# ARTPLACE AMERICA INVESTS \$8.7 MILLION IN COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY

23 projects across 18 states and one US territory receive \$8.7 million in funding from ArtPlace America's National Creative Placemaking Fund, further positioning arts and culture as a core sector of comprehensive community planning and development

(December 5, 2017) Today, <u>ArtPlace America</u> (ArtPlace) is proud to announce 23 creative placemaking projects that will receive funding in communities of all sizes across 18 states and one US territory. In these projects, arts and culture strategies play an integral role in strengthening the social, physical, and economic fabric of communities.

ArtPlace's National Creative Placemaking Fund is a highly competitive national program – funding 2% of initial applications this year – that invests money in communities across the country in which artists, arts organizations, and arts and culture activity help drive community development change. Each project identified its intentions to address a challenge or opportunity in one of 10 sectors of community planning and development.

ArtPlace received 987 applications for this year's funding cycle, from which 70 finalists were selected. Of the 23 projects announced today, 12 are first-time applicants and one has received funding from ArtPlace before. ArtPlace also has a deep commitment to funding in rural America, with almost 52% of this year's funded projects working in rural communities.

Meet the 2017 funded projects here.

"Creative Placemaking seeks the full and robust integration of art and culture into the decisions that define the ebb and flow of community life. These projects embody what this looks like at its most effective," said Rip Rapson, president and CEO of The Kresge Foundation and Chair of the ArtPlace President's Council. "We were overwhelmed by the extraordinary commitment demonstrated in these projects - contributing to the growing understanding of creative placemaking efforts throughout the nation."

With today's announcement, ArtPlace's National Creative Placemaking Fund has supported 279 creative placemaking projects in 223 communities of all sizes, totaling \$86.4 million worth of investments across 46 states, American Samoa, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands.

"This year's investments highlight critical dimensions of creative placemaking strategy that can provide great inspiration to communities across the country." said F. Javier Torres, Director of National Grantmaking at ArtPlace. "We are deeply excited to announce these 23 new investments as our seventh cohort of funded projects through the National Creative Placemaking Fund."

To learn about funding and partnership opportunities, subscribe to the newsletter at the top right corner of the ArtPlace homepage.

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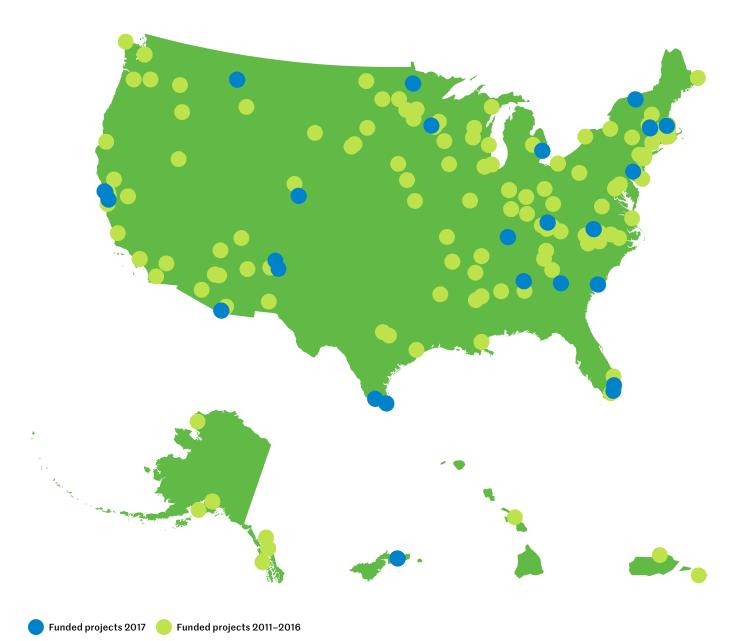
#### About ArtPlace America

<u>ArtPlace America</u> (ArtPlace) is a ten-year collaboration among 16 partner foundations, along with 8 federal agencies and 6 financial institutions, that works to position arts and culture as a core sector of comprehensive community planning and development in order to help strengthen the social, physical, and economic fabric of communities.

ArtPlace focuses its work on creative placemaking, projects in which art plays an intentional and integrated role in place-based community planning and development. This brings artists, arts organizations, and artistic activity into the suite of placemaking strategies pioneered by Jane Jacobs and her colleagues, who believed that community development must be locally informed, human-centric, and holistic.

# National Creative Placemaking Fund

2017 Funded Projects



"Creative Placemaking seeks the full and robust integration of art and culture into the decisions that define the ebb and flow of community life. These projects embody what this looks like at its most effective. We were overwhelmed by the extraordinary commitment demonstrated in these projects—contributing to the growing understanding of creative placemaking efforts throughout the nation."

#### - Rip Rapson

President and CEO, The Kresge Foundation Chair, ArtPlace America President's Council

PAGE 2 of 28 www.artplaceamerica.org



INTRODUCTION

In 2017, ArtPlace America selected 23 projects across 18 states and one US territory to receive \$8.7 million in funding from its National Creative Placemaking Fund. This further positions arts and culture as a core sector of comprehensive community planning and development.

The National Creative Placemaking Fund is a highly competitive national program that invests money in communities across the country in which artists, arts organizations, and arts and culture activity help drive community development change across 10 sectors of community planning and development:

Agriculture and Food
Economic Development
Education and Youth
Environment and Energy
Health
Housing
Immigration
Public Safety
Transportation
Workforce Development

ArtPlace's National Creative Placemaking Fund has supported 279 creative placemaking projects in 208 communities of all sizes, totaling \$86.4 million worth of investments across 46 states, American Samoa, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands.

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PAGE	PROJECT	LOCATION
5	Ekvnv Yefolecvike	Weogufka, AL
6	Queen Muhammad Ali	Fagaitua, AS
7	Southwest Folklife Alliance	Nogales, AZ
8	Designing Justice + Designing Spaces	San Francisco, CA
9	Heartbeat of San Jose Japantown	San Jose, CA
10	Re:Vision	Denver, CO
11	Arts for Learning/Miami, Inc.	Miami, FL
12	ONE~South CDC, LLC.	Macon, GA
13	Appalachian Artisan Center of Kentucky, Inc.	Hindman, KY
14	Double Edge Theatre Productions, Inc.	Ashfield, MA
15	The Loop Lab	Cambridge, MA
16	Garage Cultural	Detroit, MI
17	At Home in Harrison	Minneapolis, MN
18	4 Directions Development	Red Lake, MN
19	East Helena Food & Culture Hub	East Helena, MT
20	The Lilies Project	Walnut Cove, NC
21	Pueblo de Cochiti	Cochiti Pueblo, NM
22	The Village of Arts and Humanities	Philadelphia, PA
23	The Charleston Rhizome Collective	Charleston, SC
24	Conexion Americas	Nashville, TN
25	Taller del Permiso	Brownsville, TX
26	El Sonido del Agua	Edinburg, TX
27	A Sense of Place	Charlotte, VT



PROJECT

### **Ekvny Yefolecvlke**



A community of Indigenous Maskoke persons have reclaimed some of their ancestral homelands in what is now Weogufka, AL. Through a number of collaborations – including with Alabama's Wildlife and Freshwater Fish Division – the project will seek to re-introduce native plants and animals and to reawaken traditional arts practices, including language revitalization and women's medicinal practices, in an effort to improve health outcomes for the community.

This project is partnering with the Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fish Division to reintroduce native sturgeon to the local river.

LOCATION

### Weogufka, AL



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### Rural

PROJECT DURATION

2 years

AMOUNT

\$425,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

### Health

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

# Design & Architecture

Folk & Traditional Arts



National Creative Placemaking Fund

2017 Funded Projects

PROJECT

## **Queen Muhammad Ali**



Renowned filmmaker Queen Muhammad Ali, great-granddaughter of Eastern American Samoa's late Paramount Chief Tuli Le'iato, will address the obesity and diabetes epidemic on the island with documentation, archiving and eLearning of Indigenous Samoan healing arts, natural herbal medicines, plant based nutrition, and by creating a social wellness hub in Faga'itua, AS that will serve as an artistic resource for a healthier community.

81% of the land area in Samoa is owned communally by familial bands.

LOCATION

## Fagaitua, AS



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### Rural

PROJECT DURATION

**2.5** years

AMOUNT

\$500,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

#### **Health**

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

**Design & Architecture** 

Folk & Traditional Arts

Film & Media



PROJECT

## **Southwest Folklife Alliance**



Folklorist, curator, and anthropologist Dr. Maribel Alvarez will lead a project to repurpose the former residence of Raul Casto, Arizona's only Mexican-American governor to date, into a local arts incubator, which will create both workforce and economic development opportunities for youth in and around the Nogales, AZ community.

Due to its location on the border and its major ports of entry, Nogales funnels an estimated \$30 billion worth of international trade into Arizona and the United States, per year, in fresh produce and manufactured goods from Mexico. LOCATION

## Nogales, AZ



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### Rural

PROJECT DURATION

2 years

AMOUNT

\$350,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

### **Education & Youth**

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Film & Media

Literature

Craft & Culinary Arts

National Creative Placemaking Fund 2017 Funded Projects

PROJECT

# Designing Justice + Designing Spaces



The Pop-Up Resource Village (PRV) is a site activation project led by Designing Justice + Designing Spaces (DJ+DS) and a range of community partners in the Bay Area. The PRV is a mobile village that will use the power of design to bring together social services and commercial/retail resources that 'pop-up' in anything that moves; from converted buses to shops on wheels. DJ+DS and its partners will develop the Village by leading a robust community engagement process that empowers the community to take the lead in its planning and development and incubate small businesses in the community. This collection of mobile resources will help with public safety by activating unused sites, increasing economic and education opportunities, providing greater access to social service resources and increasing trust in the community.

Deanna Van Buren is a 2015 Artist as Activist Rauschenberg Fellow.

LOCATION

### San Francisco, CA



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### **Urban**

PROJECT DURATION

**1.5** years

AMOUNT

\$400,000

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR** 

# **Public Safety**

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

# Design & Architecture



National Creative Placemaking Fund

2017 Funded Projects

**PROJECT** 

### **Heartbeat of San Jose Japantown**



San Jose Japantown in California is one of the three remaining Japantowns in the United States. San Jose Taiko, long-recognized as the heartbeat of this community, is building a Creative Center as a physical and cultural anchor within this revitalized neighborhood. Through the presentation of contemporary Japanese/Japanese-American and other cross-cultural art events this project will foster economic vitality and street activity in hopes of mitigating disruption to local businesses during the construction period. Longer term, the Center, its tenants, and visitors will become an integrated part of the Japantown fabric contributing to the vibrancy of this community.

This project is possible through San Jose Taiko's partnerships with Silicon Valley Creates, the Japantown community, the City of San Jose, and a private developer building market rate housing adjacent to the future cultural center.

LOCATION

#### San Jose, CA



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### **Urban**

PROJECT DURATION

**2.5** years

AMOUNT

\$360,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

# Economic Development

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

# Folk & Traditional Arts

Music

**Design & Architecture** 

National Creative Placemaking Fund 2017 Funded Projects

**PROJECT** 

#### **Re:Vision**



In the Westwood neighborhood of Denver, CO, Re:Vision is leading the development of a traditional Mexican plaza that has been funded through municipal bond funds. Artists will lead multiple projects to re/connect Mexican-American residents with their Mayan cultural heritage. Together the art, culture, history, and language celebrated through this project will contribute to improved community wellness.

The Plaza will include an installation that will help community members identify their Mayan name based on their date of birth.

The project is being supported by a recent \$9 Million municipal bond approved by the City of Denver.

LOCATION

### **Denver, CO**



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### **Urban**

PROJECT DURATION

**2.33** years

AMOUNT

\$350,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

#### **Health**

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Design & Architecture

Folk & Traditional Arts

**Dance** 



# National Creative Placemaking Fund

2017 Funded Projects

PROJECT

# **Arts for Learning/Miami, Inc.**



In partnership with visual artist Chat Travieso and playwright Tarell Alvin McCraney (*Moonlight*), Arts for Learning will facilitate a youth-led reimagining and planning program that takes as its starting point the historic remains of a segregation wall that still exists in Miami, FL's Liberty City neighborhood. Many residents are not aware of its history despite the fact that they have lived with it in their community for decades.

The original race wall was built in 1937 to appease white neighbors by segregating the new Liberty Square housing development for black residents.

LOCATION

#### Miami, FL



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### **Urban**

PROJECT DURATION

**2.12** years

AMOUNT

\$340,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

#### **Education & Youth**

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

# Design & Architecture

**Visual Arts** 

National Creative Placemaking Fund 2017 Funded Projects

PROJECT

### **ONE~South CDC, LLC.**



Southside is a stable, African-American-majority neighborhood in Macon, GA. Given that the median age is 71, this neighborhood will increasingly face both development pressures and demographic changes. To organize and focus the community to play an active role in the coming changes, local visual artists will repurpose vacant lots to create a community campus that combines arts, culture, education, and history. The campus will also provide new food access for the community.

This project is being spear headed by a young entreprenuer, Danny Glover, who grew up in the neighborhood and has built partnerships with neighbors, Macon's land banking authority, and several local nonprofits. LOCATION

### Macon, GA



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### **Urban**

PROJECT DURATION

**2.3** years

AMOUNT

\$500,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

# Agriculture & Food

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

**Craft & Culinary** 

Folk & Traditional Arts Visual Arts

National Creative Placemaking Fund 2017 Funded Projects

PROJECT

# Appalachian Artisan Center of Kentucky, Inc.



In Hindman, KY, the Appalachian Artisan Center will expand its work with youth and adults to address the community's opioid epidemic through workforce programs in traditional craft and music. These programs will also contribute to an increase in economic opportunity through the creation of jobs to meet an increasing demand for handcrafted instruments in the region.

This project is partnering with a rare luthiery studio in Hindman as one of several education and workforce partners.

LOCATION

### Hindman, KY



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### Rural

PROJECT DURATION

**2.5** years

AMOUNT

\$475,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

#### **Health**

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

# Folk & Traditional Arts

Music

**Visual Arts** 

National Creative Placemaking Fund 2017 Funded Projects

PROJECT

# **Double Edge Theatre Productions, Inc.**



Double Edge Theatre will transform currently vacant and underutilized farm buildings in Ashfield, MA into a vibrant arts campus which aims to make Ashfield a destination that aggregates creativity, artistic expression, imagination, and culture alongside a rural identity; demonstrating how art is key to economic sustainability.

Double Edge Theatre is located on a 100-acre former dairy farm.

LOCATION

### Ashfield, MA



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### Rural

PROJECT DURATION

## 2 years

AMOUNT

\$275,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

# Economic Development

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

# **Theater/ Performance**

**Visual Arts** 

**Dance** 



PROJECT

### The Loop Lab

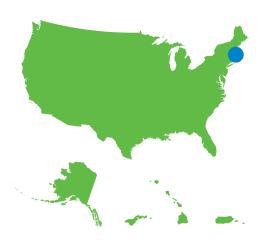


The Loop Lab is an arts-based learning community with the mission to empower young adults to enter STEM fields through audio engineering and music production. Located in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the Loop Lab is developing a STEM-inspired curriculum for young adults (18-26 yrs old) from underrepresented backgrounds to prepare them for internships and careers.

The Port neighborhood in which the project will take place is adjacent to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and is surrounded by numerous tech and media companies that can provide employment for skilled media production workers.

LOCATION

## Cambridge, MA



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### **Urban**

PROJECT DURATION

**2.25** years

AMOUNT

\$250,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

# Workforce Development

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

Film & Media

National Creative Placemaking Fund 2017 Funded Projects

**PROJECT** 

# **Garage Cultural**



Over the last 5 years, local community anchor Garage Cultural has developed arts and culture programs in the largely Mexican-American neighborhood of Southwest Detroit. Recognizing the lack of community gathering space in the neighborhood, they will lead a community process to imagine, plan, and design a new use for a warehouse as a vital community hub that will uplift the community's Latin-American art, culture, and food in Southwest Detroit, MI. One of the co-founders of Garage Cultural and owner of the warehouse space, Lydia Gutierrez, is also the founder of the successful tortilla chip manufacturing company, Hacienda Mexican.

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LOCATION

#### **Detroit, MI**



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### **Urban**

PROJECT DURATION

## 2 years

AMOUNT

\$250,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

# Economic Development

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

# **Design & Architecture**

Craft & Culinary Arts

Folk & Traditional Arts

National Creative Placemaking Fund 2017 Funded Projects

PROJECT

## **At Home in Harrison**



Redeemer Center for Life, a Lutheran ministry, will set up a housing security pipeline for Harrison residents in North Minneapolis, MN. In partnership with local artists and organizers, various theatre arts interventions – from posting yard signs that identify unconventional property assets to plays staged in houses – will erode neighborhood stratification and establish new relationships.

This Lutheran ministry has already shaped their community through the development of a bike repair shop, coffee shop, and several affordable housing rental units.

# Minneapolis, MN



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### **Urban**

LOCATION

PROJECT DURATION

**2.5** years

AMOUNT

\$350,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

# Housing

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Theater/
Performance

Film & Media

**Visual Arts** 

National Creative Placemaking Fund

2017 Funded Projects

PROJECT

# **4 Directions Development**



4 Directions Development will repurpose a former tribal college on the Red Lake reservation in northern Minnesota as a community hub that is home to a performing arts center and creative business incubator. Together, these will provide new economic opportunities for Tribal members, as well as anchor a strategy designed to attract people who do not live on the reservation for shopping, entertainment, and tourism.

The Red Lake reservation is one of few "closed reservations" in the United States often confusing outsiders to believe that the community is not open to non tribal members. Being a closed reservation only means that all lands are owned in a communal tribal trust and not privately owned. LOCATION

### Red Lake, MN



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### Rural

PROJECT DURATION

## 2 years

AMOUNT

\$500,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

# Economic Development

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

# **Design & Architecture**

Folk & Traditional Arts

**Craft & Culinary Arts** 

National Creative Placemaking Fund

2017 Funded Projects

PROJECT

### **East Helena Food & Culture Hub**



East Helena, MT has a growing food and restaurant sector. The Myrna Loy Center for the Performing and Media Arts will launch new culinary arts training programs rooted in the Eastern European traditions of storytelling, designed to be part of an economic development strategy based in tourism.

East Helena grew up as a company town for the Asarco lead smelter, which supported generations of families. In 1991 the EPA launched a major Superfund project to restore water and land quality. The aftermath left a 14-million-ton slag pile in town.

LOCATION

### **East Helena, MT**



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### Rural

PROJECT DURATION

**2.5** years

AMOUNT

\$500,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

# Workforce **Development**

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

**Craft & Culinary** 

**Visual Arts** 

Theater/
Performance

National Creative Placemaking Fund

2017 Funded Projects

PROJECT

## **The Lilies Project**



Walnut Cove, NC is adjacent to Duke Energy's Belews Creek Power Station, which houses 20 million tons of coal ash. Local mixed-media artist Caroline Armijo will partner with scientists from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University to create a series of sculptures that repurpose this hazardous waste material safely and that will become the centerpiece of a public park. This project will also serve as a local pilot for environmental policy that will determine how coal ash is managed in the region.

This project is inspired by Jester Hariston, a notable African American composer from Walnut Cove who wrote the song "Amen" from the film *Lillies of the Field*, which featured Sidney Poitier.

LOCATION

### Walnut Cove, NC



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### Rural

PROJECT DURATION

**2.5** years

AMOUNT

\$350,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

# **Environment** & Energy

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

#### **Visual Arts**

# Folk & Traditional Arts

Music



PROJECT

#### **Pueblo de Cochiti**



Cochiti Pueblo is a Native American community in New Mexico that has no gaming industry. In order to build a more vibrant economy, the Pueblo is significantly investing in broadband infrastructure that will be designed by native artists to ensure it is fully integrated into their traditional way of life.

Cochiti Pueblo is a non-gaming Native American Tribe and reservation in New Mexico, located approximately 35 miles southwest of Santa Fe and 55 miles north of Albuquerque.

LOCATION

### Cochiti Pueblo, NM



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### Rural

PROJECT DURATION

# 2 years

AMOUNT

\$500,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

# Economic Development

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINE

# **Design & Architecture**



PROJECT

# The Village of Arts and Humanities



In Philadelphia, PA, The Village of Arts and Humanities will embark on a community-driven design process to transform two vacant row homes into a site for residents, artists, law enforcement, and neighborhood stakeholders to collaborate on new public safety strategies rooted in care rather than control.

This year, The Village of Arts and Humanities is the only previous recipient of ArtPlace funding.

LOCATION

# Philadelphia, PA



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### **Urban**

PROJECT DURATION

**2.5** years

AMOUNT

\$500,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

# **Public Safety**

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Design & Architecture

Film & Media

Music



National Creative Placemaking Fund

2017 Funded Projects

PROJECT

### **The Charleston Rhizome Collective**



Charleston, SC has seen a real estate and economic boom recently, which has left many small businesses behind. Local artists will develop a mobile app that will work in concert with a series of community art events to create an even more robust economy for both sole proprietors and small businesses.

This is ArtPlace's first investment in the state of South Carolina.

LOCATION

### **Charleston, SC**



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### **Urban**

PROJECT DURATION

**2.5** years

AMOUNT

\$300,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

# Economic Development

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

#### **Visual Arts**

# Design & Architecture

Music



**PROJECT** 

### **Conexion Americas**



Conexion Americas, in partnership with Transportation for America (which just released an ArtPlace-funded research report on arts, culture, and transportation), will commission artists to lead a series of community design charrettes to improve pedestrian safety in the Nolensville Pike corridor of Nashville, TN. The corridor is a wide, high-speed road with crumbling sidewalks and an overall design that prioritizes the movement of vehicular traffic over pedestrians and cyclists.

In partnership with Transportation for America, Conexion commissioned a study to understand the risks of involuntary displacement that may result from their efforts to improve the Nolensville Pike corridor.

LOCATION

### Nashville, TN



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### **Urban**

PROJECT DURATION

**2.1** years

AMOUNT

\$325,000

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR** 

# **Transportation**

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

**Design & Architecture** 

**Visual Arts** 

Film & Media



PROJECT

#### **Taller del Permiso**



To improve their community's economic outcomes, three artists in Brownsville, TX will launch a series of workshops and a supporting media campaign to help demystify and reimagine the municipal permitting processes in the Buena Vida neighborhood. This neighborhood is ripe for local entrepreneurs, small businesses, and other economic development, but the city's bureaucracy is currently seen as impeding progress.

The Buena Vida Neighborhood in Brownsville, TX exists less than a quarter mile from the Mexican-American border.

LOCATION

### **Brownsville, TX**



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### Rural

PROJECT DURATION

## 2 years

AMOUNT

\$350,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

# Economic Development

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

**Visual Arts** 

Film & Media

Theater/
Performance

National Creative Placemaking Fund 2017 Funded Projects

**PROJECT** 

# El Sonido del Agua



Respected design firm bcWorkshop will work with local Conjunto musicians in Edinburg, TX to equip and mobilize residents in the Rio Grande Valley floodplain to tackle flood-related public health issues. They will commission songs inspired by residents' stories that will be performed at colonia events. Posters and pamphlets will be used to explain how Low Impact Development can be used to improve drainage. Documentation and songs from residents will be incorporated into a video series to be presented to policy makers.

Hidalgo County experiences some of the worst flooding in the Rio Grande Valley and has more colonias (substandard subdivisions) than any county in the United States. LOCATION

## **Edinburg, TX**



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### Rural

PROJECT DURATION

# 2 years

AMOUNT

\$200,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

#### **Health**

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

### **Music**

Design & Architecture

Film & Media



National Creative Placemaking Fund

2017 Funded Projects

PROJECT

#### **A Sense of Place**



Of the 7,000 farms in Vermont, only 19 are African-American-owned. The Clemmons Family Farm, established in 1962, is one of these. The residents of many rural communities experience social isolation, a condition that is often compounded when there are also racial and cultural differences among residents. The Clemmons Family Farm will host a series of African heritage arts and culture programs in order to improve community wellness by addressing the social isolation, weaving a stronger social fabric, and making more connections among the residents in and around Charlotte, VT.

LOCATION

### Charlotte, VT



GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

#### Rural

PROJECT DURATION

**2.5** years

AMOUNT

\$350,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

#### **Health**

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

#### **Dance**

Literature

Craft & Culinary Arts



ABOUT ART PLACE AMERICA

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