2016 ART AND CHANGE GRANT PANELISTS

MJ Kaufman
MJ Kaufman is a playwright and devised theater maker. They are currently working on a new project with Bearded Ladies Cabaret and a play they wrote called *eat and you belong to us*, as an incubated artist at University of the Arts. Also they are part of the Emerging Writers Group at the Public Theater, a Core Playwright at InterAct Theatre, and recently finished a residency focusing on identity and performance at the New Museum. Their plays have been seen at New York Theater Workshop, The Huntington Theater, Yale School of Drama, New Conservatory Theatre Center and performed in Russian in Moscow. MJ received the 2010 Jane Chambers Prize in Feminist Theatre. They are queer, trans, white, Jewish, and able-bodied. In their spare time, they organize with Palestine Solidarity and Immigration Justice movements.

Rochelle Nichols-Solomon
Rochelle Nichols-Solomon is an educator with more than thirty years working with schools and communities to increase education excellence and equity for students of color and low-income communities. Her work includes creating, managing, and providing high impact technical support to schools/districts along with their key stakeholder partners. Rochelle’s long community history includes working with numerous organizations and serving on local and national non-profit Boards revolving around issues of public education, culture, and philanthropy. Some of the places Rochelle has served include: the Alliance Organizing Project (founding member), Philadelphia Public School Notebook (founding member and current board member), Sisters Remember Malcolm (founding member), Art Sanctuary, Bread and Roses, The National Network of Grantmakers, and Delaware Valley Grantmakers. Rochelle is married to songwriter James Solomon, and is the mother of two writers: Asali Solomon and Akiba Solomon.

Selina Morales
Selina tends Philadelphia Folklore Project’s mission and vision, develops innovative programming, and manages day-to-day operations. She came to PFP in 2010 to coordinate public programs and launched its Folk Arts and Social Change residencies. Selina completed her M.A. in folklore at Indiana University and holds a B.A. in Anthropology from Oberlin College. Before joining PFP, she worked at Traditional Arts Indiana, Indiana’s statewide folklife organization, where she conducted folklife research, developed public programs, and curated and coordinated exhibitions. She served as a guest curator at the Mathers Museum of World Cultures where she curated Botanica: A Pharmacy for the Soul, an innovative installation drawing on a 163-piece ethnographic collection documenting Botanica practices in the United States. Selina has been an invited speaker in University and community settings on social justice and folklore, Latino folklore, folklore and education, and other topics. She currently teaches in the Cultural Sustainability graduate program at Goucher College. Areas of expertise include: Urban folklore, folk healing and belief, public folklore theory and practice, and exhibition design.