

# Delaware Division of the Arts Announces 2020 Individual Artist Fellowship Awardees

## Nineteen Delaware artists and two Honorable Mentions to receive recognition

Wilmington, Del. (January 14, 2020) – Nineteen Delaware artists are being recognized by the Division for the high quality of their artwork. Work samples from 139 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 Dover, Lewes, Milford, Milton, Newark, New Castle, Rehoboth Beach 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 XX* at the Biggs Museum from June 5 to July 23, 2020 with an award ceremony and reception on Wednesday, June 10 at 5 p.m. Selections from *Award Winners* will travel to CAMP Rehoboth for the entire month of August and then Cab Calloway School of the Arts from September 4 to October 25. Opening receptions will be held June 5, August 1, and October 2 and are free and open to the public (Dates are subject to change).

The Masters Fellowship is open to differing artistic disciplines each year. In Fiscal Year 2020, Masters Fellowship applications were accepted in Visual and Folk 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 2020 Individual Artist Fellows and two Honorable Mentions.

**Mark Unruh** has been awarded this year's Master's Fellowship in Folk Arts: Music. Unruh, a multi-instrumentalist, vocalist, composer and instructor, teaches at The Music School of Delaware, Accent Music Store, Wilmington and Pro Musica Studios in Kennett Square, Pa. He covers a variety of musical styles including bluegrass, classical, jazz, blues, rock and ragtime and averages around 2,000 lessons annually. In addition to his teaching, Unruh is an established performer who has shared the stage with legends such as David Bromberg, Jay Unger and Molly Mason, Tammy Wynette, Bob and Ted Lundy, Jr., Wayne Henderson, David Grier, and Muriel Anderson, to name a few. Unruh's passion for folk music leaves him "thankful to be able to give of (himself), serve the song, and bond with students, players and listeners."

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# 2020 Individual Artist Fellows

## Masters Award (\$10,000)

Name	Community	Artistic Discipline
Mark Unruh	Wilmington	Folk Art: Music

## Established Professional Award (\$6,000)

Name	Community	Artistic Discipline
Taylor Reid Adams	Wilmington	Literature: Fiction
Anne Colwell	Milton	Literature: Creative Nonfiction
Merideth Hite Estevez	Wilmington	Music: Solo Recital
Shelley Koon	Dover	Visual Arts: Photography
Ralph Gresham Lam	Wilmington	Folk Art: Music
Aaron Paskins	Dover	Visual Arts: Sculpture

Nicholas Serratore	Lewes	Visual Arts: Works on Paper
Constance M. Simon	Wilmington	Visual Arts: Painting
Caroline N. Simpson	Wilmington	Literature: Poetry
Robert Bruce Weston	Milton	Visual Arts: Crafts
Jonathan W. Whitney	Wilmington	Jazz: Composition
Michele Xiques	Milford	Dance: Choreography

## Emerging Artist Award (\$3,000)

Name	Community	Artistic Discipline
Sarah Barnett	Rehoboth Beach	Literature: Creative Nonfiction
Kim DeCicco	Lewes	Literature: Fiction
Kari Ann Ebert	Dover	Literature: Poetry
Michael Fleishman	Milford	Visual Arts: Works on Paper
Chloe McEldowney	Wilmington	Visual Arts: Painting
Guy Miller	New Castle	Visual Arts: Sculpture

## Honorable Mention

Name	Community	Artistic Discipline
Crystal Heidel	Milton	Literature: Fiction
Colleen Zufelt	Wilmington	Visual Arts: Sculpture

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

The next deadline for Individual Artist Fellowship applications will be **Monday, August 3, 2020 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](http://arts.delaware.gov) or call 302-577-8278. Image: 2019 *Award Winners* exhibition at the Biggs Museum. Paintings by Geraldo Gonzalez, 2019 Established Professional, Folks Arts: painting

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