

## RESEARCH REQUEST FORM

Name: Claire Schneider

Phone Number: 716-884-3971

Email: [claire@cs1projects.org](mailto:claire@cs1projects.org)

Organization: C.S.1 Curatorial Projects & Nick Cave PLENTY: A Citywide Celebration of Buffalo

Description: Led by acclaimed international artist Nick Cave, **PLENTY** is the multi-arts, multi-generational collaborative artmaking experience teaming schools, neighborhood organizations, cultural groups, local artists, and families with the goal of creating new pathways toward a more equitable Buffalo.

### Objectives:

1. COMMUNITY – Build deep, working, and trusting relationships across neighborhoods by creating a large, joyful, citywide production together.
2. JOBS – Provide opportunities for local - visual, dance, music, word - artists to expand their practices, networks and visibility.
3. EQUITY – Consciously recruit artists from all ethnicities regardless of organizational or professional status, as a means of incubating talent, building confidence, and professional expertise.
4. EDUCATION – Seed the next generation of artists and equity oriented cultural leaders across a range of media. Generate a sense of pride, understanding, and future possibility for all K-12 students across Western New York by providing a free Educator Resource Guide that celebrates their own and the city's abundant history of innovation, resourcefulness, and immigrant traditions.
5. ARTMAKING – Believes in “art as diplomacy” - as a safe, positive, participatory, conversation generating activity where respect, empathy, and connection can be nurtured. Art is a powerful tool for the transformation of society and individuals.

C.S.1 Curatorial Projects is leading this initiative as it steams from our organization's commitment to building community through creative art projects in unexpected spaces. By collaborating with a wide range of artists (visual, dance, music, word), individuals, and institutions, C.S.1 is dedicated in giving artists opportunities to grow and expand their practices and reach new audiences. A large part of this is supporting local and under-appreciated talent and expanding their networks locally, nationally, and internationally. C.S.1 believes in art as a positive, conversation generating activity where respect, empathy and connection are nurtured and society and individuals are transformed.

Research: Research the percentage of arts dollars being invested in artists of color in Buffalo. This would include researching organizations dedicated to supporting artists of color, as well as the percentage or dollars amounts spent by more mainstream organizations, like museums and municipal entities. It would also be important to parse out what percentage of dollars go through mainstream organizations vs. directly to artists of color or projects generated outside of mainstream institutions.

A recent *Inside Philanthropy* [article](#) highlighted: "Individual donors don't consciously ignore diverse organizations out of spite or prejudice. Rather, many donors "would rather give money to a white theater doing a black play than a black theater doing a multiracial play," said Michael Dinwiddie, president of the Black Theatre Network.

Title: Percentage of Arts Dollars being Invested in Artists of Color in Greater Buffalo

Date: Ideally Jan. 15, 2019

How: 1) Give a clearer picture to funders and artists alike about where our community's resources are currently going and help support more money being invested in artists of color, their projects, and their infrastructure.

2) Help quantify the impact of PLENTY to persons of color as well as to Buffalo writ large and in doing so to drive even greater success in this transformative project's fundraising efforts.

What (if any) other community groups are involved:

1. Say Yes to Education Buffalo
2. Silo City
3. Buffalo Public Schools, Art Education
4. Open Buffalo
5. Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
6. Olmstead Parks Conservancy
7. Drea D'Nur, Spirit of Nina
8. Williamsville Central School, English Teacher, Michelle S. Holden
9. Office of David Rivera, Majority Leader of Buffalo Common Council
10. Hispanic Heritage Council
11. Torn Space Theater
12. UB: Humanities Institute, School of Architecture & Planning, Departments of Media Study, Sculpture, Visual Studies, Dance Studies, Dance, Design & Technology in Theater and Dance, History, Psychology
13. Arts Service Initiative
14. Explore Buffalo
15. Robin Hibbert, Young Audience Teaching Artist
16. Annette Daniels Taylor, Poet, Playwright, Actress, Multi-Media Artist

Resources: C.S.1 would support this endeavor in whatever way it can, from providing introductions to various communities, helping to access IRS 990 forms, people to interview, as well as providing intern support.