



200 W Madison St, Fl 3
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United States Artists Announces 2021 USA Fellows

In largest fellowship to date, sixty artists working across ten disciplines receive unrestricted \$50,000 fellowships.

CHICAGO —February 3, 2021—**United States Artists (USA)** is pleased to announce its 2021 USA Fellows. This year, **sixty artists** across ten creative disciplines will receive unrestricted **\$50,000 cash awards**. The award honors their creative accomplishments and supports their ongoing artistic and professional development. The 2021 USA Fellows class is the largest in the organization's 15-year history. USA Fellowships are awarded to artists at all stages of their careers and from all areas of the country through a rigorous nomination and panel selection process. Fellowships are given in the following disciplines: **Architecture & Design, Craft, Dance, Film, Media, Music, Theater & Performance, Traditional Arts, Visual Art, and Writing.**

Past awardees include painter and visual artist Howardena Pindell (2020), documentary filmmaker Laura Poitras (2010), writer Teju Cole (2015), potter Roberto Lugo (2016), multimedia artist Paul Chan (2007), dancer and choreographer Alice Sheppard (2019), fashion designers Kate and Laura Mulleavy of Rodarte (2009), filmmaker Barry Jenkins (2012), master Mardi Gras suitmaker Darryl Montana (2014), poet Claudia Rankine (2016), and multidisciplinary artist Martha Rosler (2008).

"We are grateful for every artist whose artmaking, music, writing, and more is helping us to navigate and cope through this harrowing time in our country," **said USA President & CEO Deana Haggag.** "The 2021 USA Fellows are a testament to the power of art in shaping the world around us and navigating its complexities. Artists do so much for our communities, and we are grateful to be able to support these sixty incredible practitioners and welcome them into the United States Artists Fellowship."

The USA Fellowship is the organization's flagship program and is central to its mission of believing in artists and their essential role in society. In many ways, 2020 has shown the resilience and necessity of that mission, and the organization. As a founding partner of Artist Relief, United States Artists helped to distribute over \$20 million in direct funding to nearly 4,000 artists in need. United States Artists also administered the Ford Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's Disability Futures initiative and is working on similar funds that are planned to be announced this year, as the organization works to deepen and diversify its cultural impact.

"Artists are at the core of their communities, and as the difficulties of the past year have demonstrated, it is more important than ever that we continue to support individual artists," **said Ed Henry, USA Board Chair.** "And as we continue to meet the challenges 2021 will bring, it is also clear that USA must remain nimble and responsive to the needs of the field, which is why we are honored to be able to support the largest cohort in our history with sixty artists this year."

Edwidge Danticat, a 2020 Writing Fellow, said, "From the beginning of my career, I have always benefited from the generous support of others, be it the use of a family member's house, or advice from older and more experienced writers, or grants and prizes that have gifted me the time to concentrate on my work. Now more than ever, artists need the kind of support offered by United States Artists, not just for continuity and growth, but also for safety and survival."



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Since 2006, the USA Fellowship has provided direct support to artists across the country. With this unrestricted award, Fellows decide for themselves how to best use the money—whether it is creating new work, paying rent, reducing debt, getting healthcare, or supporting their families. To make its work possible, United States Artists actively fundraises each year and is supported by a broad range of philanthropic foundations, companies, and individuals committed to cultivating contemporary culture across the country.

The 2021 USA Fellows are:

Architecture & Design

Jennifer Bonner / MALL
Portland, OR

Walter Hood
Oakland, CA

Olalekan Jeyifous
Brooklyn, NY

Craft

Diedrick Brackens
Los Angeles, CA

Bisa Butler
West Orange, NJ

Amber Cowan
Philadelphia, PA

Salvador Jiménez-Flores
Chicago, IL

Cannupa Hanska Luger
Glorieta, NM

Tiff Massey
Detroit, MI

Erin M. Riley
Brooklyn, NY

Dance

Ishmael Houston-Jones
New York, NY

JanpiStar
Oakland, CA

Emily Johnson
New York, NY

Cynthia Oliver
Urbana, IL

Ni'Ja Whitson
Los Angeles, CA

Film

Faren Humes
Miami, FL

Macha Colón
San Juan, Puerto Rico

Stephen Maing
New York, NY

Darius Clark Monroe
Brooklyn, NY

Naima Ramos-Chapman
Brooklyn, NY

Jennifer Reeder
*Chicago, IL and
Hammond, IN*

Media

Morehshin Allahyari
Brooklyn, NY

Stephanie Dinkins
Brooklyn, NY

Lauren Lee McCarthy
Los Angeles, CA

Mother Cyborg
Detroit, MI

Music

Martha Gonzalez
Los Angeles, CA

Edward "Kidd" Jordan
New Orleans, LA

Tomeka Reid
Chicago, IL

Wadada Leo Smith
New Haven, CT

Mazz Swift
Brooklyn, NY

Theater & Performance

Jibz Cameron
Los Angeles, CA

Carmelita Tropicana
New York, NY

Christopher Chen
San Francisco, CA

Sandra Delgado
Chicago, IL

Idris Goodwin
Colorado Springs, CO

Mia Katigbak
New York, NY

Karen Zacarías
Washington, DC

Traditional Arts

Ofelia Esparza
East Los Angeles, CA

Nathan P Jackson
Ketchikan, AK

Basil Kincaid
St. Louis, MO

Kawika Lum-Nelmida
Honolulu, HI

Carolyn L. Mazloomi
West Chester, OH

Geo Soctomah Neptune
Motahkomikuk, ME

Delina White
Walker, MN

Visual Art

Njideka Akunyili Crosby
Los Angeles, CA

Lex Brown
Philadelphia, PA

rafa esparza
Los Angeles, CA

Maria Gaspar
Chicago, IL

Sharon Hayes
Philadelphia, PA

Carolyn Lazard
Philadelphia, PA

Daniel Lind-Ramos
Loíza, Puerto Rico

Aki Sasamoto
New York, NY

Writing

Alexander Chee
Bradford, VT

Eve L. Ewing
Chicago, IL

Honorée Fanonne Jeffers
Norman, OK

Dunya Mikhail
Sterling Heights, MI

Elizabeth McCracken
Austin, TX

Natalie Y. Moore
Chicago, IL

Danez Smith
Minneapolis, MN

Ocean Vuong
Northampton, MA



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The 2021 USA Fellowships were generously made possible by: Anonymous, Sarah Arison, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Laura Donnelley/Good Works Foundation, Shawn M. Donnelley and Christopher M. Kelly, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Ford Foundation, Jacques and Natasha Gelman Foundation, David Horvitz and Francie Bishop Good, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Steven H. and Nancy K. Oliver, Pritzker Pucker Family Foundation, Rasmuson Foundation, Reis Foundation, The Rockefeller Foundation, The Fred and Eve Simon Charitable Foundation, The Todd and Betiana Simon Foundation, Paul and Annette Smith, Walder Foundation, Katie Weitz, PhD, Windgate Foundation, USA Ambassadors, USA Board of Trustees, and USA Endowment Fund.

About United States Artists

United States Artists is a national arts funding organization based in Chicago, IL. We raise money and redistribute it in the form of unrestricted awards to the country's most compelling artists and cultural practitioners. Since our founding in 2006, we have awarded more than 700 individuals with over \$33 million of direct support.

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United States Artists anuncia los becarios del programa *2021 USA Fellows*

Con la beca más generosa hasta la fecha, sesenta artistas trabajando dentro de diez disciplinas reciben premios de \$50,000 sin restricciones.

CHICAGO, IL, EEUU –3 de febrero, 2021—**United States Artists (USA)** anuncia los becarios del programa *2021 USA Fellows*. Este año, **sesenta artistas** en diez disciplinas creativas reciben becas de \$50,000 sin restricciones. Este premio reconoce sus logros creativos y apoya su desarrollo artístico y profesional. La camada de *2021 USA Fellows* es la más grande en los quince años de historia de la organización. Las becas USA se otorgan a artistas en cualquier etapa profesional y de todas partes del país, mediante un proceso riguroso de nominación y selección por jurado. Las becas se otorgan en las siguientes disciplinas: **Arquitectura y Diseño, Artesanía, Danza, Cine, Medios de Comunicación, Música, Teatro y Actuación, Artes Tradicionales, Artes Visuales y Escritura.**

Dentro de los becarios de años pasados se encuentran: la pintora y artista visual Howardena Pindell (2020), la cineasta documentalista Laura Poitras (2010), el escritor Teju Cole (2015), el alfarero Roberto Lugo (2016), el artista de multimedia Paul Chan (2007), la bailarina y coreógrafa Alice Sheppard (2019), las diseñadoras de indumentaria Kate y Laura Mulleavy de Rodarte (2009), el cineasta Barry Jenkins (2012), el maestro de trajes de Mardi Gras Darryl Montana (2014), la poeta Claudia Rankine (2016) y la artista multidisciplinaria Martha Rosler (2008).

"Estamos agradecidos por cada artista cuya creación nos ayuda a navegar y sobrellevar este momento tan duro en nuestro país", dijo **Deana Haggag, presidenta y CEO de United States Artists**. "Los *2021 USA Fellows* son un testimonio a la capacidad del arte para darle forma a nuestro mundo y para navegar sus complejidades. Los artistas hacen mucho para nuestras comunidades y estamos agradecidos por la oportunidad de apoyar a estos sesenta practicantes increíbles y darles la bienvenida a la beca de United States Artists."

La beca USA es el programa central de la organización y clave en su misión de poner fé en los artistas y su rol esencial en nuestra sociedad. En más de una forma, el 2020 demostró la fuerza y necesidad de esa misión y de la organización. En su rol de organización fundadora de Artist Relief, United States Artists ayudó a distribuir más de \$20 millones en financiación directa a casi 4.000 artistas necesitados. United States Artists también administró el programa Disability Futures, organizado por la Fundación Ford y la Fundación Andrew W. Mellon, y está desarrollando otros fondos similares, a ser anunciados este año, para ampliar y diversificar su impacto cultural.

"Los artistas se encuentran en el seno de sus comunidades. Las dificultades del año pasado han demostrado que nuestro continuado apoyo a artistas es más importante que nunca", dijo **Ed Henry, el presidente del consejo de USA**. "A medida que seguimos encarando los desafíos que nos traerá el 2021, queda en claro que USA tiene que preservar la capacidad de responder a las necesidades del rubro. Por eso es que estamos orgullosos de poder apoyar a la camada más grande de nuestra historia, con sesenta artistas este año."

Edwidge Danticat, becario en Escritura del año 2020, dijo: "Desde el principio de mi carrera, siempre he disfrutado del generoso apoyo de los demás, ya sea poder usar la casa de un pariente, recibir consejos de escritores más experimentados, o becas y premios que me han regalado el tiempo para enfocarme en mi trabajo. Ahora más que nunca, los artistas necesitamos el tipo de apoyo que United States Artists ofrece, no solo para poder continuar nuestro trabajo y crecer, sino también para poder sobrevivir."



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Desde el 2006, la beca USA ha otorgado apoyo directo a artistas de todo el país. Con este premio sin restricciones, los becarios eligen por sí mismos cómo utilizar los fondos – ya sea para crear nuevas obras, pagar el alquiler, reducir sus deudas, conseguir atención médica o apoyar a sus familias. United States Artists recauda fondos anualmente y recibe el apoyo de una amplia gama de fundaciones filantrópicas, empresas e individuos comprometidos con el fomento de la cultura contemporánea en todo el país.

Los 2021 USA Fellows son:

Arquitectura y Diseño

Jennifer Bonner / MALL
Portland, OR

Walter Hood
Oakland, CA

Olalekan Jeyifous
Brooklyn, NY

Artesanía

Diedrick Brackens
Los Angeles, CA

Bisa Butler
West Orange, NJ

Amber Cowan
Philadelphia, PA

Salvador Jiménez-Flores
Chicago, IL

Cannupa Hanska Luger
Glorieta, NM

Tiff Massey
Detroit, MI

Erin M. Riley
Brooklyn, NY

Danza

Ishmael Houston-Jones
New York, NY

JanpiStar
Oakland, CA

Emily Johnson
New York, NY

Cynthia Oliver
Urbana, IL

Ni'Ja Whitson
Los Angeles, CA

Cine

Faren Humes
Miami, FL

Macha Colón
San Juan, Puerto Rico

Stephen Maing
New York, NY

Darius Clark Monroe
Brooklyn, NY

Naima Ramos-Chapman
Brooklyn, NY

Jennifer Reeder
Chicago, IL and
Hammond, IN

Medios de Comunicación

Morehshin Allahyari
Brooklyn, NY

Stephanie Dinkins
Brooklyn, NY

Lauren Lee McCarthy
Los Angeles, CA

Mother Cyborg
Detroit, MI

Música

Martha Gonzalez
Los Angeles, CA

Edward "Kidd" Jordan
New Orleans, LA

Tomeka Reid
Chicago, IL

Wadada Leo Smith
New Haven, CT

Mazz Swift
Brooklyn, NY

Teatro y Actuación

Jibz Cameron
Los Angeles, CA

Carmelita Tropicana
New York, NY

Christopher Chen
San Francisco, CA

Sandra Delgado
Chicago, IL

Idris Goodwin
Colorado Springs, CO

Mia Katigbak
New York, NY

Karen Zacarías
Washington, DC

Artes Tradicionales

Ofelia Esparza
East Los Angeles, CA

Nathan P Jackson
Ketchikan, AK

Basil Kincaid
St. Louis, MO

Kawika Lum-Nelmida
Honolulu, HI

Carolyn L. Mazloomi
West Chester, OH

Geo Soctomah Neptune
Motahkomikuk, ME

Delina White
Walker, MN

Artes Visuales

Njideka Akunyili Crosby
Los Angeles, CA

Lex Brown
Philadelphia, PA

rafa esparza
Los Angeles, CA

Maria Gaspar
Chicago, IL

Sharon Hayes
Philadelphia, PA

Carolyn Lazard
Philadelphia, PA

Daniel Lind-Ramos
Loíza, Puerto Rico

Aki Sasamoto
New York, NY

Escritura

Alexander Chee
Bradford, VT

Eve L. Ewing
Chicago, IL

Honorée Fanonne Jeffers
Norman, OK

Dunya Mikhail
Sterling Heights, MI

Elizabeth McCracken
Austin, TX

Natalie Y. Moore
Chicago, IL

Danez Smith
Minneapolis, MN

Ocean Vuong
Northampton, MA



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Sobre United States Artists

United States Artists es una organización nacional de financiación de las artes con sede en Chicago, Illinois. Recaudamos fondos y los distribuimos como becas sin restricciones a los artistas y practicantes culturales más imponentes del país. Desde nuestra fundación en el 2006, hemos premiado a más de 700 personas con más de \$33 millones.

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