



URBANO

"The impact of my work has been so good and I've learned new things I didn't know about. I feel like I am part of something big and that I'm able to interact with the community. I feel like I'll be able to make a change in the future with everything I've learned so far"

-Urbano Student, Spring 2016

"The commons is a new way to express a very old idea—that some forms of wealth belong to all of us, and that these community resources must be actively protected and managed for the good of all. The commons are the things that we inherit and create jointly, and that will (hopefully) last for generations to come. The commons consists of gifts of nature such as air, oceans and wildlife as well as shared social creations such as libraries, public spaces, scientific research and creative works."

—onthecommons.org

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Through the lens of our annual theme, *Commons: Space, Place, and Public*, Urbano Project continued to grow our youth arts programs in size, reach, and community impact.

Throughout our research-driven creative process, Urbano teaching and youth artists asked: What are the commons of Egleston/Jackson Squares? Who authors, activates or owns those spaces? What is the role of the commons for both transformation and preservation? Together we explored gentrification, environmental justice, and cultural and economic equity through creative place-making art. This annual theme sought to build knowledge and develop a comprehensive, bilingual network of participants to define the common spaces and places that characterize the Egleston/Jackson Square areas. With the participation of youth leaders, local residents, teaching practitioners of various disciplines, small business owners, cultural brokers, and community development organizers.

Inspired by our work with our local community, we launched our *Egleston Winter Festival*, a day-long arts festival in Egleston Square. The intergenerational community festival featured the traditional “lighting of the tree” and was also the culmination of Urbano Project’s fall semester. The event featured art installations, exhibitions and performances by Urbano Project’s artists (teachers and students) including: light installations, video projections, murals, poetry readings and public performances. Based on the success of the *Egleston Winter Festival*, Urbano looks forward to making the event an annual neighborhood tradition.

We also launched our new Artists’ Exhibition Series with a multi-media show by Mexican-born artist Salvador Jiménez Flores. Salvador’s exhibition *I Am Not Who You Think I Am* supported. Salvador’s show was curated in support of Urbano’s creative theme. Urbano’s artists, project facilitators, and youth work with community members to address themes of racial, ethnic, cultural and urban identity and representation embedded within our communities.

Additionally, Urbano produced three youth artists exhibits (one for each term) drawing hundreds of people into our space to witness the talent and passion of our students. Furthermore, Urbano held several community space activation events, including Jamaica Plain’s *Wake Up the Earth* festival for our *Nomadic Civic Sculpture* and our *Public Art Take Back!* class, reactivating Egleston’s Peace Garden and giving a sense of place and local identity to the residents. This event was featured in Boston Neighborhood Network’s nightly news and WRBB radio.

We are proud of the accomplishments of our teaching and youth artists and we look forward to a great FY17 with a new annual theme, *The Commons | The Other*.

Sincerely,
Stella McGregor
Founder and Creative Director

Spotlight on After-School Program Participants FY16

*The information below includes students from Summer 2015, Fall 2015 and Spring 2016. The cumulative total of enrolled students was 112. However, because many students are enrolled in more than one class, the cumulative total of individual students was 75. Information below is based on individual students.

URBANO STUDENTS OF COLOR

89%

**URBANO STUDENTS WHO SPEAK
A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN
ENGLISH AT HOME**

51%

**URBANO AFTER-SCHOOL
STUDENTS THAT HAVE
PARTICIPATED IN PREVIOUS
URBANO PROGRAMS**

45%

**URBANO STUDENTS ELIGIBLE
FOR FREE OR REDUCED-PRICED
LUNCH AT SCHOOL**

64%

**URBANO STUDENTS WHOSE
PARENTS WERE BORN OUTSIDE
OF THE U.S.**

52%

**URBANO STUDENTS WHO
ATTEND SCHOOLS WITH NO
ARTS PROGRAMS**

53%

**URBANO STUDENTS BORN
OUTSIDE OF THE U.S.**

25%

112 students were enrolled in Urbano's FY16 programs (Summer 2015, Fall 2015 & Spring 2016). Figures below proportionately represent the racial, gender and age makeup of individual students participating in Urbano FY16 (N=75).

URBANO PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

SPRING 2016:

- THE FLIP 2
- URBANO FELLOWS
- PUBLIC BACK TAKE BACK! 2

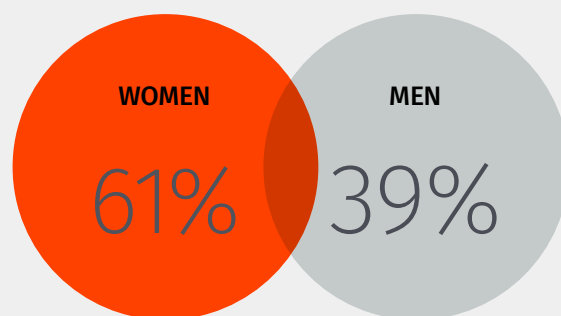
FALL 2015:

- URBANO FELLOWS
- THE FLIP 1
- PUBLIC ART TAKE BACK! 1
- SEARCHING LINES
- CITY JOURNALIST 2

SUMMER 2015:

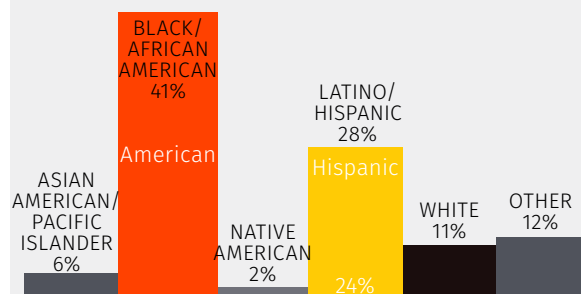
- CITY JOURNALISTS 1
- SQUARE-SPECIFIC THEATER
- URBANO FELLOWS

Gender

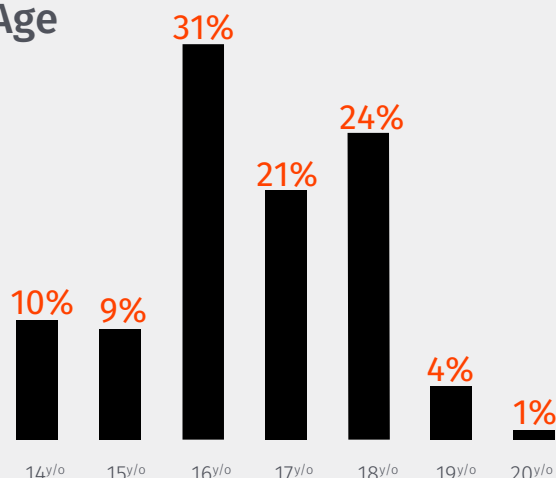


Race and Ethnicity

27% of the individual student sample (N=75) chose two or more categories in this question.

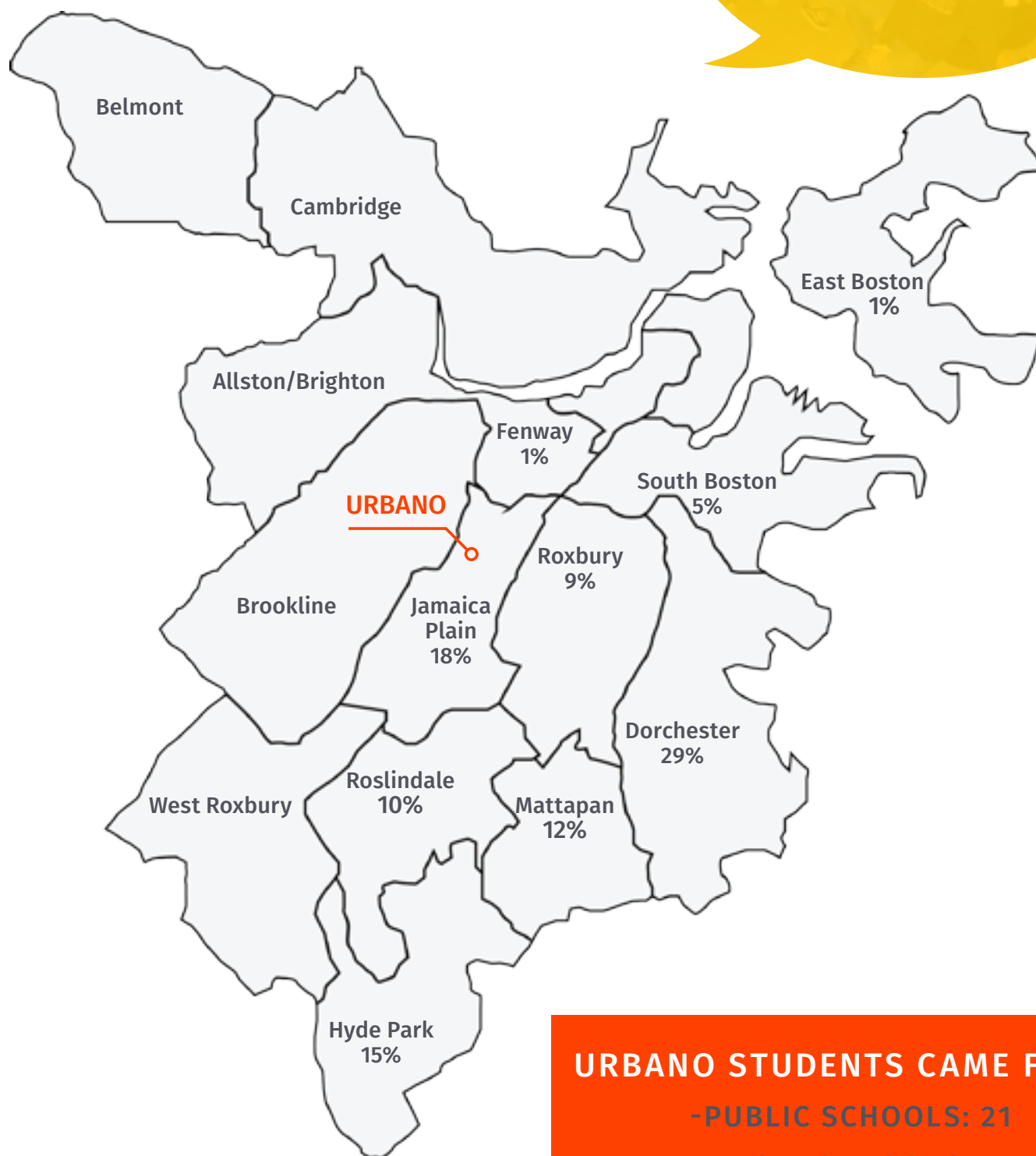


Age



"Urbano helped me be more familiar with my surrounding neighborhoods. Something I probably never would have done, now that I think about it."

- Urbano Student, Summer, 2016



URBANO STUDENTS CAME FROM:

-PUBLIC SCHOOLS: 21

-NEIGHBORHOODS: 10

STUDENT BODY

Urbano's creative placemaking approach through critical pedagogy and studio training works as a catalyst for developing artistic skills central to stimulating students' curiosity for exploring the issues in their communities through art. Urbano's offerings are unique and for the majority of students, our programs represent the only arts or after-school opportunity available for them. Our students go beyond learning studio skills, building a collaborative project with practicing artists and civic leaders to cause a positive impact on their communities.

12% of students had no or very few opportunities to express their own voice, beliefs and opinions through art prior to their involvement in Urbano programs.

20% of students did not consider themselves leaders in their community prior to their involvement in Urbano programs.

39% of students did not consider themselves artists prior to their involvement in Urbano programs.

53% of our students attend Boston Public High Schools that do not offer any arts programming.

KEY SUCCESSES FROM URBANO'S FY2016 PROGRAMS

100% of students believe it is possible to make changes in the world using art.

100% of students say Urbano helped them create work they feel proud of.

100% of students say Urbano helped them work in a group to accomplish a shared goal.

98% of students say Urbano helped them see a project through from beginning idea to final product.

92% of students say Urbano helped them receive and offer feedback from and for their peers.

98% of students say Urbano helped them express their own voice, beliefs and opinions through art.

89% of students say Urbano helped them become more familiar with political and social issues that affect their community.

85% of students say Urbano helped them become more comfortable with taking leadership roles.

Urbano Project believes in self-reflection, self-assessment, and self-improvement.. Based on conversations with our teaching artists, youth artists, community, board members, and staff, we have identified the following areas for improvement:

- Improve direct outreach to the schools to increase competitiveness of the program.
- Further revise curricular structures to reflect new annual theme.
- Incorporate student/former teaching artist feedback into class administration strategies e.g. quiet room, outreach to other nonprofits, find sponsors, offer studio hours, create computer lab.
- Launch new website and increase strength of social media presence.



MISSION: Urbano brings together urban youth and professional artists to ignite social change through place-based participatory art and performance projects. Together we foster future generations of creative and civic leaders committed to social justice.

TARGET POPULATION

Participating Youth

- High School Students (majority are BPS, all students attend public schools)
- Live in the Greater Boston-area, with over 90% residing in Boston (primarily from Dorchester, Roxbury, Hyde Park, Jamaica Plan, Roslindale and Mattapan)
- Ages 14-19
- Often from low/middle income families
- 80% are first generation immigrants
- Interested in creating art
- Interested in social change
- Interested in future job possibilities in the arts
- **Program Alumni, post-high school**
- **Community members as audience and participants**

PROGRAM GOALS

- **High-Quality Contemporary Arts Education**
Offer youth high-quality arts education experiences, including opportunities to develop an awareness and appreciation of contemporary arts and of the role the arts can play to effect social change.
- **Creative Youth Development**
Support youth to explore and pursue their passions and develop as young people with the greatest chance for social and personal success.
- **Youth as Engaged Citizens**
Challenge youth to express a strengthened identity as active, powerful, and engaged citizens of the city of Boston, and engage with difficult subjects in hopeful ways.
- **Community Impact**
Promote civic engagement through participatory and publicly sited works of art that address the major issues of our times, and develop a corps of positively engaged youth who serve as leaders in their communities.

STRATEGIES

- **Artists' Projects**
 - Year-long Project Theme provides conceptual connections among concurrent projects and programs.
 - Youth learn to create collaboratively through studio exploration and experimentation guided by professional lead artist(s).
 - Youth and lead artists work in partnership, contributing to the conception, production, and performance or exhibition of final works.
 - Youth attend class twice weekly.
- **Urbano Fellows**
 - For program alumni and current teen students who have participated in Urbano's programs for at least 2 semesters.
 - Urbano Fellows are responsible for researching, conceptualizing, and producing exhibitions in Urbano's gallery. Curators work with a lead artist to explore contemporary art, conduct studio and gallery visits, and meet with professional artists and curators.
 - Youth attend class once per week.
- Develop calls for work, critique and jury exhibitions that provide diverse perspectives on Urbano's yearly theme.
- Conduct research to identify professional artists beyond Boston whose work is a good fit for Urbano's curriculum and mission.

OUTCOMES

- **Youth will develop skills and understanding related to Contemporary Arts Practice and issues of social change:**
 - Professional attitude towards work with an emphasis on quality.
 - Participation in process to develop the narrative of an idea.
 - Engagement and proficiency in creating and thinking critically about contemporary art.
 - Public speaking and presentation skills; empowerment to speak, create, be heard.
- Engagement in personal reflection on work and participation in critique.
- Openness to interact and collaborate with those who are different from themselves.
- Develop constructive risk taking skills.
- **Youth will:**
 - Engage in the studio as empowered agents of social change.
 - Communicate ideas of change through commissioned works in collaboration with professional artists.
 - Learn the visual, social and political.
- language of contemporary art.
- Identify as artists who are a part of the larger global contemporary art community.
- Develop understanding of issues across racial, social, and cultural barriers.
- Enhance relationship building skills.
- Engage in community as empowered agents of social change.
- Make connections between contemporary art and social change.

IMPACT

- The Urbano Project inspires a new generation of leaders in urban communities who are compassionate, explorative, civically engaged, creative thinkers actively committed to breaking down social barriers (of language, race, gender, religion, etc.) through art.
- The Urbano Project creates high quality arts learning experiences that are cross-disciplinary and collaborative, resulting in publicly sited and participatory art works. These works challenge assumptions about contemporary art, education, and art's role in creating social change.
- The Urbano Project contributes to Boston's civic and cultural life by building bridges between urban communities and the contemporary arts.

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS EVALUATION 2016

Evaluation tools

We have used entry and exit surveys for students to measure student's demographic composition, as well as self-reported development in the arts, social skills, plans for the future, and community involvement. We also used teacher assessment surveys at the end of the program. The teacher assessment survey focuses on artistic and youth development.

"Urbano is one of my favorite places to ever exist. I have made some of the most amazing friends and people who I will know for the rest of my life. I was here to get support during some of the hardest and darkest parts of my life. I will forever be thankful for this program."

- Urbano Student, Fall 2015

Data sample

This evaluation report looks at student demographics from the entry surveys for the programs offered by Urbano in FY2016 (summer 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016). The report also looks at learning outcomes based on student exit surveys and teacher assessments of students in FY2016.



HIGH-QUALITY CONTEMPORARY ART EDUCATION

GOAL: Offer youth high-quality arts education experiences, including opportunities to develop an awareness and appreciation of contemporary arts and of the role the arts can play to effect social change.

"I want to learn more artistic skills, develop current skills and develop ways to artistically use all of my abilities to create individual work that fulfills my own objectives."

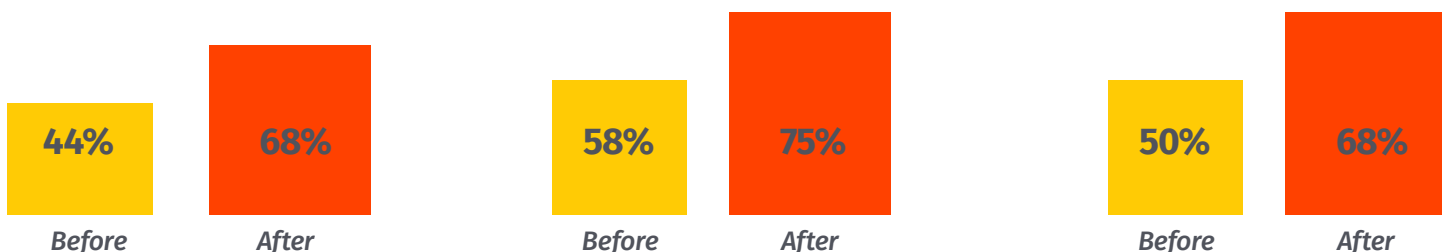
Urbano Student, Spring 2015

Highlights from Student Pre- and Post- Survey

Fall 2015

Summer 2015

Spring 2016

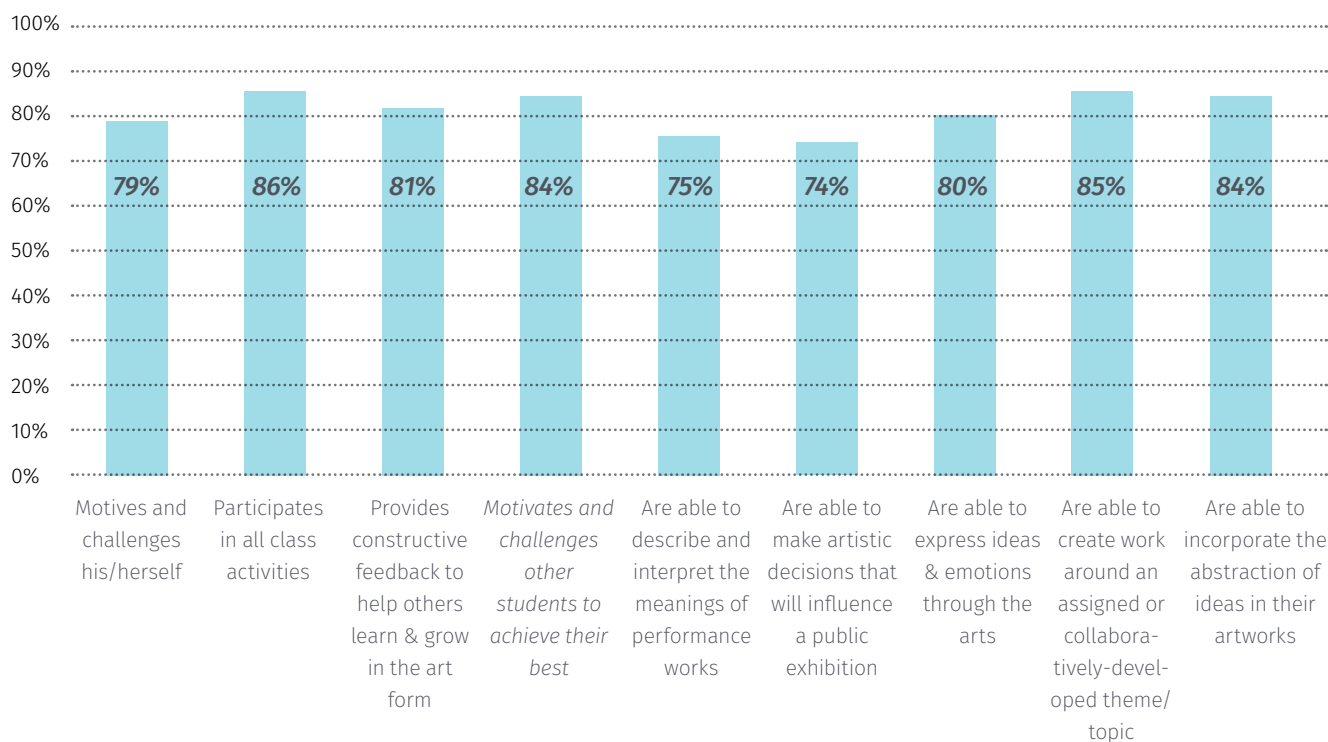


"I definitely consider myself an artist."

"I know quite a bit / I know a lot about contemporary art and artists."

"I have often / I have always had opportunities to express my own voice, beliefs and opinions through art."

Urbano Teaching Artist Evaluation of Student Skills (Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2015, N=112)



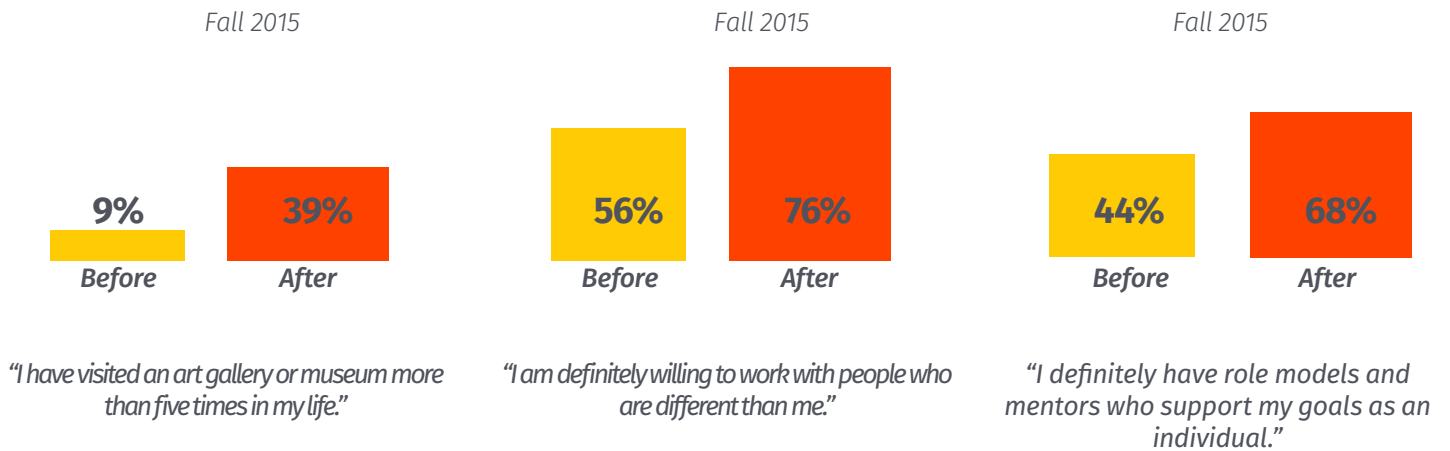
CREATIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

GOAL: Support youth to explore and pursue their passions and develop as young people with the greatest chance for social and personal success.

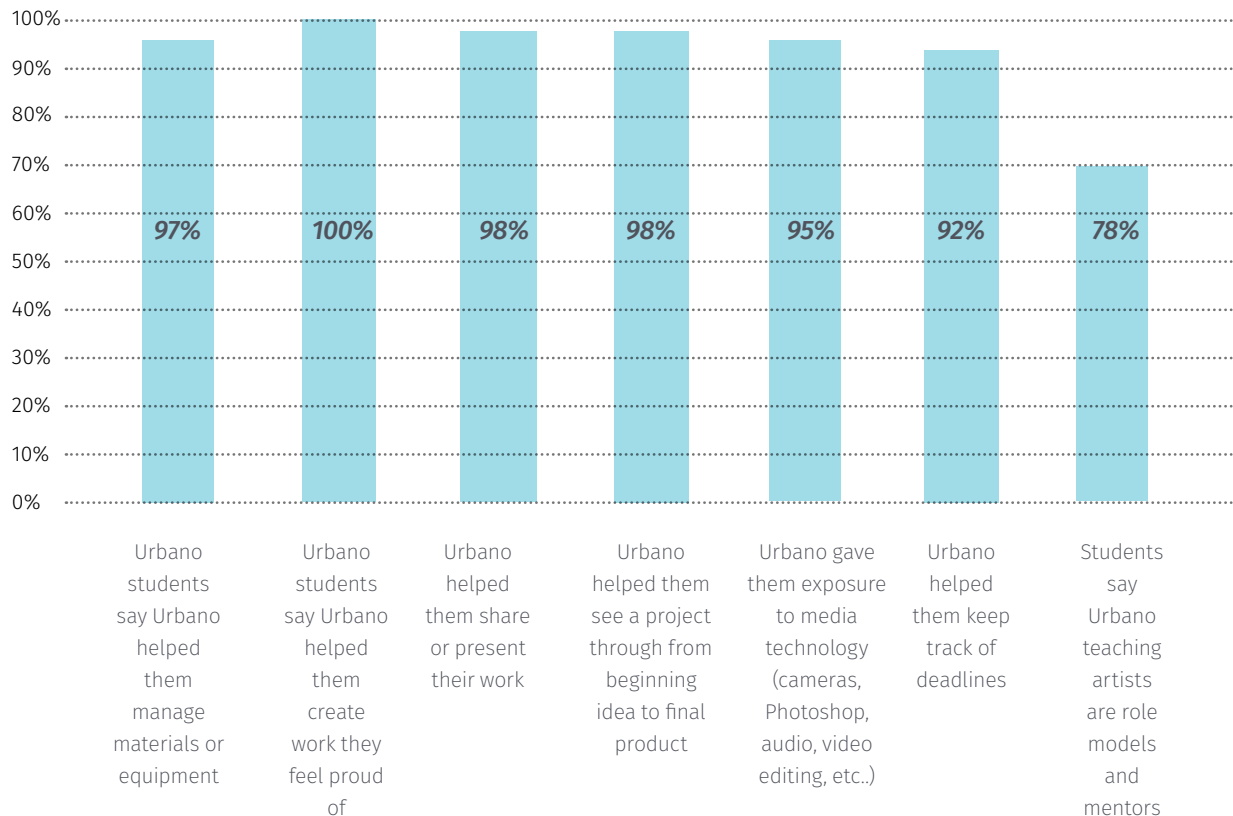
"My goal was to make art. I no longer create art at school, so here at Urbano is where I allow my creative juices to flow freely."

- Urbano Student, Fall 2015

Highlights from Student Pre- and Post- Survey Results



Students' Self Reported Development Skills while participating in the Urbano Project (Summer 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016, N=112)



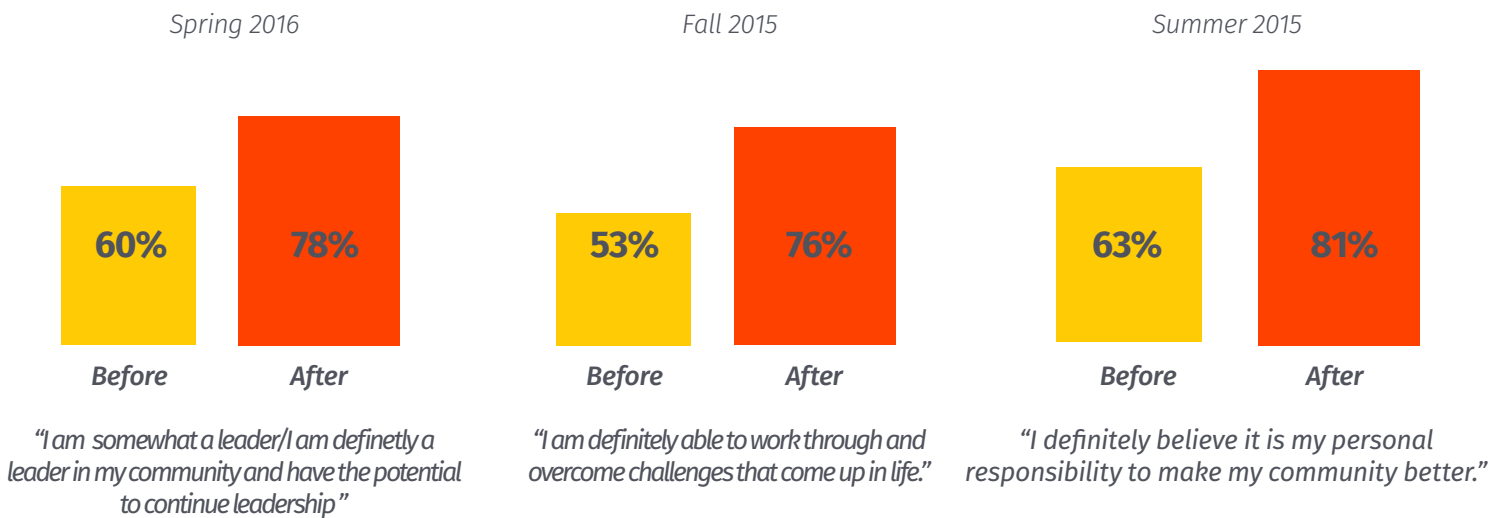
YOUTH AS ENGAGED CITIZENS

GOAL: Challenge youth to express a strengthened identity as active, powerful, and engaged citizens of the city of Boston, and engaged with difficult subjects in hopeful ways.

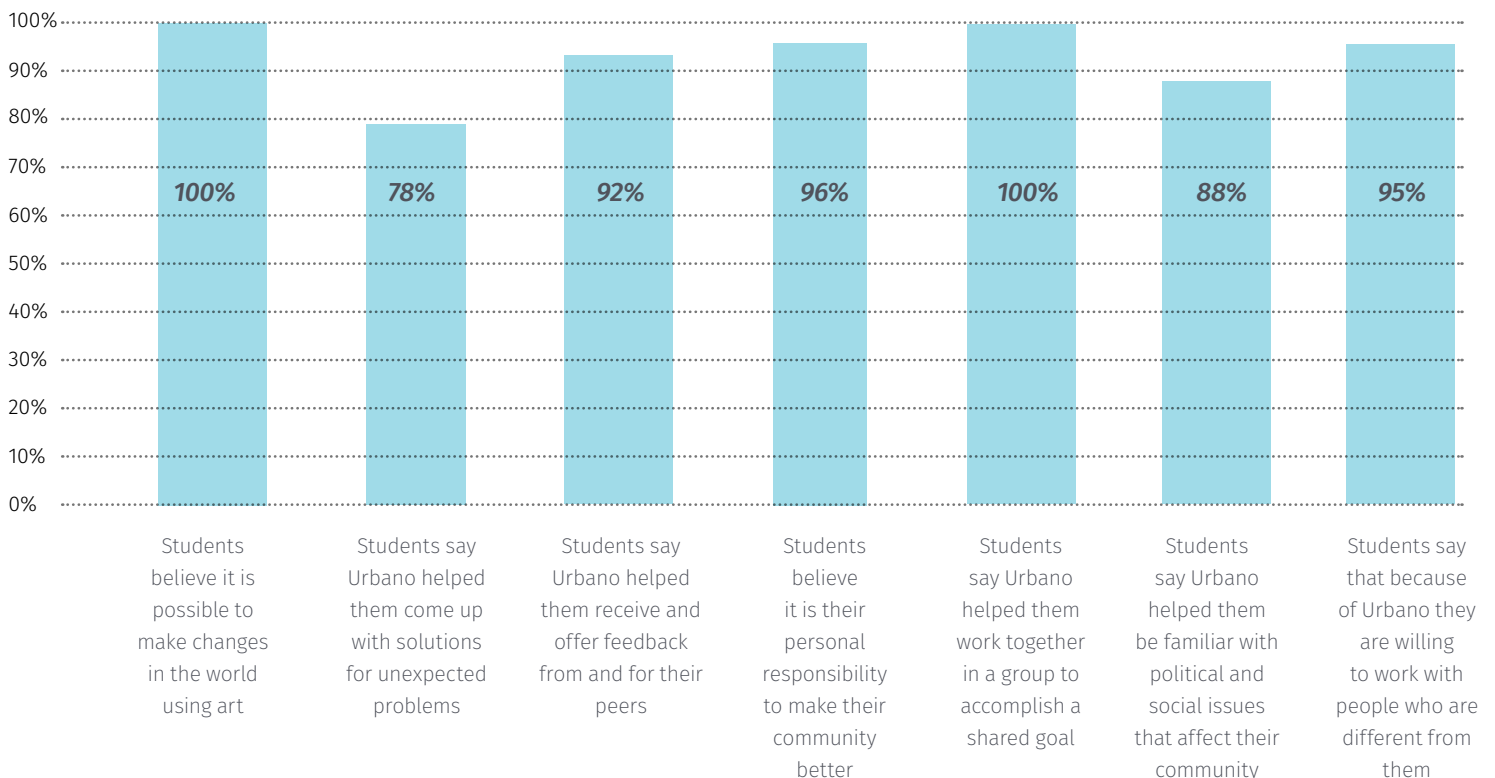
"My work has opened people's eyes to topics that they're weren't aware of. We worked together to create events to unite our community and I'm inspired to want to help my community more"

- Urbano Student, Spring 2016

Highlights from Student Pre- and Post- Survey



Students' Self-Reported Civic Engagement Learning While Participating in Urbano Programs (Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2015, N=112)



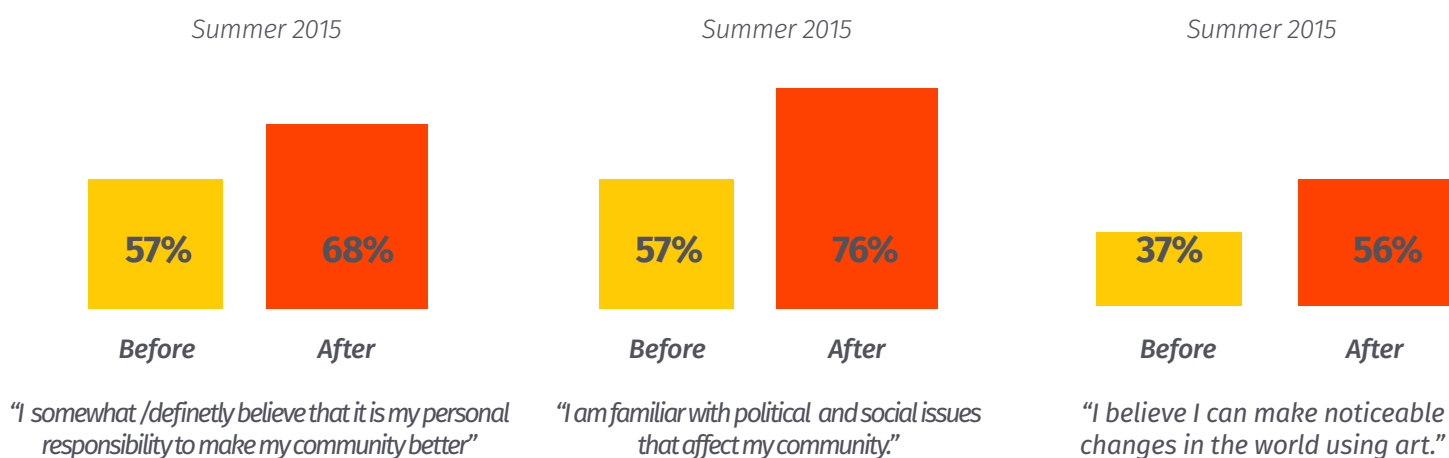
COMMUNITY IMPACT

GOAL: Promote civic engagement through participatory and publicly sited works of art that address the major issues of our times, and develop a corps of positively engaged youth who serve as leaders in their communities.

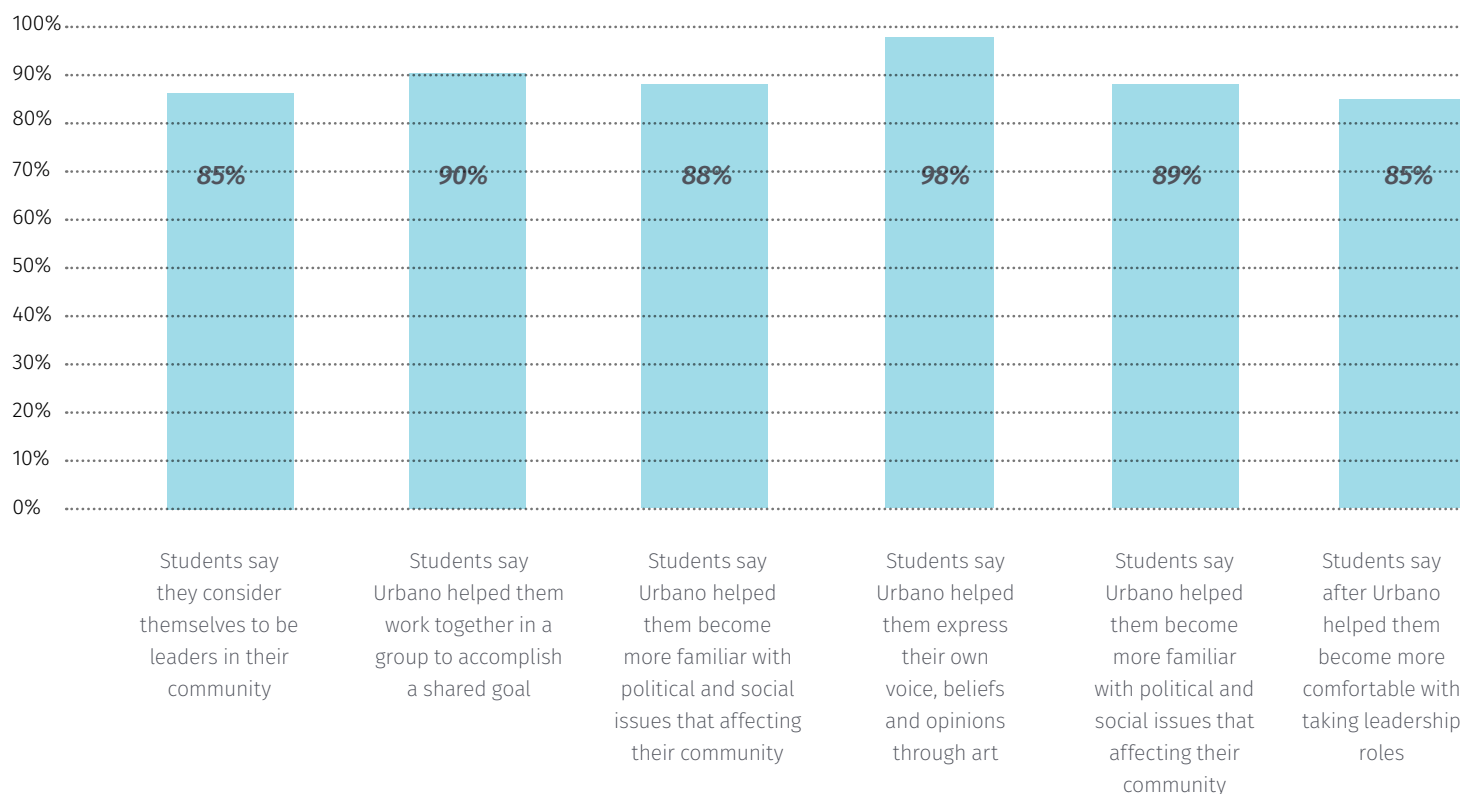
"My goal at Urbano was to change the community into a better place. I definitely did that and more."

- Urbano Student, Fall 2015

Highlights from Student Pre- and Post- Survey



Students' Self-Reported Perception of Community Impact as a Result of Urbano Programs: Community Building and Connection Making Skills Honed through Urbano (Summer 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016, N=112)



We are grateful for recent successes in building support and capacity. The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) awarded Urbano Project a one-year grant in the category Art Works supporting our two core programs: Artists' Projects and Urbano Fellows. This commitment from a national funder gives us the opportunity of being part of a bigger network of organizations that work towards extend the arts to underserved populations. We are finishing our first year as participants in the Bloomberg Philanthropies' Arts Innovation and Management program led by DeVos Institute of Arts Management. Among the themes that we have covered in this program were cultivation strategies, institutional marketing and artistic planning. Our participation in this program is part of a two-year, \$35,000, grant, which was received by Urbano last year. In addition, we are closing our first year of a three-year, \$150,000 grant approved last year by the Surdna Foundation towards general operating support and creative placemaking initiatives.

The Boston Cultural Council also awarded Urbano a \$4,000 grant, which is among the highest awards in the City. Moreover, we have received for the first time a \$10,000 grant from the Clipper Ship Foundation.

FY15-16 also included \$50,000, The Boston Foundation; \$30,000, Barr Foundation; \$20,000, Shapiro Family Foundation; \$15,000, Robbins-de Beaumont Foundation; \$10,000, Foley Hoag Foundation; \$14,200, MCC Youth Reach; \$10,000, Peters Memorial Fund; \$5,000, Esther B. Kahn Foundation; \$3,000, BSA Foundation (Boston Society of Architecture); \$5,000, MCC Peers; \$1,500, EdVestors Arts Fund, and contributions from individuals and board members.

Board Members

Todd M. Gershkowitz (Board Chair)
Etty Padmodipoetro (Treasurer)
Andrea Sachdeva (Clerk)
Betty Fulton
Alexandre V. Swayne
Daniel D'Oca
Doris Sommer

Foundations

Barr Foundation
Bloomberg Philanthropies
BSA Foundation
Clipper Ship Foundation
EdVestors
Esther B. Kahn Foundation
Foley Hoag Foundation
Klarman Family Foundation
Peters Memorial Fund 1
Robbins de Beaumont Foundation
Shapiro Family Foundation
Surdna Foundation
The Boston Foundation

Government

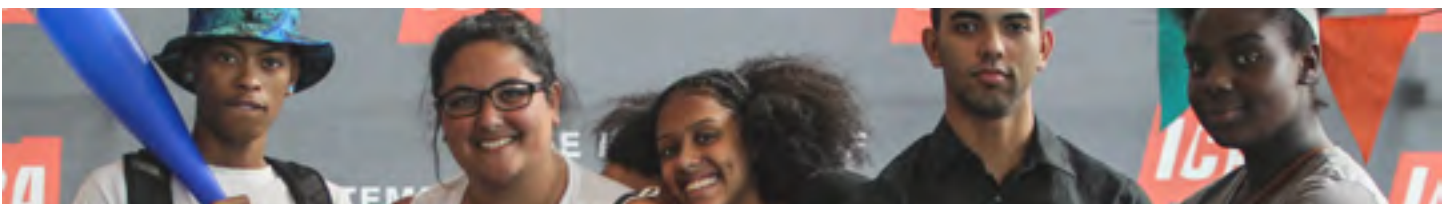
Boston Cultural Council
Massachusetts Cultural Council
National Endowment for the Arts
New England Foundation for the Arts

Corporate

East Boston Savings Bank
Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corp.
State Street Corporation

Community Collaborators

Egleston Square Main Streets
Boston Public Library, Egleston Branch
Video Underground
Ula Cafe



Lina Maria Giraldo

Lina Maria Giraldo is a Boston and New York based artist, focused in creative technology, media arts, and interactive design. Giraldo holds an MPS in Interactive Communications from the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University, where she was the recipient of both the Tisch School Scholarship and the Paulette Goddard Scholarship. She started her career in the Fine Arts program at the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, Colombia. While studying Interrelated Media at Massachusetts College of Art, she was awarded the Tsongas Scholarship and graduated with Departmental Honors and Academic Distinction. Giraldo creates screen-based, computer-generated art work using video, photography and data. Her art incorporates contemporary forms and motifs such as video games, repetition, and advertising. In some of her interactive work, the audience has control of the story. Most of her work involves taking photos or videos of what we consume and collecting data on it. She then re-contextualizes the data via animation and composite images. As a Colombian immigrant living in the United States, Giraldo makes work that has focused mainly on environmental issues, immigration, and community. Her work explores the search for a Utopia - a society that is responsible for its consumption and understands its environment.

Giraldo was a teaching artist at Urbano facilitating the Artists' Project City Journalist, a project that engaged Urbano's teen artists in interviewing business owners and community members in the local neighborhood of Egleston Square. In collaboration with Urbano's teens, Giraldo created video installations in Egleston Square that shared the stories and interviews, showcasing members of the community in a way that was beautiful, educational, and reflective of Egleston Square's vibrancy. Giraldo and her artworks have been highlighted in news sources like WGBH, The Boston Globe, The



Lina Maria Giraldo



Screenshot of City Journalist Video

Boston Phoenix, Big Red and Shiny, and the South End News as well as local TV shows and ABC news.

Lina's website: <http://www.linamariagiraldo.com/>
City Journalist blog: <http://egleston.us>

Salvador Jiménez-Flores

Salvador Jiménez-Flores has contributed to the Midwest art scene by producing a mixture of socially conscious installations, public art, and studio-based art. Born and raised in the small town of Jamay in Jalisco, México, Jiménez-Flores moved to the U.S. with his family in 2000 when he was 15 years old. He received a Bachelors of Applied Arts in Graphic Design at Chicago's Robert Morris University and a Master's of Fine Arts from Kendall College of Art and Design in Grand Rapids, MI. Jiménez-Flores has exhibited his work in numerous solo and group exhibitions in México, Nicaragua, and the USA. Since completing his Master's Degree, he has worked as a Community Arts Advocate, and a member of Next Art Chicago, in addition to continuing his own artistic practices.

Jiménez-Flores primarily works with ceramics and mixed media, and is this year's artist-in-residence at Harvard University's Ceramic Program. A self-defined, "nomadic artist," he creates art that considers the concept of cross-cultural identities, cultural adaptation, and coping with transition. His artwork brings together myth, history, religion, politics, and popular culture, and is driven by his life experiences. As an artist, Jiménez-Flores considers himself an activist and is committed to creating art that helps communities flourish. Jiménez-Flores is leading the Urbano Fellows program at The Urbano Project since January, 2016.

Salvador's website: <http://www.salvadorjimenezflores.com/>



Salvador Jiménez-Flores and his artwork at Urbano



"Dust to Dust," Unfired Clay, 18" X 18" X 4" 2015

Urbano Project and Egleston Square Main Street partnered to produce Egleston Winter Festival; Lighting the Commons, a day-long arts festival on Saturday, December 12th in Egleston Square. The intergenerational community festival featured the traditional “lighting of the tree” and was also the culmination of Urbano Project’s fall semester and its ongoing creative engagement with the Egleston Square community.

Inaugural Egleston Winter Festival featured art installations, exhibitions and performances by Urbano Project’s artists (teachers and students) including: light installations, video projections, murals, poetry readings and public performances. Based on the success of the Egleston Winter Festival, Urbano looks forward to making the event an annual neighborhood tradition.

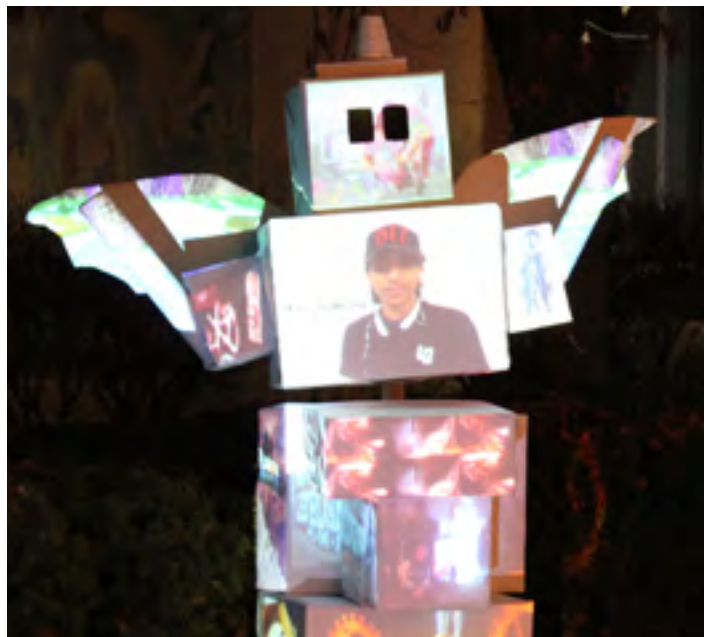
“One of our goals at Urbano is to create social change through the arts, using the development of artistic mastery and place-based education to build skills that will empower our students to actually transform their communities in a positive way,” says Urbano Executive Director, Stella Aguirre McGregor. “I can think of no better opportunity for our students than to be able to share some of the fruits of our most recent project, The Commons, with the neighborhood that inspired it.”



Fellows Light Installation at Egleston Winter Festival



Public Art Take Back! at Egleston Winter Festival



Mappatron Video Installation at Egleston Winter Festival

12:00-6:00PM – Urbano Pop Up Exhibition, Millennium Restaurant (3094 Washington St.)

Photographs by Urbano Project artists documenting the Egleston community.

2:00 PM – Searching Lines, Sculptural & Light Installation, Egleston Public Library (2044 Columbus Ave), Egleston Y (3135 Washington St.), and Lending Library at the Peace Garden (3129 Washington St.)

Searching Lines has collaborated with the Egleston Square Library and the community to create original poetry and visuals that represent, respond to, and act in dialogue with Egleston. These site-specific works will be displayed and lit in the front library windows, with wood drawings hung throughout the back garden.

“Letters to Egleston” is an epistolary poem project in which youth artists have written poem-letters to the community. These letters, as well as a poetry chapbook, will be available at the lending library.

2:30 PM – Fellows Mural Team – Boylston St. Mural Initiative, new mural unveiling at corner of Boylston St. & Brookside Ave.

The Fellows Mural Team coordinated the curatorial process and production of three new murals to be installed along the corner of Boylston St. & Brookside Ave. Answering to the theme “Reflections of our Neighborhood,” the murals by artists Nora Valdez, Julia Pimes Mata, and Urbano Fellows will be unveiled.

3:00 PM – Public Art Take Back! at Stone Garden (corner of Washington St. & Columbus Ave.)

The Public Art Take Back! team is presenting two interactive community game pieces. The first game, “Pinball: Share and Care” is set at Stone Garden; the other, “Step & Sweep Stake” follows the first and is a mobile piece that begins at the Stone Garden and ends at the Peace Garden.

4:00 PM – City Journalists, video installations, at Jackson Glass (3195 Washington St.), Bravo Pharmacy (3158 Washington St), Caribbean Consultant (3133 Washington St.) and Egleston Y (3135 Washington St.)

City journalists have been documenting the community of Egleston with a series of questions from their life, their vision and personal roots. They use different tools to tell unique stories collected from different points of view, in photos, videos and sounds. We will have 5 video rear projections located at the Y, Caribbean Consultant, Jackson Glass and Bravo Pharmacy.

4:15 PM – Fellows Light Team, Light Installation, at Peace Garden (3129 Washington St.)

The Fellows Light Team is working to creatively light the landscape of the Egleston Square Peace Garden. In collaboration with Egleston Square Main Streets, lighting will highlight special features in this public community space. Both traditional and nontraditional holiday lighting techniques will be used by the art student participants.

4:15 PM – CHiKA, Mappathon© installation, outside Egleston Y (3135 Washington St.)
A projection mapping sculpture object, created in collaboration with CHiKA and Urbano students.

5:00 PM – Egleston Square tree lighting by Mayor Walsh, Peace Garden (3129 Washington St.)

5:30 PM – The Flip, Spoken word performance, at Video Underground (3203 Washington St.)

Students from the Flip project will perform spoken word pieces at Video Underground based on interviews they conducted with various members of the Egleston community. The pieces performed cover an array of topics including, race, poverty, and gentrification.



**FESTIVAL
de
INVIERNO
en
EGLESTON**

Alumbrando la Comunidad EGLESTON WINTER FESTIVAL Lighting the Commons

December 12 - 2-6pm

URBANO
City Journalists



Acompáñenos a nuestro Festival Inter-generacional en la comunidad de Egleston Square! Presentando los trabajos artísticos del Urbano Project en colaboración con la comunidad de Egleston y la iluminación del árbol con el Alcalde Walsh. Para mas información visitar www.urbano-project.org

FESTIVAL LEGEND

1. Biblioteca Publica de Egleston - Esculturas de luz y madera - Searching Lines
2. Estreno de murales en Boylston St. - Urbano Fellows, Nora Valdez y Julia Pimes Mata
3. Jardín de Piedras - Limpieza y Juego Comunitario - Public Art Take Back!
4. Bravo Pharmacy - Proyección de Video - City Journalist
5. Caribbean Consultant - Proyección de Video - City Journalist
6. Jackson Glass - Proyección de Video - City Journalist y The Flip
7. Egleston Square Y - Mappathon© escultura de video - ChiKA
 - Proyección de Video - City Journalist
 - Exhibición de arte - Y Young Achievers
 - Actividad comunitaria de poesia y dibujo - Searching Lines
8. Peace Garden - Iluminación del árbol con el Alcalde Walsh
 - Música y proyección de video en vivo - BLKBX y SAMO
 - Esculturas de Luz en corredor de Peace Garden - Urbano Fellows
 - Instalación artística - Cartas a Egleston - Searching Lines
9. Millenium Restaurant - Exhibición Fotográfica de Urbano Project
10. Video Underground - Declamación de poesia - The Flip

Support for Urbano Project is provided by

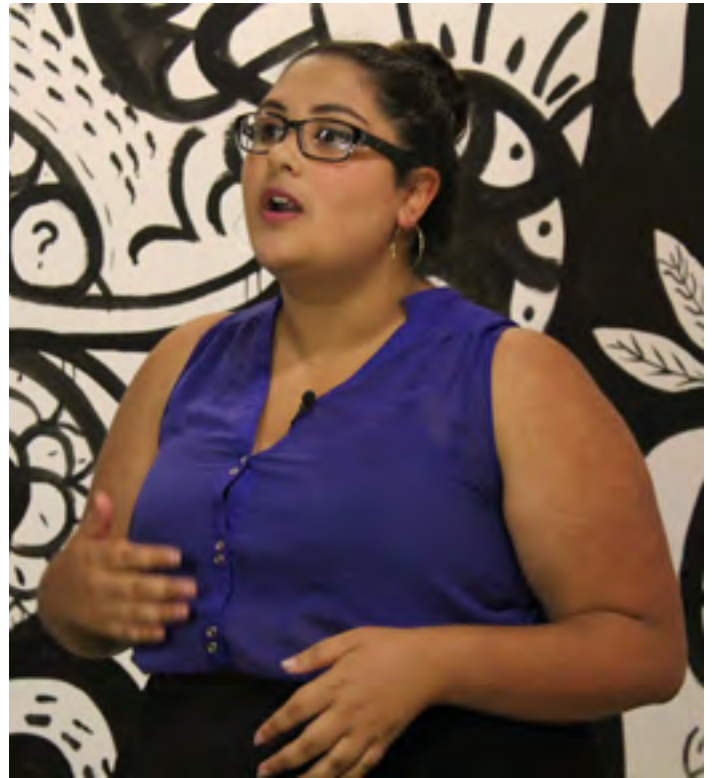


Additional support for Lina Maria Giraldo's City Journalists is provided by NEFA through the Creative City program. Support for Boylston Street Mural Project is provided by JPNOC and Boston Beer Company.

Urbano Project has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. It's been a family affair with both of my older sisters taking classes. At first I didn't want to join simply on the basis that I didn't want to be the third one in my family to go through this program. Still, one day my best friend convinced me to join with her and I haven't looked back since.

Joining in the Spring of 2013, my first program was *Crossing Urban Boundaries*. We were given the opportunity to speak directly with members of the MBTA and that experience is something I will never forget. From then on I was hooked. I was never the most artistic in my family and I still can't draw or paint, but Urbano gave me something else; a voice. As an Urbano Fellow, I discovered the power of public speaking. I was pushed outside my comfort zone at each Urbano assembly, given more and more responsibilities in leading groups in conversation and critiques. I've since put on presentations from 10 to 100 people, completely unfazed by the audience thanks to the practice I got at Urbano. Urbano also taught me how research, cut linoleum, and the best way to put marshmallows on chicken wire. The greatest thing Urbano taught me was that expressing my opinions is important and has the potential to shift views.

I continued to work with Urbano as a student through the fall of 2013 and an Urbano Fellow until the summer of 2015. I graduated from Newton South High School in June of 2015 and went on to attend Denison University. I have since completed my first year at Denison and have returned to Urbano as a Summer Teaching Assistant. Through my first year at Denison I ran an event for the first-year student body to discuss campus experiences; I spoke in front of 50 students about race and sexual orientation. I also joined two executive boards for culture based organizations and interned at the campus radio station.



Urbano Project Alumni, Serena Allegro

In the fall I will be returning as the First Year coordinator for the LGBTQ group on campus, a projectionist for the film society, a radio DJ on WDUB, Vice President of the Student Farmworker Alliance, and a member of the board overseeing all 18 cultural organizations on campus. Everything I learned at Urbano has influenced my ability to get involved in these programs. From learning how to conduct interviews to how to throw a good public event, are skills I picked up during my Urbano experience. One of Urbano's biggest influence was introducing me to the world of film editing. My Urbano class, *Square Roots of Boston*, provided my first opportunity for film creation. I've fell in love with the art of filmmaking and am now a Cinema and History double major in College. My eventual dream is to graduate and travel making documentaries about life in the world around me and I know the skills Urbano shared with me will help me get there.

-Serena Allegro
June 2016

Urbano Project was delighted to launch its new exhibition series with Salvador Jiménez-Flores's show, "I Am Not Who You Think I Am." The opening reception took place on Friday, April 29th as part of ArtWeek Boston. This public event also included an artist talk by Salvador and a live performance by Radio Jarocho.

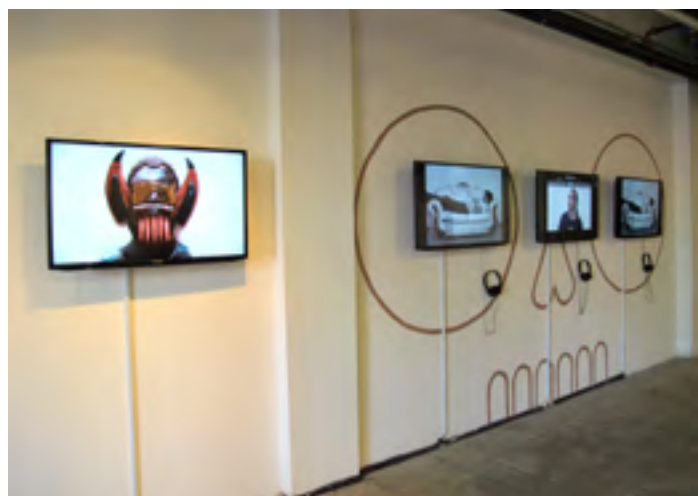
Salvador's exhibition combined ceramics, installation, prints and video to explore a fusion of myth, history, religion, politics, and popular culture. The exhibition continued Salvador's ongoing work of addressing social issues that affected his community and identity as a Mexican-born artist living in the United States. Beyond just creating awareness about relevant social issues, Salvador proposed actions through art.

Salvador's show was curated in support of Urbano's creative theme, "The Commons | The Other." Urbano's artists, project facilitators, and youth work with community members to address themes of racial, ethnic, cultural and urban identity and representation embedded within our communities. The goal of Urbano's place-based projects is to develop social / creative laboratories to increase inter-group understanding, tolerance and civic culture in the city of Boston.

The Exhibition brought more than 350 new audience members to Urbano.



"Tokenism" Installation by Jiménez-Flores



Subconscious Dream Installation by Jiménez-Flores



Ceramic and Terra Cotta Slip Installation by Jiménez-Flores



Radio Jarocho Performance at Opening Reception

Urbano Project redoubled its outreach efforts in FY2016 to better engage both community collaborators and prospective youth artists. In addition to conventional outreach such as email newsletters and local press engagement, Urbano Project expanded its digital efforts with coordinated social media campaigns to include [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Tumblr](#).

Our outreach efforts, now better aligned with how today's youth communicate information and ideas with one another and their community, served as a valuable lesson in self-promotion for our youth artists. Youth initiated outreach highlights included interviews on WRBB and [Boston's Neighborhood Nightly News](#). In addition to these exciting press accomplishments, Urbano produced its own *What is Urbano* video to help communicate its goals and ambitions. This video can be viewed on the [Urbano Project Vimeo](#) website.

Urbano Project was also featured on [WCVB's Cityline](#) as part of an episode dedicated to Boston's youth art programs.



Social Media Graphic Tiles from Campaigns in FY2016



Public Art Take Back! on WRBB in Promotion of Performance

Urbano Project participated in a number of special events in FY2016 ranging from conferences at Harvard University and Emerson College to community happenings in and outside its Jamaica Plain studio. Urbano contributed to the “Different Lenses, One Vision” conference at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health. Urbano Fellows presented recent work as part of a teen arts panel and curated a pop-up exhibition featuring recent Urbano projects.



Visiting Delegates from Georgia, Russia

Lina Maria Giraldo presented her *City Journalists*, work with Urbano Project youth artists at the 2016 Americans for the Arts Annual Convention in Boston and the Boston Civic Media: Design, Technology and Civic Media conference at Emerson College.

Urbano launched the Egleston Winter Festival with a day-long intergenerational place-based art event in Egleston Square, Jamaica Plain. Urbano youth also participated in Jamaica Plain’s annual *Wake Up the Earth* festival by marching in the parade and debuting its *Nomadic Civic Sculpture* across the Stonybrook T station.



Urbano Youth Artists Marching in Wake Up the Earth Parade

Urbano’s reach continues to grow; Urbano was honored to host visiting delegates from the Republic of Georgia whom were researching the use of youth arts programs to help solve Caucasus social problems in their own urban



Urbano Fellows Participating in Youth Arts Panel at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

City Journalist 1

Artistic Ethnography and Media

Teaching Artist: Lina Maria Giraldo

Information changes as technology is more accessible to everybody. Everyday stories are available in seconds thanks to fast connections, the improvement in quality and the number of apps. The cellphone is no longer an element that is used only for the purpose of making phone calls, but is the tool to connect with your social networks, as well as access, photos, videos, geotags and hashtags. Thanks to cellphone videos and photos, people's innocence about the abuse of power has been documented and exposed. In this project teen artists used their cellphones to interview the Egleston Square Community. City Journalist concentrated on the Washington Street area, particularly the places where they share interests: its businesses. From convenience stores and barber shops to restaurants, the goal was to provide a platform for a voice that seems to be forgotten in the struggle of quick gentrification and cultural displacement.



Interviewing Business Owners in Egleston Square



Square-Specific Theatre Installation at Urbano

Square-Specific Theatre

Experimental Theatre and Performance

Teaching Artists: Stephanie Brownell and Laura Detwiler

Through hands-on exploration of four core theatrical techniques—Devised Theatre, Documentary Theatre, Site-Specific Theatre, and Theatre of the Oppressed—students learned techniques and ethics for creating an open dialogue with a community through art. Students interacted with community members regularly throughout the summer to build trust and understanding before creating a performance project inspired by and dedicated to Egleston Square. The final performances were based on information gathered through interviews, surveys, activities, mini-performance events, and physical exploration within the community. The youth artists did not alter existing spaces or communities through their explorations, but instead allowed them to shine through a new light.

Urbano Fellows, Boylston Street Mural Initiative
 Visual Public Art
Teaching Artist: Ximena Alejandra Izquierdo

The Urbano Fellows are an exemplary group of program alumni who have participated in Urbano's programs for at least two semesters. These teens explore Boston's contemporary art scene, conducting studio and gallery visits and meeting with professional artists and curators. Through site visits with artists, muralists, curators and designers, the Fellows garner familiarity with the politics behind and at the forefront of urban development ventures, as they are taking place in the Egleston Square neighborhood. For the summer, the Fellows explored these questions through the process of planning 3 new murals for the Boylston Public Art Corridor. For the fall, the Fellows and artists Nora Valdez and Julia Pimes Mata developed several murals for the Boylston Public Art Corridor and participated in organizing Urbano's Winter Light Festival.



Preparing the Mural Panels in the Studio



Murals Installed on Boylston Street, Jamaica Plain

Urbano Fellows, Nomadic Civic Sculpture
 Visual Public Art
Teaching Artist: Salvador Jimenez Flores

The Urbano Fellows are an exemplary group of alumni who have participated in Urbano's programs for at least two semesters. This course sought to increase the understanding of what art and social practice are through researching and understanding public spaces as a form of social wellness. The final product was a civic sculpture that was used as a community engagement tool for social visioning and awareness around issues of youth violence, gentrification and incarceration. Watch a short video feature on the Fellow's *Nomadic Civic Sculpture* by visiting the [Urbano Project Vimeo page](#).



Civic Nomadic Sculpture Makes Egleston Square Debut



Wheeling the Civic Nomadic Sculpture at Wake Up the Earth Festival

Searching Lines

Public Art, Journalism and Writing

Teaching Artists: Sara Rivera

Searching Lines was an on-site, community based public art project that involved the identification, study, and transformation of public space. This project began with locating and investigating sites in Egleston Square through one-day experiments in journalism (poetry, micro-stories, and journalistic writing), visual responses (drawing, site-specific installation and construction), and some performative/participatory intervention. The project developed an art piece for each site and culminated with a light and sculptural installation at the Boston Public Library-Egleston Branch for the Egleston Winter Festival.



Searching Lines Installation in Urbano Gallery



City Journalist Explores Neighborhood Green Space

City Journalist 2

Artistic Ethnography and Media

Teaching Artist: Lina Maria Giraldo

On the second stage of the course, the youth artists went from planning to implementation. *City Journalist* concentrated on the Washington Street area, particularly the places where they share interests: its businesses. From convenience stores and barber shops to restaurants, the goal was to provide a platform for a voice that seems to be forgotten in the struggle of quick gentrification and cultural displacement. Video installations at storefronts in Egleston Square and a video mapping collaboration with CHICKA were featured at the Egleston Winter Festival.



Sharing Work-In-Progress

The Flip 1

Lyrical Writing, Hip Hop and Video

Teaching Artists: Rene Dongo and Jesse Winfrey

Through audio interviews and spoken word poetry participants explored the physical spaces and character of Egleston Square. Youth created audio profiles of community members, while also producing original spoken word poetry that was performed in bodegas, fire stations and food spots as part of two mini poetry tours. 'The Flip' was about flipping spaces, creating stages in every-day locations, flipping the storefronts and people of Egleston inside out as to see what people are doing, who they are and what they expect from their community. Work samples can be heard on the [Urbano Soundcloud](#). The project culminated with a spoken word performance at Video Underground as part of the Egleston Winter Festival.

Public Art Take Back! 1

Public Art, Performance, Meditation, Music

Teaching Artists: Loreto Paz Ansaldo, Dey Hernandez and Aparna Das

In Public Art Take Back! Youth artists created self-directed, multi-media performative public cultural plans to address root causes of gentrification and how these manifest in Egleston Square. Youth worked with music from various cultures, percussion using everyday objects, design, writing, dance, theater, martial arts and healing yoga. In addition, youth planned all aspects of its public performance at the Egleston Winter Festival, from location scouting and budgeting to outreach and social media.



Public Art Take Back! Performance at Egleston Winter Festival

The Flip 2

Lyrical Writing, Hip Hop and Video

Teaching Artists: Rene Dongo and Jesse Winfrey

Through audio interviews and spoken word poetry participants explored the physical spaces and character of Egleston Square. Youth created audio profiles of community members ,while also producing original spoken word poetry that was performed in bodegas, fire stations and food spots as part of two mini poetry tours. 'The Flip' was about flipping spaces, creating stages in every- day locations, flipping the storefronts and people of Egleston inside out as to see what people are doing, who they are and what they expect from their community. During the Spring, youth artists created their own songs, music and videos, which were integrated into a mixtape. Visit the [Urbano Project Vimeo page](#) or [Souncloud account](#) to hear work samples from *The Flip*.



The Flip Brainstorms Lyrical Compositions in the Studio



Public Art Take Back! Youth Team

Public Art Take Back 2

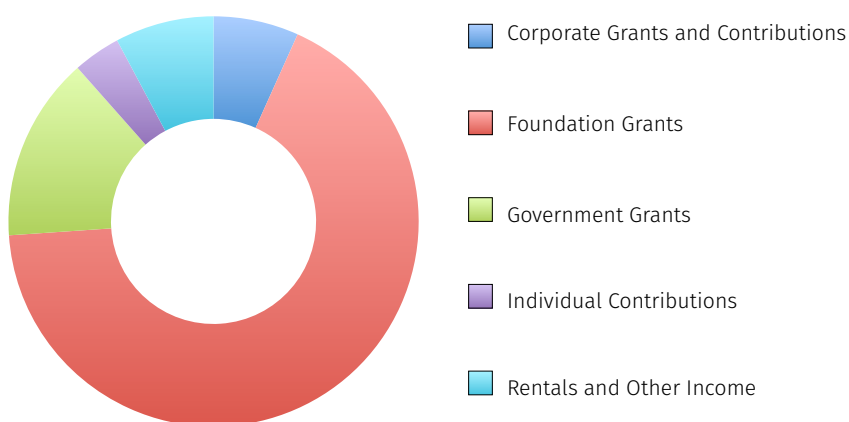
Public Art, Performance, Meditation, Music

Teaching Artists: Loreto Paz Ansaldo, Reynaliz Herrera, Pradhuman Nayak

In *Public Art Take Back!* Youth artists created self-directed, multi-media performative public cultural plans to address root causes of gentrification and how these manifest in Egleston Square. Youth worked with music from various cultures, percussion using everyday objects, design, writing, dance, theater, martial arts and healing yoga. In addition, youth planned and executed all aspects of the public event at the Egleston Square Peace Garden, from location scouting and budgeting to social media and promotion. Outreach successes included interviews on WRBB and [Boston's Neighborhood Nightly News](#).

Income

Corporate Grants and contributions	\$26,900.00
Foundation Grants	\$268,750.00
Government Grants	\$58,200.00
Individual Contributions	\$14,966.00
Rentals and Other Income	\$31,164.00
Total Income	\$399,980.00



Expenses

General Operations & Administrative	\$49,652.00
Fundraising	\$17,678.00
Programs	\$309,884.00
Marketing	\$8,774.00
Total Expenses	\$385,988.00

