



PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Erin Carlisle Norton
(312) 343-2840
erin@themovingarchitects.org
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The Moving Architects Receives Award from The New Jersey Council For the Humanities
17 projects in 10 counties receive funding

(Montclair, NJ) – The New Jersey Council for the Humanities (NJCH) has awarded 17 grants totaling \$205,716 in its most recent grant round, including a grant to The Moving Architects. These funds will support a diverse array of projects in 10 counties across the Garden State, highlighting NJCH’s ongoing efforts to make the vital work of the humanities available to all New Jerseyans.

“Public humanities work can encompass a broad range of activities, but at their core, each of these projects helps tell the story of who we are as people,” said Carin Berkowitz, Ph.D., executive director of NJCH. “Some of that story involves well-known figures and places of the past. Much of it has been hidden from public view within our own local communities. And still more is being added to that story each day.”

The Moving Architects, a dance company led by Erin Carlisle Norton, received an Incubation Grant to support a performance project that brings the rich history of Montclair History Center’s Crane House & Historic YWCA to life. In partnership with Montclair History Center, this site-immersive performance weaves dance and music together with the spaces and historical narratives of the building. Audiences are guided through the house and grounds to witness intimate and captivating dance performances by the intergenerational and all-female cast. By engaging deeply with the site’s history and incorporating the diverse women’s voices and stories of those who lived there, the performance transforms the site into a living celebration of its storied past, offering audiences a profound and intimate connection to the area’s rich heritage.

This project builds on The Moving Architects’ extensive history of producing innovative, community-focused, and feminist-driven dance work. Founded in 2007 by Norton, The Moving Architects have consistently explored feminist narratives and ideologies through physically

dynamic and immersive performances. With a strong presence in New Jersey and the New York City metropolitan-area, the company has also toured extensively across the United States and Internationally, earning critical acclaim for their “brave and bold and fearless” work with a “fresh and daring aesthetic.” Norton’s accolades include two Fellowships in Choreography from the NJ State Council on the Arts. Beyond performances, TMA enriches communities through its popular interview podcast *Movers & Shapers: A Dance Podcast* and educational programming for all ages. Through this new site-specific project, The Moving Architects continues to use dance as a powerful medium for storytelling, connecting the past to the present in ways that inspire, educate, and celebrate diverse histories.

"We are incredibly grateful to the NJCH for supporting this project, which allows us to bring the stories of the Crane House & Historic YWCA to life through dance," said Erin Carlisle Norton, Artistic Director of The Moving Architects. "This funding enables us to engage deeply with the site's history, amplify diverse women's voices, and create an immersive experience that connects the past to the present in meaningful and inspiring ways."

About The Moving Architects: We connect people intimately to dance, focusing on creating female-centric collaborative dance works and community-based projects. We do this through performance of original works, educational movement programming for all ages, and public discourse via our popular podcast. For additional information, please visit the website www.themovingarchitects.org or contact The Moving Architects at 312-343-2840 or info@themovingarchitects.org.

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