For Immediate Release



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Genesee Center for the Arts & Education Attending Alliance of Artist Communities Conference

Amanda Chestnut receives 2016 Strokosch Fellowship

(ROCHESTER, NY – August 15, 2016) Genesee Center for the Arts & Education is proud to announce that Communications Coordinator Amanda Chestnut has been awarded the 2016 Strokosch Fellowship to attend the Alliance of Artists Communities annual conference. The Strokosch Fellowship is awarded to three emerging African, Latino/a, Asian, Arab or Native American artist residency leaders to support their participation in the conference and pay for travel expenses.

The Alliance of Artists Communities' 2016 annual conference takes place in Portland, Oregon, October 4-7. Arts leaders, funders, policy-makers, board members, educators and artists from across the globe will explore support for today's artists and artistcentered approaches to engaging in communities and developing healthy organizations.

"This fellowship will allow me to gain knowledge that can be directly applied to Genesee Center for the Arts & Education, while exploring ways to build community within the arts in Rochester. Having the unique position of being a working artist and employee of the Genesee Center for the Arts & Education allows me a dynamic perspective on what I may learn at the conference." — Amanda Chestnut, Communications Coordinator

About Alliance of Artists Communities

The Alliance gives a collective voice on behalf of its members, small and large, that leverages support for the field as a whole; promotes successful practices in the field; and advocates for creative environments that support the work of today's artists.

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We advocate:

• on behalf of the field of artists' residencies and creative environments in general, to funders, policymakers, researchers, and the public

We provide:

- a forum on support for today's artists
- professional development opportunities to the field
- research and benchmarking data
- funding partnerships bringing new financial resources to the field We connect:
 - our members to each other through networking opportunities
 - artists, students, and others to information on artists' residencies
 - the field to other professionals in the arts, sciences and beyond

About the Genesee Center

Genesee Center for the Arts & Education is a community-based not-for-profit that educates, encourages and inspires all people to create and enjoy the visual arts. As a member of the National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts, the organization is committed to making high-quality arts education available to all.

Genesee Center for the Arts & Education has been operating since 1970. Genesee Center is a darkroom and photography facility, a pottery workshop, and a printing and book arts center. Support of the Genesee Center benefits youth outreach programs and programs for the community. All of the money raised stays in Rochester and directly benefits members of the Rochester community. The Center uses its resources to provide youth programs in schools, offers over 140 classes to the general public, and rents space to artists and others interested in the visual arts. Internships, facilities for advanced area arts students and resource facilities for anyone interested in book arts, photography and pottery are also available. Three galleries in the building serve as exhibit space for local, regional and national artists.

For more information, contact the Genesee Center Administrative Office at 585-244-1730, or visit our website at <u>www.rochesterarts.org</u>.