

# AMERICA BEGINS TO HEAL

Update on the Arts and Cultural Response  
Nationwide to the Events of 09.11.2001  
(10.29.2001)



AMERICANS  
*for the* ARTS

## AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES [202.371.2830](http://202.371.2830). [www.AmericansForTheArts.org](http://www.AmericansForTheArts.org)

### MONOGRAPH

AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS has posted the 1998 *Monograph—Arts in Medicine: Linking Culture to Care*—on its website at [www.AmericansForTheArts/Arts\\_Healing/.org](http://www.AmericansForTheArts/Arts_Healing/.org). The publication details the value of arts and healing partnerships and offers examples of best practices.

### MEASURING THE IMPACT OF 09.11 ON THE ARTS

[www.AmericansForTheArts/Research/Survey](http://www.AmericansForTheArts/Research/Survey)

In the aftermath of 09.11, AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS is collecting information on the impact these tragic events are having on the arts. We are all aware of sharp decreases in travel and consumer spending, shifts in the focus of arts funders, show closings, and downsizing among arts organizations. Please tell us what is happening in your community. Your responses to these questions will be used to benchmark the status of the arts in this time of national turmoil and to plan for recovery. **Please respond by 12noon (EST) on Thursday, 11.01.**

## STATUS OF ARTS ORGANIZATIONS IN MANHATTAN AND THE PENTAGON

### NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF THE ARTS

For three weeks after the attack, school field trips citywide were cancelled. According to information received by NYSCA, the Board of Education has only recently allowed trips to be resumed at the discretion of the individual school superintendents. Although some organizations in the general downtown area did not have full phone, fax, or e-mail capabilities until last week, many arts groups in lower Manhattan are and have been accessible. However, they are fighting a general perception that they are inaccessible, leading to loss of attendance and therefore income. Arts groups are also concerned about their traditional corporate funding as their donors are funneling their money elsewhere. NYSCA, together with the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, is crafting a survey document to gather information about how the aftermath has affected arts organizations in the city.

### PARTNERSHIP FOR AFTER SCHOOL EDUCATION

212.883.2259, F 212.883.2257 or 212.986.0604 (Add "Attention: PASE)

The PASE offices at 120 Broadway are currently closed due to their office's proximity to the WTC. All PASE staff are safe. We currently have temporary office space in Midtown.

## **GROUPS PROVIDING AID, ASSISTANCE, AND SUPPORT**

### ALLIANCE FOR THE ARTS

E-mail: [artsrebuildny@allianceforarts.org](mailto:artsrebuildny@allianceforarts.org), [www.nyc-arts.org/nyc-arts/arts\\_in\\_crisis.html](http://www.nyc-arts.org/nyc-arts/arts_in_crisis.html)

The Arts Rebuild New York section on the Alliance website is a bulletin board for emergency needs of NYC arts organizations.

### ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY THEATRE

512.267.0711. E-mail: [info@aact.org](mailto:info@aact.org), [www.aact.org](http://www.aact.org)

*Spotlight*, the AACT newsletter, features notes from amateur theatre friends in other countries and reactions of local community theatres/theatre directors in this country.

### CENTER FOR DEMOCRACY AND CITIZENSHIP

[www.publicwork.org/sept11.html](http://www.publicwork.org/sept11.html)

Visit their website to read *Civic Perspectives* and connect with *Resources for Action*.

### COLORADO COUNCIL OF THE ARTS

[www.artslynx.org/heal](http://www.artslynx.org/heal)

The Colorado Council of the Arts has created The Healing Power of the Arts website with funds from the National Endowment for the Arts. The site offers resources through which to "investigate the power of the arts as a force for positive change in our lives."

### EDUCATION WEEK

[www.edweek.org/ew/newstory.cfm?slug=03resources.h21](http://www.edweek.org/ew/newstory.cfm?slug=03resources.h21)

The Education Week website offers resources for teachers and adults helping children to cope with the recent events:

### THE GALEF INSTITUTE

E-mail: [Raquel@galef.org](mailto:Raquel@galef.org), [www.dwoknet.galef.org](http://www.dwoknet.galef.org)

The Institute has launched a new link on their website—September 11, 2001: Helping Students Create Meaning. The link is an online toolkit of resources to help students deepen their understanding of current events and related issues. The categories include arts and culture; diversity, tolerance, and pluralism; history; and crisis and disaster.

### GUIDESTAR

757.299.4631 (Karen Rayzor). [www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org)

GuideStar is assisting nonprofits in reconstructing lost information from their own databases due to the 09.11 events.

### MENC: The National Association of Music Education

<http://www.menc.org/guides/patriotic/osaycan.html>

On MENC's new website section—O, Say, Can You Sing...?—you can find music education resources and repertoires addressing the current crises.

### NATIONAL ART MATERIALS TRADE ASSOCIATION

800.854.7467 (Dave Foor, SHOPA, to donate school supplies)

Together with the Art and Creative Materials Institute, National Art Education Association, and the School, Home and Office Products Association, NAMTA has set up an account with the Red Cross for their member donations. The SHOPA Foundation for Educational Excellence has also agreed to set up distribution centers to receive and disseminate supplies for NY schools.

### NEW YORK CITY VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTER

212.442.1566. E-mail: [nycvoad@yahoo.com](mailto:nycvoad@yahoo.com), [www.nycvoad.org](http://www.nycvoad.org)

NVCVOAD's website includes links and resources for disaster relief: long-term needs, human service programs addressing these needs, and funding; case work process, training, and technical assistance.

#### NEW YORK REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GRANTMAKERS

[www.nyrag.org/homepage3192/index.htm](http://www.nyrag.org/homepage3192/index.htm)

NYRAG is coordinating immediate and long-term philanthropic response to the WTC attacks.

#### NEW YORK PHILANTHROPIC ADVISORY SERVICE

[www.newyork.bbb.org/disasterrelief/](http://www.newyork.bbb.org/disasterrelief/)

NYPAS of the Better Business Bureau serving Metro New York is gathering information on the response of the charities they review and others raising money on behalf of victims and/or to support disaster relief.

#### NON-PROFIT COORDINATING COMMITTEE

E-mail: [dmyers@npccny.org](mailto:dmyers@npccny.org). [www.npccny.org](http://www.npccny.org)

The Non-Profit Coordinating Committee has set up a page on its website where NYC nonprofits can let other nonprofits know about any resources needed or available.

#### PBS

[www.pbs.org/americaresponds](http://www.pbs.org/americaresponds)

PBS is providing resources for parents and educators on its website. These resources address tolerance, emergency preparedness, fear, and patriotism, among other issues.

#### THE SEPTEMBER 11<sup>th</sup> FUND

[www.september11fund.org](http://www.september11fund.org)

The United Way and The New York Community Trust have established The September 11th Fund, which will support the immediate and longer-term needs of victims, their families, and communities affected by the events of 09.11 and which cannot be reimbursed by public agencies.

#### SEEDCO

212.473.0255. [www.seedco.org](http://www.seedco.org)

With funding from The September 11<sup>th</sup> Fund, Seedco is offering zero interest short-term loans to NYC nonprofits that have been directly affected by the WTC disaster.

#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[www.ed.gov/inits/september11/index.html](http://www.ed.gov/inits/september11/index.html)

[www.ed.gov/PressReleases/](http://www.ed.gov/PressReleases/)

The U.S. Department of Education has provided a link on its website to "Information on Helping Children Understand the Terrorist Attacks". The Department has also made emergency funding available to the following state departments of education to provide help for students and teachers: CT, DC, MD, NJ, NY, and VA. Additional federal education support is being granted to New York City.

## **COMMUNITIES ENGAGED IN HEALING THROUGH THE ARTS**

### **NATIONAL**

#### AMERICA: A TRIBUTE TO HEROES

212.873.3673

*America: A Tribute to Heroes* was a two-hour live broadcast (TV, radio, WWW) of performances and speeches by entertainment stars. Donations are estimated at \$110 million.

#### AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL FUND

[www.freeseeds.org](http://www.freeseeds.org) (Click on Call to Action.)

The America the Beautiful Fund is providing \$1,000,000 worth of flower, vegetable, and herb seeds to plant "Freedom Gardens" across America. The teachers at PS 48 in Brooklyn are planting a Freedom Garden with their students because "After living through the 09.11 disaster, it is important that we instill and remind our nations children, there is hope and sweeter dreams for all of us...Life continues and we must make it beautiful for all of us to live in."

#### AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER

202.707.5510. Email: [folklife@loc.gov](mailto:folklife@loc.gov). <http://lcweb.loc.gov/folklife/>

The American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress asks U.S. folklorists and other ethnographers to record the thoughts and feelings of average citizens following the tragic events of 09.11.

#### AMERICA TAKING ACTION

[www.AmericaTakingAction.org/911](http://www.AmericaTakingAction.org/911)

Children Covering America, a project spearheaded by AmericaTakingAction.org, invites students to make quilts to honor and support the victims of 09.11.

#### AN AMERICAN QUILT

212.358.9988. E-mail: [bb@anamericanquilt.com](mailto:bb@anamericanquilt.com) (Bill Bace). [www.anamericanquilt.com](http://www.anamericanquilt.com)

An American Quilt is a new nonprofit that seeks to create a quilt assembled from panels created by victims' friends and families. The organization plans to unveil the assembled Quilt on the Great Lawn of Central Park 07.2002 and on the Mall in Washington, DC 09.2002, after which the Quilt will tour nationally and internationally.

#### THE ANGEL PROJECT

[www.theangelproject.com](http://www.theangelproject.com)

This nationwide project asks individuals to create angels, hearts, or doves for a special memorial service for 09.11 victims to be held in NYC during Christmas week. Angels will also be delivered to DC and PA.

#### ART FOR AMERICA

212.873.3673

Art for America, a nationwide auction of original art, antiques, and celebrity collectibles, will benefit the Twin Towers Fund. This event, whose collaborators include auction houses, galleries, dealers and museums, will be scheduled in 11.2001. (*Ahead of the Curve: ARTS Inc. Online*)

#### CRAYOLA

[www.crayola.com/careandshare/response.cfm](http://www.crayola.com/careandshare/response.cfm)

Crayola's Care and Share program has distributed over 85,000 cards and letters to rescue workers and hospitals in NY, PA, and DC.

#### KINDERART

[www.kinderart.com/091101.htm](http://www.kinderart.com/091101.htm)

KinderArt lists ways parents and educators are helping their children and students cope with the events of 09.11 through the arts.

#### THE LAST GOODBYE

Nearly 60 Latin pop music stars—including Gloria Estefan, Carlos Vives and Juan Luis Guerra—recorded *El Último Adios* ("The Last Goodbye"), written by Emilio Estefan and Gian Marco. Proceeds from the CD will go to the American Red Cross and the United Way.

## LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

[September11.archive.org](http://September11.archive.org)

The Library of Congress, in collaboration with the Internet Archive, webArchivist.org, and the Pew Internet & American Life Project, have announced the release of a collection of digital materials called the September 11 Web Archive. The Archive preserves the Internet expressions of individuals, groups, the press, and institutions in the aftermath of the 09.11 attacks.

## ONE WORLD MURAL

[www.tolerance.org/teach\\_tol/lessons/one\\_world\\_04.jsp](http://www.tolerance.org/teach_tol/lessons/one_world_04.jsp)

The One World Mural seeks to create an online treasury of images and words, created by children of all ages, that celebrates the themes of common humanity, unity, peace, justice, and equality. The site includes lesson plans of art activities focused by different age groups.

## PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS ORGANIZED/SUPPORTED BY STATE HUMANITIES COUNCILS

State humanities councils are funding, organizing, and providing resources for community discussions in response to 09.11. For more information, visit these websites.

California Council for the Humanities	<a href="http://www.calhum.org">www.calhum.org</a>
Delaware Humanities Council	<a href="http://www.dhf.org">www.dhf.org</a>
Idaho Humanities Council	<a href="http://www.state.id.us/ihc/ihc.htm">www.state.id.us/ihc/ihc.htm</a>
Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities	<a href="http://www.leh.org">www.leh.org</a>
Maine Humanities Council	<a href="http://www.mainehumanities.org">www.mainehumanities.org</a>
Missouri Humanities Council	<a href="http://www.mohumanities.org">www.mohumanities.org</a>
Montana Committee for the Humanities	<a href="http://www.umt.edu/lastbest">www.umt.edu/lastbest</a>
Nebraska Humanities Council	<a href="http://www.lincolnne.com/nonprofit/nhc">www.lincolnne.com/nonprofit/nhc</a>
Pennsylvania Humanities Council	<a href="http://www.pahumanities.org">www.pahumanities.org</a>
Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities	<a href="http://www.uri.edu/rich">www.uri.edu/rich</a>
Utah Humanities Council	<a href="http://www.utahhumanities.org">www.utahhumanities.org</a>
Virginia Foundation for the Humanities	<a href="http://www.virginia.edu/vfh">www.virginia.edu/vfh</a>

## RHIZOME

<http://rhizome.org/911/>

Rhizome joins with artists, culture workers, and institutions to open avenues of discussion related to the 09.11 tragedy and to encourage a community of social concern through cultural intervention.

## INTERNATIONAL

### ARTS INTERNATIONAL

[www.artsinternational.org](http://www.artsinternational.org)

Experiences of U.S. artists: [www.artsinternational.org/national\\_condolence\\_page.htm](http://www.artsinternational.org/national_condolence_page.htm)

Messages from around the world:  
[www.artsinternational.org/international\\_condolence\\_page.htm](http://www.artsinternational.org/international_condolence_page.htm)

Memorials in Union Square Park: [www.artsinternational.org/archive/photogallery.htm](http://www.artsinternational.org/archive/photogallery.htm)

### PEACECULTURE

[www.peaceculture.net](http://www.peaceculture.net)

After 09.11, many are looking for materials to help children cope with their traumatic experience. At PeaceCulture.net one can find stories from the book *The Strange War* by Martin Auer. Author and publishers have agreed to provide these texts on the Internet and to permit downloading free of charge.

Language versions include English, Spanish, French, Russian, German, Danish, Estonian, Chinese, Czech, Italian, Armenian, Croatian, Serbian, Japanese and others.

## THANK YOU

<http://thankyou.is-root.com/index.html>

Thank You is a website demonstrating the power of images in healing and in building community:

UNICEF

[www.unicefusa.org/trickortreat/khk\\_index.html](http://www.unicefusa.org/trickortreat/khk_index.html)

So that children can express their messages of caring for the children of NY, DC, and PA, the U.S. Fund for UNICEF will accept mail, drawings, and messages from the public and personally deliver them to schoolchildren in distress. Send items to: U.S. Fund for UNICEF, "Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF—Kids Helping Kids", 333 East 38th Street, 6th Floor, NY, NY 10016.

WHYPROJECT

972.818.6859. E-mail: [bill@whyproject.org](mailto:bill@whyproject.org). [www.whyproject.org](http://www.whyproject.org)

This website is a dedicated international space for artwork about the terrorist attacks of 09.11 .

## **NEWS SERVICE COVERAGE/OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

ARTS JOURNAL.COM

Visit [www.artsjournal.com/issues/terrorism.htm](http://www.artsjournal.com/issues/terrorism.htm) for up-to-date news stories on art and terrorism.

THE HARWOOD LETTER

<http://www.msnbc.com/news/636338.asp?0si=-> or

<http://www.theharwoodinstitute.org/barometer/msnbc-fourthings.htm>

MSNBC.com is featuring a new Richard Harwood commentary entitled *Four Things Citizens Can Do*.

ASIA SOURCE

[www.asiasource.org](http://www.asiasource.org)

Asia Source, one of the sites on NEH's humanities education website, EDSITEMent (<http://edsitement.neh.gov>), provides thorough background information about the 09.11 attacks and up-to-date information about the aftermath, including a special report, "America's Crisis: Asian Perspectives".

ART AND WORLD PEACE

202.530.5437. E-mail: [childart@icaf.org](mailto:childart@icaf.org). [www.icaf.org](http://www.icaf.org)

*Art and World Peace* is the theme of the 10/12.2001 issue of the *ChildArt* magazine.

The International Child Art Foundation is asking children to send their artwork and stories for inclusion in the 01/03.2002 issue, *Peace and Healing*. ICAF is collaborating with NYU Child Study Center, Artsonia, Inc., Survivor Arts Foundation, *Papalote Museo del Ninos*, and several other organizations on this special issue of *ChildArt*.

THE LIFE OF POETRY

[www.westmass.com/Paris-Press/lifeof.htm](http://www.westmass.com/Paris-Press/lifeof.htm)

Muriel Rukeyser's book of essays, *The Life of Poetry*, addresses the usefulness of poetry and the arts in times of crisis.

## **MUSINGS**

CALIFORNIA ARTS COUNCIL

[www.cac.ca.gov](http://www.cac.ca.gov)

In the 09.25 edition of the California Arts Council's *Weekly Update*, CAC Director Barry Hessenius urges arts leaders in each California community "to discuss how the arts might be used as a policy tool in America's response to the attacks. Not just as a healing tool, which is important, but

as a cultural bridge building mechanism that can reduce tensions between peoples, promote dialogue, and help to forge people and government alliances that will work towards isolating terrorists from the family of man. We need to better tell our story to the world, and we need to listen better to the stories of others." (*AHEAD OF THE CURVE: ARTS, Inc. Online*)

#### INDEPENDENT SECTOR

[www.independentsector.org](http://www.independentsector.org)

Visit the website to view messages from their Board of Directors, members, and other organizations.

#### SUSAN BALL, COLLEGE ART ASSOCIATION

E-mail: [sball@collegeart.org](mailto:sball@collegeart.org)

"I saw Lower Manhattan from the air that September morning....The towers of the World Trade Center looked pristine in the late-summer sunlight. The awful news came only after the flight had safely landed.... Now, trying to absorb the tragedy, I find my thoughts returning to the life of what New Yorkers sometimes call "Downtown." When the CAA board of directors started meeting on Wall Street, it was because weekend hotel space there was much cheaper than in Midtown Manhattan. There was little going on. But in the past few years, the area has blossomed. Artists and arts organizations have moved in, new museums have opened, and performances of all kinds take place indoors and out..... In fact, the symbolism of Lower Manhattan goes far beyond finance. Facing the harbor, the Statue of Liberty, and Ellis Island, the area will remain, one hopes, a source of inspiration and a unique venue for the arts. The arts need venues, especially venues where artists can exhibit challenging works, works that help us understand a complicated world. This, it seems to me, is a large part of the freedom we value so highly."

#### RUDOLF BERGER, GENERAL DIRECTOR, OPERA DU RHEIN (Strasbourg, France)

[The Boston Lyric Opera received this letter of support from Berger. Strasbourg is Boston's sister city.]

"Yesterdays' events have left us all here in great distress and sadness. Beyond the tragic loss of life, the deep sadness and sorrow of the families and friends, these brutal acts of terrorism have shown where hatred and intolerance can lead mankind, and they have created new misunderstandings, feelings of revenge, and a wide gap between the peoples of this world. I want to tell you that I share your sorrow, your anxiousness, your distress. Life will never be the same after a day like this. Let us do anything we can to heal those wounds, let us not forget that we all live in the same world we have to share, and that man can never be allowed to brutalize others for his own purpose. We will have to fight for this, but in the right manner. Let us also pray for those who will have to decide on the steps to be taken, that they feel the strong responsibility they have in those days, and that their decision will help to lead the world back to peace."

#### KINSHASHA HOLMAN CONWILL, CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL MUSEUM SERVICES BOARD

[www.imls.gov/pubs/sept11essay.htm](http://www.imls.gov/pubs/sept11essay.htm)

Conwill is the project director for A Cultural Blueprint for New York City, a special project of the New York Foundation for the Arts. She recalls the events of 09.11 with great sorrow but also with memories of the generosity, sacrifice, and selflessness of people. Her essay illuminates the unique role cultural organizations in helping to heal the city.

#### WILLIAM R. FERRIS, CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

"While we all know that the humanities have the power to heal and to focus our lives, never has that power been so challenged as by the events that shook our nation on September 11. It is with special pride that I call your attention to the efforts of our partners--the state humanities councils--who have responded resourcefully and quickly with local programs that are helping Americans come to terms with the aftermath of this tragedy (see State Humanities Council News below). State humanities councils have created badly needed programs that brighten these dark times, and we are deeply grateful for the work they do. I encourage each of our readers to contact your

state humanities council--the full list is on our website at <http://www.neh.gov/howeare/statecouncils.html> --and through their network join hands with others to deal with the challenge that lies before us. The humanities have never been more critical to our future as individuals and as a nation than they are today. (*NEH Outlook*. 10.2001)

EDWARD T. LINENTHAL, PROFESSOR, RELIGION & AMERICAN CULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

920.424.4407. E-mail: [etl@uwosh.edu](mailto:etl@uwosh.edu)

[Author of *The Unfinished Bombing: Oklahoma City in American Memory*, Oxford University Press]

"This is a place that has been transformed in the same way that a battlefield is, by the horrific events that have happened here. Will there be those who say, 'No. You can't rebuild and go back to business as usual because that defiles the memory of those who died here?' This is, if not sacred, charged ground....One of the things that will be interesting is whether there will be in fact a kind of profound, mindful, reflective kind of discussion about what to do with the site. Or will there be just a pre-emptive decision to rebuild, with memorialization as a kind of afterthought. In an event like this it would seem appropriate to me to agonize over a memorial. The very act of agonizing over a memorial can have a therapeutic effect....The memorial process was designed to allow these people to engage in the event through the work of memorialization. It was a form of active grief itself. What happened was a kind of majestic evolution....Many family members and survivors have talked to me about this. They would say to me, 'We went into this with an attitude that I want the memorial to look like this and I want it to remember my loved one.' They moved eventually through the process to realizing that the memorial was about something more than their individual remembrances, even though those were terribly important. The memorial was about something larger. It had something to say about the impact of violence on all of us."