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**CHARLOTTE STREET FOUNDATION PRESENTS**  
**2008 CHARLOTTE STREET GENERATIVE PERFORMING ARTIST FELLOWS**  
*Evening at Kansas City Repertory Theatre Copaken Stage, November 14, 8pm, honors the work of*  
*inaugural awardees DeeAnna Hiett, Ron Megee and Mark Southerland*

Charlotte Street Foundation is pleased to announce a public celebration of the work of the first three CSF Generative Performing Artist Fellows on **Friday, November 14, 8pm** at the **Kansas City Repertory Theatre Copaken Stage, 1 H&R Block Way**, in downtown Kansas City.

**Free and open to the public**, the evening will include short performances highlighting the work of composer/dancer **DeeAnna Hiett**, producer/director/playwright/actor **Ron Megee**, and composer/musician/performer **Mark Southerland**, who received unrestricted cash awards of \$5000 each from Charlotte Street Foundation earlier this year. A color brochure is being produced in conjunction with the event, featuring images and essays about the fellows by Paul Horsley, Lisa Cordes, and Paul Rudy.

These new Awards aim to support and recognize outstanding, innovative, original generative performing artists – artists creating new work in the fields of dance, theater, music, experimental music performance, theater/performance art, and hybrid/interdisciplinary versions thereof -- as Charlotte Street Awards to Visual Artists have done for over a decade. As with the Awards to Visual Artists, the Awards for Generative Performing Artists seek to foster the continued creative and professional development of the selected artists, provide the means for them to further focus on and develop their work, and increase exposure for their accomplishments.

The event will feature choreography by **DeeAnna Hiett**, performed by eight dancers, including Hiett. Set to the dramatic music of Vas and Sezen Aksu, the piece is characterized by grounded, organic movements and is inspired by ideas of the unavoidable and unknown; the inevitable and uncontrollable nature of life-altering transitions. As a company member of Wylliams/Henry Danse Theatre since 1994, Hiett has choreographed works including “Bound to...” (2007), “The Passage” (2005), Yogini (2001) and

Momfassa (1999.) Hiett has also choreographed works for Kansas City Ballet's "In the Wings" series, Cleveland Contemporary Dance Theater, the American College Dance Festival, and UMKC Conservatory. In addition to Wylliams/Henry, Hiett is a member of Deeply Rooted Production, a dance company based in Chicago, and formerly danced with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in New York. Assistant Professor at UMKC Conservatory, she has taught at companies and dance centers internationally.

**Ron Megee** will present a performance art piece touching upon life in a tent city, under a bridge. Through dance, props, drag queens and lip syncing, this piece will be a reflection of being "down and out" in Kansas City. Megee is a playwright, producer, director, actor, and self-proclaimed dandy. As Artistic Director and Founder of Late Night Theatre company, Megee wrote, produced, and performed in such productions as *A Tribute to the Stepford Wives*, *Rosemarie's Baby*, *The Killings at Kamp Tittkekaka*, *Valley of the Dolls* and *A Tribute to Alfred Hitchcock's The Birds*. In addition, Megee has directed productions for the Coterie Theatre and acted in productions at the Coterie, Unicorn Theatre, American Heartland Theatre, and Starlight Theatre.

**Mark Southerland** will present "Urban Noise Camp," an installation-based performance that continues Southerland's redefinition of jazz. Employing wearable horn sculptures, circuit bent toys, and L.E.D. lights, Southerland and a cast of performers will praise the moon through composition and improvisation set amidst a tent sculpture village. Southerland is a composer and jazz musician who has used the saxophone as a medium for exploring sound for over 26 years in addition to reinventing brass and woodwind instruments and developing means to "scratch" eight-track tapes. Trained at UMKC Conservatory, Southerland's ongoing musical projects include Snuff Jazz, Wee Snuff, Malachy Papers and T.J Dovebelly Ensemble. He has performed at venues including Brindge Art Fair, Miami; Jack the Pelican gallery, Brooklyn, NY; Telluride Jazz Festival; and the Knitting Factory, New York, in addition to numerous Kansas City museums, galleries, and performance and music venues.

The 2008 Awards Advisors responsible for selecting the 2008 Fellows included **David Ford**, interdisciplinary artist working experimentally in multiple mediums, and **Chuck Haddix**, Director, Marr Sound Archives at UMKC, host of the "Fish Fry," on KCUR FM 89.3, and co-author with Frank Driggs of *Kansas City Jazz: From Ragtime to Bebop—A History*, published by Oxford University Press; **Lisa Cordes**, Executive Director, Heart of America Shakespeare Festival, educator, and artist; **Pat Macdonald**, Director of Community Investment, Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, former dancer with the Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble and other dance companies, and former Executive Assistant to Judith Jamison, Artistic Director of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in New York; and **Paul Rudy**, Associate Professor and Coordinator of Composition, UMKC Conservatory of Music, composer, author, sound artist, and teacher.

Charlotte Street Foundation is most appreciative to the Founding Funders for this new initiative: Grand Arts, Muriel McBrien Kauffman Foundation, J. Scott Francis, Karen McCarthy, Louis and Elizabeth Nave Flarsheim Foundation (Bank of America, Trustee), Ellen and Irv Hockaday, and Theater League.

Charlotte Street Foundation (CSF) supports and recognizes outstanding artists in Kansas City; presents, promotes, enhances, and encourages the visual and performing arts; and fosters economic development in the urban core of Kansas City, Mo. On all levels, CSF places artists at the center of its mission and has built an infrastructure that depends on and reflects their involvement. As a result, we are an organization that continually evolves in response to their input and in relation to the city's larger cultural ecosystem. For more about the Charlotte Street Foundation, visit [www.charlottestreet.org](http://www.charlottestreet.org).