Arts and Culture have the power to inspire, heal and enrich the university experience. The programming at the Northeastern Center for the Arts provides opportunities for students, staff and faculty to express themselves, inspire creative thinking, build self-confidence and raise cultural awareness.
From fully staged performances and gallery exhibitions, to site-specific projects and public dialogues, the Center’s recent activity demonstrates the ways in which art, media + design are an integral part of the Northeastern experience.
The performance was stunning and the workshops enlightening, but the most important function of Word Becomes Flesh may have been to bridge the chasm that separates so many universities from the communities that surround them.

With a host of powerful themes—race, fatherhood, responsibility, ambition—the play is a mesmerizing blend of poetry and dance. Actors in the five-man cast take turns exploring the protagonist’s struggle to explain himself to his unborn son as he grapples with what it means to be a black man in modern America. His dilemma is complicated by the fact that the pregnancy was unplanned, and his relationship with the mother is far from certain.

Does he stay or run? Should he opt to commit or urge the mother to terminate the pregnancy? Does he communicate his complex emotions, or seals himself in a fortress of silence? These are just a few of the quandaries the protagonist struggles with as he explores his relationship with his father, with women, and with the history of racism.

“It was fantastic,” says Farai Williams, artistic director of Project Hip-Hop in Roxbury, Mass. “It was a wonderful piece for Northeastern to bring in and even more wonderful to extend it further by bringing the workshops out into the community.”

Project Hip-Hop, where one workshop was held, is a group that trains youths, ages 14 through 20, to use dance and street performance as a cultural tool to educate and motivate the community. It was one of three community organizations the actors visited during their weeklong residency at Northeastern.

Creating closer ties with surrounding neighborhoods is one of the top goals for Bree Edwards, the new director of Northeastern’s Center for the Arts.

“We wanted to kick off the center’s programming with this project because community engagement is a major part of this work,” she says. “This is a model for what artists can do. It’s about more than filling seats in the theater—it’s about bringing the performance to where the people are.”

For many minority youths who attended the performance, seeing black men deal with these powerful emotions through poetry and dance was a watershed experience.

“I had several kids come up to me afterward and say, ‘Finally, someone put into words what I have been experiencing.’” says Williams.

According to cast member Dareed Diggs, the point of the play isn’t how the protagonist answers these questions,
“PHENOMENAL, TRANSFORMATIONAL PERFORMANCE OF WORD BECOMES FLESH TONIGHT AT NORTHEASTERN.”

–Carole V. Bell, @BellCV

“THIS WAS ONE OF THE GREATEST SHOWS I HAVE EVER SEEN HANDS DOWN. #SPOKENWORD #INTERPRETIVEDANCE #EYEOPENING”

–Czarr D Freeman III, @trokonzah

“THIS DANCE/SPOKEN WORD/HIP HOP PERFORMANCE ABOUT THE BLACK MALE EXPERIENCE WAS SO POWERFUL AND HONEST AND BOLD AND JUST BEAUTIFUL TONIGHT. IF THIS IS COMING TO YOUR CITY, GO!”

–Amber K. Boyd, @getambertoharvard
NORTHEASTERN CELEBRATES
HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

September 29, 2014

In collaboration with Peace and Social Justice Week, Multicultural Communities Studies, Latina/o Student Cultural Center, Northeastershifts, Art Institute, and Art + Design

September 18, 2014 | 7:00 PM
AfterHOURS,
Curry Student Center
360 Huntington Avenue

Filled with charm, humor and heart... "They Call Me Q is comedic without seeming over the top, and thought provoking without being preachy..."
— nytheatreguide.com

In collaboration with Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion, Asian American Center, Latino/a Student Cultural Center, International Student and Scholar Institute, and Social Justice Resource Center

northeastern.edu/camd/cfa
centerforthearts@neu.edu
@ArtsNU #CAMD

September 29, 2014

In collaboration with Peace and Social Justice Week, Music, Media & Screen Studies, Communication Studies, Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion, Northeastern Public Art Initiative, and Art + Design

Lecture | 1:30–2:00 PM | Shickman Auditorium
Raquel Z. Rivera
The Socio-Sonic Circuitry of Afro-Latino Music in the Caribbean: From Bomba, Son Jarocho and Palos to Hip Hop and Reggaeton

Postlecture | 2:00–3:00 PM | Shickman Auditorium
Ojos de Sofia
Décimas: Ancient Form, New Stories

Exhibition Reception | 5:00 PM | West Village H
Cuba, through the lens
Student photographs from the Cuba Dialogues of Civilization

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Public art is an inspiration that everyone can experience and brings new energy to campus.

The Northeastern Public Art Initiative was launched in 2014 with Daniel Anguilu’s bold and colorful mural.

A non-ordinary pedestrian footbridge on campus was recently transformed into a dazzling display of color and design by artist-in-residence Daniel Anguilu. The celebrated muralist, who draws inspiration from urban graffiti, also channeled imagery from One Hundred Years of Solitude by Colombian author Gabriel García Márquez, who died a few days before Anguilu arrived on campus.

This mural kicks off a new public art initiative for the university, which will provide faculty, students, alumni, and guest artists with space around the campus to create exciting artwork that inspires our community and beyond.

—Photo by Brooks Canaday
By working with artists in public space, the entire Northeastern campus has the opportunity to experience the artistic process.

Northeastern faculty Sophia Ainslie’s “In Person” mural was commissioned for Ryder Hall.
The artist-in-residence program brings professional studio artists into the classroom.

Photographer Mitch Weiss speaks with a class about the experience of creating Lady Gaga’s portrait in 2008.
In collaboration with Gallery 360, exhibitions of international significance are presented alongside student work.
Creatively working with new technologies, Northeastern students are engaged with civic infrastructure, social media and contemporary issues.
John Coltrane inspired people to achieve musical, spiritual, and humanitarian heights never thought possible. The Annual Friends of John Coltrane Memorial Concert has been presenting world-class musicians and creative artists together for over 37 years.
FanoFania & Lohengrin
March 7, 2015 | 8:00 PM
Fenway Center
77 St. Stephen St.

Sound Icon presents an evening of bloodshed, deception and despair with music by Salvatore Sciarrino featuring soprano Tony Arnold.

"If you see Tony Arnold's name listed for a concert, buy a ticket immediately."
–Time Out Chicago

“SOUND ICON CONTINUES TO BE A LEADER IN AMBITIOUS PROGRAMMING WITH UNPARALLELED PERFORMANCES IN THE BOSTON AREA.”
–I CARE IF YOU LISTEN
Northeastern University and Boston Ballet have created a comprehensive educational program to help professional ballet dancers earn college degrees and to prepare them for careers after dancing. The program capitalizes on Northeastern’s leadership in developing hybrid, flexible degree programs designed to meet the individual needs and interests of talented professionals.
The Northeastern Center for the Arts fosters individual and collaborative research in art, media and design, supporting published scholarship and new creative activity.
As part of research and scholarship, the Northeastern Center for the Arts presents:

- **Conversations at CAMD** with TED Conference founder and Distinguished Professor of the Practice of Art and Design Richard Saul Wurman.
- **Tools and Technology for Creativity** hands-on workshops.
- **CAMD Book Club** meet-the-author series focused on recent faculty publications.
Recent Faculty Publications

Design for Information

An introduction to the histories, theories, and best practices behind effective information visualizations

Isabel Meirelles
The Petrochemical America exhibition, organized by the Aperture Foundation and the associated conference Grounds for Engagement created a forum for discussing landscape architecture, data visualization, environmental justice and socially engaged artistic practice.
Anita Sarkeesian, media critic and creator of Feminist Frequency, a video web series that explores representations of women in video games and pop culture lectured in Blackman Auditorium in November 2014.
Artists often use their work to confront contemporary issues. Through artist residencies, community-based collaborations, public art and dialogue, The Northeastern Center for the Arts is a forum for civic engagement.
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Visual artist Tatyana Fazlalizadeh’s Stop Telling Women to Smile residency and public artwork addressed street harassment and served as an organizing opportunity to educate our students, staff and faculty about Title IX, a law that protects against gender-based discrimination & harassment in education.
BLOCK PARTY
NORTHEASTERN STANDS TOGETHER AGAINST HARASSMENT

October 7, 2014 | 2:00 PM
Centennial Common

PUBLIC ART, PUBLIC POLICY
AN INTERDISCIPLINARY DIALOGUE ON TITLE IX AND THE CLERY ACT

October 7, 2014 | 5:30 PM
240 Dockser Hall
400 Huntington Ave

In conjunction with Stop Telling Women to Smile, an artist residency at Northeastern Center for the Arts with Tatyana Fazlalizadeh, and NuLawLab

In collaboration with NuLawLab, Communication Studies, Office of Institutional Diversity & Inclusion, Latino/a Student Cultural Center, Hollaback! Boston, Social Justice Resource Center, Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies, and Northeastern’s Public Art Initiative
"THE REWARDS OF BEING AN ACTIVIST ARE INSPIRING OTHERS TO SPEAK UP ABOUT THEIR LIVES AND EXPERIENCES. @STWTSMAKE #ENDSH”
–Anna Simba, @acsimba

"PROUD TO BE A PART OF NORTHEASTERN, A SCHOOL THAT KNOWS WHAT’S RIGHT! #NURESPECT #ITSONUS #CAMD #STWTS #EQUALITY”
–Suktrit, @sukrits25

"THANK YOU NORTHEASTERN FOR ALLOWING US TO BE A PART OF YOUR BLOCK PARTY AGAINST HARASSMENT! IT WAS AN INCREDIBLE EVENT.”
–Safe Hub Collective, @SafeHubCollect
Neighborhood Matters is a collaboration with the Archives and Special Collections at Northeastern University’s Snell Library.

This film & discussion series celebrates the ways in which community groups & local activism have shaped the neighborhoods surrounding the Northeastern Campus.
The Northeastern Center for the Arts presents free, public programs designed to inspire creative thinking, build self-confidence and raise cultural awareness.
Since 2013, the Center for the Arts has hosted:

- **37** lectures
- **7** exhibitions
- **8** performances
- **3** conferences
- **10** interactive workshops
- **10** college-wide assemblies
- **6** film screenings
- **8** meet the author events
- **2** game hackathons
- **1** block party
The Northeastern Center for the Arts provides every student, staff and faculty the opportunity to interact with arts and culture and to become part of the creative community at Northeastern University.

Northeastern University
College of Arts, Media and Design