

3-24-2005

Special Exhibits

Hudson Museum

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**THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS/DISTINGUISHED
LECTURE SERIES COMMITTEE
GRANT APPLICATION**

PROVIDE 10 (TEN) COPIES, INCLUDING THE ORIGINAL.
PLEASE PLACE A COPY OF THIS COVER SHEET ON TOP OF EACH COPY

I. Applicant/Organization: Hudson Museum	
II. a. Responsible Organization Officer: Gretchen Faulkner	
b. Title: Director	
c. Campus Address (include EMail and Telephone): Hudson Museum, MCA 581-1901 gretchen@umit.maine.edu	
III. Summary of program requiring funding (title; featured artist(s); speaker(s); scheduled date (s): Special Exhibits July 7 to November 22, 2005 Crossing the Boulevard: Strangers, Neighbors, and Aliens in a New America Make Welcome the Present Guest: Maine's Newest Immigrants Tell Their Stories	
Expand in fuller detail, a supporting statement with <u>detailed, itemized budget</u>. Funding for current application is contingent upon submission of detailed budget and attendance report for any previous years' grants.	
IV. a. Total funding required for program:	\$ 5284
b. Amount committed by applicant organization:	\$ 1842
c. Amount committed by: WIC & the Office of Dean of Students	\$ 800
d. Amount requested from other funding sources	\$
e. Amount requested of Cultural Affairs/DLS Committee:	\$ 2642
Signature of responsible organization officer/date: <u>Gretchen Faulkner</u> <u>3/24/05</u>	
SIGNATURE DATE	

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATION TO: CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
C/O PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
200 ALUMNI HALL, CAMPUS

\$2642

Special Exhibits at the Hudson Museum
**Crossing the Boulevard; Strangers, Neighbors and Aliens in a New
America**
&
**“Make Welcome the Present Guest: Maine’s Newest Immigrants
Tell Their Stories”**

The Hudson Museum seeks support from the Cultural Affairs Committee to support expenses for a traveling exhibit, Crossing the BLVD and for the development of an exhibit, “Make Welcome the Present Guest” by the Maine Folklife Center. Both exhibitions are slated to be at the Hudson Museum from July 7 to November 22, 2005.

Crossing the BLVD is a multi-media project by documentary artists Warren Lehrer and Judith Sloan that portrays the lives of new immigrants and refugees in Queens, New York the most ethnically diverse locality in the United States today. From 1999 to 2002, Lehrer and Sloan traveled the world in their own home borough in search of migration stories and a deeper connection to their diverse community. Their exhibit draws on storytelling workshops held in libraries, high schools and community centers throughout Queens, photographic portraits and extended interviews. The focus of the exhibition is on people who came to the United States after the 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act mandated an end to quotas that favored Western Europeans.

Featuring 84 framed portraits, 27 landscapes, 26 map overlays, 60 reproductions of objects and images, and 13 sound boxes. The exhibition captures the changing face of America from the perspective of its newest arrivals at critical junctions, including 9/11. Crossing the BLVD requires 230 running feet of wall space and will be installed on the ramp panels leading from the Museum’s first to third level as well as in the adjoining Emerick Gallery located on the third level.

As Crossing the BLVD centers on Queens, New York, the Hudson Museum will collaborate with the Maine Folklife Center to create a parallel exhibition that explores the changing face of Maine. Pauleena MacDougall will coordinate fieldwork associated with this aspect of the project and will be assisted by a variety of researchers, including Maria Carmen Sandweiss and UMaine student Elizabeth Hardink. Immigrant groups featured will include those from Eastern Europe, South East Asia, the Middle East and Latin America. “Make Welcome the Present Guest” will explore the experiences of these groups. The exhibition will feature exhibit panels with their stories and portraits, as well as traditional costume and material culture from each region of the world that is showcased. Objects featured in the exhibit will include pieces from the Hudson Museum’s collections as well as objects loaned by the informants. “Make Welcome the Present Guest” will be installed on the Museum’s third level adjacent to Crossing the BLVD, allowing visitors to see that they too are part of this changing immigrant landscape. In addition to showcasing “Make Welcome the Present Guest” at the Hudson Museum, this portion of the project will travel to the American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront from August 26, 27 and 28, 2005.

The Museum is promoting these exhibitions through a postcard announcement, which will be sent to all faculty and staff at UMaine; a listing on the

events page of the Museum's website; and an article in the Museum's School Newsletter, the Totem, which is distributed to 1,500 teachers state-wide. George Manlove with the Department of Public Affairs is preparing a press release on these exhibitions, which distributes Museum press releases and calendar listings to thirty newspapers, and local television and radio stations.

Crossing the BLVD and "Make Welcome the Present Guest" will reach a broad audience both on campus and in the community, including many who would not ordinarily visit museums or the University of Maine. Each year over 14,000 individuals visit the Hudson Museum and over 3,000 students in grades K-12 and over 1,500 University of Maine students participate in organized tours or gallery programs. Over 1,000 patrons attend lectures, workshops, and children's programs and 44,158 Maine Center for the Arts and Bangor Symphony Orchestra patrons have an opportunity to visit the Museum during performances.

In addition to programming that the Museum will develop in conjunction with these exhibitions, Judith Sloan is working with a variety of faculty members at UMaine, including Ann Schonberger and Kristen Langellier, as well as Adele Adkins from the Maine Center for the Arts.

Funding from the Cultural Affairs Committee is requested to support \$2,642 in exhibit expenses associated with rental, shipping and installation of Crossing the BLVD and creation of exhibition panels and supplies for "Make Welcome the Present Guests." Expenses total \$5,284 for both exhibitions. Match for this project is being provided by the Hudson Museum (\$1,842) and the Women in the Curriculum/Women's Studies Program (\$500) and the Office of the Deans of Students (\$300).

Crossing the BLVD and New Mainers Budget

	Cultural Affairs	Hudson Museum	WIC/Women's Studies	Dean of Students
Exhibit Rental Fee				
Move of exhibit from Rochester	2,355.48			
Deliver Scaffolding (2)		22.44		
Lodging for exhibit installer Panel		5.78	359.96	
Opening Reception		43.00		
Foster Imaging Exhibit Panels	286.52	209.48		
Circuit City (headphones)		39.72		
Caron Sign Co. Vinyl Lettering		523.70		
Post Cards		319.00		
Postage		144.00		
Installation Supplies		53.04		300.00
Replacement of Damaged Pieces		155.30		
UM Printing		225.93		
Paper Supplies		10.00		
	\$ 2,642.00	\$ 2,751.39	\$ 359.96	300.00
				TOTAL
				\$ 6,053.35

ABOUT THE ARTISTS:

Warren Lehrer is a writer, designer, and photographer whose pioneering books and theatrical works celebrate the music of thought and speech, the complexity of character, and the relationship between social structures and the individual. His books, acclaimed for capturing the shape of thought and reuniting the traditions of storytelling with the printed page include: *The Portrait Series: a quartet of men*; *GRRRHHH*; *i mean you know*; *versations* and *FRENCH FRIES*. He has won numerous grants and fellowships, NEA, New York State Council and Foundation for the Arts, the Ford Foundation, etc, and awards including The International Book Design award, three American Institute of Graphic Arts book awards, etc. Lehrer is an Associate Professor of Art at the School of Art and Design at SUNY Purchase, and a member of the graduate faculty at the School of Visual Arts' Designer as Author program.

Judith Sloan is an actress, oral historian and audio artist, whose multi-character solo performances combining humor, pathos and a love of the absurd include *Denial of the Fittest*, *Responding to Chaos*, and *A Tattle Tale: eyewitness in Mississippi*. She's received grants from the New York Foundation on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, etc. Her work has been produced throughout the U.S. and abroad in such venues as The Public Theater, The Jewish Museum, the 92nd Street Y, and The Smithsonian Institution. Her plays, commentaries, and essays have been published by Second Story Press, the *Forward*, and the *New York Times*. Sloan is a member of the faculty at the Gallatin School at NYU where she teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in documentary art, oral history, theatre and community projects. She is also the director of *Cross-Cultural Dialogue Through the Arts*, an arts mentorship and training program creating collaborations between disparate communities.

Lehrer and Sloan are co-founders of EarSay, a non-profit arts organization documenting and portraying lives of the uncelebrated. Their book *Crossing the BLVD* is part of a multimedia project that began with storytelling workshops in libraries, community centers and schools throughout Queens, and includes public radio documentaries, an exhibit of photographs at the Queens Museum of Art, a performance, and the website: www.crossingtheblvd.org. As part of the *Crossing the BLVD* project, they also produced radio documentaries for Public Radio International's *The Next Big Thing*. The *Crossing the BLVD* project was supported in part by grants from The Ford Foundation, The Rockefeller Foundation, the Greenwall Foundation, a Futhermore publishing grant; a program of the J.M. Kaplan fund, the Puffin Foundation, a V-Day Award, New York Foundation on the Arts, New York State Council for the Arts, and public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs Cultural Challenge Grant and the Queens Council on the Arts.

This husband-and-wife team is based in the borough of Queens, New York City.

Warren Lehrer & Judith Sloan

CROSSING the BLVD

strangers, neighbors, aliens in a new america

Documentary artists Warren Lehrer and Judith Sloan create a portrait of an ever-shifting America in an exhibition at the Visual Studies Workshop in Rochester, NY. Photographs, stories, and sounds intimately portray the lives of new immigrants and refugees living in Queens, N.Y., a modern-day Ellis Island where cultures overlap in a choreography of chaotic co-existence. At a time when immigration patterns are re-shaping American culture, the exhibition and accompanying book, *Crossing the BLVD: strangers, neighbors, aliens in a new America* portray the struggle, humor, and pathos of individuals and families who have crossed war zones, borders, oceans, and cultural divides in pursuit of a better life. All portraits and landscapes by Warren Lehrer ©2003. Sound stations include audio compositions by Sloan and Lehrer, music by Scott Johnson, Christine and Dinu Ghezze, Kingsley Ogunde, Gogol Bordello, and others. The *Crossing the BLVD* book is published by W. W. Norton. A project of EarSay, Inc., the *Crossing the BLVD* exhibition was originally commissioned by the Queens Museum of Art.



"Immigrant life in Queens, as told in the intimate, rich, comic, ironic and sad stories so often seen but not heard in America's big cities..."
The Washington Post

"An offbeat ethnic tour of one of the country's most ethnically diverse counties... Riveting stories about a new wave of immigrants to America..."
The New York Times

* Winner Brendan Gill Prize, Municipal Art Society of New York 2004

Join us for events offered in conjunction with this Hudson Museum special exhibition on view through November 23 2005

EVENTS

Judith Sloan, co-author and co-creator of *Crossing the BLVD* will be speaking at all of the public events listed below. Call the Women in the Curriculum/Women's Studies Office for more information about public events: 581-1228. All events are free and open to the public

"Immigration, Peace, and Foreign Policy"

6:30 PM, Sunday Nov. 6, Universalist Church Vestry, 120 Park Street, Bangor

Sloan will read excerpts from *Crossing the BLVD* stories about war and peace, with special guest Shekaiba Wakili a refugee from Afghanistan featured in the *Crossing* project. Followed by a public dialogue with community members and activists.

Sponsored by the Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine.

"Crossing into Maine: Old and New Immigration Stories"

12:10 pm, Monday, Nov. 7, Bodwell Area, Maine Center for the Arts, The University of Maine

Co-sponsored by the Dept. of Communication and Journalism.

Reading "Crossing the BLVD: Strangers, Neighbors, Aliens in a New America"

7:30 pm, Monday, Nov. 7, Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Building

A readers theatre production coordinated by Prof. Kristin Langelier with readings by UMaine students and community members. Hosted by Judith Sloan.

"Women, Girls, and Immigration"

12:15 pm, Tuesday, Nov. 8, Bangor Room, Memorial Union

Part of the Women in the Curriculum Lunch Series.

www.crossingtheblvd.org



HUDSON MUSEUM
THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

The *Crossing the BLVD* traveling exhibition is made possible with a major grant from the Ford Foundation. Additional funding from The Cultural Affairs Committee, the University of Maine. Also on view during *Crossing the BLVD* exhibition dates: Make Welcome the Present Guest: Maine's Newest Immigrants Tell Their Stories

Report on Hudson Museum Special Exhibits: Crossing the BLVD and New Mainers

The Cultural Affairs Committee supported expenses involved with two short-term Hudson Museum exhibits. *Crossing the BLVD* and *New Mainers* opened on Wednesday, July 13th and closed on November 23rd. These two exhibits were extremely successful and drew a wide variety of audience to the Museum, as well as generating opportunities to talk about diversity in a state that is one of the least diverse in the nation. They were also the subject of 4 programs that involved UMaine students and faculty. Exhibit attendance was as follows:

Regular Museum attendees:

Approximately 1000-1500 people visit the Museum each month- July to
November Museum general attendance 5,000-7,500 patrons

Elementary and Secondary School children on guided tours 597

Day of the Dead program attendees 166

UMaine class usage 750

Maine Center for the Arts events

Staff at these events indicated that many patrons visited the exhibits before attending events.

Maine Center for the Arts Season patrons 27,156 (UMaine student 6,436)

These events included the gala with Bill Cosby, Melissa Manchester, Tokyo String Quartet, Jekyll and Hyde, Sweet Honey and the Rock, Chi, Rockin' The Blues Revue, Arlo Guthrie, and the Beach Boys Christmas Show

Kapoot Clown Theatre 450 (Maine School Outreach Program)

Pinnocchio 1522 (Maine School Outreach Program)

Bob Marley (Maine Comedian) 2,690

Student Entertainment Shows

Better than Ezra 672

Lifhouse 1616

Bangor Symphony Orchestra events-2,137

Maine State Youth Music Concerts 4,300

UMaine Symphonic Band Concert 400

Other MCA events

Jehovah's Witness Convention 2,800

Seamless Transitions Workshop 350

Maine Arts Commission Meeting 75

Inauguration of Pres Robert Kennedy 1000

Cohen Lecture with Dan Rather 1300

UMaine Open Houses August 8, October 17, November 15 1,800

Fall Welcome Weekend, September 2 3,000

The Museum took *New Mainers* to the American Folk Festival, which was held on the Bangor waterfront on August 27th and 28th. Thousands of people had an opportunity to see the exhibit there and to learn about educational programs being held in November.

Attached is a budget report and copies of promotional material associated with the exhibitions.

