

## A BLADE OF GRASS ASSEMBLY SPRING 2019 HOST SITES

### ABOUT UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT

**University Settlement** is the first settlement house in the United States, established over 132 years ago. With roots in the Lower East Side, and now multiple sites across lower Manhattan and Brooklyn, the institution provides free to low-cost social services to thousands of families. The settlement model is holistic, providing services and programs for every generation in a family. The arts have always been core to the settlement house model.

Since 2007, **The Performance Project** has been offering local young artists and professional emerging artists opportunities to connect, create, and publicly present new work. It supports artists who are interested in how live art can heal, empower, and activate. The Performance Project's creative cohorts are committed to organizational and creative practices that promote trust, imagination, and power-sharing. Its incubator for the next generation of citizen artists is fueled by their distinct, yet connected, cohorts: the Artist-in-Residency for Professional Social Practice Artists, The Fellowship Program for Young Adult Artists, the annual Play Tank Performance Intensive for Young Artists, and the Intergenerational Community Arts Council in Brooklyn in partnership with BRIC and their LES Community Culture Council in partnership with FABnyc.

### FACILITATORS

**Alison Fleminger** is a social practice artist and founding Artistic Director of The Performance Project at University Settlement. She is a second generation settlement house worker and her upbringing has deeply informed her vision of an intergenerational, culturally-just, creative hub. She has devised over 20 original productions with community artists and has curated and mentored countless social practice projects. While earning her graduate degree in Theater Education from NYU, Fleminger apprenticed with the Applied Theater program at CUNY. Fleminger has a Certificate of Organizational Design from The Empowerment Institute for Social Change. She is also a member of Naturally Occurring Cultural Districts in New York and the Race Forward Arts Lab.

**Suky Fairweather** is a visual artist and singer. She is a 2019 Young Artist Fellow with The Performance Project and a founding member of the Intergenerational Community Arts Council in Brooklyn. Fairweather is also a curator of The Performance Project's mobile SHARE! Series.

**Rocka Jamez** is a dancer, fashion designer, curator, and producer of Roundz of Flame, a monthly all-style dance battle that takes place at University Settlement. He was a 2017 Young Artist Fellow with The

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Performance Project and has been performing in Dapline, a project at University Settlement created by Andre Zachary and Lamont Hamilton.

**Celeste Staton** is a founding member of Brooklyn's first Intergenerational Community Arts Council and Tenant Association President of The Atlantic Terminal Development, where University Settlement runs a Cornerstone Community Center.

**Angel Sacarello**, Director of University Settlement's Cornerstone Community Center at Campos Plaza, was a founding member of The Performance Project's first PLAY TANK in 2010. He has been instrumental to the development and design of The Performance Project.

See more about the Spring 2019 Assembly [here](#)