

INWOOD ART WORKS

A man in a dark suit, white shirt, and patterned tie is dancing with a woman in a blue dress. The man is holding a light-colored fedora over his head. The woman is leaning back, her arms outstretched. They are on a wooden floor. The background is dark with some light streaks. The image is framed by a white curved border at the top.

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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@claudiord3d

MISSION STATEMENT

Inwood Art Works (IAW) is a nonprofit organization with a mission to create and curate professional performing and visual arts in Inwood and its surrounding community.

Founded in response to a neighborhood bereft of cultural arts venues, IAW has quickly established itself in Inwood and Northern Manhattan as a leading multidisciplinary cultural arts hub. Through creative placemaking, IAW creates arts programming for an historically underrepresented community and champions local professional artists by giving them an opportunity to create.

Through its Film Works (Inwood Film Festival, Film Works Alfresco), Art Works (Gallery), and Stage Works (On Air, Mendelssohn on the Hudson, Culture Hub, Live Performances) programs, IAW encourages positive social engagement, goodwill, and unity through live theater, music, dance, film, new media, and visual arts within accessible proximity at affordable prices or free of charge.

Our vision is to establish a dedicated cultural arts destination that fosters a vibrant multicultural community nourished by local connectivity and sustained by artistic equity. We value and champion the craft and cultural diversity of local professional and emerging artists. And we value the education of youth through the arts.

INWOOD ART WORKS



FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Aaron Simms

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WELCOME BACK

A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

After two years of navigating the pandemic, I'm proud to say that Inwood Art Works has weathered the financial challenges as well as programming pivots and postponements to emerge at the end of 2022 as strong as at any moment in its history. Let me give you some highlights of IAW's 2022.

Our fifth annual Inwood Film Festival returned to Columbia University's Campbell Sports Center from June 2nd to 5th, the longest festival yet with 36 films presented plus events (page 4);

IAW also invested a total of \$25,000 to "green light" the projects of eight local filmmakers through grants from our Filmmaker Fund (page 6);

Film Works Alfresco returned to a strong reception from over 2,400 attendees at over 12 exciting bilingual cinema and live events hosted by The Hudson at Dyckman Marina (page 8);

Online engagement was achieved with the third season of our local, national, and international weekly audio and video On Air podcast (page 10);

Three community concerts (page 12) featuring arrangements and new compositions performed by local classical and jazz musicians plus a world premiere dance theater piece (page 14);

Three distinct awards were presented to IAW for the significant impact its programming has had on our neighborhood. (page 19).

Reflecting on our 2022 season, I'm encouraged by the engagement we brought to our in-person and online audiences as well as the strong numbers in our ledgers. We will continue to bring people together, putting our equity in local artists, cultivating our Upper Manhattan cultural arts community, and seeking opportunities for more live performances.

From the top of Manhattan and the bottom of my heart, thank you for participating in the impact IAW is making in our community and beyond.



AARON SIMMS
Founder and Executive Producer
Inwood Art Works

INWOOD

FILM FESTIVAL

After a two-year pandemic-related delay, the **INWOOD FILM FESTIVAL** made its triumphant return.

THIRTY-SIX FILMS made by Inwood community filmmakers or films created in the neighborhood were screened from **JUNE 2ND THROUGH 5TH** at Columbia University's **CAMPBELL SPORTS CENTER**, where it has been held since 2017. Screenings included 19 world premieres and showcased 11 "homegrown" films from the Inwood Film Festival **FILMMAKER FUND**.

Additionally, IAW launched **IFF+**, the **ONLINE EXTENSION** of the Inwood Film Festival, which provided extended, exclusive access to the entire slate of festival films for an extra week.

Overall **PROGRAMMING WAS EXPANDED** to include two "pay-what-you-can" subsidized **SEMINARS** on filmmaking led by industry experts and **ATTENDED BY OVER 100 PROFESSIONALS**.

The festival kicked off with a program featuring the history of Hollywood filmmaking in the 'hood, award-winning shorts from our **NYC QUARANTINE FILM FESTIVAL**, and the world premiere presentation of select shorts from the **INWOOD FILMMAKER FUND** grantees. The festival concluded with an award ceremony hosted by Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine and State Senator Robert Jackson.





**NEW RECORDS
SET IN 2022**

**4 DAYS
12 FESTIVAL EVENTS
36 FILMS**

made by Inwood community filmmakers or films
created in the Inwood neighborhood were
screened from June 2nd through 5th at
Columbia University's Campbell Sports Center,
where it has been held since 2017



MORE THAN 1,000
people attended the festival.

19
world premieres

11
“homegrown” films from the Inwood Film
Festival Filmmaker Fund

63%
of the films screened were made by
traditionally underrepresented demographics

THE 2022 INWOOD FILM FESTIVAL

INWOOD



FILM FESTIVAL

FILMMAKER FUND

Launched in June 2019, the **INWOOD FILM FESTIVAL FILMMAKER FUND** was created to financially support and encourage the creation of locally-made cinema in the Inwood community, which includes Inwood, Washington Heights, Marble Hill, Kingsbridge, and Riverdale. In this short time, it has provided over \$75,000 in grants to 24 local filmmakers.

More than 70% of the grant money this year was awarded to women and minority filmmakers in a continuation of IAW's natural efforts to reflect the diversity of New York City and champion the creative talent from historically underrepresented groups in Inwood, Washington Heights and the NW Bronx community. For more information visit our website at inwoodartworks.nyc.

2022 GRANT RECIPIENTS

THE PUERTO RICAN JEW

LOUIS CARRASCO

A man in his late twenties finds out he is half-Jewish.

CONDOS

DILEEPAN GANESAN

After being hit by equipment at a construction site, Gary wins a large sum from a settlement. He decides to invest the money by buying and renovating apartments in his building. But he hits an obstacle – the ever tenacious Melinda, who will not budge like the other tenants.

ALTERNATE SIDE PARKING

TIMOTHY KOCH

On Isham Street, at Broadway, in the Inwood Neighborhood of Upper Manhattan, alternate side parking rules are in effect on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11:30am to 1:00pm. This is a story about those parked cars, how they move, and the people who move them.

NANA

HILLARY CARRIGAN

A grandmother invites herself over to her granddaughter Natalie's for a series of Sunday lunches. Growing sick of small talk, Natalie opens up in an attempt to connect with a woman she has nothing in common with.

THIS IS JANE, SEE JANE...

KEENA GONZALEZ

In a world where women are designated second class citizens and gender identity and sex education are no longer taught in school, Jane finds herself unexpectedly pregnant and forced to make the biggest decision of her life.

SWEET BOYS

NATASHA RIVERA

This is a love letter. To youth, to East Harlem, and to all the sweet boys that society helped turn into hard men.

ROBOTOMY

MICHAEL PIZZANO

A troubled man is convinced he is a robot and demands his doctor help him find the evidence.



LOUIS CARRASCO is a filmmaker and photographer from the Bronx, NY. He has worked in the media industry for close to 10 years. A graduate of CUNY-Lehman College with a BA in media studies, he recently moved back to NYC from LA, working on many settings. His last directed short was a two episode series titled *Famished Artists*.



HILLARY CARRIGAN is an award-winning Producer/Editor known for her contributions in post-production for feature-length films (*You Hurt My Feelings*, *Jerry and Marge Go Large*, *Marriage Story*, among others). Her digital work for politicians and nonprofits, notably for International Planned Parenthood Federation, Hillary For America, and Biden/Harris, has been viewed online over 50 million times. Her creative work has been official selections of film festivals. hillarycarrigan.com.



DILEEPAN GANESAN is a director, screenwriter and composer, whose films touch upon themes of love, modern life, and injustice, but always with a sense of humor. Although never taught in a film school, he has learned from classic art house and indie films from video stores and streaming platforms, and has practiced his craft in one short film and feature to date. He is working on his latest short, *Condos*, with the aid of the Inwood Filmmaker Fund.



KEENA GONZALEZ moved from Hollywood to NYC in 2000 to pursue her work as a photographer. In 2008 she earned her BFA from the School of Visual Arts where she was mentored by singer-songwriter Anohni and interned for world renowned photographer Annie Leibovitz. Since graduating Keena has worked closely with the artist collective Openings, has had her photographs exhibited, and in 2023 she'll be directing her film entitled *This Is Jane. See Jane...*



TIMOTHY KOCH is an Inwood-based director and educator, working across documentary film, theater, and opera. *Alternate Side Parking* is his second documentary after *Community Sourced Shakespeare: Inwood Hamlet* in 2021, which was filmed in Isham Park and supported by a NYFA City Artist Corps Grant. He is a member of Tectonic Theater Project, where he's directed numerous readings, workshops, and their 2022 Gala. In 2021, he was the Associate Director of *Seven Deadly Sins*, seven new plays performed in empty storefronts of the Meatpacking District. From 2016 to 2020, he was the Resident Director of Disney's *Frozen* on Broadway. He teaches acting at AMDA and with private coaching clients. timothykoch-director.com



NATASHA RIVERA is a Director, Writer, Producer from NYC. For the past decade, she's been an Assistant Director for shows like *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, *Patti Cake\$*, and *The Godfather of Harlem* to name a few. She's been nominated for three DGA Directing Awards and has received grants and mentorship from NALIP, BRIO & Inwood Film Works. She co-created the production company, Boiling River Productions with her husband Seamus which has several projects in development.



MICHAEL PIZZANO is an independent filmmaker and a proud New Yorker. He recently created a nine-episode web series, *Lockdown Living*, that takes a dark, comedic look into lessons learned from the 2020 quarantine. His short films *The Replacement* and *Say No to Drift Walking*, were festival favorites – including the Inwood Film Festival!

INWOOD ART WORKS

FILM WORKS ALFRESCO

NYC

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NEW HEIGHTS
REALTY

THE HUDSON

WHBID
WASHINGTON HEIGHTS
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

12 FREE SCREENINGS
2375 PEOPLE ATTENDED
22% KIDS
21% LATINO





FILM WORKS ALFRESCO

In 2022, IAW presented its fifth season of **FILM WORKS ALFRESCO**, which is the only free outdoor summer cinema series in New York City presenting English and Spanish language films. In a neighborhood without a single movie theater, IAW presented a season of **12 free screenings** presented every Monday evening June through August at The Hudson in Dyckman Marina in Inwood Hill Park.

As part of these dynamic live events, IAW employs local musical and theatrical artists and arts groups as live pre-show acts before each screening.

In the 2022 summer season, over **2,375 people attended** Film Works Alfresco. This marks a 6% increase in audience from our pandemic season of 2021. There was a 21% growth in attendance by Latinos, a 22% increase in attendance by children, while maintaining our level of engagement with our senior population.



INWOOD ART WORKS

ON AIR



IAW ON AIR PODCAST spotlights
a **WHO'S WHO** of the multicultural artistic community
who **MAKE THEIR HOME** in "Upstate Manhattan."

HOW MANY DO YOU KNOW?





46 PODCASTS
8795 LISTENERS

The **ON AIR PODCAST** showcases film, stage, music, visual artists and writers from Inwood and neighboring communities. The programming consists of two featured segments: **ARTIST SPOTLIGHT** and **LIVE N' LOCAL**.

In **ARTIST SPOTLIGHT** segments, we tell the stories of Inwood artists and creators recorded at beloved local haunts in the community.

In **LIVE N' LOCAL** segments, we provide an intimate platform to feature a live showcase for the talents of local musicians.

In 2022, we presented **OUR THIRD SEASON** consisting of 46 podcasts heard by 8,795 listeners. IAW On Air is the only podcast that **DOCUMENTS AND CHAMPIONS** the work of Upper Manhattan and Northwest Bronx artists, creating a portrait of them for audiences to experience for free in audio and video formats.

SUBSCRIBE wherever you get your podcasts and on IAW's YouTube channel, [YOUTUBE.COM/INWOODARTWORKS](https://www.youtube.com/inwoodartworks)

COMMUNITY CONCERT SERIES



3 PAY-WHAT-YOU-WILL CONCERTS
370+ PEOPLE ATTENDED
34% FROM UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS

IAW'S COMMUNITY CONCERT SERIES

World-class classical and contemporary music played
(and sometimes composed) by local professional musicians.

IAW believes professional artists are vital to the existence and revival of the cultural landscape of Upper Manhattan and New York City. In 2022, we presented three pay-what you will concerts at **GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH AND AUDITORIUM** to champion local professional musicians. This inclusive pricing structure created what has been a rare occurrence in our community: an accessible joyous experience of live musical performance.



THE 2022 SEASON

We kicked off the season on May 20 with a program of classical chamber music performed by the **INWOOD CHAMBER PLAYERS**, and American jazz standards performed by **THE LOU BRUNO JAZZ QUARTET**.

On October 14, we presented a double bill of new classical chamber music featuring the world premiere of a new composition, *Trilogy for Reeds*, and a new arrangement of the *Ukrainian National Anthem* by local composer **RICH SHEMARIA** played by **DOUBLE ENTENDRE MUSIC ENSEMBLE**.

The second half featured American jazz movie classics such as *Stella by Starlight* and *Laura* performed by **THE BRIDGEPORT JAZZ TRIO** featuring vocalist **NANCY ALLEN LUNDY**.

This year ended with a special **HOLIDAY CONCERT** on December 12th to a standing-room-only crowd, featuring a performance of highlights from George Frideric Handel's **MESSIAH** and Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's **THE NUTCRACKER** arranged by local resident Gilbert Dejean.

12 MILES UPTOWN



12 MILES UPTOWN is a new Jazz Age-inspired dance performance about community, culture, and immigration in 1920's Northern Manhattan. The production played out in a live site-specific fusion of dance, jazz music, and theatricality in an uptown speakeasy for two sold-out performances on June 28 and 29.





Directed and choreographed by **JULIA BENGTTSSON** with music direction and arrangements by **BRIAN MORALES**, this multidisciplinary production reflected how the present-day parallels and diverges from our past in its diversity and multiculturalism 100 years later. This world premiere production was made for the Inwood and Washington Heights communities, featuring uptown-based dance artists, jazz quartet, and creative team.



SPECIAL EVENTS

IAW connects community through the art of
FOOD, FUN, AND MUSIC!
This year's special events were:

FISH FRY

IAW, in collaboration with **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. JOSEPH COUNCIL 443**, produced a community Fish Fry on March 4, 2022. Over 150 attended.



**COOK
OUT**

SUMMER COMMUNITY COOKOUT

An intimate community cookout in support of IAW's free summer programming. Neighbors schmoozed with amazing local artists, enjoying grilled burgers and hot dogs, tasty side dishes, and desserts, washed down with refreshing ice-cold beer, wine, and soft drinks. Over 40 attended, relaxing on one of the most beautiful back porches in all of Northern Manhattan.



HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

The holiday event at 809 Restaurant and Lounge celebrated the season while giving thanks for living in such a great community of artists, art-lovers, and all-around great people. Over 50 guests enjoyed unlimited beer, wine, soda, hip holiday cocktails, and delicious finger foods, when they weren't dancing to the tunes of Inwood's own **DJ ONE!**



SHERMAN SHRIEK

In partnership with New York Restoration Project, IAW offered free artistic community engagement to youth from historically underserved groups.



INWOOD ART WORKS

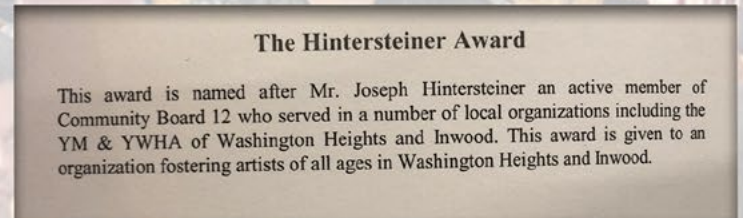
2022 BY THE NUMBERS

- 1** World premiere dance theater production
- 3** Community concerts
- 7** Grants to local filmmakers to greenlight their films
- 12** Film Works Alfresco events
- 18** Days of film presented in Inwood
- 19** World premiere films
- 46** On Air podcasts
- 69** Unique programs presented this year
- 3,800** Audience members

AWARDS



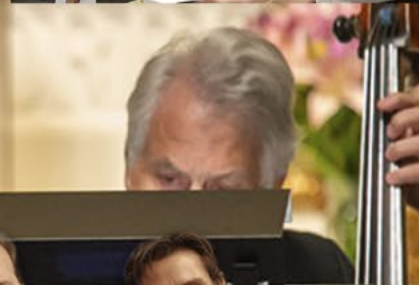
THE HINTERSTEINER AWARD from Columbia University Medical Center



CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION from Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine



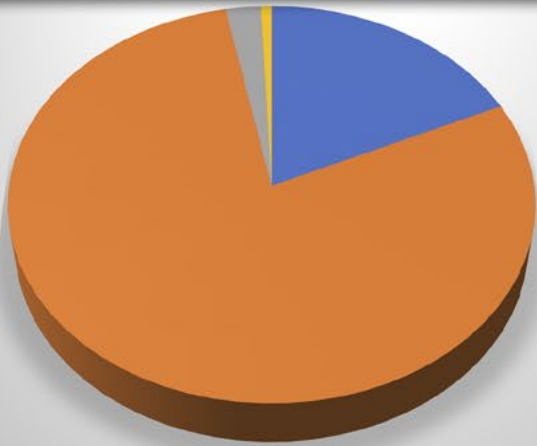
CITATION from New York State Assembly Member Manny de los Santos



INWOOD ART WORKS

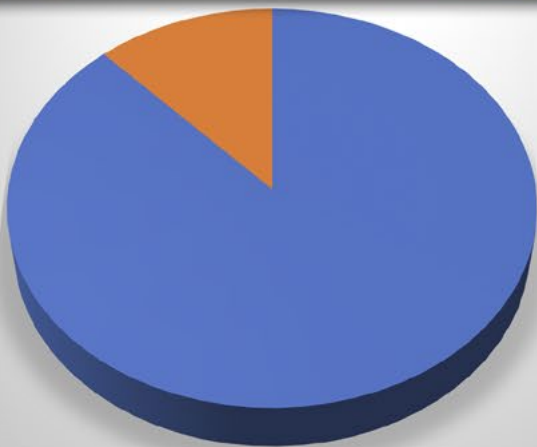
2022 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

TOTAL INCOME: \$205,568



- Earned: \$37,222
- Contributed: \$162,030
- Special Event: \$4,896
- Miscellaneous: \$1,420

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$139,434



- Programming: \$122,765
- Administration: \$16,669

NET: \$66,134

