LeeWAY FOUNDATION recognizes the longstanding power of media artists and social-justice activists throughout the Greater Philadelphia region with $125,000 in funding to five inaugural Leeway x IPMF Media Artist + Activist Residency recipients.

December 13, 2021

MEDIA CONTACT:

Brittnie Knight
bknight@leeway.org
(215) 728 - 9273
Leeway.org

LeeWAY Foundation recognizes the longstanding power of media artists and social-justice activists throughout the Greater Philadelphia region with $125,000 in funding to five inaugural Leeway x IPMF Media Artist + Activist Residency recipients. This residency will support women, trans*, and gender nonconforming media artists in documenting, reframing, and/or amplifying the issues and campaigns of their local, collaborating social-justice focused organizations.

"In this first year, we were thrilled to see the artists and organizations that were proposing to work collaboratively, as well as the range of projects and media,” said Leeway Foundation Executive Director Denise Brown. “We are grateful for the support for this residency from our partners at the Independence Public Media Foundation who share our belief that art and culture, in this case media, are an integral part of building movements for justice. And I believe that we all have much to learn from this inaugural cohort about the potential for artists and organizations to work together in this way."

IPMF Coordinator, Rachael Moton, who worked one-on-one to steward artists and organizations through the application process shared, “It was really exciting to see the collaborations proposed between so many talented artists and social justice and cultural organizations. The awarded proposals are all impactful projects I feel will definitely promote social change."

The selected media artists will work, embedded within their collaborative organization, for one year. The residency has been awarded to five artists this year, with each residency providing $15,000 to the media artist and $10,000 to the organization.

The IPMF Activists + Artists in Residence are (in alphabetical order):

- Alyssa L. Dookhi and YallaPunk
- Ami Joelle Glazer and Youth Art and Self-Empowerment Project (YASP)
- Kristal Sotomayor, Daniel DeJesus, + Gabe Loredo and Juntos
- Malkia Okech and Paul Robeson House & Museum / West Philadelphia Cultural Alliance
- Sheila Quintana Aguilar and Movement of Immigrant Leaders in Pennsylvania (MILPA)

Media Artist + Activist Residency applications are evaluated by an independent peer review panel. The 2021 review panel consisted of gender justice advocate and podcast creator, Farrah Parke; media arts programmer, curator, and public media supporter, Gretjen Clausing; and filmmaker and media artist, M. Asli Dukan.
Applications are made available on the Leeway website and may also be obtained by calling 1(215) 728–9273 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 Britnie Knight (215)728–9273 or bknight@leeway.org

ABOUT LEEWAY
The Leeway Foundation supports women, trans* and gender nonconforming 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.

*Leeway is a trans-affirming organization committed to gender self-determination, and we use the term “trans” in its most inclusive sense, as an umbrella term encompassing transsexual, transgender, genderqueer, Two-Spirit people, and anyone whose gender identity or gender expression is nonconforming and/or different from their gender assigned at birth.

....

###