#TalkingArtVT
VT *ArtWorks*

Preliminary Stakeholder Interview Review

Interview Summary

So Far We've Interviewed

- Bob Leonard - *Virginia Tech*
- Bill Cleveland - *Center for the Study of Art & Community*
- Nick Slie - *Cry You One*
- Carlton Turner - *Alternate Roots*
- Mark Valdez - *Independent theater maker*
- Jamie Haft - *Roadside Theater*
- Jan Cohen-Cruz - *Imagining America*
- Dudley Cocke - *Roadside Theater*

Interview Notes and Recordings

Thorough notes on all our interviews and audio recordings (for all but Dudley Cocke's interview) are available in the VTArtWorks (VTAW) Google Drive in a **folder named "Interviews."**

If you are interested, please access our interview notes. They are edited for clarity, and they should be of use as we move forward with our project.

Terminology

Community Cultural Development (CCD)
Bob's term.

Arts Based Community Development (ABCD)
Bill's Term.

Explanation
Essentially these are terms refer to the same thing. They refer to artists working in communities —all kinds of artists, not just theater people. They focus on art that is created *with* not *for* communities, art that aims to address issues relevant to a community and to help that community. They suggest development based on *inquiry* and beg the question: "How do the arts contribute to the development of caring, capable, and sustainable communities?"

These terms refer to a field that is touched by community organizing and social justice work. CCD/ABCD work might seek to address problems related to the environment, education, transportation, police violence, or housing, to name just a few. This field expands beyond the arts—it is relevant to everyone.

One major challenge of VTAW will be engaging not only artists and theater makers, but also community organizers, activists, public servants, and whole communities and making them a part of the conversation.

What Could VTArtWorks Feasibly Address?

What problems exist?	CAN's Role	VTArtWorks' Role
Misunderstanding of underlying **CCD/ABCD principles** (e.g. bad training for new practitioners, difficulty with audience engagement)	Served as a hub of information that might help new CCD/ABCD workers and connect them with others	We can also provide a hub of information, and we can help refocus attention on communities by asking for community information on project profile submission forms.
Commodification and audiences' troublesome relationship with the arts.	Provided a place for discussion of issues that might address the problem.	We can articulate this problem (**how?**) and provide the same platform that CAN provided.
Disciplinary silos (e.g. urban planners, public servants, and health workers are not engaged with CCD/ABCD)	???	We can build our platform with these alternative audiences in mind! **How do we do that??**
Documentation (e.g. difficulty documenting work, difficulty finding place store store and distribute existing documentation)	Provided a place/incentive for people to write articles/documentation that others would see.	Provide a place to amalgamate existing documentation (newsletters, etc.). Encourage/incentivize new articles and documentation.
Funding (e.g. funding goes to a few large organizations, funding favors new projects)	???	We can give smaller projects and companies a voice; we can provide an online home for their projects.
In its wake, **CAN left a gap** in the CCD/ABCD field.	Provided an amalgamation of CCD/ABCD information that is not fully replicated by HowlRound or *Public*	We can provide the same hub of CCD/ABCD thought that CAN did.

Group Discussion:

_____

_____

_____

_____