WELCOME TO PITTSBURGH’S ARTS COMMUNITY!
Welcome to the ‘burgh!

As you are soon to discover, Pittsburgh is a vibrant cultural city with unique rust belt roots, and a deep-rooted love of all things black & gold. Navigating Pittsburgh’s myriad cultural institutions and social networks can be overwhelming, but we hope this guide will demystify much of it as we impart our insider knowledge. Pittsburgh Emerging Arts Leaders (PEAL) seeks to serve and support local emerging arts leaders by connecting them with resources, networking and professional development opportunities. We are a steering committee of emerging arts leaders like yourself, so don’t hesitate to reach out to us if we can be of any help. We hope that you will join us at a PEAL event soon.

Best,
Katie Conaway
PEAL Chair

http://twitter.com/pgheal
https://www.facebook.com/PghEAL
**WHO IS PEAL?**

Pittsburgh Emerging Arts Leaders (PEAL) exists to provide networking, resources and professional development opportunities to emerging arts managers in Pittsburgh. We are an entirely volunteer-run organization, supported by the leadership of the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council. PEAL produces a number of signature events including Fireside Chats, Mastermind, Coffee With, and Happy Hours. PEAL also maintains an active digital presence through our Facebook and Twitter pages. We distribute a monthly email newsletter featuring all of our events, as well as regional job postings, events of interest to the PEAL community, and special topics. Be sure to sign-up here.

**HOW TO USE THIS HANDBOOK**

This is an orientation of the Pittsburgh Arts Community that is meant to help you navigate through the city’s arts venues, organizations and major events. Pittsburgh is a city comprised of several distinct neighborhoods, each with their own unique contributions to the arts community. Accordingly, we have divided this guide by geographic regions, working through Pittsburgh art offerings one neighborhood at a time. In each of the featured neighborhoods, we have noted a brief overview of the area, a list of the major arts venues and organizations as well as tips for what PEALers recommend doing in each part of the city. We hope that this guide will be helpful to you as you discover all that the Pittsburgh Arts Community has to offer!

**OUR NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITIES**

- **Oakland/Shadyside**
- **Downtown/Cultural District**
- **Penn Ave Line (East Liberty/Garfield/Lawrenceville/Strip District)**
- **North Side**
- **South Side**
OVERVIEW/HISTORY

This area is known as one of the city’s major academic and cultural hubs. Home to several colleges and universities, these neighborhoods are filled with young faces and innovative ideas.

WHAT’S HERE

- **Pittsburgh Filmmakers/Pittsburgh Center for the Arts** features contemporary video and works of art from local professional artists. PF/PCA showcases the work of these artists in their large gallery space and screening areas. The organization also runs a small boutique store and offers cutting edge classes for all ages and skill levels. PF/PCA offers several professional development opportunities for producing artists such as the Flight School Fellowship. Notably, PF/PCA annually announces the Pittsburgh Artist of the Year and Pittsburgh Emerging Artist of the Year awards.
  
  Meet a PEALer: **Sarah Ceurvorst**, Teaching Artist

- **Carnegie Museum of Art** was founded in 1895 by Andrew Carnegie. The museum boasts an encyclopedic permanent collection of fine art, decorative art, architecture and photography and hosts innovative contemporary exhibitions year round, including the Carnegie International hosted every 4-5 years. Be sure to not miss a visit to the impressive Hall of Architecture, which features extraordinarily large casts of architectural works.
  
  Meet a PEALer: **Kelsey Small**, Financial Manager

- **Carnegie Museum of Natural History**, ranked one of the top five natural history museums in the United States, is home to several large galleries, a library, offices and a functioning research facility. The museum has the world’s largest collection of Jurassic dinosaur bones.

- **Carnegie Music Hall** can seat almost 2,000 people in its extravagant theatre. Lectures, concerts and art performances are all held on the stage. The marble lobby outside of the theatre is one of the most opulent, ornate spaces in the city.

- **Pittsburgh Irish & Classical Theatre** consistently produces high-quality, well-reviewed plays. PICT performs its Mainstage season of plays at the Stephen Foster Memorial Theater on the University of Pittsburgh’s campus. It also produces a series of downtown plays in the Trust Arts Education Center. PICT is part of an art-finance cohort with the New Hazlett Theater, Pittsburgh Glass Center, The Society for Contemporary Craft, and the Union Project whereas they share a central CFO to guide financial operations.
• **Carnegie Mellon University** is a research university with world-class graduate and undergraduate programs in the visual and performing arts. Notably, many of Pittsburgh’s arts administrators are graduates of the university’s Masters in Arts Management program. CMU is home to many arts programs and initiatives including The Frank-Ratchye Studio for Creative Inquiry, an innovative interdisciplinary laboratory that explores the intersections of art, science and community, and SocialChange101, an online educational resource and youth workshop series that empowers underserved youth to explore the history and practice of social change through media arts.  
  
  Meet a PEALer: Sarah Ceurvorst, Development Coordinator and Teacher for SocialChange101

• **The University of Pittsburgh** is comprised of seventeen graduate and undergraduate schools, encompassing visual and performing arts. The university has multiple music, theatre and fine art venues, including the Frick Fine Arts Building and the Stephen Foster Memorial Theater. Be sure to visit the Cathedral of Learning, a large Gothic Revival-style tower. The Cathedral’s Nationality Rooms display architecture from varying cultures around the world.

• **Chamber Music Pittsburgh** presents concert series of chamber music performed by distinguished musicians from around the world. The concerts range from traditional compositions to contemporary works. CMP also offers educational programming, such as masterclasses with visiting artists, workshops, lectures and school programs.

• **Creative Nonfiction Foundation** is a private not-for-profit that creates publishing and educational opportunities for authors of literary nonfiction. It publishes the *Creative Nonfiction* magazine as well as books of prose.

**WHERE TO GO**

• The **Stephen Foster Memorial** is a sister building to the Cathedral of learning. Its two theatres, the Charity Randall Theatre and the Henry Heymann Theatre provide settings for many of the University of Pittsburgh’s theater productions as well as Pittsburgh Irish & Classical Theatre.

• Oakland is home to the main branch of the **Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh**. The library hosts a wide variety of literary and artistic events and performances.

• The **Miller Gallery**, located on Carnegie Mellon University’s campus, displays contemporary artwork by CMU students as well as professional artists with exhibitions focusing mainly on current social issues.

• The **Purnell Center for the Arts** uses its two theaters to showcase the performances of Carnegie Mellon University's performing arts. First-rate plays, musicals, dances and operas are all open to the public and tickets can be found through CMU’s School of Drama box office.
THINGS WE LOVE

- **Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens** is a must-see destination located in Schenley Park. This historic landmark has impressive botanical gardens dotted with works of visual art, such as blown glass sculptures by Dale Chihuly.

- **Schenley Plaza** is a public park with food vendors and a sprawling open grass area. Schenley Plaza is the setting for many community events, such as the annual WYEP Summer Music Festival. Make sure to stop by **Conflict Kitchen** when visiting the park. Conflict Kitchen is a take-out restaurant that serves global cuisine exclusively from countries the United States is in conflict with. The cuisine along with accompanying events and performances act as catalysts for conversation and engagement with people from those countries.

- **WQED** is Pittsburgh's public television station. It was the long-time home of beloved Pittsburgher, Fred Rogers and many others. Their Studio on Fifth space is available to rent for events.
OVERVIEW/HISTORY

This neighborhood has seen some of the most dramatic growth and revitalization in recent years. Nearly 30 years ago the area was the city’s red light district, but has now transformed into an artistic and cultural gathering spot. Recently, there has been an emergence of new bars and restaurants to complement the lively arts scene. The area is often regarded as successful model of cultural placemaking and economic development.

WHAT’S HERE

• **The Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council** is our region’s leading advocacy and service organization. GPAC offers an array of services and opportunities to strengthen the effectiveness and sustainability of Pittsburgh arts institutions. As the umbrella organization to PEAL, GPAC provides leadership, marketing and financial support to PEAL’s programming.
  
  Meet a PEALer: Seth Laidlaw, Program Coordinator for the Arts Education Department

• **The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust** revitalized, restored and now owns the downtown theaters, galleries, as well as many residential complexes. The Trust programs a robust series of performing arts, visual exhibitions and touring Broadway shows. In addition, the Trust presents multiple festivals including the annual Three Rivers Arts Festival.
  
  Meet a PEALer: Seth Laidlaw, Program Coordinator for the Arts Education Department

• **The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra** was formed in 1896 and is one of the most celebrated orchestras in the nation. The PSO provides a wide selection of programming including classical, pops, school-time, toddler and a happy hour series for young professionals - FUSE@PSO.
  
  Meet a PEALer: Jesse Montgomery, Manager of Artistic Development

• **The Pittsburgh Public Theater** produces innovative contemporary theater. Their season is a diverse arrangement of American theater, international repertoire, world premieres and musicals. The Public also has a very robust education program providing students with expansive exposure to theater.
  
  Meet a PEALer: Katie Conway, Director of Education & Outreach

• **Future Tenant**, is a multidisciplinary visual and performing arts gallery space. The gallery is managed by students from the Master of Arts Management program at Carnegie Mellon University. The laboratory operating structure focuses on supporting the work of emerging artists.
WHERE TO GO

Be sure to visit **Heinz Hall** and one of the many theaters (Benedum, Byham, O'Reilly) and galleries (Wood Street, Space, 707, 709) operated by the **Pittsburgh Cultural Trust** for their expansive programmed seasons, as well as guest rentals including musicians, lecturers and comedians. Also stop by The August Wilson Center, which strives to advance the African American culture of the region. **Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera** is a producing company of musical theaters, and you can catch this beloved summer season at the Benedum Theater. Additionally, **Bricolage** is known for their immersive and participatory theatrical experiences.

THINGS WE LOVE

The **Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership** aims to enhance the downtown experience between tenants, visitors and businesses, as well as coordinating numerous events including night markets and rooftop shindigs. **Point State Park** is a wonderful gathering spot during the annual Three Rivers Arts Festival and the summer Regatta. It also houses the **Fort Pitt Museum**, highlighting the historic story of downtown Pittsburgh. Lastly, be sure to check out **Arcade Comedy Theater**, one of the newest additions to downtown, for their comedy shows and available classes.
OVERVIEW/HISTORY

These neighborhoods have historically been a mix of local markets, community gathering spots and local industries. Each area is seeing its fair share of new developments, restoration and revitalization.

WHAT’S HERE

- **The Society for Contemporary Craft** is a gallery, studio and retail store focused on contemporary craft artists and techniques. SCC diligently works to build greater communities, using art as a medium to discuss and champion social justice issues. SCC is also part of an art-finance cohort with the New Hazlett Theater, Pittsburgh Glass Center, PICT Classic Theatre, and Union Project whereas they share a central CFO to guide financial operations.

  Talk to a PEALer: Sara Ryan, Manager Individual and Corporate Giving

- **The Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre** is the region’s premier classical ballet company. They produce full-length and mixed repertoire productions, while also maintaining an extensive array of classes and summer programs. They’ve recently announced their capital campaign for funding immediate artistic priorities, investing in facility improvements and growing their endowment.

- Rehearsing and working in a converted Westinghouse factory, **The Pittsburgh Opera** is a nationally acclaimed opera company. They focus on traditional productions, as well as promote new works and have a robust young artists program.

- Paying homage to two of Pittsburgh’s stage legends, Gene Kelly and Billy Strayhorn, the **Kelly Strayhorn Theater** advances the performing arts, through presenting innovative, provocative and diverse programs. The theater is also committed to to being a community gathering spot for the neighborhood through many block-parties and festivals.

- **The Pittsburgh Glass Center** promotes the creation of glass art through exhibitions in their gallery space, classes and studio space for artists. The center partners with many different schools and organization in fulfilling their mission to teach, create and promote glass art.

- **Quantum Theatre** may hold their administrative offices in East Liberty, but their theater performance series will take you to various reinvented locations throughout the entire city of Pittsburgh. They are known as a laboratory incubator for exploring the relationship between place and performance, and recently celebrated their 25th anniversary.
WHERE TO GO

The Heinz History Center is home to six floors of Pittsburgh history. From the evolution of downtown architecture, the history of Heinz ketchup, to Mr. Roger's neighborhood, HHC packs in a lot of incredible history. Be sure to check out the Vintage Mixers occasionally hosted here, or their annual fundraiser targeted towards young professionals, History Uncorked. Assemble is a wonderful community resource encouraging the intersection of arts and technology. They offer a series of interactive gallery experiences, lectures and workshops for patrons of all ages. BOOM Concepts is a gallery, concert venue and artist community space focusing on diversity and social justice. The Mr. Robot Project is a DIY concert venue. Bantha Tea Bar is a great place to sit, do some work and strike up conversations with local artists. Most Wanted Fine Art is an innovative for profit gallery space located on Penn Avenue.

THINGS WE LOVE

On the first Friday of every month, the Unblurred Gallery Crawl showcases the beautiful cultural landscape of this neighborhood. A true mix of artists and local businesses are highlighted in this family-friendly evening stroll. Tugboat Printshop produces one-of-a-kind wood block carving prints. You can visit Tugboat at their house/studio/store front in Lawrenceville, or at various handmade markets and events. Spearheaded by arts entrepreneur Ryan Lammie, Radiant Hall provides studio space for local artists to develop their craft in four different landmark revitalized spaces.
OVERVIEW/HISTORY

The North Side, to the north of the Allegheny River is an iconic destination for the fans of the Pittsburgh Pirates and Steelers, but it’s equally visited by lovers of art and historic architecture.

WHAT’S HERE

• **The Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh** is often described as one of the best children’s museums in the country. Continually praised for their robust programming, the museum is also highly respected for its revenue generating business model and for serving as a hallmark of the neighborhood’s revitalization.

• **The Andy Warhol Museum** focuses on the iconic work of Andy Warhol and his Pittsburgh roots. In addition to the permanent collection, the museum has a rotating exhibit space, a Warhol factory for hands-on experiences, and a live performance music series as part of their regular programming. Be sure to attend one of their time capsule openings, where they reveal the items preserved in some of the 500+ Warhol time capsules.

• If you’re in the mood for a wide array of performing arts programs, be sure to check out the **New Hazlett Theatre**. The theatre has an exceptional line-up of primarily local artists, and is one of the few performing arts organizations in the country to offer a Community Supported Art series. The New Hazlett is also one of the organizations included in the art finance cohort, previously mentioned.

• **The Mattress Factory** is run by the dynamic founders Barbara Luderowski and Michael Olijnyk. The museum focuses on site-specific installations and performances. Since its founding, the museum has renovated nine properties in the neighborhood for artist projects and continues to be an artistic catalyst for the area.

• **Artists Image Resource (AIR)** is an artist run print studio that focuses on creating community and exploring innovative fine printing techniques.

• **The Manchester Craftsmen’s Guild** directed by the incomparable Bill Strickland, offers art and vocational classes for urban youth. They also present an exceptional jazz music performances series, MCG Jazz. While exploring the north side, you can’t help but revel in the historic architecture of the Mexican War Streets, the full history of their creative story can be found [here](#).
WHERE TO GO

City of Asylum creates a community and asylum for exiled and endangered writers to continue their craft without fear of retaliation. The center houses the writers in refurbished homes on the north shore, so they may truly become a part of the Pittsburgh landscape in their pursuit of literary freedom.

A visit to colorful Randyland is sure to put a smile on your face. It is the eccentric home of the whimsical artist, Randy Gilson.

Bicycle Heaven is a great place to fix, buy or trick out your wheels.

THINGS WE LOVE

As one of the four museums of the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Carnegie Science Center presents exceptional interactive exhibits and hosts quarterly 21+ nights for adults to enjoy too. Take a stroll alongside the North Shore Riverfront Park and Trail to take in the picturesque sights of the downtown skyline and sights along the Allegheny River. Be sure to also check out a great work of public art, Cloud Arbor or visit the Allegheny Elks Lodge on Wednesdays for the beloved Banjo Nights!
OVERVIEW/HISTORY

Pittsburgh's South Side is located along the Monongahela River and was formerly an industrial area. Today, the South Side is home to many small shops, boutiques, restaurants and bars. Accordingly, the neighborhood has a bustling nightlife.

WHAT'S HERE

- **City Theater Company** is an innovative company dedicated to producing and performing new plays. These performances take place in their large Mainstage Theatre or their intimate Hamburg Studio Theatre.
  
  Meet a PEALer: Joel Ambrose, Box Office Manager; Reg Douglas, Artistic Producer; Clare Drobot, Director of New Play Development

- **The Silver Eye Center for Photography** is the only organization in Western PA solely devoted to exploring photography through exhibitions, discussions and workshops. The three to five exhibitions a year are all free and open to the public.

- **WYEP** is an independently operating radio station curated to adults seeking an alternative, fresh approach to music. You can find WYEP on air, but also in the community, hosting many festivals and performances during the year.

- **Club Cafe**, is a performance venue on the South Side, routinely hosting national acts as well as Pittsburgh performing artists.

WHERE TO GO

The Rex Theater was originally a vaudeville theater opened around the turn of the century. It is now a concert venue that hosts a wide variety of bands and performers. Be sure to get tickets for the regularly hosted The Moth Story Slam, a live storytelling gathering.

THINGS WE LOVE

Pittsburgh's NPR news station, WESA, and a notable favorite program is Jim Cunningham's shows which focus on local art performances, and often live broadcasts of PSO performances.

Stop by Beehive Coffee to grab a drink and a bite to eat in the cafe's eclectic setting.

Over the Bar Bicycle Cafe, or OTB, is a local favorite. Grab a drink at the bar or get one of their signature peanut butter burgers.
**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

**Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council**
Membership to GPAC is available at various organization and individual levels

Events - GPAC always has a lineup of events for their members and Pittsburgh constituents, as well as providing an aggregated calendar of region-wide arts happenings: ArtsBurgh.

Office of Public Art offers tours, lectures and other programming surrounding the city's public art. They also run the Pittsburgh Artist Registry, Pittsburgh Art Places and the Artist Opportunities List.

**Regional News**
The Glassblock offers a witty take on the goings-on about town.

Eat PGH - Four friends turned foodies share their expansive knowledge and expertise on the PGH food scene

Made in PGH focuses on the creative and unique innovators and products made in Pittsburgh following on the cusp of city-wide revolution

Next Pittsburgh is an accumulation of city happenings including a focus on events, individuals and city news. Be sure to sign up for their weekly newsletter.

Eat That, Read This is a free lunchtime weekday email newsletter of Pittsburgh stories curated by Adam Shuck

Pittsburgh Arts Accessibility Peers is a network striving to make the arts available to everyone.

Pittsburgh Coalition for Racial Equity in the Arts fights for racial justice and equity in the arts.

**Professional Development**
Nonprofit Talent offers many professional development lectures, seminars and resources to strengthen the organizations and leaders of nonprofit organizations.

Leadership Pittsburgh is a leadership development course designed to enhance the Pittsburgh region through programmatic initiatives crossing multiple sectors and industries.

Pittsburgh Young Professionals and Young Nonprofit Professionals Network provides emerging leaders with opportunities for social, professional and civic development.

Pittsburgh Urban Magnet Project provides members with the opportunity to enhance the cultural, civic and economic framework of our city.

**Welcome to Pittsburgh**
Ranging from information about neighborhood characteristics to how to get a library card, The Pittsburgh Magazine’s annual Newcomer’s Guide is an exceptional resource for navigating your move to the city.