



## **Member Profile: Cynthia Smith**

### **Why does Aldrich Membership matter to you?**

I have been a member of The Aldrich since right after moving to Connecticut in 2009. I am thrilled to be an Aldrich member and to be part of such a high caliber institution dedicated solely to presenting contemporary art right here in Fairfield County. I love that The Aldrich is a kunsthalle which allows it to be solely about the exhibition of art.

### **What is your best memory of The Aldrich?**

I think my best memory of The Aldrich is of one of the galas hosted in a big tent in the Sculpture Garden. We were honoring, among other things, a show for the artist Cary Smith, who is a personal friend, as well as a great artist. That was a magical night.

### **What was the most surprising work you've seen at The Aldrich?**

I'll never forget the KAWS sculpture out on the lawn which got hundreds of young viewers on a daily basis. Or the work of artist Fritz Haeg whose work was all about the building of lawn gardens in cities everywhere which brought people of really diverse backgrounds together around art. That work was really something that had an impact then and is the type of art that would continue to work today to bring communities together.

### **Have the events of the last year changed the way you think about art?**

The past 6 months have made me see the importance of art as a vehicle for change. The power that art can and should have to provide a voice to many as a very powerful means of expressing emotions, anger among others, in a peaceful yet provocative manner.

