

Delaware Division of the Arts Announces 2019 Individual Artist Fellowship Awardees

Twenty Delaware artists and three Honorable Mentions to receive recognition

Wilmington, Del. (January 14, 2019) – Twenty Delaware artists are being recognized by the Division for the high quality of their artwork. Work samples from 136 Delaware choreographers, composers, musicians, writers, folk and visual artists were reviewed by out-of-state arts professionals, considering demonstrated creativity and skill in their art form. The 20 selected fellows reside throughout Delaware including Bear, Bridgeville, Claymont, Dover, Frankford, Lewes, Middletown, Newark, and Wilmington.

Awards are given in three categories – \$10,000 for the **Masters Award**, \$6,000 for the **Established Professional Award**, and \$3,000 for the **Emerging Professional Award** – and Fellows are required to offer at least one exhibit or performance during the upcoming year, providing an opportunity for the public to experience their work.

“Individual Artist Fellowship grants provide the recognition and exposure that artists need to successfully promote their work,” said Paul Weagraff, director of Delaware Division of the Arts. “The financial award allows them to pursue advanced training, purchase equipment and materials, or fulfill other needs to advance their careers.”

The work of the Fellows will be featured in a group

exhibition, *Award Winners XIX*, at the Biggs Museum from June 7 to July 21, 2019. Selections from *Award Winners* will travel to CAMP Rehoboth in August and early September and then Cab Calloway School of the Arts during September and October.

The Masters Fellowship is open to differing artistic disciplines each year. In Fiscal Year 2019, Masters Fellowship applications were accepted in Literary and Media Arts from artists who had previously received an Established Professional Fellowship. In addition to exemplifying high artistic quality, Masters Fellowship applicants must demonstrate their involvement and commitment to the arts in Delaware and beyond. Listed below are the Delaware Division of the Arts 2019 Individual Artist Fellows and three Honorable Mentions.

Billie Travalini has been awarded this year's Masters Fellowship in Literature: Fiction. Travalini, an internationally award-winning writer and educator, teaches English and creative writing at Wilmington University. She has taught creative writing to encourage critical thinking at youth detention centers statewide, which led to *Teaching Troubled Youth: A Practical Pedagogical Guide*, an award-winning book with an important message on the human condition. In addition, she has taught poetry and playwriting at various Boys and Girls Clubs. In 2014, Travalini received the Governor's Award for the Arts for her extensive career and work in education. Travalini, co-founder and coordinator of the Lewes Creative Writers' Conference, is currently working with Fort DuPont to have the children of Governor Bacon remembered by serving the children of today. Her passion for creative writing has led her to "promote the need to include everyone in the conversation."

2019 Individual Artist Fellows

Masters Award (\$10,000)

Name	Community	Artistic Discipline
Billie Travalini	Wilmington	Literature: Fiction

Established Professional Award (\$6,000)

Name	Community	Artistic Discipline
Susan Bernacik	Wilmington	Visual Arts: Works on Paper
Shawn Faust	Bear	Visual Arts: Painting
Don Foster	Dover	Literature: Fiction
Daniel Jackson	Claymont	Visual Arts: Photography
Shelley Kelley	Newark	Folk Art: Music

Leslie Hsu Oh	Middletown	Literature: Creative Nonfiction
Chet'la Sebree	Middletown	Literature: Poetry
IVA	Wilmington	Music: Solo Recital

Emerging Artist Award (\$3,000)

Name	Community	Artistic Discipline
Jenifer Adams-Mitchell	Frankford	Literature: Fiction
Kevin J. Cope	Newark	Music: Solo Recital
Kaitlyn Evans	Lewes	Visual Arts: Crafts
Matthew Glick	Claymont	Visual Arts: Works on Paper
Geraldo Gonzalez	Wilmington	Folk Arts: Visual Arts
Karen Hurley-Heyman	Newark	Literature: Poetry
Mary-Margaret Pauer	Bridgeville	Literature: Creative Nonfiction
D.H. Regnier	Newark	Music: Composition

Gregg Silvis	Newark	Visual Arts: Sculpture
G.W. Thompson	Lewes	Visual Arts: Painting
Shannon Woodloe	Wilmington	Visual Arts: Photography

Honorable Mention

Name	Community	Artistic Discipline
Howard Eberle	Lewes	Visual Arts: Works on Paper
Jane Miller	Wilmington	Literature: Poetry
Jim Salt	Newark	Literature: Fiction

To contact an individual artist, please email or call: Roxanne Stanulis, Program Officer, Artist Programs and Services, Roxanne.Stanulis@delaware.gov or 302-577-8283.

The next deadline for Individual Artist Fellowship applications will be **Thursday, August 1, 2019 by 4:30 p.m.**

[Learn more](#)

About the Delaware Division of the Arts

The Delaware Division of the Arts is an agency of the State of Delaware. Together with its advisory body, the Delaware State Arts Council, the Division administers grants and programs that support arts programming, educate the public, increase

awareness of the arts, and integrate the arts into all facets of Delaware life. Funding for Division programs is provided by annual appropriations from the Delaware General Assembly and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. For more information about the Delaware Division of the Arts, visit arts.delaware.gov or call 302-577-8278. Image: 2018 *Award Winners* exhibition at the Biggs Museum. Painting (right) by Thomas del Porte, 2018 Established Professional, Visual Arts: painting

###

Contact: Leann Wallett, Program Officer, Communications and Marketing

302-577-8280, leann.wallett@delaware.gov