Jury members are sworn in during I Speak for the Trees: A Mock Trial, a public program that tested whether art copyright law could be used to legally halt construction of a natural gas pipeline, as proposed by A Blade of Grass Fellow Aviva Rahmani. Photo courtesy of RAVA Films.
A Blade of Grass is the only arts nonprofit that supports socially engaged artists nationwide with a unique blend of content, advocacy, and grants to individuals.

We partner with artists who engage in creative activism; prototype utopian futures; heal communities that struggle with systemic oppression; and both imagine and model collaborative, innovative solutions to intractable social problems.

These artists are expanding our sense of what art is, who it’s for, where it happens, and what it does by working in direct, collaborative service to communities. This has concrete, generative effects in the world. Artists who share the creative process can model alternatives, change perspectives, and collaboratively create symbolic and practical shifts in everyday life that inspire deeper commitment to social change.

By providing financial support, content, research, and programs, A Blade of Grass propels this provocative and positive direction artists are taking to enact social change.

– Deborah Fisher
A Blade of Grass believes in the power of socially engaged art and artists to participate meaningfully in creating a more equitable and compassionate future.

Guests plant flowers chosen by incarcerated mothers in A Blade of Grass Fellow jackie sumell’s cell-sized garden bed as part of What It Takes to Be Free: Artists Respond to the Criminal Justice System at the Lower East Side Girls Club, New York. Photo by Chris Green.
WHAT WE DO

- **Create** web and print media, documentary films, research, and inclusive events about socially engaged art

- **Advocate** for artists working in non-art contexts

- **Provide** direct financial support to artists working to enact social change through our Fellowship for Socially Engaged Art

Our work is deeply informed by the artists we work with. A Blade of Grass prioritizes active listening, dialogue, engagement, and creative problem solving. We seek to connect our diverse audiences, communities of service, leadership, and other stakeholders.

This commitment to thoughtful process enacts our values, deepens our understanding of the artists we support, and amplifies the impact of the re-imagining work our artists do.

HOW DO ARTISTS CHANGE THE WORLD?

Image courtesy of RAVA Films.
Visit our website to explore original articles, interviews, and films about how artists are creatively and collaboratively enacting social change.

Our online content is presented around a changing theme, anchored twice a year by the publication of *A Blade of Grass Magazine*.

**MAGAZINE**

Our new biannual magazine about art and social engagement shifts perspective from ideas to their enactment. Each issue shares a collection of writings by artists, curators, project participants, and thought leaders in the socially engaged art field.

Visit our website to read and download a free digital copy!
**FILMS**

Our short documentary films explore the beauty, rigor, and impact of social engaged art.

A Blade of Grass films have been screened nationally at venues such as the Oakland Museum of California, Parrish Art Museum, and MassArt, and featured online by Upworthy, The Atlantic Magazine, and Artforum.

Directed and produced by RAVA Films

---

**EVENTS**

Our events open windows into artists’ projects and, like the projects themselves, provide inclusive spaces for diverse audiences to gather.

Join us for a behind-the-scenes look at the unique innerworkings of art that enacts social change. Participate in the creative process, hear from artists and leaders across disciplines, and engage with project participants and collaborators: the experts at the core of community-based art.

---

Film featuring A Blade of Grass Fellows Courtney Bowles and Mark Strandquist’s project, Reentry Think Tank, an art and advocacy group in Philadelphia. Photo courtesy of RAVA Films.

Produced by A Blade of Grass, I Speak for the Trees: A Mock Trial brought together lawyers, activists, and artists to “rehearse” the legal argument that art copyright law could be used to halt construction of a natural gas pipeline, as proposed by A Blade of Grass Fellow Aviva Rahmani. Photo courtesy of RAVA Films.
A Blade of Grass Assembly is a biannual day-long learning exchange and magazine launch for creative changemakers to investigate the methods, ethics, challenges, and joys of practicing art that advances social justice.

Anchored by the themes of *A Blade of Grass Magazine*, every Assembly features a range of experiences, from special keynote presentations and workshops to engaging activities organized by partnering artists and organizations.

Buy your ticket to our next Assembly and you’ll also receive a printed copy of *A Blade of Grass Magazine*!

Our Spring 2019 Assembly, co-presented by FABnyc, explored the diverse partnerships that make social change through art possible with a series of intimate site visits to arts and culture organizations on the Lower East Side. Photos by Dominique Sindayiganza.
Our fellowship program supports courageous artists in creating exchanges, experiences, and structures that highlight seemingly intractable social problems, inspire audiences, and energize folks to participate in and sustain long-term social change work.

Since our first open call in 2013, we’ve received 2,965 applications from across the country and abroad.

**A Blade of Grass Fellows receive:**

- $20,000 in minimally restricted support
- Comprehensive field research reports that utilize action research methodology
- Expenses paid orientation retreat in NYC to engage a cohort of peer artists and A Blade of Grass staff and board
- Ongoing promotion of their projects through A Blade of Grass social media networks and website

### Fellowship Project Locations

**United States:**
- Los Angeles, CA
- Oakland, CA
- San Francisco, CA
- San Quentin, CA
- Denver, CO
- Durango, CO
- Hartford, CT
- Chicago, IL
- Gary, IN
- New Orleans, LA
- Minneapolis, MN
- St. Louis, MO
- Omaha, NE
- New York, NY
- Cincinnati, OH
- Shawnee, OH
- Philadelphia, PA
- Brownsville, TX
- Houston, TX
- Augusta + Amherst Counties, VA
- Boone County, WV

**International:**
- Athens, Greece
- Zapatista Autonomous Rebel Municipalities, Mexico
- Quito, Ecuador
Day laborers collaborated with A Blade of Grass Fellow Sol Aramendi on her project, *Apps for Power*, to develop a mobile app for users to safely report and share information on wage theft and abusive employers. Photos courtesy of Jornaler@ App.
We want you to participate in socially engaged art!

- **Enjoy** our free web content, events, and short films

- **Follow** us on your social media channel of choice to learn more about all things #sociallyengagedart

- **Contact** us to make a tax-deductible donation, host a film screening in your community, or to learn more about our work

Connect with us!

www.abladeofgrass.org
info@abladeofgrass.org
@ABladeofGrass
@ABladeofGrassNYC
LEADERSHIP

Board of Directors

Shelley Frost Rubin
   Founder and Chair
Annette Blum
Brett Cook
Eva Haller
John E. Osborn
Michael Premo
Basha Frost Rubin
Lee H. Skolnick

Staff

Deborah Fisher
   Executive Director
Vicki Capote
   Development Manager
Sabrina Chin
   Programs & Administrative Associate
Emma Colón
   Communications Associate
Karina Muranaga
   Design & Communications Manager
Prerana Reddy
   Director of Programs
GRATITUDE

Our work is made possible by a growing family of supporters

Acheson Doyle Partners Architects, P.C.
Stacy Albert
Doris Ammann
Roberta Amon
Loren Arbus
Lorinda Ash
Douglas Baxter
Lois & Bob Baylis
Gavin Berger
Ross Bleckner
Annette Blum
Mary Boone
Lisa Brintz
Kim Brizzolara
Calvin Klein Family Foundation
Marisa Cardinale
Audry Casusol
Eileen Caufield Schwab
Hannah Entwisle Chapuisat
Solana Chehtman
Suzanne Cochran
Michelle Coffey
Michael Cohn & Judith Marinoff Cohn
Brett Cook
Rosemary Corbett & David Kaiser
The Cygnet Foundation
Jessica Dawson
Jessica & Edward Decker
Anne Delaney
Susan Delvalle
Abigail E. Disney
Noah Dorsky
Joyce S. Dubensky, Esq.
Silja-Riitta Durant
The Durst Organization
Andrew Edlin
Joyce & David Edward
Gale Elston
James Ferrari

Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Tom Finkelpearl
Rella Fogliano
Barbara Freitag
Basha Frost Rubin & Scott Grinsell
Alex Gardner
Anne Germanacos
Ira Gilbert
Molly Gochman
Jonathan Goodman
Francis Greenburger
Agnes Gund
Eva & Yoel Haller
John Hatfield
Libby Heimark
Alexandra Herzan
Rachel Hills
Jerry Hirsch
Katie Hollander
Alfredo Jaar
Melissa Jacobs
Gregory James
Patricia Jerido
Judy Angelo Cowen Charitable Lead
Unitrust
Kim Kanatani
Howard Kaplan
Katherine Kitchen & Paul Kovach
Mark Krueger
Carin Kuoni
Alok Lal
Helene Lamarque
Marjorie Loeb
John Madden
Christopher Maggiano
Joshua Mailman & Monica Winsor
Roxanne Mankin Cason
Micaela Martegani
Christianna Martynowskic

Stuart Match Suna
James P. McCarthy
Susan Merinoff
Ivana Mestrovic
Francine Misch-Dietsh
Isolde & Joel Motley
Sarah Murkett
Kristian Nammack
No Longer Empty, Inc.
Norman Foundation
John E. Osborn
Koshin Paley Ellison
Anne Pasternak
Paula Perlis
Cliff Perlman
Marnie S. Pillsbury
Ronnie Planalp
Christine Ponz
Louisa Putnam
Michael Quattrone & Kala Smith
Laura Raicovich
Paul Ramírez Jonas
Sara Reisman
Stephen Riggio
Michael Fisch & Laura Roberson-Fisch
Guy Roberts
Camilla Rockefeller
Toni Ross
Laurel Rubin
Shelley & Donald Rubin
Linda Schejola
Abigail Scheuer

Steven Schindler
Sarah Schultz
Daniel Schwartz
Joyce Pomeroy Schwartz
Patrick Sears
Patrick Seymour
Alexandra Shabtai
Shana Alexander Charitable Foundation
Richard Simon
Lee H. Skolnick & Jo Ann Secor
Sara Sloane
Kathy Sloane
Manon Slome
Courtney Smith
Katie Sonnenborn
Scott & Robie Specto
Sreenath Sreenivasan
& Roopa Unnikrishnan
The Stebbins Fund, Inc.
Sarina Tang
Laurie M. Tisch
Julia Vlock
Alan Wanzenberg
Amanda Weil
Daniel Weiss & Amy Berkower
Katie Wilson-Milne
Richard Wong
Yukiko Yamagata
Felicia Young
Beverley Zabriskie
We're forever grateful to the visionary First Field of individuals who supported A Blade of Grass.

Annette Blum
Kim Brizzolara
Tom Finkelpearl
Michael Fisch
Basha Frost Rubin
Roxanne Cason
Andrew Edlin
The Home Depot Foundation
John E. Osborn
Lisa Schejola & Jeffrey Akin
Daniel Schwartz & Csongor Kis
Richard Simon
Katie Wilson-Milne
Caron Atlas
Sigmund R. & Elinor B. Balka
Lois & Robert Baylis
Roberto Bedoya
James Benjamin
Janisa Brunstein
Cindy & Ed Campbell
Emebet Cheru
Jessica Decker
Ruth Giorges Cheru
Beatrice Coron
Hannah Entwisle
Allison Feuer
Jack Feuer
Ben Feuer
Miles Feuer
Fine Arts Club of Grant MacEwan University
Olivia Georgia
Anne Germanacos
Ellen Gesner
Julia Gesner
Rachel Gesner
Lisa Gold
Scott Grinsell
Gale Grinsell
Ray Grinsell
John Hatfield
Naomi Hersson-Ringskog
Lauren Hochman
Ronnie Hochman
Jeremy Hochman
Joshua Hochman
Kemi Ilesanmi
Alfredo Jaar
Marisa M. Jahn
Juliette Kleiman
Ken Kleiman
Koshin & Chodo
Bob Krasner
Ava Krasner
Jesse Krasner
Carin Kuoni
Francesca Mallows
Brookie Maxwell
Brian McFarland
Nicole McFarland
Dylan McFarland
Luke McFarland
Sofia Melograno
Ivana Mestrovic
Ari Peskoe
David Polakoff
Paul Ramírez Jonas
Amanda Rubin
Donald Rubin
Laurel Rubin
Alyana Rubin
Danil Rubin
Marat Rubin
Gloria Sanchez
Nelson Santos
Steven Schindler & Susan Kath
Eileen Caufield Schwab
Joyce Pomeroy Schwartz
Marina Staiano
Ellen Staller
Karen Stults
Sarina Tang
Derrick A. Te Paske
Liz Valentín
Rachel Weingeist
Leticia Williams
Beverley Zabriskie