



INSPIRE:

EVERYDAY PEOPLE
CHANGING NEW JERSEY

DRUMTHWACKET 2015-2016

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CHANGING NEW JERSEY

Aubrey J. Kauffman

Kay Kenny

Donald Lokuta

Geanna Merola

Klaus Schnitzer

Robin Schwartz

Jay Seldin

Bruce M. White

Wendel A. White

September 23, 2015 – July 27, 2016

Drumthwacket, Princeton, NJ

NSPIRE: EVERYDAY PEOPLE CHANGING NEW JERSEY partners the non-profit organizations New Jersey Heroes, which I founded in 2010, and the Drumthwacket Foundation of which my husband, the Governor, proudly serves as Honorary Chairperson and I serve as President. The Drumthwacket Foundation commissioned nine New Jersey fine art photographers to photograph eighteen individuals honored by New Jersey Heroes. The resulting eighteen black and white portraits captured through the lens of professional photographers Aubrey J. Kauffman, Kay Kenny, Donald Lokuta, Geanna Merola, Klaus Schnitzer, Robin Schwartz, Jay Seldin, Bruce M. White and Wendel A. White celebrate these remarkable individuals whose hard work and tireless efforts inspire New Jerseyans to give back to their community. The exhibit furthers the Drumthwacket Foundation's fine arts initiative launched in 2012 to curate historical and contemporary exhibits which recognize New Jersey's rich cultural heritage and raise pride in our wonderful state.

I hope you enjoy the exhibit and your visit to Drumthwacket.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mary Pat Christie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Mary Pat Christie
First Lady of New Jersey



*Jerry Walker, Founder, Team Walker
Rod Hirsch, Founder, Operation Shoebox*

AUBREY J. KAUFFMAN

Aubrey J. Kauffman is a photographer living and working in New Jersey. He received his BA in Media Arts from New Jersey City University and his MFA in Visual Arts from Rutgers University's Mason Gross School of the Arts. He has taught photography at Mason Gross, Middlesex County College, Mercer County Community College and Community College of Philadelphia.

His photography has been included in group exhibitions at The Newark Museum, Newark, NJ; Rider University, Lawrenceville, NJ; Southern Light Gallery in Amarillo, Texas; The Biggs Museum of American Art in Dover, DE; Philadelphia Photo Arts, Philadelphia, PA and the Griffin Museum of Photography in Winchester, MA.

He has exhibited in solo shows at The New Jersey State Museum, Trenton, NJ; Enfoco at 7th and 2ND Street Gallery,

New York, NY; Southern Light Gallery in Amarillo, Texas and Marguerite & James Hutchins Gallery at the Gruss Center of Visual Arts, Lawrenceville, NJ.

He was awarded the Brovero Photography Prize by Mason Gross and his work was named "Best in Collection" by Alpha Art Gallery in New Brunswick, NJ.

His work is represented in the permanent collections of Rider University in Lawrenceville, NJ and Johnson & Johnson's Corporate Headquarters in New Brunswick, NJ.

At present he is the Gallery Manager for Mason Gross Galleries at Mason Gross School of the Arts in New Brunswick, NJ and a contributing writer on photography for US 1 in Princeton, NJ.

aubreyjkauffman.com

Jerry Walker, Founder, Team Walker

Jerry Walker is not only a star athlete, playing basketball for St. Anthony High School and Seton Hall University, he is also a hero to many children growing up in his hometown of Jersey City. Through his non-profit foundation, Team Walker, he provides inner city youth with a safe and fun place to spend their free time after school and throughout the summer. Having a program like this that focuses on academic and recreational activities gives these children a better chance to stay free from any negative influences they might encounter in their neighborhood.

teamwalker.org

Rod Hirsch, Founder, Operation Shoebox NJ

When Rod was an Eagle Scout in 1969, he had friends who were sent over to serve in Vietnam. He chose then to do a service project, sending care packages to his friends and other troops who were overseas. The idea came back to him to start up again 36 years later and Operation Shoebox New Jersey was born. He recognized that the simple gesture of a care package really means everything to a service member who is far away from their family and friends. Through Operation Shoebox he is making a difference in the lives of our military personnel every day. Since its inception in 2005, Operation Shoebox has sent over 95,000 care packages to our troops in the Middle East.

opshoeboxnj.org



Robert Clark, Founder, YouthBuild Newark

Asia D. Smith, Founder, Purple R.E.I.G.N. Social Services

KAY KENNY

Kay Kenny received a BFA from Syracuse University, MA from Rutgers University and MFA from Syracuse University. She writes art criticism and articles on the visual arts for arts magazines and has taught photography for over 20 years at New York University and the International Center of Photography in New York City. Awards include the 2015 Legacy Award, Griffin Museum of Photography, 2009 Honorable Mention in Fine Arts Photography Lucie Awards and three prestigious New Jersey State Council on the Arts Fellowship Awards. She has had numerous one-person shows most notably in Medellin, Columbia; Taipei, Taiwan; Lubbock, Texas and New York City and has curated several

exhibits, including “Memory & Loss”, a five-person photo-based exhibit at the Mary Anthony Gallery in New York City. Her work is in several notable corporate, museum and private collections including Pfizer Corporation, New York, NY; Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, WI and Bristol-Myers Squibb, Lawrenceville, NJ. Recent publications about her work include Photography’s Antiquarian Avant-Garde by Lyle Rexer, Abrams Publishing; Light & Lens, Photography in the Digital Age; and Photographic Possibilities by Robert Hirsch, Focal Press as well as several other photography books.

kaykenny.com

Robert Clark, Founder, YouthBuild Newark

The YouthBuild Newark program is based off the national YouthBuild model, which gives youth ages 16-24 a second chance at a new life. The students coming into this program have somehow lost their way, be it dropping out of high school, incarceration, or other troubling circumstances. YouthBuild is an intensive year-round program that helps these students get their high school equivalency diploma while teaching them important life skills and the value of hard work. When they leave this program, they not only carry their GED, but also a certificate for construction trades. YouthBuild Newark has provided over 2,000 disconnected young adults with the academic and vocational skill development they need to transform their lives.

youthbuildnewarknj.org

Asia D. Smith, Founder, Purple R.E.I.G.N. Social Services

After escaping a violent and abusive relationship, Asia wanted to help other men and women who suffered the same abuse. With that, she took the money she had saved to attend law school and started the non-profit foundation Purple R.E.I.G.N. Social Services. R.E.I.G.N. is an acronym for Restoration, Empowerment, Integrity, Grace, and Nobility. Purple R.E.I.G.N. gives resources and support to help victims get out of their abusive relationships safely.

purplereignss.org



Kate Dowd, Assistant Program Director, GlassRoots, Inc.

Alan Weinstein, Volunteer, Community Soup Kitchen & Outreach Center, Morristown

DONALD LOKUTA

Donald Lokuta's career as a photographer, painter, teacher, and historian spans over forty years. He has authored and co-authored several books and has written many articles about photography. His own artwork is published widely and has been included in over 300 exhibitions. Lokuta's works are in numerous permanent collections such as the Art Museum at Princeton University, the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, the Museum of the City of New York, the International Center of Photography in New York City, Lehigh University in Bethlehem, The New York Historical Society, the National September 11 Memorial & Museum in New York City, the Nelson-Atkins Museum and the Smithsonian Institution (National Museum of American History) in Washington, D.C.

Lokuta has had solo exhibitions at Sarah Morthland Gallery in New York; the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton; the Newark Museum in Newark, New Jersey; Parsons School of Design in New York City; Dabac Gallery in Zagreb, Croatia; the Zimmerli Art Museum. Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ; Srečna Gallery in Belgrade; the Urban Arts Space, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio and the

San Antonio Museum of Art. Lokuta's participation in group exhibitions includes the Museum of Modern Art in New York City; the New York Historical Society; Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York City; the Columbus Museum of Art in Columbus Ohio; the Front Room Gallery in Singapore; the Nelson-Atkins Museum in Kansas City; the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art in Madison, Wisconsin; Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna, Rome, Italy and the Norton Museum of Art in West Palm Beach, Florida. Lokuta is the recipient of twelve grants for his photography, including four prestigious New Jersey State Council on the Arts Fellowship Awards.

Donald Lokuta earned his Ph.D. at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, received his M.A. at Montclair University and B.A. at Newark State College in New Jersey. Lokuta guest lectures extensively and is a Distinguished Professor at Kean University in Union, New Jersey where he teaches photography in the Fine Arts Department. Lokuta's interest in historical photography is extensive and he has curated many exhibitions.

donaldlokuta.com

Alan Weinstein, Volunteer, Community Soup Kitchen & Outreach Center, Morristown

The Community Soup Kitchen feeds on average 100-350 people every day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year... that's over 10,000 consecutive days working to help others since they opened their doors in 1984. The numbers are staggering and show the extreme importance of the Soup Kitchen. Alan, the former owner of the Park Savoy, would donate unused food the hall had to the Soup Kitchen. When he retired, he asked them if he could help volunteer in any other way. When he learned that due to new restrictions, the Soup Kitchen was unable to accept perishable food donations from individuals and only from restaurants and caterings halls, he went to work using his contacts in the field and started the Kitchen to Kitchen Program. Through this program, local restaurants and catering halls are able to donate unused food, as well as any pre-made food (like soups), directly to the Soup Kitchen for distribution to their guests. This program single-handedly kept the Soup Kitchen's doors open and the food collected accounts for over 60% of the food they serve.

csmorristown.org

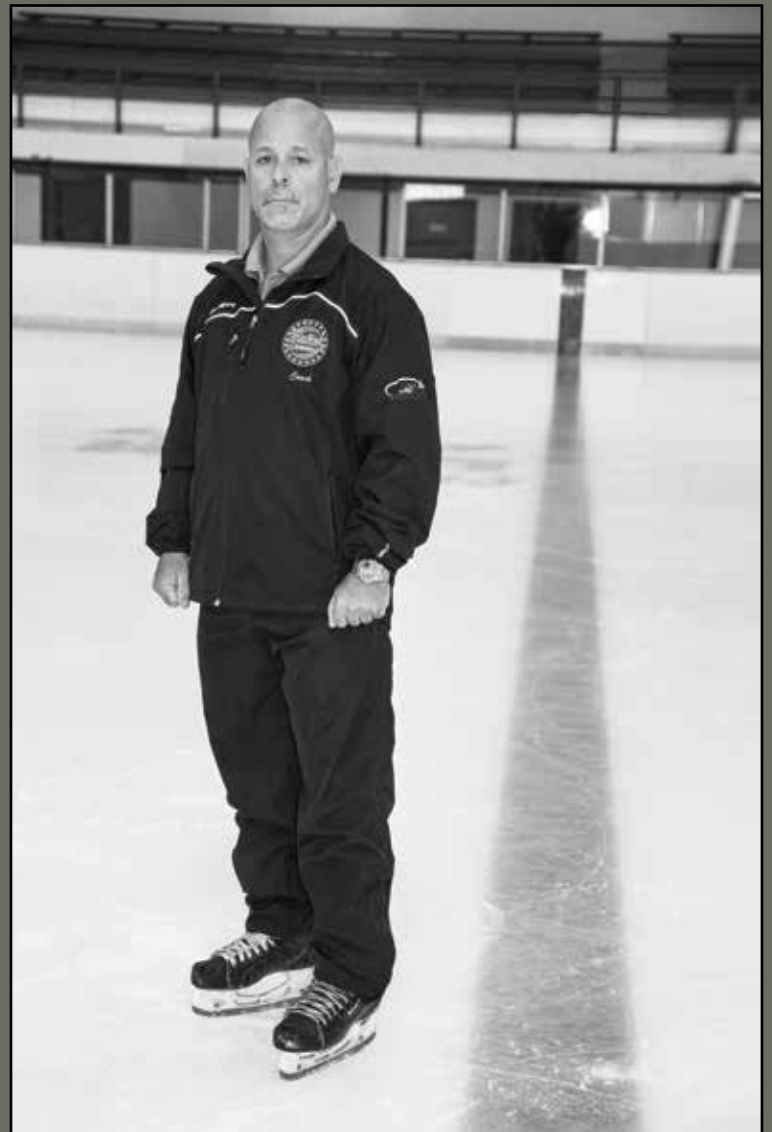
Kate Dowd, Assistant Program Director, GlassRoots, Inc.

Founded in 2001, GlassRoots, Inc. is an organization that provides artistic and life skills training to the Newark area youth through workshops in glassmaking and basic business and entrepreneurial concepts. GlassRoots' mission is to transform lives, especially of underserved youth, by fostering life-long learning and creative self-expression through the wonder of glass-making. In addition to being the Assistant Program Director, Kate is lead flame working instructor at GlassRoots, teaching students everyday this exciting and enticing craft.

glassroots.org



Abby Daly, Founder, Bridge of Books Foundation
Alex DePalma, Founder, Brick Stars Challenger Program



GEANNA MEROLA

Geanna Merola is an artist and educator whose use of photography spans a period of over thirty years. She has exhibited her work in numerous group and solo exhibitions nationally and internationally. She has received multiple fellowship grants from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and a NEA/Mid-Atlantic Regional Fellowship. She completed a Mid-Career Fellowship at Princeton University where she studied with Emmet Gowin and Peter C. Bunnell.

Merola's work is included in private, public and major corporate collections and has also appeared on CD

covers for Deutsche Grammophon records as well as book covers for works of fiction and poetry. Merola currently teaches photography and the history of photography at Brookdale Community College in Lincroft, New Jersey. She divides her time between New York City and Ocean Grove, New Jersey, where she keeps a studio near her home.

geannamerola.com

Abby Daly, Founder, Bridge of Books Foundation

Bridge of Books provides an ongoing source of books to underprivileged and at-risk children throughout New Jersey in order to support literacy skills and to encourage a love of reading. The organization's name comes from the belief that a book, like a bridge, can take a child to new places. Founder Abby Daly saw an overwhelming need for books in many areas of our state. As something many of us take for granted, she wanted to find a way to be able to provide for those children who may not even own a single book. Through donations and book drives, Bridge of Books has been able to facilitate the distribution of over 600,000 books since its launch in 2003.

bridgeofbooksfoundation.org

Alex DePalma, Founder, Brick Stars Challenger Program

After being a hockey coach for some 25 years, Alex DePalma felt he was ready for a new challenge. Recognizing the large number of children and adults with developmental disabilities in our state, Alex founded in 2009 the Brick Stars Challenger Program to introduce this group of citizens to his favorite sport. However, what may have started out as a fun way to bring hockey to individuals with disabilities, quickly grew into a life changing program. Participants become more animated and talkative and maintain better focus in their daily lives. They become physically stronger and develop more confidence. The program teaches coordination, strength, endurance, and motivation which helps with their independence. Brick Stars Challenger Program is the fastest growing special needs ice hockey program in NJ.

brickstarshockey.webs.com



*Michael Ricci, Founder, Operation Beachhead
Diane Taylor, Founder, Pass It Along*

KLAUS SCHNITZER

Klaus Schnitzer's exhibition career consists of over 200 regional, national and international shows. As a visiting artist he has lectured and taught at, among others, the Chicago Art Institute, Tyler School of Art and Haifa University (Israel). Consulting work includes MIT's Car Consortium/Media Lab, Polaroid Corporation and the National Park Service.

He has received a National Endowment for the Arts grant, 16 grants from Montclair State University, four from

the Polaroid Foundation, and four from the New Jersey Council on the Arts.

Klaus Schnitzer's work can be found in numerous private collections as well as in the Museum of Modern Art, Ellis Island Immigration Museum, Lower East Side Tenement Museum, the Polaroid International Collection and BMW NA.

klausschnitzerphoto.com

Michael Ricci, Founder, Operation Beachhead

Michael Ricci is a combat-decorated veteran who sustained permanent injuries while serving in Vietnam. He started the foundation, Operation Beachhead, to help disabled veterans and members of his community learn how to take part in water sports, like surfing, through an adaptive sports program. In addition to helping disabled veterans, Michael has expanded the program to include individuals with disabilities such as autism and other special needs. As of 2014, Operation Beachhead launched a winter adaptive sports program that includes sled hockey and ice skating for participants.

opbeachhead.org

Diane Taylor, Founder, Pass It Along

Diane was inspired to start Pass It Along in 2001 after a group of neighborhood teenagers asked her to help them collect food for a local food pantry. She realized there were a number of young people in her immediate community who had excellent ideas for community service activities and volunteerism, but just needed some adult guidance and the appropriate tools to get the ball rolling. So with that, she decided to leave her full time job and start Pass It Along, a non-profit that gives young people the opportunity to plan, execute, lead, and participate in initiatives to bring about positive change in their community and state. This model has allowed Pass It Along to start and continue numerous programs that help a wide array of needs.

www.passitalong.org



*Mia, Pony Power Therapies Rider, and Dixie
the pony, Pony Power Therapies
Wendie Blanchard, Founder, Arthur & Friends*

ROBIN SCHWARTZ

Robin Schwartz earned a Master of Fine Arts in Photography from Pratt Institute and her photographs are held in several museum, corporate and private collections including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; The Museum of Modern Art, New York; The Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.; The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; The Zimmerli Voorhees Museum, New Jersey; and Johnson & Johnson, New Brunswick, NJ. Monographs include *Amelia and The Animals*, The Aperture Foundation, 2014; *Amelia's World*, The Aperture Foundation, 2008; *Dog Watching*, Takarajima Books, 1994 and *LIKE US: Primate Portraits*, W.W. Norton & Company, New York, 1993.

Schwartz's photographs have been published in The New York Times Magazine, The New Yorker Magazines,

TIME Magazine LIGHTBOX, New York Times Lens Blog, Slate Magazine, PetaPixel, CBSNEWS.com (covering The FENCE at Photoville / United Photo Industries, Brooklyn,) The Guardian UK, My Modern Met and selected magazines.

Schwartz is the recipient of numerous grants and awards including two fellowships from the New Jersey State Council for the Arts and the Ford Foundation Individual Artist Grant, Graduate Fellowship in Photography, Pratt Institute, New York. She serves on the faculty for the International Center for Photography, New York and is Associate Professor, Art Department, Photography at William Paterson University.

robinschwartz.net

Dana Spett, Founder, Pony Power Therapies

Pony Power Therapies provides horse assisted activities to children and adults with autism, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, emotional disabilities, disabled veterans, at-risk youth, and so many others. Through therapeutic riding, these participants are able to gain a sense of mental clarity, physical exercise, core strengthening, and sensory input. It also gives them a sense of accomplishment, patience, self-esteem and pride. Being a lifelong equestrian, Dana Spett discovered the therapeutic riding field while researching alternatives therapies for one of her daughters with mild special needs. Recognizing the benefits, Dana started Pony Power Therapies in 2000 with just four riders and one horse, housed at a local barn. By their third year of operation, they purchased Three Sisters Farm after they had maxed out of the space they were in. They now have 20 horses on the farm, 175 clients, and over 150 volunteers.

ponypowernj.org

Wendie Blanchard, Founder, Arthur & Friends

Wendie started Arthur & Friends in 2008 after speaking with her nephew Arthur, who has Down syndrome, about the hardships of finding meaningful work for people with developmental disabilities. Wendie and Arthur came up with the idea of starting a hydroponic greenhouse that would supply fresh produce for local farm markets and area restaurants year-round, while giving Arthur and his friends more worthwhile jobs. In addition, the program helps its participants become more productive and self-sufficient members of their community.

arthurandfriends.org



Gian Paul Gonzalez, Founder, Hope + Future
Melina García, Founder, Union City Music Project

JAY SELDIN

“I am a teacher, photographer, and world traveler. I am a curious person and a teller of tales.” As a social documentary photographer, and environmental portrait photographer, my goal is to capture a moment in the lives of individual people, families or groups I’ve encountered on my journeys. I hope that the viewer will find an interesting story in the images that I have captured.

The ‘Heros’ that I have met for this project are truly distinguished members of our NJ communities. Both Melina Garcia and Gian Paul dedicate themselves to the children and families in their local communities. I applaud their efforts helping and giving back to those that need it most, our children.

I have been exhibiting my photos for more than 30 years nationally and internationally and have received several

awards and grants from the following: The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, Adobe Photoshop competition winner, Distinguished Educators Award from Rochester Institute of Technology.

I am sponsored by the international paper company Canson-Infinity as one of their photography ambassadors, as well as BlackRapid Photo gear. I own and operate a photo travel workshop company specializing in bringing students to various developing countries to document and experience cultures and lifestyles. I’ve held the position of “artist-in-residence” for the Newark Art Museum and the Montclair Art Museum for several years. Currently, a faculty member at The International Center for Photography (ICP) in NYC.

jayseldinphotos.com

Gian Paul Gonzalez, Founder, Hope + Future

Gian Paul was the forward for Montclair State University basketball team during his time in college. In his junior year, he started an organization called 4-One which motivates at-risk youth throughout NJ through the game of basketball, inspiring pride and self-esteem in kids who need it the most. Upon graduating from Montclair State, Gian Paul had the opportunity to play professional basketball for the NBA. However, he decided to give up that dream for another one. He came back to his hometown of Union City to be a high school teacher. He felt that instead of giving his neighborhood kids a celebrity to look up to, it would serve them better to have a real in-person role model that they were able to spend time with every day. Using the 4-One model, Gian Paul started the Hope+Future Foundation which includes athletic training, mentoring clubs, health and nutrition education, an intramural basketball league, and assigned academic study periods to assist personal growth and improve young lives.

www.hope-future.us

Melina García, Founder, Union City Music Project

Melina is a Venezuela native who immigrated to Brooklyn with her mother at a young age. While in Brooklyn, she would pass the Brooklyn Conservatory everyday on her way to school, but unfortunately could not afford to attend. This was the second time Melina was unable to join a music program, as a similar program in her native country had run out of instruments by the time Melina was old enough to join. This would later inspire Melina to give the opportunity she missed as a child to others. Melina was living in Union City when she and her husband decided to start a family. They thought about moving to a better neighborhood to raise their children. However, she began to feel that if everyone with the means left Union City the way she had planned, there would be no one there to make a difference in the lives of the youth in the city she loved. She felt a calling to stay and make a difference. She started the Union City Music Project – an after school program designed to keep young people off the streets and teach them how to play a musical instrument in the process.

ucmusicproject.org



*Mike Ruane & Erika Rech, Co-Founders, Breast Intentions
Jodina Hicks, Executive Director, UrbanPromise*

BRUCE M. WHITE

Bruce M. White is an independent photographer specializing in the photography of historic architecture and works of art. Formerly a staff photographer at Sotheby's NY and at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Bruce established an independent studio in 1991. His award winning, internationally recognized photographs have illustrated numerous art books & exhibitions and are commissioned by leading educational, cultural, and historic institutions such as The Metropolitan Museum of Art and The White House, as well as by noted artists and art collectors.

Recent projects include a 2014-2015 group exhibition at Kean University, new photography of the collection of American antiques at the Diplomatic Reception Rooms at the Department of State Washington D.C., updating photography for a new printing of the seminal volume: *The White House: Its Historic Furnishings & First Families* by Betty Monkman and Bruce White.

brucewhitephotos.com

Mike Ruane & Erika Rech, Co-Founders, Breast Intentions

When they were just 15 years old, cousins Mike Ruane and Erika Rech started Breast Intentions when two family members including Erika's mom, were diagnosed with breast cancer within months of one another. Throughout diagnosis and treatment, Erika and Mike witnessed firsthand the devastating effect that cancer can have on a family. They vowed to form an organization to help families navigate through a cancer diagnosis by providing resources and emotional and financial support. They started fundraising at their local church and shopping center, with the proceeds going directly to the women who needed it. They helped pay women's mortgages, electric and heating bills, costs for wigs, and even school supplies for some of their children. Today, Breast Intentions has raised almost \$1 million and is operating chapters in New York, Illinois, and Massachusetts.

breastintentions.org

Jodina Hicks, Executive Director, UrbanPromise

UrbanPromise started in 1988 as a summer camp for at-risk youth in Camden, New Jersey. In 25 years, they have expanded to now include an after school program for over 400 children throughout Camden, job training, experimental learning, and a host of other programs that challenge the youth to develop and realize their potential. Jodina came to UrbanPromise in 1988 as an 18-year old college student at Eastern University who wanted to volunteer her time to help to shape the lives of the young people in Camden. She felt a strong calling to help the community, so much so that she moved into Camden herself to be closer to the young people she served. During her senior year of college, Jodina took 3 students from the UrbanPromise program that were in very poor familial circumstances into her home and raised them as her own. One of them was only in 8th grade at the time. Jodina helped her finish high school, go to college, get her masters, and she is now the Vice Principal of Camden Forward, the UrbanPromise K-8 school. Jodina played an integral role in helping build the ministry of UrbanPromise, creating the StreetLeader Program, a dynamic teen employment and leadership initiative, and the UrbanPromise Academy, a high school, which has become a last chance educational opportunity for the most vulnerable teens in Camden.

urbanpromiseusa.org



Aidan McManus, Founder, Food Dude

Clark and Jean Paradise, Co-Founders, Your Grandmother's Cupboard

WENDEL A. WHITE

Wendel A. White was born in Newark, New Jersey and grew up in New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. He was awarded a BFA in photography from the School of Visual Arts in New York and an MFA in photography from the University of Texas at Austin. White is currently Distinguished Professor of Art at Stockton University in New Jersey.

He has received various awards and fellowships including a John Simon Guggenheim Foundation fellowship in photography, three artist fellowships from the New Jersey State Council for the Arts, a photography grant from the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, and a photography fellowship from En Foco Inc.

His work is represented in museum and corporate collections including: the New Jersey State Museum,

Trenton, NJ; En Foco, New York, New York; Rochester Institute of Technology, New York; Museum of Fine Art, Houston, TX; Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, IL; Johnson & Johnson, New Brunswick, NJ and the Paul R. Jones Collection of African-American Art at the University of Delaware. White's work is included in numerous publications including two books about his work, Manifest (published in 2014 by Chroma) and Small Towns, Black Lives (published in 2003 by the Noyes Museum of Art).

White has served on the board of directors for the Society for Photographic Education, the Atlantic City Historical Museum, New Jersey Black Culture and Heritage Foundation, and the New Jersey Council for the Humanities.

wendelwhite.com

Aidan McManus, Founder, Food Dude

Aidan was 5 years old when he saw a homeless man on the street. It was then and there he decided he would dedicate himself to helping those who were hungry. He drew comic books, planned movie and pizza night fundraisers, and did various chores to make money to donate to his local soup kitchen, Ladle of Love. By the time Aidan was 8 years old, he had raised over \$1000 to help Ladle of Love. Desiring to do more, Aidan started the nonprofit organization Food Dude to help provide food to families in his community by working together with other organizations to ease hunger in South Jersey. Aidan makes speeches at churches and schools to let kids know that no matter how young, they can make a difference.

Clark and Jean Paradise, Co-Founders, Your Grandmother's Cupboard

Both in their 80s, Clark and Jean Paradise started bringing blankets, clothing, and portable heaters to people living in a nearby tent-city community. When they learned that these individuals were lacking personal care items like soap, shampoo, toothpaste and toilet paper, they added these items to their list. They then discovered that there were many families in their area living in motel rooms and barely getting by. So through various donations of time, money, and supplies from their fellow NJ residents, Clark and Jean founded the mobile outreach program Your Grandmother's Cupboard to bring food, clothing, and personal supplies to people lacking transportation to access traditional food pantries and clothing depots. Today, Clark and Jean serve over 4,000 people per month, bringing their trailers full of donated items to various soup kitchens, shelters, and motels across the state.

ygcnj.org

DRUMTHWACKET FOUNDATION

Founded in 1982, the Drumthwacket Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit, non-partisan organization. Its mission is to increase a sense of pride in New Jersey by preserving the Drumthwacket properties and broadening access, furthering awareness and support of the Foundation and its activities, expanding civic understanding amongst New Jerseyans and providing educational opportunities for the public.

drumthwacket.org

NEW JERSEY HEROES

New Jersey Heroes is a 501c3 non-profit foundation that was started in December 2010 by First Lady Mary Pat Christie. Our mission is to recognize, celebrate, and award everyday “Heroes” and promote their causes. These Heroes are doing extraordinary things in their communities through various nonprofit foundations across the state. Mrs. Christie began this foundation with the desire to showcase NJ state pride by highlighting some amazing citizens who are making our state a better place. Our hope is that by recognizing and promoting these individuals, we will inspire others to give back to their community.

newjerseyheroes.org



THE DRUMTHWACKET FOUNDATION

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drumthwacket.org