installation ‘14) social practice ‘14) book Reading Claudia. ‘10, ‘15) which charts the ‘10). Clement’s Presidency of PEN International

Big Year for Coates’s Between the World and Me

It’s been quite a year for the latest book from Ta-Nehisi Coates (‘10). Between the World and Me, Coates’s study of the truth about history and race in the form of a letter to his son, was released last summer. Since publication, the book has been named a New York Times Notable Book, it has won the Nation Book Award, was named a 2016 Literature Award Winner by the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and was a finalist for the 2016 Pulitzer Prize, and has received laudatory reviews from many major publications. This year’s Edward MacDowell Medal Winner Toni Morrison said that with the book, Coates filled a void left by James Baldwin (‘54, ‘57, ‘60).

LaMama Presents John Kelly Retrospective

The artistic work of John Kelly (5 times ‘94-‘15) was celebrated at La Mama in March with archival material, panelists, and live performances. Panelists included John Jesurum (6 times ‘97-‘14), Kyle decamp (12), Kevin Malony, Nicky Paraiso, and Carol Lipis; it was moderated by Lucy Sexton. Kelly’s performance and visual art has ranged in scale from solo to larger ensemble, and stemmed from autobiographical, cultural, and political issues. The collection of the polio vaccine.

Summer Reading: Works on NYTimes Notable List

Claudia Rankine (‘95, ‘92) for CITIZEN: An American Lyric, a meditation in prose poems, images and essays on what it means to be black in our racially divided society. James Hannaham (4 times ’00-’10) for Delicious Food, an ambitious, sweeping novel of American Captivity and exploration involving an addicted mother laboring on a commercial farm. Lauren Groff (‘12) for Fates and Furies, a novel about marriage that touches upon loneliness as well as Gornick’s real-life New

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Helen Degen-Cohen | Writer and educator Helen Degen-Cohen died on November 24, 2015 while participating in a RHINO Poetry Workshop in Evanston, Illinois. She was 81. She was a Holocaust survivor, hidden from the Nazis during World War II by Mama Zusmiska. She later settled in Chicago. Degen-Cohen, who was in residence in 1992, graduated from Roosevelt High School, and later from Trinity University and the University of Illinois. She was a co-founder and editor of the RHINO Poetry Journal, which this year celebrates its 40th anniversary. She was an elementary school teacher, taught college. An acclaimed writer of poetry, short stories, and novels, she received many prizes and awards, including the Paladin Award for extraordinary long-term contribution to poetry in Illinois.

Steven R. Gerber | Composer Steven R. Gerber died in New York on May 28, 2015 at the age of 66. He was in residence in 1988. Gerber held degrees from Haverford College and from Princeton, where he received a four-year fellowship. His music composition teachers included Robert Harris, J. K. Randall, Earl Kim, and Milton Babbitt. During his years as a graduate student at Princeton and throughout the 1970s, he wrote a number of stunning compositions, such as the cappella cello works. "Dylan Thomas: Selected Poems Illuminated" (1983). His music has been reviewed in The New York Times and The Washington Post, and it is said that it has been played in the former Soviet Union perhaps more widely than that of any other American composer.

Michael Harper | Post Michael Harper, who was a finalist for the National Book Award in poetry in 1978, died on May 7, 2016 in Rhode Island. He was 78. According to The New York Times, his "allusive, jazz-inflected poems intertwove his personal experiences as a black man with an expansive view of a history shared by black and white Americans." Harper, who was in residence in 2002, moved to Los Angeles with his family when he was 13. He enrolled in pre-med courses at Los Angeles City College, but loved literature and ended up pursuing English at LA State College, earning both a B.A. and an M.A. He began publishing poems while teaching at Contra Costa College. He joined the English faculty at Brown University in 1970, was named Rhode Island's first state poet in 1989, and retired in 2013. Harper’s daughter is fiction writer Rachel Harper (05, 15).

Nabil Maleh | Filmmaker Nabil Maleh, considered by many to be the father of Syrian filmmaking, died on February 24, 2016 in Dubai, U.A.E. at the age of 79. He was in residence in 2013. Born in Damascus, he studied at Prague Film School and returned to Syria in 1964 and made many films. Maleh’s works include films such as The Leopard, The Road to Damascus, and The Extras. Maleh taught at the University of Texas Austin and UCLA. He returned to Syria in 1993 and was part of a growing cadre of intellectuals calling for democratic reforms. In 2006 he was given a lifetime achievement award by The Dubai International Film Festival. He left Syria in 2011 during a period of growing political unrest and never returned. In total, Maleh made approximately 150 films, including shorts and features.

Albert Laster Stevens | Former MacDowell maintenance worker and long-time supporter Albert Laster Stevens died at his home in Sharon, NH on Dec. 13, 2015. He was 99. He moved to the Peterborough and Jaffrey area in 1938, arriving just after the September hurricane that devastated the MacDowell Colony and Peterborough. After helping with repairs and cleaning up around the town, Stevens worked at Bean Simonds Box company in Jaffrey, where he worked for 17 years. He then took a maintenance position at MacDowell and held that position until his retirement 22 years later.

Steven Stucky | Composer and MacDowell Colony board member Steven Stucky died on February 14, 2016 in Ithaca, New York at the age of 66. He attended Baylor and then Cornell, where he taught from 1980 to 2014. He served on the MacDowell Board from 1992 to 1995, and started teaching at The Juilliard School in 2014. Stucky has been described by The New York Times as “an exceptional orchestrator and colorist.” He was awarded a Pulitzer Prize in 2005 for his Second Concerto for Orchestra, commissioned by the Los Angeles Philharmonic. He regularly conducted the Los Angeles Philharmonic New Music Group and Ensemble X, a contemporary music group he founded in 1997. He also worked closely with the New York Philharmonic.

Fargo Deborah Whitman | Filmmaker Fargo Deborah Whitman died on January 15, 2016 in Brooklyn. She was 62 years old. She was in residence two times, in 1986 and in 1992. Whitman graduated from The University of Virginia and received an M.F.A. from Bangor University in 1985. She had a solo show at The Whitney Museum in 1985. Her work was also featured in a show at The Brooklyn Museum called “Drawings by Sculptors,” and is in the museum’s permanent collection. Her drawings appeared in Werner Kramarsky’s 560 Broadway: A New York Drawing Collection at Work, 1991-2006. She had a solo at John Gibson Gallery, PS 1 Institute for Art, The Franklin Furnace, and was part of many other group shows.

MacDowell Turns On the Power of the Sun

A new half-acre array of solar panels has begun offsetting 14 percent of the Colony’s annual electrical needs each year. The photovoltaic panels, which started producing electricity for MacDowell on January 26, will supply about 186,000 kWh each year. The installation will prevent about 182,380 pounds of carbon dioxide from being released into the atmosphere each year. As a charitable nonprofit, the Colony can’t access federal incentives to help defray overall costs of such a project, so Board Member Bob Larsen of Concord stepped in and introduced the Colony to ReVision Energy of Exeter, NH, a solar energy company that offers turnkey installations. ReVisionWorks Bob Larsen of Concord stepped in and introduced the Colony to ReVision Energy of Exeter, NH, a solar energy company that offers turnkey installations.

We’re Headed South to Sunnier Climes!

Thanks to generous contributions from supporters, the New York staff this spring outside the Upper East Side office

Inaugural Shandy Fellowship to Bailey

Writer Cathleen Richardson Bailey has been named the first recipient of the Charlotte Sheedy Fellowship. Bailey is a poet, writer, curator, and visual artist. She received an M.F.A. in creative writing from the University of Southern Maine at Stonecoast, and her stories and poems have appeared in Shooting Star Literary Review, A & U Magazine, Cake Train, and Border Crossing, among others. She is the author of two poetry collections, Spit Rock/Crooked Cave and Wild Howling Woman. Her beaded and textile art pieces have shown at the Renwick Gallery of American Art in Washington, D.C., among others.

The Charlotte Shandy Fellowship was established in 2015 to support one writer each year whose work represents populations across racial and cultural boundaries. Named in honor of literary agent Charlotte Sheedy, the fellowship reinforces MacDowell’s commitment to inclusivity in support of those who would become great contributors to the literary canon such as James Baldwin, Paul Murray Eileen Chang, Makoto Oda, Alice Walker, and Audre Lorde.

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Audre Lorde
Eileen Chang
James Baldwin
Paul Murray Eileen Chang
Makoto Oda
Alice Walker
Events

MACDOWELL IN THE SCHOOLS

Visual artist Jeremy Dean presented his work at ConVal High School this past December. Dean showed work samples and screened short videos. He described his process as an artist and fielded questions from the students. Dean also met with the Aesthetics and Ideas class, answering questions about his practice, and the role of art in society.

The month of February was busy. Multimedia artist Brent Wataanabe (above) hosted a group of ConVal art students and faculty at Adams Studio. He explained his latest work on an installation he was developing in residence. The same group then crossed the Colony to visit visual artist Julie Alpert to tell a unique story, and filmed interviews to tell a unique story, and raised nearly $45,000, which will fully fund four artist Fellowships this year. We had a full house of 130 artists-in-residence, business leaders, and MacDowell friends from near and far. We laughed and shed a tear or two as we were treated to two presentations. Filmmaker Luke Jaeger (13, 15) showed his animated film Puns in an old Savidge Library during cocktail hour and talked about his process. Later, during dinner, composer and performer Heather Robb ('14) poured her heart out and stirred up our own heartstrings and had us laughing by treating guests to four recent compositions.

MACDOWELL DOWNTOWN

Board member and president of Yankee Publishing, Lisa Kron emceed a program that included Academy Award nominee Ethan Hawke embodying the character of Lotte Satterwhite from Lauren Groff's '12 New York Times bestselling novel Pagan There, a hypnotic scene from Dan Hurlin's '03, '12, '15 puppet creation Demolishing Everything With Astonishing Speed, and a showstopping performance by cast member Adrianna Hicks singing "I'm Here" from the Broadway musical adaptation of Fellow Alice Walker's '67, '74 novel, The Color Purple. And that was just a part of it! The performances also featured an excerpt from What the Eye Sees: A History of Tap Dancing, read by author Brian Seibert ('05, '06), and a tribute to Prince with a tap performance by dancer Michela Marino Lerman and Seibert, and a powerful scene from the new play, War, by playwright and Honorary Chair Branden Jacobs-Jenkins ('12, '15) performed by Austin Durant and Chris Meyers. The evening concluded with an auction of experiences donated by MacDowell Fellows that raised nearly $50,000 — enough to support five additional fellowships this year!

National Benefit in NYC Surpasses Fundraising Goal

On May 16th more than 300 guests were greeted at the TimesCenter in midtown Manhattan by Chris Doyle's '91, '96, '98, '01, '05 magnificent large-scale animations at our highest-profile annual fundraiser. The evening showcased a wide range of talent and diversity of disciplines, raising $520,000 in critical operating funds for the Colony. Chairman of the Board Michael Chabon hosted and playwright Jeremy Dean ('19, '14) teamed a program that included Academy Award nominee Ethan Hawke embodying the character of Lotte Satterwhite from Lauren Groff's '12 New York Times bestselling novel Pagan There, a hypnotic scene from Dan Hurlin's '03, '12, '15 puppet creation Demolishing Everything With Astonishing Speed, and a showstopping performance by cast member Adrianna Hicks singing "I'm Here" from the Broadway musical adaptation of Fellow Alice Walker's '67, '74 novel, The Color Purple. And that was just a part of it! The performances also featured an excerpt from What the Eye Sees: A History of Tap Dancing, read by author Brian Seibert ('05, '06), and a tribute to Prince with a tap performance by dancer Michela Marino Lerman and Seibert, and a powerful scene from the new play, War, by playwright and Honorary Chair Branden Jacobs-Jenkins ('12, '15) performed by Austin Durant and Chris Meyers. The evening concluded with an auction of experiences donated by MacDowell Fellows that raised nearly $50,000 — enough to support five additional fellowships this year!

New Hampshire Benefit Packs House with Supporters

Thanks for coming to dinner! Our New Hampshire Benefit on Saturday night, April 9, surpassed our goal and raised nearly $45,000, which will fully fund four artist Fellowships this year. We had a full house of 130 artists-in-residence, business leaders, and MacDowell friends from near and far. We laughed and shed a tear or two as we were treated to two presentations. Filmmaker Luke Jaeger (13, 15) showed his touching animated short film Fishwife in old Savidge Library during cocktail hour and talked about his process. Later, during dinner, composer and performer Heather Robb ('14) poured her heart out and stirred up our own heartstrings and had us laughing by treating guests to four recent compositions.

Save the Dates

Mental Day Honoring Toni Morrison Sunday, August 14, 2016 Order your basket by visiting macdowellcolony.org/events-MedalDay.html

Fourth Annual Chairman's Evening Monday, December 5, 2016 Enjoy cocktails and listen in as Michael Chabon converses with two prominent artists at the New Museum, NYC!

Community Engagement

MACDOWELL IN THE SCHOOLS

Visual artist Jeremy Dean presented his work to 55 students and five faculty in the Lucy Hurlin Theater at ConVal High School this past December. Dean showed work samples and screened short videos. He described his process as an artist and fielded questions from the students. Dean also met with the Aesthetics and Ideas class, answering questions about his practice, and the role of art in society.

The month of February was busy. Multimedia artist Brent Wataanabe (above) hosted a group of ConVal art students and faculty at Adams Studio. He explained his latest work on an installation he was developing in residence. The same group then crossed the Colony to visit visual artist Julie Alpert to tell a unique story, and filmed interviews to tell a unique story, and raised nearly $45,000, which will fully fund four artist Fellowships this year. We had a full house of 130 artists-in-residence, business leaders, and MacDowell friends from near and far. We laughed and shed a tear or two as we were treated to two presentations. Filmmaker Luke Jaeger (13, 15) showed his touching animated short film Puns in an old Savidge Library during cocktail hour and talked about his process. Later, during dinner, composer and performer Heather Robb ('14) poured her heart out and stirred up our own heartstrings and had us laughing by treating guests to four recent compositions.
FELLOWSHIPS

From November 2015 through April 2016, The MacDowell Colony welcomed a total of 137 artists from 25 states and eight countries. The group included 66 writers, 24 visual artists, 12 theatre artists, 11 film/video artists, 11 composers, eight interdisciplinary artists, and five architects.

RIMY ACHATU, Interdisciplinary Artist
Brooklyn, NY
SCOTT ADKINS, Theatre Artist
Brooklyn, NY
SARA AKANT, Writer
Brooklyn, NY
TOMAS ALFORD, Composer
West Newton, MA
NATALIA ALMADA, Film/Video Artist
Los Angeles, CA
JULIE ALPERT, Visual Artist
Switzerland
NORDO ARADUO, Composer
Wilmington, DE
SAM ARCHAMBY, Interdisciplinary Artist
London, United Kingdom
PAT BADANI, Interdisciplinary Artist
Chicago
TBA VAHABAZ, Writer
Livingston, NJ
SANA BARBA, Writer
Cambridge, MA
LARA BAZELOW, Writer
San Francisco, CA
DEN BECHARD, Writer
Cambridge, MA
JARROD BECK, Visual Artist
New York, NY
GIL VAN BEEK, Theatre Artist
Thornes, CA
CINDY BERNARD, Visual Artist
Ghent, NY
WILLIAM BERNS, Film/Video Artist
Brooklyn, NY
JEFF BERNS, Film/Video Artist
Brooklyn, NY
EUGENE BESLER, Composer
Athens, GA
BROOKFIELD BICKEL, Writer
New York, NY
LEWIS BIEDER, Visual Artist
San Francisco, CA
ANA BIKET, Writer
Warsaw, Poland
JONATHAN BLINK, Writer
Champaign, NY
CHARLOTTE BRAY, Composer
Berlin, Germany
JONATHAN BRIDG, Composer
London, United Kingdom
DINGO BROOKS, TAKASHI, Interdisciplinary Artist
Bradford, PA
SARA BROWN, Writer
Woodstock, NY
MARGARET BROWN, Film/Video Artist
Mobile, AL
WILL BROWN, Visual Artist
Philadelphia, PA
LAYNE BROWN, Writer
Wallingford, PA
LAKE BYRNE, Film/Video Artist
Brooklyn, NY
DARRYL BURRELL, Film/Video Artist
Toronto, Canada
SOPHIE CASH, Composer
Toronto, Canada
KARA CORTHRON, Theatre Artist
Brooklyn, NY
SOPHIE CASH, Composer
Toronto, Canada
DERAGH CAMPBELL, Writer
Wallingford, PA
LAYNIE BROWNE, Writer
New York, NY
WILL BROWN, Visual Artist
Cambridge, MA
DENI BECHARD, Writer
Santa Monica, CA
SUSAN BARBA, Writer
Livingston, NJ
GAIUTRA BAHADUR, Writer
Sacramento, CA
SAM ASHBY, Interdisciplinary Artist
Wilmington, DE
JULIE ALPERT, Visual Artist
Colonia Juarez, Mexico
TRAVIS ALFORD, Composer
Brooklyn, NY
SARA AKANT, Writer
Brooklyn, NY
ROMY ACHATU, Interdisciplinary Artist
Brooklyn, NY
SCOTT ADKINS, Theatre Artist
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SARA AKANT, Writer
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Thornes, CA
CINDY BERNARD, Visual Artist
Ghent, NY
WILL BROWN, Visual Artist
Brooklyn, NY
INTERNSHIP
KRIS KRINSKY, Manufacturing
JOSH SIEGAL, Film Curator
TREVOR WESTON, Composer
MICHAEL YOUNG, Architect

On the cover…

Hundreds of standard roadway barrier barrels are suspended to create a reflective ceiling at a U.S.-Mexico border crossing near the El Paso/Ciudad Juarez border between the U.S. and Mexico. The project, a collaboration with Texas Tech architecture students, repurposes the barrels to create a visual and acoustic ceiling for a temporary, mitigating the infrastructural scale of the canopy space with the individual variations of repurposed objects. Everyday traffic barrels became suspended away from the ground which they control, their power as soft infrastructure being thus negated for one evening. “The installation was created by architects Ersela Kripa [09, 13] and Stephen Muller [09, 13] of AGENCY Architecture [photo CREDIT AGENCY Architecture LLC]”

MacDowell is published twice a year, in summer and winter. Past fellows may send newsworthy activities to the editor in Peterborough. Deadlines for inclusion are April 1st and October 1st.

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The MacDowell Colony awards Fellowships to artists of exceptional talent, providing time, space, and an inspiring environment in which to do creative work. The Colony was founded in 1907 by composer Edward MacDowell and pianist Marian Nevins MacDowell. Fellows receive room, board, and exclusive use of a studio. The sole criterion for acceptance is talent, as determined by a panel representing the disciplines of the applicable artist. The MacDowell Colony was awarded the National Medal of Arts in 1997 for “fostering and inspiring many of this century’s finest artists.” Applications are available on our website at www.macdowellcolony.org.

Chairman: Michael Chabon
President: Susan Downtown Austin
Executive Director: Cheryl A. Young
Resident Director: David Macy

The Colony is grateful for the generous support of the following organizations:

PORTLAND-CARSON

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