

**FINE ARTS WORK CENTER COMPLETES INSTALLATION OF 57.75 KW SOLAR ARRAY:
Transition will provide renewable energy that meets majority of electricity needs for the nonprofit arts organization**

PROVINCETOWN, MA – October 7, 2020 – One year ago the **Fine Arts Work Center** was granted a \$60,000 Challenge grant from the **Tern Foundation** for the installation of solar panels in support of advancing the organization’s energy efficiency while fostering environmental sustainability and reducing its carbon footprint. Over the past twelve months matching funds were raised as part of the Work Center’s ongoing 50th Anniversary Campaign. The installation of the solar system was completed last week and will be fully operational by the end of October.

The 57.75 kW solar panel system has been installed on the Work Center’s main building at 24 Pearl Street, which houses Fellows’ studios and apartments, a digital media lab, the Michael Mazur printmaking studio, woodshop, and the Stanley Kunitz Common Room. The Solar Initiative is envisioned as a concrete step toward addressing the non-profit organization’s considerable volume and the particular seasonal needs of its electric systems.

The Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown is dedicated to encouraging the growth and development of emerging visual artists and writers and to sustaining the year-round vitality of the historic art community of Provincetown. Founded in 1968 by a group of artists, writers, and patrons including poet Stanley Kunitz, Robert Motherwell, and Hudson D. Walker, the Work Center has for five decades provided uninterrupted time and space to individuals of exceptional creative promise amid the unique natural beauty of the Outer Cape. Past Fellows include poets Major Jackson, Tyehimba Jess, Marie Howe, and Yusef Komunyakaa; fiction writers Jhumpa Lahiri, Viet Thanh Nguyen, Ann Patchett, and Susan Choi; and artists Jennifer Packer, Elliott Hundley, Jacolby Satterwhite, and Lisa Yuskavage.

“As the provision of a physical workspace protected the continued viability of a creative community, the Solar Initiative at the Fine Arts Work Center addresses sustainability on behalf of future generations of Cape residents, while protecting the natural environment that brought artists here a century ago,” said **Richard MacMillan**, the Work Center’s Executive Director.

The Work Center is internationally known for its 7-month residency program granting annual fellowships to 20 emerging writers and artists, as well as its open enrollment Summer Workshop Program, an online writing program 24PearlStreet, and an extensive series of year-round cultural events and exhibitions. In lieu of in-person events during the pandemic, the Work Center’s faculty and Fellows are gathering in virtual conversations, studio visits and readings while we secure our ability to fully re-open the Work Center next summer and welcome Fellows back to Provincetown in fall 2021.

Tern Foundation’s TernSOLAR challenge grant program is designed to expand renewable energy use in Massachusetts communities, making solar technology more accessible to nonprofit organizations. Grants are offered to dynamic nonprofits that engage creatively with their communities, and that also consider future generations and the natural environment in their strategic priorities and sustainability planning. Since 2010 Tern Foundation has funded 14 solar projects and associated environmental education initiatives.

**to watch a “drone’s-eye” view of the new solar installation, please click below or visit
youtu.be/8LXXHpySFV8**



The **Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to encouraging the growth and development of emerging visual artists and writers and to restoring the year-round vitality of the historic art community of Provincetown. The Work Center is internationally known for its acclaimed 7-month residency program granting fellowships to 20 emerging writers and artists, as well as its open enrollment Summer Workshop Program, an online writing program 24PearlStreet, and an extensive series of year-round cultural and virtual events, and exhibitions. **FAWC.ORG**

FINE ARTS WORK CENTER IN PROVINCETOWN
24 Pearl Street Provincetown, MA 02657 508.487.9960 **FAWC.ORG**
CREATIVITY THRIVES HERE

The Fine Arts Work Center is an equal opportunity provider and employer. The Work Center facilities are accessible to people with disabilities.