

Dance program director's installation honored by Cattaraugus County Arts Council

6/08/15



D. Chase Angier, professor of dance and director of the dance program at Alfred University (AU), received the Regrant Program of the Year award from the Cattaraugus County Arts Council (CCAC) during its Celebration of the Arts party June 6.

Angier's award was given for "As The Air Moves Back From You," her performance installation which was produced in collaboration with many visual, performing, and sound artists, including Chicago-based Luftwerk.

The Regrant Program of the Year is selected from one of the NYS Council of the Arts (NYSCA)-funded Decentralization grant recipients. Angier's work was selected for an Artist in Community Grant, which is given with the support of Gov. Andrew Cuomo and the NYS Legislature and administered by the CCAC.

Artist in Community grants carry a \$2,500 award for an individual artist for the creation of new work within a community context. The goal of this grant opportunity is to support the creative work of individual artists in all disciplines at the local level while encouraging interaction between artists and community members to highlight the role of the artist as a community resource.

"As The Air Moves" began, this past winter, with 8,000 pounds of rice arranged in elaborate designs which provided setting and interactive material for dance, durational, and media performances. The episodic structure, shaped by the combination of visual art, dance, performance, music and sound design, was inspired by the earth's diminishing natural resources and the fear that accompanies scarcity. The rice served as a textured and sculptural surface for light projections created by Luftwerk, the creative vision of Petra Bachmaier and Sean Gallero, the multi-media duo.

In "As The Air Moves," Angier brought together innovative artists from across the country and across many disciplines to share a focused vision in Alfred. The project involved members of the New York Southern Tier community, AU, and artists from Chicago, Philadelphia, and New York City.

Original sound scores were created by Andrew Deutsch, AU professor for sonic and video, and John Laprade. The installation also included discrete and diverse performances and featured Tiffany Mills Company; Kristi Spessard; Laurel Jay Carpenter, associate professor of art at AU; Alfred Performers; and designer Marketa Fantova.

In addition to the Artist in Community grant, "As the Air Moves Back From You" was made possible through contributions from within the University - Marlin Miller Dance Residency Program, Miller Endowment for Excellence in the Arts, School of Art and Design, Fosdick-Nelson Gallery, Institute for Electronic Arts, Electronic Integrated Arts, Herrick Gallman Fund, and the Division of Performing Arts.

Angier has been at AU since 2002. She holds a bachelor of arts degree in dance from the University of California at Los Angeles and a master of fine arts degree in choreography from The Ohio State University.

She is a choreographer/director/performer and the artistic director of Angier Performance Works. She creates and performs dance-theater, performance installations, and performance art works in theatre and gallery spaces as well as unexpected natural settings and public sites. These works are created in collaboration with dynamic artists in the visual arts, performance, music, theater and dance and have been performed internationally (Japan, Czech Republic, Germany, Mexico, The United Kingdom) and nationally (New York, California, Washington, Vermont, South Carolina, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Florida, Texas, Pennsylvania, Alabama). Her work has been reviewed as “intelligent entertainment,” “a comic romp,” and “fine storytelling” by *The New York Times* and *The Dance Insider*.