MESHANTICUT

cultural placemaking confestival

AUGUST 21 - 25, 2024

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

PROMOTIONAL DECK **FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025**

An equitable economic development initiative of the Providence Cultural Equity Initiative.

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MESHANTICUT
cultural placemaking
confestival

MISSION

To advance the cultural placemaking sector and stimulate interest and investment in cultural placemaking as a premier strategy for promoting tourism and equitable economic development.

CONCEPT





MESHANTICUT
cultural placemaking
confestival

An annual multi-day confestival featuring a living culture festival highlighting and demonstrating concepts and initiatives articulated and explored at an accompanying cultural placemaking conference.

THEME



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Cultural Placemaking

A strategy and process of placemaking that centers and highlights the narratives, experiences, and traditions of specific cultures and cultural communities that are uniquely tied to the place that is being made.

GOALS



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To facilitate and encourage relationship building within the international cultural placemaking sector.

To present speakers, workshops and networking opportunities to inform and educate the cultural placemaking sector and the public.

To present interactive experiences that embody cultural placemaking principles and strategies.

RATIONALE



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International tourism outpaces the world economy (World Tourism Organization (2019) International Tourism Highlights).

$334 billion generated and 216 million international tourists visited the Americas in 2018 (World Tourism Organization (2019) International Tourism Highlights).

United States is one of the top ten world destinations for international tourism (World Tourism Organization (2019) International Tourism Highlights).

EVENT OVERVIEW

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8.21.24
- 6pm – 9pm: Cultural Exchange Ceremony

8.22.24
- 9am – 4:30pm : Conference Day 1

8.23.24
- 9am – 4:30pm : Conference Day 2
- 630pm – 9pm : Ondas Sonoras

8.24.24
- 12pm – 4pm: Accessibility is Beautiful 2024
- 6pm – 10pm : Living Culture Festival

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

EVENT	DESCRIPTION
CULTURAL EXCHANGE CEREMONY 8.21.24 – 6pm to 10pm 	**Meshanticut Cultural Exchange Ceremony** Cultural exchange is a key tool for establishing strong relationships and facilitating economic development opportunities internationally. Accordingly, the Meshanticut Cultural Exchange Ceremony will serve as the inaugurating event for the Confestival to lay the proper foundation for productive series of discussions and events to follow.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

EVENT	DESCRIPTION
CULTURAL PLACEMAKING CONFERENCE 8.22.24 / 8.23.24 – 9am to 5pm Providence Public Library 	**Meshanticut Cultural Placemaking Conference** A two-day event hosting presenters and discussions to ideate initiatives, policies, and strategies to promote and support the international cultural placemaking sector.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

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EVENT	DESCRIPTION
ONDAS SONORAS (SOUD WAVES) 8.23.24 – 630pm to 9pm Oakland Beach, Warwick, RI 	**Ondas Sonoras (Sound Waves)** is a commemoration of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade and its abolition.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

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EVENT	DESCRIPTION
ACCESSIBLITY IS BEAUTIFUL 2024 8.24.24 – 12pm to 4pm The Steel Yard 	**Accessibility is Beautiful 2024** is a day filled with inspiring talks, interactive workshops, and exciting activities that highlight the importance of accessibility in our lives. From technology to design, the event will explore how making things accessible benefits everyone. The event is an opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals, industry experts, and advocates who are passionate about creating a more inclusive world. The event will also be an opportunity to share ideas, learn from others, and discover innovative solutions to make our society more accessible for all.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

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EVENT	DESCRIPTION
LIVING CULTURE FESTIVAL 8.24.24 – 6pm to 10pm TBD 	**The Living Culture Festival** is a genre-defying living culture and music festival that acknowledges and honors local Indigenous nations and celebrates the contemporary cultural diversity of Providence.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



H.E. AMB. DR. STEPHEN KOJO SACKEY



SKILLS & COMPETENCIES

- **Diplomacy & International Relations:** Expertise in fostering international cooperation and enhancing global diplomatic relations.
- **Leadership & Peacebuilding:** Proven leadership in peacebuilding initiatives, with executive certifications in leadership and strategic peacebuilding.
- **Strategic Management & Planning:** Experienced in managing diverse teams and projects, with a strong background in regulation, research, and policy development.
- **Social Activism & Youth Empowerment:** Committed to advocating for social causes and empowering youth through education and engagement.
- **Public Speaking & Media Consultancy:** Effective communicator with experience in media consultancy, public speaking, and leadership coaching.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- **UN ECOSOC Accredited Eminent Peace Ambassador:** Honored for significant contributions to global peace and humanitarian efforts.
- **Award Recipient:** Received multiple awards for outstanding contributions to diplomacy, peace, and development.
- **Researcher & Herbal Medicine Manufacturer:** Innovator in alternative medicine, contributing to health and wellness through traditional medicine practices.

H.E. AMB. DR. STEPHEN KOJO SACKEY

UN EMINENT PEACE AMBASSADOR / AFRICA FOCAL POINT, UNITED NATIONS-IAWPA

Distinguished UN Eminent Peace Ambassador and Africa Focal Point to the United Nations-IAWPA with a prolific career dedicated to promoting global peace, security, human rights, and sustainable development. A multifaceted diplomat renowned for collaboration with civil society organizations, public corporations, and ECOSOC-accredited NGOs. Holds a rich legacy in diplomacy, leadership, and advocacy, mirroring the humanitarian efforts of global icons like Kofi Annan and Nelson Mandela.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UN Eminent Peace Ambassador / Africa Focal Point, United Nations - IAWPA ***(A world-class organization with special UN ECOSOC consultative status since 2019)***

- Spearheaded initiatives for sustainable peace and development across Africa, working closely with civil society, public corporations, and NGOs.
- Championed human rights, security, and economic development, influencing policies at the highest levels of international governance.

National Coordinator & Director of International Relations, WFUNA/UNA - Ghana Chapter

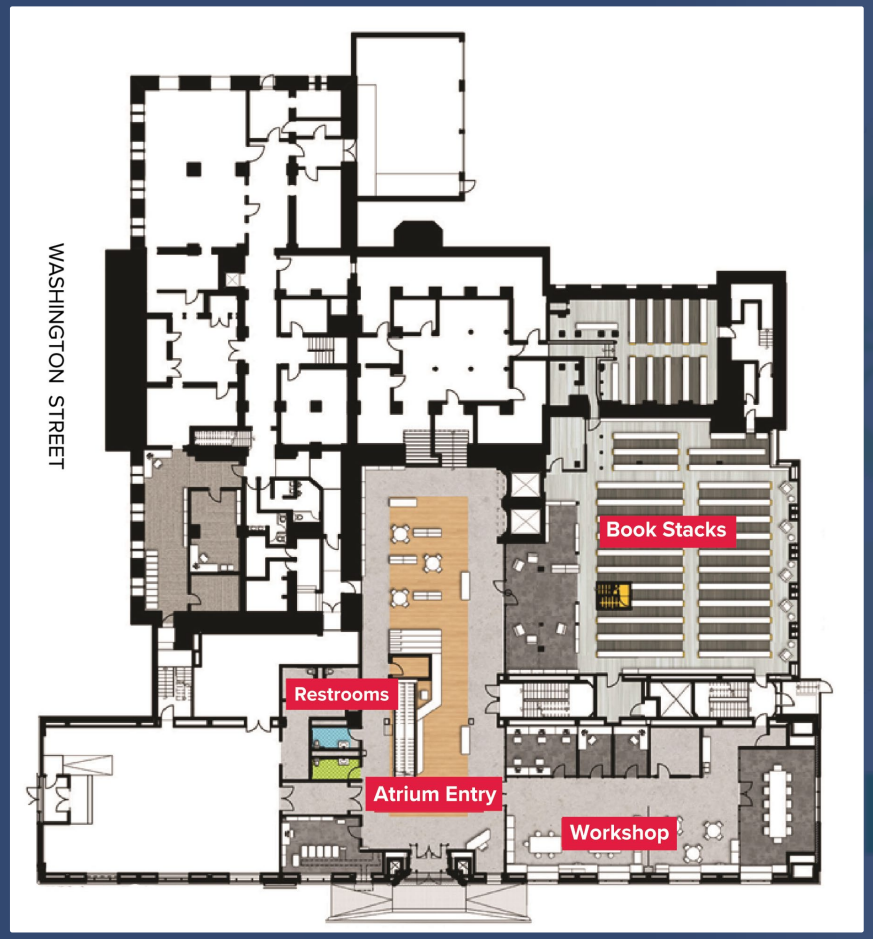
- Enhanced Ghana's participation in global forums, establishing strategic international relationships.

Co-Founder/Executive Board Secretary, United Nations Youth Association Ghana (UNYA)

- Launched a youth-focused organization to promote peace and diplomatic education, affiliated with WFUNA/UNA Ghana.

Sustainable Development Editor - Central Press Newspaper

PROGRAM SPACE



The Providence Public Library
150 Empire St Providence, RI 02903





MARKETING & PROMOTION STRATEGIES

INTERNATIONAL
Global Cultural Districts Network
CARICOM Caribbean Community
West African Networks

REGIONAL
Providence/Warwick Convention and Visitors Bureau
Providence Department of Arts Culture + Tourism

LOCAL
GoLocalProv
UpRiseRI
BartholomeowTown Podcast
LivingCultureRI
The Masswascut Collaborative



CUSTOMER PROFILE



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TARGET AUDIENCE

- ✓ 15 to 45 years of age
- ✓ Prefer unique cultural experiences and live performances
- ✓ Live within 100 miles of area
- ✓ Will purchase merchandise at events
- ✓ Will have parking needs.

2023 CONFESTIVAL

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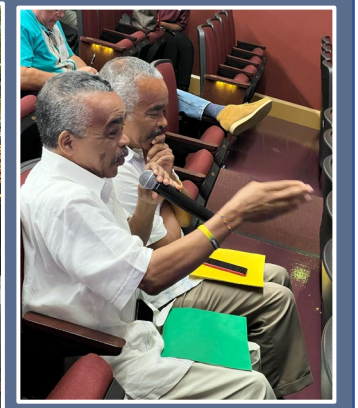
livingculture

EXIT






FARISH AUDITORIUM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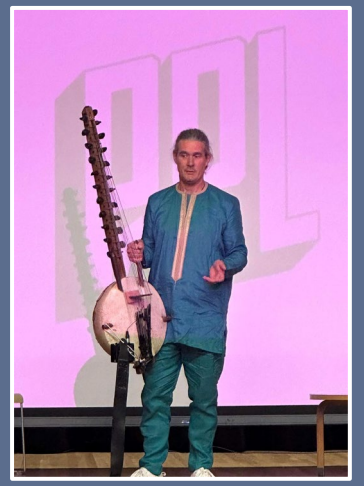
FREE ADMISSION


Providence Cultural Equity Initiative

"Changing how the story of Rhode Island is told and sold."

www.ProvCEI.org

September 4, 2023

FROM: Providence Cultural Equity Initiative
TO: Press
RE: First Annual Meshanticut Cultural Placemaking Confestival recap

The First Annual Meshanitcut Cultural Placemaking Confestival took place August 17-20, 2023, in Providence, Rhode Island. The multi-day Confestival consisted of a living culture festival highlighting and demonstrating concepts and initiatives articulated and explored at an accompanying cultural placemaking conference, with a mission "To advance the cultural placemaking sector and stimulate interest and investment in cultural placemaking as a premier strategy for promoting tourism and equitable economic development."

Hosted at the Providence Public Library, the two-day Meshanticut Cultural Placemaking Conference featured presenters and discussions to ideate initiatives, policies, and strategies to promote and support the international cultural placemaking sector. The specific goal of the Conference was to facilitate and encourage relationship building within the international cultural placemaking sector and to present speakers, workshops, and networking opportunities to inform and educate the cultural placemaking sector and the public.

The two-day inaugural Conference had more than 70 attendees including Amb. Matzatzin Casas-Acosta (Federation of Aboriginal Nations of the Americas), Amb. Aaron Cardinel (Federation of Aboriginal Nations of the Americas), Amb. Cynthia Ellis (Garifuna Nation), Amb. Cruz Gonzalez (Federation of Aboriginal Nations of the Americas), Chief Luis Marcos (Maya Nation of Belize), Dr. Aundrea Matthews (Buffalo Soldiers Association at West Point Academy), Queen Ama Nimley (The Republic of Mali), Amb. Stephen Kojo Sackey (United Nations Association – Ghana), and Chief Natcisso Eussebio Torres (Maya Nation of Belize).

The inaugural conference also featured cultural placemaking related presentations from I. Lanre Ajakaiye (25 Bough Street), Helen E. Dukes (Juneteenth Rhode Island), Barnaby Evans (Waterfire Providence), Dr. Ronald Yonaguska Holloway (Federation of Aboriginal Nations of the Americas), Donald W. King (Providence Cultural Equity Initiative), Jonathan Lewis (Nonviolence Schools of Rhode Island), Richardson Ogidan (Southside Cultural Center of Rhode Island), Lydia Perez (Puerto Rican Institute for the Arts and Advocacy), Dr. Silas Pinto (City of Providence), Antoinette Pitcan (Promote West Africa), Shey Rivera (Studio Loba LLC), Peter Rogina (Peace Lights Project), Gregorio Scarpella (Global Cultural Districts Network), Amb. Modou Lamin Sima (The Republic of the Gambia), Jonny Skye (Skye Gallery), Chief Darrel Waldron (Rhode Island Indian Council), and Dr. David Weed (Sowams Heritage Area).

The Confestival also served as the platform for the Federation of Aboriginal Nations of the Americas to announce and establish several international agreements. Specifically, the Federation officially announced a cooperation agreement it previously established with the State of the African Diaspora, signed a cooperation agreement with the Garifuna Nation, signed an international treaty of commerce and trade with the Samaaka Tribe of Suriname, and signed a telehealth services agreement with UniDoc Health Corp.

In addition to the conference and treaty signings, the Confestival was also a celebration of culture and art beginning Thursday evening with the closing ceremony for the Providence Biennial which was co-curated by FANA Principal Chief Tureygua Taino Cay and hosted at the Waterfire Arts Center. The celebration continued Saturday evening at Waterfire with capoeira performances and a capoeira graduation ceremony hosted by New Wave Martial Arts & Fitness, followed by a torch honoring ceremony including attendees from the Confestival. Music was also a major component of the Confestival with performances from Stefan Charisius (Stuttgart, Germany), Tribal Legacy (New York City, NY), DJ Digital Ancient Dubb, (Boston, MA), YORUBA 3 (Pawtucket, RI), Boo City (Providence, RI), the Pomham Singers (Providence, RI), and New Wave Martial Arts & Fitness (Warwick, RI). The Confestival culminated on Sunday with a closing ceremony hosted at the Michael S. VanLeesten Pedestrian Bridge which afforded attendees the opportunity to share words of gratitude and positive affirmations for their time spent at the Confestival, and also well wishes for future gatherings, before preparing to head back to their respective homes.

Given the State's intimate history with English colonization of the Americas, its pivotal roles in the King Philips War and the trans-Atlantic slave trade, and the historic legacy and presence of its American Indian and African heritage communities, attendees and presenters alike agreed that Rhode Island was the appropriate location to continue exploring the cultural placemaking concepts identified and discussed during the Confestival. Accordingly, planning has already begun to annually host the Meshanticut Cultural Placemaking Confestival in Providence, Rhode Island.

The First Annual Meshanticut Cultural Placemaking Confestival was produced by the Providence Cultural Equity Initiative, the Federation of Aboriginal Nations of the Americas, and NACTIP. In-kind and financial sponsorship for the Confestival was provided by Amb. Modou Lamin Sima, the City of Providence, Cox Charities Northeast Region, the Federation of Aboriginal Nations of the Americas, the Office of the General Treasurer of Rhode Island, the Global Cultural Districts Network, New Wave Martial Arts & Fitness, the Mount Hope Community Center, the Providence Public Library, the Providence Revolving Fund, the Providence Warwick Convention & Visitors Bureau, Roger Williams University, Roger Williams University School of Law, the State of the African Diaspora, Unidoc Health Corp/Hewlett-Packard, and United Way of Rhode Island.

For more information about the 2023 Meshanticut Cultural Placemaking Confestival, or for information about sponsoring the 2024 Meshanticut Cultural Placemaking Confestival, contact meshanticutconfestival@provcei.org or 401.264.6120. All contributions are tax deductible.

For more information about the Providence Cultural Equity Initiative go to www.provcei.org.

For more information about the Federation of Aboriginal Nations of the Americas go to www.FANA.global.

For more information about NACTIP go to www.nactip.com.

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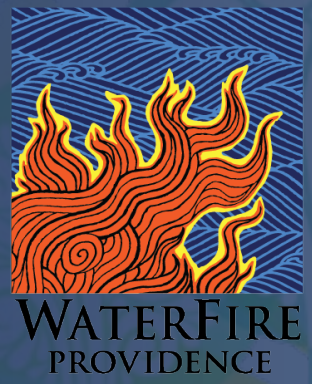
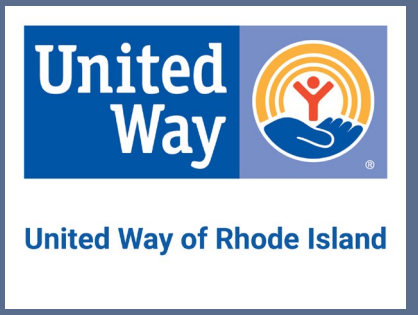




GCDN
Global Cultural Districts Network
An Initiative of AEA Consulting





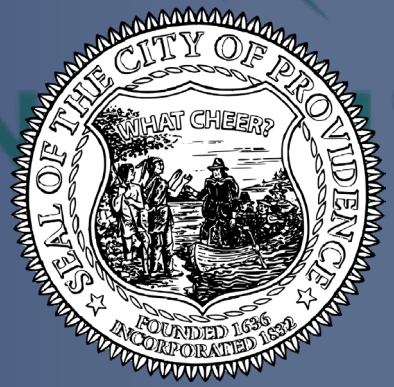
COX Charities



PROVIDENCE · WARWICK
Convention & Visitors Bureau









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PPL Providence Public Library

R.A.M.P.
Real Access Motivates Progress
www.RAMPisInclusion.org

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MHCC

CITY OF PROVIDENCE | MAYOR BRETT P. SMILEY
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SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

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SPONSORSHIP LEVELS AND BENEFITS

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SPONSORSHIP LEVEL	BENEFITS
WAR EAGLE SPONSOR $20,000.00	**WAR EAGLE SPONSOR** Main Stage Branding / VIP tent / Logo on all event banners / Logo on printed material / Email blast / Program listing / Logo on website / Social media / Signage at event / Vocal recognition at event / 10 x 10 activation space
RED TAIL HAWK SPONSOR $10,000.00	**RED TAIL HAWK SPONSOR** Main Stage branding / Logo on all event banners / Logo on printed material / Email blast / Program listing / Logo on website / Social media / Signage at event / Vocal recognition at event / 10 x 10 activation space
SNOW OWL SPONSOR $5,000.00	**SNOW OWL SPONSOR** Main Stage branding / Logo on all event banners / Logo on printed material / Email blast / Program listing / Logo on website / Social media / Signage at event / 10 x 10 activation space

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SPONSORSHIP LEVELS AND BENEFITS

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SPONSORSHIP LEVEL	BENEFITS
BLACK GOOSE SPONSOR $2,500.00	**BLACK GOOSE SPONSOR** Logo on general event banners / Logo on printed media / Email blast / Program listing / Logo on website / Social media / Signage at event / Vocal recognition at event / 10 x 10 activation space
RAVEN SPONSOR $1,000.00	**RAVEN SPONSOR** Logo on printed media / Email blast / Program listing / Logo on website / Social media / Signage at event
BLUE JAY SPONSOR $200.00	**BLUE JAY SPONSOR** Logo on printed media / Email blast / Program listing / Logo on website / Social media / Signage at event

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All contributions are tax deductible.
For sponsorship opportunities or more information:

meshanticutconfestival@provcei.org

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