

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE LEEWAY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES \$55,000 IN SUPPORT TO 31 INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS AND CULTURAL PRODUCERS FOCUSED IN COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION FOR 2019 FALL ART AND CHANGE GRANTS.

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PHILADELPHIA – Today, the Leeway Foundation announced \$55,000 in funding for 31 individual women and trans artists and cultural producers in Greater Philadelphia,

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supporting their work to address a range of social change issues.

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The fall 2019 cycle of grantees highlights a trend in cultural preservation from South Philadelphia to Norristown, Overbook to Port Richmond, and neighborhoods in between. They also showcase a powerful, intergenerational cross-section of artists, with grantees ranging from early-20s to mid-70s.

Leeway's Art and Change Grant provides project-based funds of up to \$2,500 to women and trans* artists and cultural producers who: propose a project that impacts a larger group, audience or community; have financial need; and live in the Greater Philadelphia region.

The Fall 2019 Art and Change grantees are (in alphabetical order):

Addye Durant (Port Fishington), Visual and Crafts & Textile Arts, \$2,500

Andrienne Palchick, Heidi Ratanavanich, Connie Yu (West Philadelphia), Visual Arts/Performance, \$2,500

Anissa Weinraub (West Philadelphia), Performance, \$2,500

Bea Joyner and Vernoca Michael (Northeast), Visual and Media Arts, \$2,500

Bethlehem the Vocussionist (West Mount Airy), Music & Performing Arts, \$2,500

Ebony Welch (South Philly), Visual & Media Arts, \$2,500

Emily Bate (West Philadelphia), Music & Performing Arts, \$2,500

Erica Hawkins (Rittenhouse Square), Media Arts, \$2,500

Gabriela Watson Burkett (Chestnut Hill), Media Arts, \$2,500

Heart Byrne and Eva Wo (West Philadelphia), Multidisciplinary Arts, \$2,500

Janielle Bryan (West Philadelphia), Media Arts, \$2,500

Jessica Markey Locklear (Hatfield), Multidisciplinary Arts, \$2,500

Julie Rainbow (Germantown), Media and Literary Arts, \$2,500

Katonya Mosley (Lower Moyamensing), Performing Arts, \$2,500

Las Artivistas de CCATE (King of Prussia), Multidisciplinary, \$2,500

Malika Parker (North Philadelphia), Crafts, Textiles & Performing Arts, \$2,500

Marcy Francis (Southwest Cedar Park), Music and Folk Arts, \$2,500

Nikki Brake-Sillá (West Philadelphia), Performing & Visual Arts, \$2,500

Pam Newman (Carol Park), Crafts, Textiles & Visual Arts, \$2,500

Sonrisa Rodriguez (Overbrook), Visual & Literary Arts, \$2,500

Stephanie Amma (East Mt. Airy), Folk & Music Arts, \$2,500

Wit Lopez (West Philadelphia), Multidisciplinary Arts, \$2,500

Art and Change Grants are distributed twice a year and evaluated by an independent peer review panel. The Spring 2019 review panel consisted of cultural organizer Allison Budschalow (ACG '18), interdisciplinary artist Farrah Rahaman (ACG '18), and poet M. Nzadi Keita (ACG '14).

Applications are made available on the Leeway website and may also be obtained by calling (215) 545-4078 or emailing info@leeway.org. Potential applicants are encouraged to attend one of the many support sessions offered throughout the year or schedule an appointment with a staff member for one-on-one support.

Press inquiries and photo requests should be directed to Brittnie Knight (215) 545-4078 or bknight@leeway.org

ABOUT LEEWAY

The Leeway Foundation supports women and transgender artists and cultural producers working in communities at the intersection of art, culture, and social change. Through our grantmaking and other programs, we promote artistic expression that amplifies the voices of those on the margins, promotes sustainable and healthy communities, and works in the service of movements for economic and social justice. For more information about Leeway, its grant programs, grantees and events, visit leeway.org.

*We use the term "trans" in its most inclusive sense, as an umbrella term encompassing transsexual, transgender, genderqueer, Two-Spirit people, and more generally, anyone whose gender identity or gender expression is nonconforming and/or different from their gender assigned at birth.

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