

Bringing It Back

The Impact of Creative Arts
Therapy at Rikers & Beyond

Wednesday, Nov. 20, 5:30-8:30 p.m.



Bringing It Back: The Impact of Creative Arts Therapy at Rikers & Beyond is an exhibition offering a unique inside look at dance/movement and music therapy for people in custody on Rikers Island. It showcases video footage and photographs of creative arts therapy sessions in New York City jail facilities, the first such recordings to be made available to the public. The exhibition also features original art, music, and written compositions by participants in NYC Health + Hospitals/ Correctional Health Services' (CHS) Creative Arts Therapy program—the oldest and largest jail-based arts therapy program in the nation—alongside complementary selections from NYC Health + Hospitals' extensive Arts in Medicine collection.

Bringing It Back is a collaboration between CHS and NYC Health + Hospitals/ Arts in Medicine. The exhibition is presented in partnership with Carnegie Hall and funded by the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund.

Program

Weill Music Room, 6-7:30 p.m.

Remarks

Sarah Johnson, Chief Education Officer and Director, Weill Music Institute
Dr. Patsy Yang, SVP, NYC Health + Hospitals/Correctional Health Services
Larissa Trinder, AVP, Arts in Medicine, NYC Health + Hospitals



Screening

"Beautiful Humans," filmed and edited by David Schulder



Panel discussion

Dr. Barbara Bethea, Director, Creative Arts Therapy, CHS (moderator)
Jeff Angell, Music Therapist & Creative Arts Therapy Supervisor, CHS
Grace Luttrull, Dance/Movement Therapist, CHS
Jamol S., former CHS patient
Alex Anderson, Founder & Artistic Director, Reentry Theater of Harlem

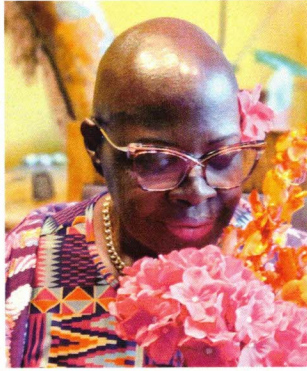


Judy Francis Zankel Gallery, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Gallery tours and light refreshments

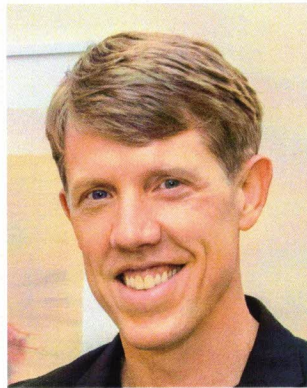
Featuring music by Sing for Hope

Panelists



Barbara Bethea, Ph.D., PTR, LCAT, CASAC is the director of CHS' Creative Arts Therapy program on Rikers Island. She is the first African-American registered poetry therapist certified through the International Federation for Biblio/Poetry Therapy (IFBPT) and licensed by New York State as a creative arts therapist (LCAT). Dr. Bethea is also the first African-American certified mentor for the IFBPT. Dr. Bethea completed her master's degree in psychology, poetry therapy, and counseling

at Union Institute and University and her Ph.D. in expressive therapies at Lesley University. Dr. Bethea is also a master's-level credentialed alcohol and substance abuse counselor (CASAC). Dr. Bethea has been employed by NYC Health + Hospitals for over 16 years and is the system's only licensed poetry therapist.



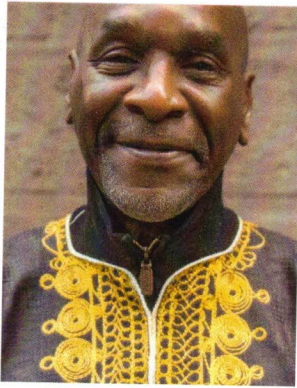
Jeff Angell is a full-time creative arts therapy supervisor and music therapist for CHS, having led drumming, sing-a-long, Hip Hop, listening, songwriting, and recording groups for people in custody at Rikers Island since 2018. He holds a master's degree in music therapy from New York University and has over 13 years of clinical experience. At CHS, he has established partnerships with the community-based organizations MOTI (Music On The Inside) and The Jephtha Group to further the mission of bringing the

therapeutic music to the justice-involved. He is currently serving as secretary for the American Music Therapy Association Board of Directors. His work has been published in *Voices: A World Forum for Music Therapy* and presented at professional conferences and universities in the United States, Zimbabwe, and Cameroon.

Grace Luttrull is a CHS dance/movement therapist working on Rikers Island, providing group therapy for incarcerated individuals housed in specialized mental health units. Grace began working on Rikers as an acting and writing teacher in 2019 and returned as a full-time creative arts therapist in 2022 after receiving her master's degree in dance/movement therapy from Sarah Lawrence College. She has 12



years of experience working in person-centered, arts-based fields, as a movement teacher, theater director, and founder of an interdisciplinary arts company. Grace takes an eclectic, somatically-based, patient-led approach to group therapy sessions with incarcerated adult men diagnosed with serious mental illnesses.



Alex Anderson is the founder and artistic director of the Reentry Theater of Harlem, launched in 2020 to empower returning citizens through the performing arts. A returning citizen himself, Alex earned his high school diploma and a BA from Syracuse University while incarcerated. After his release, he obtained a Master of Social Work at Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, along with certifications in addiction counseling (CASAC) and restorative justice. Inspired by his transformative experience at Ritual4Return in 2009, Alex created Reentry Theater of Harlem to use performing arts as a tool for healing, redemption, and transformation.

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Please be advised that by attending this event, you are agreeing to being filmed and/or photographed, and the resulting assets may be used for NYC Health + Hospitals marketing or promotional purposes. Should you wish not to be photographed or recorded on video, please notify the event photographer or videographer.



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