Arts Festival Artist in Residence Roster

May 27, 2016







Lauren Blair

Lauren Blair is a printmaker and illustrator living and working in Rochester, New York.

Her work intertwines her studies of both Ecology and Studio Art at the University of Rochester in a way that beckons the viewer to slow down and take notice of the beauty in our natural environment.



Clayton Lieberman

IHS Alumni Clayton Lieberman is an observant explorer of the world who has hitchhiked across the country, worked as a chef, apprenticed under a local metal worker, and then opened Metalsome Art Studio in the Hungerford Building. His booth at the Clothesline Arts Festival in 2015 earned a Merit Award for Excellence in his craft.



Matthew Ehlers

IHS Alumni Matt Ehlers graduated from USC Cinema. His short films Lunch, Autobank, & Who's Your Daddy were all official selections to the Sundance Film Festival and broadcast by networks such as The Sundance Channel, HBO, & IFC. Matthew wrote and directed a web series for Comedy Central, Cappers, which aired on their show, AtomTV. He also created a cartoon series, Animungus, for the Cartoon Network show, Sunday Pants. In 2002, he was a finalist in the Chrysler Million Dollar Film Festival. His first feature film, Smoking Laws, was represented at the American Film Market by PUSH Worldwide & is currently being distributed by Scanbox Entertainment in the UK. He has directed commercials for Birkenstock, Hard Rock Café & Walmart. He recently directed the documentary series, Inventions Of Photography.





Kevin Kurtz has loved books and nature since he was a kid growing up in upstate New York. He holds degrees in English literature and elementary education and started his professional career assisting with lab and field work at a marine biology research center. From December 2010 to February 2011, Kevin was the Education Officer on the research vessel JOIDES Resolution traveling with an international team of scientists during an expedition in the South Pacific to study the chain of volcanoes that makes up the Louisville Seamount Trail. His first children's book, A Day in the Salt Marsh, was published in 2007.



Paul Luciano

IHS Alumni, Paul Luciano is a writer who combines writing, art and music for a full sensory experience. His work combines elements of time travel, extra-dimensional beings and historical fiction. Over time, his books and performance art have been further enhanced with the addition of live band performances and dancers to accompany book narration and multimedia performance. He will bring a small scale version to the 2016 Arts Festival. Get ready to experience "Sound Fiction."



Emma Baker

Emma is a student at the University of Rochester who dreams of using art to unify people from all over the world. Her latest project is entitled, "Speak Your Truth." She aims to use art to give a voice to people from varied backgrounds in order to find common ground where divisions are disrupted. She desires to link students from Israel, Palestine, and the United States by allowing teens from each of these diverse places to speak about the things that matter to them most: best friends, family, where they live, and their dreams for the future.