

# TRANSFORMUS 2015 AFTERBURN REPORT

## **Transformus Board of Directors 2015**

President: Treat

Vice President: Moon

Treasurer: firefly

Secretary: JoeJoe

Andi, Conway, Kurtal Icius, Midnightt

## **BOD Liaisons**

Carter, Catbird, Cherm

## **INTRODUCTION**

Transformus 2015, the twelfth event since our founding in 2004, was held on the third weekend of July two-thousand fifteen, with participants from all around the United States and the world gathering to form the city of Mysteria, once again transforming Deerfields into the place we call “home.” Community participation rose to record levels with 26 Creativity Grants, 133 registered Theme Camps and 2493 tickets sold to participants.

## **ORGANIZATION**

Transformus, LLC, is a volunteer-run North Carolina Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) managed by a seven-person board of directors in 2015. The 2015 Board of Directors consisted of Treat (President), Moon (Vice President), firefly (Treasurer), JoeJoe (Secretary), Andi, Conway, and Kurtal Icius. Midnightt served in a BOD advisory capacity, and Catbird, Carter, and Cherm were our BOD Liaisons.

Transformus is a sanctioned [member of the Burning Man Regional Network](#). Official event information, announcements and additional transparency documentation can be found on the event website [www.Transformus.com](http://www.Transformus.com).

Ensuring the leadership of Transformus remains open to new members is important for keeping a balanced perspective and the long-term sustainability of our collective. We have established the role of “board liaison” which gives a training and internship period of a minimum of one year for potential board members, allowing time to see how they work within the group as well as explore their management and organizational skills both before and during the burn.

Every year in the fall the board conducts a retreat where we reflect on that year’s event and look to the future. In 2015, Midnightt and Moon both officially stepped off of the BOD. They both leave an impressive legacy of contributions to what our event and our community have developed into, and both will be missed. But they won't be going anywhere! Both of them will be continuing to work with the community in new and exciting ways!

Following the retreat two dedicated and talented community members accepted our invitation to join the leadership team as Liaisons for 2016: Collette and Jessamyn. We're so grateful that these folks are willing to step up and help organize and run the event that's at the center of our year-round community.

The board and liaisons provide vision, direction, management and support to the thirty volunteer teams who build and run the city of Mysteria and who serve the Transformus community year-round. The Team Leads handle their tasks with a good deal of autonomy, while one board member serves as their point of contact and guidance. These volunteer leaders collectively create Mysteria each year. As a community, we owe them a great deal of thanks and praise.

## **2015 TEAMS**

**Art**

Lead: Lumen

Co-Leads: Breathe, Silky, The Engineer  
BoD Contact: Kurtal  
*creativity@transformus.com*

### **Communications**

Lead: Catbird  
Co-Leads: Artina, Tuesday Raptorface  
BoD Contact: Midnightt  
*communicate@transformus.com*

### **Department of City Planning**

City Planning Coordinator: PyroCelt  
Lead: Sundance  
Co-Leads: Tailfeather, Tuesday Raptorface  
Supports: Lew Wagner, Thom Dunn  
BoD Contact: Kurtal  
*cityplanning@transformus.com*

### **Department of Mutant Transit (DMT)**

Lead: Kane  
Co-Leads: Hotrod, JustBe, KLo  
BoD Contact: JoeJoe  
*dmt@transformus.com*

### **Department of Mutant Vehicles (DMV)**

Lead: NotBob  
Co-Leads: Dangle, "Slow Down" Jim, Webber  
BoD Contact: Kurtal  
*dmv@transformus.com*

### **Department of Public Works (DPW)**

Lead: RandomPanda  
Co-Leads: Sam, Squirt  
BoD Contact: Conway  
*dpw@transformus.com*

### **Disability Liaison**

Lead: Katie creamsicle  
BoD Contact: Andi  
*disabilities@transformus.com*

### **Drummers Conclave**

Lead: Torq  
Co-Leads: Joseph Locke, Lew  
BoD Contact: JoeJoe  
*drummers@transformus.com*

### **Effigy Build**

Lead: Teejay  
Co-Leads: Dave, Professor  
BoD Contact: Conway  
*effigy@transformus.com*

### **Effigy Burn Coordinators**

Leads: Lazertits, Julie  
BoD Contact: JoeJoe  
*ebc@transformus.com*

### **11<sup>th</sup> Principle: Consent!**

Lead: Ranger Cervix  
Co-Leads: The Commissar, TinTin  
BoD Contact: Midnightt  
*11thprinciple@transformus.com*

### **Emergency Service Department Coordinator**

Lead: Cherm  
BoD Contact: Andi  
*esd@transformus.com*

### **Fire Conclave**

Lead: Hopalong  
Co-Leads: Paul Vortex, Tyto  
BoD Contact: JoeJoe  
*conclave@transformus.com*

### **Fire Response (FRT)**

Lead: vespa  
Co-Leads: The FNP, Phyrebolt  
BoD Contact: Andi  
*fireresponse@transformus.com*

### **First Aid**

Lead: Pi  
Co-Leads: BeerBaron, GeauxGeaux Geaux  
BoD Contact: Andi  
*firstaid@transformus.com*

### **Freeze Your Burn!**

Lead: Jordan La Liaison

Co-Leads: Abi, Kyle  
BoD Contact: Carter  
*ice@transformus.com*

### **Gate**

Lead: VH1  
Co-Leads: Nikka, Star, Xena  
BoD Contact: JoeJoe  
*gate@transformus.com*

### **Greeters**

Lead: Cricket  
Co-Leads: Kamali, Zenful  
BoD Contact: JoeJoe  
*greeters@transformus.com*

### **Get the Freaks In/Out**

Lead: Kay  
Co-Leads: Cirrus, Angela  
BoD Contact: JoeJoe  
*gtfio@transformus.com*

### **In & Out Coordinator**

Lead: Kelley  
BoD Contact: JoeJoe  
*ioc@transformus.com*

### **Inventory**

Lead: Mufasa  
Co-Leads: Ben, Mr. Vest  
BoD Contact: Conway  
*inventory@transformus.com*

### **Leave No Trace**

Lead: Hemi  
Co-Leads: Bethany, Josh, Mahoney  
BoD Contact: Conway  
*lnt@transformus.com*

### **Logistics**

Lead: Slice  
Co-Leads: Fox, Jessamyn, Pirate Mouse  
BoD Contact: Moon  
*logistics@transformus.com*

### **Moonshiners**

Lead: Princess Leia/Phat Monkey

Co-Lead: Danamal  
BoD Contact: Carter  
*moonshiners@transformus.com*

### **Mystery Radio**

Lead: Jellyfish  
Co-Leads: Beardsley, Mister E  
BoD Contact: Midnightt  
*radio@transformus.com*

### **Parking**

Lead: Oceanman  
Co-Leads: Kyle, Pez, Stefanie  
BoD Contact: JoeJoe  
*parking@transformus.com*

### **Rangers**

Lead: Fragile Turtle  
Co-Leads: Budduh, Lulu, Teejay  
Support: Nugget  
BoD Contact: Andi  
*rangers@transformus.com*

### **Sanctuary**

Lead: Beth Walker  
Co-Leads: Jamie Chandra, Maria,  
SnakeCharmer  
Supports: Amber Pixie, Chris Holcomb,  
Spring Blossom  
BoD Contact: Andi  
*sanctuary@transformus.com*

### **Signage**

Lead: OuijaCat  
Co-Leads: Haze, Katz  
BoD Contact: Kurtal  
*signage@transformus.com*

### **Temple Build**

Lead: Starseed  
Co-Leads: Sally Pussycat, Winter Sun  
BoD Contact: Conway  
*temple@transformus.com*

### **Traffic Control**

Lead: Kelley

Co-Leads: Bee, Cousin Dylan, Caribou, Little Sister

Support: Tommy

BoD Contact: JoeJoe

*exodus@transformus.com*

**Transformus Information Transmission Squad (TITS)**

Lead: Just Mark

Co-Leads: GoBe, Greenfayrie RightMeow, Little Buddy

BoD Contact: Kurtal

*tits@transformus.com*

**Transformus Towing**

Lead: Jeff

Co-Leads: Aaron, Bandito

BoD Contact: JoeJoe

*towing@transformus.com*

**Volunteer Coordination**

Lead: Lizifer

Co-Leads: Megan Yay!, Kelly, Foxglove

Supports: Dready Jazz, Jeff, Jenna Be, Melissa, Penguin, Thunder, Susan Alley Haines

BoD Contact: Kurtal

*volunteer@transformus.com*

**Web Team**

Co-Leads: Amber Pixie, McTaggart, Peter

BoD Contact: JoeJoe

*webmaster@transformus.com*

## **FINANCIALS**

Transformus is volunteer-run and pays only a few essential vendors. Full financial information dating back to 2005 is available on [Transformus.com](http://Transformus.com)

<b>Transformus L.L.C. Profit and Loss Statement</b>	
(subject to minor changes after review by our accountant)	
<b>Income</b>	
Ticket Sales Transformus*	\$302,522
Ice Sales Transformus	\$5,080
*includes ticket/processing fees and taxes	
<b>Expenses</b>	
Transformus	(\$257,130)
<b>Net Income</b>	
Transformus	\$50,472
<b>Transformus Expense Detail</b>	
<b>Category</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Art	(\$25,431)
BOD Travel/Training/Retreat	(\$7,175)
Donations (including ice sales)	(\$5,965)
Equipment	
Carts and Light Towers	(\$14,375)
Dumpster	(\$470)
Radios	(\$3,838)
Fees: Bank and Credit Card Processing	(\$9,758)
Office Supplies	(\$24)
Professional Services:	
Accounting	(\$460)
CPR Class	(\$121)
EMS & Security	(\$18,400)
Ice (Services)	(\$2,540)
Insurance	(\$6,212)
Legal	(\$9,787)
Printing	(\$4,274)
Ticket Vendor	(\$5,356)
Website	(\$475)
Shipping	(\$519)
Storage	(\$1,680)
Taxes State	(\$1,339)
Taxes Federal	(\$6,090)
Teams	(\$32,303)
Venue	(\$100,256)
Wristbands	(\$282)

The volunteer leadership of Transformus has remained unpaid, however, the above financial summary includes several expenses paid to several vendors who are paid in order to host a more responsible event and ease the burden on volunteers. In 2015, our paid vendors were: rental companies for radios, lights, and transportation; the landowners; an accountant; event security; legal services; first aid services; and fees to our new ticket vendor.

Donations went out to the Mills River, Rocky Point and Pleasant Garden Fire Departments and Burners Without Borders.

In addition, the “profits” from ice sales (a total of \$2,540) were donated to the school system of Henderson County with some earmarked for the Mills River Elementary School on behalf of the entire Transformus community.

## **CREATIVITY**

Sharing creative projects that are interactive and engage others is a great way to participate in our society. The city of Mysteria is a living work of art in itself that is weaved together by each participant's gifts. The leadership group works hard to provide a fertile environment where each participant feels comfortable sharing their personal expressions of creativity.

In order to support large projects and return a portion of ticket money back to participants, \$25,041 in funds were granted to artists to enhance creativity at Transformus, bringing our historical total of grants given to \$113,061 since 2006. The Art Team curates and awards grants after a blind jury review. These grants include a wide variety of creations.

### **2015 Effigy**

Caisleán Boudica: Castle of the Headhunter Queen  
Artist: Teejay Dickman  
Brevard NC

### **2015 Temple**

The Temple of the Sun & Moon  
Artists: Michael Starseed and Sally Pussycat  
Charlotte NC

## 2015 Creativity Grants

5<sup>th</sup> Element  
Artist: Aurora  
Asheville, NC

Charlotte, NC  
Rad Creative Lab  
Artist: Radical Ryan  
Asheville, NC

A Shrine to our Heroes, Antiheroes and Villains  
Artist: Jeff  
Asheville, NC

Rainbow Splash  
Artist: Kyle  
Rockville, MD

An Oven Made of Bricks  
Artists: Shaneanigans & Aaron  
Pisgah Forest, NC

Respond and React  
Artist: Funkbird  
Pittsboro, NC

Bring It Up!  
Artist: Bring It!  
Asheville, NC

Temple of Eros  
Artist: Avarice  
Greensboro, NC

Color Drops  
Artist: Sway  
Somerville, MA

The Breach  
Artist: Taga  
Philadelphia, PA

Elephant Puppet  
Artist: Michael  
Fairfax, VA

The Butterfly Dome  
Artist: HelCat  
Campbellsville, KY

Feel me, see me  
Artist: Old Stormcrow  
Greenville, SC

The Sacred Doorway  
Artist: Kokosori  
Leicester, NC

Incendia  
Artist: Captain  
Athens, GA

The Whynot Immortal Portal  
Artist: Danimal  
Pittsboro, NC

Light Up Shroom  
Artist: skatam  
Asheville, NC

Transformus Tithing  
Artists: The Internet, Al Peller  
Asheville, NC

Mystical Mushrooms of Unusual Size  
Artist: Jessamyn  
Greensboro, NC

Visual Pun Garden  
Artist: Spacewarp  
Greensboro, NC

Pogoda: Trail of Enlightenment  
Artist: Hiram

wind horse – transforming misfortune  
into happiness  
Artist: Starr

Asheville, NC

**2015 Mysteria Art Development Grants**

Flame-headed Lamassu

Artist: Kimmy D

New Milford, PA

Sprite Delight

Artist: Carl

Malden, MA

Mutually Assured Destruction

Artist: Danny

Annapolis, MD

Tree of Knowledge

Artist: Delirium

Wilmington, DE

## Registered Art

Cuddles and Art!  
Don't tell Mom we're painting with lasers  
Get out of my head  
Mountain Climber  
Reel Bliss  
The Divine Perspective: A Grand Unified Theory of Everything  
The Emerge-N-See Art Ambulance  
The Illuminaughty  
The Lumpy Stump  
VooDoo Gypsy Doll of Doom  
XY-Dracht Enterprises

## Ticket Sales

We continued our relationship with Brown Paper Tickets this year, and tickets sales went as smooth as ever. Purchases were limited to two tickets per person and cost \$108 per ticket plus fees and taxes. We continue to have extraordinary demand for tickets in all rounds. Tickets sold out in a matter of minutes. Out of 2495 tickets sold to the event, 2455 were used.

Transformus continues to require all participants to purchase their tickets; there are no complimentary tickets to anyone. We do set aside directed tickets for the BoD, team leads and co-leads, creativity grant recipients, and for the landowners of Deerfields and SpiritHaven. This year the total number of directed tickets was 166.

## Volunteer Statistics

Without volunteers Transformus *would not happen*. Transformus is, by design, intent and necessity, a burn with well-developed infrastructure. We not only need volunteers, we need *lots* of volunteers to make our city function.

In 2015, out of 2101 shifts listed for the event, 1867 of those were filled pre-event resulting in a 89% rate of pre-event volunteerism – consistent with 2014's breadth of coverage, despite an almost 10% increase in numbers of shifts year over year.

When the online sign-up was shut down pre-event, 39% of our community had signed up for shifts. Leadership accounted for another 7% of our population's contribution.

*Transformus sets the pace in the world-wide community of Burns for volunteerism, thanks to our close-knit community of people who care about our city and the people who make it their temporary home.*

## THEME CAMPS

One hundred thirty-two registered Theme Camps formed the city of Mysteria in 2015. Built from the ground up and leaving no trace, these volunteer-run camps created the diverse neighborhoods of our art-city. Year after year, we appreciate what these groups help blossom with their effort, creativity, ingenuity and spice. Many thanks to these amazing collectives for your spirited commitment and participation, as truly, you are Transformus.

### 2015 Transformus Theme Camps

#### **Argonath**

Bloody Mary's Butterfly Cult  
Thai Massage Exchange  
TNA Camp (Temperance aNd Abstinence)  
Wine Man Camp  
WinneBANGo

#### **Avalon**

Camp Flowercocker  
Camp ShortBus  
Camp Vagabonds  
Cape Sphere  
Circular Expressions  
Dogs on Papasans  
Gender Blender  
Goddess Oasis  
Man Camp!  
Mermaid Oasis  
Mists of Avalon  
No Name  
Puffy Lake House & VIP Beach Club  
Rat Camp  
Reality TV  
Sexy Animal People  
Skrambles\*\*!\*  
The Meowluminati's Nipster Lounge  
You Are Beautiful  
Zama

#### **Eden**

Alexandra's Lair  
Bubble Camp  
BurnGang Presents:  
Camp Contact  
Camp Justice League  
Camp OTG  
Carolina Moon Cabbage Crew  
Caterchillar  
DAMM Nation  
Dreary Lane  
DTF!

Eat Your Feelings  
Gypsy Bar  
Home Sweet Home  
Looking Glass Bazaar  
Meadow Magic  
Mustacheville  
Nyan Cat  
Scratch's Costume Camp  
Seems Legit  
Shitty Cult  
Skyote and Collette's Wedding Camp  
Sparkle Pony Camp  
SparkleSpaz HoboTron!!!  
TITS Greeters HQ  
The Cult of Whatnot  
The Dusty Swan Public Craic House and Celtic Cinema  
White Dragon Noodle Bar

#### **Elysium Fields**

Arrr! Camp  
Banned Camp  
Bonobo Lodge  
Camp Candy  
Camp Invisible  
Camp Problem  
Camping Open  
Dirty Southern Burners  
Everland  
Gentleman's Hunting Club  
Hot Witches' Brew  
Island of Misfit Toys  
It's the End of the World as We Know It  
Mellow Yellow VIP Lounge  
Percussion Junction  
Philosopherz Stone

#### **Fern Gully**

DarkStar Coffee  
Feed the Artists

Flesh of Beauty  
Magic Love Bus Camp  
Transformus Eco-Guides

### **Narnia**

Camp Lay-Z-Fux  
Camp Procrastination  
Camp Spritz!  
Hum & Hug  
Intergalactic House of Pancakes  
Introvert Island  
Local Fauna  
Phoenix Nest  
Pillow Talk Palace  
Ra  
Taint Town  
THE LIBRARY: a Mustache Theatre production

### **Nutopia**

Bike-No-Mad  
BodyBenders and MindMenders  
Camp No Friends Here  
Herhissensua  
Khalida Shadi  
MagicKunters  
No Camping Here  
Palmettica  
Shane Camp  
Size Does Matter  
Stay the Fuck Out  
The Tasty Pastie  
VooDoo Gypsies  
Y'all Camp  
Wicked Geisha Camp

### **Paradise Plateau**

ANGER Camp  
Arcana

### **Shangri La**

Fuck You I'm a Lurcher  
Get Moist  
Jedi Training Camp  
Shenanigan Society  
The Landing Pad  
Tír na nÓg

### **Valhalla**

Ancient Art Salon  
Area51/DREAMLAND  
Bat Country  
Camp Chococalypse Now!  
chillAX PATCH  
DAMM Camp  
Empire Flow  
Fire Triangle  
Firefly and Drag-n-Fly Base Camp  
Funaholics Unanimous/Incendia  
MGF (Mobile Ghetto Fortress)  
Mischief Village  
Party Liberation Front (PLF)  
-X-

### **Xanadu**

AYA Tribe  
Camp Dignity  
Camp Don't Tell Mom  
Catastrophe!  
Doc Zombie's – Camp Feelgood  
Experimental Sound Navigation  
Green Man Camp  
Phart Camp  
Phuck Off  
Place your kinnitic adds here Camp  
Where's Wonka  
Xanity

## **LANDOWNER PARTNERSHIP**

Transformus has a close partnership with the landowners of Deerfields (Horse Shoe, NC), our site for the history of the event. Working with the Deerfields staff our Team Leads executed several new approaches to traffic control that made entry and exodus easier on everyone. The land was in great shape for this year's event. We thank the owners and staff of Deerfields for their part in creating our home.

## **FATALITY**

Transformus suffered its first ever fatality during the 2015 event, when Jay Marx drowned in the lower lake. This tragic event prompted an internal review of our safety and emergency protocols, which were found to be sound. We continue to mourn Jay's loss and again offer our eternal thanks to all of the participants, volunteers, and paid EMS and Security staff who were involved in the rescue efforts and subsequent aftermath. A full report on the event was issued by the BoD and can be found at [www.transformus.com](http://www.transformus.com)

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## **IGNITE!**

Ignite!, which began as the Transformus Town Hall, has grown into a full-fledged all-ages burn.

In 2015, thanks to the efforts of our Land Search Committee, we found a new site in Southern Virginia. Spirit Haven Farm (Stuart, VA) played host to Ignite! this year over Memorial Day weekend. Ignite! continued to have a cap of 500 adult tickets, with unlimited tickets for burners under the age of 13. Ignite! sold out for the second year in a row.

Ignite! continues to lead the way in terms of incorporating learning opportunities and leadership development through Playforms and as an all-ages inclusive burn. This year's Temple was designed by the children of Ignite!, and the Temple Burn started off with a kids' conclave.

The 2015 Ignite! Planning Committee (IPA) was made up of Lizifer vonFunshine, Shawman Warpcore, VH-One, Todd, Abi, Don, and Kelly.

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## **THE FUTURE**

Treat has been re-elected as our Board President for the 2016 season with firefly supporting him as Vice President. firefly and JoeJoe will retain their roles as Treasurer and Secretary. Andi, Conway and Kurtal Icious will continue in their roles as Board Members, and former liaison Carter has joined the BoD as a full member. This year's liaisons comprise returning liaison Catbird and new liaisons Collette and Jessamyn.

The 2016 IPA is made up of Lizifer vonFunshine, VH-One, Shawman, Don, Abi, Todd, and ChickaDawn.

The BoD has announced that we will be undertaking a third burn: Synthesis. The Synthesis Planning Force (SPF-7) is made up of vespa, WinterSun, Ranger Nugget, Krocket, Jordan La Liaison, Moon, and DTR. We look forward to the opportunity to continue to grow the burn community throughout the Southeast.

The BoD is eternally grateful to every member of this community for everything that you give to us. This community would not exist without each and every one of you.

Always remember, *you are Transformus*.

Burn Brightly,

The Transformus Board of Directors

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## **REFERENCES**

The only source for official event information is our website: [www.transformus.com](http://www.transformus.com).

Transformus is a 2015 [sanctioned member of the Burning Man Regional Network](#).

The Facebook page [www.facebook.com/TransformusBurn](http://www.facebook.com/TransformusBurn) functions as an official social media outlet for announcements and community input.





















































