PERFORMING OUR FUTURE

Coalition Delegations

Performing Our Future’s delegations set the coalition’s agenda and advance it through local work, intercultural exchange, and national collaboration. Each delegation is an expanding network with deep community roots.

The Arch Social Community Network (ASCN) is a cultural organizing network founded in response to the 2015 uprising in West Baltimore and led by local artists, musicians, storytellers, developers, and other community leaders. The ASCN is based at the Arch Social Club, founded in 1913 to preserve African American culture through live performance and intellectual community conversation. The ASCN continues the Club’s legacy by creating a cultural hub to build the agency and voice of the area’s youth, create opportunities for cultural participation and expression, and ensure equity in the area’s economic redevelopment.

Black Belt Citizens Fighting for Health and Justice (BBC) is a membership organization led by frontline communities across the rural Black Belt of Alabama. BBC began in 2005 when citizens of Uniontown, Alabama organized in response to the ongoing environmental, economic, and health crisis in Uniontown, Alabama. Its membership and partners now extend across the state. Through political campaigns, support for local businesses and artists, gathering stories and oral histories, and creating space for critical conversations, BBC works toward a world where people unite to act in love for shared liberty and justice for all.

The Letcher County Culture Hub is a coalition of 18 community organizations in the east Kentucky coalfields. Initiated by the grassroots cultural center Appalshop, the Culture Hub has created the conditions for artists, musicians, strip mine bosses, educators, “tree huggers,” volunteer firefighters, and hundreds of other citizens to celebrate and grow the county’s unique cultural assets and foster long-term economic stability and growth. To this end, Culture Hub partners support each other’s work; develop each other’s skills; build relationships locally, regionally, and nationally; and promote awareness of the region and all it has to offer.

Rural/Urban Flow is a growing polyculture of cultural and agricultural producers and supporting institutions in Milwaukee and Sauk Counties, Wisconsin. The Flow celebrates rural and urban communities’ varied richness and interdependence, encourages exploration beyond neighborhoods and news feeds, and cultivates common ground—building community that includes people, animals, plants, and the land itself. Communities in the Flow provoke each other to understand their own abundance, discover latent assets within their cultural landscape, and stretch their understanding of their community’s capacities.