



Board of Directors Meeting March 8, 2019



- NEST supports public presentations and community engagement by New England artists outside of their state
- State Arts Agency staff are the program advisors and serve as the review panel
- Typical deadline
- 9 engagements funded, including a tri-state tour
- Grant amounts ranged from \$400 - \$4000
- Total amount awarded: \$22,955



- Litchfield Jazz Festival/Camp (in Litchfield, CT) was awarded \$4000 to present [Avery Sharpe](#) (from Amherst, MA), who will serve on the Jazz Camp faculty and play for both students and local audiences in nightly concerts for the duration of the festival.



Artist: ANIKAYA Dance Theater (Somerville, MA)

Presenters:

- Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (Boston, MA)
- Brown University Department of Theatre Arts and Performance Studies (Providence, RI)
- Laumeister Art Center at Southern Vermont College (Bennington, VT)

- ANIKAYA Dance Theater (from Somerville, MA) will present their work, *Silent Flight*, at the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (in Boston, MA), the Brown University Department of Theatre Arts and Performance Studies (in Providence, RI), and the Laumeister Art Center at Southern Vermont College (in Bennington, VT) as part of a tour. Each performance will be site-specific, and explore the literal and metaphorical meaning of birds within each of these communities.
- Each grantee received between \$3,200 to \$4,000.
- This is the first time that Laumeister Art Center at Southern Vermont College applied for a NEFA grant.
- The BCNC and Southern Vermont College grantees were introduced to ANIKAYA Dance Theater's work at the 2018 Idea Swap.



- The Dancing Queerly Festival (in Boston, MA) received their first NEFA grant to present Toby MacNutt (from Burlington, VT); this connection was also made at Idea Swap! Toby is a queer, non-binary dancer with a disability being commissioned to make new work featuring themes of masculinity and strength, bodily change, pain, family, and grief; and including both floor dancing and crutch dancing.
- The Festival will take place at The Dance Complex in Cambridge, MA.



Artist: The Afro-Semitic Experience (Hamden, CT)
Presenter: Arts Council of Tamworth (Tamworth, NH)

- Arts Council of Tamworth (in Tamworth, NH) is presenting The Afro-Semitic Experience (from Hamden, CT), a group formed around the shared and parallel experiences of the African-American and Jewish communities. Citing more recent tragedies such as the Tree of Life synagogue shooting and racism throughout America, the presenter feels that this group has a lot to offer for the isolated, rural town of Tamworth.

Artist: Alexander Davis Dance
(Boston, MA)
Presenter: Redfern Arts
Center at Keene State College
(Keene, NH)



- Redfern Arts Center at Keene State College (Keene, NH) was awarded \$800 to bring alum Alexander Davis (class of '14) and his contemporary dance company Alexander Davis Dance (based in Boston, MA), for a public performance, dance masterclasses, and a collaborative fabric art installation.
- The dance company's work combines dance, comedy, and theatre to explore the layers of identity and human experience. The company will perform three pieces, including a duet with dancer Peter DiMuro, a new work created with the Keene State College community based on interviews with campus members, and a work created with Joy Davis called "Junk Drawer".

Artist: Samara Piano Quartet (Keene, NH)
Presenter: Highland Center for the Arts
(Greensboro, VT)



- Highland Center for the Arts (in Greensboro, VT), located in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, was awarded \$3600 to present the Samara Piano Quartet (from Keene, NH), an ensemble made up of internationally established chamber musicians. In offering this off-season performance, Highland Center for the Arts and the Samara Piano Quartet seeks to enrich the surrounding community with an affordable concert performance and cultivate relationships with local musicians and students.
- This is the first time that Highland Center for the Arts has applied for a NEFA grant.

Artist: New Inca Son (Jamaica Plain, MA)
Presenter: Burke Town School (West Burke, VT)



- Burke Town School (in West Burke, VT), located in the Northeast Kingdom, is presenting New Inca Son (from Providence, RI), an ensemble dedicated to sharing Andean folklore and preserving Indigenous heritage through song. The ensemble will engage with both students and community members of Vermont's Northeast Kingdom through educational presentations about Inca culture and offer three performances.
- This is the first time that the Burke Town School has applied for a NEFA grant.