

## **Kibibi Ajanku**

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### **EDUCATION**

Maryland Institute of Art  
Curatorial Practice (MFA)  
Certificate (College Teaching of Art)  
2014 -2016

Morgan State University  
1974-1977

### **SPECIALIZATION**

Art Administration  
Program Management  
Community Outreach &  
Engagement  
Community Development  
Performing Arts  
Authentic Presentation of the  
Cultural Aesthetic  
Folklore Curatorship

### **RECENT GRANTS / AWARDS**

2017 Sphinx Connect  
Fellowship Award  
2017 The Leadership; Greater  
Baltimore Committee  
2016 Sphinx Connect  
Fellowship Award  
2016 Winifred M. Gordon '28  
International Program Award  
2016 Curatorial Practice  
Award  
2016 Leslie King Hammond  
Award  
2016 Roberta Polevoy Award  
List  
2015 Curatorial Practice  
Award  
2015 Roberta Polevoy Award  
List

### **SELECTED CURATORIAL PROJECTS AND EXHIBITIONS**

2017 *Locations*, James E. Lewis Museum of Art,  
Baltimore, MD  
2016 *AfroCuban Social Justice*, Tejadillo Gallery,  
Havana, Cuba  
2016 *Indigo Magic*, Frederick Douglas Myers Museum,  
Baltimore, MD  
2015 *In the Footsteps of Sundiata*, Online  
2015 *Intersection*, Sheila & Richard Riggs and Leidy Galleries, MD  
2015 Imaginary Museum Group Exhibition  
2015 Museum of Afrofuturism,  
2014 Reinhart Sculpture Program Group Exhibition

### **TEACHING INTERNSHIPS**

MICA Creative Writing  
MICA Harlem Renaissance  
MICA African Studies  
MICA Poetry Quilting

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Carroll, Angela: "The Magic that is Indigo", BmoreArt, June 15, 2016  
Elben, Michel: "Festival Celebrates Divers Arts and Entertainment",  
Carroll County Times, July 13, 2015  
Conway, Eddie: "Sankofa Dance Theater Marks 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary",  
The Real News.com, February 23, 2015  
Sherman, Natalie: "Hundreds Gather for Kwanzaa Celebration at the  
Reginald F. Lewis Museum", The Baltimore Sun, December 27, 2015  
Ritzel, Rebecca: "Dance Place Brakes in Renovated Theater with  
Dance Africa Performances", The Washington Post, June 8, 2014

### **VISUAL ART SERIES**

Mosaic Tile and Clay AfroCuban Series  
Stained Glass Mosaic Church Window Series  
Sankofa Dance Theater Costume Design  
Painted Furniture on Display  
Fiber & Wearable Art

### **PERFORMING ARTS**

***Performer, Dancer and Griot. Sankofa Dance Theater, Baltimore, MD, 1989-Present.***  
Performing in venues throughout the United States, South Africa,  
Senegal, The Gambia, Ghana, Togo, Benin, The Netherlands, France  
and the Caribbean.

### **RESIDENCIES**

2016, Havana, Cuba  
2015, Studio Residency, Monkton, MD  
2002, The Gambia, West Africa

## **RECENT ART ADMINISTRATION EXPERIENCE**

**Founding Executive Director** - Sankofa Dance Theater and Sankofa Center for Cultural Enrichment, Baltimore, MD, 1989-Present

**Program Manager** - Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance, Baltimore, MD, 2015-Present

**Arts Specialist** - Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks, Baltimore, MD, 2007-2009

**Arts Education Coordinator** - Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts, Baltimore, MD, 2005 –2007

## **INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL FOR PERFORMANCE TRAINING**

**Performance, Training, Research, Acquisition of Artifacts, Instruments, Textiles, Costumes, Props**

- Cuba; 2016
- South Africa, Senegal; 2009
- The Gambia; 1998; 2000, 2002, 2008
- The Netherlands, France; 2004
- Senegal; 1996, 1998, 2002, 2008
- Ghana, Togo, Benin; 2000
- Jamaica; 1995
- US Virgin Islands; 1976, 1987
- The Bahamas; 1976

## **PERFORMANCES**

- “Harvest Fest Concert”, master of ceremony, lead dancer, griot, and costume designer
- “A Ballet of the Spirit”, master of ceremony, lead dancer, griot, and costume designer
- “A Tribute to Kunta Kinte”, master of ceremony, lead dancer, griot, and costume designer
- “Life Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness”, curator, master of ceremony, lead dancer, griot, and costume designer
- “The Royal Court”, master of ceremony, lead dancer, griot, and costume designer
- “The Harvest”, master of ceremony, lead dancer, griot, and costume designer
- “A Time for Life”, actress
- Family Circle Theater productions, actress

## **PERFORMANCE COMPANIES**

- Sankofa Dance Theater of Baltimore; 1989-present
- WombWorks Productions; 2012-2013
- KanKouran West African Dance Company; 1982-1989
- Family Circle Theater; 1978-1980
- Morgan State University Dance Company; 1974-1977
- Weusi Umoja African Dance Company; 1972-1975

## **PERFORMANCE VENUES & MUSEUM COLLABORATIONS**

- Motor House; Maryland
- Sankofa Center for Cultural Enrichment; Maryland
- Lantaren Vinstler; Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- The Odeon; Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- Blaisingor Cultural Arts Center; Senegal, West Africa
- Monsur Gueye Dance Theater; Senegal, West Africa
- The Arena Players; Maryland
- Auditorium Theater of Chicago; Illinois
- Meyerhoff Symphony Hall; Maryland

- Baltimore Museum of Art; Maryland
- Walters Art Museum; Maryland
- The Contemporary Art Museum; Maryland
- Brooklyn Art Museum; New York
- Kennedy Center; District of Columbia
- Lincoln Theater; District of Columbia
- The Ohio Theatre; Ohio
- Reginald F. Lewis Museum; Maryland
- Center Stage; Maryland
- Eubie Blake Cultural Arts Center; Maryland
- Gallaudet University; District of Columbia
- Dance Place; District of Columbia
- La Teranga Hotel; Senegal, West Africa
- Ocean Bay Hotel & Resort; The Gambia, West Africa
- Carroll County Art Center; Maryland
- Bellows Falls Opera House; Vermont
- Great Blacks In Wax Museum; Maryland
- The Creative Alliance; Maryland
- Publik Playhouse; District of Columbia
- The Bottle Works; West Virginia

## **COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY**

### ***Programs, Performances, Projects, Presentations, Teaching Residencies***

- Morgan State University
- Maryland Institute College of Art
- Johns Hopkins University
- Towson University
- Goucher College
- Coppin State University
- University of Baltimore
- Baltimore City Community College
- Baltimore County Community College
- Salisbury State College
- Frostburg State University
- McDaniel College

## **YOUTH ARTS PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT**

### ***Schools and Arts organizations***

- Stadium School; Maryland
- Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church; Maryland
- Levine School of Music; District of Columbia
- YMCA of Baltimore; Maryland
- New Era Pre-School; Maryland
- Maarifa Elementary and Middle School; Maryland
- Living Classrooms; Maryland
- Orchard School; New Hampshire
- KanKouran Dance West African Company Children's Program; District of Columbia
- ConneXions Leadership Academy; Maryland

- Baltimore City Public Schools; Maryland
- Montessori School; New Hampshire
- River City Drum Corp; Kentucky
- Baltimore Department of Rec & Parks; Maryland
- Young Audiences Art for Learning; Maryland