

What Receiving a Merit Scholarship has Meant to Me

Mark Araujo

Merit - Abstract Category

Gerda Karr Scholarship

www.markaraujo.art

This has been an incredible opportunity to fully focus on art making and not on how I can afford to attend class the next month. It gave me a sense of freedom of liberation and that has been reflected in the work I made during the past year. The funds that would have normally gone to paying for tuition allowed to buy more supplies and create more work!

Panini Bari

Merit - Realism Category

Will Barnet Printmaking Scholarship

Receiving this scholarship has a significant meaning to me because I am the youngest recipient of the merit and for me, that has made me feel deep prestige. I also really enjoy printmaking and being awarded for my hard work and determination in that class makes me proud, and it inspires me to continue art. Furthermore, receiving the scholarship has helped me financially because it paid for my class and being to spend more time in the Art Students League allows me to more deeply learn about techniques and methods and advice from Tomomi Ono and Sylvie Covey.

Caroleena Bingham

Merit - Abstract Category

Norma Adler Scholarship

www.caroleenabingham.com

I am honoured and very thankful to have been selected for this merit as it helped tremendously toward my continual exploration for a deeper understanding to my craft and the ongoing development of the concepts and ideology behind my work in abstraction.

The most important part of receiving a season of free classes was maintaining my studies under the guidance of Frank O’Cain. He has been instrumental in the progress of my work through his teachings and techniques, which has helped me with understanding and broadening my artistic scope. This has led me on a journey to try and create a “new visual language” or add to South Pacific/Fijian art as this is my place of origin.

Marc Bratman

Merit - Abstract Category

James C. Johnson Scholarship

Receiving a Merit has enabled me to spend the funds I have available for my art in different ways. I have been able to invest in computer aided design software and books about art and take additional classes at the League and elsewhere which I would not have taken before. I plan to travel to Spain and/or Italy to visit the art in and out of museums. No less significantly, receiving a Merit has meant that my art has been recognized as something worth developing. This has given me a sense that the path I have been traveling has merit and I will continue to develop my ideas and techniques. I am truly appreciative of the opportunities and encouragement the Merit has afforded me.

Diego Briceno

Merit - Semi-objective/Semi-abstract category

Adolf H. and Ada Aldrich Scholarship

www.diegobriceno.com

This Merit Scholarship means the recognition of my talent and my commitment of creating. This opportunity showed me how to envision my career based on the joy of making and saying what I want. Thanks to everyone whom made this possible for me.

Frank Chiodo

Merit - Semi-objective/Semi-abstract category

Adolf H. and Ada Aldrich Scholarship

www.fchiodo.com

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Yocheved Cohen

Merit - Semi-objective/Semi-abstract category

Ruth Katzman Scholarship

Although the financial assistance provided by the Ruth Katzman Scholarship was extremely welcome, its significance went far beyond dollars and cents, reinforcing my sense of artistic value and encouraging my continued exploration of ceramic sculpture.

I began my sculpting practice working with the classical figurative form, and in my classes at ASL, I continue to improve my technique within this domain. But many of my more recent

pieces also convey a more contemporary sensibility, often departing from rigorous anatomy to portray protean figures, geometric and amorphous, with human heads. These pieces explore the myriad topological possibilities of form, challenging the corporeality imposed by nature. Using ceramics as my medium, I strive to meld inherent form, as expressed through structure, with the more particularized individual stance, as portrayed by expression and position; as always, the effects are enhanced by the aesthetic choice of color and glazes.

With its collegial environment and excellent instruction, ASL is a true home for genuine artistic creativity. And it is, indeed, my artistic home. I'm deeply grateful for the financial and communal support that has allowed me to learn so much and look forward to returning to West 57th Street in the years ahead!

Agnes Collins

Merit - Semi-objective/Semi-abstract category

Elizabeth Cady Stanton Blake Scholarship

www.agnescollinshunt.com

Winning a Merit Scholarship has given me chance to create with complete freedom and take the time to experiment with new techniques.

Lola De Miguel

Merit - Semi-objective/Semi-abstract category

Leonard Rosenfeld Scholarship

www.lolademiguel.com

Winning a Merit Scholarship has given me chance to create with complete freedom and take the time to experiment with new techniques.

Marlann Gorsky

Merit - Semi-objective/Semi-abstract category

Denise Suzanne Golinger Scholarship

Winning a Merit Scholarship has given me chance to create with complete freedom and take the time to experiment with new techniques.

Gaelle Hintzy

Merit - Semi-objective/Semi-abstract category

Trudy & Henry Gillette Scholarship

www.gaellehintzymarcel.com

It was a recognition for my work. Most of all it gave me the opportunity to follow welding classes, which was very attracting to me for years, but i did never step in. Now i realise how much possibilities are open to me, and it was a revelation!

Jung-Sook C Lee

Merit - Abstract Category

Antoinette Jacoby Scholarship

www.jungsookcamillalee.com

Progress as a painter is slow and evaluation often subjective. I embarked on this path without formal training. The difficult road of artistic development is paved with trials and discouragement. Winning the merit scholarship was an unexpected recognition of my hard work and perseverance. It's a gratifying validation and encouragement that I'm on the right path and to keep going.

Leslie Marcus

Merit - Abstract Category

Elizabeth A. Clarke Scholarship

www.leslie-marcus.com

I'm incredibly grateful to have received the Elizabeth A. Clarke Scholarship for abstract art.

The scholarship allowed me to broaden my classwork - opening up new experiences, without which I may not have otherwise been able to do. In addition, it's resulted in a considerable boost to my confidence knowing that my creative endeavor was recognized in this way.

The wonderful result of this is that my work has been rapidly evolving, and I was involved in several group shows.

I'm very thankful. I've had a wonderful year and am looking forward to future exhibition opportunities.

Michael Murton
Merit - Realism Category
George A. Rada Memorial Scholarship
www.michaelmurton.com

Receiving the Merit scholarship has first and foremost taken a large amount of stress away from the cost of attending the league. Though league classes are not priced egregiously, I was certainly able to make some space in my mind due to the fact that I was able to attend classes for free. This provided me with more room to focus on learning and producing work that I could be proud of. Additionally, receiving the scholarship was a recognition of sorts in my current ability and potential moving forward as an artist. It has been extremely valuable to me to have recognition of this kind, as I am often unable to trust my judgement when it comes to the quality of my artwork. This scholarship has provided me with the opportunity to have a confident year of solid, steady work.

Mayumi Nakao
Merit - Realism Category
Henry Matisse Estate Scholarship

Since I got a Merit, my motivation to painting has increased more and I gained confidence. Really appreciate all.

Laura Nató
Merit - Semi-objective/Semi-abstract category
Vivian A. Frankel Scholarship

Winning this scholarship has meant to me a good incentive to continue learning. I took welding classes and I think this can add a lot to my mix media work. I am very grateful for this opportunity.

Mary Poerner
Merit - Realism Category
Ardis Hughes Scholarship

It has been a privilege to be painting at the venerable Arts Students League which has engendered such a diverse range of artistic talent since its founding in 1875. Winning the Merit Scholarship has allowed me the time and freedom to focus exclusively on my art without financial burden. As Rene Magritte said, "art evokes the mystery without which the world would not exist."

Cheryl Rubin

Merit – Partial Scholarship

Peter Helk Scholarship

www.cherylrubin.com

It meant a lot to have my work acknowledged since the competition is so strong! It was great to be able to use the money saved on class fees for art supplies.

Rihomi Sato

Merit - Abstract Category

Martha T. Rosen Scholarship

www.rihomisato.com

It helped me a lot and I was very concentrated my art last year. I'm so proud of be part of The Art Students League of NY. Thank you so much.

Lynn Staley

Merit – Partial Scholarship

Ronnie Cutler Award

www.lynnstaley.com

The scholarship was a very important acknowledgment of the work I've put in over five years to grow my skills as a painter. It's a path I've chosen late in life, and the award has encouraged me to continue along it.

Brittany Vogel

Merit - Abstract Category

John M. Regan Jr. Scholarship

www.BrittanyVogelArt.com

It was such an honor to receive the Merit Scholarship. It validated my work and gave me confidence. The scholarship allowed me to change to a full-time class instead of part-time. The additional studio time allowed me to enter a time-sensitive competition, which afterwards lead to my creating a mural underneath Columbus Circle. Both the Merit and the mural have increased my credibility when applying to other opportunities. Now, I am reaching out to institutions and they are saying 'Yes' and local businesses are asking to show my work. In short, the Merit Scholarship provided confidence and momentum. I am greatly appreciative to the donor, the League (including my fantastic instructor) and the judges. Thank you!