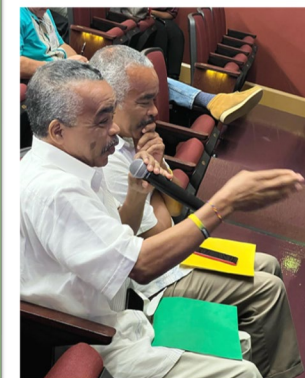




AUGUST 20 - 24, 2025
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

PROMOTIONAL DECK **FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026**



WHAT IS THE MESHANTICUT CONFESTIVAL?



1. A conference that convenes local and international stakeholders to network and develop best practices in cultural placemaking.
2. A living culture festival that demonstrates cultural placemaking principles in action.
3. A mechanism for promoting other cultural placemaking initiatives in the Greater Providence area.

*In the Narragansett dialect, **Meshanticut** means “**place of many trees**” and contemporarily references the lands of Greater Providence.*

WHAT IS CULTURAL PLACEMAKING?



A Strategy That:

- Focuses on *culture* as a force that defines, connects, sustains, and distinguishes us.
- Centers the *living* culture of specific cultural communities.
- Highlights the *narratives* that tie cultural communities to the place being made.

MISSION

To advance the cultural tourism sector by stimulating interest and investment in cultural placemaking as an ethical and sustainable marketing and economic development strategy.



GOALS

1. Foster relationship building within the international cultural tourism sector.
2. Present speakers, workshops and networking opportunities that inform cultural placemaking best practices and the public.
3. Present interactive experiences that embody cultural placemaking principles and strategies.



RATIONALE

Cultural Placemaking supports cultural communities in developing and leveraging their cultural assets for the international tourism market.

We have a story to tell!

CULTURAL TOURISM FACTS:

- ❖ *\$6.52 billion Global Market in 2023**
- ❖ *\$15.23 billion Global Market forecast by 2031**
- ❖ *11.2% Global Market Compound Annual Growth Rate forecast for 2024 to 2031**
 - ❖ *40% of worldwide tourism***
- ❖ *49% of cultural travelers will pay more for lodging with distinctive cultural or heritage component***

** Global Cultural Tourism Market Size, Share, and Trends Analysis Report – Industry Overview and Forecast to 2031 (Data Bridge Market Services)*

*** The Importance of Cultural Heritage Tourism (American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association)*



MARKETING DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



- ✓ *Regional and international tourism and placemaking professionals and academics seeking new strategies*
- ✓ *Tourists and area residents preferring unique cultural experiences and live performances*
- ✓ *Artists and cultural practitioners seeking to engage with new audiences*
- ✓ *Area businesses seeking new product markets*

MARKETING & PROMOTION

INTERNATIONAL:

Global Cultural Districts Network
CARICOM Caribbean Community
West African Networks

REGIONAL:

Providence/Warwick Convention and
Visitors Bureau
Providence Department of Arts Culture +
Tourism

LOCAL:

GoLocalProv
UpRiseRI
BartholomeowTown Podcast
The Masswascut Collaborative
Social Media Platforms



ACTIVITIES

RESOURCING LOCAL INDIGENOUS FUTURES

The Rhode Island Foundation (8.20.25)

A one-day workshop and symposium gathering for RI-based Indigenous leaders and local/regional funders to examine and catalyze funding for Indigenous-led cultural projects in RI.

Exploring how we can more effectively resource the ecosystems that nourish Indigenous-led cultural work.



ACTIVITIES

Cultural Exchange Ceremony

Providence City Hall (8.20.2025)

Opening ceremony to lay the foundation for a productive series of discussions and events to follow.

Cultural exchange is key to establishing strong relationships and facilitating economic development opportunities internationally.



ACTIVITIES



Cultural Placemaking Conference

Providence Public Library (8.21.25 / 8.22.25)

A two-day event including keynote speakers, workshops, and workgroups.

Facilitates development of partnerships, strategies, and policies that promote and support the international cultural placemaking sector.



ACTIVITIES

Cultural Acknowledgement Ceremony

Teatro ECAS (8.22.25)

Event recognizing and honoring the contemporary culture bearers of the Meshanticut community.

Fosters a deeper understanding and appreciation of the diversity of cultural communities comprising Meshanticut while celebrating the contributions and resilience of its people.



ACTIVITIES



Ondas Sonoras (Sound Waves)

Oakland Beach (8.22.25)

A ceremony commemorating the memory and abolition of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade while highlighting the cultural ties that connect Rhode Island to Africa and South America.

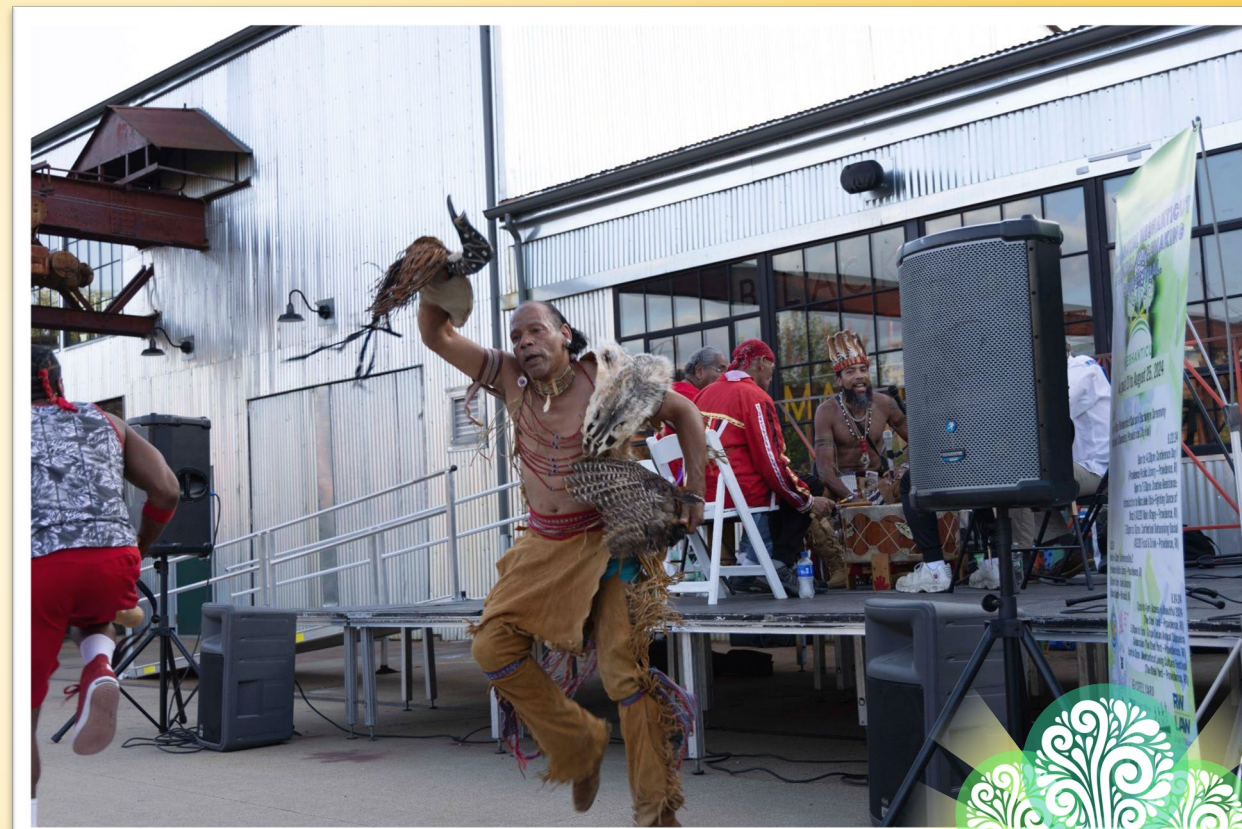
ACTIVITIES

Living Culture Festival

The Steel Yard (8.23.25)

A genre-defying, interactive, living culture and music festival.

*Acknowledges and honors local
Indigenous nations and celebrates the
contemporary cultural diversity of
Providence.*



ACTIVITIES



New Beginnings Closing Ceremony

Michael S. Van Leesten Pedestrian Bridge (8.24.25)

Marking the end of a successful and vibrant Confestival.

Invites participants to celebrate and reflect with open hearts and minds upon our shared journey of honoring and revitalizing Rhode Island's culture.



Meet the Team



Toccara L. Barrett, M.S.H.S.
Executive Administrator



Donald W. King
Chief Creative Officer



Raymond Two Hawks Watson, Esq.
President & Chief Executive Officer

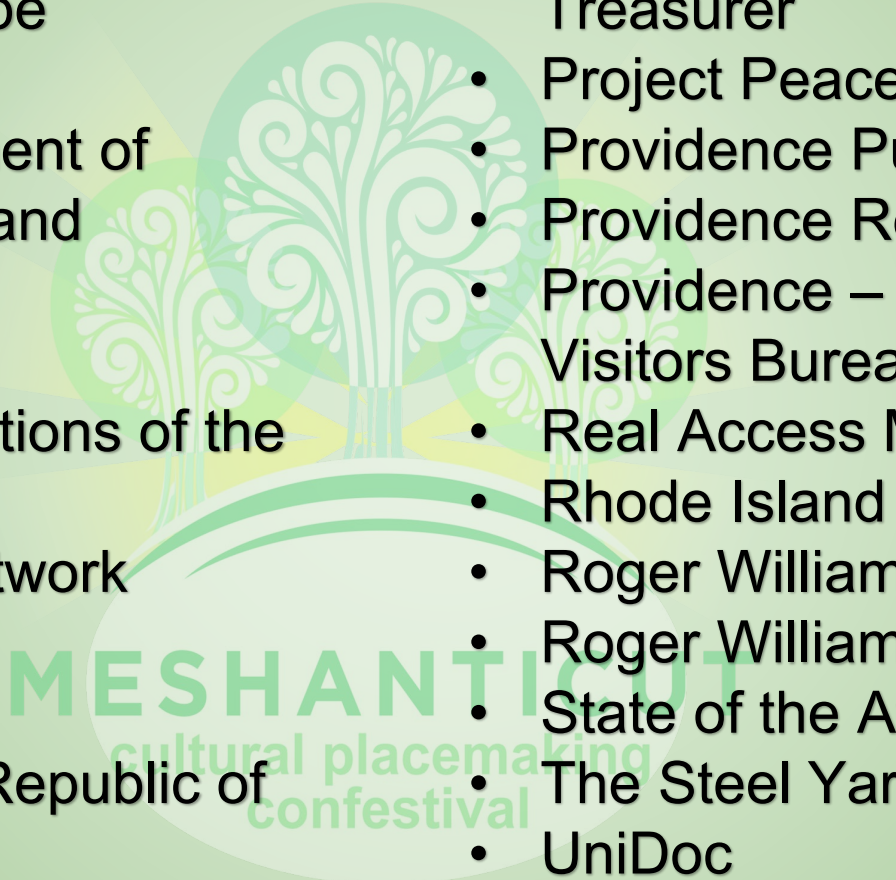


H.E. Amb. Stephen Kojo Sackey
Press, Media & Marketing Consultant



Brian Hendrickson, PhD
Director of Research, Teaching, and Learning

All-Time Sponsors

- 
- AS220 Food & Drink
 - Cibuco-Bayamon Taino Tribe
 - City of Providence
 - City of Providence Department of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging
 - Cox Charities
 - Federation of Aboriginal Nations of the Americas
 - Global Cultural Districts Network
 - Grupo Ondas
 - Hewlett Packard
 - Ambassador Lamin Sima, Republic of Gambia
 - Mashapaug Nahaganset Tribe
 - Mount Hope Community Center
 - Office of the Rhode Island General Treasurer
 - Project Peace Lights
 - Providence Public Library
 - Providence Revolving Fund
 - Providence – Warwick Convention and Visitors Bureau
 - Real Access Motivates Progress
 - Rhode Island Foundation
 - Roger Williams University
 - Roger Williams University School of Law
 - State of the African Diaspora
 - The Steel Yard
 - UniDoc
 - United Way of Rhode Island
 - Waterfire Providence

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS AND BENEFITS



SPONSORSHIP LEVEL

BENEFITS

WAR EAGLE SPONSOR

\$20,000.00

WAR EAGLE SPONSOR

Main Stage Branding / VIP tent / Logo on all event banners / Logo on printed material / Email blast / Program listing / Logo on website / Social media / Signage at event / Vocal recognition at event / 10 x 10 activation space

RED TAIL HAWK SPONSOR

\$10,000.00

RED TAIL HAWK SPONSOR

Main Stage branding / Logo on all event banners / Logo on printed material / Email blast / Program listing / Logo on website / Social media / Signage at event / Vocal recognition at event / 10 x 10 activation space

SNOW OWL SPONSOR

\$5,000.00

SNOW OWL SPONSOR

Main Stage branding / Logo on all event banners / Logo on printed material / Email blast / Program listing / Logo on website / Social media / Signage at event / 10 x 10 activation space

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS AND BENEFITS



SPONSORSHIP LEVEL	BENEFITS
BLACK GOOSE SPONSOR \$2,500.00	BLACK GOOSE SPONSOR Logo on general event banners / Logo on printed media / Email blast / Program listing / Logo on website / Social media / Signage at event / Vocal recognition at event / 10 x 10 activation space
RAVEN SPONSOR \$1,000.00	RAVEN SPONSOR Logo on printed media / Email blast / Program listing / Logo on website / Social media / Signage at event
BLUE JAY SPONSOR \$200.00	BLUE JAY SPONSOR Logo on printed media / Email blast / Program listing / Logo on website / Social media / Signage at event

For More Information:



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MESHANTICUT
cultural placemaking
confestival

