



2015 United States Artists Fellows Announced

Artists receive \$50,000 unrestricted grants across 9 disciplines

November 10, 2015 - United States Artists (USA) is pleased to announce the 37 new USA Fellows for 2015. Each artist or collaborative will receive an award of \$50,000 to support their practice and professional development, opening up exciting creative possibilities through the transformative power of unrestricted financial support.

As one of the largest grant-making organizations in the country providing direct support to artists, USA spotlights the importance of originality across every creative discipline, from literature and performance to crafts and theater. Celebrating the breadth of American artistic practices from coast to coast, USA cultivates a creative ecology that is diverse in age, race, religion, gender, and sexual orientation. USA honors innovative, accomplished artists at all stages of their careers, who are nominated by their peers and field experts for the quality, imagination, and enduring potential of their work in the following disciplines: Architecture & Design, Crafts, Dance, Literature, Media, Music, Theater & Performance, Traditional Arts, and Visual Arts. Awards are entirely unrestricted and may be used by Fellows in any way they choose. Over \$20 Million Dollars has been awarded through the USA Fellows program since its inception.

The 37 recipients of this year's awards were selected from over 400 nominated artists living in the United States and US Territories and were chosen by panels of expert peers in each artistic discipline. "USA Fellowships are awarded to innovative artists of all ages and at all stages of their careers, who are nominated for their commitment to excellence and the enduring potential of their work," said United States Artists CEO Carolina García Jayaram. "We are honored to present this year's Fellows, a group of artists who were selected through a rigorous, highly competitive process. What continues to set the USA Fellowship apart is the unrestricted nature of our award. USA's mission is to put artists first as they are the core of our organization. This is shown by the inherent trust we place in them to know how to use the money to further their practice and pursue unrealized opportunities."

The 2015 USA Fellows are:

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

- Jonathan Muecke, USA Knight Fellow (Saint Paul, MN)
- Chat Travieso, USA YoungArts Fellow (New York, NY)

CRAFTS

- Cristina Córdova, USA Distinguished Fellow (Penland, NC)
- Mark Hewitt, USA Distinguished Fellow (Pittsboro, NC)
- Ayumi Horie, USA Distinguished Fellow (Portland, ME)
- Amos Paul Kennedy, USA Glasgow Fellow (Detroit, MI)
- Therman Statom, USA Smith Fellow (Omaha, NE)
- Anne Wilson, USA Distinguished Fellow (Evanston, IL)

DANCE

- Jonah Bokaer, USA Ford Fellow (Brooklyn, NY)
- Camille A. Brown, USA Jay Franke & David Herro Fellow (Jamaica, NY)
- Toni Pierce-Sands & Uri Sands, USA Knight Fellows (Saint Paul, MN)

LITERATURE

- Teju Cole, USA Zell Fellow (Brooklyn, NY)
- Adrian Matejka, USA Simon Fellow (Bloomington, IN)

MEDIA

- Peter Nicks, USA Pritzker Pucker Fellow (Oakland, CA)
- Deborah Stratman, USA Collins Fellow (Chicago, IL)

MUSIC

- Maya Beiser, USA Distinguished Fellow (Bronx, NY)
- David Lang, USA Distinguished Fellow (New York, NY)
- Rudresh Mahanthappa, USA Distinguished Fellow (Montclair, NJ)
- Joe Louis Walker, USA Oliver Fellow (Poughkeepsie, NY)
- Invincible ill Weaver, USA Ford Fellow (Detroit, MI)
- Shara Worden, USA Knight Fellow (Detroit, MI)
- Jasiri X, USA Cummings Fellow (Pittsburgh, PA)

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

- Jackie Sibblies Drury, USA Gracie Fellow (Brooklyn, NY)
- Narcissister, USA Ford Fellow (Brooklyn, NY)

TRADITIONAL ARTS

- Shan Goshorn, USA Distinguished Fellow (Tulsa, OK)
- Kathleen Carlo-Kendall, USA Rasmuson Fellow (Fairbanks, AK)
- Da-ka-xeen Mehner, USA Rasmuson Fellow (Fairbanks, AK)
- Diego Romero, USA Distinguished Fellow (Santa Fe, NM)
- Sidonka Wadina, USA Distinguished Fellow (Lyons, WI)
- Mary Louise Defender Wilson, USA Weitz Fellow (Flasher, ND)

VISUAL ARTS

- Judith Baca, USA Rockefeller Fellow (Venice, CA)
- Frank Big Bear, USA Knight Fellow (Duluth, MN)
- Dawoud Bey, USA Guthman Fellow (Chicago, IL)
- Paul Pfeiffer, USA Shari D. Behnke Fellow (New York, NY)
- Mickalene Thomas, USA Francie Bishop Good & David Horvitz Fellow (Brooklyn, NY)
- Kade Twist, USA Jeanne & Michael Klein Fellow (Santa Fe, NM)

About United States Artists and the USA Fellows

Founded in 2006 by the Ford, Rockefeller, Rasmuson and Prudential Foundations with \$22 million to support artists in America, USA is currently funded by a broad range of philanthropic foundations and individuals. Through its signature USA Fellows program, USA has distributed over \$20 million in support to 442 artists. Past recipients of USA Fellowships include visual artists Glenn Ligon, Kara Walker, Theaster Gates and Catherine Opie; cartoonist Chris Ware; designers Kate and Laura Mulleavy (of Rodarte); performing artist Meredith Monk; jazz composer Jason Moran; ballet dancer and choreographer Benjamin Millepied; choreographer Bill T. Jones; and writers Sapphire and Chris Abani.

For more information on the 2015 USA Fellows, visit www.unitedstatesartists.org.

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