



VisArt

contemporary issues in the arts
through collaboration and exchange

"Participation in ALF was an important step in my life, affecting both my personal and professional growth. Exchanging information, becoming acquainted with the administrative structure of centers and galleries, and exhibition methods and project design, and engaging in a dialogue with art critics raised my professional level..."

**2009 Arts Leadership Fellow,
Anna Kalashnik, Vykhod
Media Center, Petrozavodsk,
Russia**

VisArt projects encourage and enhance appreciation of contemporary arts by stimulating dialogue and the exchange of ideas on contemporary issues in the arts. Exchanges provide opportunities for collaboration between US artists, musicians, and arts professionals and their colleagues in Russia and Central Asia on seminars, workshops, performances, lectures, and symposia.

Each year, CEC ArtsLink develops new initiatives in collaboration with partners in Russia and Central Asia. Responding to local needs, these projects attract large audiences and media attention. Most recent collaborations focus on contemporary music, public art, cultural journalism, arts management, and contemporary arts education.

Program Facts (2004-2010)

CEC ArtsLink has partnered with funders, artists, and arts organizations internationally to send:

- 20 cultural specialists to Russia
- 88 artists and performers to Russia
- 8 artists and performers to the US
- 44 cultural specialists to the US
- 21 museum specialists to US museums
- 7 museum specialists to Russian museums

VisArt Central Asia has placed:

- 9 Uzbek and Kyrgyz musicians in US residencies
- 14 visual artists from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in US residencies
- 28 US visual artists, performers and cultural specialists in Central Asian residencies and workshop series.

Program Highlights

VisArt Projects unfold in diverse locations, engaging artists, administrators, and the public in thinking about contemporary art. 2010 projects include:

- ETHEL in Russia (September 2010)
"America's Favorite String Band" performs and conducts workshops in St. Petersburg, Moscow, Petrozavodsk, and Kaliningrad.
- Arts Leadership Fellows (March, July 2010)
Sixteen arts managers and cultural journalists from across Russia and Central Asia travel to New York to learn about US arts management practices and contemporary art trends.
- Global ArtLab (September 2009)
Five US artists collaborated with local artists and arts organizations in Bishkek and Osh, Kyrgyzstan, and Khujand and Dushanbe, Tajikistan, to create special projects, public programs, workshops with children, and presentations at arts centers.

