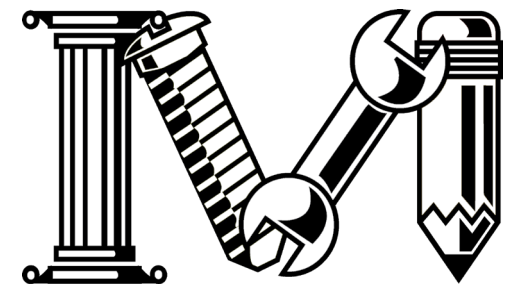


MATERIALS FOR THE ARTS FRIENDS OF MFTA 2011 ANNUAL REPORT





MATERIALS FOR THE ARTS
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TEL. 718-729-3001
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MFTA.ORG





FRIENDS

OF MFTA 2011 SUPPORTERS

360 Design Events
Linda Adamson
Dorsey & Bob Adler
Monroe Alechman
Aronson's
Karen & Greg Arrese
Anne Balcer
Marjorie Becker & Peter Burack
Bernard & Anne Spitzer Charitable Trust
Bloomberg Philanthropies
Barbara Braun
Deanna Caceres Cahn & Aaron Cahn
Mara Canner
Carnegie Fabrics
The Bonnie Cashin Fund
Amy Chin
Citymatters, LLC
Heather & Jack Cleary
Clifford Chance US LLP
Carmen Cognetta
Cummings & Lockwood LLC
Katie Dixon
Benjamin Dryer
Durst Organization L.P.
The Edith Meiser Foundation
Elizabeth Ellard
Ellen Weldon Design
Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation
The Estée Lauder Companies, Inc.
Fashion Center BID
Karin Fisch & Mark Gardy
Blake & Andrew Foote
Benjamin & Laura Friedman
Roberta E. Golub
Gotham Bank of New York
Lelsey Grashow
Stephanie and Phil Green

Agnes Gund
Catherine Gund
Janet Harris
Eugenie & Horace Havemeyer
Lynn & Ralph Huber
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Hyman
LeeAnn & Peter Jacobs
Daniel & Meagan Johnson
Emma Gilbey Keller & William Keller
Barbara & James Korein
The Korein Foundation
Alice & Jerry Korngold
John & Wendy Neu
Stephanie & Robert Olmsted
Lisa & Andrew Lerner
The Liman Foundation
Kelly Lynch
M&J Trimming
Melinda & Andrew Mack
Macy's
Magical Designs
Maharam
Vivian Mamelak & Alain Demers
Michael Margitich
Jane & Robert Matluck
Janet Mavec
Anelle Miller
Milton & Sally Avery Arts Foundation
Alison Monk
Kara & James Moore
Christina Morgan
Margaret Morton
National Endowment for the Arts
Stacy Papas
Caroline Pappas
Hannah Parker
Parks Fine Art

Pascap Co.
John & Stacy Peebles
Tracey & Jeff Perlmutter
Peter & Carmen Lucia Buck Foundation
Myra Rochelson
Beverly Savage & James Aibel
Sue Ellen & Robert Schneider
Jolie Schwab & David Hodes
Silvercup Studios
Dubi Silverstein & Ellen Weiman
Warren Smulowitz
SONY USA
Jennifer Allan Soros
Starborn Industries
Arabelle Taggart
Harriet Taub & Harry Kafka
TD Bank
The Laurie Tisch Illumination Fund
Beth & Moshe Tomkiewicz
John Waffenschmidt
Jeanette S. Wagner
Waste Management of New York
Felecia Webb
Bonnie & Doug Weill
Penny & Jeffrey Weill
Cindy Weissblatt & Jeffrey Lew
Western Asset Management Company
William P. Lauder
Wendi Winshall
Ali Yaghoubi
Robert Young
Judy Francis Zankel
Nazim Zilkha

*Gifts made in honor of: Christiana Floum,
Victor Wong, and Courtney Novogratz*



ABOUT

MATERIALS FOR THE ARTS

Materials for the Arts, a division of New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, is an internationally-recognized model reuse program serving the New York City arts and cultural community. Operating continuously since 1978, MFTA accepts unneeded items from businesses and individuals, diverting useful items from the landfill. These materials are distributed, free-of-charge, from MFTA's 35,000-square-foot warehouse to the City's public schools and nonprofit organizations with significant arts programming.

MFTA receives additional support from the City's Department of Sanitation and Department of Education. Friends of Materials for the Arts is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and critical partner to MFTA. Friends of MFTA provides funding to support initiatives that further the impact of MFTA, and educate the general public on the benefits of reuse as a means of waste reduction.





LETTER

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

It is my pleasure to congratulate Friends of Materials for the Arts on another extraordinary year supporting creative reuse in New York City.

Founded by the Department of Cultural Affairs in 1978, MFTA is a robust partnership with the Departments of Sanitation and Education, and Friends of MFTA, that provides over a million pounds of materials to arts organizations, public schools, and civic groups every year, entirely free of charge. In 2011 alone, thanks to the dedication of Executive Director Harriet Taub and her staff, 1,875 recipient organizations and schools received items valued at nearly \$5 million from MFTA's Long Island City warehouse to sustain high quality creative programming.



Friends of MFTA support has also allowed MFTA's education program to incorporate New York State Common Core training into our professional development programs, helping teachers design meaningful creative projects to teach subjects such as math in accordance with statewide standards. Last year these education programs taught creative reuse to more than 4,500 students and teachers from across the five boroughs, more than double the number reached in 2010. Through this work, MFTA and Friends of MFTA are helping to support the administration's PlaNYC agenda to ensure a greener, more sustainable city.

Many thanks to Bonnie Weill and the entire Friends of MFTA board, whose support continues to expand the scope of this innovative and important work. Their leadership is critical to helping MFTA serve the City's creative community and provides a model for similar programs across the nation and around the world. We look forward to building on this partnership which does so much to make New York a vibrant place to learn, work, and play.

Kate D. Levin
Commissioner

FINANCIALS

FOR FRIENDS OF MFTA

Statements of Cash Flows

Cash Flows From Operating Activities

	year ending june 30,	
	2011	2010
Increase (decrease) in net assets	\$57,967	\$(27,281)
Adjustments to reconcile increase (decrease) in net assets to net cash provided (used) by operating activities		
Depreciation expense	79,794	8,958
Realized loss on investments	-	738
Write-off of website project costs	10,000	-
(Increase) decrease in:		
Unconditional promises to give	2,500	12,500
Prepaid expenses & other current assets	184	(419)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable & accrued expenses	1,221	(5,169)
Net Cash Provided (Used) By Operating Activities	<u>91,666</u>	<u>(10,673)</u>

Cash Flows From Investing Activities

Purchase of investments	-	401,004
Sale of investments	-	(400,266)
Redemption of certificates of deposit	-	516,529
Acquisition of property & equipment	-	(38,500)
Net Cash Provided By Investing Activities	<u>-</u>	<u>478,767</u>

Net increase in cash & cash equivalents	91,666	468,094
Cash & cash equivalents, beginning of year	664,426	196,332
Cash & Cash Equivalents, End of Year	<u><u>\$756,092</u></u>	<u><u>\$664,426</u></u>

FINANCIALS

FOR FRIENDS OF MFTA

Statements of Activities

	year ending june 30,		year ending june 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
Changes in Unrestricted Net Assets				
Support & Revenue				
Contributions				
Foundations	\$121,500	\$40,313		
Corporations	58,650	27,302		
Individuals	1,450	1,407		
Board Members	15,700	9,000		
Gross Benefit Income	68,522	68,802		
Less: Direct Benefit Expenses	(12,124)	(9,723)		
Workshop Fees	65,570	66,586		
Realized Loss on Investments	-	(738)		
Interest Income	8,457	15,625		
Misc. Income	59	923		
	<u>327,784</u>	<u>219,497</u>		
Net assets released from restrictions				
Satisfaction of time & program restrictions	5,000	66,993		
	<u>332,784</u>	<u>286,940</u>		
			Expenses	
			Program Services	231,402
			Supporting Services	
			Management & general	27,932
			Fundraising	10,483
				<u>269,817</u>
			Total Expenses	<u>269,817</u>
			Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>62,967</u>
				<u>34,712</u>
			Changes in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	
			Contributions	-
			Net assets released from restrictions	(5,000)
				<u>(66,993)</u>
			Decrease in Unrestricted Net Assets	(5,000)
				<u>(61,993)</u>
			Increase (decrease) in net assets	57,967
			Net assets, beginning of year	723,748
				<u>751,029</u>
			Net Assets, End of Year	<u>\$781,715</u>
				<u>\$723,748</u>



LETTER

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION

As Commissioner of New York City Department of Sanitation, I am happy to support the work of Materials for the Arts and Friends of Materials for the Arts. The Department of Sanitation has been working with MFTA since 1990 through our Bureau of Waste Reduction, Reuse and Recycling. For over 20 years, we have watched the program grow. We are especially pleased to see the development of their educational programming, which teaches thousands of New Yorkers each year about the importance of reuse and waste reduction.

MFTA is a welcome addition to the Department of Sanitation's comprehensive family of programs to educate New Yorkers about the importance of recycling and reuse. We are proud to collaborate with MFTA and Friends of MFTA in our ongoing efforts to inform our young people about the value of environmental best practices and sustainability, and turn all New Yorkers into thoughtful participants in keeping our City clean and green.



Sincerely,

John J. Doherty

Commissioner



LETTER

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Since 1998, the Department of Education has been an active partner with the Department of Cultural Affairs' Materials for the Arts program. This partnership has offered our teachers access to materials to support the arts in their classrooms. The variety of supplies and the quantities available at MFTA, all free-of-charge, are yet another way we support our schools in creating innovative, engaging, real-world lessons to prepare students for college and careers.

I wish to acknowledge the work of Friends of MFTA, whose funding allows the MFTA warehouse to remain open for school staff into the evenings and supports educational programming for both our students and teachers.

I look forward to many fruitful years of collaboration between the Department of Education and Friends of MFTA.

Sincerely,

Dennis M. Walcott

Chancellor



FINANCIALS

FOR FRIENDS OF MFTA

Friends of MFTA financial statements are independently audited by Lutz & Carr, CPAs. Statements for the year ending June 30, 2011 were released as final on January 20, 2012. Complete audited statements are available upon request.

Statements of Financial Position

	year ending june 30,	
	2011	2010
Assets		
Cash & cash equivalents	\$756,092	\$664,426
Unconditional promises to give	-	2,500
Prepaid expenses & other current assets	1,398	1,582
Property & equipment, at cost, net of accumulated depreciation	31,139	60,933
Total Assets	\$788,629	\$729,441
Liabilities & Net Assets		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable & accrued expenses	\$6,914	\$5,693
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	\$781,715	\$718,748
Temporarily restricted	-	\$5,000
Total Net Assets	781,715	723,748
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$788,629	\$723,441

STAFF



Harriet Taub
Executive Director

Joel Frank
Director of Operations

John Kaiser
Director of Education

Nick Duguid
Mover/Driver

Audra Lambert
Friends of MFTA Executive Assistant

Doris Littlejohn
Office Administrator

Julia Metro
Friends of MFTA Development Coordinator

Antonio Pontón-Núñez
Donations Coordinator

Jose Rosa
Warehouse Helper

Anthony Salamone
Mover/Driver

Nathaniel Shelness
Friends of MFTA Education Assistant

Kevin Stirnweis
Communications Specialist

Joy Suarez
Master Teaching Artist

Christopher Trainor
Assistant Warehouse Manager

Friends of MFTA Teaching Artists:

Timothy Bellavia
Chase Carlisle
Pamela Isaac
Louie Miranda
Alice Mizrachi
Mollie Roth
Greg VandeHey

2011 Interns:

Saul Cervantes
Caryn Cooper
Karina Cruz
Katarah DaSilva
Say Park
Shanna Ray
Kristle Silva
Linnea Spampinato
Johnson Yang

LETTER

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It gives us great pleasure to share with you our annual report. In the spirit of waste reduction, we present this as a downloadable PDF and encourage you to share it with friends, family, and colleagues.

In the ten years since its inception, Friends of Materials for the Arts has grown its board and strengthened its partnership with the Department of Cultural Affairs. We are pleased to highlight key achievements of this partnership from 2011:

Expansion of educational offerings including student and adult workshops to ensure the next generation of New Yorkers actively participates in creative reuse.

Reconfiguration of the MFTA warehouse to increase the amount of displayable materials per square foot and provide easier access to materials for our recipients.

Development of the MFTA Gallery to provide a platform for exhibitions which promote meaningful conversation about creative reuse, sustainability, and the arts.

While we recall the past year's successes, we continue to look towards the future. Through a grant from Bloomberg Philanthropies, we have begun work on a five-year strategic plan as part of the DeVos Institute for Arts Management's Strategic Planning Intensive. Our plan will ensure that Materials for the Arts and Friends of MFTA continue to serve its constituency as best as possible.

Thanks to our amazing pool of donors, financial supporters, and recipients we are New York City's premier creative reuse center. We are proud to offer high-quality materials to our recipients and be the go-to place for donors to put their unwanted items back into the community.

We hope you will join us in our passion for creative reuse again in 2012.



Bonnie Weissblatt Weill
Chairman of the Board
Friends of Materials for the Arts



Harriet Taub
Executive Director
Materials for the Arts



RECIPIENTS

SPOTLIGHT ON WINGSPAN ARTS

Materials for the Arts membership keeps growing, with over 4,200 currently registered recipients. In 2011, **1,875 nonprofit organizations and public schools** received items from MFTA for their arts programs. Recipients vary from independent theater organizations and music groups, to neighborhood after-school programs and art therapy programs, to performing arts centers and museums throughout New York City.



Wingspan Arts Summer Conservatory production of The Wizard of Oz.



Wingspan Arts Summer Conservatory production of Ragtime.

Wingspan Arts has been an MFTA recipient since 2003, and visited the warehouse four times in 2011. The Wingspan Summer Conservatory is an annual program where 75 students learn theater arts from industry professionals at no cost. Students are involved in every aspect of production. Using fabric, furniture, frames, and props from MFTA, students learned how reusable items can be transformed into sets and costumes. Wingspan Arts is one of MFTA's many recipients that offer valuable educational experiences for New York City students.



FRIENDS

OF MFTA SPECIAL INITIATIVES

Financial contributions to Friends of MFTA positively impacted Materials for the Arts in the following ways:

The Evening Shopping Program allowed **2,757 MFTA recipients** to obtain materials for their activities and programs. Many of these recipients would not have been able to visit the warehouse during normal business hours.

Underwriting pays for **two Loading Dock Coordinators** to assist recipients in the freight elevators and with loading their vehicles safely and efficiently.

Direct Donations is an online system, built and maintained using Friends of MFTA funds, that connects donors directly with recipients.

Through this system, MFTA virtually brokered **345 donations weighing over 50,000 pounds to 89 recipients.**

The Education Center at MFTA offered **28 free or discounted group visits** to high-need public schools in NYC.

Art teachers in graduate programs from three universities toured the warehouse and received **free professional development workshops.**

Thank you to all our Friends of MFTA supporters who make this great work possible.



Susan Hale, from MFTA recipient New York Public Library, selects fabric for her workshops at the library

FRIENDS

OF MFTA BOARD



Bonnie Weissblatt Weill
Chairman

Anelle Miller
Vice Chair

Stacy Papas
Secretary

Daniel Johnson
Treasurer

Eboni S. Gates
Matthew David Hopkins
Barbara Korein
Melinda Mulawka Mack
Andrea M. Schaffer
Warren Smulowitz
Felecia Webb

From left to right:
Matthew David Hopkins,
Eboni S. Gates,
Anelle Miller,
Harriet Taub,
Bonnie Weissblatt Weill,
Melinda Mulawka Mack,
Barbara Korein,
Warren Smulowitz,
Julia Metro,
Andrea M. Schaffer
(Not pictured:
Daniel Johnson,
Stacy Papas,
Felecia Webb)



Ex-officio

Kate D. Levin, Commissioner of Cultural Affairs

Paul King, Executive Director, Office of Arts & Special Projects, NYC Department of Education

The Friends of MFTA Board of Directors brings expertise to diverse areas of Materials for the Arts' operations. From identifying and developing new initiatives to raising funds to support their implementation, the Board's commitment to the success and growth of MFTA is evident every day. Since 2002, the Board has made significant investments in the areas of education, volunteerism, technology, and evening shopping hours in the warehouse, and strengthened MFTA's services to its constituents. The Board welcomed two new members in 2011, bringing the number of directors to eleven.

SCHOOLS

SPOTLIGHT ON GROWING UP GREEN

In 2011, **646 public schools** received free supplies from Materials for the Arts. Growing Up Green Charter School, a New York City public school, has been a recipient of MFTA since its inception in 2009. Over the past three years, representatives from the school have made 19 visits to MFTA, including four visits in 2011. In addition to using supplies from MFTA, including frames, foamcore, and clay, teachers also encourage students to collect reusable items from home for their in-school projects.

In 2011, Friends of MFTA created a school residency, with support from Waste Management of New York, to expand students' understanding of reuse. The residency program included a teacher workshop, 18 in-school art workshops, a family art activity, and an all-school assembly. MFTA was proud to host a residency at Growing Up Green and support their mission of empowering "children to be conscious, contributing members of their community through a rigorous curriculum and an engaging green culture."



A teacher shows off her puppet created from a food tray, tape dispensers, and items from MFTA.



A student with her puppet created from an orange juice carton, a padded envelope, and MFTA supplies.

DONORS

SPOTLIGHT ON ARONSON'S FLOOR COVERING

Materials for the Arts diverted **over 1.2 million pounds** of useful items valued at nearly **\$5 million** from the waste stream into the cultural and educational communities in 2011. Donations came from 1,651 donors ranging from New York City residents; to internationally-recognized brands such as Chanel, Google, and Polo Ralph Lauren; to local businesses such as Bark Frameworks, M & J Trimming, and Aronson's Floor Covering. Based in Chelsea, **Aronson's Floor Covering** has been donating to MFTA since 1994, regularly dropping off a truckload of donations, including carpet samples, cork floor tiles, display racks, and padding, each month.

Aronson's promotes environmental best practices among the design community. Their *Lunch and Learn* lectures explore environmentally-conscious practices for design professionals. Fall 2011 lectures focused on innovative energy use and buildings. The company uses environmentally-friendly and recycled materials when possible in its own operations. Aronson's is a donor which truly shares the values of MFTA and works towards a sustainable New York City.



Artist and volunteer Ymari Marchan created shoes and purses from carpet samples donated to MFTA by Aronson's.

FRIENDS

OF MFTA MASKED MARVELOUS COCKTAIL PARTY

Fall 2011 marked the tenth anniversary of the Masked Marvelous Cocktail Party, celebrating a decade of creative reuse at Materials for the Arts' Long Island City home. On October 18th the lights were turned down and the floors cleared in our 35,000-square-foot warehouse, as we played host to nearly 300 guests and special performers. Remarks were made by Cultural Affairs Commissioner Kate D. Levin, Chairman of the Friends of MFTA Board Bonnie Weill, and Executive Director Harriet Taub. MFTA recipients Calpulli Mexican Dance Company, Groove With Me, and Dance Theater of Nepal performed while DJ Earl Grey kept everyone dancing all night long. Amy Schiappa and her crew from Fringe Salon used materials from the warehouse to create "reuse updos" and face painting was provided by Agostino Arts. The party raised nearly \$70,000 in support of Friends of MFTA.



Catherine Gund, Harriet Taub, and Agnes Gund at the 2011 Masked Marvelous Cocktail Party.



Dancers from Groove With Me performing at the 2011 Masked Marvelous Cocktail Party.



PRESS

& SOCIAL MEDIA

In 2011, Materials for the Arts was featured in the **New York Times**, **NHK Television Japan**, and **Channel 4 NBC New York**. MFTA was also covered on blogs such as *Why Leave Astoria*, *Mother Nature Network*, and *Inhabitat New York*.



WNBC-TV's Katy Tur during her visit to the warehouse.



NHK and MFTA staff pose after the live broadcast to Japan.

MFTA increased its online presence and strengthened connections with recipients, donors, volunteers, and funders using Facebook, Twitter, and the MFTA blog. The blog, featuring artwork and events from MFTA recipients, saw 77,000 visits throughout 2011. MFTA saw increases in traffic and community interactions through its Twitter, which highlights current inventory and craft ideas, as well as its Facebook page, which offers a glimpse into the warehouse.

VOLUNTEERS

AND INTERNS

Materials for the Arts provides meaningful job training opportunities for students from local high schools, individuals with special needs from day treatment programs such as AHRC and the Young Adult Institute (YAI), and retired and temporarily unemployed career professionals. A dedicated group of 188 volunteers and interns contributed **5,105 hours** of their time to MFTA in the warehouse, classroom, and office in 2011. Providing on average an additional 98 hours of person power each week, the combined work of volunteers is equivalent to almost three full-time employees. MFTA also worked with several corporate volunteer groups, including CIT, Bank of America, and Macy's.



A volunteer prepares materials for the classroom.



CIT volunteers working in the warehouse.

EDUCATION

CENTER AT MFTA

In 2011, Friends of MFTA funded a new full-time position in the Education Center, to increase outreach efforts. This resulted in a dramatic increase in educational offerings and student participation. Programming reached **3,896 students, 700 public school teachers, 272 community-based educators, and 1,433 members of the general public**, including parents of New York City school children. MFTA hosted 89 group visits, welcoming students and educators to tour the warehouse and participate in hands-on creative reuse activities. Teaching artists led eight MFTA residencies at public schools and after-school programs. MFTA also offered 28 specialized professional development workshops and seven 36-hour “P Credit” courses (certified professional development courses for public school teachers). Education Center staff worked with consultants in math and English language arts to create curricula and professional development workshops to help educators link art-making and the Common Core standards, which New York State adopted in 2011.



Students view a donation of Coach leather during a school group visit.



This student shows off his found object sculpture created at the Education Center.

The ever-changing MFTA warehouse inventory is an inspiration to Education Center staff as they plan 2012 programs that continue the mission of teaching all New Yorkers about creative reuse. The Education Center, a cornerstone initiative of Friends of MFTA, is made possible through private financial support.

GALLERY

In 2011, the Education Center expanded its outreach to artists with the Materials for the Arts Gallery program. The MFTA Gallery doubles as both an exhibition space and a teaching tool. Works on view incorporate items from the warehouse and show thousands of visitors to MFTA what can be created through reuse. The gallery's inaugural exhibition featured MFTA recipient YOUNITY Arts, a Queens-based artist collective, and was on view through October 7, 2011. The follow up show, *Creative Reuse in New York City*, opened on October 18, 2011. This exhibition featured work from three MFTA recipients: Local Project, Flux Factory, and Free Style Arts Association. The Education Center offered several public programs related to this exhibition, including a reception, an artists' panel discussion, and a featured artist studio workshop.



Detail of Creative Reuse in NYC showing Block Party (2011) by MFTA recipient Local Project.



Murals by MFTA recipient YOUNITY Arts in the gallery.