

2015 Rosin Fund Announcement

The Scherman Foundation is pleased to support its third round of grants, totaling \$2,230,000 over three years, from the Katharine S. and Axel G. Rosin Fund to five innovative and high-impact projects in the areas of Arts and Strengthening New York Communities. Grants were made to the following projects:

ARTS:

- **Gibney Dance**, \$300,000 over three years
Founded in 1991 by choreographer Gina Gibney, Gibney Dance combines a well-regarded dance company with a community engagement project focused on victims of domestic violence. More recently the organization has grown, in dramatic fashion, to become the city's largest dance support program, offering dance classes, rehearsal spaces, and performance venues. Its Varis Center is a critical hub for the New York contemporary dance scene. The Rosin Fund grant supports its *Digital Connectivity Initiative*, which will train choreographers and dancers to develop and use digital best practices to both create new work and engage colleagues and audiences, expanding the dance world's digital footprint.
- **New Music USA**, \$495,000 over three years
Created in 2011, New Music USA is the result of a merger of two highly respected organizations: Meet the Composer and American Music Center. It is dedicated to the creation, dissemination, and enjoyment of New American Music. The Rosin Fund grant supports the *New Music NYC Impact Fund*, which will strengthen the capacities, audience, and public identity of the city's new music field through a web-based marketing and branding campaign, supported residencies, and grants for small venues and artist-led ensembles.
- **Pentacle**, \$300,000 over three years
Since its founding in 1976, Pentacle has provided support to small and mid-sized dance companies and individual choreographers, both emerging and established, becoming a trusted provider of administrative, financial, and representation services. The Rosin Fund grant supports the development of its *Capacity Bootcamp*, which will provide comprehensive administrative, artistic, and financial management assistance to eight emerging choreographers, while testing the comparative efficacy of providing bundled services.

SNYC:

- **Good Old Lower East Side (GOLES)**, \$600,000 over three years
The Rosin Fund grant supports *Youth- and Community-Led Alternatives to Permanent Exclusion*, a collaborative project with Good Old Lower East Side, Prisoner Reentry Institute of John Jay College, Families United for Racial and Economic Equality, and Community Voices Heard. The goal of the project is to reform NYCHA's Permanent

Exclusion policies and practices while developing the next generation of NYCHA youth leaders to advocate needed change.

- **Pratt Center for Community Development**, \$535,000 over three years
The Rosin grant supports the *Building Community Capacity to Shape New York's Housing Plan*, a collaborative project between Pratt Center for Community Development and the Center for Urban Pedagogy, which aims to ensure that low and moderate-income neighborhoods targeted for rezoning have the capacity to fully participate in planning processes that will shape these neighborhoods for decades to come. This Rosin grant was provided in conjunction with the Neighborhoods First Initiative, a new multi-year initiative, launched by a group of nine foundations, banks, and intermediaries (the Ford, New York, Mertz Gilmore, Scherman, Surdna foundations; M&T and Deutsche Banks; LISC; and the New York Community Trust), to ensure that communities have access to the resources and technical assistance they need to participate effectively in the rezonings in conjunction with *Housing New York*, the de Blasio Administration's plan to build or preserve 200,000 affordable housing units.