

# FACT SHEET: FIGMENT 2008

## Common Questions Answered

For More Information:

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### What is FIGMENT\* 2008?

FIGMENT 2008 is the second annual, non-profit participatory arts event held on Governors Island June 27-29, 2008. Powered *entirely* by the efforts of volunteers, the event is FREE to the public. The more than 200 family-friendly, interactive exhibits, performances, and scheduled activities reflect FIGMENT's commitment to audience and artist interaction and civic/community participation.

FIGMENT is a non-commercial, de-commodified, environmentally-responsible event that adheres to the tenets of *leave no trace* participation, where a place is returned, unharmed and untainted by participants. No art is sold at FIGMENT and no one makes a profit. There are no corporate sponsors.

For more information go to [www.figmentnyc.org](http://www.figmentnyc.org).

### What are the hours of participation?

FIGMENT begins Friday, June 27th (10:00AM—5:00PM), Saturday & Sunday (10:00 AM—7:00 PM).

### Who are the organizers and sponsors?

FIGMENT is created by a collaborative team of hundreds of volunteers. FIGMENT is a project of Action Arts League, a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization, and is produced in partnership with the Pure Project. David Koren is the founder and Executive Producer. Kevin Balktick is the Producer. Johan Kritzinger is the Curatorial Director. FIGMENT is financed through contributions and a number of grants (see below) from public foundations and arts organizations.

### How do I get to FIGMENT 2008 on Governors Island?

Ferries are available at no cost to the public and leave from the Battery Maritime Building, at the corner of South and Whitehall Streets, in Lower Manhattan. Schedules vary according to the day, but ferries leave and return from the island at least once per hour and require less than a 15-minute journey. For detailed information on transportation and ferry schedules, please visit the following website:

[www.govisland.com/Visit\\_the\\_Island/directions.asp](http://www.govisland.com/Visit_the_Island/directions.asp).

### How do I submit a proposal for an exhibit, performance, installation, lecture, or any kind of art/culture event for FIGMENT 2008?

Simply log on to [www.figmentnyc.org](http://www.figmentnyc.org) and fill out the form according to the guidelines.

**Is there a fee to participate in FIGMENT 2008?**

No. FIGMENT is completely free to the public—including entry to its many performances and exhibitions and the ferry ride to and from the island. This is made possible through a coalition of more than 100 volunteers and the efforts of the Action Arts League ([www.actionartsleague.org](http://www.actionartsleague.org)), in partnership with The Pure Project ([www.thepureproject.com](http://www.thepureproject.com)).

**What events, exhibitions and activities will FIGMENT 2008 offer?**

More than 200 artists, exhibitors and performers will be participating in FIGMENT 2008. The arts event represents an innovative alternative for creative expression—one where a greater number of artists can contribute a truly diverse range of artistic offerings. Last year's one-day festival, included scores of art projects and hosted the highly interactive and participatory creative efforts of more than 2,800 participants, including inflatable sculptures, group dance lessons, site-specific art installations, "bathtub" photo booths, roving samba bands, costumed stilt walkers, and art that encouraged children of all ages to touch, climb, manipulate, and generally contribute to the development of its full potential! This year, FIGMENT will be a three-day event that includes many more projects, including unusual crafting opportunities, art/dance workshops specifically tailored to children and teens, numerous musical performances and parades of costumed characters, and the nine-hole "City of Dreams" mini golf course.

**What is the relationship between FIGMENT 2008 and Governors Island?**

FIGMENT is working in partnership with the Governors Island Preservation & Education Corporation (GIPEC) to engage the public in contributing to the island's rebirth as an arts destination. FIGMENT projects often address historical, current, and environmental issues that concern this shared, public amenity, in addition to showcasing the diverse offerings of New York's arts community. These creative explorations are consistent with the efforts of GIPEC, a public agency in partnership with New York City and New York State, responsible for the planning, redevelopment, and ongoing operations for 150 acres on Governors Island. For more information please visit [www.govisland.com](http://www.govisland.com).

**Does FIGMENT 2008 receive corporate sponsorship?**

No. The creators and supporters of FIGMENT are committed to making this a completely non-commercial event and, therefore, one wholly reliant upon the labor and contributions of individual citizens and local public agencies and non-profit foundations. In short, we wanted FIGMENT to be truly illustrative of the efforts and passions of a community-based, grassroots initiative. FIGMENT has received some public funding from the Manhattan Community Arts Fund, which is supported by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and administered by the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. In addition, both the City of Dreams mini golf course project and the Emergence project have received individual grants from the Black Rock Arts Foundation ([www.blackrockarts.org](http://www.blackrockarts.org)).

**What is the difference between Figment\* and Emergence?**

Emergence is an ongoing 9-week exhibition involving some 30 artists/collectives and is a project of Figment\*. Emergence therefore also emphasizes interactive, participatory art, and Governors Island as a destination for art and culture. Emergence will open on May 31, the first day the island will open to the public for the season, and will run until July 26. The theme of Emergence "*Creative Pioneers in an Uncharted Territory*" uses the context

*of Governors Island – its history, geography, and present rebirth as a public resource – as a departure point for interactive, participatory art in a variety of media.*

**Where can I find additional information on FIGMENT 2008 and its participating organizations?**

FIGMENT

[www.figmentnyc.org](http://www.figmentnyc.org)

Governors Island Preservation & Education Corporation

[www.govisland.com](http://www.govisland.com)

Emergence

[www.emergenceshow.org](http://www.emergenceshow.org)

Action Arts League

[www.actionartsleague.org](http://www.actionartsleague.org)

The Pure Project

[www.thepureproject.com](http://www.thepureproject.com)

Black Rock Arts Foundation

[www.blackrockarts.org](http://www.blackrockarts.org)