



# 2020 PAWTUCKET ARTS FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 4TH - 13TH

*In times of crisis, we need culture to make us resilient, give us hope and remind us that we are not alone. Bringing people together, inspiring, soothing and sharing: these are the powers of art, the importance of which has been made emphatically obvious during the COVID-19 pandemic.*

- Audrey Azoulay UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization



PAWT

ARTS



FEST



## 2020 AT A GLANCE

**The 2020 arts festival staff and volunteers**, the city staff and the people of Pawtucket met the challenge of Covid-19 and persevered, holding a safe and fun event that everyone should be proud of.

Though we couldn't hold many of our normal events we still offered an incredible selection of presentations and performances. Where we saw cancelations of the popular Slater Park Fall Festival, Taiwanese Day and Dragon Boat races the festival still featured approximately twenty performances during the festival's ten-day run. Our opening night was a presentation of a public mural at SHRI Yoga highlighting one of the many Arts Panel Grant recipients. We had our first Drive-in movie as the Pawtucket Film Festival was forced to adapt to new health and safety regulations, held our first virtual events with Culture Shock and the Gallery 175 Virtual Art Exhibition. We also gained new festival partners as the Comedy Connection put on a showcase of comedians on the banks of the Blackstone utilizing Veterans Memorial Amphitheater which also was home to a number of other shows

Despite a significant fundraising shortfall due to covid, all but one of these events were free to the public, continuing our mission to make the arts festival available to everyone. This was also our second consecutive year of running "in the black" as we continue to restructure our funding model. We also made significant progress in obtaining our non-profit status.

Festival staff followed all state and city guidelines for Covid-19, including mandatory mask wearing, social distancing protocol and sanitizing procedures. In collecting contact tracing information of all attendees and performers we were very happy that not a single case of Covid-19 was attributed to any Arts Festival event. This is something we are extremely proud of and couldn't have been accomplished without the cooperation of the attendees and the dedicated work of the city staff that support the festival.







## TEN31'S ENCHANTED GARDEN

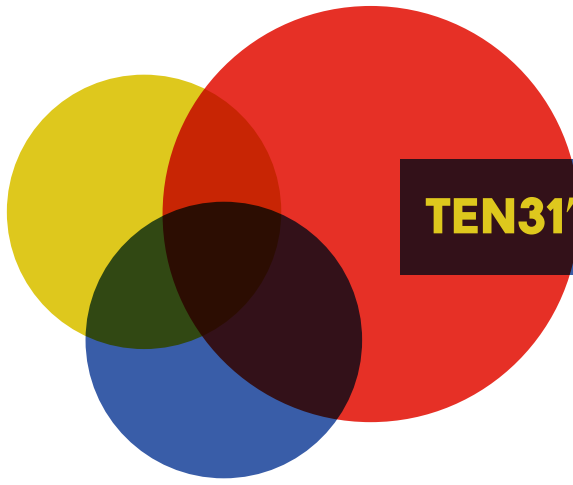


“We knew it was going to be a challenge engaging the public with any sort of performance this year because of COVID restrictions. Working together with the Festival and the Public works department we were able to present two events, an Enchanted Garden and Scavenger Hunt, at Slater park. Both events were offered free to the public and adhered to COVID guidelines, by having all performers and attendees wear masks and practice social distancing. Public works provided us with informative signage that was stationed frequently throughout one way and designated pathways. We reached our goal of having 200 people for each event. We look forward to working again with the Pawtucket Art Festival in 2021, applying everything that we learned from 2020 to ensure the people of Pawtucket can attend more high quality, safe, free, family friendly events.”

Eric Auger  
TEN31 Productions







# TEN31'S LIVING ART SCAVENGER HUNT







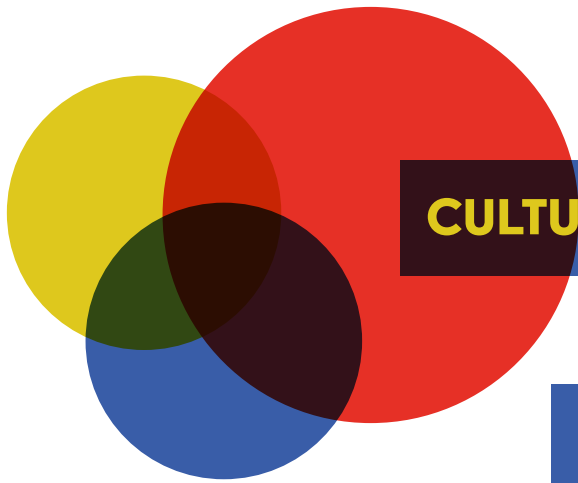
## MIXED MAGIC THEATRE 13TH ANNUAL GREATNESS OF GOSPEL CONCERT - REDEMPTION



“This was a difficult year everyone. It seemed at times the Pawtucket Arts Festival would not happen at all. But I applaud the efforts of the Festival and the staff at City Hall to continue this important tradition. Mixed Magic Theatre was honored to be a part of the events and look forward to next year.”

Ricardo Pitts-Wiley





## CULTURE SHOCK

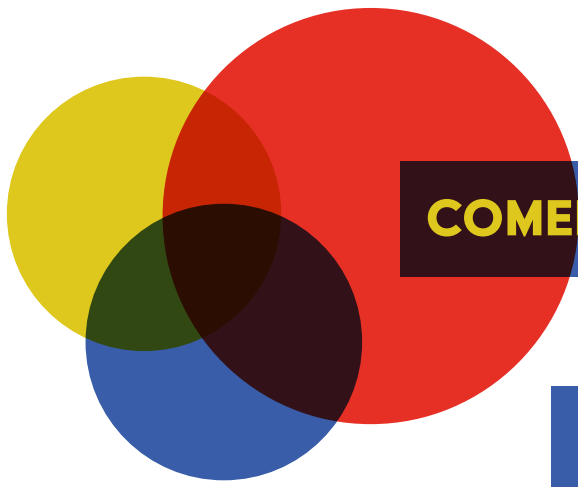


“This year we really had to flex our creative muscles and pivot our efforts in a way that was still entertaining, still progressive, and safe for all of us. I feel confident that the community understands and will appreciate our efforts. In some ways, converting Culture Shock into the virtual space opens up endless possibilities to engage more artists, more attendees, and will only continue to shine a brighter light on our festival, our artists, our sponsors, our community and our beloved city Pawtucket! Culture Shock will premier via youtube, facebook and igtv on December 21st.

-Chachi Carvalho







## COMEDY CONNECTION NIGHT



“ It was an honor to perform at this year’s festival! I didn’t really know what to expect given the circumstances, but I was very pleased with how seriously the festival handled their safety measures so all in attendance could still enjoy themselves.”

Derek K. Moore



comedy  
CONNECTION  
RHODE ISLAND



## J. MICHAEL GRAHAM



“I am so appreciative of the PAF’s continued dedication to culture and community. This year’s events presented enormous challenges for performers and audience members alike. Rather than putting its programs on pause, Pawtucket doubled down, rallied our amazing community and put together a safe series of community supported micro events, keeping COVID at bay while keeping the arts ALIVE! Thank you for giving us our hearts back; it was wonderful to perform for you all once again!”

- J. Michael Graham





# /// GRANT RECIPIENTS

## OPENING NIGHT

### "SUPPORTING PAWTUCKET" MURAL REVEAL

"Being part of the Pawtucket Arts Festival was pure joy. Socially distancing in front our new, colorful 'Supporting Pawtucket' mural, allowed us to spark some connectivity into the future revitalization plans for this vibrant community, even during the Coronavirus pandemic."

Alison Bologna



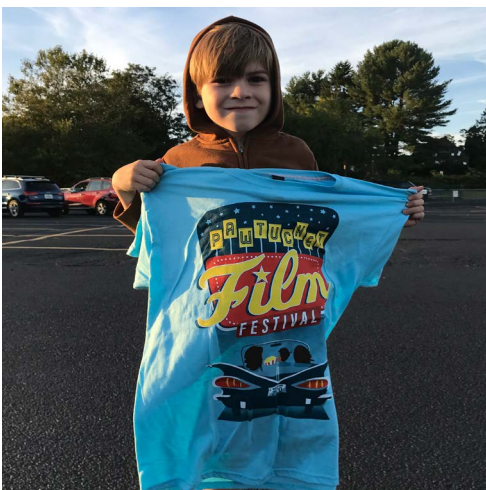
# /// GRANT RECIPIENTS

## PAWTUCKET FILM FESTIVAL

### UNDER THE STARS

We've always adapted to different performance spaces. Whether it was the visitors center, Tollman highschool or last year when EEE forced us from Slater Park to Goff Jr High at the last minute. This year was challenging in having to change our format but people seemed to love the Drive-in aspect. So much so that we might do it again. Our sincere appreciation to public works who went above and beyond for us.

Rick Roth





# /// GRANT RECIPIENTS

## ART IN THE PARK

### FLOWER JEWELRY, COMMUNITY PROJECT, KINDNESS ROCKS, FRIENDLY FIREFLIES



The Empowerment Factory is a non-profit dedicated to giving children the skills they need to lead happier, healthier, more empowered lives. We are pleased to partner with the city of Pawtucket to offer programs and events that bring joy and life skills to our city's youngest citizens. This year as part of the Pawtucket arts festival we hosted, "Art in the Park", and it was a huge success. We are grateful for your collaboration and support. Here is a quote from one of our attendees.



# /// GRANT RECIPIENTS

## ART IN THE PARK

### FLOWER JEWELRY, COMMUNITY PROJECT, KINDNESS ROCKS, FRIENDLY FIREFLIES

“I really want to express my gratitude to Miss Gail and the entire Empowerment Factory Team...You all have been a stable and positive influence in this crazy time ,not only for my granddaughters but for numerous other children. The joy, laughter, creativity n kindness that all of you bring to every class, lets all the kids (n adults) realize ...It is okay to draw, sing, dance, create and be happy no matter what is going on in the World and for that you guys have made a lifelong impact not only on all the kids but also on all the adults.”





# /// GRANT RECIPIENTS

## AUREA

### WHERE EVERYTHING IS MUSIC



Thank you to the City of Pawtucket for putting on the Pawtucket Arts Festival this past September 2020, when the logistical and safety hurdles were many. It was a real privilege for us, as artists, to be able to share “Where Everything is Music”, a program we felt was especially poignant at this challenging time for our nation and for the world. After 6 months of an artistic lockdown, we were thrilled to welcome audiences who had been deprived of live performances, in a safe, outdoor, joyful setting. It was, in fact, the only live concert we have been able to do, since March, recording programs, instead, due to the continuing virus concerns and precautions. Many people wrote to me, stopped me on the street, or on a bike ride, to say how much it meant for them to share that program with us, in person. There really is no substitute for live performances, as fortunate as we are to at least have that technology available now.

Thank you for prioritizing this arts festival, having the courage and foresight to understand the urgency of these human/artistic connections. Thank you for confirming that the arts are essential, not merely entertaining frill.

Consuelo Sherba



# /// GRANT RECIPIENTS

## HARVEST KITCHEN

## FARMERS MARKET

Harvest Kitchen planned the Local Heroes event knowing that an in person gathering would not be possible. With so many people in isolation, and others working in demanding environments, we thought it would be inspiring to have the community show gratitude. Our large windows in the Harvest Kitchen Local Foods Cafe located in downtown Pawtucket featured these nominations for all to see as they passed by.

Chef Jen Stott





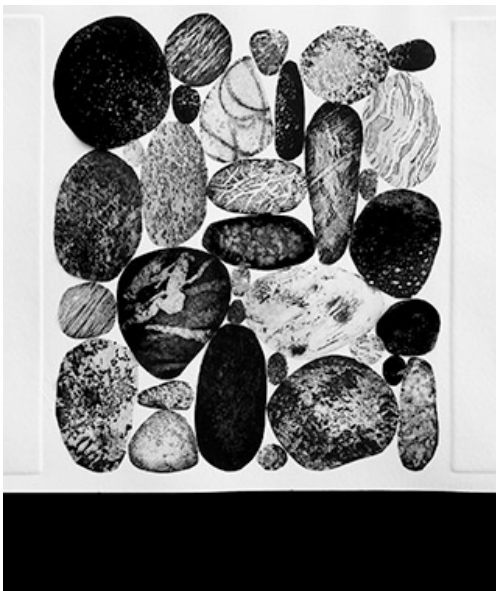
# /// GRANT RECIPIENTS

## GALLERY 175

### VIRTUAL ART EXHIBITION

“Gallery 175 hosted an engaging online exhibition of artwork in many mediums by more than 40 Pawtucket based artists and feedback has been very positive. This popular event, scheduled from September 1 to October 31 was extended to November 31. The exhibit can still be viewed at [www.gallery175.com](http://www.gallery175.com).”

Joan Hausrath



# /// GRANT RECIPIENTS

## PAWTUCKET PHOTO CONTEST

### 22ND ANNUAL



“The 22nd annual city of pawtucket photo contest presented a series of challenges this year with COVID-19 but also introduced an opportunity to utilize new technology, which in turn attracted a new audience, which ultimately provided us with quality photos to view.

A total of 90 photos were received for the 22nd Annual City of Pawtucket Photo Contest this year. Winners received their traditional ribbons and awards by US Mail. The City of Pawtucket Annual Photo Contest is an event I look forward to and enjoy working on each year.

Pat Zacks





# /// GRANT RECIPIENTS

## PAWTUCKET - CENTRAL FALLS

### RESTAURANT WEEKS



“Pawtucket celebrated its 4th annual Restaurant Week in 2020. This year the Pawtucket Restaurant Week Committee hosted the event in coordination with the Pawtucket Arts Festival as both events were held simultaneously. Although COVID-19 altered our original plans, we still managed to put on an event to benefit the local restaurant community. In 2021, we plan to integrate Restaurant Week even further as part of the Pawtucket Arts Festival to increase patronage and publicity for our many local restaurants.”

Anthony Hebert





## THANK YOU

A huge thank you to all of our sponsors! Without your support the festival would not be possible.

Thank you Mayor Don Grebien for believing in and supporting the arts in the city.

Thank you to the many city offices and personnel that help make the festival happen. Your service and diligence is unparalleled.

Thank you to the many generous and talented artists that make the festival thrive.

Thank you to our vendors and partners for your expertise and service.

Most of all thank you to the people of Pawtucket. We do this for you and you never disappoint with your enthusiasm and support.

*Anthony Ambrosino*

**Anthony Ambrosino**  
Festival Director



# PAWTUCKET ARTS FEST SEPTEMBER 10TH - 19TH, 2021

2021

*Join us when the Pawtucket Arts Festival Returns for our  
23rd year September 10th - 19th, 2021*

