

45 YEARS

Haymarket

PEOPLE'S FUND

1974 - 2019

A Foundation for Change since 1974

Fall 2019

Grantee Spotlight: Chinese Community Land Trust (CCLT) - Boston, MA

Working for Collective Ownership and Control of Land

By Lydia Lowe, Director



Boston's Chinatown is an immigrant working class neighborhood with two centuries of history, one that has been shaped and reshaped by powerful development forces many times over. Built on the South Cove landfill in the early 1800s, and dominated by a railroad yard for many decades, the neighborhood became home to successive waves of immigrants from Ireland, Germany, Jews from Eastern Europe, Syrians, Lebanese, and eventually the Chinese.

Chinatown's land became valuable for different purposes after WWII. The City took and razed hundreds of homes during its urban renewal in order to construct the I-93 and I-90 highways. Next came the expansion of the Floating Hospital, which reached the point where Tufts Medical Center and Tufts University occupied about a third of Chinatown's land base by the end of the 1980s. From 2000 on, the downtown development boom brought over 2,000 luxury units into Chinatown, with an equal number in the immediate vicinity. Luxury development was followed by intense profiteering and displacement of the most vulnerable tenants, as investors bought and flipped the brick row houses that were home to immigrant families, and turning them into Airbnb units or high-end condos.

Following decades of organizing against unwanted developments, longtime residents, activists and small business owners launched the Chinatown Community Land Trust (Chinatown CLT) in 2015 as a new tool in the struggle to

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Director's Corner



September of 2019 marks Haymarket People's Fund 45th year as an anti-racist, multi-cultural, philanthropic organization with a continuing commitment to societal change. Our four and a half decades are filled with many significant benchmarks.

As our country seeks answers to the many obstacles we face, and to persevere to retain a sense of hope – it is beneficial to take a stroll down memory lane. Here are some noteworthy accomplishments:

- Throughout our history, our volunteer grantmaking panel, made up of community organizers and activists from across the region, award grants to local organizations in New England's neighborhoods and communities.
- Over 30 million dollars in grants has been given to grassroots community groups throughout New England.
- Haymarket has been behind the scenes providing money to almost every major progressive cause in New England since 1974.
- Uplifting workers' rights through with participation and solidarity with the International May Day rally and march. Our name honors the Haymarket Affair, the May 1, 1886 Chicago labor riot that brought about the 8-hour work day.
- July 21, 1979 marks the 40th year since the Haymarket sponsored Amandla – A Festival of Unity Concert raising consciousness about the struggles, and raising money for relief and humanitarian aid in Southern Africa.
- In the early 1980s, "the early practitioners of socially responsible investing were themselves front rank social activists in the anti-war, anti-nuclear,

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Haymarket People's Fund

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Haymarket's Mission Statement

Haymarket People's Fund is an anti-racist and multi-cultural foundation that is committed to strengthening the movement for social justice in New England. Through grantmaking, fundraising and capacity building, we support grassroots organizations that address the root cause of injustice.

Haymarket's Vision Statement

Haymarket envisions a world free of racism and other oppressions:

- Where peace and cooperation flourish
- Where people are valued and respected for their gifts and able to bring their whole selves to humanity
- Where vibrant communities thrive and different cultures are celebrated
- Where abundant resources and opportunities are equally shared and distributed while honoring the earth and all within it.

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Grantee Spotlight: American Friends Service Committee's (AFSC) Wabanaki Program - Perry, ME

How Wabanaki Youth Fought to Change Their High School's Mascot

By Denise Altavater, Coordinator of Wabanaki Youth Program



My journey led me to Maine and to the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)'s Wabanaki program, where I have been for 27 years. The AFSC's Wabanaki program draws tribes, state workers, and communities together to confront injustices and promote healing among Maine's four Wabanaki tribes: the Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot.

Among the communities I support, I have had the pleasure of working with and watching Maine's Native youth – the next generation of leaders – grow.

One of the main goals of the Wabanaki program is to provide programs that meet youth where they are, support them in accomplishing their goals and dreams, and prepare them for an empowered adulthood guided by their cultures, families and traditions. We do this because history is important. Our youth are being re-traumatized by social issues, such as schools using racial mascots, without them having a historical understanding of where these issues come from. They can't tell you the whole story. They're not even sure how to start to tell the history of what happened to them, their families and their relatives from generations back. This is why it is important for Native youth to understand the history that has caused the current conditions that they live in, and that they know what they are healing from and how they, as Native Youth, fit in with the rest of the world.



As part of their learning, the youth have taken on tremendous responsibility and leadership to address the affects of the racial mascot issue and how it impacts all young people at their schools. Maine once had over 25 schools exploiting its Native population by using Native American racial mascots for their sports teams. Many organizations and Tribes in Maine – with little help from the state government – demanded for the better part of thirty years that these schools end such offensive practices. Unfortunately, it was clear that the schools' resistance to respect Native people as real people, and the claims that they were honoring our people, are expressions of white privilege and colonialism.

Recently, the youth tried to change the mascot at Wiscasset High School in Wiscasset, Maine. The school had the most offensive mascot – the "Redskins." To add further insult to injury, the town of Wiscasset used to be an outpost where Indian killers would go to receive payment for the scalps of Indians. In fact, a 1755 proclamation by Spencer Phips, Massachusetts' acting Governor, proclaimed, "For every Scalp of such Female Indian or Male Indian under the Age of Twelve Years, that shall be killed and brought in as evidence of their being killed, Twenty Pounds."

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Grantee Spotlight: Chinese Community Land Trust

Continued from page 1

stabilize the future of Boston's Chinatown. Like other community land trusts, Chinatown CLT uses collective ownership and control as both principle and strategy as we work for development without displacement, permanently affordable housing, and shared neighborhood spaces.

Reclaiming Public Land

Two early milestones for Chinatown CLT demonstrate progress in reclaiming publicly-owned land for community priorities – the City of Boston owned Parcel R1 and the state Department of Transportation owned parcel that includes Reggie Wong Park.

Parcel R1 was used as a surface parking lot for both Tufts University and Tufts Medical Center for decades. Chinatown CLT continues to lead an organizing and advocacy campaign to call for the return of this public land to community use in anticipation of Tufts' expiring Land Disposition Agreement. The campaign included postcards, letters, petitions, community meetings, and visioning exercises on the street. As December 2017 neared, we brought the City, the institutions, and the community together to reach agreement on an end to Tufts' development rights, along with recognition that hospital parking would need to continue on the site for the next several years. Currently, Chinatown CLT is advocating for the launch of a public disposition process for R1.

Reggie Wong Park, located next to the highway ramps by Kneeland Street, has been Chinatown's only public recreational open space for decades, with well-utilized volleyball and basketball courts. It is an area owned by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (DOT), which seeks to sell the parcels to the highest bidder for mixed-use development. While DOT has expressed a commitment to preserving the park, it has no legal obligation to do so. Chinatown CLT raised \$125,000 for park improvements from the Community Preservation Fund and a local developer contribution. We launched a Reggie Wong Park Committee of Chinatown and Leather District residents, young and adult ball players, and stakeholder groups to discuss and oversee these plans, and began calling for permanent preservation of the park. The committee is currently in discussion with DOT over terms for leasing the park to Chinatown CLT.

Redefining Preservation

One of our biggest challenges is the effort to preserve some of Chinatown's historic three-or four-story brick row houses as permanently-affordable homes. Even run-down buildings have doubled or tripled in value in the last ten years. Chinatown's most vulnerable immigrant tenants have been hit hard by building clear-outs as investors have turned them

into short-term rental properties.

Through collective ownership of the land under the row houses, Chinatown



CLT can record permanent affordability restrictions into the deed of a property. This means Chinatown CLT can determine whether the row houses are strictly owner-occupied homes with rental units, afford-

able condos, or all rental apartments. To accomplish this, Chinatown CLT can purchase row houses outright, reach agreement with owners to purchase the land and affordability restrictions, or seek a Right of First Refusal when an owner does sell.

Chinatown CLT has launched its Chinatown Row House Preservation project focused on Chinatown's traditional row house streets. This work includes:

- 1) Acquiring properties to convert to permanently-affordable housing;
- 2) Advocating policies that support this work (like the recently passed Short-Term Rental Ordinance or a proposed Tenant Option to Purchase Act);
- 3) Securing new zoning guidelines for a Chinatown Row House Preservation Sub-District;
- 4) A long-term plan to create an Immigrant History Trail working with community, historic preservation, and government partners, and
- 5) Developing a Chinatown Row House Preservation Fund to support this work.

While we seek to raise awareness of Chinatown's history, we also are redefining "preservation." We are focused not only on preservation of architecture and buildings, but also on preservation of the community that has anchored immigrant working class family life for generations. This is a critical moment to remove buildings from the speculative market and safeguard the living pulse of Boston's immigrant history before the row house streets of Chinatown are lost. Chinatown's history and cultural character is a valuable asset that the entire city cannot afford to lose.

To learn more about the Chinatown Row House Preservation project, contact ChinatownCLT@gmail.com or 617-259-1503.

Grantee Spotlight: American Friends Service Committee's (AFSC) Wabanaki Program *continued from page 2*



As schools slowly began to change their mascots to names of animals, Wiscasset High School did not. I was on the Maine Indian Tribal State Commission several years ago when we made a formal request to the school district to change the name. The principal of Wiscasset High School contacted me and asked if he could bring ten seniors who were against changing the mascot name to the reservation and meet with my youth group. I agreed with the condition that we would not talk about the mascot issue. I didn't want to create an adversarial, hostile environment. The students came in December with their guidance counselor and principal. Since most of the students did not know there were still native people in Maine, they were surprised to see houses and not teepees. They spent six hours with our youth getting to know each other, doing icebreakers, and sharing what was difficult in their communities. In the end we held a talking circle and it was difficult

for them to leave each other. When the students returned home, all of them wanted to end the use of redskins as their mascot. The principal invited us to come to the school the next week and be part of a student assembly. Other adults in the town, however, found out about what happened on the reservation and held a meeting on the issue. I attended and was told that the town was not happy that their children went to the reservation. They also said that my youth were not welcome at their school and that we would be shot if we continue to try to change the name of the mascot. None of their drastic, racist actions made any difference; the school district voted to change their mascot to the wolverines the following March.

While there is much to be saddened by, and fearful of, in our current times, there is also much to be optimistic about. By understanding our culture, participating in our ceremonies and learning about our history, our resiliency will bring us to a place of healing, a place of hope and a place of belonging in a state that has a lengthy negative history when it comes to its Native population.

Freedom Through Art, Jamaica Plain Open Studios (JPOS) Exhibition at Haymarket People's Fund, Jamaica Plain, MA.

By Jacob Leidolf

Freedom Through Art is a group art show centering the work of incarcerated artists including the members of the Freedom Through Arts Collective, a national collective of currently incarcerated artists, and inviting the creative community to reflect on the issue of incarceration and the humanity of every life it impacts. We live in a society that imprisons its people at a higher rate than anywhere in the world yet numbers fail to tell the stories of families, futures and freedoms devastated in a Criminal Punishment System ever increasingly divorced from justice. Freedom Through Art is about sharing stories, from the inside and the other side and highlighting the voices, experience and dynamism of those who live this reality every day and are far too often reduced to statistics and sentences rather than being seen as fellow human beings.



New Grantee Spotlight: SISTA Fire - Providence, RI

The Story of SISTA Fire, RI

By Lori Lobenstine

SISTA Fire was co-founded in 2017 by Ditra Edwards and Chanravy Preung. Both born and raised in Providence, RI, they were frustrated by a lack of support for womxn of color's visions of change and their development as leaders. To help shape their new organization, SISTA Fire members decided to dig into everyday life for womxn of color in Rhode Island. In a groundbreaking participatory research project, members surveyed over 300 womxn of color and had in-depth 1-on-1 conversations with over 30 more. They canvassed community parks, farmers' markets, hair salons, laundromats, and nail shops. In keeping with their ethic of sharing knowledge, they shared their results in a community forum called Invisible No More: Womxn of Color Standing Together. Over 85 womxn of color attended, building relationships and using the data to begin to reframe the stories of womxn of color in the state.

With data they had collected about work, housing, debt, college experience, families, health care, self-care and social supports, SISTA Fire members had the tools and the content to deeply understand the connections between their own struggles and larger systems of oppression. Then came a tragedy that reflected the deadly effects of racism, sexism and classism. On January 7, 2019, Lashonda Hazard, age 27, unexpectedly passed away at Women and Infants Hospital along with her unborn child. SISTA Fire's entire membership knew they had to take action. Members knew her story was their story—they had told and heard too many similar ones.

SISTA Fire members responded with, "Open Letter: We Believe Black Women", which pushed for conversation with the hospital around black maternal health, lifting up the larger systemic violence on womxn of color's bodies. With over 1300 signatures on the letter, SISTA Fire quickly put together a community listening session that centered Black and Indigenous womxn, and uplifted womxn of color to share stories on birth, birthing process, and reproductive justice. The community listening session, "Speaking Our Truths: Believe Black Womxn", had over 60 womxn of color sharing stories, healing activities, and helping SISTA Fire understand what the community wanted as public accountability from the hospital. Since then, SISTA Fire's member-led Organizing Committee has been negotiating with the Women and Infants Hospital, which has now committed to a community meeting about the incident and the related larger issues of institutional gender violence and racism.

Reflecting on the work so far, Director Ditra Edwards said, "I think the biggest thing is members didn't realize how much their struggles are the struggles of other womxn...so we've been able to create a space where we can be our whole selves, and not feel isolated from one another. Now I just wish we had a physical space of our own; if we can get that, our members will feel like, 'I'm part of this. I helped make this. I have a stake in it, and in my community.' A physical space of our own says let's do this together. It changes culture and creates possibility space for who we can be and who our community can be." A building is just a short-term goal. In the long term, SISTA Fire is building collective power for and by womxn of color for social, economic and political transformation of the entire state!



Farewell to our Volunteer Funding Panel Members

Kelly Baker • Adanarys Barragan • Maggie Filler • Malchus Mills



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Estate, Sam Adams, Tamarack Media Cooperative, The Food Project,
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2019 EVENT REPORT

ATTENDEES



450

WHAT WE ATE



475 lbs.



100 lbs.



45

KITCHEN BY OLIO CULINARY COOPERATIVE

BUDGET

\$76,900

INCOME

sponsorship \$42,250
tickets \$13,300
donations \$21,350

\$10,365

EXPENSES

food, materials, admin support,
advertising, bookkeeping, and space

\$66,535

PROFIT

to eight grassroots organizations

MONEY FOR GRASSROOTS ORGANIZING

\$7,872

ALTERNATIVES FOR COMMUNITY
AND ENVIRONMENT (ACE)
ace-ef.org

\$8,237

ASIAN AMERICAN RESOURCE
WORKSHOP (AARW)
aarw.org

\$7,920

FAMILIES FOR JUSTICE
AS HEALING (FJAH)
justicesthehealing.org

\$9,853

HAYMARKET PEOPLE'S FUND
haymarket.org

\$8,089

MUSLIM JUSTICE LEAGUE
muslimjusticeleague.org

\$7,885

NEW ENGLAND UNITED
FOR JUSTICE (NEUJ)
neu4j.org

\$8,793

RESIST, INC.
resist.org

\$7,888

STUDENT IMMIGRANT
MOVEMENT (SIM)
simforus.org

NEW MONTHLY SUSTAINERS

10



**Lobsterfeed:
Record Breaking
Collective
Fundraiser**



Summer Fellow from Brandeis University's Heller School for Social Policy and Management

Yuqi Wang is a Master's in Public Policy and Business Administration student at Brandeis University's Heller School for Social Policy and Management. Yuqi comes to Haymarket with experiences in research, organizing, and advocacy. She hopes to continue working with grassroots organizations in the future, and is thrilled and incredibly thankful to have had the opportunity to work with the amazing staff at Haymarket and to be able to learn more about different grantees' work. At Haymarket, Yuqi helped with a variety of tasks to prepare for Haymarket's upcoming Fall season. Her responsibilities included interviewing and writing articles (great job!) a few of the current grantees so that they can be highlighted in Haymarket's Fall newsletter and website homepage, and researching Haymarket's history of giving – beginning from the organization's inception in 1974 to 2019 – to determine how Haymarket has used its funding and how it can use its future funds.

THE PEOPLE'S FUND

Haymarket's 45th Sustainability Campaign

For 45 years Haymarket has been able to raise over \$30 Million Dollars (\$30,090,497)! Allocating funds to hundreds of organizations. We have been able to raise a significant amount of funds and support our grantees organizing work thanks to your generous support throughout the years! As part of our 45th Anniversary Celebration we want to honor all of our grantees that have been part of the Haymarket Family and are doing the work on the front lines. We want to continue to increase our sustaining and urgent response grants by being true to who we are as a people's fund where everyone can make a meaningful contribution as we widen our web by asking you to consider becoming a sustainer.

80% People of Color <i>(52 sustaining grants/s5 urgent response)</i>	54% Women of Color <i>(36 SG / 2 UR)</i>	Urgent Response & Sustaining Grant = 71 total
62% women <i>(41 SG / 3 UR)</i>	24% Black Women <i>(16 SG / 1UR)</i>	

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED!

You too can enjoy the rewarding experience of volunteering with Haymarket, and having a significant impact in your community. Simply email Jaime at Jaime@haymarket.org to learn more about becoming part of the New England Regional Funding Panel, or Karla at knicholson@haymarket.org about Haymarket's Board of Directors and committees. Participation is needed from Connecticut, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, Maine and Western Massachusetts.

WAYS TO GIVE!

I WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE MOVEMENT

☐ I/We want to support Haymarket People's Fund

☐ I/We have enclosed a check payable to Haymarket People's Fund

☐ Here's my contribution of ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other \$ _____

☐ I/We want to be a sustainer: ☐ \$5 ☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$200

Please charge \$ _____ to my credit card each month Please charge my ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ Amex

Account # _____ Expiration Date _____ Signature _____

In addition please contact me for the following: ☐ Gifts of Securities ☐ Planned Giving ☐ I have named Haymarket in my will

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone Number _____

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civil rights, economic justice and environmental movements, although motivated by diverse ethical, religious, philosophical and political principles" (Green Money Journal: Socially Responsible Investing: Whence Did We Come? And Whither Are We Going?) Haymarket People's Fund, a leader in this early movement, from which the solidarity economy now emerges.

- Anti-racism journey that continues – producing a systemic racial framework for our philanthropic work, genuine people of color leadership, and a truly inclusive "people's fund" where everyone's gifts are honored.

Many of us spend an enormous amount of time talking about, or working toward creating the world we believe should exist. A great deal of us have done this through multiple movements over decades.

At this time in our history, we are in one of the most challenging phases of our lifetime. As we build upon what we learned from the past, we must tap into the many resources at our fingertips to generate new and creative ways to make progress.

"Why aren't we taking to the streets?" is the mantra that is being heard. Many are asking, but few are stepping out. We have become comfortable within injustice. Instead of fighting for justices, we have accepted just complaining about our circumstances. There are temporary gains that many are not willing to risk.

One of the most important aspects we must utilize is to build our base. There are so many people looking for answers. By bonding and working together, and work toward a common vision or goal, we can and will achieve the outcomes we seek.

The time is now to act. We have lost much of the ground we gained, so many policies have been rolled back. Step up and join those who choose action. After all, "we who believe in freedom cannot rest. We who believe in freedom cannot rest until it comes" (*Ella's Song*, Sweet Honey in the Rock).

– Karla Nicholson

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THE COURAGE TO CHANGE

In 1998 Haymarket People's Fund an anti-racist, multi-cultural foundation, embarked on a deliberate process to advance the mission and undo the racism ingrained in every aspect of the organization.

This open-ended process has been transformative throughout the structure, staffing, grantmaking, and fundraising activities of Haymarket. During the past decade, Haymarket

- ❖ has:rewritten its mission,
- ❖ updated and/or developed organizational,
- ❖ policies and practices,
- ❖ changed its leadership structure, and
- ❖ taken steps to shift its organizational culture.



To learn more about Haymarket's anti-racism journey, and obtain copies of "The Courage to Change", contact Haymarket at 617-522-7676 or knicholson@haymarket.org.