



540 President Street, Suite 1A, Brooklyn, NY 11215 | 718.254.9782 | www.groundswellmural.org

Contact:
Sharon Polli (718) 254 9782
sharon@groundswellmural.org
Madeleine LeMieux (718) 254 9782
madeleine@groundswellmural.org
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Groundswell Welcomes 2 New Board Members

Ricardo Cortés and Samantha Rhulen join Groundswell's Board of Directors

NEW YORK, NY - **Groundswell**, New York's leading organization dedicated to community public art, is pleased to welcome two new members to its Board of Directors, both of whom share Groundswell's strong commitment to the use of art as a tool for social change: Ricardo Cortés and Samantha Rhulen.

Artist, writer, and publisher **Ricardo Cortés** is perhaps best known as co-creator of the #1 *New York Times* bestseller *Go the F--- to Sleep*, which has been published in thirty-six languages and is forthcoming as a feature film from Fox 2000. His work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *New York Magazine*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *Time Out New York*, and on The O'Reilly Factor, CNN, and Late Night with David Letterman. Cortés is also an experienced visual art educator, having taught for six years in the New York City public school system, and at the Brooklyn Children's Museum, the 92nd St. Y in Manhattan, and with Groundswell.

As Senior Counsel at Ritholz Levy Sanders Chidekel and Fields LLP, **Samantha Rhulen** brings Groundswell exceptional experience in structuring, negotiating, and drafting a wide variety of agreements in the areas of music, television, and new media. Groundswell's Board will benefit from her strong track record in representing a variety of recording artists, independent record labels, and start-up businesses. Rhulen began her career as a Staff Attorney at the Legal Aid Society, where she represented low-income tenants in housing matters in Harlem, and shares with Groundswell a long history of giving voice to perspectives which often go underrepresented.

Executive Director **Amy Sananman** said "We are delighted to welcome these two exceptional candidates to Groundswell's Board of Directors. Their unique professional experience combined with their demonstrated passion for art as a tool for personal and societal transformation will be a tremendous asset to our Board of Directors as we strengthen our position as a national leader in the field of public art."

Groundswell brings together artists, youth, and community organizations to use art as a tool for social change. Our projects beautify neighborhoods, engage youth in societal and personal transformation, and give expression to ideas and perspectives that are underrepresented in the public dialog. Groundswell is now celebrating our 15th anniversary as New York's leading organization dedicated to community public art. www.groundswellmural.org

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