

SCHEDULE

Meeting activities take place in Knoxville at these venues:

Hilton Knoxville, 501 West Church Avenue

The Bijou Theatre, 803 S. Gay St.

Knoxville Museum of Art, 1050 World's Fair Park Dr.

Emporium Center for Arts & Culture, 100 S. Gay St.

Detailed performance and exhibition info can be found in the "What to See" Section of the binder

THURSDAY DECEMBER 10

Annual Meeting Pre-Conference Activities at Hilton Knoxville Hotel, unless indicated

Time	Hotel Lobby	Boardroom	Ballroom	More to See & Do
9:00am		Performing Americas Program Curators Meeting (invite only) 9:00am–5:00pm		
2:00pm	Registration 2:00–8:00pm			
4:30pm			Knowing Knoxville! A Guide to the NPN Annual Meeting 4:30–6:00pm Ballroom, Salon AB NPN Regional and VAN Desks, Board and Staff demystify the Annual Meeting and help break the ice for new and not-so-new attendees. Begin networking with fellow attendees while learning about NPN programming.	Visual Artists Salon 4:00–8:30pm Sequoyah 2 The Visual Artists Salon is a screening room for the slides and video of visual artists. Artists who have participated in the VAN Exhibition Residency Program and regional artists nominated by the Knoxville Local Host Committee were invited to participate in the Salon.
6:30pm			Opening Reception 6:30–8:30pm Ballroom, C Let the party begin! Knoxville's The Will Boyd Project Featuring Kelle Jolly perform cool jazz, blues and pop. Kelle's vocal stylings will dare you to sit still. No-host bar.	VAN Hotel Room Installations 6:30–8:30pm 3rd Floor Balcony, Hotel This year introduces a curated visual art showcase to parallel the performance showcases. Come see how five VAN artists have transformed five guest rooms in the hotel. Performance by The Bridge Club Tenants at Will 6:30–7:30pm Room 314

FRIDAY DECEMBER 11

First Full Day of Sessions at Hilton Knoxville Hotel, unless indicated

Time	Hotel Lobby	Ballroom	More to See & Do
8:30am	Registration		Media Lounge
9:00am	8:30am–3:00pm	Opening Session 9:00am–Noon Welcome and introductions all around. Featured ArtBursts: Guillermo Brown @ 9:30am; Wura-Natasha Ogunji, VAN @ 11:50am	all day/night Room 319 Available for your viewing and listening pleasure of Artist and NPN/VAN Partner media, the Media Lounge is accessible 24/7 in the hotel. You may get the key from registration or the front desk at the hotel.
12:00pm		Regional Breakout Café Noon–1:30pm Connect and converse with colleagues in your region over lunch. Pick up your box lunch on the mezzanine. BALLROOM AB: South BALLROOM ED: Northeast GREAT SMOKY BC: West SEQUOYAH 3: Midwest	Visual Artists Salon 8:30am–4:30pm Sequoyah 2 A screening room for work by VAN artists, the Visual Artists Salon (aka the Salon) is the place to see the variety of visual artwork represented by VAN.
2:00pm		Plenary: Art Activism & Action in the 21st Century 2:00–4:30pm Moderator: Michelle Coffey, Executive Director of the Lambent Foundation; Participants: David R. White, ARTVENTURES NH; Linda Parris-Bailey, Carpetbag Theatre; Laura Faure, Bates Dance Festival; Stephanie V. McKee, New Voices Fellowship, Supported by the Ford Foundation; Gayle Isa, Asian Arts Initiative; Mark Valdez, Network of Ensemble Theatres This congregation of artists, activists and cultural workers will move us through a conversation that looks at how artists, presenters and community members are creating work that speaks to the aesthetic, community values and standards that exemplify daring and excellence. The session opens with a screening of a recently released film about the making of the 51st Dream State by Sekou Sundiata, MAPP International's documentary on the creative trajectory of Sundiata's incredible final work. This piece captures the motivation for the artistic project, and also touches on several key issues and ideas we continue to grapple with in our presenting work: how can artists engage with colleges and universities in their creative process and weave in community involvement to create beautiful, complex, insightful and aesthetically appealing art that communicates across cultural perspectives? More notably, the film archives the artistic and social trajectory we have moved through following the events, and aftermath, of September 11, 2001. Featured ArtBursts: James Scruggs @ 2pm Lyena Strelkoff @ 4:20pm	VAN Hotel Room Installations 11:00am–5:00pm 3rd Floor Balcony, Hotel Don't miss the VAN hotel room installations. Check out the VAN catalog for more information. Performance by The Bridge Club Tenants at Will 1:00–2:00pm Room 314
4:30pm	Evening Events		
	Enjoy Knoxville's delicious culinary offerings on your own or as part of a DineAround (sign up at registration). 4:30–7:00pm Please time your dinners so that you are on time for <i>Live & On Stage</i> .		
7:00pm	Live & On Stage 7:00–10:00pm The Bijou Theatre / 803 S. Gay St. Featuring (in order of appearance): EDGEWORKS / Obayana Ajanaku / Ajeet Yoga / Kaotic Good Productions / Sparky & Rhonda Rucker		
11:00pm	PJ Party in the Media Lounge! 11:00pm Room 319 Back by popular demand! Pull on your flannels and come on up to the 3rd floor. Catch up on the latest work by artists while hanging out with other like-minded folks. Dress code is NOT enforced. Refreshments will be available.		

SATURDAY DECEMBER 12

Second Full Day of Sessions at Hilton Knoxville Hotel, unless indicated

Time	Hotel Lobby	Ballroom	More to See & Do
8:30am	Registration 8:30am–3:00pm		
9:30am		Media Showcase 9:30–11:30am Lights, Camera, Action! Wake up with a cup of coffee and enjoy this opportunity to see work by artists represented by South and West NPN Partners, as well as the Performing Americas Program. Featured ArtBurst: Saar Harari @ 9:30am	Media Lounge all day / night Room 319 Available for your viewing and listening pleasure of Artist and NPN/VAN Partner media, the Media Lounge is accessible 24/7 in the hotel. You may get the key from registration or the front desk at the hotel.
11:45am		In the Works #1 11:45am–1:00pm “In the Works” provides a lively forum where Artists, NPN Partners and Colleagues may present brief (3 minutes or less) descriptions of new projects, at whatever stage of development. These projects should be new commissions or creative works that are currently being worked on. “In the Works” provides opportunities for networking and collaboration. Forms (in packets and at registration) must be filled and submitted at the meeting by Saturday at 9am in order to participate. Featured ArtBurst: Black Sunshine @ 12:50pm	Visual Artists Salon 8:30am–4:30pm Sequoyah 2 A screening room for work by VAN artists, the Visual Artists Salon (aka the Salon) is the place to see the variety of visual artwork represented by VAN.
1:00pm		Lunch 1:00–2:30pm Mezzanine Pick up your lunch on the hotel mezzanine and find a comfortable eating spot anywhere in the hotel (inside or outside).	VAN Hotel Room Installations 11:00am–5:00pm 3rd floor Balcony, Hotel Don’t miss the VAN hotel room installations. Check out the VAN catalog for more information.
			Performance by The Bridge Club Tenants at Will 1:30–2:30pm Room 314
2:45pm	Idea Forums: Multiple Locations (Choose One)		
	Artists Pioneering Hybrid Careers 2:45–4:30pm Sequoyah 2 Facilitators: Maria Rosario Jackson, Ph.D., Senior Research Associate, Metropolitan Housing and Communities Center, The Urban Institute; Florence Kabwasa-Green, The Urban Institute, Research Associate Consultant Artists often operate outside of the arts and cultural sectors because the very nature of their work is rooted in other fields such as education, health, and community development. Such artists are pioneering hybrid professional careers – sometimes called public practice. Environmental artist Lorna Jordan is based in Seattle, WA and is the creator “Waterworks Garden” an earth/water sculpture at a water reclamation plant. Jordan blurs the boundaries between sculpture, ecology, architecture, and theater as she seeks to engage community with place. Shana Berger and Nathan Purath are artists and curators who live and work in York, Alabama. Driven by the idea that art can play an integral role in realizing positive social change, Berger and Nathan’s work blends modes of art, activism, organizing, and advertising. They are co-directors of The Coleman Center for the Arts and creators of the billboard campaign “The Compassion Project.” These artists will speak about their work, their peers and allies, and the challenges faced both within the arts world and the outside sectors.		
	Giving Voice to Community: 2 NPN Community Fund Case Studies 2:45–4:30pm Great Smoky BC Facilitator: Art Menius, Appalshop; Participants: Eric Bass, Sandglass Theater; Angelyn DeBord, Artist; Lyena Strelkoff, Artist How NPN Community Fund projects work “on the ground” is examined by looking at two recent examples: artists Angelyn DeBord and Lyena Strelkoff discuss each of their projects with Appalshop (DeBord) and Sandglass Theater (Strelkoff). Lyena’s residency promotes Sandglass’ work on issues of diversity by integrating the planning process and products across multiple organizations. Angelyn’s “Outreach to the African-American Population of Clincho, VA,” built bridges between communities and across racial divides through personal stories.		

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SATURDAY DECEMBER 12 continued

Second Full Day of Sessions at Hilton Knoxville Hotel, unless indicated

2:45pm

Idea Forums: Multiple Locations (Choose One)

Everything You Wanted to Know About International Tax

2:45–4:30pm

Ballroom, Salon C

Moderator: Renata Petroni, Project Director, Performing Americas Program; Experts: Robyn Williams, Fettman, Tolchin and Majors, P.C. and John Luckacovic, 2Luck Concepts

US taxation and withholding of tax on foreign performing artists is a hot topic in the arts world today. Part of the most recent buzz has been fueled by the IRS' October '07 announcement that it had launched a task force focused on "improving US income reporting and tax payment compliance by foreign artists who work in the United States." In effect, this translates to a crackdown on enforcement of the existing US taxation laws and regulations concerning foreign artists. This session is intended to be a practical "how to" guide to US tax law and regulation, to clear the confusion existing in the field on what is taxable and what is not, how to help individual artists and companies file taxes in the US, and how to apply for a Central Withholding Agreement.

The speakers are experts having spent the last two years lecturing on the subject while lobbying the IRS to streamline its regulations. They are invaluable resources who can address all our questions and doubts and help us navigate through the intricacies of the system – don't miss this session!

An informal discussion will continue over dinner as part of a DineAround on Saturday night. Sign up at Registration.

Women of Calypso and the New Performing Americas Program Creation Fund

2:45–4:30pm

Please Note: This session takes place at the Emporium Center for Arts & Culture, 100 S. Gay St., about a 15 minute walk from the hotel. Space is limited; sign up at registration.

Participants: Idris Ackamoor and Rhodessa Jones, Cultural Odyssey; Elizabeth Doud, Performing Americas Coordinator; Rawle Gibbons, Director, Dept. of Creative and Festival Arts / University of West Indies / Trinidad; Singing Sandra, Kizzie Ruiz and Queen Fayola, Featured Artists, Women of Calypso

Check out "Women of Calypso," a pilot project of the newly conceived Performing Americas Program Creation Fund that aims to establish a model for the commissioning of international work within the NPN. The project features renowned Trinidadian Calypso artists Singing Sandra, Queen Fayola, and Kizzie Ruiz and musicians who have been in residence in Knoxville creating the work a week prior to the Annual Meeting. This session includes a performance excerpt of the work, discussion of the Calypso genre and the participants' artistic experience, and an introduction to the emerging PAP Creation Fund structure for presenters and would-be commissioners.

Sharing Process with Audiences

2:45–4:30pm

Sequoyah 3

Moderator: David Sheingold (Independent Consultant); Participants: Ain Gordon, Writer/Director/Actor; Cynthia Oliver, Dancer/Choreographer/Professor; Sara Coffey, Vermont Performance Lab; Georgiana Pickett, 651 Arts

How are contemporary performing arts presenters and artists working to engage audiences with the creation of new work and ideas? When and why are we bringing audiences into the developmental process? This discussion will take a look across forms and methodologies to understand the impact of building deeper connections between audiences, artists and their creative process.

Creative Ways to Commission During Tough Times

2:45–4:30pm

Ballroom, Salon B

Erin Boberg Doughton, PICA; George Lugg, REDCAT; Carlton Turner, M.U.G.A.B.E.E.; Sarah Wilke, On the Boards; Angelle Hebert, tEEth; Ron Berry, Fusebox Festival

Let's get creative about strategies for commissioning new work with the NPN Creation Fund including non-NPN Partner organizations, artists and individual donors as co-commissioners. This workshop features case studies of recent Creation Fund projects: Under Polaris, RACE PEACE and Grub. BYOQ: Bring Your Own Questions and ideas for discussion.

Measuring Transformation: Evaluating Arts and Social Impact Projects

2:45–4:30pm

Ballroom, Salon D

Suzanne Callahan, Callahan Consulting for the Arts

How can evaluation help capture the change that artists, funders and administrators strive to realize? This session will help participants understand the ways in which arts-based change can be measured through stories, exercises and principles from Callahan's work in the area of arts and social impact. In addition to drawing from Callahan's own book on arts evaluation, the stories will highlight Rha Goddess's "Hip Hop Mental Health Project," Liz Lerman Dance Exchange's "Small Dances About Big Ideas," and Americans for the Arts' "Arts and Civic Engagement Impact Initiative."

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SATURDAY DECEMBER 12 continued

Second Full Day of Sessions at Hilton Knoxville Hotel, unless indicated

2:45pm

Idea Forums continued: Multiple Locations (Choose One)

The Enterprising Artist: Rethinking Professional Arts Education for a New Global Cultural Workforce

2:45–4:30pm

Sequoyah 1

In whole or in part, NPN Partners build their missions around the emerging artist. Nevertheless these organizations have very little understanding of, much less influence on, how that artist actually comes into being, what skills and street smarts besides the artistic drive they need to be ready to wield in a complicated, often unpredictable and unsympathetic cultural environment.

Join David R. White (ARTVENTURES NH) in a provocative conversation about this issue and a major new international arts education partnership - the Transatlantic Arts Consortium (TAC) - led by Idyllwild Arts Academy, an arts high school; the California Institute of the Arts (Cal Arts); and the UK's Dartington Hall Trust, an interdisciplinary center which focuses on activist research-in-practice at the intersecting sectors of the arts, sustainability and social justice. The partnership looks to remove the emphasis on the word "student" from young artists-in-formation to provide these creators with sustainable relationships with professional peers and mentors. TAC's goal: To integrate rather than simply graduate the young artist into the working world. Hear about projects currently supported and planned through TAC to achieve that goal, and the possibilities for collaboration with NPN Partners and artists concerned about these issues.

Fundraising Challenges, Opportunities and Strategies During a Recession

2:45–4:30pm

Ballroom, Salon A

Moderator: Tanya Mote, Director of Development, El Centro Su Teatro. Participants: Mario Garcia Durham, Director of Presenting & Artist Communities, National Endowment for the Arts; Gerri Combs, Executive Director, Southern Arts Federation; Margo Miller, Director of Development, Appalachian Community Fund

Organizations, artists and artist collectives are toughing it out in this difficult economic climate. This is a time when many of us are "trying to make a dollar out of fifteen cents..." stretching our resources to the max. Join a conversation with grant providers to discuss some ways that their constituents are working on bridging the gap between resources and programming.

4:30pm

Evening Events

Enjoy Knoxville's delicious culinary offerings on your own or as part of a DineAround (sign up at registration).

4:30–7:00pm

Please time your dinners so that you are on time for *Live & On Stage*.

7:00pm

Live & On Stage

The Bijou Theatre / 803 S. Gay St.

7:00–10:00pm

Featuring (in order of appearance): Cloud Eye Control / Liza Garza / Universes / Horace Smith

11:00pm

PJ Party in the Media Lounge!

Room 319

11:00pm

Too tired to go out? Put on your slippers and head to room 319 for more opportunities to see work. PJ dress code is NOT enforced. Refreshments will be available.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 13

Final Full Day of Sessions: Morning at Hilton Knoxville Hotel, Evening at Knoxville Museum of Art

Time	Hotel Lobby	Ballroom	More to See & Do
9:00am	Registration		Media Lounge all day / night Room 319 Available for your viewing and listening pleasure of Artist and NPN/VAN Partner media, the Media Lounge is accessible 24/7 in the hotel. You may get the key from registration or the front desk at the hotel.
9:30am	9:00am–Noon	In the Works #2 9:30–11:00am See Saturday at 11:45am for description. Featured ArtBursts: Gesel Mason @ 9:30am Denise Uyehara @ 10:50am Jo Carson @ 11:00am	
11:30am		Lunch/Brunch on your own around Knoxville 11:30am–1:00pm Get outside, stretch your legs, and enjoy one of the many great restaurants in the area.	
1:00pm		NPN/VAN Partner Meeting 1:00–4:30pm Annual business meeting for NPN and VAN Partners, NPN Board and Staff Entering, Building and Exiting Community: A Professional Development Workshop for Artists, facilitated by Urban Bush Women Dance Company 1:00–5:00pm Sequoyah 3 Led by Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, Founder and Artistic Director, Urban Bush Women; Maria Bauman, Associate Artistic Director for Community Engagement, Urban Bush Women; Stephanie McKee, Urban Bush Women A UBW concept in development since 1992, entering community is a process of becoming aware of the values, leadership and history of a community; building or engaging community is putting those values into action, often questioning or even challenging existing values; exiting community is ensuring that all who participated feel recognized and can identify what they learned from the experience. Space is limited; participants must commit to and be available for the entire 4-hour workshop session. Sign up at registration.	Visual Artists Salon 8:30am–4:30pm Sequoyah 2 A screening room for work by VAN artists, the Visual Artists Salon (aka the Salon) is the place to see the variety of visual artwork represented by VAN.
			VAN Hotel Room Installations 11:00am–5:00pm 3rd floor Balcony, Hotel Don't miss the VAN hotel room installations. Check out the VAN catalog for more information.
			Performance by The Bridge Club Tenants at Will 11:30am–12:30pm Room 314
6:00pm	Evening Events		
	Swing for Your Supper! featuring Keynote by Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, Founder & Artistic Director, Urban Bush Women 6:00–11:00pm Dinner at 6:00pm Keynote at 7:00pm Knoxville Museum of Art, 1050 World's Fair Park Dr. Be our guest for dinner, dancing, inspiration and art at the Knoxville Museum of Art. Zollar will inspire you with her words. The Streamliners, Knoxville's sultans of swing, will give you a run for your money on the dance floor with their awesome 17-piece band. And the Knoxville Museum of Art will beckon you to tour its galleries for some of the best of the area's artwork (rivaled only by the VAN Hotel Room Installations).		

MONDAY DECEMBER 14

Time	Great Smoky BC
10:00am	NPN Board Meeting (invite only) 10:00am–3:00pm Great Smoky BC